

# The Club News

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**£50 Winner**

**Mrs M Holden**

## Chairman's Chat

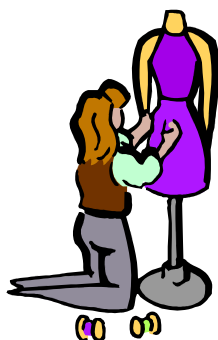
Happy new year to you all.

The last play, *Comfort and Joy*, was a first for the theatre, we had full houses every night - and waiting lists for most. It was unfortunate that some people did not let us know that they were unable to use their tickets and so people waiting were denied a chance to see the play.

As you are aware smoking will be banned in all public buildings from the beginning of July this year. At present the only room in the theatre that smoking is allowed is the bar. The committee has, in response to requests from members, decided that we should bring forward the ban on smoking to the beginning of the year. So there will be no smoking allowed in

the theatre from now on. Over the last few plays I have noted that most smokers already go outside the building in the interval to smoke. There are some unclaimed 400 club prizes from previous draws. The list of unclaimed prizes is on the notice board next to the 400 club members list.

## In Need of A Needle



We have sadly had no luck in finding someone who will take on the job of Wardrobe Mistress. This is still an urgent situation which needs addressing rapidly. Can we once again remind you that if you know of anyone who is interested in costume, can sew, use a machine and would like to get involved in theatre life then please get them to contact us. Enid Holt is holding the fort but this will not be for much longer. We cannot afford to pay anyone so it is a completely voluntary position.

## 400 Club Winners

The 400 Club was drawn on Wednesday 6th December 2006. £5

£50 Mrs M Holden

£30 Mrs S Percy

£10 Mrs A Shelley  
Mr R Rimmer  
Mr S Glover  
Mrs N Makin  
Mrs J Marshall  
Mrs M Nork

Mr & Mrs P Wyche  
Mrs J D Heywood  
Mrs J Copley  
Mr K Spavin  
Mrs M R Dowsett  
Mrs M E B Griffiths  
Mrs P Stuffins  
Mrs S Wheeler  
Mrs J A Granger-Brown  
Mr & Mrs D L Cope  
Mrs M Smith  
Mr & Mrs J C Finlay

## Comfort & Joy



Well it was very nice to be able to put up the 'Sold Out' signs on the boards with respect to our last production, 'Comfort & Joy'. This was again something different in the Christmas slot and may have brought memories of Christmas's of old back to some people. Well done to director, Terry Hollinshead who used this play to make his Club Theatre directing debut. The cast worked hard to get the message of 'Christmas spirit chaos' across and the laughter they produced certainly seemed to award their efforts. Our grateful thanks to Charlotte Welch who stepped in two weeks before curtain up to replace one of the actress's who sadly had to withdraw from the production.

Meanwhile, as this goes to press, director Mike Russell is putting his cast through their paces in the rehearsal room. 'Dead Guilty' is going to be a complete contrast to the comfort and joy of the last play. This thriller has no guns, policemen or dead body but twists that will have you wondering whether, like the lead character, certain situations are really what they seem. If you like intrigue and puzzles then don't leave it late to book for this one. (See Bookings Points)

## New Year Teaser

Our thanks to *Robert Fysh* who sent us this teaser of a quiz but which did not make the last newsletter. Answers on the back page.

1. How many animals of each species did Moses take aboard the ark?
2. Some months have 31 days, some have 30. How many have 28 days?
3. If a doctor gave you 3 tablets & told you to take one every half hour, how long would they last?
4. How many sides to a circle?
5. How far can a dog run into a wood?
6. If it takes 4 men, 1 hour to dig a hole, how long would it take 2 men to dig half a hole?
7. If you were alone in a deserted house at night & there was a lamp, a fire and a candle and only one match, which would you light first?
8. What cheese is made backwards?
9. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it & grey when you throw it away?
10. There's a bungalow in the middle of nowhere & everything inside is green. What colour are the stairs?
11. Is it legal for a man to marry his widow's sister?
12. How many seconds in a year?

If you enjoy this let the newsletter desk know and we will ask him to do another.



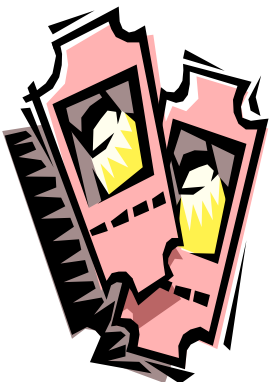
## Bookings Points

The sheer amount of bookings that came in for the last play has highlighted some points that we would like to clarify. First the booking office starts taking outside bookings ONLY after members booking forms have been sent out. Please do not ring Stella Blackburn or Val Harris. Stella gave up the job two years ago and Val handles the front of house help. Neither can book tickets for you. We have, for some time now, a new booking system which is run entirely from the theatre.

However please bear in mind that the theatre is run entirely by a small band of dedicated volunteers and the office is therefore only manned in the evenings. Bookings are dealt with as soon as they come in and if they arrive with the forms correctly filled out, payment, vouchers, and SAE enclosed then they can be dealt with that same evening and the tickets posted out. We do try to meet every request but it is very much a case of, first come first served. Which brings us to another point.

Please book early! One member left it until the day before the play started to book their seats and was then dismayed to find that there were no seats left on the day they wanted! Finally if you or any one in your party cannot attend please let us know ASAP. It is very frustrating to turn people down and then discover at the last moment that half a dozen booked seats are not coming!! Thank you.

