

PATRONS 2005/6

Mrs R Exton	Miss C Gillingwater
Mrs M Graham-Martin	Mr & Mrs E Hall
Miss W I Hyde	Mr I Mace
Mrs J Newman	Mr P Oura
Mr B Outlaw	Mr J Ponting
Mr & Mrs A Preston	Mrs A Rayner
Mrs E Richards	Mrs B Ross
Mr & Mrs A Rushforth	Mr J Thornbury

THANK YOU TO

Extons, Malmesbury Town Hall
Foxley Road Nurseries

FRONT OF HOUSE

Debbie Charman, John Poole, Sue Poole,
June Rose, Carolyn Vincent, Colin Woodfield

BAR

Megan Mills, Val Chapman, Barry dent, Shelia Dent

New Members/Patrons are always welcome

Adult Membership £12 per year

Junior Membership £5 per year

Patrons £12 or £5 concessions per year

(patrons entitled to 1 free ticket per year)



ATHELSTAN PLAYERS
present the first of two plays



A compelling drama by Lawrence Barker

19th and 20th May 2006

Malmesbury Town Hall

Programme 30p

The Crew

Director/Producer	Christine Mace
Prompt	Elizabeth Outlaw
Set	David Shelley And cast
Lighting	Mark Vincent Ray Vincent
Sound	Roger Spencelayh
Back Stage	Barry Dent Shelia Dent

Every year the Athelstan Players enter the All England Theatre Festival, competing against other local drama groups in Wiltshire. Thanks to all the hard work of cast and crew we did a very good job of representing Malmesbury this year, winning a whole clutch of awards.

The all England One Act Play Festival 1st round Swindon Wiltshire 2006

Overall winners – The Athelstan Players

Best Actor – Bob Charman

Best Supporting Actor – Stuart Chapman

Best Supporting Actress – Amanda Duffin

Best Director – Christine Mace

Best technical achievement – The Athelstan Players

Audience award – The Athelstan Players

(other nomination: Margaret Williams for best supporting actress)

The all England One Act Play Festival 1st round Cheltenham Gloucestershire 2006

Runners Up – The Athelstan Players

Best Actor – Bob Charman

Best Supporting Role – Amanda Duffin

(other nominations: Margaret Williams for best supporting role and Christine Mace for Best Director)

The all England One Act Play Festival 2nd round Clevedon, West Area Central 2006

Runners up – The Athelstan Players

No individual awards are given in the second round.

The winners of this round who beat us by one point !!!... went on to win round three of the competition to represent the west in the final to be held in June.

Playgoers

The action takes in the morning room in a house in London.
Period 1900

Ernest Dorrington	James White
Norma Dorrington	Amanda Duffin
Beechcroft (the parlourmaid)	Margaret Williams
Mrs Hacket (the cook)	Elizabeth Outlaw
Worringham (the housemaid)	Pat Castle
Trinder (the useful maid)	Shirley Collier
Evelyn (the kitchenmaid)	Nicola Pearce-Smith
Gale (the odd man)	David Shelley

A lot of fun has been had by the cast and crew of this play, hopefully the fits of uncontrollable laughter which have struck down some of the cast members during rehearsals will not be seen on stage, but be transferred to our audience.

With only two members of the original cast replaying their roles, both Amanda and Pat were very pleased to see they could still fit into the costumes of eleven years ago!

Watch out for our next production, supporting the Malmesbury Carnival, The Athelstan Players will be performing a Revue of sketches, songs and dances on 17th-19th of August.

