

MONMOUTH SCHOOL



CONFIDENCE



TEAMWORK



SUCCESS

BOYS
7-18

www.habs-monmouth.org

HABERDASHERS' MONMOUTH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



CONFIDENCE



TEAMWORK



SUCCESS

GIRLS
7-18

www.habs-monmouth.org

HABERDASHERS' AGINCOURT SCHOOL & NURSERY



CONFIDENCE



TEAMWORK



SUCCESS

BOYS &
GIRLS
3-7

www.habs-monmouth.org



OFF CENTRE THEATRE

registered charity no. 1112602

Presents

The Wizard of Oz

AT THE HABERDASHERS'
MONMOUTH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Thurs 31st May
to
Sun 3rd June
2007



Programme
sponsored by



Traditional Timber Floors, Doors & Door Furniture

Unit 2, Mayhill Ind Est, Monmouth NP25 2LX

01600 713036



Timber Floors, Doors & Door Furniture
Solid wood flooring specialists
Supply, fit, finish and refurbishment

ATC



Visit our showrooms
 to see for yourself
 the wide range of
 flooring, doors and
 accessories available



Unit 2, Mayhill Ind Est,
 MONMOUTH, NP25 3LX,
 01600 713036
 Monday - Saturday 9 - 5

26 Andover Road, Tivoli
 CHELTENHAM, GL50 2TJ.
 01242 220536
 Tuesday - Saturday 9 - 5

Visit our online shop at:

www.floorsanddecking.com

PASTORPRINT
FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS



NO JOB TOO SMALL
FULL COLOUR OR B & W

A5 FLIERS FROM £15 PER 1000.

GET YOURSELF NOTICED!

E-mail: bphillips3@toucansurf.com
 Phone: 01989 562993

37 Duxmere Drive, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5UW

A message from Angela Hughes - OCT's Chairman



A warm welcome to Off Centre Theatre's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. This much loved story was first published in 1900 by the American author L. Frank Baum. There have been many stage and screen adaptations over the years, the best known being the 1939 film in which Dorothy was played by Judy Garland. You are now fortunate to see OCT's version of the famous tale.

They say that you should never act with children or animals and in this production we do both! While there is fun to be had, putting on a production like this takes a lot of time and effort and I would like to thank the directors and performers - both adults and children for all their hard work. There must also be a special pat for Opie who plays the part of Toto. Thanks you also to the army of unseen people who give so generously of their time to help in various capacities both behind stage and in front-of-house. I must also thank the local businesses for their sponsorship of performances and advertising in the programme. This support is greatly appreciated.

This year Off Centre comes of age. It is 21 years since we put on our first production, *Mariah Marten and the Red Barn*, in August 1986. Here we are, 90 productions later, still going strong. Over the years OCT have given high standard performances of plays, revues and pantos for the people of Monmouth in a number of locations, but especially here at HMSG where both we and our audiences enjoy excellent facilities. In 2004 we acquired accommodation over Barclay's Bank in Agincourt Square. This provides not only a venue for rehearsals, workshops (on 7 June there is to be a junior drama workshop) and play readings but also for small performances by members and, occasionally, visiting performers. We have regular club nights and also social events such as a "Murder Mystery" evening and Quiz Nights. If you would like to join us (treading the boards is not compulsory) we always welcome new members. There is more information about joining OCT later in this programme.

OCT members take part in fundraising shows for good causes. In September members will be performing in a variety show to raise funds for the Shire Hall renovation. In October there will be a production of the hilariously funny play *Foot in the Door*. There are to be casting readings for this on 13 & 14 June at 7.30 in our clubroom. Contact Jim Newcomb - 01600 890478 if you are interested.

Now please sit back while we transport you from a farm in Kansas and along the yellow brick road to meet the wonderful Wizard of Oz. Enjoy!

Angela



Thank you from OFF CENTRE THEATRE



Thank you to the following, for their help and support towards this production:

ATC (Monmouthshire) Ltd, Boors, Hair & Beauty, Le Gourmet, St Mary's Church Monmouth, The Malthouse, Dai Evans, Chris Jones, Monmouthshire Beacon, Nelson Museum Monmouth, BoJangles Jewellery, Brian Williams, St John Ambulance, and anyone else we have forgotten to mention.

