

The Club News

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Chairman's Chat

Another packed newsletter and well worth reading over a cup of tea. Many people do not realise how much work and time goes into producing this so that our members are supplied with essential information, kept up to date with what goes on in the theatre and even entertained!

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see that we are

again embarking on some changes in the summer. We try each year to do some improvements, either backstage or to improve the audience comfort.

One item that was dear to David Lanes heart was the bar. He always looked upon the bar as a meeting place, where actors and audience could mingle together. He

always wanted to improve the audience comfort and I think he would be thrilled to see what we have been doing with the theatre.. Much work is still needed, rules and regulations are constantly being updated and we have to keep abreast of every one of them in order to provide the best live entertainment possible.

Booking Forms

It's rare when we have to print bad news. Last time was when someone stole play photographs off the display board. Yes I know who you are and am still awaiting payment! However I have to sadly bring to members attention another matter that is causing us great concern. Certain members are not bothering to fill in their play booking forms and just ringing Stella up to book tickets. She expects to get phone bookings from people who read the play previews in the paper or who see the posters but she is now constantly getting calls, at all hours, from some members who should know better. The job she does is difficult enough as it is so PLEASE fill in your forms, find your vouchers and include your SAE. Unfortunately a small minority are taking Stella for granted and in doing so upsetting a system that has up until recently worked well. Please don't be lazy. Thank you. *John F. Banks –Secretary*

400 Club Winners

The 400 Club was drawn on Thursday 27th January

The winners were

£50 Mrs H Bayliss

£30 Mr & Mrs F R Eades

£10 Mrs A Geggie
Mr R Ballentine
Mrs J D Atkinson
Mrs J M Coldrick
Mr R A Lucas
Mr H Southern

£5 Mr & Mrs P M Wyche
Mrs S C Blackburn
Mrs S M Phillips
Mrs J Marshall
Mr K Mc Cormack
Mrs M Ashley
Mr J C Stretch
Miss G A M Thomas
Mr R Deegan
Mrs O Huddart
Mrs H Pritchard
Mr R Deegan

£50 Winner
Mrs H Bayliss

Death on the Stage

**“Knife in the back.
What do you think
Sergeant?
“ Suicide Sir”**

Well we go from one murderous thriller to another play about death but this time it's a black comedy called 'Natural Causes'. Don't be put off as they are very different plays. Firstly our thanks to Jean Drinkwater and her 'Deathtrap' cast who we hope, according to the directors programme notes, have now recovered from all their bruises. Now we move onto our fourth production (yes already) which is being directed by Peter Nawn. Peter has been keeping a low profile recently here having last been seen on the Club Theatre stage in 'Plaza Suite' directed by Jean Drinkwater!! We welcome him back and wish him and his cast well.

FOOTNOTE: May we also thank those few people who stayed on after 'Deathtrap's last night's party because after everyone had gone and once fortified by a cup of coffee they hovered, cleaned and tidied the theatre up ready for the morning. The reason being that the following day the theatre had been hired out for a course for budding directors called 'Directing for the Terrified' so had to be in a decent state. This is one reason why we ask directors to get their rehearsal schedules out early and to let the office have a copy as we often get requests for outside bookings and need to know if we can take them or not and whether they will effect the current play being prepared.



We'll Give you More – 23rd-24th March

That classic work of literature 'Oliver Twist' is coming to the Club Theatre courtesy of 'Club Drama'. The young people are at present deep in rehearsal for this play and it promises to be another memorable display of talent from this section of the Club Theatre. Many people enjoyed 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'Mixty Maxty II'. Well here's your chance to enjoy more! Please come and support 'Club Drama'. They have represented this theatre on many other occasions therefore it would be nice to see every seat filled for the two nights that this play is on for. Miss it and you will kick yourselves as others have done before. Not only do these 'Club Drama' productions stand alone but they are also stepping stones that help the students audition for senior plays. All of those who were lucky to get roles in 'The Snow Queen' received praise for their performances from both the Cheshire and GMDF adjudicators. A separate booking form is enclosed with this newsletter and please remember that your vouchers are not valid for this production.