**Don't delay or you're miss the play!!!**



## Gawsworth Hall

ACTORS WANTED! Gawsworth Hall, Macclesfield, has an annual Summer season of open-air concerts and plays. For their 2007 season they are planning a performance of Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None", from Wed 25th– Sat 28th July (with a possible extra night of Sun 29th July). This will be performed by amateur performers directed by Gawsworth's professional director, Alan Clements. To be considered you must be available for 3 weeks of rehearsals on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays from Monday 2nd July. There will also be several blocking rehearsals between February and July to be arranged when the cast has been selected. Reasonable expenses will be paid to those selected. If you are interested, there will be open auditions for anyone who would be interested in taking part on Tues 13th Feb and Wed 14th Feb at a venue to be arranged. To register your interest please contact Charlie Cook, preferably by email on CookGRoom@aol.com, otherwise by telephone on 01625 585360.

*Charlie Cook*

## More Hands= Less Time

A BIG Thank you to the only two brave souls who came and helped the 'Club Drama' tutors get the theatre clean for 'Comfort & Joy'. Sadly the number has dropped considerably over the past year and therefore the job takes longer to do. Its only five times a year we ask.

So DO consider helping on **SAT morning the 27th Jan at 12.30**



## Monday Night Strikes



It used to be taken for granted that on the Monday night after each play the cast would come in, help tidy the dressing rooms and help clear and break down the set. Sadly this practice seems to have completely disappeared. It would be nice if this practice became the norm again as our stage crew and backstage teams work very hard to prepare everything for the cast as well as running and organising their own departments. Some of us FOH staff are also at the theatre not only for the whole play week but more often than not at the theatre before the cast and also still there long after cast members have left. The sets and plays we now tackle are far more ambitious than ever before. This is due to their nature and also our choice so that our audiences are presented with good and

varied entertainment. Therefore please, its only one night, do consider coming down to help the crew strike and clear. The theatre never sleeps and the next work night they are already starting to build the next set. There is no time off. Help at any time is always welcome so please don't be a stranger who we only ever see in a stage role. Thank you.

*Val Harris—Vice Chairman & Chairman PSCC*

## Film Society

**January 13th 'Osessione'** Italy 1943 Dir. Luchino Visconti.

Osessione made in 1942 and banned in Italy by Mussolini, is a powerful story of the ill-fated love between Gino, a virile young drifter who arrives by chance at a roadside restaurant and filling station, and Giovanna the beautiful wife of the fat old man who owns the place. She is dissatisfied with her older husband Bragana: he disgusts her, every time he touches her she wants to scream. Gino leaves only to return because he can't get her out of his blood. They kill her husband, but his death haunts the guilt ridden Gino. Based on James Caan's novel 'The Postman always rings twice'.

**February 10th 'Separate Lies'** UK 2005 Dir. Julian Fellowes.

A gripping and intelligent film from the writer of Gosforth Park. The film explores the consequences of a good man (Tom Wilkinson) covering up a hit and run accident because of the love for his wife (Emily Watson) and how that snowballs into a web of deceit. The film can be described as a very British drawing-room suspense piece but its beauty lies in the excellent performances, particularly Tom Wilkinson and a sense of a single incident gradually wreaking havoc upon the lives of the characters.

Tickets can be obtained by ringing John Grieve on 0161 928 7472.



**THE CLUB THEATRE**

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Website: [www.clubtheatre.org.uk](http://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.

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Mr Ian Bowden</b>	<b>0161 980 2551</b>
<b>Acting , Front of House</b>	<b>Val Harris</b>	<b>0161 928 2277</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Roy Burman</b>	<b>0161 928 1477</b>
<b>Stage Director</b>	<b>Paul Affleck</b>	<b>07870 780910</b>
<b>Costumes</b>		<b>0161 928 1113</b>
<b>‘Thursday Club’</b>	<b>Barry Swithenbank</b>	<b>0161 980 7743</b>
<b>Secretary/Press Officer</b>	<b>John Banks</b>	<b>0161 486 1843</b>
<b>‘Club Drama’</b>	<b>Val Harris</b>	<b>0161 928 2277</b>
<b>Ticket Bookings</b>		<b>0161 928 1113</b>
<b>Club Theatre Office</b>		<b>0161 928 1113</b>

**Teaser Answers**



And one to finish off. Ten men under an umbrella and yet none of them got wet. Why?  
 1. None it was Noah! 2. All of them. 3. 1 hour. 1 straight away. 1 after 30 mins and 1 after an hour.  
 4. Two. Inside & outside. 5. Halfway. It would be running out then. 6. Can't have half a hole. 7. Light the match.  
 8. Edam. 9. Coal. 10. No stairs in a bungalow. 10. No. He's dead! 11. 12. Jan 2nd, Feb 2nd, March 2nd, etc.  
 It wasn't raining!!!

**The End Bit**



Many thanks to *Mr and Mrs Harvey* who have for so many years helped with FOH and the cleaning of the theatre for the following article.

The Mountie, the Juggler & the Drunk.

A Mountie pulled a car over on the Trans Canada about 2 miles West of Langley. When the Mountie asked the driver why he was speeding, the driver answered that he was a magician and a juggler and he was on his way to Chilliwack to do a show that night at the Shrine Circus and didn't want to be late. The Mountie told the driver he was fascinated by juggling, and if the driver would do a little juggling for him then he wouldn't give him a ticket. The driver told the Mountie that he had sent all his equipment on ahead and didn't have anything to

juggle. The Mountie told him that he had some flares in the trunk of his patrol car and asked if he could juggle them. The juggler stated that he could.

So the Mountie got three flares, lit them and handed them to the juggler. While the man was doing his juggling act, a car pulled in behind the patrol car. A drunk, good old boy, driving through Vancouver got out and watched the performance briefly. He then went over to the patrol car, opened the rear door and got in. The Mountie observed him doing this and went over to the patrol car, opened the door and asked the drunk what he thought he was doing.

The drunk replied, "You might as well take me to jail, cause there's no way in hell I can pass that test!!"