



STAGE GOSSIP

February 2020

A belated happy new year to you all.

Our last play A Breath of Spring was well received with many people approaching me since the play saying how much they enjoyed it. The play selection committee work hard to find different and entertaining plays, and it is gratifying for them to hear that our audiences appreciate the result.

I have been working with Steve Smith on planning the dates for next season and we have finally got it completed. The big problem we have in planning the year is Easter, it's date moves every year so we have to plan around it. As well as our performance dates we have to plan in the set up times and also allow for other events in between. Looking at the completed chart shows just how often the theatre is open compared to when I first joined.

We have hosted the Manchester and Salford Film Society for many years now, recently we have started occasionally putting on our own films. Since then several other theatres have followed our lead and started to show occasional films.

300 Club Winners

We still have quite a few unclaimed 300 club prizes from last year, is yours one of them? We sent out a list of unclaimed prizes with the membership renewal notice. A further list is at the top of the stairs into the theatre you could be £100 richer by reading this.

The third draw was held. The winners were

£100	Lilian Syme	£50	Mrs J E Blinkhorn
£30	Rosemary Donaldson	£30	Mrs G E Tickle
£15	Stephen Moss	£15	Jean Ormerod
£15	Mrs B Cartledge	£15	Rosemary Donaldson
£15	Mr & Mrs Bannister	£15	Mr & Mrs O'Callaghan

Contact Information

Telephone no 0161 928 1113
Email alt.theatre@msn.com
Ticket Email ct.tickets@gmail.com

Address

Altrincham Little Theatre
Oxford Road
Altrincham
WA14 2ED

Paula Tilbrook

Sadly our president Paula Tilbrook died just before Christmas just short of her 90th birthday. Until the last couple of years she supported us regularly attending most of the plays and then meeting people in the bar after the show. When so many professional actors don't support the amateur theatre she always championed it. We will miss her and will struggle to find someone of the same calibre.

Dead Certain

Our next play is a psychological thriller called "Dead Certain". This is a demanding play for the actors and we are fortunate that we have two very experienced and skilled people playing the lead parts. They are onstage for nearly all of the time, with very little break.

Our stage team have been working hard on the set along with working in the cellar on the second dressing room makeover. The cast will have such luxurious surroundings they won't want to go home.

We are fortunate to have a pool of such excellent actors, directors and stage workers to call on for our productions.

Sainsburys

Occasionally we are informed by members of our audience that they have asked in Sainsburys about the car park and have been told they can only park for 2 hours. The manager has assured us that for our plays the ANPR camera that controls the car park entrance does not operate after 8.00pm. The only stipulations are that you don't park before 6.30pm and you don't leave your car overnight. We park there most rehearsal evenings and don't have any problems.

Please don't ask the staff in the store, they are only able to give the standard 2 hours response.

If this ever changes we will make sure that you are all informed.

End Seats and Sundays

If you want an end seat or tickets on Sunday (or both) please book as soon as you can, we like to ensure that you get the booking you desire, but the later the booking the less chance we have. Friday and Saturday are an exception and don't usually fill up too quickly.

To help you plan here is the order that the seat bookings fill up:

First—Sunday, Second—Thursday, Third—Tuesday and Wednesday, Fourth Friday and Saturday.

Wardrobe

Our wardrobe team, when not selecting costumes for our plays, is kept busy hiring out costumes to other societies. We are lucky to have such a large selection of costume in our wardrobe room, and doubly fortunate that we have a dedicated group of people who regularly work in the wardrobe providing costumes on demand.

The work is continuous, getting out costumes for our productions and to hire out and then examining them before putting them all back in their correct hanging space. We also get new costumes donated to us which have to be identified as to its period and found space on the rails.

Sometimes a special costume has to be sourced as was the case in "Say Who You Are" last year when a suit had to be cut up each night. They scoured the charity shops for mens suits that could be destroyed each night.

Using the Projector

For the first time we used the projector and screen, we had to show a small fill in film while the stage was being set between acts. The film was provided by Vicky Carlin a work colleague of one of the cast, Georgina Dalgeish. After the play the director admitted that he had sleepless nights worrying that the screen would not roll up again after the film and what could then be done to finish the play. As you saw there was no problem and the screen retracted effortlessly every night.

The equipment was tested every night before the show as part of the pre show check up of the sound and lighting equipment.

Watch out for the return of Pearl and Dean.

Telephone Booking

The telephone booking line is open and answered between 7.30 and 10.00 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. At other times the answerphone is on. We unfortunately miss some of the calls as they get lost in the morass of sales calls offering to provide our electricity / gas / telephone or whatever cheaper than we get it at the moment. We do listen to the calls.

The other problem is we have 4 different ways to book tickets so the order takers on the phone don't know what seats we have available. If you want a specific row tell them and we will try to get you as close as possible to your request. We will telephone you if we have a problem with your chosen date or cannot fit in your specific request.

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Manchester & Salford Film Society
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Dead Certain	16 Dead Certain	17 Dead Certain	18 Dead Certain	19 Dead Certain	20 Dead Certain	21 Dead Certain
22 Russian Film Club	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 S.A.M.T. Little Voice				

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 S.A.M.T. Little Voice	2 S.A.M.T. Little Voice	3 S.A.M.T. Little Voice	4 S.A.M.T. Little Voice
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Manchester & Salford Film Society
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Russian Film Club	27	28	29	30		