

1941 — 2001
60th Anniversary Year

PORT TALBOT LITTLE THEATRE

Present by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd

J. B. Priestley's Classic Comedy

**When We Are
Married**

**November 2001
Princess Royal Theatre
Port Talbot**

50p

PORT TALBOT LITTLE THEATRE OFFICIALS

President Elect	Councillor Sylvan Thomas
Vice Presidents	Councillor Noel Crowley Mr. Jim Paterson, B.E.M. Dr. Edward Roberts
Chairman	Vida Nelson
Vice Chairman	Carol Scott
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Treasurer	Ken Tucker
Social Secretary	Janet Jarrett
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Life Members	Mr. T. Cross Mr. & Mrs. A. Diamond Mr. & Mrs. W. Hussell Miss Ina D. Jones Mrs M. Lucas
Hon. Life Member	Mrs. Frederick-Collins

For Port Talbot Little Theatre

Stage Manager	Trevor Cross
Deputy Stage Manager	John Jones
Continuity	Ann Morgan
Properties, Lighting & Sound	Members of the Little Theatre
Publicity	Hugh Jarrett & Vida Nelson
Programme & Posters	Ken Tucker
Make up	Jennifer Davies
House Management, Stage Crews & Stewards	Members of the Little Theatre

We acknowledge the invaluable help we have received from:-
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council:
Glan Afan Comprehensive School:
The Staff of The Princess Royal Theatre:
Dave Stephens: David Watkins: Paul Parminter:
All Our Patrons

Sixty Years On.

Everything has to start somewhere and with someone. We start the 60th anniversary of Port Talbot Little Theatre because of the enthusiasm and talent of a man called Leo Lloyd. During the 1930's he gathered together a group of people who had an interest in drama and theatre and formed them into a highly successful acting group called 'The Thespians'. For many years they entertained Port Talbot audiences with their productions, until the outbreak of World War 2 forced them to disband.

In 1942, Leo, keen to keep amateur dramatics alive in the town, formed another group, called 'The Port Talbot Drama Club'. Those first members included many well remembered names like Chas. B. Tapp, John Edward John, Bruce Mayne, Trevor Cross and many more. Based in a classroom in the Eastern Schools, their first production was the costume drama, 'The Barratts of Wimpole Street'. It told of the love story of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barratt and her tyrant of a father. Costume - Drama - Romance - it was a sell out! It was a huge success and marked the start of many, many triumphant years in the competitive world of drama in South Wales.

At that time Drama was thriving - drama societies flourished in almost every town and village. The wonderful workmen's halls built throughout the valleys played host to groups from all over Wales and England too. Treorchy, Tonypany, Mardy - in every hall, one magnificent week of dramatic productions from October to March. Standards were extremely high and only the best were accepted and invited to compete. Over the years, three companies emerged as being the 'best of the best', Tredegar, Blackwood and Port Talbot. 'Berkley Square', 'Our Town' and 'The Vigil' were just three of the plays that scooped honours for Port Talbot during the 1940's and 50's.

The 1960's brought great changes. Leo left the Drama Club to guide and lead the newly formed Taibach Peoples Theatre.

The Drama Club then changed its name to Port Talbot Little Theatre and Chas. B. Tapp and John John took on the role of Producers; the first of a long line who tried to carry on the standards that had been set by Leo Lloyd. 'The Same Sky' and 'Simon and Laura' were just two of the many highlights of those years.

Home to the Little Theatre had always been a classroom, first in the Eastern School and then in the Central School. Then in the late 1970's, a real home! What excitement and delight when we moved into the Afan Arts Centre. A rehearsal room, a workshop theatre, a place to keep all our equipment, and a lounge where we could (and still do) sit and talk. It was heaven!

Over all the years, we have played on many of the town's stages. The New Hall, Y.M.C.A., County School, Afan Lido - each had been a happy venue, all with their own memories. What a joy it was when we were able to play on the stage of the beautiful Princess Royal Theatre. What luxury for us and for our audiences - a real night out at the theatre.

How much has changed since those far off days of 1942! Now we have a home to "live" in, a theatre to play in - things that were then only a dream. Then audiences flocked to see a live play because it was one of the few entertainments available. Now people only have to press a button on that box in the corner and they can have any sort of entertainment they desire. So, who is the richer?

Anyway, here we are still looking quite healthy and all ready to celebrate! We say a big "thank you" to Leo Lloyd and to all those who, in past years have given so much to the life and work of our Theatre. We are enjoying our present time and hope that the future years will bring much success to us and great entertainment to Port Talbot.

Ina D. Jones

When We Are Married

Cast List

Ruby Birtles	.....	Karen Hughes
Gerald Forbes	.....	James Evans
Mrs. Northrop	.....	Avis Jenkins
Nancy Holmes	.....	Jenny Mackrill
Fred Dyson	.....	Michael Sheppard
Henry Ormonroyd	.....	David Davies
Alderman Joseph Helliwell	.....	Lawrie Evans
Maria Helliwell	.....	Vida Nelson
Councillor Albert Parker	.....	Ken Tucker
Herbert Soppitt	.....	Hugh Jarrett
Clara Soppitt	.....	Janet Jarrett
Annie Parker	.....	Rachel Mackrill
Lottie Grady	.....	Carol Scott
Rev. Clement Mercer	.....	Ken Rees

Directed by Ina D. Jones

The action takes place in the sitting room of the Helliwell house in Clecklewyke, Yorkshire, on an evening about a hundred years ago.

Act 1 — A September evening

Act 2 — About half an hour later

Act 3 — About a quarter of an hour later

There will be ONE interval between Acts 1 & 2
when the bar will be open