



New Mills & District
Amateur Operatic
&
Dramatic Society

**News and
Views**

March 2001

No. 45

EDITORIAL

Well, here we are, a little later than usual, but hopefully none the less welcome for that.

This edition, it has been decided to widen the circulation of the Newsletter to include all those who took part in the 'Friends' pantomime. It was thought that this might create a continuing interest in the society and the theatre for those who enjoyed being on stage in February, and also that hopefully 'Mums & Dads' would read it and realise that this could be a hobby for them too. Some of our most enthusiastic off stage workers are 'Mums & Dads' who became involved originally transporting children to rehearsals and ended by enjoying their own membership with us. Anyone interested should contact a member of the committee - listed elsewhere.

After 'Mack & Mabel' which proved not to be as popular as we had hoped, and the highly successful 'Mother Goose' we once again embark on another seasons productions, all detailed elsewhere in this publication. We have also, since the Quiz Nights have proved so popular, introduced a short Quiz. If you like it, let me know & hopefully make it a regular feature

CAROUSEL

Our autumn production this year is Rogers & Hammersteins 'CAROUSEL' running from 26th November until 1st December 2001.

The production team is once again led by Dianne Aspinall the

'GET-TOGETHER'
in the Art Theatre
on Wednesday 21st March at 8-00 p.m.

for those interested in either being in the show or helping in any other way, back stage or front of house. **Auditions will be held towards the end of April**, dates to be confirmed.

The rules of the Society state that for members to be eligible to take part, they must be 15 or over at the first performance. The rule does not of course apply to any children's characters in the show.

If you cannot attend on 21st March and would like further information please contact Alison Frater on 01663 746123.

CHAIRMANS REMARKS

A belated but sincere 'Happy New Year' to all members, friends and anyone who might read our 'News & Views'.

Once again we emerge from the busiest part of our season having consigned 'Mack & Mabel' to our past production list, assisted 'Friends of the Art Theatre' with their successful pantomime 'Mother Goose', and in between enjoyed Christmas I hope.

As usual, a mixture of pleasure and problems accompanied our efforts, but something has occurred which has me very puzzled. I received a letter from someone wishing to remain anonymous who said they had been a supporter for many years. They had not enjoyed this years production, nor particularly last years but did not feel able to make themselves known for fear of making enemies within the Society membership. I cannot think anyone has been mugged because they didn't like our show! Insults we would object to, but I hope we can accept criticism with grace and be given the opportunity to answer those criticisms. We know we can't please all the people all of the time and I have yet to be involved in a show that everyone has enjoyed.

What I would say in direct response to our anonymous supporter is that we are, perhaps, the victims of our own success. It is a fact that ours is a pastime that gets harder to sustain every year. We are limited by the type of show people will pay to see, the type of show people want to take part in, the shortage of talented people, particularly male, who want to take part, and the continuing rising costs. What appears on the stage is the result of dedicated effort by cast and support teams whose only desire and reward is a successful production. We can't always reach the high pinnacle, but you can be assured that we give 110% effort striving to get there.

We soon begin preparations for our 2001 Production, the Rogers and Hammerstein favourite 'Carousel', and for this show we welcome two new members to our production team. Joining Dianne Aspinall our Director, are David Chapman as Musical Director and Kimberley Green as Choreographer. I am sure they will get a friendly and welcoming reception from our Company and enjoy a successful production.

On with the Show.

Colin Brown

FRIENDS OF THE ART THEATRE

Once again we had another tremendous success with our 2001 pantomime Mother Goose. We were pleased to welcome to the Society several new members who contributed both on stage and behind the scenes to the success of the show.

As usual we are already planning next years Pantomime and hope to be able to let you know our decision in the next News & Views.

In the meantime we are planning a new venture - a play entitled

‘THE WIND IN THE SASSAFRAS TREE’

to be staged in May.

Barry Aspinall will be directing and I am assured by him, and by those who attended a read through recently, that it is hilarious. It is many years since the Society had an active Dramatic section - maybe the *Sassafras Tree* will be the start of a new branch of our organisation.

Moira Whiteford

ANNUAL DINNER 2000

Our annual dinner was held on October 4th 2000 at the Copperfield Restaurant Disley. This year we were short on numbers as many people found Wednesday a difficult day. Perhaps next year we need a re-think. It was nevertheless a very enjoyable event - the food was as good as ever as was the company.

It is becoming a tradition to present **NODA Medals** for service to Amateur Theatre at our dinner, and this year five members received the following awards

Eileen Brown:- 45 yr. bar.

Ex dancer and current member of the Friends Committee

Judy Foley:- 30 yr. bar.

Leader of Top of the Mops, Make up lady & Social Events Organiser

Wilfrid Gould:- 30 yr. bar.

