THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB • ISSUE 88 FEBRUARY 2014

Rectum

COCCYX

Muscles

### Valentine's film night

Two sides of love in a seasonal double bill (no, it's not Love, Actually)

### **Ed Marlowe bares all**

This month's Brogues Gallery victim steps up to the block

### Liquors of love

Cocktails to present to the significant other in your life

Bladder

rethra

# NO SNIGGERING AT THE BACK!

Gillian Greenwood on why, when it comes to your pelvic floor, it doesn't pay to beat around the bush

PELVIC FLOOR

MUSCLE



The New Sheridan Club traditionally meets in the upstairs room of The Wheatsheaf, just off Oxford Street. The Wheatsheaf is one of Fitzrovia's historic pubs, a one-time haunt of Dylan Thomas, George Orwell, Augustus John and Julian Maclaren-Ross. In fact Thomas met his wife Caitlin in The Wheatsheaf and, legend has it, he was known to flash at women there as well. Fitzrovia's associations with literature go back to the eighteenth century. In the twentieth century both Woolf and Shaw lived in Fitzroy Square; Pound and Lewis launched Blast! at the Restaurant de la Tour Eiffel in Percy Street. John Buchan lived in Portland Place and in The Thirty-Nine Steps Richard Hannay has a flat there. Both Lawrences (D.H. and T.E.) took rooms there, as did Aleister Crowley, Wilfred Owen, Rupert Brooke and Katherine Mansfield.

#### The Next Meeting

The next Club Meeting will take place on Wednesday 5th February in the upstairs room at The Wheatsheaf, 25 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1JB, from 7pm until 11pm. Mr David de Vynél will fill us in on Sinking Problems: A History

of the Submersible Ship. "Man has been trying to sink for as long as he has been trying to fly," says Mr de Vynél, who has first-hand experience of the Royal Navy's nuclear submarine fleet, "and in this NSC talk I will give an account of man's desire to conquer the ocean floor. Specific focus will be given to World War II and Cold War submersibles and their effects on changing warfare."

#### The Last Meeting

As the first Wednesday in January was actually New

Year's Day, we though it shrewd to push the monthly meeting back a day to Thursday 2nd

January (pushing it back a week was not an option as there is a regular booking by someone else), which inevitably confused a number of people. However, we had a reasonable turnout for Gillian Greenwood's unusual talk on sorting out aching backs and necks, using the principles

of pilates, developed in the 1940s. Many of us are deskbound these days and poor posture can lead to all kinds of chronic problems. Once the awkward business of locating our pelvic floor muscles was out of the way, Gillian gave use some simple exercises to do. I must admit I had expected a level of scepticism and was surprised by how interested the audience was and how willing to engage in the exercises Gillian gave us to try out. Many thanks to Gillian for the talk

and the years of pain-free slouching, sloping and mooching we have ahead of us.



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(Left) Gillian tackles the awkward business of locating one's pelvic floor muscles

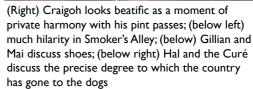




attack of fire-and-

brimstone

preaching zeal







**RESIGN!** THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB

ISSUE 88, FEBRUARY 2014

# DISCREET EXERCISES FOR THE GYM-SHY

GILLIAN GREENWOOD offers a regimen to sort out your backache, without leaving the comfort of your library

LITTLE THE WORSE for Christmas and NewYear festivities, a hardy band of Sheridanites made it to the first meeting of the year—with the promise of a workshop that would have them feeling rejuvenated within the hour!

I'm a teacher of Pilates, lifestyle and stressmanagement, often working in offices where the workers are desk-bound for hours on end, coping with tight deadlines. For people in this situation I have put together a one-hour

workshop, and it was a version of this that I presented at the New Sheridan Club.

Most office-based work involves sitting still at a desk, rarely being relaxed and often coping with high stress loads. Being sedentary for long periods of time leads to back and neck pain. In the past, bed rest was prescribed; however the modern approach is to keep the back moving. Therefore, deskbound personnel need a suitable system of movement to ward off problems.

#### Preparation

Our postural muscles are key to improving the way we use our bodies in everyday life and avoiding pain and stiffness. The first step is to find your pelvic floor. This is crucial to posture, but many people don't know

where it is or how to go about engaging it. Sitting down with your weight balanced

evenly over your feet, assume a relaxed, happy, confident and upright position with your torso.

Now imagine you have drunk too much wateror gin if you prefer—but can't find a bathroom. The muscles you are using to delay rushing to the loo are your pelvic floor muscles. When you engage these you should feel your tummy moving inwards.

N.B. If you felt it in your lower back then you are not using the right muscles. Try again but this time consciously relax the lower back.

Once you have mastered finding your pelvic floor without even a suggestion in your lower

> back, you are ready to try some simple, effective mobility exercises. These are designed to engage the postural muscles and let you experience how to perform everyday movements efficiently by taking the stress out of the lower back and neck, thus relaxing muscles that are being used unnecessarily.

