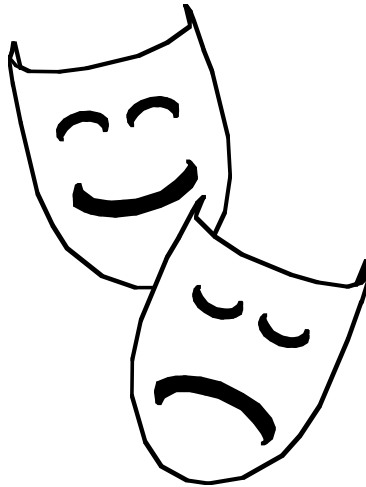


New Mills & District
Amateur Operatic
&
Dramatic Society



News and Views

July 2007

No. 57

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Time passes very quickly and we no sooner have finished one show than we seem to be starting the next, which for 2007 is 'Anything Goes'.

Starting a new production is always a busy time, the preparations for the Get Together and auditions require a good deal of effort, which had for several years been so well organised and administered by Jenny Wood. This year they were disrupted and overshadowed as was the whole society by the sad and premature death of Jenny in April. Thankfully a difficult situation was saved by Moira Whiteford who kindly volunteered to take over Jenny's role to complete the work required.

Unfortunately after all the effort and postage to ensure that all the applicants knew when their audition time would be, the day was completely disrupted by the absence of people who for whatever reason had decided not to attend.

We did however, with a second audition date, successfully cast the show except for the part of Billy Crocker and felt that things were going well when at Easter we received the shock news that our highly talented and popular Director, Dianne Aspinall, had had a heart attack and would have to withdraw from the production..

Dianne's husband, Barry, agreed to take over as Director with Dianne hopefully recovered enough to assist. However although we are delighted to report that Dianne is improving steadily, it is a slow recovery, and Barry, realising that he would not be able to give the time and commitment he would want to directing the show has had to reluctantly withdraw.

This left the Production Committee with yet another dilemma, but we are pleased to announce that Mike Mills, who played Sky Masterson so successfully in our last production 'Guys and Dolls', has agreed to join our production team as Director of 'Anything Goes'.

Also joining the team is a new choreographer, Dawn Wilde, to complete the production team as follows:-

Director	Mike Mills
M. D.	David Chapman
Choreographer	Dawn Wilde
Vocal Coach	Sheena Mc Innes
Accompanist	Tim Walker

We welcome the newcomers to our team and look forward to another successful production.

Having retained our present membership subscription level for Vice Presidents £20.00 Patrons £12.50 Members £10.00, for several years, and with operating costs ever increasing, we have decided to ask the membership to accept an increase of £5.00 to all levels now £25.00 £17.50 and £15.00 from the 1st April 2008
We trust every one will understand and continue to give the society their support.

In conclusion. A brief promotion for our annual dinner, so well organised by Joan Mays and Judy Foley. It has become an established event on the society calendar and I recommend and encourage everyone to make the effort to be there, it is of course also our annual N.O.D.A. medal presentation night.

For the last two years we have dispensed with the disco, hence lip reading skills are not required so with some very pleasant background music the evening is a great chance for reunion with old friends and perhaps meeting new ones, try it.

NEWS FROM FRIENDS

It may only have been June but Friends Committee members were already well under way for the 2008 Pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk. Press releases went out to all schools in the area plus local libraries, dancing schools and those who were in ‘Cinderella’.

We have already had our Get-Together and the Principal Auditions. There was a tremendous response for principal parts. We auditioned approximately 80 people for 14 parts! A mammoth task when you consider the wealth of local talent we have.

Things aren’t looking any easier for the dance and chorus auditions in October. To date we have 26 Chorus and 36 Dancers! It will be a long day but I am confident it will be a successful one and we will have another strong cast for our 2008 production.

ANYTHING GOES

ART THEATRE

19th – 24th Nov 2007

The casting of `Anything Goes` proved to be more difficult than we anticipated and we were disappointed that so many who had asked to audition didn't turn up. However, with the exception of the part of Billy Crocker, we were able to come up with a high quality cast and were sure we have the makings of a high quality show

Reno	Janice Jackson
Billy Crocker	To Be Announced
Hope Harcourt	Emma Tovey
Lord Evelyn	Robbie Carnegie
Purser	Sean Stennings
Erma	Kim Riley
Moonface	Brian Ganderton
Evangeline	Judy Hough
Eilisha Whitney	Bob Colligan
Captain	John O'Brien

Billy Crocker is basically a youngish song and dance man. If any member has anyone in mind who would match this description and who might be interested in auditioning for the part please contact Beverley Eaves on 01663 766771.

S.S.U.

PLEASE NOTE – The date of the Annual Dinner at Disley Golf Club has been changed. This will now be held on **Friday 5th October** – not the 12th, as I told you at the **A.G.M.**

We do hope you will come. It is cheaper this year as we are not having a disco and Judy and I are rather pleased with the menu we have selected. Menu and booking form enclosed.

