

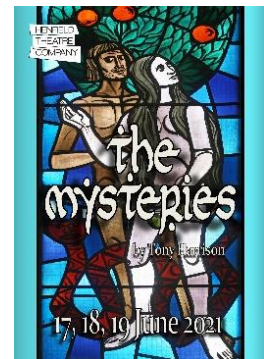
Great Stage Productions Coming Soon

2021 is full of promise in all sorts of ways and the Henfield Theatre Company (HTC) is getting excited about going back on stage with its many planned productions. At the time of writing, we are still in lockdown but the signs are good that we will soon be able to bring some carefully managed productions back to the Henfield stage. HTC has been doing some meticulous planning, not only with regard to its artistic output but also in the field of virus control measures. We are expecting to run the first productions with a limit of about 50 people in the audiences, less than a quarter of the usual capacity and there are plans for various other precautions in line with government guidelines. It will all seem very strange for HTC and our lovely audiences, but who cares if we can go out to the theatre again! And what a bonus that we will be able to do so at the beautifully refurbished Henfield Hall.

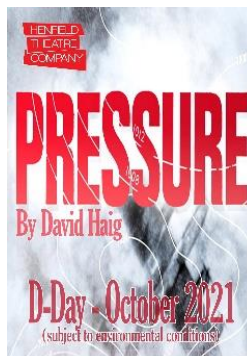
What productions are in the pipeline? We are all still ready and waiting to open the curtains on *The Stepmother*, that great play by Githa Sowerby; we have provisional plans for that to go ahead in mid-March but please look out for advertising and check the HTC website for the latest information.



The production after that, which we hope will be in June, is something different, this time staged in St Peter's Church. It is a performance of *The Mysteries*, written by Tony Harrison; it's an adaptation of the York, Wakefield, Chester and Coventry cycles of *The Mystery Plays*. We are presenting the first of three



plays to celebrate, belatedly, the 1250th anniversary of the foundation of St Peter's Church.



In October the planned production is *Pressure* by David Haig. In the run up to D-Day, June 1944 the Allied forces led by General Eisenhower are poised; 350,000 lives are at stake and the decision whether or not to launch Operation Overlord comes down to the most important weather forecast of all time. The play centres on the true story of James Stagg, the the larger than life chief meteorological adviser to the operation, and the tensions between him, Dwight D. Eisenhower and an American forecaster with new ideas, Irving P. Krick. They knew that the course of the war was going to be determined by their work... and indeed it was.

On a very different note, some major fun to look forward to in January 2022 is *Treasure Island the Panto* – Oh yes it is! Let's hope that Covid will be BEHIND YOU! This version is written by Ben Crocker. It is, of course, a fun filled romp on the high seas. It's the story of Jim Hawkins, his "mum" and their adventures with Squire Trelawney, Long John Silver, his parrot and lots of pirates. And there won't be a face mask in sight! Oh no there won't
www.henfieldtheatrecompany.com

