

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 19th May 2026

Local WWII Bomber Crash Inspires New Stage Play in Henley-in-Arden

HENLEY-IN-ARDEN, UK – A piece of parachute silk, a downed German bomber, and a mystery buried for over 80 years are the heart of a brand-new stage play coming to Henley-in-Arden this June.

Written and directed by local author **Ray Evans**, *SILK* will receive its premiere at the Memorial Hall, with performances scheduled to coincide with **Armed Forces Day 2026**.

The inspiration for the play struck Evans after an episode of *Antiques Roadshow* featured a fragment of silk parachute. This sparked a journey into local history, specifically the night of May 10, 1941, when a Heinkel bomber crashed near Fulford Hall, just outside Henley-in-Arden.

SILK is not just a retelling of military history, but a "tapestry of voices" from the women of the village who lived through the event. The play explores the blurred lines between enemies and the human stories that survived the wreckage. Combining sharp local wit with haunting storytelling, it asks what really happened that night, and why some truths remained buried for decades.

"What really happened the night that bomber came down?" asks Ray Evans. "The play is drawn from local memory and whispered history. It's about the contradictions of war and the moments where humanity refuses to follow orders."

The production marks a significant cultural event for the **Henley-in-Arden Drama Society (HADS)**, highlighting a piece of local heritage that many residents may only know through rumours and family hand-me-downs.

Performance Details:

- **Venue:** Memorial Hall, Station Road, Henley-in-Arden
- **Dates:** Thursday 25th June – Saturday 27th June 2026
- **Time:** All performances begin at 19:30
- **Tickets:** £10 Available now via www.hads.org.uk/silk

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About Henley-in-Arden Drama Society (HADS): HADS is a long-standing community theatre group dedicated to bringing high-quality drama, pantomime, and original works to the Warwickshire area.

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