



Lympstone Entertainments **DRUMBEAT**

essential reading for those who don't want to miss the best of What's On in Lympstone



LympEnts will be playing its part this Saturday when the village celebrates the Queen's birthday – or rather we're sponsoring that excellent local group of jazzers, *Just Misbehavin'*, to play in Candy's Field. From 3pm the Team will be around to talk about our glorious past and, maybe to let slip a few secrets about what we're planning for the autumn and beyond. See you there?

**If you saw their production of The Triumph of Love
last year you'll be delighted to know that
The Cygnet Theatre are back with us on Saturday 16th July
with their new production of Shakespeare's timeless tragi-comedy**

The Winter's Tale



When originally published in 1623 *The Winter's Tale* was grouped among the comedies, though some critics now describe the play as one of Shakespeare's late romances. It will be fascinating to see how the young performers of the Cygnet Theatre School, under the expert guidance of Alistair Ganley, handle the intensity of the first half and the light comedy of the second.

Join us for another magical experience amid the wood and water of the Telfer's garden, situated alongside the Underhill car park. The show will start at 6pm but for those wishing to picnic beforehand the garden will be open from 5pm. *Please bring your own chairs*

**Adult tickets at £10, family tickets £30, U18s/NUS £5
from the LympEnts Box Office
c/o Demelza Henderson, 2, Brookfield Cottages, the Strand
Telephone/Answerphone 01395 272243**

(If it's raining the play will be performed in the Parish Church)

Judith Telfer enjoyed the sensitivity and virtuosity of the Zephyr Duo

Many music lovers of Lymptone missed the opportunity to enjoy a very special concert in the church on Sunday 22nd May, which was a shame.

The duo Zephyr, consisting of Sally Jenkins on the harp and Ruth Molins on the flute, had put together an interesting and varied programme, ranging from traditional to modern pieces, which they performed with skill and grace. They started with 2 pieces arranged by Benjamin Britten, the folk song “Early One Morning” and the poem by W B Yeats “Down By The Salley Gardens”, beautifully played with a delicate lightness and clarity which set the tone for the rest of the concert.

They then introduced us to 3 modern works, preceding each one with helpful information on the composer and the background to the piece. “Naiades” written in 1972 by William Alwyn gave the musicians chance to reveal sensitivity and virtuosity. The “Serenade No 10” by Vincent Persichetti took us at times into dance-like rhythms, punctuated by percussive strumming on the harp and soaring melodies on the flute. Two movements from the “Suite Antique” written by John Rutter in 1979 were favourites chosen by Zephyr, the haunting ethereal melody of the Prelude contrasting with the almost jazzy Waltz.

We were brought back to earth with 2 popular pieces: “What the World Needs Now” by Bacharach and David, followed - as a prelude to the refreshments available at the back of the church - by “Tea for Two” by Vincent Youmens. These were played with a sense of fun and enjoyment. We went away refreshed in body and spirit - and only sorry that this delightful performance had not been better attended. Our granddaughter Connie said “I enjoyed it. Some of the pieces were very fun and lively, making me want to jig up and down.”

STORMY TIMES FOR RURAL ARTS reports Sheila Stone

Will my little car make it? John Eaton-Terry and I were driving through flood, thunder and lightning to Rattery Village Hall where we met with other promoters to sample Villages in Action’s menu for 2016/17.

In the past we have delighted in the Budapest Café Orchestra, been awed by Dracula, raved and danced to Bhangra music, were spell bound by Monkey the superhero puppet and thrilled by a choir from Georgia. This year there were enticing acts on offer too. We decided to bid for a Cuban band, puppets and some jazz. We will know by the end of June whether we have been successful.

But the real thunderbolt of the evening hit us when, clustered round tables, we listened with dismay as the director, Roger Werner, confirmed that Villages in Action have lost ALL of their Arts Council funding and funding from Devon County Council – though will *this year* receive a small grant from East Devon District Council. In fact their entire existence is in jeopardy.

Most subsidy for the arts goes to the towns and cities. Villages in Action have worked with rural communities in Devon for 22 years. Their team spend months finding artists and the quality is always high. What they have to offer is for all ages, all generations. It is Live. It is varied. It enables us to feel part of something that is important, real, vital. It helps to keep our village alive. It lifts our spirits, is fun and gives us a shared memory.

Even cake did not cheer us up. In Lymptone this year we will have to pay 90% of artist fees, which means that however many tickets we sell, we won’t be able to cover our costs. ‘Creative money making solutions is what we need’, I said to JET. We will continue to bring a programme of high quality professional performances to this village. But if we were to lose Villages in Action, our programme would inevitably be greatly impoverished.

JET and I got home safely. Let’s hope Villages in Action will weather this storm.

If you agree, and would like to do something, Villages in Action would ask you to write to the Arts Council, to Devon County Council, and to East Devon District Council to express your support. In the latter case you might say that their continued funding is much appreciated here and express our hope that it can be continued in the future.