

The Club News

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Chairman's Chat

The first play Murderous Intent was well received by everyone. On talking to Brian Clemens after the Friday night production he informed me that this would be the only time the play would be performed under the title Murderous Intent. The publisher's had asked for a change of title because a musical

with a similar name had just been taken off in the west end and they didn't want it to clash. It will be published as Strictly Murder. We thank Brian for his support and encouragement, it isn't easy interpreting a new play and then performing in front of the author.

For our next play it is essential that you book early as there is likely to be a lot of interest in the play. I have had several telephone enquiries already. At present no seats have been booked and none will go on sale until 15th November but when they do go on sale I expect quite a rush.

FOH? Which Night!!

Thank you to all the people who on their membership forms said that they would be happy to help Front of House this season. However could you **PLEASE** put on your booking forms (if you are coming to a play) which night you can help. Otherwise **please** ring me on 0161 928 2277. I need eight people every play night. I have a list of people, many of whom have never contacted me, and it would be lovely to see new faces helping out the regular team. Please don't wait for me to call you. Everyone is friendly and will help you if it's your first time. FOH staff are an essential part of the theatre and first point of contact with our patrons. The theatre has won awards for its standard of FOH and with your help we can continue to keep those standards high.

Val Harris - Vice Chairman

400 Club Winners

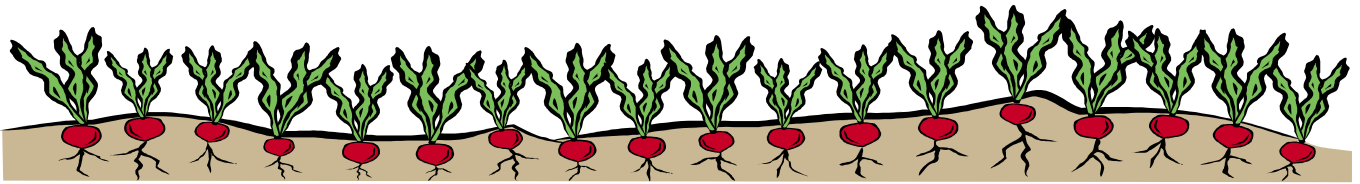
The 400 Club was drawn on Wednesday October 19th the winners were

£50	Mr & Mrs T E Burnup	£5	Mr M Granger-Brown
			Mrs S Parkin
£30	Mr & Mrs P M Wyche		Mrs M Birchall
			Mrs M Smith
£10	Mrs P A Thorpe		Mr & Mrs T E Burnup
	Mr R Holmes		Mr P E Peel
	Mrs R Richards		Mrs J Copley
	Mrs A Pikesley		Mr K McCormack
	Mrs S A Wheeler		Mrs M Birchall
	Mrs J Atkinson		Mrs M Mitchell
			Mrs M Parish
			Mrs M Williams

£50 Winner

Mr & Mrs T E Burnup

The Gardener's Lament



Thank you very much to those members who have send me items for the newsletter and some are published here and the others will appear in the next issue. Keep them coming as it would be nice to build up a small collection of articles to have at hand. The season is changing again and I felt the winter chill this morning on my way to work, yet I also saw all those the lawns swept clear of leaves and flower beds still looking pretty with winter plants now well to the fore. What would we English do, I wondered without our gardens? With that thought in mind I decided that this article from *Lynette Sykes* was an ideal reminder.

The Gardener's Lament

Tune: *All things Bright and Beautiful with the chorus sung before and after each verse.*

All things spray and swatable
Disasters great and small
All things paraquatable
The Lord God made them all

The greenfly on the roses
The maggots on the peas,
Manure that fills our noses
He gave us all of these

The fungus on the goosegogs,
The clubroot on the greens
The slugs that eat the lettuce
And crew the aubergines.

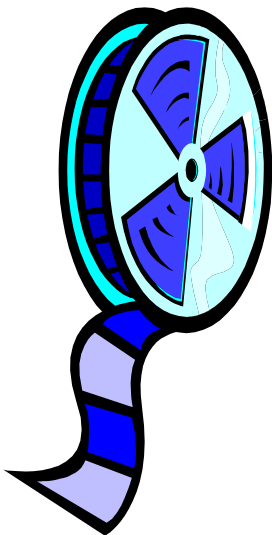
The drought that kills the fuchsia,
The frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings
The blight that hits the spuds.

The midges and mosquitoes,
The nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons on the greenstuffs,
The sparrows on the seeds.

The fly that gets the carrots,
The wasps that eat the plums,
How black the gardener's outlook
However green his thumbs.

But still we gardeners labour
With vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours,
Will somehow bypass ours.

Film Society



Details concerning the next film to be screened on the 19th November are as follows.

'La Ville est Tranquille' France 2000. Director Robert Guediguian. Cert 18. Length 127 minutes.

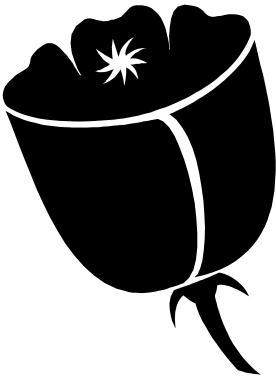
Beautifully observed, uncompromisingly honest and always engrossing. Returning to his hometown Marseille, Guediguian, skilfully interweaves the stories of several different characters, following their everyday struggles to survive life in the teeming melting point of the city. The film depicts Marseille as a city in crisis and utilises a large cast of intersecting characters. Arian Ascaride as a hard-bitten but compassionate fish market worker with a drug addicted daughter, and Gerard Maylan as a moody bartender with a shocking secret life. "Engrossing one of the finest French filmmakers around" The Times.

