

cover during performances. If you feel inexperienced, don't worry, we won't 'throw you in at the deep end'! Our more experienced players will gladly provide encouragement and help you develop your skills.

. It's a real thrill to see the audience go home after a show with smiles on their faces and to hear comments like "I did enjoy that!"

For those of you who would like to be involved in other aspects of the theatre, we would ask you to become a 'Friend of the Coach House Theatre', that would also help to keep you informed of all of the events taking place at the venue. For further details please contact Chris Bassett on 01684 569011, or use the on line application form on this website's "[contact us](#)" page.

## Costume & Props hire

Our costume & props hire business will soon be back up and running again, with covid-safe practices in place to ensure everyone's safety.

Our costume hire will be available, at very reasonable cost, by booking an appointment through our Company Manager on 01684 569011, we can then arrange to meet you at the unit on Spring Lane.

The Spring Lane unit has recently been refurbished with a mezzanine terrace to house the costumes & props which has enabled us to create a scenery workshop at the front of the building.

## OBITUARY **Pete Lodge 1938 - 2020**

Another member sadly passed last November. Pete Lodge who was a member of the Nelson Players and a founder member of Malvern Theatre Players as the Resident Company of Malvern Theatres has died at the age of 82. Our thoughts go out to his children Alison and Julia (of his previous marriage) and his wife Julie and children Russell, Patrina, Imogen and William.

From the formation of the MTP in 1977 to 2000, Pete was a stalwart of the backstage and stage management teams. For most of those years he also fitted in the role of Secretary. His considerable skills in scenery construction and scenic art were to be seen in most of our productions from the first, *Suddenly at Home* all the way through to *Millenium Mosaic* in 2000. However, it was as Head Flyman that he probably made his most telling contribution. Prior to the installation of counter-weight flying systems in the Festival Theatre the raising and lowering of scenery (flying) was achieved by several people hauling on ropes. Pete was a big strong guy who handled the work with ease. Most notably he led the team that flew the four principal characters in our 1981 Christmas production of *Peter Pan*, the first amateur attempt at this iconic show and the only one until its copyright ended in 1987. Involving the flying of children suspended from a single piano wire at heights of up to 20 feet this called for a great deal of skill and co-ordination of the team of operators. Never much interested in acting Pete was nonetheless willing to tread the boards in non - speaking roles and found a niche as a serial homicide victim in the days when a condition of our residency at the Festival Theatre seemed dependent upon the production of at least one thriller a year. In contrast, Pete's annual appearances as Malvern Theatres Father Christmas are a treasured memory.