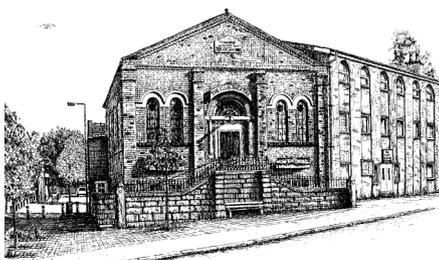


**ALTRINCHAM LITTLE THEATRE**

(FORMERLY CLUB THEATRE)

**News & Views****Inside this issue:**

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**Chairman's Chat**

This is the fourth play of the season already! In fact there have been five (yes five) other productions in the last two and a half months. You might well have seen the posters and flyers around the theatre for these additional productions. These five productions each brought in much needed funds in the form of rental for the theatre and bar and coffee income. Although it is hard for the stage crew to run these extra events it does help at a difficult time of the season. The overall profit from these events was in the region of £6,000 after all our expenses had been taken off. A big thank you to the people who worked to make these events a success.

Look out for the new seasons publicity it should be coming out before the last play.

*Ian Bowden***4th Play— 'Humble Boy' by Charlotte Jones**

Our fourth play of the season is already half-way through rehearsal—where does the time go? Our previous play, "Horses in Midstream", was received very well by our audiences, the Press and the Adjudicator—more of that later. For this next play we are delighted to welcome a new Director to Altrincham Little Theatre. Carla Stokes comes very highly recommended to us, having worked with many of the theatre groups in the area and the actors are enjoying working with her. There are no new faces in the cast this time—they have all appeared with us before, so you will have no difficulty in recognizing Barbara Fuller, Peter Nawn, Ian Fensome, Lindsey Barker, David Garner and Meg Cooper.

If the laughter during rehearsals is anything to go by, you are in for a most enjoyable evening watching this play.

**£100 Winner****Mrs M Sellers**

£100 Mrs M Sellers

£50 D C Smith

£30 Mrs Hilda Moss  
Mr J V C Thomas**300 Club Winners**

£15 Edward &amp; Marie Dale

Meg Cooper

Mrs Jean Keeling

Ronnie Ballantyne

Mrs Joyce Ankers

Mr Eric Stuffins

## MANCHESTER & SALFORD FILM SOCIETY

The Film Society is back with a very full and exciting programme. Please make a note of the dates and contact John Grieve if you require any further details. Guest tickets are £5.00. We have full mounted facilities in the projector and screen.

**Tickets can be obtained by ringing John Grieve on 0161 283 6565  
Email [grieve.john32@gmail.com](mailto:grieve.john32@gmail.com).**

**March 2**

### *We need to talk about Kevin*

Lynne Ramsay UK/USA 2011 112mins



Kevin's mother struggles to love her strange child, despite the increasingly vicious things he says and does as he grows up. But Kevin is just getting started, and his final act will be beyond anything anyone imagined.

**March 16**

### *Pomegranates and Myrrh*

Najwa Najjar Palestine 2008 95mins



A free spirited woman dancer, Kamar, finds herself the wife of a prisoner, Zaid, and away from everything she loves until she returns to the dance, defying society's taboos.

**April 20**

### *The Well-Digger's Daughter*

Daniel Auteuil 2011 FRA 109 mins



Set in rural Provence, this story centres on a humble well-digger whose favourite daughter is deflowered by a handsome, unreliable young man from a wealthy family. This old-fashioned drama boasts excellent performances and exquisite photography.

*Introduced by Dr Isabelle Vanderschelden of Manchester Metropolitan University*

### Website and publicity.

Since the last play we have re launched our website ([www.alttheatre.org](http://www.alttheatre.org)). It is a full overhaul of our previous website with several new features. One big change is the ability to reserve tickets online using a special page that can be linked to from wherever you see a ticket on the website. A news page allows us to insert the latest news items into the website.

We have included a forum where once you have registered you can post items of interest about theatre and comment on existing items.

