



## ***A big, virtual 'HELLO' to you all from us here at 'BATS'.***

*We hope you are keeping well and safe during these unprecedented times. A time where we are all endeavouring to embrace the new normal!*

*October for us at BATS, usually marks the start of a busy period, making preparations for our Autumn production. No explanation is needed as to why things will be a little different this year with no live stage production at our home of St Teilos Church Hall, Bishopston. However, in the true spirit of BATS we have been thinking outside of the box to continue to deliver and to keep you in touch with BATS until business returns to normal! Here's some exciting snippets to share with you:*

*It is hoped that our postponed play 'The Weekend' by Michael Palin which was planned for March 2020 will be rescheduled in some capacity for Spring/Summer 2021. It was disappointing to cancel it but very much the right decision and the cast and crew are looking forward to showing off their hard work when the time is right. Regular read throughs of lines are keeping the cast fresh and on their toes!*

### ***"Voices beneath the waves"***

*And now for something different - one of our members, Sarah Goodall has penned an original voices play for BATS about a local story, the shipwreck of the Caesar at Pwll Du on 28 November 1760, when at least 68 men drowned. The ship sank and they were locked in the hold like cargo, having been rounded up by the infamous Press Gangs from the Bristol Channel ports. An interesting tale that whilst many of us don't know about, it is an important one to remember.*

*Rehearsals and preparations have started via the wonders of 'zoom' to ensure we are safely socially distanced and the plan is to have it ready for broadcast on our website by 28 November 2020 - 260 years after the event. A big 'thank you' to our technical front men, Alan Bailey and Guy Littlemore for making this possible! We will keep you updated through our website and social media channels with further information of how to tune in.*

### ***'BATS chats' with a difference***

*Many of you will have grown to love our 'BATS chats' articles that features in our programmes where we 'interview' our cast and crew both on and off stage. We will soon be sharing this virtually with lots of lovely fun content online on a video format to ensure that you all still feel connected despite not being able to see us perform.*

### ***And finally .....***

*The 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter has been emailed to all those who support us. This is our COVID-19 driven initiative to keep in touch with our audience. Our aim is to be as interactive as possible, so please feel free to email us with any ideas, thoughts or messages you may have for ways in which we can engage with you during these interesting times and or what you would like to see from BATS in the future.*

*Email: [batsinfo@batsgower.co.uk](mailto:batsinfo@batsgower.co.uk)*

*If you would like to join BATS and help out with our forthcoming virtual activities please contact Heather Cooper Secretary on 07776 252230, we are a friendly bunch and look forward to welcoming new members.*

*Stay safe and looking forward to staying connected with you all.*

***Thank you for your continued support.***