

LEISURE

The essential guide for the South Hams

Why Take Me Home means so much to Kate Suite memories

AN intriguing story has emerged about former Plympton schoolgirl **Kate Corrigan**, who has collaborated on a new song with 1970s supergroup Curved Air founding member **Darryl Way**, who lives near Kingsbridge. Together they have recorded a song called **Take Me Home**, about being in exile.

Kate, who is a mezzo soprano singer, was adopted when she was young by a family in Devon. She went to school at Sir Joshua Reynolds in Plympton from the ages of three to six, followed by St Dunstons Abbey until she was 14. She then attended Devonport High School until she was 18.

Kate says she loved music from the very beginning and started to play the flute aged seven. She joined her local church choir at six in Ermington and sang in choirs all the way through school. She was often awarded the school music prize and had lead roles in musicals. At 16 she started singing lessons and that year got her grade 8 distinction in flute and singing. She also got an A for A-level music. She joined the National Youth Choir of Great Britain aged 17.

What is intriguing is that none of her adopted family were remotely musical.

Her biological family, the Corrigans, come from a little village in County Wexford called Blackwater. She always knew she was adopted and wanted to meet them. This is what happened in her own words:

'I decided aged about 22 to find them, so found a letter that had come with me when I



Kate Corrigan

Contributed

was adopted and discovered that they all originated from Blackwater and there were several references to family connections with the local pub Corrigan's. So I literally jumped in my car and drove to Ireland and walked into the pub.

'I asked if anyone there went by the name of Corrigan and the man behind the bar did a double take and thought I was his daughter. Turns out, he was my uncle! It was a fairytale come true.

'I have been totally welcomed into the family and have met so many members of the Corrigan clan since that day.

'The best bit is whilst I was growing up, I never knew why I could sing or had such a burning desire to sing and when I met my uncle Tom, I found out he has a beautiful baritone voice and we've since sung together in the pub many a time.

'Musical talent is really strong in my family and goes back through generations, and my uncle is as keen to teach me as many Irish songs he can as I am to learn and sing them.

'The Irish connection and Irish music is so important to me. When I met my Irish family, I finally understood why my choices in childhood had been so deeply involved in music and which got me to the Royal College of Music and now here singing this song Take Me Home. The words are understandably so poignant to me for these reasons.'

Take me home can be downloaded for 89 pence from website www.darrylway.com



Contributed

Doreen Sutton and George Sutton in Act 3 of Plaza Suite

THE Tamaritans Theatre Company is staging Plaza Suite by Neil Simon at the Athenaeum Theatre, Plymouth, from Wednesday, September 26 to the following Saturday from 7.30pm with a matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm.

Plaza Suite is a comedy in three acts. Each act is an individual playlet but all the action takes place in Suite 719 at the Plaza Hotel in New York. The time is 1968.

Act 1 introduces the audience to Karen (Doreen Sutton) and Sam (Dave Martin) Nash, a suburban couple who spent their Honeymoon in suite 719 several years earlier. Karen has planned a romantic return to 719 to celebrate their wedding anniversary. Sam has other things on his mind...

Neil Simon gently, but skillfully, probes to the depths of their relationship, exploiting expertly the humour in an otherwise tense situation.

In Act 2 the audience meets Jesse Kiplinger (Tony Scripps), a famous Hollywood film producer and serial divorcee who, while staying in suite 719, calls up an old flame from his teenage years, Muriel Tate (Catherine Teague), now married and a mother of three. She joins him in the Hotel Suite.

Finally in Act 3 there is a riotous romp as Norma (Doreen Sutton) and Roy (George Sutton) Hubley prepare for their young daughter Mimsey's wedding. Unfortunately, with only minutes to go before the ceremony starts in a reception room downstairs, young Mimsey (Emily Nicholls) has locked herself in the bathroom and is refusing to come out. Simon develops the situation with all the comic twists imaginable, but will young Mimsey come out of the bathroom?

Plaza Suite is directed by Geoff Strickland.

At the Reel

SHOWING at the Reel cinema, Kingsbridge, from today is **Run Fatboy Run** (12A).

A charming but oblivious overweight guy leaves his fiancée on their wedding day only to discover years later that he really loves her. To win her back, he must finish a marathon while making her realise that her new handsome, wealthy fiancé is the wrong guy for her.

This is another hilarious comedy starring Simon Pegg and directed by David Schwimmer, the man who is better known to us all as an actor in Friends.

