

# PREVIEW Von Ribbentrop's Watch

## Wimborne Drama Productions

The play isn't true, but the watch is. In 1985, Laurence Marks went window shopping and saw a very elegant Art Deco wristwatch, so treated himself. Two decades later, when the pre-war watch started losing time, he took it to be repaired. When the jeweller called to ask if the watch was a family heirloom Laurence confirmed it wasn't, and the jeweller replied: "In that case come to the shop. I think there's

something you should see."

Engraved on the inside back of the watch were the initials 'JVR' above a neat little swastika. JVR could only mean Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Hitler's Foreign Minister. The prior ownership was confirmed by Sotheby's and Laurence was told it would fetch a great deal at auction. Laurence was tempted to sell it but told his friend Maurice Gran, who said: "How can you possibly profit from a Nazi watch?"

After a long debate, they decided there was only one thing to do: write a play about this very dilemma. 'Von Ribbentrop's Watch' is that play.

**It will be performed by Wimborne Drama Productions at the Tivoli Theatre from 19 to 21 February. To book, telephone 01202 885566 or visit [tivoliwimborne.co.uk](http://tivoliwimborne.co.uk).**



The cast: Sali Pike, Andy Gill, Stuart Glossop, Molly Jackson and Judy Garrett

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