Has anyone heard of any good shows coming soon?

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - www.arttheatre.co.uk

ADELAIDE`S ACCOLADE

As we are about to embark on the `S.S.American` for this years production of *'Anything Goes'*, we should cast our mind back to last years show, *Guys and Dolls*, and a new member Wendy Jack who played Miss Adelaide.

It should also be noted that last year, the Society teamed up with Greater Manchester Drama Federation (GMDF) and invited Martin Roche, adjudicator for GMDF, to visit New Mills Art Theatre and provide assessment for *Guys and Dolls*.

Six pages later, it was clear Mr Roche enjoyed the show, and Wendy's performance! `She gave us a high-octane, hormone overdose Adelaide that wrung every drop out of the character and a bit more besides. I liked the way she achieved that insincere sincerity that never allows you to dislike her in -your-face personality.`

So, it was no surprise to be told in May, that she was nominated for Best Supporting Actress as Miss Adelaide and that the results would be presented during the GMDF Annual Dinner and `Oscar-Style` Award ceremony, Saturday June 23rd.

As the evening unravelled, the award for Best Supporting Actress went to:

**VIKKI WARD for WICKED WITCH in
THE WIZARD OF OZ - MOSSLEY AODS.**

An enjoyable evening was had by all and the full results can be found by going to their website www.gmdf.org - section: `Festivals 2007`.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

A very belated `thank you` to Jean Cordin for supplying and dressing our entry for the Festival at St. Georges Church, New Mills last Christmas. This has become something of a tradition, and if any member would like to have a go next Christmas Jean will be very happy to assist in any way. The competition is very fierce and a lively imagination would be a great help.

Keep in touch visit the Theatre Web Site - www.arttheatre.co.uk

OBITUARIES

Jenny Wood

`JENNY`

After an illness borne with dignity and courage Jenny died on the 11th April leaving society members and friends with a deep feeling of sadness and loss.

The service of thanksgiving to celebrate her life was a tribute to Jenny with people expressing their love by their participation in the hymns and readings.

So many people commented on the volume and quality of the voices including the moving `Lullaby of Broadway` sung by Debbie Owen in memory of the Theatre.

Jenny's first show was as a dancer in Oklahoma in 1957 – almost 50 years ago. Following her debut she performed in a further 21 shows in a variety of dancing, speaking and singing roles.

Her interest in the various aspects of the theatre led her to hold various offices for shows and pantomimes. She was an excellent Production Co-ordinator for NMAODS and a meticulous Treasurer for `Friends of the Art Theatre`

Our memories of Jenny, her caring nature, her commitment to the theatre, her sense of fun and the pleasure she gave to us all will be remembered for many years to come.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Charles, Suzanne and Andrew at this very sad time and thank them for the opportunity they gave us to celebrate her life.

Friends of the Art Theatre

Bill Woodward

Bill was a very valued member of the Stage Crew in the 1980's and we were very sorry to hear of his death last March

Our sympathy goes to his wife and family.

Eileen Brown

It was with regret that we learned in January of the death of Eileen Brown wife of our Front of House Manager, Derek Brown.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Derek and the Family.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Elvis on Tour '07

Sat 15th Sept at 7-30pm
A tribute to the King of Rock and Roll
By James Ruffell ,The Drunkenaires and The Maybellenes
Tickets 01663 743646 01663 742364
& The Derbyshire Building Society, Union Rd, New Mills

Poynton Youth Brass Band

in concert with The Fairy Brass Band

Sat 23rd Sept at 7-30pm
Tickets 07926 385451 (7pm – 10pm)

Festival Finale

Sun 30th Sept at 7-30pm
Concluding New Mills Festival '07
The High Peak Orchestra in concert with guest soloists
Tickets 01663 742364 & The Derbyshire Building Society, Union Rd, New Mills

'That's Life' Charity Concert

Sat 13th Oct at 7-30pm
By Andrew Dent and guests
Tickets 01663 744609
In aid of Blythe House & The Art Theatre

Anything Goes

New Mills OADS Autumn Show
Monday 19th Nov to Sat 24th Nov
At 7-15pm (Matinee Sat at 2-15pm)
Tickets 01663 742364 & The Derbyshire Building Society, Union Rd, New Mills

Poynton Youth Brass Band Christmas Concert

Sat 8th Dec at 7-30pm
Tickets 01663 762935 or 07840 983 303

Jack & The Beanstalk

Friends of the Art Theatre Pantomime

Fri 25th & Sat 26th Jan 2008
Thu 31st Jan Fri 1st Feb Sat 2nd Feb 2008
Nightly @ 7-15pm Matinee Sat @ 2-15pm
Tickets 01663 742364 & The Derbyshire Building Society, Union Rd, New Mills