It stars Simon Pegg, Thandie Newton and Hank Azaria.

Hallam Foe (18) is also being screened.

A British film that wowed them at the recent Edinburgh Festival, this is the story of a Scottish teenager played by Jamie Bell of Billy Elliot fame.

A bit of a longer, he can often be found crouching like a cat in the branches of trees, binoculars in hand, scanning the lives of his family and friends for the answers to the questions that cloud his mind.

When his mother dies suddenly, it is declared as a suicide but Hallam is convinced that she has



Jamie Bell as Hallam Foe

Contributed

been murdered by someone he knows well.

He runs away from his home in the Highlands and embarks on a new life in Edinburgh, living rough on the rooftops.

One day he spots Kate, a hotel worker, and he becomes fixated with her.

As their relationship develops, one can't help noticing that she bears a remarkable resemblance to his late mother.

The story - adapted from the 2001 novel by Peter Jinks - is put across with style by director and co-writer David Mackenzie.

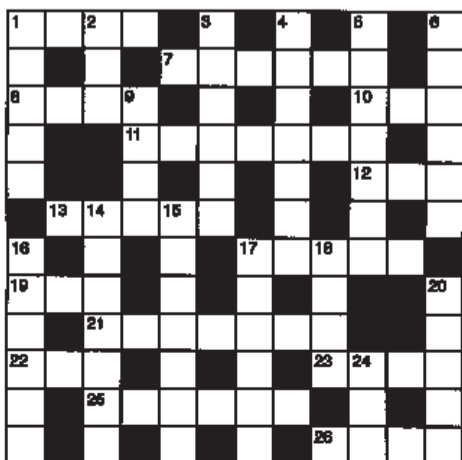
There are nice supporting performances from Ewen Bremner as the hotel's concierge and Maurice Roëves as the glowering kitchen porter.

It is a fascinating and amusing film, in some ways akin to an offbeat romantic comedy, in others an insight into the innermost emotions of a troubled young man.

Sophia Myles also stars.

The film has won two awards at the Berlin Film Festival and being nominated for another, the Prize of the Guild of German Art House Cinemas as well as the Silver Berlin Bear for Best Film Music, and being nominated for the highly regarded Golden Berlin Bear.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Criticise vehicle parking (4)
- 7 Vegetable will spoil the line (6)
- 8 Write letters of a sort (4)
- 10 Pub at the trendy edge of Nottingham (3)
- 11 A support to bad actor as biblical patriarch (7)
- 12 I'm returning at ten to join in (3)
- 13 One's back with Edward, put in place (5)
- 17 Are about to act with love (5)
- 19 Cheek of the speaking part! (3)
- 21 A gender change made one furious (7)
- 22 Starts to act seriously sometimes, the fool (3)
- 23 Cats and dogs stream back, at a pace (4)
- 25 Assent could be the answer for the most sensible (6)
- 26 Encourage to move to the mountain crag (4)

Down

- 1 Get hold of animal before church (5)
- 2 Knock and get the blame (3)
- 3 Counter colour prohibited (6)
- 4 Alternatively, vegetable's found in fruit garden (7)
- 5 Bather in South London district going two miles with the Queen (7)
- 6 Girl in Devon river in part of house (6)
- 9 Loudly leave banquet in one direction (4)
- 14 I'm behind the times, with no way out (7)
- 15 Svelte European member with unusual tan (7)
- 16 Being stupidly asleep can make one happy (6)
- 17 Stop - arrive - set out (6)
- 18 The chances are so altered around priest (4)
- 20 It makes light work of a candle (5)
- 24 Topple towards the dump (3)

Solution - page 52

Art lecture

MEMBERS of the **Kingsbridge Estuary Decorative and Fine Art Society** will hear a lecture entitled **Australian Art, A History and Overview**, given by Marina Vaizey, art critic for the Financial Times and The Sunday Times.

It will take place at 8pm on Wednesday, September 26, and at 10.30am on Thursday, September 27.

It is part of a regular lecture the society enjoys. The evening lectures are held monthly at **Kingsbridge Community College**, Balkwill Road, Kingsbridge. Morning lectures at the Reel cinema, Fore Street, Kingsbridge.

Non-members are warmly invited to attend lectures for a fee of £6. Contact 01548 856227 for Wednesday or 01548 550228 for Thursday.

For more details about KEDFAS lectures, visits, tours and study days, visit the website www.kedfas.org.uk or send an email to joanpincombe@yahoo.co.uk