Such exercises include turning the head while keeping the spine lengthened, moving the spine one vertebra at a time and mobilising the shoulder joints; all performed with the mindfulness of the postural muscles learned above. Here are a couple of examples:



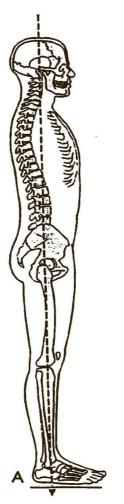
Joseph Pilates (here aged 57) studied yoga, kung fu, gymnastics and bodybuilding before refining his own system of everyday health and strength

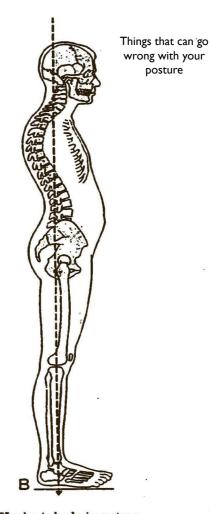
#### 1. Turning your head

Read through all the preparation again and, keeping your shoulders still and your ears level, gently "find" your pelvic floor and slowly

turn your head to the right and return to the

You can repeat to the left straight away or later in the day.







Ideal alignment

Kyphosis-lordosis posture.

Flat-back posture.

Sway-back posture.

#### 2. Shoulders up and down

Read through all the preparation again, gently "find" your pelvic floor and slowly raise both shoulders up to your ears. Hold for a moment, checking they are equally high and then slowly bring then down again, encouraging your shoulder blades to be wide and open.

You can repeat again or later in the day.

That's a taster of my workshop. If you are interested to learn more movements, please feel free to email me or have a chat at the next NSC meeting. No-one should have to put up with neck and back pain.

I am also holding a Taster Pilates Class in Kensington on Wednesday 5th February 6.30pm. See www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pilatestaster-class-tickets-9262298785.

Exercises like these can go unnoticed in the workplace. Even just one repetition is beneficial and they can be performed in any order at any time of day.

There are other things you can do in your work place to help, such as arranging the

furniture in an ergonomically effective way and making sure you are not straining your eyes.

If you're sceptical that exercises like these can really do any good, here are some comments I received from NSC Members after the last meeting:

"Eminently doable and very accessible. Even after one session I can understand how it can be effective."—Dave "Affability" Hollander

"I feel better after just a one hour lecture and my stiff shoulder now feels more flexible."—Ian White

"Memorable, easy-to-do exercises; the ankle circles were nice—they help my clicks. I wear glasses and the eye advice was helpful. People feel overwhelmed going to the gym. It was very helpful for people like me who don't want to go to the gym! Just 5 minutes at our desks is more beneficial to 'normal' people."—Mai Moller

Feel free to get in touch: www.GillianGreenwood.com Pilates@gilliangreenwood.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Mind-Body-Spirit-Pilates/523494677734976 Twitter: twitter.com/PilatesGillian

**RESIGN!** THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB ISSUE 88. FEBRUARY 2014 **RESIGN!** THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB ISSUE 88, FEBRUARY 2014



## THE BROGUES GALLERY





In which a Member of the New Sheridan Club is asked to introduce themselves to other Members so that those at Home and Across the Seas may all get to know fellow Club Members. No part of this interview may be used in court or bankruptcy proceedings.



## **Edward Marlowe**

'Education, not indoctrination'

#### Name or preferred name?

Edward Marlowe. Starts with an E, ends with an e.

#### Why that nickname or nom de plume?

True story: once upon a time, Bob Dylan was approached by Sid Vicious, backstage somewhere. "Oi! Is Bob Dylan your real name?" queried young Vicious. "I don't know." Dylan replied. "Is it?"

Where do you hail from?

I'm a first-generation Irish immigrant who has settled in Whitechapel, London.

#### **Favourite Cocktail?**

The Ginger Marlowe: Take a long glass and add one generous shot of Kraken rum, before half-filling with ginger wine. Fill the rest of the glass almost to the top with ginger beer, before adding just a tiny spritz of gin. Garnish with a slice or two of lemon, and possibly a cherry if you're feeling frisky. No ice. Stirred, not shaken. Best mixed with the spirits warmed to ambient temperature in a hip flask secreted within a lady's lingerie.

#### Most Chappist Skill?

Obfuscation and pedantry.

#### Most Chappist Possession?

An original vinyl copy of *Never Mind the Bollocks*, *Here's the Sex Pistols*, and some tweed trousers.

#### Personal Motto?

Education, not indoctrination

#### Favourite Quotes?

- "What has been will be again,
  what has been done will be done again;
  there is nothing new under the sun."
- -Ecclesiastes 1 v 9
- "What manner of men are we, then, if we do not have our reason. We are no better than beasts in a jungle were that the case."
- -Vito Corleone. The Godfather
- "The owls are not what they seem."
- -Twin Peaks

"How many roads must a man walk down? 42" —Bob Dylan, by way of the mice in The Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy

- "Quote me as saying I was misquoted." —Groucho Marx
- "Now I believe in this and it's been tested by research,
  He who fucks nuns will later join the church"
  —Death or Glory, The Clash
- "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

  —The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

in me..."