Old favourites such as the past newsletters and photos of plays are still featured. Now the photos run as a slide show, when the play is selected. The diary includes a seating plan and links to ticket booking.

In addition we have embraced both Facebook and Twitter to reach the maximum audience. The easiest way to find our entries is to use the link on the website. Don't forget to 'like' us.

Coupled with the re launch we have been able to look at the user statistics for the website and it shows some interesting facts. Since the re launch on 10<sup>th</sup> January this year 648 separate people have visited the site, mainly from the UK. A random sample included 19 from the USA, 3 from Brazil, 2 from Japan and 1 from Australia. Towns in the UK included Tunbridge Wells, London and Cardiff.

Keywords used in the search for our website included Altrincham Little Theatre, alttheatre Altrincham, Altrincham Theatre and Club Theatre Altrincham. Further information we have been supplied with show that about one third of the people accessing our site use smart phones or tablets, and the most popular page has been the diary with 246 individual visitors.

As well as being interesting statistics over a period it will assist us in making sure that the website provides the information that users want.

### Why Do They Do It?

You may remember that last season our first play was called "Run For Your Wife" by Ray Cooney—a farce about a London cabbie who is leading a very complicated life with two wives at the same time. Well, now they have made a film about it—directed by Ray Cooney himself. It has just opened in cinemas nationally. Apparently Mr Cooney has included 100 of his acting friends as extras in the film—yes, 100!! A reviewer in the Times said of it; "Cooney clearly has some serious dirt on half the luvvies in the capital; everyone from Judi Dench and Lionel Blair to Richard Briers and Cliff Richard appear in humiliating cameos, invalidating their national treasure status. Just how bad is the film? It's a carnival of forgotten egos clamouring for one last moment in the public eye. It's the saddest thing I have ever seen."

I'm glad I saw our version instead!

## Useful Numbers

### ALTRINCHAM CLUB THEATRE

17 Oxford Road  
Altrincham  
Cheshire  
WA14 2ED

Phone: 0161 928 1113

E-mail: clubtheatresecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.clubtheatre.org.uk

There is always someone who will be able to help or put you in touch with the right person if you have any questions or queries about any aspect of the theatre.

Feel free to call **0161 928 1113**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Ian Bowden</b>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Steve Smith</b>
<b>Play Selection/Casting</b>	<b>Mike Russell</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Peter Ball</b>
<b>Stage Director</b>	<b>Barry Swithenbank</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Meg Cooper</b>
<b>Wardrobe Mistress</b>	<b>Lisa Barker</b>
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	<b>Meg Cooper</b>
<b>Front of House</b>	<b>Alan Reidsma</b>
<b>Ticket Bookings &amp; Altrincham Little Theatre Office</b>	

## What the Adjudicator thought

The Cheshire Theatre Guild Adjudicator, Garth Jones, said of this production that “the artistry of the detailed set was complemented by good lighting and sound. There were other successful aspects, especially in the realism of the business, the good use of the stage and its levels, good stage positions, the sense of location and good presentation, the creation of mood, the handling of powerful feelings and the sharp playing of comedy. This was due in no small part to the clarity and quality of the vocal delivery from a strong set of performers”.

That sounds like a lot of praise to me!

## Wasn't It Nice Of Them?

After the last play we received an email from two members of the audience—this is what they said;

We came to *Horses in Midstream* yesterday and would like to say how much we enjoyed it. The whole cast performed brilliantly - we can't remember when we liked a performance at any theatre so much and we attend the Little Theatre, Altrincham Garrick and The Royal Exchange regularly. Please would you congratulate the Company for staging the show and for the actors for making us feel so much a part of the story of *Horses in Midstream*. We do not want to mention any names because they were all great. The sets and the music together created an atmosphere of Elba which matched perfectly the day we spent there a few summers ago. The show deserves full Houses every night - it is a pity yesterday was not quite full. They don't know what they are missing!