

The Club News

Volume 1, Issue 5

9th April 2001

The last newsletter?

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Dates for your Diary:

- * Next play - May 6th to 12th
- * Drama Schools Show – June 2nd
- * Hale One Act Festival – June 4th to 9th
- * Cheshire One Act Festival – June 23rd to 24th
- * AGM - July 18th

But only for this season, so don't panic!

The next newsletter you get will be asking you to renew your membership in August after the Annual General Meeting has taken place.

In the meantime, the newsletters may stop but the events won't, so make sure you get all the relevant dates in your diary. There's a (hopefully) complete list on this page in the bottom left hand corner. Please do your best to support everything that is happening, in particular the Hale One Act Festival and the Drama School Shows.

And the work doesn't stop either: we're still working at the theatre Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings 7.30 till 10 pm all through the summer and there's lots to be done. Please read the letter from Steve Smith, your Stage Director, (page 2), and if you think you can help us with anything, give Steve or

Mike, his assistant, a ring on 0161 941 2116 to let them know. We will be aiming to have a schedule of when different jobs will be happening. So if there's something special you want to be involved in, we can let you know when it would be most appropriate for you to come down – but you're welcome any day!

So please – read on, put the dates in your diary, and support us as much as you can: it is all happening for you, after all!



Yet another letter from your never-tiring editor!

And of course, have a good summer – after you've enjoyed the last play of the season!

A Tomb with a View

I have been listening with great interest to some of the rehearsals for this comic thriller – and I was in fits of laughter! It is promising to be an excellent, and indeed hysterical end to the season, and one definitely not to be missed.

Featuring several of our stalwart actors, it is directed by Jenny Radley, whom we are extremely pleased to welcome here for her first time –

Jenny is mainly involved with the Playmakers in Stockton Heath, but we strongly hope she will become a familiar face at the Club Theatre too. You can read all about her in the programme, so don't forget to buy one when you come!

Please do come along and support Jenny and all involved in the play – let's close the season well!

Summer Work for 2001

The following is a plea from Steve Smith, our Stage Director, concerning the maintenance work that needs doing, or that we would like to be done, over the summer.

Are any members available over the summer break to assist with the numerous jobs which the Theatre usually carries out? You will be able to see from the list that there are a great many areas which the Theatre wishes to improve before the 2001-2002 season begins.



Whatever your tools are
you can help!

These improvements will be of benefit to all members who attend to watch performances and will certainly assist those members who are involved in Acting, Building Sets, Lighting and Sound, Wardrobe, Properties, and Front of House.

It doesn't matter how much or how little time you may be able to devote, as every little bit helps. The list is rather large, and generally does not get completed due to time restraints. However, if you feel you may be able to assist in any way, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact us either at the next play (in the intervals or end of play), or alternatively by phoning any of the contact numbers below.

I would like to thank in advance anyone who is able to provide some assistance so that we may keep this Theatre operating as a professional and welcoming entertainment venue, and will personally introduce anyone who can help to the fun-loving and hardworking people behind the scenes who do so much work, yet are rarely seen by many members.

Thank you

Steve Smith
Stage Director

Contact numbers

Steve Smith – 0161 941 2116 or 07970 154 338
Mike Jarvis – 0161 941 2116
Ian Bowden – 0161 980 2551
Barry Swithenbank – 0161 980 7743

Or you can leave a message on the theatre's Answerphone, and someone will contact you as soon as possible – phone 0161 928 1113.

Outside

- Pavement slabs outside main entrance
- Jet-wash wall and stairs around fire exits
- Repaint all woodwork and repair rot

Foyer

- Gents toilets – paint pipes
- Paint ceiling
- New lighting
- Paint internal doors
- Paint and finish desk
- Fire alarm notice
- Replace or re-do front doors

Downstairs store

- Gents dress anteroom finish repaint
- Paint store - fit new cupboards / shelves
- Paint store relocate sink
- Sort wood store
- Tidy furniture store
- Overhaul secure store and accommodate perch equipment

Perch

- 3 phase wiring to perch
- Plaster unfinished wall
- Fit radiator
- Replace lighting equipment
- Replace sound equipment

Stage

- Paint backstage
- Refinish rear wall
- Stage left wing notice and shelf
- Secure all squeaky floorboards
- Remove hardboard, refit carpet underneath and refit hardboard
- Re-organise stage managers area
- Reorganise prompt area

Bar

- Obtain and fit display fridges
- Obtain and fit dishwashers
- Relocate certificate notice board
- Repair tables and chairs
- New entrance
- Plaster and re-decorate

Kitchen

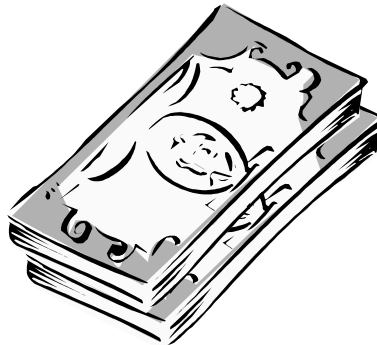
- Obtain and fit dishwashers

Gift Aid Donations

Those of you who generously gave donations with your subscriptions at the beginning of the season should have received a copy of the enclosed Gift Aid certificate, which, providing you pay tax, allows the theatre to claim back that tax on any donation you make, thus enabling us to increase your donation without having to pay an extra penny yourself.