-Casablanca



#### fellow Members and why (cocktail, night out, tailor, watchmaker, public house, etc.)?

Eat at least once in Rules, London's oldest and, in my view, best restaurant (though dinner at The Ritz is also wonderful, and I'm a fan of the Ivy too).

## Your three chosen dinner party guests from history or fiction and why?

I've tried this on many occasions and it is impossible for me to get it below a dozen, but today I'd say... Christ, Bogart and Brando. Do you seriously need me to explain why?

## Favourite Member of the Glorious Committee?

Artemis Scarheart. (Why has

this already been filled in..?)

## Not a lot of people know this about me, but... I shot a man in Reno, just to watch him die.

"I like to think you killed a man. It's the romantic

How long have you been involved with the NSC? Since sometime around 2010...

### How did you hear about the Club to begin with?

I was asking around at the Chap Olympiad 2009—my first—as to where one could acquire one of those "Chap lapel pins", only to be told they signified membership of the New Sheridan Club. About a year later, I actually got around to going along. As memory serves, my first club event was the Far Pavillions Summer Party, which I attended dressed in the manner of a 1930s big game hunter. Some giggling teenagers took my photo on the bus.

What one thing would you recommend to

## Have you done a Turn yet? If so what was it on, if not what are you planning to do?

In December 2012 I gave a lecture entitled Incendiary Eccentrics, which discussed several interesting, bizarre and, arguably, in their own way quite Chappist men, who happened also to be involved in paramilitary violence in Ireland's turbulent 20th century. They included the Englishman Erskine Childers, executed as an IRA anti-Treaty extremist during the Civil War, and Loyalist gunman Alexander "Buck Alec" Robinson, who may possibly have worked for both Al Capone and Joe Kennedy, but is best remembered for his choice of domestic pet: an untamed lion.

I've also curated two of the Film Nights, presenting *The Warriors* in November 2012, and a double bill of *Nosferatu* and *Shadow of the Vampire* in October 2013.

Thank you for allowing yourself to be interviewed in the palatial surroundings of the NSC Club House. On behalf of the Members may I respectfully ask you to resign.



NSC FILM NIGHT Girl Shy (1924) The Dead (1987)

#### **Sunday 23rd February**

7pm–I Ipm (screening from 8pm) The Tea House Theatre, I 39 Vauxhall Walk, London SEI I 5HL (020 7207 4585) Admission: Free

A double bill this time: in honour of St Valentine's Day we present a bitter-sweet (and perhaps rather unexpected) combination, as voted for online at the New Sheridan Club Facebook page. We start with *Girl Shy*, Harold Lloyd's silent comedy, followed by *The Dead*, John Huston's last movie (he directed it from a wheelchair, trailing oxygen tanks, as he was dying), based on a James Joyce short story, the longest in the collection *The Dubliners*.

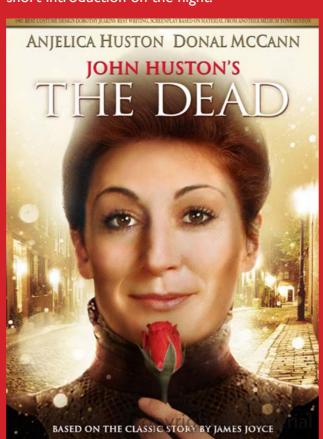
Harold Lloyd started as an extra at \$3 a day, before signing to Hal Roach and later forming his own production company. He made over 200 movies and although he was never as famous as Charlie Chaplin he was more prolific—becoming the highest-paid flm performer of the 1920s. He is most remembered for his hair-raising stunts (famously hanging from the hands of a disintegrating clock high above the streets in 1923's Safety Last!), and in an accident with an exploding prop he lost a finger and thumb, which he would subsequently

disguise with a special glove. His later films were more character-based—usually a character called Harold in his trademark round spectacles (which were just plain glass), a hapless but determined Everyman. In *Girl Shy* he plays a naif who writes a treatise on *The Secret of Making Love*—which he must then live up to when it is accepted by an agent.

The Dead is a more poignant affair, concerning a family gathering in 1904 Dublin for an Epiphany party held by

two elderly sisters—adapted from a story long considered "unfilmable". Directed by John Huston, it was written by his son Tony and stars his daugher Angelica. In the story shy academic Gabriel Conroy, nephew of the sisters, fumbles in the social environment of the party, then later discovers that something at the event has triggered his wife to recall a passionate past of which he was not previously aware—she reveals her memories of a long-ago romance and a long-dead lover, and he comes to see her in a new light.

Many thanks to David Pile for suggesting Girl Crazy and to Chuckles Younghusband for suggesting The Dead—about which he will give a short introduction on the night.







