



# The Club News

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**£50 Winner**

**Mr R Lucas**

## Chairman's Chat

We have had quite a lot of audience feedback forms following the first play Heroes. It is gratifying that so many people felt it was worth sending in their forms so soon after the play. Thank you, it's not too late to send your form in with your booking. Some people have asked me why we are sending

out these forms. Well over the years the play selection committee have worked diligently selecting plays for your entertainment, occasionally a play does not seem as well received as we expected. Over several years the feedback forms will give us clear guidance on the audience views. The most helpful is

the comments that are on the form, these are recorded and kept for us to refer to at a later date. Some of you also suggest plays you would like to see. Spare forms are available in the foyer, if you wish, fill one in and leave it on the desk.

*Ian Bowden*

## Behind the Scenes - Help Still Needed



We like many societies always need helpers. This appeal goes out most years and we do gain new members some do stay and others come and go. We lose people every season with illness, job changes and people leaving for university and our numbers have not recovered from last season when we lost a number of regular helpers. The stage crew, in particular, have become very depleted and the tiny number who remain at present have a very heavy and busy time ahead. If you feel that you could come on a regular basis to help I know that our stage director would be delighted. There is a wide variety of jobs and life here is never dull. The crew are friendly, (but they do have their own teeth but don't bite) and you may discover talents you never knew you possessed. So avoid the "couch potato" syndrome and come down, give us a hand and you never know what you may discover!

## 400 Club Winners

The 400 Club was drawn on Wednesday 15th October 2008, the winners were:

£50	Mr R Lucas	£5	Mrs J Newton
			Mrs M Mitchell
£30	Mrs P Goodliffe		Mrs BC Wade
			Mr E Stuffins
£10	Mrs JA Granger-Brown		Mrs JC Finlay
	Miss GAM Thomas		Mr PD Ball
	Mrs JL Ball		Mrs E Sparkes
	Mrs M Williams		Mrs BA Fuller
	Mrs G Taylor		Mr K McCormac
	Mrs J Harvey		Mr R Benn
			Mr DW Copley
			Mrs P Goodliffe

## The Railway Children



The second play of the present season is *'The Railway Children'* written by Edith Nesbit, adapted by Dave Simpson. Set in and around a country railway station at the turn of the twentieth century, the plight of the Railway Children grappling with their new environment is imaginatively brought to life for a modern audience while losing nothing of the original spirit of humour, tension, adventure and the final triumph of good over evil.

*Nesbit* originally wrote *'The Railway Children'* as a magazine serial. The 1970 film adaptation of E. Nesbit's story is regarded as its definitive telling, its popular memory greater than that of her novel. It had also been adapted for television in earlier years there are links between the last serial and the feature film. Both used Yorkshire's Keighley and Worth Valley Preservation Railway and featured *Jenny Agutter* as Bobbie.

This production is being directed by Garth Jones who, last season, appeared as Sir in *The Dresser*. Garth has a great deal of experience as Director and Actor and is adept at bringing a large ensemble into a team and then eliciting a fine performance.

## 'IAIN MORAN'S FAMILY MAGIC SHOW' It's Magic

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at 7:30pm**

Between his many private magic engagements and performing at The Magic Circle in London, multi-award-winning magician Iain Moran presents an informal evening of magical entertainment for all the family.

Far from corny rabbits in top hats, this is a modern, dynamic show that you will remember for a long time.

Tickets are £7.50 (£5 concessions) book on the booking form cheques payable to The Club Theatre, or you may pay by credit card just provide the details as required on the bottom of the form. *Note there are only 134 seats for this show.*

Tel 0161 928 1113 : e-mail [ct.tickets@googlemail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@googlemail.com)

## 'MEMORY LANE'

Every now and then something happens to jog the memory and we look back in the records and check it out. This time I asked the question "what was the first play in this venue" and the answer is "Don't Listen Ladies" in November 1962. This prompted a look into David Lane's Theatre Social Diary and to one of the events held to provide income to assist the purchase of the Theatre. There is a report of the "Supper Dance" at the Bowdon Hydro Club, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 1962. There were 41 attendees at 15 shillings each, with a total of £30-15s-0d. Expenses were £10-0s-0d for the band, Fish & Chips at £2-19s-6d and biscuits at 5s-0d. This left £17-10s-6d but the room at the Hydro was not paid for.

The evening was "invaded" by members of the Bowdon Hydro Club who refused to leave and David Lane, the then Chairman, was very angry that they were treated thus that he refused to pay. This despite being threatened with being sued, whereupon David wrote "I would welcome the opportunity of stating my case in court." He heard no more except that the gatecrashers had to pay for the room rental. Not a man to get the wrong side of and I count myself privileged to not only have known him but to be Theatre Secretary and then Vice-Chairman under him.