Thanks also to the following for being part of our "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" competition:

Twenty Four, Hancocks, Stokes Chemist, Handyman House, Washrite, Monmouth Library, The Beauty Roomz, Irma Fingal-Rock, Courtyard Café, Fancy Freds, Jeff Mitchell, Dead Sea Minerals, IT Centre, BoJangles, Monmouth Micro Station, and the Monmouthshire Beacon for receiving the entries

Ride & Stride



Saddlery & Outdoor Wear

St. Arvans, Chepstow

Call in and see us
Or telephone
01291 627072



IRMA FINGAL-ROCK
WINE SHIPPERS
AND MERCHANTS

IRMA FINGAL-ROCK
64 MONNOW STREET,
MONMOUTH,
NP25 3EN

Tel/Fax : 01600 712372
e.mail: tom@pinotnoir.co.uk

Importers and merchants of fine wines
Burgundy wines a speciality
Mail order delivery nation wide

About Off Centre Theatre



CYNGOR CEFYDDYDAU CYM
THE ARTS COUNCIL OF WAL
SHREWSBURY

Off Centre Theatre (OCT) was established in 1986 with its first production - *Maria Marten*. Since then it has gone from strength to strength and established itself as Monmouth's premier amateur dramatics company.

- OCT's productions range from traditional plays, variety shows, pantomimes, outdoor productions and events (in June 2005 on the Kymin in partnership with the National Trust) and touring shows.
- Though many of our productions have a cast of all ages we also specifically have productions for Junior and Youth members
- In October 2007 we will be staging *A Foot in the Door*, a comedy, by Richard Harris (*Outside Edge*) - watch the pres for details.
- All ages and abilities are welcome to join. It doesn't matter if you have no previous experience and there is no pressure for you to appear on stage.
- You may have an interest in working backstage, helping front of house, making costumes or you may just want to be social member—everyone is welcome.
- We organise theatre trips, have play readings, workshops and hold club nights on the first Thursday of most months in our clubroom above Barclays Bank in Agincourt Square.

In 2005 OCT became a registered charity - the Charity Commissioners having recognised the contribution OCT makes to the local community.

Do you want to join in?

Annual membership fees: Juniors (under 16) £10, Adults £1
Household membership £35.

As a member you will be kept up-to-date with a monthly newsletter.

Contact the Elaine Andrews - 01600 712194
or e.mail: offcentre@btopenworld.com

ACT I

Dorothy Gale lives on a farm in Kansas. One day a tornado hits her home town and carries her away to Munchkinland. The Munchkins fete Dorothy as a heroine but Dorothy wants to go home to Kansas. With the help of the Good Witch of the North Dorothy is directed to seek the help of the great Wizard of Oz. Dorothy persuades three friends to accompany her on the trip to the Emerald City to see the Wizard. They are Scarecrow, who lacks a brain, the Tinman, who has no heart, and the Cowardly Lion, who would like to have some courage. The Wicked Witch of the West vows vengeance on Dorothy and does all she can to stop the friends getting to the Emerald City.

- Scene 1 Kansas
- Scene 2 The Square in Munchkinland
- Scene 3 The Field of Poppies
- Scene 4 The Gates to the Emerald City

ACT II

At the Emerald City they manage to see the Wizard who says he will only help them if they kill the Wicked Witch of the West - an apparently impossible task. They will have to make every effort if all their dreams are to come true...

- Scene 1 The Palace of the Wizard of Oz
- Scene 2 On the road to the Witches Castle
- Scene 3 Inside the Castle of the Wicked Witch
- Scene 4 A Corridor in the Witches Castle
- Scene 5 The Palace of the Wizard of Oz
- Scene 6 No Place Like Home



Cast

Dorothy Gale	Ann Long
Wizard of Oz/Uncle Henry	Brian Pearce
Nora the Good Witch of the North/Aunt Em	Caroline Pearce
Wicked witch of the West / Miss Gultch	Judith Rossiter
Scarecrow / Hunk	Peter Pearce
Tinman / Zeke	Tom Rigby
Lion / Hickory	Jim Newcomb
Mayor of Munchkinland	Cedric Gibbons
Guardian of the Emerald City	Stuart MacFarlane
Super Witch of the South	Scarlett Harris
Toto	Opie
Sentries	Tom Mapp, Tash Mokthar, Emily Jordon, Kelly Angel, Louis Peace
Malicious Monkeys	Louis Peace, Kelly Angel, Harry Harris
Munchkin Maid	Gemma Buckley
Prisoners	Holly Rooke, Laura Griffiths

