Being Married makes playing the part that bit easier...

Real-life married couple Corrinne Wicks and Tom Butcher are appearing together on stage in Oscar Wilde’s hilarious masterpiece *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The show visits Guildford’s Yvonne Arnaud Theatre from 8th – 13th April, and we caught up with Corrinne, best known for her years on *Doctors* and *Emmerdale*, to find out if there are any advantages to playing opposite your real-life sweetheart.

“It’s always nice to at least like the person you are playing opposite, especially when you are playing characters who are romantically linked,” she says. “And Tom and I do like each other luckily! We met whilst working together on *Doctors* so we are well used to, and comfortable with, working with each other. The real advantage is that it makes touring easier as we aren’t apart for weeks at a time and, of course, we share the cost of travel and accommodation whilst on the road and save on the heating at home”.

Corrinne plays Gwendolen and Tom plays Jack. The two are smitten with each other but the road to true romance is littered with obstacles, including the formidable Lady Bracknell (played by *Coronation Street*’s Becky Hindley) and the small matter of Jack’s name being, well…. Jack, rather than Ernest. So are there any similarities between themselves and their characters on stage?

“Well we do look very similar to them”, she smiles, “and we wouldn’t mind having their money! Apart that, my mum can be a bit scary but perhaps not as bad as Lady Bracknell. (Don't tell her I said that!)

“Gwendolen is supremely confident and I wouldn't mind being a bit more like her in that respect, but she's very contrary and a little sulky so I hope I'm not too much like her. Tom is quick witted and clever but can easily get overheated about things and there are elements of that in Jack, but Jack is a bit stuffy and Tom is much more easy going. And both of them are very handsome of course!”

Tickets are available from the box office on....