



Looking Forward ...!!

More than 9 months ago we issued a programme of plays planned for performance in the Spring of 2020. The first of those was ***Nell Gwynn*** by *Jessica Swale*. The announcement of lockdown no.1 happened on the very day that the Cotswold Players performed its final Dress Rehearsal of this play, ready to open the following night!

Now in November, on the first day of lockdown no.2, the Players would like to update their friends and supporters on what has happened during this year and what is planned for the future.

The Playhouse has been closed and remains closed - but the membership has been far from inactive. Since the first week of April 2020 there have been more than 50 online play-readings and these continue once or twice per week.

A considerable amount of painting and decoration has taken place. New curtain and lighting machinery has been installed on the stage and a totally new theatre heating and ventilation system is currently in process of installation. When the Playhouse re-opens many of these improvements will be seen ... or certainly felt!!

A short series of online films is being prepared by the Players for broadcasting immediately before and then after Christmas.

To start this series will be a reading of Charles Dickens' *The Christmas Carol* over 5 nights.

A definitive opening date for the Playhouse is still uncertain but four plays for 2021 are in various stages of preparation:-

- ***Nell Gwynn*** - the production delayed from this year.
- ***Absurd Person Singular*** by *Alan Ayckbourn*
- ***Private Lives*** by *Noël Coward*
- ***Peace in Our Time*** by *Noël Coward*

This production will feature Stroud Choral Society and Stroud Symphony Orchestra. It will be performed for two nights at St. Laurence Church and then for 3 nights at the Cotswold Playhouse in September 2021.

For further details of the Christmas films in due time please see cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk or email geoffdb@me.com