

The Club News

Welcome Back

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I hope you have all had a good summer, I know the weather was not as good as last year, but it was hot enough for the people working at the theatre on all the improvements.

Later in this newsletter you will get detailed information about what we have been

doing. I would just like to thank all the people who have worked this summer to make the changes possible.

In another vein we should be at the end of paying the bank loan for the bar, rehearsal room and wardrobe which we had built in 1984. For those of you who remember the old

building with its cramped accommodation it has been well worth the effort, with the theatre being more used now than ever, since the last play the theatre has hosted on 5 visiting groups (mainly youth).

Welcome back and I hope you enjoy our season.

Ticket Vouchers

It has come to our attention that one person is a little confused about the vouchers this year. This is because, in previous season's flyers the 'Club Drama' production was marked as being announced much later. This year the production was decided very early on so that the play could be included in the flyer and people could then make a note of the dates. The vouchers are valid only for the senior plays. However that in no way means that the 'Club Drama' production will be any less enjoyable or not as high a standard as the plays this season. Members who came to 'Mixty Maxty II' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' can testify to that. Tickets for 'Oliver Twist' are cheaper than for other productions and it is money that goes to continue all the good work that Vicki Lane first began for the young 'Actors and actress's of tomorrow'. Please support the young people and you can be sure that you will have a very good evening of high standard entertainment.

'Club Drama' Tutor Help

'Club Drama' has restarted this year with all but one of our young people returning from last season with 5 new ones joining us. We must be doing something right!! However sadly we have lost two tutors which means a lot more pressure on the three left. Barry Hesketh, who was also due to direct the first play of the season 'The Importance of Being Ernest', has had to give up due to poor health. Our lovely Catherine Roberts has started her University course and has a very heavy workload ahead of her. Val Harris, Ian Bowden and John Banks work with a very talented group and regularly receive calls from people wanting to join. However members are kept down to a certain number so that each young person can be involved in all aspects of theatre.

We do need more help so that the high standards of teaching can be maintained. So even if you can not come regularly but would like to help 'Club Drama' in some way please call the chief tutor Val Harris on 0161 928 2277 for more details. Our young people have always been a very important part of this theatre and we aim to keep that tradition alive.



Stay young with
'Club Drama'

Changes for the Better



Steve 'Tetchy' Smith

We are constantly reviewing and improving the theatre facilities, when mainly money permits, so that visiting and working in the theatre becomes an even more enjoyable experience than it already is. This summer has seen that very small band of dedicated helpers slave away once more in the short break that we have between productions. Some improvements will be obvious to our members, others not so much.

The theatre kitchen has been rebuilt and now boasts two dishwashers. A new coffee bar area has been built and the sweet stall moved to here. This has created more space in the bar area and allowed more of our new seating to be used. The stall is now in the upper foyer where there is more light and space to move.

In the theatre itself our Lighting man Barry Swithenbank has a lovely new window to look through while the stage itself has been re-laid and repainted. Outside at the side of the

building the grilled and broken windows have been boarded up and painted. While on the back wall facing Sainsbury's car park we finally have a lovely new theatre sign. Do go and have a look.

As well as all that there has been a big clean out and tidy in our wood, furniture and paint stores. The bar, office and rehearsal room have also been sorted.

There are still some outstanding jobs that we hope to complete before Christmas including work in the toilets and downstairs foyer which will become evident once done.

I must just say that it was very sad to hear one actor comment on 'what a mess' the theatre was in during this time. It would be more constructive for us if such people came to help rather than criticise.



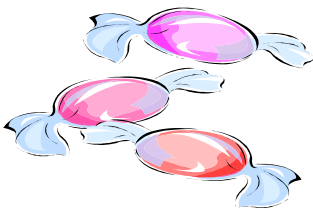
Paul 'Plunger' Affleck

A BIG THANK YOU to those people, they know who they are, (as well as the two pictured) who have given up so much time in getting these jobs done in the limited time available before the theatre reopened its doors to full service.

John F. Banks
Hon Secretary

Looking Good Looking Different

Where have my Sweeties Gone?

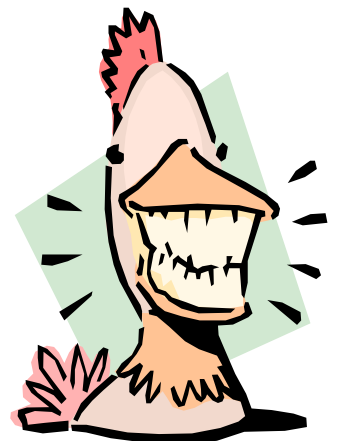


Those of you with a sweet tooth will discover that the sweet stall that used to be in the upper foyer has gone!! What will you do? Don't panic! No need to visualise withdraw systems. We have not got rid of it just relocated it in the bar area where the new coffee bar has been built. So just nip into the bar before the show and all your favourites will still be there, just awaiting your delight in a different place.

Keep Stella Smiling Please!

Once again we were delighted to be able to put 'Sold Out' signs up for most of the plays last season. Please help Stella, who does a thankless but very important task, by getting your ticket requirements back to her as soon as possible. If you wait until the week of the show you could very well be disappointed and miss some super productions. Can we also respectfully ask members if you are picking up tickets on the door do not leave it until the last minute nor leave it late to inform Stella if you or any of your guests are unable to attend. Please ring her before 6.30 pm. These tickets can then be sold to people who regularly just turn up on the door on the off chance of seeing the play.