## The House Guest From Hell

OR OUR FIRST Film Night of the new year, Isabel Spooner-Harvey, currently **L** exiled to the former colonies, suggested the comic caper The Man Who Came to Dinner (1942), concerning an acerbic radio personality, Sheridan Whiteside, who, while on a crosscountry lecture tour, slips on the icy steps of Ohio couple Ernest and Daisy Stanley. He invites himself to recuperate in their home which he promptly takes over and dominates from his wheelchair. The film was originally a stage play by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, who wrote it as a vehicle for their friend Alexander Woollcott-on whom the character of Whiteside is closely based—inspired by a true story. Apparently one day Woollcott showed up, unannounced, at Hart's Bucks County estate, and proceeded to take over the house. He slept in the master bedroom, terrorised Hart's staff, and generally acted like Sheridan Whiteside. On his way out he wrote in Hart's guest book, "This is to certify that I had one of the most unpleasant times I ever spent." Hart related the story to Kaufman and, as they were laughing about it, Hart remarked that he

was lucky that Woollcott had not broken his leg and become stuck there. Kaufman looked at Hart and the idea was born.

In the end Woollcott was too busy to play the role himself in the Broadway run. For the film version Bette Davis wanted to play Maggie Cutler against John Barrymore as Whiteside. But Barrymore was allegedly too drunk to handle the rapidfire dialogue. Charles Laughton, Orson Welles, Robert Benchley and Cary Grant were

all considered, but eventually the part went to Monty Woolley, who had played it on Broadway. He was unknown to screen audiences, but *Time* gushed that, "Woolley plays Sheridan Whiteside with such vast authority and competence that it is difficult to imagine anyone else attempting it." Critical approval was universal, with the *New York Times* summing it up as "unquestionably the most vicious but hilarious cat-clawing exhibition ever put on the screen, a deliciously wicked character portrait and a helter-skelter satire".

Sadly Isabel couldn't be there to introduce the film herself, but it played to a full house of guests as well as NSC Members and went down well (despite an early hiccup where the film kept playing with dubbing in Spanish—the only Region 2 DVDs available are from Spain!).



**REGIGN!** THE NEW SLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB 9 ISSUE 88, FEBRUARY 2014



Wherein Members raise their spirits

### His and Hers

By David Bridgman-Smith

've recently finished writing my second book, this time on the subject of long-lost cocktail ingredients. It was during my research for this book that I came across some early 20th-century references to women-only bars in New York City. The first was at the Vanderbilt Hotel, and also came with its own English butler. However, it was a little ahead of its time and closed in 1912.

Unperturbed by the first establishment's failure, the Bustanoby Brothers (famed for their liqueur creation, Forbidden Fruit, and for roasting a lion in their restaurant) started their own women's bar, the Café Beaux Arts, a year or so later. (To see a 1913 New York Times article about their establishment click here.)

Inspired by the idea of drinks specifically for her, or indeed for him, Mrs B and I set each other a challenge: to come up with three drinks for each other; one for a cocktail glass, one

short drink for a tumbler and finally one long drink.

HIS

#### **Station Master**

50ml Gin

5ml Lagavulin (or other Islay) Scotch

Rinse the cocktail glass with the Scotch and then pour the gin directly from the freezer. Superb! The Scotch adds a pleasant modification to the gin, with a subtle complexity similar to that of vermouth. This is a very dry drink and, although rather masculine, is equally enjoyed by men and women—indeed, Mrs B (not usually a big Martini fan) and I fought over this one.

#### **Brighton Punch**

35ml orange juice 30ml fresh lemon juice 20ml bourbon 20ml Cognac 20ml Benedictine.

Shake the ingredients with ice, then strain into a highball glass filled with ice. Top-up with

soda and garnish with a slice of lemon, orange or both. A smooth and fruity drink, with some powerful notes of whiskey and Cognac behind it; bold, refreshing and moreish. An excellent, thirst-quenching drink, especially good after a long day.

#### Old Fashioned

50ml Redbreast 21-year-old

3 dashes Benedictine, 3 dashes Abbott's Bitters

Stir the ingredients with ice and strain into a tumbler. This drink has a fine degree of complexity and the use of Irish

whiskey means that the drink is not as heavy as one made with a Scotch, and not as sweet as one made with bourbon. The Benedictine not only adds sweetness, but an added level of herbal flavours, which complement the bitters. Other liqueurs could be used instead, and I think that this offers a good way to "bespoke" your Old Fashioned, rather than using the rather onedimensional standard of white sugar.



**HERS** 

#### Sidecar

50ml Cognac (although we used Armagnac) 25ml orange liqueur 25ml lemon Juice

Shake with ice and strain into a cocktail glass. This is a twist on the early 20th-century drink, using the more intense cousin of Cognac, Armagnac. The result was fresh, fruity and vibrant from the start, with a lively burst of citrus—fresh orange juice, then lemon—followed by warmer, richer notes, like a fruity sherry. There's, a sharp tang of grape, then a distinctive finish of lemon that has a sherbet-like zing to it, and longer, lighter notes of wood that build up as you drink more. All-in-all, this is fruity, refreshing and full of flavour.

#### **Rum Sazerac**

Add I tsp of sugar and 3 dashes of Peychaud's bitters to the bottom of a tumbler. Add a little water and mix until the sugar has dissolved Add 50ml of dark (preferably) Navy rum—Woods is ideal. Stir with ice and then strain into a chilled tumbler which has been rinsed with absinthe. Garnish with a twist of lime peel.

Distinctive liquorice notes from the absinthe on the nose, before a strong progression of flavours: black liquorice, then sticky treacle and, at points, hints of almost bitter molasses.