Chorus of Munchkins, Emeralders and Prisoners

Connie Amos, Kelly Angel, Laura Griffiths, Emily Jordan, Dorothy Laidler, Debra Lake, Emily Lake, Holly Lake, Bethan Lydford, Katie Mapp, Thomas Mapp, Tracey Mapp, Innes Merola-Scott, Sarah McCartney, Tash Mokthar, Florence Newsome, Louise Pardington, Joanna Payton, Louis Peace, Libbi Prestidge, Caroline Richards, Haddy Richards, Deanna Roberts, Holly Rooke, Catherine Rotchell, Barbara Spence, Catherine Stone, Zoe Tinton, Brooke Williams

CAST



Ann Long - Dorothy

Ann is 21 years old and when not walking up the yellow brick road she works in a local store at the top of Monnow street. Her main occupation right now is as one half of a country music duo, who tour up and down the country singing in different country clubs. Ann has recently completed the London marathon for the second time. She says that crossing that finish line is one of the most intense feelings ever - *Luckily my legs have now stopped aching.*

Ann has been a member of OCT for many years and has appeared in many of the pantos for which the group built up a strong following. In 2006 after years appearing in minor roles she won the Gwent Drama League's award for Best Newcomer in a Leading Role. Ann won the award for her brilliant performance as Sophie in *"Murder at Priorswell Manor"*.

Peter Pearce - Scarecrow & Hunk

Peter was born in Newbury in Berkshire, moving to Monmouth when he was 3. He has lived here ever since. He is a builder by trade with his own business. At first reluctant to go on stage he made his first appearance in the memorable Monty routine in *Sleeping Beauty*. In Peter's own words *"since then my parts have got much bigger."* A natural comedian, Peter has delighted audiences with the range of characters he has played with OCT these include a singing vicar, a naughty little boy and a second world war German soldier. In his spare time, when not watching football, Peter is a referee for Gloucestershire F.A.



Tom Rigby - Tinman & Zeke

Originally from Merseyside, Tom is a new recruit to OCT. This is Tom's second show with us, having just played 'Felix' in *The Odd Couple* ... the part made famous by Jack Lemon. Tom says "the Oz team must have spotted my 'stiff' performance in *The Odd Couple* and decided the Tinman was just for me!"

Tom's first shows were some years back and include being a fairy in the G&S *Iolanthe*, a munchkin in *Wizard of Oz* and at '17 going on 18' Ralph in *The Sound of Music*...

all the right experiences to later play a man made of tin who has lost his heart! Outside of the drama scene Tom sings, golf's and runs an IT and print business that provides services to our local county council, as well as to 100's of professional theatres including the Cardiff Millennium Theatre and Arts Centre.



Jim Newcomb - Lion & Hickory

Jim played the dame in thirteen OCT's pantos up until 2005 - but having hung up his tights, bras, dresses and wigs, he has been suffering from withdrawal systems and looking for any other excuse to get into a costume and apply a bit of make-up. The part of the cowardly Lion came along at just the right moment and also offers the chance for audiences to see his more 'animal' side. He hopes that you'll find his performance a 'roaring success', but don't forget that he is, in this part a 'scaredy cat'. Jim was last in the Wizard of Oz in 1989, as a member of Centre Players. The performance was at Monmouth Comprehensive School when his daughters, Lauren (almost 7) and Hannah (just over 5 - the youngest member of the cast), were both Munchkins. Jim played the Scarecrow on that occasion, alongside Stuart MacFarlane as the Lion. Living up to the standards that were set by Stuart has been no problem, whatsoever!

Caroline Pearce - Nora, The Good Witch of the North & Aunt Em

Caroline has lived in Monmouth all her life - even to those who don't know her by name. Caroline is a familiar face to many. She is Wyesham's own hardworking town councillor and over the years she has been involved in many spheres of life in the local community. An active member of many committees as well as supporting both Monmouth carnival and festival. As a member of Off Centre Theatre Caroline has appeared in many pantos, variety shows and plays. Her last appearances were as Mother Rabbit and the Judge in *Wind in the Willows*. Over the years Caroline has also made hundreds of costumes for OCT, carnival floats and fancy dress events. Caroline is wearing her own creations in this production.



Judith Rossiter - Wicked Witch of the West & Miss Gultch

After a glittering career with amateur dramatics with British Forces, Germany (and thankfully there's no-one here to verify that), Judith joined Off Centre in 2003. Her first roles were as props for three pantomimes and then she trod the boards in Lord Arthur Saville's Crime, followed by Murder at Priorswell Manor. She followed this up with a directing role, when the Off Centre Youth Theatre won the "Best Youth Theatre Group" trophy at the Hereford One Act Play Festival. This is Judith's first foray into the role of a baddie and she is loving every minute! So

enjoy the show, or she'll put a spell on you!