We hate disappointing anyone, most of all you. Thank you.



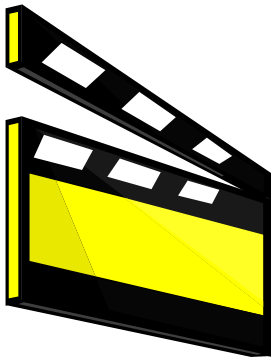
Happy Hoovers!

The theatre has already been hard at work hosting the Trafford Youth production 'Godspell' which took place in August. The Saturday before the first performance the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary spent most of the day tidying and cleaning the theatre ready for this group. However we are asking once more if members would be willing to come in and help us get the theatre clean and in shape before our own plays. Last year proved what a great help the people were who came and got everything sorted in a matter of a couple of hours. So if you can, please lend a hand again this season. The coffee and good company comes free.

The first of these days is on the **9th October at 12.30 am** before the opening of 'The Importance of being Ernest'.



Film Society



Just a reminder to all the film buffs of the forthcoming films from the film society.

25th September 'Whale Rider' 105 mins. New Zealand 2003 cert PG. Dir. Niki Caro

A magical story of a young girl's struggle to fulfil her destiny. In a small New Zealand coastal village, Maori claim descent from Pailea, the Whale Rider. In every generation a male heir has succeeded to the chiefly title. When twins are born and the male twin dies, Koro the chief is unable to accept his grand daughter, Pia, as a future leader. A few years later, Koro is convinced that the tribe's misfortunes began at Pia's birth and calls for his people to bring their sons to him, in the hope that a new leader is among them. Pia loves Koro more than anyone in the world, but she must stand up to him and a thousand years of tradition to reveal the true way forward.

23rd October 'Goodbye Lenin' 121 mins. Germany 2003 cert 15 Dir Wolfgang Becker.

East Germany in 1998, the mother of a young protester has a heart attack and falls into a coma when her son is arrested. Some months later, the GDR does not exist and the mother wakes. Forbidden any excitement, the son tries to recreate the GDR in their flat. But the world has move on. The film is in German with English subtitles.

All enquires regarding tickets for either of these films and details of this season's programme please telephone me, John Grieve on 0161 864 2151 (day) or 0161 928 7472 (eve).

John Grieve

Which One?

We have had quite a few new people join us over the past year which has been good news for the theatre and we do our very best to provide good service and entertainment to old and new members alike. Some people may still not be sure who they need to talk to if they have issues to raise. The Committee elected by the members is headed by our Chairman Ian Bowden who deals with any concerns members may have which are then discussed at Committee level and is ably supported in doing this by the Vice-Chairman, Val Harris. Therefore if you have any major concerns or big ideas these are the people to contact. Our Hon Treasurer, Roy Burman is the man to see about any money matters and is always pleased to see you especially if you wish to give him any!! Our Hon Secretary, John Banks deals with all the administration which includes the editing of this newsletter and is always happy to receive articles for that or the programme.

**Everything we do
we do it for you.**

If you would like to help in the theatre in any way Stage Director, Steve Smith is always ready to take your call and is assisted in this task by Barry Swithenbank. If you have any comments about the plays we put on then the Chair of Play Selection, Val Harris is the person who needs to know. Before you throw anything out contact our Props Manager, Charles Thomas as he is always on the lookout for good quality items for our sets.

And the rest of the Committee? Well they are always happy to talk to you and pass on messages if you cannot find the right person. For their phone numbers check the back page of this newsletter or better still cut it out and pin it on your notice board at home.





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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



The summer holidays are over and it's back to the grindstone. Well some of us have never left it! Now its full steam ahead downhill to Christmas. So bearing this in mind here are a few useful tips on how to maintain a healthy level of Sanity as you face these next few months.

- At lunch time sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
- Page yourself over the intercom. Don't disguise your voice.
- Every time someone asks you to do something. Ask if they want fries with that.
- Put your waste bin on your desk and label it 'IN'.
- Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.
- In the memo field for all your checks, write "For Sexual Favors".
- Finish all your sentences with "In accordance with the Prophecy".
- Don't use any punctuation.
- As often as possible skip rather than walk.
- Ask people what sex they are. Laugh hysterically after they tell you.
- Specify that your drive through order is "To Go".
- Sing along at the Opera.
- Go to a poetry recital and ask why the poems don't rhyme.
- Put mosquito netting around your work area and play tropical sounds all day.
- Five days in advance tell your friends you can't attend their party because you are not in the mood.
- Have your co-workers address you by your wrestling name, "Rock Hard".
- When the money comes out of the cash machine scream "I won!, I WON!"
- When leaving the zoo start running towards the car park yelling "Run for your lives, They're Loose!!"
- Tell your children over dinner "Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go".

So don't let anyone tell you that we don't think about the welfare of our members!!

We are always looking for fresh, amusing news items, articles or stories for this newsletter and the programme. So if you fancy seeing your name in print or are a writer then please send in your work or any thing you think may be of interest to our members and we will consider it.