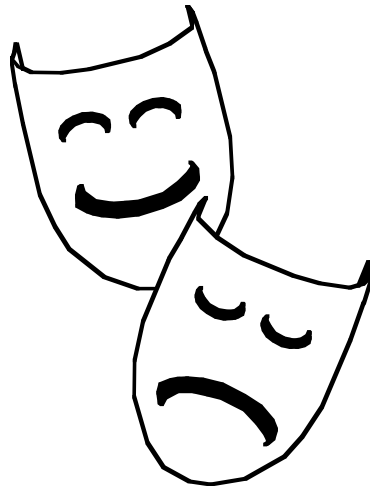


*New Mills & District*  
*Amateur Operatic*  
*&*  
*Dramatic Society*



News and Views

February 2007

No. 56

# CHAIRMANS WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of News & Views in 2007 and we send best wishes to all readers for the rest of the year.

Looking back to 2006 the society presented a much acclaimed production of Guys & Dolls and we have started the New Year yet again with the F.O.A.T. pantomime Cinderella, a first class production enjoyed by extremely good audiences. Everyone involved in both productions is to be congratulated for their efforts and the standard that they achieved.

2006 was the first year the Theatre has operated as a charitable trust, relying on its own income from hire. The results have been satisfactory but to maintain momentum it is necessary to attract as many hire bookings as possible, highlighting the need for volunteers who are prepared to give some time to support the theatre by manning the front of house and technical assistance required when the theatre is in use. The more volunteers we can get the more bookings we can accept without overwhelming any particular group of peoples time.

In an effort to solve this particular problem it is intended that efforts will be made to publicise the need for these helpers and hopefully create a volunteer membership whose interests are the theatres continued success in the community. Anyone interested should contact David Howe 01663 742961.

Looking Forward we are preparing to start the new campaign towards the 2007 production of 'Anything Goe`s, details of the first get together in this issue.

I am sure we shall attract a first class cast for this production but it is worth remembering that these productions do not just happen, a good deal of work goes on behind the scenes to ensure success and at present there is a lack of support for the production committee. The present ageing, somewhat depleted, group are anxious to find new members to bring the committee up to strength. Not a lot of time is involved, some experience of show production is desirable and not wanting to take part in the production is preferable, but not necessarily a precondition. Are there any volunteers?

For the immediate future we welcome to the theatre the coming production of 'Dancing Star' on March 1.2.3 by the newly formed Children's Musical Theatre Group, a project developed by the ambition of fifteen year old schoolgirl Jade Chamberlain to be a stage director. Jade has written the show, found the cast, directed the production and achieved a lot of publicity. So if enthusiasm and effort are a sign of things to come we are in for a good show and if Jade's ambition to continue with young peoples theatre group succeeds it can only be a benefit to the theatre and society and deserves our utmost support.

To end may I promote my own favourite, details elsewhere in this issue, we are again privileged to welcome the R.N.C.M. Jazz Collective Big Band and if you are a Big Band fan this is a concert not to be missed, see you on the night.

Colin Brown

# Art Theatre Membership Records

The New Mills and District Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society to give it its full official title but often referred to as NMAODS has been existed for many years and it has been my pleasant duty to keep the Societies Membership Records since the late 1960's

The records in those days were kept manually but over the years I have been able to computerise the membership records until now we can at the virtual push of a button interrogate a data base to find those details for such things as NODA qualifying dates for the various awards that NODA offer. Produce the address labels for all mailing shots and for those who overlook their Annual Subscription produce the reminder letter for inclusion in a mailing shot.

If you are one of those who regularly keep up to date with your membership then there will not be one of these gentle reminders in this mailing shot

If however you are unfortunate enough to have a letter please can you let me have a cheque by return to help Darren to be able to close the financial year at the end of March with accurate accounts.

