

entertainment

Playhouse date for Acker

POPULAR jazz clarinettist Acker Bilk will be entertaining music fans in Weston later this month.

The 80-year-old is still going strong and will stage a show at The Playhouse at 7pm on November 26.

Born in Pensford, Acker is probably the most well-known musician of his type in the world.

In 1961 he recorded the now famous *Stranger On The Shore*, originally entitled 'Jenny' after his daughter. It was the first recording to become number one in the UK and United States at the same time.

Acker's performance in Weston, when he will be supported by his Paramount Jazz Band, will

give fans the chance to hear the masterpiece up close.

Tickets, priced £16-17.50, are available from the box office on 01934 645544.

■ We have teamed up with The Playhouse to offer three lucky readers the chance to win tickets to see the show. To enter the competition, simply answer the following question: **How old is Acker Bilk?**

Send your answer along with your name, address and telephone number to: Acker Bilk Competition, Weston & Somerset Mercury, 32 Waterloo Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1LW, by 12noon on November 12. Usual Archant rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

Bev Priest, Pete Tyrell and Natalie Kessel. Below: Natalie with Ray Bond and Ailsa Barrett.



New show streets ahead of the rest

GANGSTERS and molls abound in Worle Operatic and Dramatic Society's new production, which hits The Playhouse next week.

42nd Street, billed as 'a show within a show', tells the story of aspiring actress Peggy Sawyer (played by Natalie Kessel) who is catapulted into the lead role when Dorothy Brock (Bev Priest), an established Broadway star, breaks her ankle.

A gambling financier, prima donnas and hormonal youngsters are also thrown into the mix.

A backdrop of familiar songs including the title track, *Lullaby of Broadway*, and *We're in the Money* will take the audiences down memory lane.

The cast includes the majority of the society who will tap dance their way through the show's opening number.

The show is on from November 12-14, starting at 7.30pm, with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm.

Tickets, priced £9, are available from the box office on 01934 645544.