

TURVEY MYSTERIES



DOOMSDAY

A community production of the third and final of Tony Harrison's celebrated cycle of mystery plays, with music composed by John Tams and The Home Service, as originally staged by the National Theatre

To take place in the historic setting of
All Saints' Church, Turvey

17th & 18th October 2008, 7.30 p.m.

Tickets in advance £6 (£4 concessions)
£7 / £5 on the door

Available from Jo Spray (01234 881312)
or Tim and Jane Brewster (01234 881484)
or in person from Turvey Post Office or Central Stores

Website: www.turveymysteries.org.uk
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TURVEY MYSTERIES
DOOMSDAY
17TH & 18TH OCTOBER 2008

It's official. Doomsday is on 17th October. And again on the 18th in case you miss it the first time round. What's more, it's coming to Turvey!

In January 2006, the first play in Tony Harrison's celebrated cycle of Mystery Plays, *The Nativity*, was performed to a packed house in All Saints' Church by a cast and crew of local volunteers.

Just before Easter 2007 we performed the second play in the cycle, *The Passion*, a powerful and deeply moving retelling of the Easter story up to the Crucifixion.

It's now time for the third and final play – *Doomsday*. This is the story of the events following the Crucifixion, starting with the Resurrection and continuing all the way to Judgement Day and the end of the world.

To quote Douglas Adams in *The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy*, "There's nothing penultimate about this one... This, ladies and gentlemen, is the proverbial 'it'."

Despite ending with the Apocalypse, there is still room for humour – these plays were, after all, popular entertainment for the medieval masses. The 'jobsworth' Knights are still bickering, and Satan's demons return to harass the audience like true pantomime villains. Many of the other characters from *The Nativity* and *The Passion* also return.

The language has been described as "muscular and earthy" and is sometimes medieval, sometimes modern – at times Shakespeare, at times Eastenders. The music remains central, and is similar in style to *The Nativity and The Passion*. Once again, Shaker hymns and medieval dance tunes rub shoulders with more recent material by songwriters like John Tams and Richard Thompson and even some New Orleans jazz, all given a strong, contemporary treatment by a large live band.

This is definitely not a "flowing robes and sandals" production and, true to the original National Theatre production, there is no backstage – all the "mechanics" of the production are on view, and the actors mingle with the audience. Once again the performers are a wonderful mix – most from Turvey but some from further afield. Some are experienced actors, some complete novices.

Doomsday is on 17th and 18th October 2008 at 7.30pm in All Saints' Church, Turvey. Tickets in advance are £6 (£4 for concessions), or £7 and £5 on the door. They are available by post from Jo Spray (01234 881312) or Tim and Jane Brewster (01234 881484), or in person from Turvey Post Office or Central Stores

We look forward to seeing you at the end of the world!

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