Want to know more about the Athelstan players, visit our Web Site

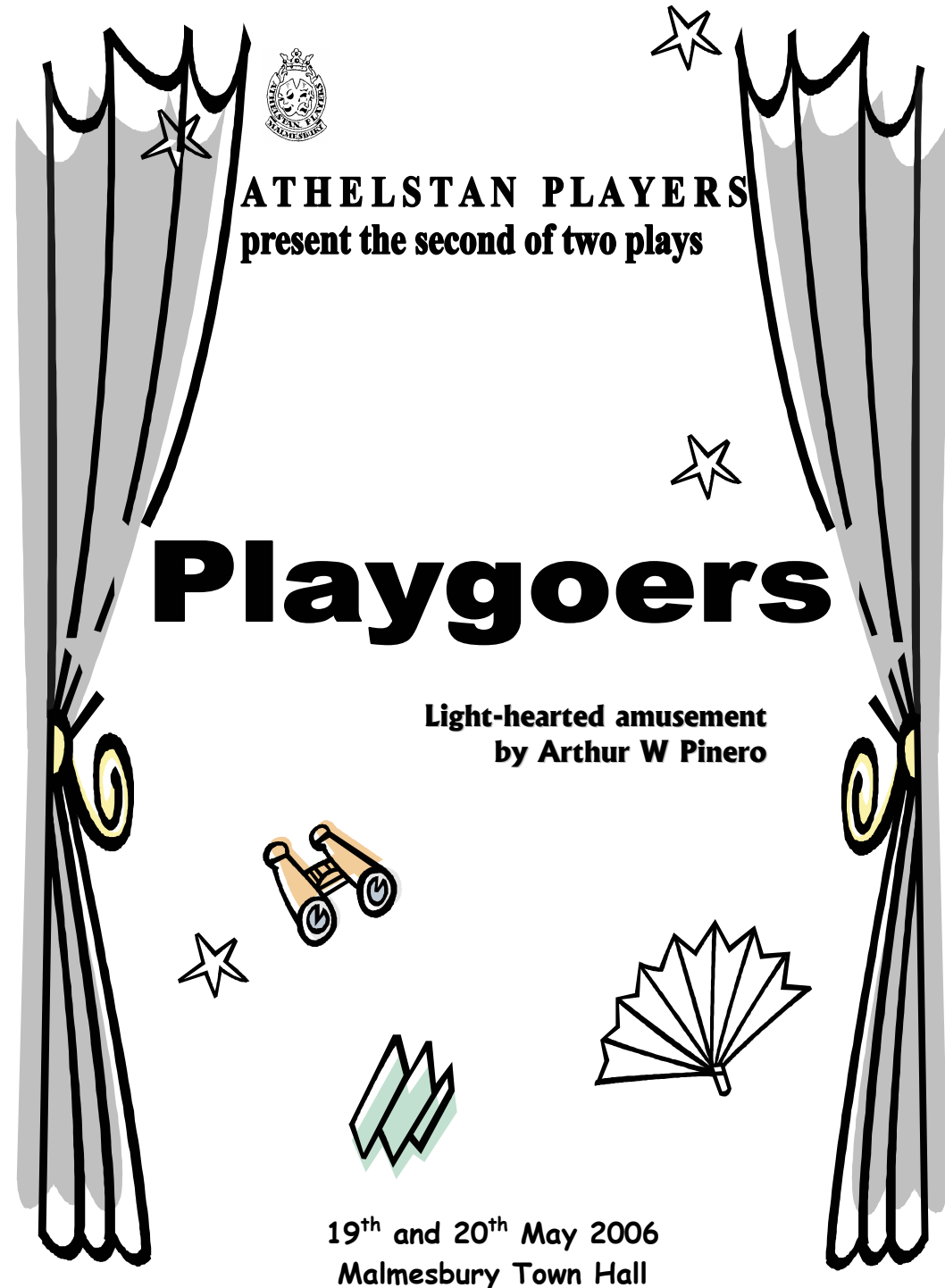
www.athelstanplayers.org


The All-England Theatre Festival organises the only country-wide eliminating contest for one-act plays in performance.

This provides an opportunity for Amateurs to compete throughout England and to benefit from the professional adjudication they receive to improve the quality of their performance. It also allows social contact with other like-minded groups so that they can share the experience to their mutual benefit.