## **HERES A CHALLENGE FOR US ALL**

As the membership levels have slowly been dropping over the last few years the challenge is to persuade a friend, colleague, neighbour who would become a regular member of the society

Maybe at the same time of asking them to join up see if they will become one of the volunteers that Colin is seeking to join the Front of House Teams or, if you know they have a speciality, would they be interested in joining one of the Technical Teams (Stage, Sound, Electrical, Lighting) or even volunteer to help Colin to put together the detail that will be required to fulfil the challenge of the redevelopment of the front of the Theatre

If not then their support as a member would help to ease the financial cost of keeping our little gem - The Art Theatre - in a viable state

A reminder to help you in the quest for new members:

**Annual Membership for the NMAODS is only**

£10-00 to become a Member

£12-50 to become a Patron

£20-00 to become a Vice President

and only £1-00 if you are under 16 years of age

If you or your new member would like to pay by Standing Order form they are available on the Art Theatre Web Site – see bottom of page or via a phone call to Terry Barber 01663 743826

Details required about your new member for the NMAODS data base are:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms or other

First Name

Initials

Surname

Address

Post Code

Telephone Number

*Finally don't forget to collect their MONEY (Preferably a cheque) and send it to me post haste!*

Thank you

Terry Barber Hon. Membership Secretary

3 Pingot Road New Mills High Peak SK22 4JH

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - [www.arttheatre.co.uk](http://www.arttheatre.co.uk)

**ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE of MUSIC**  
**JAZZ COLLECTIVE**

**BIG BAND**

**Director MIKE HALL**

**Art Theatre**  
**Friday March 30<sup>th</sup>. 7.30 pm**

**Tickets available from 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Adults £7.50**  
**Concessions O.A.P. & 16 & under £6.00**

**Telephone 01663 742364**

**or from The Derbyshire Building Society.**  
**Union Road, New Mills.**

Following their successful appearance at the theatre in 2006 we are once again privileged to present the R.N.C.M. Jazz Collective Big Band in concert.

The band is one of two full sized jazz orchestras, which together with classes in jazz improvisation, specialist instrumental tuition and various jazz related subjects are open to all college students, who give their free time to take part.

Regular concerts in Manchester and the North at prominent venues including the Bridgewater Hall and South at the Royal Festival Hall have earned the R.M.C.M. Big Band a strong regional and national reputation.

The band aims to present a programme which reflects the full range of musical styles written for the big band format from early swing music through to contemporary writing.

**MIKE HALL** is a jazz saxophonist and educator. Mike heads jazz studies at R.N.C.M where he is tutor in saxophone, jazz improvisations, theory and director of the Big Band and Jazz Collective.

In his own right Mike maintains a busy performance schedule. As a world class saxophonist he heads his own quartet at a wide variety of jazz venues. His solo performances have taken him to venues worldwide and his regular freelancing includes appearances with many prominent musical organisations including Royal London Philharmonic Orchestra and The Halle Orchestra. Mike Hall's skill and dedication are very much reflected in the R.N.C.M. Big Band performance.

**A CONCERT NOT TO BE MISSED.**

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - [www.arttheatre.co.uk](http://www.arttheatre.co.uk)

# ANYTHING GOES

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Music & Lyrics by Cole Porter

Anything Goes (Beaumont Edition) will be our 2007 show, to be presented at the Art Theatre, 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

Director: Dianne Aspinall

Musical Director: David Chapman

Choreographer: To Be Announced

Vocal Director: Sheena McInnes

Accompanist: Tim Walker

The story concerns the shenanigans below decks on a cruise ship bound for London from New York.

On board an evangelizing nightclub singer, Reno Sweeney: a love-struck stowaway, Billy Crocker: a second-rate gangster on the run, Moonface Martin and his girlfriend Erma.

There are lots of wonderful songs, including, " You`re the Top", "I get a kick out of you", "Anything Goes" and "It`s De-Loverly.

We invite all of you who are interested in being in the show to come to the

**Get-Together on 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Theatre at 8-00 pm.**

Audition Dates and Pieces will be given out on that evening and Dianne will give a synopsis of the story and the characters.

We look forward to seeing you on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Jenny Wood

Production Coordinator.

## Monday Night at the ART

The Monday Nighters have made a major contribution to the upkeep of the ART Theatre for many years

This small group of volunteer members and friends meet in the ART Theatre from 8pm to 10pm to ensure the theatre's well being

Over the years they have voluntarily completed many tasks

Major events such as the enlargement of the Theatre Bar area and the moving of the entrance from the bar into the circle auditorium to minor challenges of cleaning the back stage and dressing room areas

The last 12 months have seen the Monday Nighters undertake

- Repairs to some of the seating in the auditorium

- Decorating the back stage area

- Modification to the orchestra rail to allow the Musical Director direct access

- New Curtain rails over the Emergency Exits

- Preparation for the new concrete floor in the boiler room annex

- Preparation of the stage for each hiring of the Theatre

- And the dreaded installation and dismantling of the cat walk and stage thrust infill.

