



April 23rd

*Music Hall to celebrate
St. George's Day
A flag-waving, patriotic
extravaganza*



Chairman: Johnny Dennis

Orchestra: Charles Miller

Artistes include:

*Judith Hibbert, Jan Hunt,
Marilyn Hill Smith, Julia Sutton,
John Styles, The Playerettes*



Johnny Dennis



Julia Sutton



John Styles



Jan Hunt



Judith Hibbert

The Magic Circle

12 Stephenson Way London NW1 2HD

Supper & Show (6.30 - 10.00) £55

Show only (8.00 - 10.00) £30

Booking:

Website: www.playerstheatre.co.uk or

Email: Mike@playerstheatre.co.uk or

Telephone: 07768 814362



A brief history of the Players' Theatre Club

From the 1820's Song and Supper rooms, featuring vocal and instrumental entertainment for diners, began to flourish in London. One such was a house at 43 King Street, Covent Garden, where a Mr Joy had great success. His successor, a Mr Evans, called his own events: "Evans's - Late Joy's". However, the business declined and by 1880, had shut down.

The Players' Theatre club was formed in 1929, but it was not until 1937 that Peter Ridgeway, who took over the club together with Leonard Sachs, put on a new production called: "Evans's Song and Supper Rooms (late Joy's)". It "took" immediately, and the club, with its "Late Joys", flourished. During 1939 and 1940, the club moved several times. During the blitz it performed in a basement in Albemarle Street.

Like the Windmill, the Players' never closed.

In 1946, the club moved to Villiers Street, remaining there until forced to move by the re-development of the site in 1987 to the Duchess theatre. This caused a serious loss of membership, and although it moved back to Villiers Street, the club struggled and financial problems cost the club its lease in 2002.

Two members have bought premises in Craven Street, which, thanks to a very generous donation have been converted into a fine space for auditions, rehearsals and member events.

The club continues to put on shows at various theatres, clubs, festivals and for other special occasions. We believe that music hall is an important part of British cultural history. Now registered as a charity, the club has a clearly defined programme to ensure the future of the genre.

* We are fortunate enough to have a huge library of music hall songs, monologues and the like, which the club music archivist and her team of volunteers is systematically cataloguing. Paper copies may be purchased by music hall artistes on request.

* We have a large collection of videos of shows, made for strictly archive purposes over the last 10 years or so of the club's occupancy of its Villiers Street theatre. The club's sound and vision archivist is converting them to DVD and preparing clips to display at member-only events, and also to provide to new artistes with valuable learning insights into how items were performed.

* We have set up periodic audition days when aspiring music hall artistes have the opportunity to present themselves to our coaching team.

* We have regular members' evenings, at which DVD clips are shown, new artistes are able to demonstrate their skills to a benevolent audience, and the audience has the opportunity to take part in a structured "singalong".

* We stage periodic evenings at the Concert Artistes' Association, when 2 or 3 established artistes are supplemented with several new artistes, and perform before a public audience.

* We stage fully professional shows at The Magic Circle, at which we aim to introduce at least one "Newest newcomer".

If you would like to support our endeavours, like the sound of our member evenings - and would like to attend our shows at a discounted rate by becoming a member - or would just like further information:

**See our Website: www.playerstheatre.co.uk,
or Email: playersjoys@dmhart.globalnet.co.uk
or Telephone: Jane Hart on 020 8661 1538**

Future events

**June 28th : Summer party at the Royal Air Force club 128 Piccadilly W1J 7PY
(Old time music hall with supper)**

**July 4th : Magic Circle
*Star-spangled celebration of American Independence Day***

**October 21st : Magic Circle
*Trafalgar Day: an evening of maritime medleys recalling the days when Britain really ruled the waves.***