We have enclosed in each newsletter a further copy of this certificate as we have had many donations from members throughout the year for whom we do not have a certificate.

While this may be because the donor does not pay tax, it may be that while we are just introducing this



Please help make our treasurer happy (until he finds a money tree at least!)

scheme at the Club Theatre, members may not always be aware of it. For example, all your 'Smarties' donations, and donated 400 Club prices can be entered as donations and have the tax reclaimed on them so long as we have the certificate.

If you are willing, please complete and return the form to Roy Burman at the Club Theatre, and we will do the rest.

Many thanks to all those who have already sent us their Gift Aid Certificate.

As we always say, every little helps!

Perennial Herb Sale

We are hoping to have a sale of perennial herb plants sometime in the late spring / early summer, details of which will be available with your programme at the next play.

There will be a selection of various types of herb plants which will flourish in your garden from year to year. Even if you are not a lover of herbs as culinary additives, they make wonderfully decorative plants which can be grown in your garden or in pots.

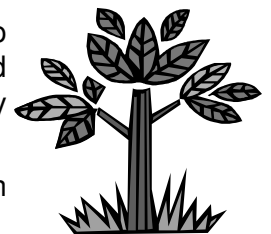
We are looking for a large quantity of three inch full—size plastic flower pots and we should be

pleased to receive these if members have any of these to donate to us. At the sale you will be able to buy back your pots filled with herbs.

Any proceeds will be used to assist with the many and varied restoration projects necessary around the Theatre.

Watch for the advertisement in the programme at the next play.

With thanks, Charles and Gilleen Thomas.



Grow your own herbs—once you've got them from us!

Calling all actors and actresses

Very shortly the notices of auditions for next season's plays will be going out.

However, we may not yet have your name on the list! If you want to be included, and want to know when the auditions are going to be, let us know, by writing to me, Anna Dutson at The Club Theatre, or giving me a call on 0161 941 2116 (leave a message if I'm not in).



Are you ready to be a star? Call us!

Our auditions are open to all who are interested, whether or not you have prior experience. If you would like to have a read of a script beforehand, that can be arranged by contacting Janet Reidsma, Chair of the Play Selection Committee, at the Club Theatre (again, leave a message if no-one's in).

So come and join us, on stage as well as off!

17 Oxford Road
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2ED
0161 928 1113

For further details, contact
Anna Dutson, Hon. Secretary
On 0161 941 2116

We're on the Web!
www.clubtheatre.org.uk



The Club Theatre

The Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for July 18th, at 8pm, at the Theatre.

It is at this meeting that we receive reports from the various officers on what has happened this year, and make decisions that will affect The Club Theatre for the season ahead.

Turn-out for this meeting is generally very disappointing, with rarely more than 40 people from a membership that now reaches over 600. Please do try and make an effort to come – it's a meeting where we celebrate all our efforts and thank everyone who has contributed – which includes you! And of course, the bar is open afterwards.

If you would like a copy of last year's minutes, these can be obtained at the next play from behind the bar, or by sending a stamped addressed C5-size envelope to Anna at The Club Theatre.

Future events

As I said earlier, the theatre doesn't close with the fifth play. On the contrary – it means the summer is only starting! And this summer is particularly busy. For the various dates, please see the front page of this newsletter.

Drama School Show

The Drama Schools will be putting on their show as usual, and we ask you very strongly to support them – these are our actors of the future, and in an educational system which has barely left any room for the creative and performing arts, their work here is highly important.

Hale One Act Festival

This is the festival of one act plays which we host every year now, with visiting drama groups from all over the north west. The standard of acting is of

the highest quality from all groups, and not only do you get to see three plays in one night, but you also receive an immediate adjudication by the well-known Garth Jones, who is adjudicating the Festival for the second year running. So you can see whether Garth's opinion agrees with your own. And on the Saturday night, Garth, albeit usually with a struggle, will identify the winners of various prizes – from Best Actor and Actress to Best Director.

Cheshire One Act Festival

This is the Cheshire Theatre Guild's own one-act festival, which is hosted in a different theatre each year – and this year, it's here at the Club Theatre. So you have two fantastic festivals to attend.



Thankfully, you don't need to ask the night sky what the future holds because we tell

Please do make an effort to support everything that is happening. Acting may be difficult at the best of times, but is worse if the audience is half-empty! Don't let that happen!