**Brian Pearce - The Wizard of Oz & Uncle Henry**

Born in Fulham, London, Brian along with his wife Margaret retired to Monmouth in 2005 after 41 years a parish priest serving in Birmingham, Swindon and Bristol. Now a member of St Thomas, Overbrook, Brian recently took part in a presentation of 'The Easter Experience' for the primary schools of Monmouth. Music and drama have played a major part in their lives and faith and they were 20 years with the Swindon and Bath Opera and presently members of the Monmouth Choral Society. Brian has also had a taste of being an evil witch in two homegrown pantomimes put on by parishioners in the

parish of Witherwood, South Bristol. Brian and Margaret joined OCT in 2005 and his debut was as Gus in Harold Pinter's 'The Dumb Waiter' followed by the part of Toad in 'Wind in the Willows'. This latest appearance as the Wizard is also a further step in getting to know more of those associated with OCT with whom it has been great fun and an enjoyable experience as a member.

Cedric Gibbons - The Mayor of Munchkinland

Cedric, who is a Newport boy, moved to Monmouth in 1978 to join a local Computer Systems Company - in the days when most computers were still room size and today's PCs were still a Sci-Fi dream. Natural progression into an IT dinosaur led to redundancy and the opportunity for the role of a lifetime as Mr Plod, the town Traffic Warden, which he played until retirement in 2004. He re-found his taste for the stage with the re-constituted Monmouth Operatic Society and through the love of a lovely lady. He has performed and produced regularly since joining OCT in 1990 as well as organising Charity Shows in the Town. In retirement, Cedric is available for professional appearances and is seeking an Agent with a sense of humour.

**Stuart MacFarlane - The Guardian of the Emerald City**

Born in Chichester, Stuart has lived in Monmouth since 1976 and is one of the founders of OCT. He runs a business supplying cycle lamps to Makro, Argos and many other High Street stores. His company also supplies all the torches used by the Woyal Mail. Stuart, like Jim Newcomb (second wate Lion), has appeared in too many pantos to remember; he hung up his pawaphernalia in 2005. But, public adulation has forced him back on-stage to take the extremely demanding role of the Guardian of the Emerald city. As Jim mentioned - Stuart was the Lion in the



1989 production to much acclaim. His daughter Samantha (10 at the time) also took part as a Munchkin. Stuarts fans can catch up with his news on his website—www.bestlionstage.com.

Scarlett Harris - The Super Witch of the South

Scarlett was born in the Isle of Man but has lived in Monmouth for the last 23 years. She has been a member of OCT for many years and is quite versatile having appeared in roles ranging from Dandini to the front end of Daisy the cow. Scarlett has always been an animal lover and has recently been blessed - as her chinchillas have just had a new baby. She is very proud to see her other baby Opie on stage in the show in the part of Toto. When not looking after her pets and taking Opie for walks Scarlett manages the Cheltenham Branch of ATC flooring.



OCT's October production

A Foot in the Door

Casting readings Wed 13 & Thurs 14 June at 7.30 in the clubroom in Agincourt Square

INTERESTED? - Call Jim Newcomb
01600 890478

BoJangles
7 Monnow Bridge
Monmouth
01600 716678

Handbags, Jewellery, Belts
& Accessories

Warrendale Dental Care

Ross-on-Wye

Dr. C. A. Brown, BDS MFCDP (UK)
Dr. A. J. Rossiter BDS

Providing high quality dentistry.

Cosmetic Dentistry and Dental Implants.

Modern technology now allows missing teeth to be permanently replaced with Dental Implants without the need for dentures.

Loose dentures, unsightly or discoloured teeth and gaps could soon be a distant memory.

