

The Club News

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Chat	1
Oooppss!!!	1
Climbing Mountains	1
News from the Front!	2
A Pack of P's	2
Bargain Corner	2
Quiz Corner	3
Remembering Don	3
Spit, Polish & Shine!	3
Useful Numbers	4
Quiz Answers	4
The End Bit	4

**Working
8 Days
a week**

Chairman's Chat

Thank you to all who returned their voting slips with regard to the National Anthem. All the comments you made have been taken on board.

However the result is 93 in favour of keeping the National Anthem and 271 against.

I know how it pains Val Harris and other Front Of House members to see

how some of our patrons struggle up the stairs and are relieved to reach their seats. I can assure you that if we could put in a lift tomorrow we would and I would be one of the first to use it!

Some 400 Club members have not claimed their winnings, we don't like to send money in the post as

it sometimes goes missing. If you thing you are owed any winnings see me in the bar during the show.

On behalf of the Club Theatre Committee may I give our condolences to the family of Don Saunders who died recently.

Ian Bowden

Oooppss!!!

You will notice with this newsletter and booking form that there is enclosed a blue flyer detailing our forthcoming season. In the rush to get your renewal forms and first newsletter out, our 'stuffers' omitted to include this. We are sorry for this oversight and if you know anyone who would like one (not a 'stuffer' of course) then let us know and a flyer will be sent winging to them.

Meanwhile the people involved have been flogged with thin hot wire and are very, very sorry!!



Climbing Mountains



It never stops but this year we had decided that we were not going to take on any major projects. We were just going to tidy up the wood store and carry on with the summer maintenance. However having said that we discovered woodworm had got into the wood store and it suddenly became a major project, one that had to be finished before the start of a new season. With several key people being away over the summer and time being short this became another

mountain to climb.

The whole store was emptied and the old racking removed. A new wall was plastered and the whole place swept and then painted. Every flat was stripped clean and treated before being lowered back down into the store. Thank you to those who came and helped.

Help is always short so if you can and would like to help us this year please let us know or just pop down one evening. We will be delighted to see you.

News from the Front!



As this newsletter goes to print rehearsals are well under way for our first play of the season 'And A Nightingale Sang'. This was a production that we had planned to produce a couple of years ago but had to be postponed. However now we have director, Yvette Harper helming this for us and it promises to be a lovely opener. Not only do we welcome Yvette who will be directing here for the first time but we are also delighted to welcome back two actors and two of our actresses after a leave of absence. It is great to see Elizabeth Vernon, Nicola Hawkins, Mark Dawson and Howard Bramwell back on our boards and we wish all four of them well.

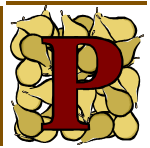
A pack of P's!

There are quite a few bits and bobs to mention. Some items will be familiar to long term members but new to our most recent ones. As there are too many to talk about separately they have been all put together for you here.



Pick of Plays

The PRCC group under Val Harris are already looking ahead to next season, discussing possible plays that we should look at and read with a view to staging them here at the Club Theatre. Our first play of this season was suggested, as already mentioned, by one of our members. We are always happy to hear what our members think about our play seasons and if you have a play in mind that you think we should put on then let us know.



Programme

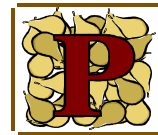
Speaking of Val Harris some new members may not be aware that it is thanks to this lady that we have such a good programme. It is without doubt the best in the northwest with a view to value for money. This is of course chiefly thanks to our advertisers who enable Val to maintain the high quality yet at the same time keep the price down. We know of several places who sell you a folded A4 photocopy for 50p!! Val is always on the lookout for new advertisers so that she can make the programme even better and STILL keep down the buying cost to you. So if you would like to place an advert or know of any company who would like to support the Club Theatre by placing an advert then please let Val Harris know. You can contact her at the theatre or on 0161 928 2277. She will be waiting for your call!!.



Pictures

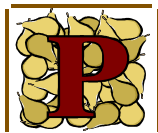
Two things under this title to mention. Firstly, our stock of paintings (used to decorate our sets) needs refreshing. So if you have any nice pictures that you were thinking of

throwing out then please think of first. Now if you are thinking of replacing any pictures then where better than looking at the ones that hang in our bar area. Painted by Gill Cope these are for sale at very reasonable prices and Gill has kindly said that part of the sale will be donated to the theatre funds.



Publicity

It still baffles and amazes our publicity officer John Banks that when people talk about theatre in Altrincham they immediately think of the Garrick and know nothing about the Club Theatre. What leaves him puzzled is that these are people who live here!! He is always on the lookout for new places where we can promote the Club Theatre be it where posters can be displayed or our blue flyers can be left. If you know of any places or can take some posters or flyers and put them out in your work place then please let John Banks know. You can contact him at the theatre or on 0161 486 1843.



Plaques

Make your mark with a plaque. Next time you are seated in the theatre you may see a small plaque fixed to the seat in front of you. About half the seats in the theatre have these and they have been brought by members as mementos to past members or as presents for other family members who regularly attend our plays. Contact the theatre office who will happily arrange to get one made for you and you can choose which seat you wish it to put on. Cost is £25.00 but then it is sometime that last forever, becomes part of the theatre as well as part of its history.

