



Stage Gossip

April 2022

Next Production

It is already the last play of the season. We have been able to keep you entertained during the year with a varied programme of plays and events despite the difficulties surrounding Covid. So far this season we have had a policy of spacing the audience out by leaving an empty seat between groups, and we shall continue this for the last play of the season. Our house staff will continue to take all precautions during the night in accordance with the latest advice.

The final play is a thriller "Suddenly at Home" by Francis Durbridge. I am sure you will find it enthralling to follow the twists of this tale. We welcome Julie Broadbent as the director, Julie is no stranger to the theatre having acted in many plays and assisted backstage.

300 Club

The winners of the fourth draw are

£100	Mrs M Neale	£50	Ian Bowden
£30	Mr J Wooler	£30	Mr R M Smith
£15	Mrs Coughlan	£15	Mr M Heyhoe
£15	Mrs J Stenhouse	£15	Mrs J Blinkhorn
£15	Mr D W Copley	£15	Mr D R Jones

Please note that there are still many uncollected 300 club prizes from before June 2020. A full list of names is listed on the third page of the newsletter. Please check for your names as you might be missing out on up to £100 prize money per draw.

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

Tickets Missing?

I mentioned this in the last newsletter and I repeat this here, if your tickets have not arrived please contact us to make sure we have received your booking. We have detailed records of what seats you have so will be able to inform you of your seat numbers.

Stage Work

We have a small stage crew working on all the plays led by Alan Reidsma, we still need more as the set is being built by on average three persons per night, and for some nights just one. If we are to continue putting on productions with our traditionally high quality sets we do need more help, it isn't a male only domaine, there is work for everyone. Most of the work is easy with all tools and refreshments provided.

Next season we will have 5 more exciting plays with corresponding sets, I hope we can get a few more helpers.

Next Season

The play selection committee have been working hard on planning next seasons plays and they have a list of plays we want to produce. Before we can agree the final programme we need to make sure we have a director and the play is currently available to perform. After selecting a play we have to apply to the performing rights holder for permission to perform the play and pay the royalties, only then can we be confident we will be allowed to put the play on. We hope to have the details finalised shortly and we will let you know as soon as possible.

Emergency Lighting.

Following on from having to replace the heating boilers we have had to now refurbish the emergency lighting. At the regular 6 monthly inspection of our emergency lighting system we were advised that the main batteries were overdue for replacement. While the batteries still met the test requirements they were past the expected life of 10 years. The lights are powered by two 12 volt car type batteries, unlike car batteries they are different in the way they work, each battery costs just over £400 and with a new up to date controller they cost £950.

In addition to that we have been replacing each of the fluorescent tubes in the emergency lights with LED lighting (most of the lights in the theatre apart from the stage lights are LED) to save costs.

We have to keep all our equipment up to the current standard which does mean occasionally having to do major changes.

Audience Numbers

I was pleased to see an increase in audience numbers for the last play. All theatres are at present still reporting lower audience numbers than before the pandemic, that is to be expected, however the future of all live theatre depends on its audiences. Fortunately our income whilst lower than normal is still healthy. If you enjoyed our production please tell your friends.

300 Club Unclaimed Prizes

In addition to the winners from the last play the names below have prizes that have not been collected.

Mrs J Ankers	Mrs D Laver
Mr & Mrs Bannister	Mrs C Lucas
Mr P Brady	Mr E Mardale
Mrs S M Clark	Mrs S Percy
Mrs B Coombs	Mrs B Swettenham
Mr & Mrs J C Finlay	Mrs G Taylor
Mrs D A Greening	Mr & Mrs M G West
Mr & Mrs P F Jackson	Mrs Woodhead
Mr N Kelly	

The total of all these winnings amounts to over £1000. We don't usually post winnings after a couple got lost in the post.

Looking forward

Whilst "Suddenly at Home" is the last play of the season we still have the school shows and a full outside let.

Once the work for these shows is completed we start on the planning of the set designs for next season and work on repairs and improvements to the theatre. One example is the emergency stairs on the front of the building, the winter has made them very dirty and the edging paint needs to be redone.

Other items are new fire exit doors from the cellar and giving the theatre a deep clean.

Annual General Meeting

Please note that the theatre's Annual General Meeting is planned for Wednesday 13th July. The format will be the same as usual with the addition that we will be presenting two years of reports.

A provisional Agenda is on the next page.

ALTRINCHAM LITTLE THEATRE

72nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 13th July 2022 8:00pm

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 7^{2nd} Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2019
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report.
Copies of the Annual Accounts will be available at the meeting or may be obtained afterwards.
5. Chair of Play Selection's Report.
6. Stage Director's Report.
7. Presentation of the Avis Lux Award (Senior) and the Derek Newton Award (Junior).
8. A) Election of Chairman.

B) Election of Officers and Committee: - all nominations must be received in writing by the Secretary by 1st July 2022.
Vice-Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Chair of Play Selection Committee
Stage Director
4 Committee Members
9. Appointment of Trustee
10. Appointment of Auditors.
11. New Chairman's Remarks.
12. Subscription for 2022/2023.
13. Any Other Business.

Please join us in the bar after the meeting for light refreshments – tea/coffee and cake. The bar will be open before and after if you wish to purchase something stronger!