Stalwart Committee Member & Ex Secretary

Betty Gould:- 30 yr. bar

Indefatigable pianist

Derek Brown:- 25 yr. medal.

Ex Stage Staff & Front of House Duties

We extend our thanks to Judy and the Social Committee for organising this event

Gil Crosland

S.S.U.

ANNUAL DINNER FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2001

Unfortunately it has become too expensive to hold our Annual Dinner at the Copperfield so Judy and I have been looking around and have come up with a venue which we think you will like. This year we will be holding the event at **Disley Golf Club**, a place which has many advantages. We will have the use of a large room half of which is the restaurant and the other half a comfortable lounge with bar, we will be the only people there and there is ample parking space just outside! There will be good menu with plenty of choice and the **price will be under £15-00.**

Judy will be organising the event as usual and will be asking for bookings in the next 'News & Views' which will be the AGM notice. All we want you to do now is to make a note of the date.

'MISS SAIGON' THE PALACE, M/C WED. 20TH MARCH 2002.

I have reserved 70 seats for this show and 64 are spoken for - which means

I still have 6 seats available
If you are interested please ring me urgently on 742364_

as I will have to confirm the final number with the Theatre soon.

The tickets with discount cost £27. They are the middle range in the Grand Circle - full price £31. I will make arrangements for coaches nearer the time.

Joan P. Mays

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Due to increased commitments, Mr Brian Marney has decided to relinquish the position of Front of House Manager, although he will still give assistance when available. Brian has held this position for three years for all theatre events and has been a valuable asset to our team.

We extend our sincere thanks to him for his commitment to our Front of House team and look forward to his continued contribution.

The job of House Manager has now been taken over as a joint position by Mr Jim Laurie and Mr Derek Brown whom we thank for accepting the position.

THEATRE SWEATSHIRTS

I will be ordering sweatshirts to be delivered September, October this year.

If you wish to order please let me know in good time.

The sizes Medium, Large or Extra Large. The price is still the same **£16.00**.

Cheques made payable to **NMAODS** when you receive the sweatshirt

TO ORDER GIVE ME A RING ON 01663 732183.

Judy Foley

QUIZ TIME

FIND WHICH SHOWS THESE PEOPLE COME FROM

1. LORA CUSE = CAROUSEL (EXAMPLE)
2. TENA ONTONEN
3. MOIRA REES
4. ANDIE KNIGHT
5. CHRIS ONUALE
6. ARCHIE THESTY
7. DEBBIE STRELSH
8. MARIS LE BLESSE
9. LYDIA FRAYM
10. NAT HOYLE
11. DAN GURIBO
12. REGINALD REMEN
13. WAT. HOBSON
14. GAVIN DABGNOK
15. DARCY NIGHTEASEN
16. ALMA DEL CAMM
17. SALLY SONGUDD
18. JAMEY MAGPHATE
19. KENNEY ADAMS
20. ROSIE LEGNTHOD

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 24th March

Kinder Childrens Choir

Thursday - Saturday 10th 11th 12th May

The Wind in the Sassafras Tree

Thursday - Saturday 4th 5th 6th October

Annie

Friday 12th October

Annual Dinner at Disley Golf Club

Monday - Saturday 26th November - 1st December

Carousel

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT MARY CRABTREE

CHAIRMAN COLIN BROWN

SECRETARY BEVERLEY CRITCHLOW TEL 01663 766771

TREASURER JEAN CORDIN

MEMBERS

DAVID HOWE (VICE CHAIRMAN)

TERRY BARBER (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY)

BRIAN BEDDOWS

JUDY FOLEY

JOHN FOLEY

WILFRED GOULD

RICHARD HOLE

PAUL HOLT

NICK HOWE

OBITUARIES

MR RON HILL

We were saddened to learn, on November 10th 2000 of the death of Mr Ron Hill at the age of 84. A lifelong supporter of the Society, Ron joined in 1930 and remained a playing member until 1939. After the war he joined a dedicated band of workers who restored the Art Theatre stage to working order. He then became Stage Electrician until he gave up active work. He with his late wife Dylis remained a constant supporter of the society until 1999. Ron gave a great deal of his time and energy for the benefit of New Mills A.O.D.S. for which we will always remain grateful.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his Glynn who keeps on the family tradition as an active Society Member.

MRS LIL COLLINS

It is with regret we report the death of Mrs Lily Collins. `Lil` was the landlady of `The Rock Tavern` for many years in the days before the Theatre had its own bar. She always made the members very welcome either to relax after rehearsals or to take over her own living room to hold meetings. Always generous and with a wonderful sense of humour she proved a real friend to the Society. Our sympathy goes to her family