



1906 – 2006

Carver Theatre Newsletter

March 2015

Welcome to the latest newsletter. Apologies to all those of you that were holding your breath waiting for it last weekend – inhale now please! I'm resisting the temptation to call this edition an election special, and you'll see why as you read through!

Many thanks to all the contributors for the articles, it really wouldn't amount to much of a newsletter without you! Thanks too to the unwitting contributors, i.e. the emailers and Facebookers whose words I have stolen and added to the newsletter for everyone to enjoy.

New Members (February)

We are delighted to welcome three new members this month: Jess Bray, Cheryl Satterthwaite and Alan Yarwood. Many of you will, no doubt, remember Jess whom we are delighted to see back in the fold. She is interested in every aspect of the theatre. Cheryl will be a great asset to the theatre as she has previous experience in Front of House and stage manager work for festivals and small theatres. Her main interests are stage (set building and painting), lighting, sound, props, prompting, publicity, social events, FOH, Bar and ticketing. Alan's areas of interest are yet to be advised.

New Members (March)

Lucy Hanson whom you have already seen on stage this year and who will be treading the boards again in Move Over Mrs Markham; Gerald Fletcher who wishes to get involved back stage with set building; Jim Capewell who was Head of Drama at Marple Ridge for 30 years through all its changes from High School to College and whose interests are directing, lighting and sound design; and Tony Wright who also has a wealth of experience with many amateur theatres (currently with Saddleworth Players) and whose interests are acting, set building and painting, lighting, sound, publicity and programme design and editing.

Pamela Mainprize, Registrar

Front of House Stewards

We are trying a new system for seeking volunteers for Front of House stewards for the next play, 'Move over Mrs. Markham'. This will be an online booking arrangement as is used for seeking bar staff. An email will be sent out shortly to all members asking those interested to book for specific slots by following the link given. A booking will result in an email being sent to both the volunteer and to me, so that we both have a record of the booking.

There will be two slots available for each performance, but if any new or inexperienced volunteers wish to shadow an experienced member on any night they are asked to contact me direct. If this works well it will be used for all four productions next season.

A training session for new Front of House stewards has been arranged for Wednesday 22nd April at the theatre, starting at 8.00 pm. We do need more members willing to fulfil this vital role, so if you are interested please come along.

Nick Bradley, House Secretary

Updates from the Exec Alcohol and under 18s

When I was working on the bar during the last show I realised how difficult it is to tell the age of some of our older teenage members. As a mum of teenagers myself (one over 18 and one just under) I have a very reasonable attitude to alcohol at home as in my view this is likely to promote sensible drinking. **HOWEVER** if I were found to be selling alcohol to someone under 18 in a licensed premises (ie. the carver bar) then the result could be:

£25000 fine for the theatre

Loss of license

£3000 for me (and as it is a criminal offence I would be automatically reported to the GMC and possibly suspended from my job)

Potential 6 months in prison for the license holder.

This is a huge responsibility for our generous bar volunteers.

We have now put up the 'You may be asked for ID' signs and will be encouraging bar volunteers to request ID. However if you are under 18, or the parent of an under-18 then please don't put out theatre/licence holder or bar volunteers at risk by buying alcohol.

Carver Charitable Donations

As you all know the charity we are supporting this year is Alzheimer's UK. I will be contacting them shortly to find out how they hope to spend the money. The exec would ideally like it to be spent supporting the local Alzheimer's group. In this vein, the exec has decided to make a slight change to how we make our annual charity donations. We would like to avoid big national charities in the future and instead give a larger number of smaller donations (£100 each) to 5-6 local groups where the money may make a bigger difference.

I will very soon be emailing out a brief 'Survey monkey', asking for suggestions from our members of local groups that you care about. We do have a small number of members who don't use email and so the reason this is in the newsletter (because you all get this!) is so that you can all have the opportunity to contribute ideas. So, if you don't use email and have a suggestion for a local group to receive a donation, then please ring me on 07813 092893.

Joanna

Survey Monkey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8R7THL3>

Results of Participation Survey

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Carver Participation survey. There were 56 responses with many people taking time to think of suggestions and ideas, which is brilliant. We will be considering all the suggestions. The full survey results follow (see attached document).

Joanna Bircher, Publicity Secretary

Bar volunteers

We are looking for volunteers for the bar for "Move Over, Mrs. Markham" 8th to 16th May 2015. Click on here to go to the diary page and book just like last year. As a bonus you can book for bar duty later in the year if you want!

<https://thecarverbar.youcanbook.me>

Fill in your details. Don't forget to scroll down and fill in the "I'm human" Captcha field! It sends me an email and you get a confirmation in a few minutes. Simple. I think!

If you don't fancy it, just reply to me at mr.m.t.coleman@gmail.com and I will book your bar slot. It uses a combination of an external calendaring company and google mail. So if you are not keen on your email going through the google leviathan then just reply to me. The diary is not public.
Mike Coleman, Bar Manager

Dr Ann Bannister

I am sad to announce that Dr Ann Bannister passed away yesterday afternoon. Ann was a life member and a major contributor to the theatre over the years. Our condolences go to Stan and their family.

Mike Strivens, Treasurer

From Facebook

Arsenic and Old Lace... just brilliant. Really enjoyed it. Well done to all the cast and crew and the director for a superb show. Catriona Duncan-Rees, 4th March

Nice to see a potential future MP supporting the carver theatre tonight. Paula Whittleworth, 7th March – Ed., not sure which one turned up but hopefully it wasn't just because an election is looming! Call me cynical, but..... (don't get me started on politicians!)

Dates for your diary

Marple Gang Show

19th – 28th March

Carver Social

18th April

Move over Mrs Markham, Ray Cooney and John Chapman

8th – 16th May

American style BBQ (aka the next Carver Social)

4th July

MP visit

On Friday January 23rd our President Geoff Harrison, Treasurer Mike Strivens together with me as Chairman hosted a visit to our theatre by the Rt Hon Sajid

Javid MP Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport together with William Wragg our prospective Conservative M.P.

They toured the building and stayed for around an hour so there was time to discuss our future plans. The minister and William provided much useful information on possible sources of funding for capital projects.

Andy Tinsey, Chairman



