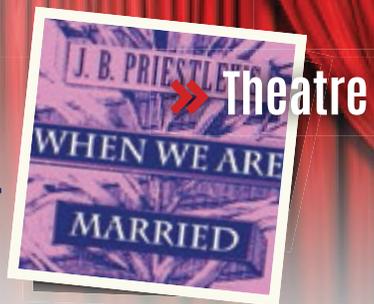


Golden opportunity



Twyford & Ruscombe Theatre Group present *When We Are Married* this month, which will be the last production in their golden anniversary year.

"On November 28th, 1963 a 'get-together' was held in the Congregational schoolroom (now the URC Hall) and, in spite of the inclement weather, approximately 50 people came".

So start the minutes of the inaugural meeting of what is now the Twyford & Ruscombe Theatre Group. The group was started by village stalwart Sybil Stephenson and her husband Alan.

The first public performance staged by the group was in April 1965; *A Quiet Wedding* by Esther McCracken. Since that time the group has had many, many successful performances of plays, pantomimes and shows including comedy, farce, thrillers, classic plays, Shakespeare, musicals and even plays written by its talented members. Now the group is celebrating its golden anniversary. In January it produced a pantomime followed in May by a *Golden Variety Show*. Now, for its third production in this 50th year the group is presenting *When We Are Married* by JB Priestley. This comedy, written in 1938, and set in a prosperous woollen

town in Yorkshire's West Riding, has stood the test of time.

In Priestley's comedy, *When We Are Married*, three couples who were all married on the same day, at the same church, are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversaries. They're having a "do" and all is going well until the husbands discover to their horror that the minister who married them wasn't authorised. The couples initially want to keep the whole business hushed up but, as events unfold, some of the individuals involved see a chance to escape from relationships that have been less than true marital bliss – and not just the women!

Priestley explores the smugness and hypocrisy of the Edwardian middle classes with a nimble touch and the play features a cast of funny and engaging characters.

- Performances take place at the group's regular venue, Loddon Hall, in Twyford, from Thursday October 8th to Saturday October 10th at 8pm. For tickets, call **0118 328 2825** or visit www.twyrusdrama.org.uk. A licenced bar and tea and coffee will be available.

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