After the main show Guys and Dolls the Monday Nighters were straight into building the set pieces for the Pantomime Cinderella a task undertaken and completed within 6 weeks and this year we managed to take a full week off for Christmas

What's happening in the next 12 months?

- Projects in the pipeline include maintenance to the revolving stage

- Further work in the Boiler Room Annex

- Decoration repairs in the orchestra pit

- Redecoration in the auditorium circle to flaking paintwork

- Preparation of the stage for incoming events

- And tackling those little emergencies that are forever raising their head

The team is always on the lookout for help

We meet mostly on a Monday night, hence the name Monday Nighters, but sometimes another evening/weekend might be needed

If you can spare a couple of hours anytime, regular or otherwise, please either come down to the Theatre on any Monday evening or give Terry Barber either a call or text on 07801 825 726

## News from Friends of the Art Theatre.

**February 2007.** We always hoped that the choice of Cinderella for our 2007 Pantomime would be a popular one but we were overwhelmed by the response we received from our audiences. The transformation scene when Cinderella goes to the Ball was magical and it was enhanced by the use of the revolving stage - you could be forgiven for thinking you were in a far off wonderland. I know there were many children in the audiences who were talking about it for days and who will remember it for a very long time to come.

There was an increase on ticket sales from last year with both matinees being virtual sell-outs. The Friends Committee has already started on next year's production. We hope to stage 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' At the moment we are perusing various scripts and when one has been chosen the production team will get together to discuss the script, what the director is looking for in the characters, music ideas, dance routines etc. etc. Terry is already looking into the possibilities available with regard to cloths; beanstalks etc and the wardrobe department are looking at Giant costumes. The Pantomime may be a traditional January/February event for the audiences but believe me it's a year round event for the Committee!!



Items for the Newsletter

Queries

**Stories**

News of - Hatched Matched Despatched

**Letters**

**QUIZES ETC.**

**Anything of interest to fellow members.**

Contact the Editor Louise Hallam Tel No. 01663 742818.

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - [www.arttheatre.co.uk](http://www.arttheatre.co.uk)

## **National Operatic and Dramatic Association - N.O.D.A.**

Each year we are proud to have 'N.O.D.A.' medals awarded to some of our members and we are often asked what or who is N.O.D.A.

We therefore, with the organisations blessing, reproduce an item from a recent N.O.D.A. magazine which gives some idea of the purpose of the Association.

### **NODA**

**The National Operatic and Dramatic Association.**

**Patron The Lord Lloyd –Webber**

#### **What is NODA?**

The National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) was founded in 1899 “to protect and advance the interests of Operatic and Dramatic art and of Societies engaged therein”. It has a membership of some 2,300 amateur societies and 2,500 individual enthusiasts throughout the UK, staging musicals, opera, plays, concerts and pantomimes in a wide variety of performing venues, ranging from the country’s leading professional theatres to tiny village halls.

NODA is a registered charity with The Lord Lloyd-Webber as its patron and is divided into eleven areas, each headed by an Area Councillor who sits on the National Council (the ruling body of the association), supported by a network of Regional Representatives. These volunteers are the vital link to the grass roots of the Association, the amateur theatre companies. The association is administered from a headquarters in Peterborough, with a knowledgeable and friendly staff able to deal with virtually any enquiry relating to amateur theatre. Members have access to a wide range of benefits and advice, which includes show and play information, insurance, training courses, legal advice etc.

There is a broad spectrum of ages involved with amateur theatre nationwide, from a burgeoning number of youth groups to adult companies which meet the needs of all levels of both performers, whether dramatic or musical, and enthusiasts involved backstage, front of house or in administration.

#### **NODA aims:**

To give a shared voice to the amateur sector.

To help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance.