Club Theatre members can obtain tickets and more details by contacting John Grieve on 0161 928 7472.

A film banned 75 years ago is being shown as a highlight at the Salford Film Festival at The Red Bull Cinema, Salford Quays. The film is 'Storm over Asia' and is being screened to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Manchester and Salford Film society. Plans to show the film in 1930 were stopped by councillors on the old Salford Watch Committee. The two hour Russian silent film, now considered a classic of its time, will be shown at 1.00pm on Sunday 13th November with an introduction by Dr Allan Sennet who lectures in politics and history at the Open University and Manchester University. Tickets to all the films in the Festival are free.

To reserve tickets ring The Red Cinema Box Office on 0161 872 1707.

Poppies & Violets



The call came, a new play. The script arrived and was read by the Play Committee. A cast was assembled and rehearsals begin. It was dark. It was full of twists and turns and it had us all wondering if it was going to work. Well it did and congratulations to director David Wood, his cast and crew who brought our first play of this season to life. Another world premiere offered to us by our patron Brian Clemens 'Murderous Intent' was set in France during the late 1930's and apart from a few words of French spoken by Peter Meredith the plot was all English!!

Brian came to see the production on the Friday night and was very pleased with what he saw. He also informed us that the play is going to be performed by a professional company in Sonning, near London in February 2006 where it will run for a month. First reports have been very favourable and we are glad that this first play was well received by our audiences. Rick Bowen of the Altrincham Messenger reviewed the play under the title 'It would be a crime to miss this'. He wrote 'a piece that receives top marks for suspense and intrigue' 'prepare to be gripped' by 'a cast that is outstanding'.

This year our second play is a slight change from our normal fare. It is George Bernard Shaw's 'Pygmalion' which is being directed by a newcomer to this theatre Mike Russell. We wish him and the cast all the best and they are well into rehearsals for this story of a London flower girl who is transformed into a lady of society. We are also delighted to have one current member and two ex-members of 'Club Drama' in the cast. They are Claire Keeling, Abi Foan and Sally Daniels, who is taking the lead role of Eliza Doolittle. This is sure to prove to be an interesting production.

Dust & Shine

Thank you to the people who helped clean last time before our first play of the season. There was an awful lot to do as the theatre was very dirty after all the construction work. Sadly there were very few of us to tackle the piles of dust and grime. This time it should be easier but that does not mean we don't need your help. So with the prospect of tea/coffee and cake to tempt you please join us on

SAT morning the 3rd December at 12.30.

If more people could help we could then spread the load and not have to rely on the 'Club Drama' Tutors and the one or two others who do come when they can. We could even perhaps work out a rota which would make it fairer for everyone. Your ideas and suggestions on this subject are welcome.



**Help us keep our
Theatre shining
bright**

Enjoy Your Membership More



A new season has started, and to our new faces we say welcome and don't be afraid to get involved if you would like to. We are always looking for new actors and actresses, people to help on the technical side of things, build and paint sets, help with props and costume. So if you feel you would like to get even more out of your membership and fancy a go, then let us know!!

There are people here who will be more than happy to show you around and give you the chance to try your hand at a different skill. And if you are not keen to go out in the evenings

Barry Swithenbank runs the Thursday Club when people can come in during the day to do bits and pieces. So give us a call or drop in any Monday, Wednesday or Friday evening from 7.30 pm onwards. You won't regret it!!



FOOTNOTE: Another amusing item arrived from *Lesley Thomas* and thank you for sending this in to the Newsletter to share with us. Lesley heard the following advertisement on the Terry Wogan show and it was reported to that show by a listener who had seen it displayed in the window of a shop which sold camping gear on the occasion of their Spring Sale:-
'NOW IS THE DISCOUNT OF OUR WINTER TENTS.'



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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	John Banks	0161 928 2277
Treasurer	Roy Burman	0161 928 1477
Stage Director	Paul Affleck	07870 780910
Costumes	Helen Walker	0161 928 1113
'Thursday Club'	Barry Swithenbank	0161 980 7743
Secretary/Press Officer	John Banks	0161 486 1843
'Club Drama'	Val Harris	0161 928 2277
Ticket Bookings		0161 928 1113
Club Theatre Office		0161 928 1113

The End Bit

Thank you for the following thoughts sent to the newsletter desk but sadly I don't know who they came from. So please let me know your name so I can thank you and you can see your name in print!

1. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.
2. If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be 'meetings'.
3. There is a fine line between 'hobby' and 'metal illness'.
4. People who want to share their religious views with you almost never want you to share yours with them.
5. You should not confuse your career with your life.
6. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
7. Never lick a steak knife.
8. The most destructive force in the universe is gossip.
9. You will never find anybody who can give you a clear and compelling reason why we observe daylight savings time.
10. You should never say anything to a woman that even suggests that you think she's pregnant unless you can see an actual baby emerging from her at that moment.
11. There comes a time when you should stop expecting other people to.
12. The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above average drivers.
13. A person, who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person. (This is very important. Pay attention. It never fails.)
14. Your friends love you anyway.
15. Never be afraid to try something new. Remember that a lone amateur built the Ark. A large group of professionals built the Titanic.

Final Thought: men are like a fine wine. They start out as grapes, and it's up to women to stomp the crap out of them until they turn into something acceptable to have dinner with. *(So it has to be a woman who sent these in... Ed)*

'Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted. *Albert Einstein.*

(A final thought from a man who sadly was not a Club Theatre member.)