There's some warm spice, too, before a lighter, but still warming finish of more liquorice, but now with fresh notes of lime.

#### **Ginger Highball**

I part Scotch whisky
I part ginger wine
I part lemon juice
3 parts ginger ale

Stir in a glass filled with ice. Refreshing, with just the right amount of sweetness and lots of lovely ginger notes—the ginger wine comes out first, with sweet and herbal notes, as well as a good burst of ginger, paired with hints of brown sugar. This is followed by a lighter, more fruity, note to finish, with elements of lemon tinged with more ginger.

#### A final word from Mrs° B:

This proved to be a most interesting experiment, anticipating what one another would like in each of the drinks, while also trying something a little different. Why not get in an array of cocktail ingredients and have a go yourself? You might just find your (or your partner's) next favourite tipple. Now, where's that Station Master..?

For more cocktail recipes, product reviews and musings on booze, see the New Sheridan Club's **Institute for Alcoholic Experimentation** 



REGIGN THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB 10 ISSUE 88, FEBRUARY 2014 SEGION: THE NEW SHERIDAN CLUB 11 ISSUE 88, FEBRUARY 2014

## The thoughts of chairman Torquil

## My Thoughts on Animals

By Torquil Arbuthnot

I moseyed on down to the corral one day, singing lustily, in my light baritone that is the envy of most people who can't sing, "Purple light in the canyon, that's where I long to be, with my three (with my three) good companions, just my rifle, pony and me."

My riding instructor pointed out my horse, Cedar.

"Why is he staring at me like that," I said. "He's very responsive," she said, not looking convincing at all.

Then she looked pensive and said that Cedar was "difficult".

"What do you mean by 'difficult'?"

"Well, he doesn't seem to like people riding him." Cedar was still looking at me. The instructor said, "He really, really doesn't like people sitting on his back."

"Are you sure he's a horse? Is he a giant squrrel who's escaped from a Jules Verne novel?"

I was 22 at the time, and had realized in the last two minutes I was not going to see my 23rd birthday.

Cedar, as I approached him, took a large chunk out of my leg. I punched him on the muzzle. We looked at each other for a while. I made the mistake of turning my back on him and he took another chunk out of my other leg; and chuckled quietly to himself. We exchanged looks.

I started to adjust the saddle and Cedar shoulder-barged me into the electric fence.
Which gave me a nice tingle. A bit like standing

next to Charlotte Rampling.

The riding instructor then said, as an afterthought, just as I was about to "saddle up", "Oh! Stephen! Cedar doesn't like other horses!" I got myself vaguely on top of Cedar, facing possibly in the right direction, then said, "What?"

She said he liked kicking other horses. She must have given him ideas because he promptly kicked another horse in the neck.

By this point I was wishing I could play polo. Cedar then kicked another horse. And then looked thoughtful, and bolted. The riding instructor yelled, "I think he likes you!"

> I was leaving California, heading for Arizona, after an hour or two.

Then Cedar found a convenient ravine and decided to bolt again. The ravine, about two feet wide, was covered with tennis-ball sized rocks, which Cedar took at a gallop. I then remembered (possibly from a biography of Sergio Leone) how to stop a bolting horse. Putting my cigarillo carefully behind my ear, I then leaned forward and pulled very hard on a rein. Cedar then fell on top of me. I asked him

what the fucking fuck he thought he was doing. We looked at each other and he said in horse language, "Fair play, guvnor!"

I then took him back to the stables and hosed him down (I'm kinky that way) and gave him a carrot.

[Editor's note: we asked the author if there were any authenticating photographs of this period but he claimed they were all seized at Customs. The photograph above is Mr Arbuthnot in fancy dress at the NSC Mexican party last summer. It is not meant to imply that, following the incident described above, he was inspired to spend several years as a bandit in the Sierra Madre.]





## 'Oh Rapture Unforeseen!'

By Oliver Lane

HETHER IT IS the New Sheridan Club slowly colonising other London clubs or t'other way around is hard to tell, but the NSC contingent at the venerable King's College London Gilbert & Sullivan

Society is steadily growing. From one in 2010, we have expanded our influence to four in 2014, with a number of others passing through in the intermediate years. The war-cry of this proud club has even infiltrated into King's College, allowing the entertaining spectacle of disgruntled students shouting "Resign!" at each other, without entirely understanding why.

The last such Gilbert & Sullivan show directed by a NSC member was Princess Ida back in 2010. Set in 1917, the uncanny likeness of some players to Tsar Nicholas and Kaiser Wilhelm gave a very surreal edge to this tale of the dangers of allowing women into Universities. Returning this year, NSC Member Ella is commemorating the centenary of the Great War by transporting HMS Pinafore to 1914 England.

A masterpiece of Victorian British light Opera, this classic satire of class consciousness, military inefficiency and Parliamentary peculiarity is considered one of Gilbert & Sullivan's finest works and their first international success. *HMS Pinafore* is stuffed with memorable, catchy tunes, hilarious characters and absurd goings on. In the usual tradition of our society we're going overboard with fantastical sets and costumes which we hope will delight!

