



# STAGE GOSSIP

September 2019

Welcome to a new season of plays at Altrincham Little Theatre starting with A Fine Bright Day Today. On the last page of this newsletter you will find a calendar covering the next two months.

We are planning to show two films in November the first one is the classic Dr Zhivago, which will start at 7.00pm, the second has yet to be finalised with the Royal Ballet company, we are looking at some of their classic Christmas ballets. Tickets will be £7.00

## Who's who

Following on from our AGM we have a few changes in the committee and responsibilities. Here is a full list of committee members.

Chairman—Ian Bowden

Vice Chairman—Steve Smith

Treasurer—Gil Lane-Young

Secretary—Meg Cooper,

Chair of Play Selection—Mike Russell

Stage Director—Polina Sparks

Assistant Stage Director - Alan Reidsma

Actors Rep—Christine Heath

Committee Members John Grieve, Don Hines, and Charlie Welsh.

If you have any problems or queries these are the people to talk to.

## 300 Club Winners

WE still have quite a few unclaimed 300 club prizes from last year, is yours one of them? We sent out a list of unclaimed prizes with the membership renewal notice. A further list is at the top of the stairs into the theatre you could be £100 richer by reading this.

### Contact Information

Telephone no 0161 928 1113

Email [alt.theatre@msn.com](mailto:alt.theatre@msn.com)

Ticket Email [ct.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@gmail.com)

### Address

Altrincham Little Theatre

Oxford Road

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## Stage Managers

Over the years I have stage managed a lot of plays and enjoyed the experience, it is a job that anyone who aspires to know more about the theatre should do. Last season we had a couple of plays where we operated without a stage manager, this is not always possible. We are appealing for anyone interested in stage managing one or more plays to contact any member of the committee.

The duties of a stage manager are varied from making sure the individual actors are firstly in the theatre and then ready to make their entrances on cue to checking the stage is ready for the next night. The smooth running of a play depends on team work and the stage manager is an important part of this.

## A Fine Bright Day Today

Since the death of her trawlerman husband 30 years ago, Margaret Harvey has lived with her daughter Rebecca in a small cottage in a coastal town. Rebecca is moving out to live with her boyfriend, so when she meets Milton Farnsworth, an American visiting the area to paint the landscape, she invites him to lodge with Margaret during his stay. Margaret has become increasingly set in her ways over the years, dependent on ritual and superstition, but with patience, humour, and cheap wine, Milton gradually encourages her to relinquish her hold on control. Warm, funny and moving, A Fine Bright Day Today explores love in later life.



## Booking tickets.

As usual you can book tickets either by post, by sending back the booking form sent out with this newsletter, by telephone any Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 7.30pm and 9.45pm (when you can talk to us directly), or by email to [ct.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@gmail.com).

Our web site still has a link to booking tickets but will be linked to an outside ticket agency who will have a limited number of seats to sell at £10 each plus a booking fee.

## **Dressing Rooms**

For many years the dressing room toilets have been neglected as we strive to improve the theatre, giving priority to audience areas. This summer we decided to update the dressing room toilets. The main part of the job is the construction of new cubicles. Alan Reidsma and Don Hines volunteered to do the construction work, something they are both well versed in doing. That leaves us with the electrical work which has to be done by a qualified electrician who can certify the finished installation. We are very grateful to Alan and Don for their hard work.

The result of this will be new easy to clean toilets and as we shall move the toilets we will gain two small store rooms, something we are always in need of.

## **Theatre Hire**

Over the year the theatre is used by many groups, below you will read about the various foreign language film seasons held on Sunday afternoons.

Manchester and Salford Film Society have an extensive season of films on Saturday nights.

In addition we have visits from Sale and Altrincham Musical Theatre with two productions this season, 'A New Generation' and 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice'.

At the end of the year we host Forest School and Navigation Road School with their end of year productions.

## **Film at the Theatre**

Starting in September we will have three seasons of films running at the theatre, there is a nine-film season of Japanese Cinema on Sunday afternoons, starting on Sunday 8th September and running through to Sunday 23rd February.

Also starting on the 15th of September Polina Sparks our set designer will be running a second season of Russian Cinema following up on her very successful first season in 2018/2019

Saturday September 21st Manchester & Salford Film Society will be showing Cold War a film from Poland. It is 20 years since the film society first came to the theatre, you do sometimes wonder where the time goes.

November 2nd sees the screening of David Lean's Dr Zhivago, one of an occasional series of films that we will be screening. Filmed in 1965 and now fully restored, it's a must to be seen on our new 5-meter screen. The cast is stellar, Omar Sharif, Julie Christie, Geraldine Chapman, Rod Steiger, Alex Guinness, Tom Courtney, Ralph Richardson and Rita Tushingham. With a cast like that and Lara's theme running through the film, you just must see it.

Following the successful screening of the Royal Ballet's The Nutcracker we will this year be screening another ballet for a younger audience. Please bring yourself, your children, your grandchildren or your great grandchildren. The atmosphere in the theatre last year was lovely. The date for your diary is Saturday 30th of November and it will be in the evening. We are just deciding which one of three we may screen, and that decision will be made very soon. Look out for notices and announcements.

# October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Play A Fine Bright Day	Play A Fine Bright Day	1 Play A Fine Bright Day	2 Play A Fine Bright Day	3 Play A Fine Bright Day	4 Play A Fine Bright Day	5 Play A Fine Bright Day
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

# November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Film Dr Zhivago
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Play Love From a Stranger	18 Play Love From a Stranger	19 Play Love From a Stranger	20 Play Love From a Stranger	21 Play Love From a Stranger	22 Play Love From a Stranger	23 Play Love From a Stranger
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Film Royal Ballet TBA