Budding Directors

Ever fancied directing a One Act play and putting it into a play festival? Well the Hale One Act Festival runs from the 6th June – 11th June and is just the chance that you may have been waiting for. Why not have a chat with the Play Reading and Casting Committee Chairwoman Val Harris 0161 928 2277. She will be more than happy to talk over your idea, play, give advice and help. Recently it has been thanks to 'Club Drama' that the Club Theatre has had any representation in its own festival. So don't just sit there and think about it give Val a ring and let's see some seniors take part again.

Film Society



Saturday 5th March. "Rififi". A rare opportunity to see this 1955 classic French gangster movie, the tension and cinematic mastery of the near 30 minute robbery sequence filmed in complete silence has never been bettered. The film starts at 7.30 pm and the cost to Club Theatre members is £4.50.

Saturday 16th April "Monsoon Wedding". Directed by Mira Nair.

An exuberant family drama set in Mira Nair's beloved Punjabi culture, where ancient tradition and dot-com modernity combine in unique and perfect harmony. As the monsoon rains loom, the extended Verma family reunites from around the globe for a last minute arranged marriage in New Delhi. "Monsoon Wedding" traces five intersecting stories, each navigating different aspects of love as they cross boundaries of class, continent and morality. The film celebrates a contemporary India never before seen on the screen. The film starts at 7.30 pm and tickets are £4.50.

Tickets from John Grieve Tel. 0161 864 2151 (Day) 0161 928 7472 (Eve)

Pen Power



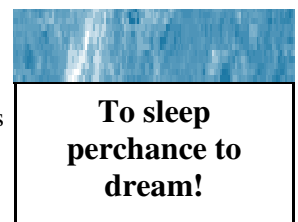
'Cues' the Greater Manchester Drama Federation newsletter dropped onto the Newsletter desk recently and we spotted that they had reprinted (without permission) John Banks 'Snow Queen's Diary' from our last newsletter. We are pleased that our articles are found to be amusing enough to be used by other societies and John is now awaiting the royalties cheque which he will kindly donate to the theatre funds once it has arrived.

Yes, we are always looking for interesting, amusing or otherwise articles for both our newsletter and the splendid programme that Val Harris produces for the theatre. We do feel that ours must be the best programme both in appearance and content in the whole of the Northwest amateur theatre world and a damn good read to boot! If you don't at present buy one then start now as they are full of articles and are getting to be collectors items. So although we cannot guarantee large pay checks for your scribblings if you would like to become famous and see your name in print please send us your items. If it's for the programme please contact Val Harris or if it's for the newsletter send it to the theatre care of the Secretary. You never know if they are that good you may get someone nicking them to appear in another newsletter!!

Big is Free!!

We are a theatre that never sleeps and when we do pause for that long awaited breath, or usually its a gasp as we haul some large piece of furniture back up to the rehearsal room or down to the furniture store, we dream of all the many things we would love to get to improve our beloved theatre. Concerning the above scenario its usually a new pair of lungs or a lift!!! You will notice however when you next visit that we have a new box office desk. Yes to be honest you won't be able to miss it, it's that big, but then again, it was too good a bargain to miss. Reread that bit slowly and you will work it out in the end!! The foyer has been changed again and one day (when that big suitcase of cash arrives!) we hope to get it redecorated as its only half way to the standard we would like to achieve. Slowly but surely we are getting there with the new seats, new handrail and now new desk. We hope you like it. Before we know it summer (I know I know!! What's summer? after last year) will be upon us and we will hopefully be making some more changes in the theatre as well as getting the yearly maintenance work done.

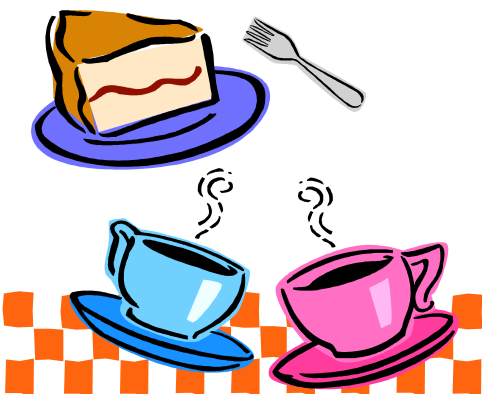
Can we just say thank you to those who find us these bargains and put in the hours to get the many jobs done. Not only are these people very few in number but even less of them are retired, people who hold down full time daytime jobs. Yet their warm hearts have a big space for the Club Theatre.