HMS Pinafore is showing at the Greenwood Theatre in London Bridge on 5th, 6th and 7th March. Box office and bar opens 6.30pm, show starts at 7pm. Tickets are £10 with £7 concessions available from KCLG&S members or online at www.kclgns.com.











#### A CERTAIN VINTAGE

Fiona and Michael (The Curé) invite you to celebrate their birthdays on:

Saturday

**22 February 2014 7.30pm to late** 

'enue: The Blue Lion, 133 Grays Inn Road

Map: http://the-blue-lion.co.uk/location-map/

**PSVP:** <u>fiona.salter@gmail.com</u> <u>m.silver@pohwer.net</u>

Dress:
Radclyffe Hall,
Downton Abbey
Down and Out,
Lord and Lady,

Lord Above..





**CLUB NOTES** 

## Club Tie Graces Necks from the Big and Small Screen

The Number of famous people who seem to be covert Members of the New Sheridan Club without our even knowing continues to expand in space and time at a perplexing rate. Thanks go to Incy for this still (top) of the Man of Steel himself (1970s Christopher Reeve version) in an NSC tie, and to John Delikanakis for both this uplifting snap (top left) of apparent Clubman Monty Hall of 1960s TV quiz show *Let's Make a Deal* and for this moody image from *Mr Blandings Builds His Dream House* (1948) which, despite being in monochrome, clearly depicts Melvin Douglas wearing Club silk.

## Birthday Bash

CLUB MEMBERS Fiona Salter and Michael Silver are celebrating their respective birthdays at a party on Saturday 22nd February to which Members are cordially invited. The venue is the Blue Lion public house, 133 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8TU and kick-off is at 7.30. The dress code is given as "Radclyffe Hall, Downton Abbey, Down and Out, Lord and Lady, Lord Above...", so sounds pretty open. Please RSVP to fiona.salter@gmail.com or m.silver@pohwer.net.



## Forthcoming Events



BOTH OFFICIAL NSC JAUNTS ( ) AND THIRD-PARTY WHEEZES WE THINK YOU MIGHT ENJOY

FOR THE LATEST developments, see the Events page at www.newsheridanclub.co.uk plus our Facebook page and the web forum.

#### Dylan Thomas: Clown in the Moon

Monday 3rd February

The Trystan Bates Theatre, 1A Tower St, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9NP Admission: TBA

A one-man show about Dylan Thomas, featuring Rhodri Miles as Thomas, part of the Dylan 100 festival marking 100 years since his birth. You'll be pleased to hear that the Wheatsheaf pub, home of our monthly meetings, gets a mention as it was the place where Dylan met his wife Caitlin. Clown in the Moon (the title of a poem written when Dylan was 14) is a dramatic portrait of the poet's chaotic, frequently hilarious, and all too brief life. Located in a BBC studio, it sets some of Dylan's famous broadcasts and iconic works alongside vivid reminiscences of his clownish antics in pubs, bars and parties, and his encounters with a host of eccentric and volatile women. This solo show is directed by the awardwinning director and actor Gareth Armstrong (Shylock, My Darling Clemmie, Rape of Lucrece, Becoming Marilyn) and is written by awardwinning writer Gwynne Edwards (Burton, Dylan Thomas in America). Rhodri Miles (Richard II, Eastern Promises, Atlantis, Game of Thrones) returns to the stage to play Dylan Thomas after his previous sell-out tour of the critically acclaimed Burton, winner of the Best International Show at the Hollywood Fringe Festival, 2010.

#### A Curious Invitation Pop-Up Shop

Monday 3rd-Sunday 9th February Boxpark, 2-10 Bethnal Green Road, Shoreditch, London Admission: Free, but the merchandise won't be, obvs

Suzette Field, one half of the team behind the Last Tuesday Society and now author of *A Curious Invitation*, a round-up of parties in literature, opens a pop-up shop for one week offering a selection of the things peddled at the permanent shop she and Viktor Wynd run in Hackney—taxidermy, entomology, osteology, jewellery and other eerie knick-knacks, such as anti-Valentine voodoo dolls, to put the Juju on to your ex.

### S NSC Club

Night

Wednesday 5th
February
7pm-11pm
Upstairs, The
Wheatsheaf, 25
Rathbone
Place, London
W1T 1JB
Members: Free
Non-Members:
£2 (first visit free)

See page 2.

#### Cakewalk Café

15

Every
Wednesday
7pm-lam
(swing dance
classes 7–8pm,
8–9pm)
Passing Clouds,

sing Clouds, ichmond Road, Da

1 Richmond Road, Dalston, London E8 4AA Admission: £8 for the dance class, £4 for the club (discounted if you're doing the class)
Dress: 1920s/1930s preferred

Live swing jazz every Wednesday featuring Ewan Bleach and chums, with optional dance classes from Swing Patrol.

