

The Club News

End of the Season

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Hasn't it gone fast? It only seems last week that we were rehearsing Inspector Drakes Perfekt Crime.

Our next production is Lord Arthur Savile's Crime, which is based on a story by Oscar Wilde. For this production we welcome back as director Noel Bowes. He has directed many plays and his experience will guide this large cast through the rehearsals. We welcome

back Sally Daniels, a member of Club Drama who you will remember as the March Hare in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

Well this is the last play in the normal published season, but we don't stop there. There are several other productions before the theatre is closed for the summer. The most important is the Club Drama production of A Midsummer Night's Dream on 12th 13th

and 14th June. Club Drama is the youth section of the theatre. The cast have been working since Christmas on the production and it will be an excellent production.

I must also mention the Hale One Act Festival which runs from 2nd to 7th July, There are 3 different one act plays each night by different societies, everyone who has seen the festival comes back again.

Don Maybury

We are sorry to report the death of Don Maybury. Don was a long standing member of the theatre stretching from the days in the 1950's at St Margarets to the late 70's in this building.

During his time at the Club Theatre he was a committee member and acted in many productions. Latterly he has lived in Spain where he has been actively involved in amateur dramatics.

400 Club Winners

The 400 club was drawn on . The winners were

£50 Mr G Hall

£30 Mr & Mrs G Evans

£10 Mrs M Baker
Miss O Rowan
Mrs R Richards
Mr & Mrs T E Burnup
Mrs J Edwards
Mrs H Newton

£5

Mr & Mrs G Evans
Mrs M Ledger
Mrs J M Eadie
Mr K McCormack
Mr J B Wilkinson
Mrs A J Wright
Mr R A Lucas
Mrs E Leighton
Mr J C Stretch
Mr & Mrs W D Sharp
Mrs J Ankers
Mrs J B Gill

£50 Winner

Mr G Hall

Full House!

How delighted we were to once again be able to put up 'Full House' signs outside the theatre recently for the production of 'Absent Friends'. How disappointed we were to also have to turn people away at the door. It pays to book early as many of you discovered.

WELL DONE to director Peter Nawn, his cast and backstage crew for producing such a good production.. Also a BIG THANK YOU to all the front of house staff helpers who had their work cut out dealing with



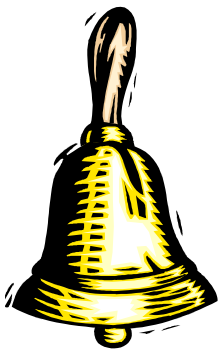
our large audiences. You always do a great job.

They, like us, will always be pleased to see new faces so why not give Val Harris (0161 928 1843) a call to help out for our next productions and boost the small dedicated band that are already there.

Coming next is 'Lord Arthur Savile's Crime' and this promises to be another treat so as soon as you get your booking letters don't delay.

No absent audiences

Book with care please



Stella does an excellent job of dealing with all our ticket inquiries and bookings for our shows. After her recent sad loss she has retaken on this very important task. Therefore with reference to the above about booking early may we make a request please?

Stella is more than happy for booking forms to be pushed through her letterbox but please

don't ring the doorbell. There have been occasions when this has happened late at night with people hoping to have tickets issued there and then.

We are very aware of people's privacy and equally their safety, especially at night. Stella is happy to answer any queries you may have but please give her a

telephone 'ring'.

Don't forget that pre-booked tickets to be picked up at the door **must be collected by 7.15 pm.** Any outstanding tickets will be resold. If you cannot attend on the night please ring Stella before 6.30 pm. We don't want to turn anyone away who may want to see the production. Thank you.

Your favourite tunes

We have a small group of lighting, costume, scenic artists, set builders and sound people who are always happy to welcome others to join them. One and all are very talented and amongst this group we are also very lucky in having our own in house composers who sometimes, if requested, write the music for the plays that you attend. They also worked on the last three Christmas shows and recently managed to sort out all the music associated with these shows.

This is just a reminder, for those who may not be aware, but the music and songs to these shows are now available to purchase for your pleasure. Some people had made requests before but all the music had to be copyrighted before this could be done. Well now it has!! So if you swayed with the sailors in 'Treasure Island—The Panto', sat quietly by the riverbank living out the adventures of Toad and his friends in 'Toad of Toad Hall' or just got lost in Alice's dream in 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' then you can do it all over again.

Okay so we don't have available the T-shirts and videos but we do the music! For further details contact Val Harris on 0161 928 2277. Theme music from certain plays also can be purchased all at a very reasonable cost.



World Premiere! World Premiere! World Premiere!



The last time was only last December when we produced David Carlile's version of 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'. Yet again the Club Theatre has been chosen as the first theatre to present new drama to the public.

We were delighted to receive a letter from our patron Brian Clemens inviting us to

produce his new play 'Without Trace'. Many of you will remember the first time when John Banks directed the thriller 'A Devil At Midnight' back in October, 2001. This play is also a thriller but not as controversial as the last one.

We are feel very honored as Brian informed us that a professional company is

already lined up to perform this play once we have done the premiere. He is at present putting the finishing touches to his play which will feature in our new season . This in turn will be announced shortly.

