

News, Views & Results

Chairman's Chat

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Welcome to the first newsletter of a new season. Accompanying this newsletter is your membership renewal form. You will be pleased to know that we haven't increased the cost of subscriptions, nor have we increased the price of tickets for the shows, which remain at £8.50. Members will still get the 2 for 1 offer on Sunday nights. We should be grateful if you could let us have your subs as soon as possible. We always have a lot of expenses at the start of a new season (nearly £3,000.00 just for scripts and licences to perform the plays!), so cash flow is a temporary problem until the season gets started.

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NAME CHANGE

You will note from the top of this newsletter that we have now started using our new name, and from the start of this season will be known as ALTRINCHAM LITTLE THEATRE. This was approved at the AGM a couple of years ago, but we will be adding (formerly THE CLUB THEATRE) for the time being until we are sure people can make the connection between old and new. There will be a grand re-naming ceremony later as soon as we have obtained planning permission for new signage at the front of the building and it has been installed, but if you have been past the theatre recently you will have noticed temporary new signs we have had erected.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

We are sorry to go on about this yet again but it really is important. Communicating by email is fast and, more importantly, FREE. We will, of course, continue to use snail mail for those of you without computer access, but let us know if we can use your email address to contact you. We promise not to use it for any other reason, nor to pass it on to any other organisation.

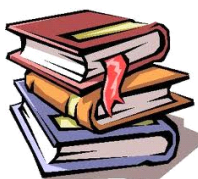
PARKING

Parking on Oxford Road is a nightmare at the best of times, so don't forget that you may park in Sainsbury's instead. They very kindly let theatre patrons use their car park on performance nights.



300 CLUB

Members can buy up to five 'shares' at ten pounds each and have a chance to win up to £100 in each of the five draws held throughout the season. The total prize fund available per play is £300. Prizes are 1st £100, 2nd £50, 3 & 4th £30, 5-10th £15. Request your shares on your membership application form.



BOOKSTALL

May I take the opportunity of conveying my appreciation to those of you who kindly donate to the Book Stall. The Stall provides us with a little extra income for our beloved theatre. Perhaps others of you may have a book or two that we could sell on it. We also have cassettes, CD's, DVD's and videos. Remember please feel free to have a browse yourself before the play or in the interval. You never know you may just find a little something you have been looking for.

Christine Heath

APPEAL FOR HELP—FENCE PANELS

Barry Swithenbank, our incredibly hardworking Stage Director, who designs and oversees the building of the sets for all our plays, has asked that this request be included in this newsletter.

"For the 4th play this season we need 2 garden fencing panels approximately 6' 0" x 6' 0". While these should be well 'weathered' they need to be fairly presentable with no rot. If you are having a new fence installed, we should be only too pleased to have a look at the panels you are replacing and if they are suitable, transport them to the Theatre."

By the way, you may be interested to know that this summer in the nominations for awards in the Greater Manchester Drama Federation Full Length Play Festival, our Stage Team won two nominations, both for the Technical Award. The citations said:

View from the Bridge

"Creative setting, excellent music and lights and an impressive image of the Brooklyn Bridge"

And Then There Were None

"Superb set design and finishing to capture the era supported by excellent effects to add to the atmosphere"

Congratulations to all those who contributed to the staging of the plays last season.

WANT TO FIND OUT ABOUT FROM PAGE TO STAGE?

We know that people are very interested in finding out how a production is put together—from the initial read-through to first night, but lack the confidence to appear on stage. Well, we are delighted to be able to offer you the chance to find out. We are looking for volunteers to learn to become Prompts for future shows. You don't need any previous experience (but don't let that stop you offering help if you have done it before). We will provide help and support right through the process - someone will sit with you and give you guidance and advice, and the best thing is you don't have to learn any lines!- you will have a script in your hands all the time. The Prompt's job is a very important one - supporting the Director during rehearsals and being a "comfort blanket" to the actors during the run of the show. They are very rarely needed to prompt during a show - our actors are pretty good at learning lines, but it is a comfort to know that if something does go wrong one night, there is someone there who can immediately help. Contact us if you are interested in helping in this way.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH:

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We look forward to seeing you all at the Club in the near future.