Race Night

IT'S COMING HERE AGAIN! Make a note in your diaries now Saturday 4th June 2005. Doors open 7.30 pm. There's just one cheap price for 6 races and supper. Entry will be £5.00 per person. You can sponsor a Horse for £2.00 or sponsor a Race for £15.00. The minimum bet is £0.50 which won't break the bank! All proceeds go toward the Lounge Refurbishment Project. So come on get your jodhpurs on and lets go racing!

Dust & Shine—The Return



This offer has come off the back page as I think some people may have missed it! Last time it was left yet again to the 'Club Drama' tutors plus one other to stay on after teaching the young people to get our theatre ready for its third production.

Usually this is done by 2.00 pm but this time they didn't get finished until gone 4.00 pm! Once again we ask you if you can spare a little time to come and help us get the place looking and smelling spick and span. With enough help it can be done in the space of a couple of hours. As already mentioned we are proud of our theatre and are determined not to see standards drop.

So if you can help please join us on SAT the 12th March at 12.30 when we will be getting dusters out before 'Natural Causes'. As always wonderful tea/coffee, good company is guaranteed and if we are lucky a taste of heaven in the guise of a piece of cake from Val Harris!!



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WA14 2ED

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Website: www.clubtheatre.org.uk

Useful Numbers

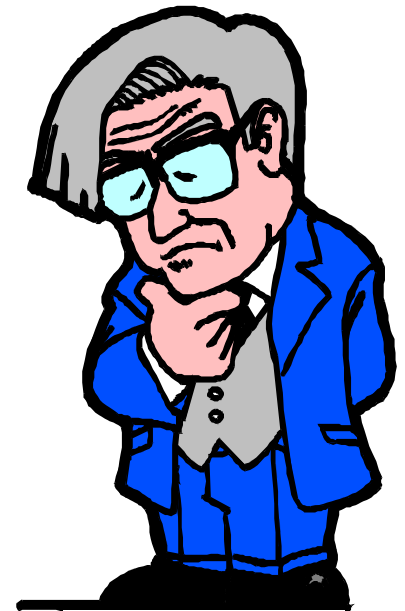
There is always someone who will be able to help or put you in touch with the right person if you have any questions or queries about any aspect of the theatre. Feel free to call.

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
Secretary/Press Officer	John Banks	0161 486 1843
Ticket Secretary	Stella Blackburn	0161 980 8572
Club Drama	Val Harris	0161 928 2277
Club Theatre Office		0161 928 1113

The End Bit

These days we take so much for granted. Don't you think so? Yet it occurred to me that if you take time out to think twice about certain things they don't seem to actually make much sense. What do I mean? Well below are a few thoughts and I ask you this, have you ever wondered:

1. Why the sun lightens our hair but darkens our skin?
2. Why women can't put on mascara with their mouths closed?
3. Why you don't see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?
4. Why "Abbreviated" is such a long word?
5. Why doctors call what they do "practice"?
6. Why you have to click on "Start" to stop Windows 98?
7. Why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor, while dish washing liquid is made with real lemons?
8. Why the man who invests all your money is called a broker?
9. Why there isn't mouse flavored cat food?
10. Who tastes dog food when it has a "new & improved flavor"?
11. Why Noah didn't swat those two mosquitoes?
12. Why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?
13. Why they don't make the whole plane out of material used for the indestructible black box?
14. Why sheep don't shrink when it rains?
15. Why they are called apartments when they are all stuck together?
16. If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?
17. Why they call the airport "the terminal" if flying is safe?



And NO this is not me!!

Answers to the Club Theatre Newsletter desk and publication in our next newsletter.

John F. Banks



FOOTNOTE: Never interrupt someone who flatters you.

Do not trust a woman who does not close their eyes when you kiss them.

When you say sorry, say it with eye contact

While finally do not try to bring back the past for the future is then much harder to accept.