This is, without doubt ,one play not to be missed after the success of the last one. More news nearer the time.

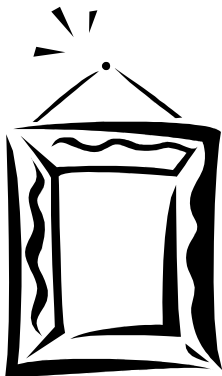
Change for the better

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to change slightly our front of house style. You will notice that now your ticket will be pulled by one of the front of house staff at the foot of the stairs in the downstairs foyer and not on the first landing. With the large (and may it continue) number of people arriving at the theatre this helps us control the flow, safety and security within the building. We are sure that you appreciative this change that is in the interests of everyone who comes to the theatre.

May we remind you that you can still get your raffle tickets and order your coffee but that this is now done in the theatre to relieve congestion in the small foyer. Don't forget you can also get your programme here too . The programme now has more articles than before and is essential reading and great value for money. On sale in the theatre before, during the interval and after the play.

**Remember the
'Experience'.
Buy a
programme.**

'Art' for Art's Sake



Recently the Play Selection Committee went en masse to the Lowry to a performance of 'Art'. It had a cast of just three, a well known trio of actors, Leigh Lawson (Twiggy's husband among other things) , Nigel Havers (the doctor in 'Dangerfield' and Roger Lloyd Pack (Trigger from 'Only Fools and Horses'). I had already seen the play in London with a very different cast of actors you may also have heard of, Richard Griffiths (the cooking policeman in 'Pie in The Sky'), George Segal the American film star and Paul Freeman (one of the baddies in the film 'Raiders of the Lost Ark'). After having continually raved about this play, it was a great relief when everyone else found it just as enjoyable as I did. It would be wonderful to be able to do 'Art' at the Club Theatre. But this is a play without an interval! 'What about the raffle?' I hear the spirit of David Lane cry. 'When do we serve the coffee, dear?' I hear the ghost of Vicki whisper in my ear.

For those who do not know the story it is about a group of three friends one of whom buys a very expensive painting. There is just one problem in that this costly piece is completely white. Is it art? Or is it a load of rubbish? Sadly there is rather an excessive amount of bad language in this piece that may upset some of our patrons but of course this could be toned down and changed. When reviewing any play for our audiences the Play Committee does take this sort of thing into consideration but what do you think? Let us know? *Val Harris*



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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.

Chairman	Mr Ian Bowden	0161 980 2551
Acting , Front of House	Val Harris	0161 928 2277
Sponsorship	Val Harris	0161 928 2277
Treasurer	Roy Burman	0161 928 1477
Stage Director	Steve Smith	0161 941 2116
Costumes	Enid Holt	0161 928 1113
'Thursday Club'	Barry Swithenbank	0161 980 7743
Publicity Officer	John Banks	0161 486 1843
Ticket Secretary	Stella Blackburn	0161 980 8572
Drama School	Val Harris	0161 928 2277
Club Theatre Office		0161 928 1113

Suggestions?

Recently we received a letter from one of our members suggesting a play that we might be interested in looking at. Thank you very much for this and we can confirm that the idea has been taken further. We always like to hear from our members on what they think of the theatre, whether they have any suggestions about what they would like to see or what could be done to make us better known and even more efficient. In fact about anything! Even if its just to say that you are happy with what we are doing. The Committee continues to work hard promoting, expanding and maintaining the high standards that we have and to 'raising the bar' a little more each year.

The 'Role'

Actors and actresses are always on the lookout for a good part to play. A classic role that they can proudly add to their CV of acting parts.

Those blessed with great talent don't often have to look as it's the directors who come a knocking on their door. It is also rare, that

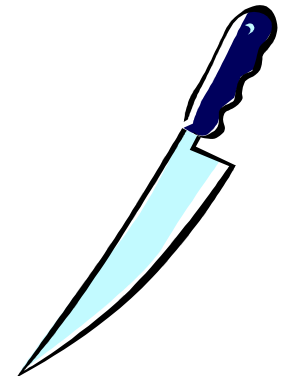
when approached, someone will turn down that 'lifetime' chance but it has happened and for the most curious of reasons.

During the thirties, when Dame Edith Evans was enriching the theatre with a superb Katharina and a marvellous Roslind, she was asked if she would like to

play Lady Macbeth.

"It's absolutely out of the question," she replied in that unique voice, "I could never impersonate a woman who had such a peculiar notion of hospitality."

A good Reason not to play Lady Macbeth? What do you think?



ALL ARTICLES, STORIES, JOKES, SAYINGS ARE WELCOME. WE CANNOT MAKE ANY PROMISES THAT IT WILL ALWAYS GET INTO THE NEWSLETTER DUE TO SPACE. HOWEVER WE WILL CONSIDER ANYTHING FOR PUBLICATION. SO GET WRITING AND SEND ANYTHING YOU MAY THINK WORTH SHARING. YOU NEVER KNOW YOU MAY JUST SEE IT IN THE NEXT EDITION.