and then there were

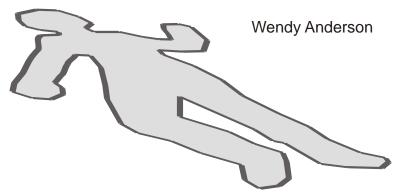
Director's Notes

This play was written by the Great Dame herself. She was a prolific writer of a huge number of thrillers (apparently to fund her husband's archeological expeditions) which have been translated into many languages and are still popular today. They evoke a much-mourned England of the past.

This play is set in the thirties and we have enjoyed researching the costumes, props and furnishings of that era. As in the original novel, there is no Poirot or Miss Marple as detective. There are adaptations of her novels but we consider them to be slightly inferior to her own work. I directed Witness for the Prosecution a few years ago and that is a taut, exciting thriller, and incidentally also starred Pete Bagley.

Having read nearly all of her novels and enjoyed the Poirot and Miss Marples episodes on television I was very happy to direct this classic piece.

"And Then There Were None" is set on an island off the south coast over three days at the beginning of August. It is the usual Christie formula - a well-to-do isolated locale with a line-up of potential suspects. Using a nursery rhyme theme, the horror of the crimes becomes submerged in the intellectual fun of spotting who the perpetrator is.



Criterion Theatre Our next production

Blue Remembered Hills

by **Dennis** Potter

15th to 18th April 2009

BOX OFFICE (Direct) 024 7667 5175 This is a notice to members

Blue Remembered Hills

by Dennis Potter

15th to 18th April (4 nights only)

Dennis Potter's award winning TV play is set in the Forest of Dean in the summer of 1943. All the characters are 7 or 8 year old children but are played by adult actors. It is a sharply observed examination of the joy, frustration, emotion and cruelty of childhood.

> Production photography by **Richard Johnson** 024 7671 4153



www.criteriontheatre.co.uk

Agatha Christie and then there were

This production includes a brief strobe lighting effect.

Programme

By arrangement with Samuel French Limited



Pete Bagley (William Blore)

Pete has been a member of the Criterion for 40 years (on and off) enjoying most theatre jobs in that time. As well as acting Pete has been privileged to direct plays that seem to have been well received. Last seen on stage in Brassed Off, Pete has also recently directed Beauty and the Beast. Pete is looking forward to this run but is none the wiser as to 'who dunnit'.



Andy Bayliss (Captain Philip Lombard)

This is Andrew's first appearance at the Criterion although he has appeared many times at the Talisman Theatre in Kenilworth since 2001. His last appearance there was in the mystery Ghost Train. Andrew will soon be on the Criterion stage again in Four Nights in Knaresborough.



Maureen Copping (Mrs Rogers)

A founder member of the Criterion, Maureen played the Countess in the opening play An Italian Straw Hat. Other roles include Adelaide in Guys and Dolls, Mother Courage, Amelia in The Ballad of the Sad Cafe, Mamma Morton in Chicago and more recently Lucille in The Cemetary Club and Grandma in Billy Liar. Maureen was also Wardrobe Mistress at the Criterion for many years.



Dave Crossfield (Antony Marston)

This is Dave's debut performance at the Criterion. Dave has performed mainly at the Talisman Theatre in Kenilworth, most recently in Accrington Pals., where he has enjoyed varied roles on and off the stage. Dave is looking forward to his next outing at the Criterion in Four Nights in Knaresborough, and then later on in the year as Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing at the Talisman.



Neil Vallance (Dr Edward Armstrong)

Neil was a member of The British Amateur Theatre in the Middle East, and later arrived at Kenilworth's Talisman Theatre appearing in Anthony & Cleopatra and All My Sons. In recent years he has appeared in Remembrance, The Winslow Boy, The Deep Blue Sea, The Handy Man, Veronica's Room, Night Must Fall, Silas Marner, Julius Caesar, Piaf, Dads Army, Filumena, The Home Coming and lately in The Real Thing, The Graduate and Animal Farm at the Talisman and lately in A Dolls House at the Loft Theatre.

Agatha Christie and then there were

The action takes place in the living room of the cliff-top house on Soldier Island off the coast of Devon.

Act One - An evening in August.

Act Two - Scene 1: The following morning. Scene 2: The same day, afternoon.

Act Three - Scene 1: The same day, evening. Scene 2: The following morning.

There will be one interval.

Director Stage Manager Set Design Set Construction

Set Painting

Props Lighting Design **Lighting Operation** Sound Design Sound Operation Wardrobe

Prompt

Wendy Anderson Clair McDonald Doug Griffiths Doug Griffiths, John Griffiths Arthur Biggs Louise Bagley, Judy Talbot Doreen Belton, Paul Wilkins Sue Hadlum, Chris Ingall Chris Jones, Liz Hodgkiss lan Knight lan Knight **Becky Bartlett Bill Butler** Pam Coleman, Maureen Liggins Nikki Muckle, Danielle Foster

Shirley Jobson

Brian has worked as a semi-professional actor with various West Midlands touring groups including Tangent Theatre, Rabble and Pub Theatre. During this time he performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and a season as a Butlins Redcoat. He is a former member of the Crescent Theatre in Birmingham and the Arts Lab Theatre Group at Aston University and has recently worked with the Aardvark Players in Wyken. His debut at the Criterion was as a member of the Chorus in Beauty and the Beast.

This is Susan's debut appearance at the Criterion She started her acting life at Hall Green Little Theatre in Birmingham and then became a member at the Talisman Theatre, Kenilworth, where she has played many roles over the last 25 years, her favourites being Clara in When We Are Married, A Whisperer in Amadeus and Lucia in Mapp and Lucia.

Libby started acting at the age of 8 with the junior workshops at The Loft Theatre. She went on to appear in several main stage productions including Chekhov's The Seagull and more recently as Cordelia in King Lear. She has also performed at the RSC in David Edgar's Pentecost. Her debut at The Criterion was playing Evelyn in The Shape of Things last year, followed by Veronique and the Beast's maid in Beauty and the Beast.

Keith Railton first joined the Criterion in 1965 to play the part of Prince Charming in Cinderella and, despite working with other companies over the past 40 years, still regards it as his spiritual home. He also likes the beer! His more recent appearances at the Criterion have been as Prospero in The Tempest, The Count in Dracula, Fagin in Oliver Twist, Marc in Art, Sigmund Freud in Hysteria and Frank in The Memory of Water. He has also directed Treasure Island, Oh! What a Lovely War, Brassed Off, and The Graduate. Keith is currently Artistic Director of the Criterion.

This is John's first appearance on a stage in Coventry for 35 years. Since then he has been prominent at the Loft and Talisman Theatres where he has played in everything from musicals to farce to Shakespeare.

Brian Gordema-Braid (Rogers)

Susan Howell (Emily Brent)

Libby Mckay (Vera Claythorne)

Keith Railton (General John Mackenzie)

John Fenner (Sir Lawrence Wargrave)