For further information or a confidential

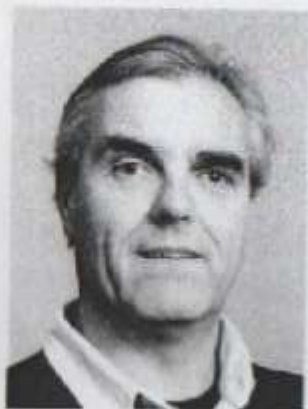
consultation
Please contact
01989 562052

Warrendale Dental Care, Chase Road,

Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5JQ

A Denplan Approved Practice

Chris Ryde & Steph Harris - Joint Directors



This is Chris Ryde's first directorial assignment for OCT. He has previously directed Oh What a Lovely War at University, Twelfth Night on a tour of the West Country, One Man Band, the first production in the studio theatre at the South London Theatre Centre and Gotcha by Barrie Keeffe which performed on an unusual tour of young offenders' institutes. - so he should be at home working with Off Centre Theatre members. Steph Harris, on the other hand, is a veteran with OCT having been co-director on a number of the legendary pantomimes that the society mounted from 1991 through until 2005. She is therefore used to dealing with childish behaviour and tantrums. By contrast the kids in the show have been very well behaved. Steph and Chris have described this collaboration as the ultimate test of their relationship as they are real life partners -or at least they were at the time this programme was written!

Adam Scott

Daily deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetables to the hotel and catering industry

The choice is yours



12 Market Place, Coleford

01594 832438

01989 720282

The Nelson Museum & Local History Centre



Nelson Museum
Priory Street
Monmouth
NP25 3XA

Tel :
01600 710630

Open: All Year

Summer	Winter
Mar-Oct 11am-1pm, 2pm-5pm (2-5 only Sun)	Nov-Feb 11am-1pm, 2pm-4pm (2-4 only Sun)



HANCOCKS of MONMOUTH

HIGH CLASS
MEAT PURVEYOR

34 Monnow Street
Monmouth
Monmouthshire
NP25 3EN

Tel: 01600 712015

Cafe' BISTRO

10 White Swan Court

The Whole Earth

Breakfast

Light Meals

Snacks

Lunch

Tea / Coffee

Cakes

Served all day

Therapy & Relaxation Rooms

- Aromatherapy
- Indian Head Massage
- Reflexology
- Reiki

At St Thomas's House,
St Thomas's Square, Monmouth

Pamper Parties
Gift Vouchers * Mobile Service

Contact: Lorraine Lingard-Williams IHHT, ITEC

07736 676968 / 01600 713186

Member of the International Federation of Holistic Therapists

PRODUCTION TEAM

Script	Chris Ryde and Stephanie Harris
Directors	Chris Ryde & Stephanie Harris
Musical Director	Anne MacFarlane
Stage manager	Stephanie Harris
Producer	Barbara Spence
Backstage Crew	Terry Cane, David Wells, Tony Wells, Adam Wells, Geoff Manning, David Harris, Terry Rees-Pedlar, Tim Warming-ton-Gardner & Glynis McIntyre
Production Scenery designed by	Ian Wilson
Scenery supplied by	Albemarle Scenic Studios
Lighting	Soundbase, Elaine Powell & Paul Macer-Wright
Band	Richard Wadley, Mac Cambray Chris Lovett, Rob Sherwood & Tom Manning
Sound	Soundbase & Charles Wintour
Costumes	Therese Casemore, Caroline Pearce & Ace Costumes, Tredegar
Choreographer	Emma-Jayne Parker
Props	Jenny Weston
Front of House	Ann Hartland & Team
Marketing & Publicity Team	Elaine Andrews, Dave Andrews, Sandra Bargh, Dawn Fryer, Marilyn Wright, Paula Brady & Anne MacFarlane
Tickets and printing	Pastorprint
Box Office	Brian Williams, St Mary Street Nelson Museum, Priory Street Bojangles Jewellery, Monnow Bridge
Green Room Chaperones	Georgina Peace & Team
Programme & Poster	Barbara Spence
Publicity & Scenic Artwork	Fee de Bruler

fabric
mills



1000's of metres of clearance designer fabrics all at affordable prices

Re-upholstery
Curtains & blinds
Interior design

120 -122 Monnow Street, Monmouth NP25 3EQ

Tel: 01600 775631

Late opening Thursday until 6.30pm

ATELIER GILMAR

CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY

GILL + ALAN SAUNDERS

6 WHITE SWAN COURT,
MONMOUTH, NP25 3NY

TEL/FAX +44 (0) 1600 715454

LET'S PARTY

Fancy Dress Hire
Balloons for all Occasions
Party Wear



Telephone 01291 625957

15a Besufort Square,
Chepstow.

Twenty Four

24

WESLEY HARRIS &
JOANNE MORGAN
Proprietors

24 Church Street, Monmouth NP25 3BX
Telephone (01600) 772744

Opening Hours:

Lunch Friday & Saturday
12 noon - 2.30 pm

Dinner Tuesday - Saturday
6.30 pm - 9.30 pm