

# Get your children in on the Act

Helen O'Grady Drama classes help children aged 5 and upwards really develop their confidence and communication skills.

It's excellent preparation for growing up in today's competitive world.

**They'll just love it!**

**TELEPHONE**  
**01633 431177**

and we'll tell you more about Helen O'Grady Drama Classes.

[www.helenogrady.co.uk](http://www.helenogrady.co.uk)



As part of the *Sea Britain 2005* celebrations



YR YMDDIRIEDOLAETH GENEDLAETHOL  
THE NATIONAL TRUST



and  
**Off Centre Theatre**  
present

## **NELSON'S TOUCH**



**The life of Nelson,  
warts and all - in one act!**

**On the Kymin - one of  
Nelson's old haunts**

**Thurs 30th June - 7.30pm**

**Fri 1st July - 7.30pm**

**Sat 2nd July - 3.30pm & 7.30pm**

Welcome to the first production for Off Centre Theatre in partnership with the National Trust. Nelson's Touch portrays Nelson's life from boyhood to his death at Trafalgar – filling in many gaps as it goes.

You are seeing this production on the Kymin which Horatio Nelson visited in 1802 when he came to view the Naval Temple. The Temple was built in 1800 following the second anniversary of the Battle of the Nile in appreciation of the admirals who had won important victories during the late 18th Century.

Nelson's visit to Monmouth was part of an extensive holiday tour which he made with his mistress Emma Hamilton and her husband Sir William. The purpose of the tour was to visit Sir William's large estate in Pembrokeshire. The party passed through Monmouth and their arrival by boat from Ross-on-Wye was signalled by the firing of cannons from the Kymin.

They were greeted by local dignitaries, a band and large cheering crowds. It is recorded that the crowds lined the banks of the Wye for nearly two miles. After visiting Monmouth Castle, they dined at the Beaufort Arms and later visited Mr Hollings, the Mayor. The following day Nelson and the party proceeded to West Wales.

As they travelled back home they paid a second visit to the town on 18<sup>th</sup> August staying for two nights. On the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> August Nelson and his party visited the Kymin to view the Naval Temple. While there they took part in a public breakfast in the Round House. Of his visit to the Kymin Nelson said *"It was not only one of the most beautiful places he had ever seen, but, to the toast of Monmouth, the Temple was the only monument of the kind erected to the English Navy, in the whole range of the kingdom"*. He further added *"The Nation has been collecting money, in order to erect, by public subscriptions, a magnificent structure of this kind, without accomplishing its purpose. This at the Kymin is enough; and for which the Admirals, whose services are here recorded, are very much obliged to you."* This was certainly praise indeed from Nelson.

We hope you enjoy the show and make sure you join in  
the singing at the end!

## HORATIO NELSON AND MONMOUTH

- 
- 1758 29 Sep Born. Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk
  - 1771 Joins Royal Navy.
  - 1775 March Falls ill with malaria.
  - 1777 5 Apr Passes Lieutenant's examination.
  - 1779 Promoted to Captain.
  - 1787 11 Mar Marries Frances (Fanny) Nisbet.
  - 1793 War breaks out with France.
  - 1794 During the capture of Corsica, loses the sight in his right eye.
  - 1794 Round House built on the Kymin as a venue for a group of Monmouth gentlemen for holding weekly meetings.
  - 1797 14 Feb Victory at the Battle of Cape St Vincent
  - 1797 Jul Defeat at Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Loses right arm.
  - 1798 Jun-Sep The Nile Campaign
  - 1799 Falls in love with Emma, his friend William Hamilton's wife
  - 1800 Nelson and Hamiltons visit Vienna. Meet Haydn who performs a mass in their honour.
  - 1801 2 Apr The Battle of Copenhagen. Nelson "turns a blind eye" to the signal to withdraw
  - 1801 24 June Naval Temple opens
  - 1802 Nelson made Freeman of the Borough of Monmouth
  - 1802 Nelson visits Monmouth
  - 1805 21 Oct Shot and killed on the deck of HMS Victory on the first day of the Battle of Trafalgar age 47.
  - 1806 5-7 Jan Nelson's body lying-in-state in the Painted Gallery, Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich.
  - 1840 30 Sep Foundation stone laid for Nelson's Column, Trafalgar Square, London.
  - 1922 HMS Victory placed in dry dock, Portsmouth.
  - 1928 HMS Victory opened to the public.
  - 2005 Nelson's Touch performed on the Kymin

## CAST

Jolly Jack Tar Alan Lightly

### Kymin History Society

Tom Chris Ryde  
Christina Rhian Mitchell  
Beryl Fee de Bruler  
Barbara Jill Rogers  
Tracy Rachel Stevens

### Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

Horatio Nelson Cliff Smith  
Emma Hamilton Caroline Pearce  
Horatio Nelson (as a boy) James Spence  
Susannah Florence Newsome  
Anne Sophie Stevens  
Edmund Harry Harris  
Jack Peter Pearce  
Mac Geoff Manning  
Sailor Rob Spence  
Inn Keeper Therese Casemore  
Loose Women Stephanie Harris, Beryl Luff & Barbara Spence  
Fanny Nisbet Anne Newsome  
Josiah Nisbet Joshua Williams  
Lieutenant Rob Spence  
Drummer Boy Harry Harris  
Admiral Collingwood Tony Wells  
Jervis Peter Pearce  
Crowd and sailors Harry Harris, Florence Newsome, Therese Casemore, Beryl Luff, James Spence, Sophie Stevens, Barbara Spence, Peter Pearce, Geoff Manning & Rob Spence

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Directors Stephanie Harris and Barbara Spence

Script Based on a script by Louise Osborn - adapted by Barbara Spence, Stephanie Harris and Chris Ryde

Musical Director Alan Lightly

Backstage crew Tony Wells, Terry Cane, David Wells, Steve Bulmer, Richard Wadley, Ian Williams, Mark Stevens & Dave Andrews

Costume Director Therese Casemore

Costumes produced by Therese Casemore and Beryl Luff

Sound Brian Phillips

Lighting Paul Macer-Wright

Props Elaine Andrews & Ena Lightly

Front of House Scarlett Harris and Team

Programme & Publicity Barbara Spence

### Thanks to the following for their support for this production:

Howard White, Electrical Contractor

Elaine Powell, Electrician

John O'Brien Electrician

Monmouth Festival

Brandon Tool Hire

TA Monmouth

Bridges

Beaver Framing

The Nelson Museum

The National Trust Shop

Party Animal (Fancy Dress) Tintern

Monmouth Antiques

ATC (flooring) Monmouth

Gwent Theatre

Welsh National Opera



YR YMDDIRIEDOLAETH GENEDLAETHOL  
THE NATIONAL TRUST

**T**he National Trust was founded in 1895 to preserve places of historic interest or natural Beauty for ever, for everyone. In 1902 the Kymin was under threat of being bought by a private owner, so the Monmouthshire Corporation bought it for £300 and put it into the care of the National Trust. So now it is open every day of the year for anyone to enjoy.

The Round House itself was built between 1794 and 1796 at the cost of 80 guineas—a guinea was worth 21 shillings or £1.05. The money was raised by a group of local gentlemen who used to picnic on the Kymin regularly. They wanted a pavilion in which to dine during inclement weather, and so the idea of the Round House was born.

Construction of The Naval Temple began in 1800 and opened with a public festival on 24th June 1801.

The Round House is open to the public from the end of March to the end of October on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays 11am to 4pm. The Naval Temple and grounds are open all year.

If you wish to Join the National Trust, you can join at the Round House, and this will directly help support this unique property.

We hope you enjoy "Nelson's Touch" and your visit to the Kymin.

National Trust web site: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)



Off Centre Theatre

**O**ff Centre Theatre was formed in 1987 and has grown from strength to strength over the years. It produces a range of productions throughout the year and is always wanting to welcome new members of all ages. This production is the first major out door show for the group - we are always willing to try something new. If you want to get involved in any way with Off Centre Theatre - be it on stage, behind the scenes, as a social member or as an informed member of the audience - please contact our membership secretary:

Rob Spence, Redbrook, Duchess Road, Monmouth. Tel 01600 715699

e.mail: [offcentre@btopenworld.com](mailto:offcentre@btopenworld.com)

## RULE BRITANNIA



Rule Britannia!  
Britannia rule the waves.  
Britons never, never, never shall be slaves.

When Britain first, at heaven's command,  
Arose from out the azure main,  
Arose, arose, arose from out the a-azure main,  
This was the charter, the charter of the land,  
And guardian angels sang this strain:

Rule Britannia!  
Britannia rule the waves.  
Britons never, never, never shall be slaves.

Rule Britannia!  
Britannia rule the waves.  
Britons never, never, never shall be slaves.

## LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY

Land of Hope and Glory  
Mother of the Free  
How shall we extol thee  
Who are born of thee?  
Wider still and wider  
Shall thy bounds be set  
God, who made thee mighty  
Make thee mightier yet...  
God, who made thee mighty  
Make thee mightier yet.