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MONMOUTHSHIRE'S LEADING LOCAL NEWSPAPER

LOCAL ACTRESS WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

By Tarquin Ramsbottom

Cardiff born Ursula Conway swept all before her last night at the National Operatic and Dramatic Association's glittering award ceremony at the Celtic Manor near Newport. Ursula carried off a double triumph, winning both Best Actress and Best Director for the

Penterry Players' production of 'Sailor Beware!' in June this year. Ursula's portrayal of the harridan 'Emma Hornett' was considered exceptional by the judges. Ursula has revived the fortunes of The Penterry Players, which until recently was considered to be in the doldrums and faced the possibility of folding. Since Ursula became chairman she has revitalised the society and recruited a number of new talented actors and actresses. Her hard work is now paying dividends.

Ursula thanked everyone for all their help and assistance. In her acceptance speech she said "'Sailor Beware!' was very much a team project and I could not have done it on my own. However this is the first time



a person has won both Best Actress and Best Director for the same play, which hopefully vindicates my decision to cast myself in the lead role."

The Penterry Players are now in rehearsal for the December play, the Noel Coward comedy 'Hay Fever'.

DENTIST SPEAKS UP FOR NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

By our new reporter, Vivien Larson

Recently qualified dentist George Weldon contacted us following recent reports in this newspaper of failing NHS dental services. He had these words to say in defence of his profession: "Since joining the NHS I have seen nothing but the highest levels of professionalism and dedication to serving local people. Of course NHS dentists do not have the resources available to private practitioners, but NHS patients can be assured that they will receive a high quality of service from their local dentists."

Weldon qualified last year and joined the King Street Practice, where he takes only NHS patients. He is proud of the improvements which he sees every day in the dental health of Monmouthshire people. He and his wife Margery are expecting their first child later this year, and are very happy to be settling in the Chepstow area.



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QUEST FOR HIT AND RUN DRIVER **By Sue Filkins**

Police have admitted that they are no further forward with their search for the hit and run driver who knocked down and killed 5 year old Tommy Roberts outside his home last week. Witnesses described a white sports car driven by a young woman disappearing from the scene of the accident. A neighbour, Sue Matthews, who had just left Tommy's house, expressed her anger at the lack of progress in this case. "I feel guilty" she said yesterday, "because I left the garden gate open and Tommy ran after his dog into the road. But this car was racing; it was doing at least 80 miles an hour, the kiddie didn't stand chance and the driver didn't have the guts to stop. Why hasn't the car been traced, that's what I want to know? It must have been badly damaged, someone must have seen it."



White sports car similar to the one involved in the hit and run. CRIMESTOPPERS HELPLINE; 0800 555 111

The child's parents, Mr & Mrs Roberts of Church Road, Monmouth, are too shocked and upset to comment and are being comforted by friends and relatives.