#### The Folly Mixtures Revue Show

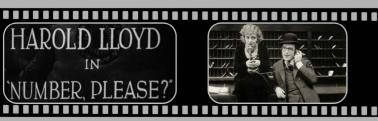
Wednesday 5th February 7.30–10.30pm Madame JoJo's, 8–10 Brewer Street, London W1



BREATEST PARTIES

# THE LUCKY DOG PICTUREHOUSE PRESENTS

WITH LIVE MUSICAL ACCOMPAINIMENT





The Lucky Dog Picturehouse recreates the early 1900's cinema experience, exclusively showing silent films with authentic live soundtrack.

## THURSDAY OTH FEBRUARY

DOORS: 7.30PM SHOW STARTS: 8PM TICKETS £10 FROM WWW.TEAHOUSETHEATRE.CO.UK

Tea House Theatre, 139 Vauxhall walk, London, SE11 5HL

Admission: £10–15 (see wegottickets.com)

If burlesque is your thing then you'll enjoy this smorgasbord of song, dance, circus acts and striptease, at Soho's camp icon Madame JoJo's. Ticket price includes entry to the club that takes over afterwards (called Trannyshack, which should give you an idea of what to expect).

#### **Lucky Dog Picture House**

Thursday 6th February 7.30pm, show from 8pm The Teahouse Theatre, 139 Vauxhall Walk, London SE11 5HL

Admission: f, 10 from www.teahousetheatre. co.uk

A film night with a difference: Lucky Dog only show silent movies, presented with a live musical accompaniment by their in-house band (featuring music from the era in which the films were made, I believe. Nothing by Georgio Moroder). This time featuring Harold Lloyd in Number, Please? and Buster Keaton in The Scarecrow.

#### 52nd Street Jump

Saturday 8th February

7.30pm-1.30am Magpie & Stump, 18 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7EP

Admission: £12 including a £3 drinks voucher Dress: Vintage or modern but an effort appreciated

Regular swing dance event from the Saturday Night Swing Club, with three rooms offering taster dance classes from 8.15 and music from the 1920s to the 1950s. Resident DJs Swing Maniac and Mr Kicks plus guest DJs.

#### The Coco Club

Saturday 8th February 7.30pm

Plaza Suite, Stag Theatre, London Road, Sevenoaks TN13 1ZZ

Admission: £12.50, available online

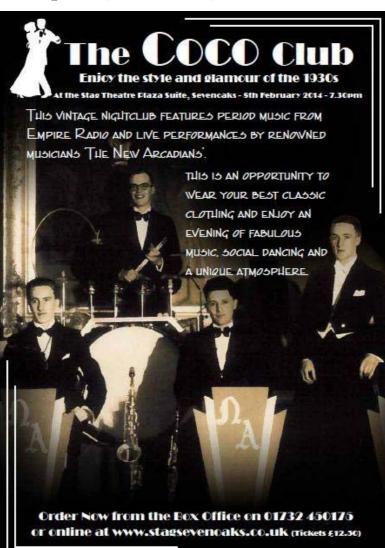
Dress: "Your best classic clothing"

An evening of 1930s glamour featuring live music from the New Arcadians and DJing from Empire Radio.

#### Spin-a-Disc Social

Monday 10th February 8-11pm

The Nag's Head, 9 Orford Road, Walthamstow



Village, London E17 9LP Admission: Free

A music night organised by Auntie Maureen: you bring your favourite discs (33, 45 or 78 rpm) and she spins them.

#### Intermediate Balboa & Beginners' Lindy **Hop Classes**

Thursdays 13th February-13th March Intermediate Balboa 7–8 pm, beginners' Lindy Hop 8.30-9.30pm

The Salisbury Pub, 1 Grand Parade, St Annes Rd, London, N4 1JX

Admission: Balboa £45 per person, or £80 for a couple, for the whole course; Lindy Hop f,40 or f,70 for a couple

Five-week courses with Gaia Facchini and Paul Golledge, either introducing Lindy Hop dancing or, for those with a knowledge of 8-count Lindy, a refresher plus more moves, east coast 6-count and some Charleston. Email vintagedancing@googlemail.com.

#### The Candlelight Club's St Valentine's Day Massacre

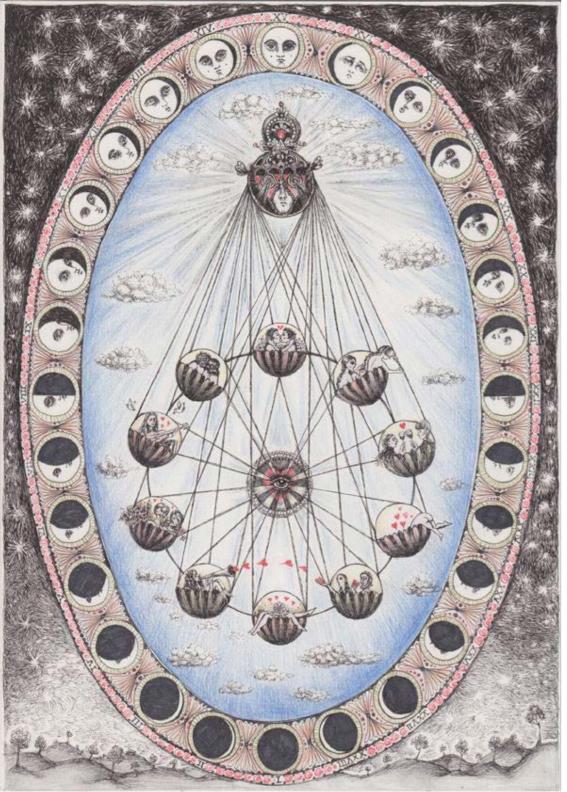
Friday 14th & Saturday 15th February 7pm-12am A secret London location Admission: £20 in advance Dress: Prohibition dandies, swells, gangsters and molls, decadent aesthetes, corrupt politicians and the Smart Set In the Know