Footnote:-Incidentally "Don't Listen Ladies" was the last play that Vicki Lane directed before she died in 2000.

Another glimpse into the archives next time.

## The BIG Clean

A very big thank you to those people who turned up to help us clean the theatre in readiness for the first play of the season. The theatre was filthy after the summer work and needed a very good going over. Some members had already been in on the Thursday to make a start and overall we got it look it right just in time! If you can please lend us a hand to tackle the dust before 'The Railway Children' Thank you.

**Help needed SAT morning**  
**the 29th Nov at 12.30**



## Film Society



Please note the dates for the next films. As always further information as well as tickets can be obtained from John Grieve on 0161 928 7472

Saturday 15th of November *Esma's Secret* Austria/Bosnia/Germany 2007 cert 15 Running time 95 mins.

A powerful family drama set in Sarajevo haunted by memories of the Balkan conflict. By Jasmila Zannic and winner of the Berlin Golden Globe.

Saturday 20th December. *La Vie en Rose*

Director Olivier Dahan France 2007 Cert 12A

Running time 140 minutes.

The extraordinary rollercoaster life of Edith Piaf. Winner of two Oscars.

Saturday 17th January *The Kite Runner*

Director Marc Forster USA 2007 Cert 12A

Running time 128 minutes.

After spending years in California, Amir returns to his homeland in Afganistan to help his old friend Hassan, whose son is in trouble. Nominated for Oscar.

Saturday 7th February. *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*

Director Julien Schnabel, France 2007 Cert 12A

Running time 112m

After a stroke, the playboy editor of Elle can only move one eyelid. He manages to dictate a book using this sole facility. Nominated for 4 Oscars.

## Booking Your Tickets on "[ct.tickets@googlemail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@googlemail.com)"

The computer booking system used at the theatre is working well and we try to get your tickets out to you by return, this takes a great deal of work and sometimes we have to ring back to check details and occasionally report that we are unable to fulfil the request.

When this happens we will do our best for you but please remember the old saying "The Early Bird Gets the Worm". If you have any special requests for seats near the front or the back, on the aisle or in the middle we will do our best to accommodate you, just remember to put the information on your booking form.

There is an answer machine for any queries so please do leave your NAME, number and message and we will return your call.

We also accept ticket orders via e-mail on:-  
[ct.tickets@googlemail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@googlemail.com)

Please don't forget to enclose your cheque if ordering extra tickets and remember you may also pay by credit

card by entering the details as required at the bottom of the booking form. We always shred the card details as soon as the transaction has completed, so there is no security risk to you.

Please remember that we do not normally have anyone present during the daytime but we are here every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening if you wish to call in or 'phone. Of course play weeks are different as then the office is open every evening.

Thank you from the Ticket Secretary





**THE CLUB THEATRE**

17 Oxford Road  
Altrincham  
Cheshire  
WA14 2ED

Phone: 0161 928 1113  
E-mail: [secretary@clubtheatre.org.uk](mailto:secretary@clubtheatre.org.uk)  
Website: [www.clubtheatre.org.uk](http://www.clubtheatre.org.uk)  
Tickets: [ct.tickets@googlemail.com](mailto:ct.tickets@googlemail.com)

**Useful Numbers**

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>Mr Ian Bowden</b>      |
| <b>Acting , Front of House</b>                   | <b>Val Harris</b>         |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                                 | <b>Roy Burman</b>         |
| <b>Stage Director</b>                            | <b>Barry Swithenbank</b>  |
| <b>Costumes</b>                                  | <b>Lucy Wilson-Barnes</b> |
| <b>‘Thursday Club’</b>                           | <b>Barry Swithenbank</b>  |
| <b>‘Club Drama’</b>                              | <b>Val Harris</b>         |
| <b>Ticket Bookings &amp; Club Theatre Office</b> |                           |

**A Little Says a Lot**

For all of us who are married, were married, wish we were married, or wish we weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine:

Kathy was driving home from one of her business trips in North Queensland when she saw an elderly Aboriginal woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Aboriginal woman if she would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car.

Resuming the journey, Kathy tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Aboriginal woman. The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Kathy.

"What in bag?" asked the old woman.

Kathy looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Aboriginal woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said:  
"Good trade....."

**Lines to Make You Smile**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy every minute of it! | I'm not a complete idiot—some parts are missing |
| I used to have a handle on life, but it broke!            | Out of my mind . Back in five minutes.          |
| Don't take life too seriously; No one gets out alive.     | God must love stupid people; He made so many    |
| You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me!   | The gene pool could use a little chlorine       |
| Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder!                  | Consciousness: That annoying time between naps  |
| Earth is the insane asylum for the universe!              | Ever stop to think, and forget to start again!  |