Some of the rules binding entry to the Theatre Festival

- Each company taking part must consist of members of a bona fide amateur society which has a regular existence apart from the festival. All players must be amateur: for this purpose, those whose main source of income is derived from Acting, shall be considered Professional. .
- The work offered by any entrant must include a minimum of two speaking parts on stage and be (a) A one-act play, (b) An extract from a longer play, provided that this extract is intelligible to a member of the audience who has not seen the play from which it is taken, or (c) Some other form of theatrical performance. (Spoken or printed synopses are not permissible)
- Each entry must be at least twenty minutes in length but must not exceed the time of fifty-five minutes in performance, including any time spent in changing a scene in the course of that performance (but not include the specific times for setting and striking the whole production). Curtain calls are not permitted.
- No entry may take more than ten minutes to set and five minutes to strike. These times are additional to the playing time allowed.
- Penalties for not keeping within the allotted times for performance setting or striking shall be as follows: Up to 1 minute over or under time 1 mark Up to 2 minutes over or under time 3 marks Up to 3 minutes over or under time 6 marks Up to 4 minutes over or under time 10 marks Up to 5 minutes over or under time 15 marks More than 5 minutes over or under time... Disqualification.
- The adjudicator will use as a guide the following system of marks: Acting - 40, Production - 35, Stage presentation - 15 and Dramatic Achievement - 10.
- The adjudicators decision shall be final.




ATHELSTAN PLAYERS
present the second of two plays

Playgoers

Light-hearted amusement
by Arthur W Pinero

19th and 20th May 2006
Malmesbury Town Hall

The Crew

Director/Producer	Christine Mace
Prompt	Jackie Peel
Set	David Shelley And cast
Lighting	Mark Vincent Ray Vincent
Sound	Roger Spencelayh
Back Stage	Barry Dent Shelia Dent

With only two weeks of rehearsals left, our hardworking director suffered a serious illness and will unfortunately probably miss the performances... and the party afterwards! We all wish her a speedy recovery and hope she'll be back for the next show.

This play was entered in the All England Theatre Festival back in 1995 and although we did not win, awards were given to the following

Best Actor, Bob Charman who played the master Ernest Dorrington
Best Supporting role, shared by Megan Mills (the cook) and Marilyn Preston (the useful maid).
Set Design, The Athelstan Players (David Shelley)

Other original cast members were Zofia Gale as the parlourmaid, Albert Lindsay as the odd man, and Rachel Elkins as the kitchen maid.

Many of you will remember that Malmesbury used to hold it's own very popular one act play festival every year at the Lower School, Filands, with up to 15 local groups and schools taking part. Unfortunately when this school closed down and the new school at Corn Gastons was re-built the decision not to have a full sized stage meant that the event had to be stopped.

The Birds Stopped Singing

The action takes in a room in a roadside inn, several miles on the outskirts of Berlin. Period 1930

Pavel Alexandrovich	Bob Charman
Herr Bruno Liszt	Stuart Chapman
Erna	Amanda Duffin
Frau Ghirstfeld	Margaret Williams
Woman	Pat Castle
Man	James White

(in the festival production the part of the man was played by Steve Dowker)

Rehearsals started for this play back in January, after winning the Swindon one act play festival in March, the need to keep rehearsing it meant a clash with what would normally have been rehearsal times for a full length play. So it was decided that the Malmesbury audience should get a chance to see this outstanding performance, along with a lighter play which won us awards several years ago. Rehearsals since March have been interrupted by Bob going on holiday... for a month! Stuart moving to Bristol (at least he gets to practice his lines on the M4 and gets fed when he arrives), and Amanda developing vicars knee (too much kneeling back on the heels, housemaids knee is too much kneeling forwards)! However the show goes on as we've all taken great pleasure and pride in being a part of this production. We hope you enjoy it too.

Thanks to all the families of all the cast and crew who've put up with the extra rehearsals throughout the last five months.