The Candlelight Club is a clandestine pop-up cocktail party with a 1920s speakeasy flavour, in a secret London venue lit by candles. Each event offers a one-off cocktail menu with special themes, plus live period jazz bands and vintage vinylism (sometimes from the New Sheridan Club's own DJ MC Fruity). Ticket holders get an email two days before revealing the location.

This time it's a special event for St Valentine's



Day: watch us shoehorn dewy romance and brutal gangster slavings into one theme, as we celebrate both the patron saint of lovers and Al Capone's infamous assassination of a rival Chicago gang on 14th February 1929. Our cocktail menu will reflect both guns and roses, as it were, and there will be live jazz from



Admission:£35 from palais-de-danse.co.uk Dress: Vintage glamour

Brandyn Shaw invites you to his vintage dance eventstep back in time to the glamour of the interwar period ballroom. Dance the night away to authentic live period dance music from the the Berkeley Square Society Band, with crooning input from Brandyn himself, a vocal spitting image of Al Bowly if ever there was one, and vocalist Natasha Harper, plus dance tuition from Mark and Hoc Ewing.

The Last Tuesday Society presents Valentine's Masked Ball of the Full Moon

Saturday 15th
February
9pm-4am
The Coronet, 28 New
Kent Road, London
SE1 6TJ
Admission:
£20ish from
acuriousinvitation.com

Dress: Love and Madness; masks obligatory, clothes optional

A typical LTS approach to the feast of St Valentine, featuring gothic cabaret and burlesque, an oompah band, nudity, hot tubs, a fetish torture dungeon, voodoo and a mood of elegant loss.

Clerkenwell Vintage Fashion Fair

Sunday 16th February 11am–5pm (trade from 10.30am) The Old Finsbury Town Hall, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4RP

Mysterious artwork from the Last Tuesday Society Valentine's event

French crooner (it's the language of love, after all) Benoit Viellefon and his Orchestra. Come and dance the night away in a room lit only by candles, where tables are scattered with rose petals and spent machine-gun cartridge cases...

#### Palais de Danse: Valentine's Ball

Saturday 15th February 7.30-midnight Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, WC1H 9JE Admission:  $\cancel{\xi}$ ,4

Some 50 stalls offering vintage clothes, shoes, handbags, hats, gloves, textiles and jewellery from the 1800s to the 1980s. There is also a tea room, alterations booth plus sometimes live entertainment too. More details at www. clerkenwellvintagefashionfair.co.uk.

#### A Certain Vintage

Saturday 22nd February 7.30pm
The Blue Lion, 133 Gray

The Blue Lion, 133 Gray's Inn Road, Bloomsbury, London WC1X 8TU Admission: Free

Dress: Radclyffe Hall, Downton Abbey, Down and Out, Out and Proud, Lord and Lady, Lord Above

Fiona and Michael invite fellow NSC members to come and celebrate their birthdays! They also ask that you RSVP to fiona.salter@gmail.com or m.silver@pohwer.net. See page 14.

#### Dinner Dance at the Savoy

Saturday 22nd February 7.30pm

The Savoy Hotel, Strand, London WC2R 0EU Admission: £125 for full dining tickets, though you can alternatively get a table at the Beaufort Bar

Dress: The Savoy itself doesn't seem to have any standards any more, but Alex encourages guests to dress in formal evening wear

Following in the footsteps of Carroll Gibbons and his legendary Savoy Orpheans, Alex

Mendham & His Orchestra have taken up the baton as resident dance orchestra for the Savoy Hotel, playing the sounds of the Art Deco era with unmatched sophistication. Cut a rug under the stunning glass cupola in the Thames Foyer with a three-course dinner. Your evening begins at 7.30 with a cocktail reception, followed by dinner at 8pm and music from 8.30. Dancing till midnight. To book telephone 020 7420 2111.

#### NSC Film Night

Girl Shy (1924)
The Dead (1987)
Sunday 23rd February
7pm-11pm
The Tea House Theatre, 139 Vauxhall Walk,
London SE11 5HL (020 7207 4585)
Admission: Free
See page 8.

#### The Eccentric Club's Eccentric Dinner

Friday 28th February 7.13pm

The Morning Room, the Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, Mayfair, London W1K 4ER Admission: £55 (members), £65 guests, in advance

Dress: Glamorous, tasteful and elegant, though slightly eccentric; gentlemen, jackets

The Eccentric Club, of which the NSC Members are officially friends, hosts a monthly Members' Dinner. You can attend as a guest without actually being accompanied by a member, though you are requested to contact the club secretary first.



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