To provide leadership and advice to enable the amateur sector to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

NODA Headquarters, NODA House, 58-60 Lincoln Road, Peterborough. PE1 2RZ.  
Tel: 0870 770 2490 E-mail: [everyone@noda.org.uk](mailto:everyone@noda.org.uk) Website: [www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk)

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - [www.arttheatre.co.uk](http://www.arttheatre.co.uk)

## S.S.U.

Having survived the hectic winter season of show and pantomime we are beginning to think of the future. No firm plans have been made as yet but we are hoping to hold the Annual Dinner again this autumn. We were pleased with the turn-out last October and people seemed to enjoy the relaxed evening. We always seem to get good food at the Disley Golf Club even though there invariably seems to be a change of chef between booking the event in March and the dinner in October! However it never seems to affect the meal so Judy and I will be making preliminary enquiries in the near future and will keep you informed.

Nothing else in the pipe-line at present.

Joan P. Mays

## ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held on October 6<sup>th</sup> 2006 again at Disley Golf Club where a very pleasant evening was spent. Once again we had a first class meal and an opportunity to renew friendships and indulge in reminiscences.

During the evening the NODA medal presentations were made :-

for 45 years service to Terry Barber by the Society Chairman Colin Brown

for 50 years service to Colin Brown by John Foley.

This was the NODA 50 Year Bar and John gave a brief resume of Colin's involvement in the Society over the last 50 years. All were agreed that but for Colin's enthusiasm and drive the Society and the Theatre would not be the success it had become, and it was unlikely we would have been enjoying this evening.

Once again thanks are due to Joan and Judy for arranging such a pleasant evening.

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Kim Riley and Darren Cooper** who celebrated their engagement on New Years Eve and who's wedding is planned for June 28<sup>th</sup> 2008 at St. Georges Church. New Mills

**Lucy Howe** who has announced her engagement to Robert Flinter and who's wedding will be celebrated at The Leewood Hotel, Buxton on September 1<sup>st</sup>. 2007

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - [www.arttheatre.co.uk](http://www.arttheatre.co.uk)

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Anne Bestwick (Ball)**

We learned with regret in September of the death of Anne Bestwick. Anne was choreographer to our Society in the 1960's when we were presenting two musicals a year and in all she was choreographer for 11 shows. Energetic and cheerful she will be remembered for her habit of calling everyone 'chuck'. We extend our condolences to her family.

### **Harry Handford**

His many friends in the Society were shocked to hear, in July, of the sudden death of Harry Handford. For many years he was a very active member, involved in both productions and general society activities, especially during the takeover and renovation of the theatre in 1959. Lately Harry's special efforts were his quiz nights, well organised, always successful and wall to wall laughter. We have many happy memories of his company and our sincere sympathy is extended to Pat and the family.

### **Margaret Mottershead**

It was with sadness we learned of the death in February of Margaret Mottershead. Margaret was for many years in the 50's & 60's the Societies Accompanist. Quiet and gentle she was a real trouper and served the society very well. We offer our sympathy to her family.

During the year we have also received the sad news of the deaths of the following past members of the society.

May we again extend our condolences to all of their families

Mr Phillip Ramwell    March 2006  
Mr Rex Pocklington    May 2006  
Mr Chris Owen.        August 2006

## Coming into the Art Theatre

### Dancing Star

A new Musical about celebrity life featuring High Peak Children

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2007 at 7-30pm

Tickets £5-00 Adult £3-50 Children

Phone 01663 746623 or from The Derbyshire Building Society

### The Kinder Children's Choirs in concert with local schools

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm

Tickets Adult £6-00 Concessions £5-00 Children (under 18) £3-00

Tel Jean Forrest 01663 7463041 or from Nevett & Taylor 7 Union Rd New Mills

### NMAODS Autumn Show *Anything Goes*'

**Get Together 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Theatre at 8-00 pm.**

Further details from Jenny Wood 01663 742351

### Royal Northern College Of Music

Jazz Collective **Big Band**

Friday 30th March 2007 at 7-30pm

Tickets £7-50 Concessions OPA & 16 & Under £6-00

Phone 01663 742364 or from The Derbyshire Building Society

### *New Mills Dance and Theatre Centre*

*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at 7-30pm*

*Phone 01663 744609*

### **A Tribute to Elvis on Tour '08**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 7-30pm

Tickets

Phone 01663 742364 or from The Derbyshire Building Society or from the Hare and Hounds  
Lowleighton

### NMAODS presents **ANYTHING GOES**

Monday 14th November to Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at 7-15pm (2-15 Saturday Matinee)

Tickets

Phone 01663 742364 or from The Derbyshire Building Society