Bargain Corner

Don't forget if you have any books, videos, tapes, CD's or DVD's that you no longer watch or listen to then, if they are in good condition, do bring them in for our stall in the foyer. We always try to have a good stock on display for each play so fresh material is always welcome. You never know you might just find something you have been looking for.



Quiz Corner

Thanks to theatre member Robert Fysh who has supplied another quiz for you to kick off the season. So all you bird lovers should get this as its names of British birds. Good luck.

1. Having fun in the air.
2. Heavenly Heather?
3. A Boxer and an oarsman training.
4. A builder of churches.
5. A Grumbler.
6. He's in jail for this.
7. Stormy night.
8. Royal angler.
9. An idiot.
10. A broody hen would have trouble doing this.

11. Gulp!
12. Was it used to make the yellow brick road?
13. Singer by the river.
14. The cost of a shave.
15. Out of breath.
16. This bird eats a lot.
17. A letter of the alphabet.
18. Should have worn long pants to prevent this sun doing this.
19. Have a drink with a learner.
20. A listening cereal.

Answers on the back page.



Remembering Don

It is with great sadness that I write to inform our members of the passing of Don Saunders who lost his fight with cancer on 12th Sept this year. Don was a well known member and Club Theatre face. He was a true gentleman, a lovely man and an actor who never bored you with tales of his many stage experiences or boasted of his many stage roles. Don also possessed a rich, bass-baritone voice that he delighted audiences with when he sang, as he did, in several productions on the Club Theatre stage. When not on the stage Don frequently helped front of house and audiences will, I am sure, remember him greeting them at the front door of the theatre and after each performance having a quick word as he saw them out.

I personally first met Don in 1995 and he made me very welcome. It was in the Club Theatre's production of 'Therese Requin' and to cut a long story short I had stepped in at the last minute to replace, I thought, a minor character only to discover that it was one of the leads. Within 6 rehearsals I learned the part (I have never been able to repeat this feat since!!). However on the first night I was a nervous wreck and visibly shaking so much that in the dressing room I could not do up my tight collar or put on my cuff links. This was only achieved with the help of David Eastwood and Don who kept saying 'You're be fine!!'. He kept an eye on me all that week and I made a new friend. He always had a ready smile, a firm handshake and was someone who just wanted to please.

Since then I have had the pleasure of not only directing him but being able to share the stage with him several times. Don had stage presence and was a man who was not afraid to admit as he grew older that he found line learning difficult and yet in his last major role as Judge Omar Gaffney in 'Harvey' he gave us one of his best performances. After this role he told me that he was going to finally give up the stage but I was lucky to share the boards one more time with him when he took a cameo role in '84 Charing Cross Road'. I have many happy memories of Don but one that will remain with me for a very long time is when we played opposite each other in 'Toad of Toad Hall'. He had undertaken the role of 'Badger' the wise old animal of the piece and it was an honour to hear him sing the song that I had written for him 'I Knew His Father'. I am sure that many people will all have their different memories of Don Saunders. He was, for me, a dear friend and someone who I will miss.

John F. Banks—Hon. Secretary

Spit, Polish & Shine!

There has yet again been a lot of work going on in the theatre over the summer. Therefore a big effort is going to be needed to get it looking smart for our first production. Please help if you can. First cleaning day of the season is:

Sat the 13th October at 12.30

**Dust & Rub=
Sparkle !!**



THE CLUB THEATRE

17 Oxford Road
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2ED

Phone: 0161 928 1113
E-mail: secretary@clubtheatre.org.uk
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
Treasurer	Roy Burman	0161 928 1477
Stage Director	Paul Affleck	07870 780910
Costumes	Lucy Wilson-Barnes	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

Quiz Answers



- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 15. Puffin | 8. Kingfisher |
| 16. Gannet | 9. Cuckoo |
| 17. Jay | 10. Nut hatch |
| 18. Red Shank | 11. Swallow |
| 19. Teal | 12. Yellow Hammer |
| 20. Wheatear | 13. Reed Warbler |
| | 14. Razorbill |

- | |
|----------------|
| 1. Skylark |
| 2. Starling |
| 3. Sparrow |
| 4. Wren |
| 5. Grouse |
| 6. Robin |
| 7. Nightingale |



The End Bit



Once more into the breach dear friends, once more. Let us raise our glasses high and drink towards a successful new season but once we have

drained them several times can we do the following? Well by all means try PLEASE do walk home afterwards!

Things that are difficult to say when you are drunk.
Innovative, Preliminary, Proliferation, Cinnamon

Things that are VERY Difficult to say when you are drunk.
Specificity, British Constitution, Passive-aggressive disorder, Transubstantiate

Things that are Downright IMPOSSIBLE to say when you are drunk.

- Thanks, but I don't want to sleep with you.
- No, no more booze for me.
- Sorry, but you're not really my type.
- No kebab for me, thank you.
- Good evening officer, isn't it lovely out tonight?
- I'm not interested in fighting you.
- Oh I couldn't—no one wants to hear me sing.
- No, I won't make any attempt to dance thanks, I have zero co-ordination.
- Where is the nearest toilet? I refuse to urinate over the nearest cash machine or shop front.

Personally I think I'll stick to a cup of tea!!!