

# NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2015



CHADWICK STREET, MARPLE

### EDITORIAL

We're happy to kick off our new season by introducing all members to the new newsletter team. Many thanks to Stuart Vaughan for keeping us all up to date with the comings and goings of the theatre over the last few years. We hope we can continue to do such a good job. Contributions to the newsletter can still be sent to [newsletter@carvertheatre.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@carvertheatre.co.uk). I'm sure you will have all noticed the redecoration of the bar and library area. Many thanks to Pam Mainprize, Mike Coleman and everyone else involved. Special thanks go to Annie Stirling for making the Roman blind and pelmet for the library window and all the scatter cushions. What a difference they have made! Great job Annie.

*Adam and Joanna Bircher*

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome back Brian Bircher and Ben Maloney. We also extend a warm welcome to Annie and John Stirling, Stephen Stubbs and Julia Taylor.

Annie was a costumier for TV for such distinguished shows as *Brideshead Revisited*, the BBC's *Good Old Days*, *Sunday Night at the London Palladium* and many more. She worked on West End stage musicals and received an award for her reproduction of Hartnell's collection of evening dresses. Annie would like to get involved in production, working back stage during productions, props, wardrobe, prompting, *Font of House* and teas.

John is a prolific writer for TV and stage. His works include 3 stage musicals, 14 plays and 2 masterclasses. He was responsible for shows ranging from *Game for a Laugh* to *Wheeltappers* and *Shunters Social Club*, *The Lovers*, *The Generation Game* and many more. He was involved in Royal Variety Shows and was a member of Morecambe & Wise's production team. John is interested in producing as well as getting involved in publicity, social events and *Font of House*.

Stephen has appeared on stage at the Carver before. He is interested in acting and will be producing a play next season.

Julia would like to act and is willing to help with Front of House in any capacity. She has been an active member in the Partington Theatre for 28 years and appeared in many productions. She has also acted for the Guide Bridge Theatre.

Pam Mainprize

## AN EVENING WITH JOHN STIRLING, SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER



Whilst on the subject of new members, John was delighted to be invited to Direct "Entertaining Angels" by the Carver Production Committee and he suggested his one man show might benefit the Macmillan Nurses.

John's career takes him from the age of nine and being chosen by Enid Blyton to play Noddy at the Victoria Palace theatre in London. Onward through his teenage years Whacko..Rays a laugh etc..years with Morecambe and Wise and on to directing and producing his own shows..John has written nine plays and three musicals and he and Dame Judi Dench and June Brown created and founded The Michael Elliott Trust where Actors have rescued donkeys to work with Special needs children for the past 25 years..leading to a private audience with the Queen and being asked to look after the Royal Donkeys..Many anecdotes..many stories and a good evening had by all.

His performance has been described as "Amazing and delightful. Completely unexpected, original and very entertaining and amusing", "A night of a hundred stars and one! Unknown to us all at the start of the evening, on everyone's lips on the way out". Tickets are available from The Hollins or [carvertheatre.co.uk](http://carvertheatre.co.uk), £8.

Production Committee

## THIS YEAR'S CHOSEN GOOD CAUSES

After all your participation at the AGM, we are pleased to announce that this year we will be making a contribution from the raffle to the following good causes:

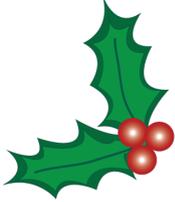
- The Wellspring Centre
- Mellor Cathedral Homes
- Christies Haematology Unit
- Signpost for Stockport Carers
- The Pantry (All Saints Foodbank)

We plan to continue this method of nominating and choosing good causes for next season, so look out for the survey next Spring and have your nominations ready.



## SOCIAL EVENTS

We finished off last season with a very successful BBQ at Mike Coleman's house. Many thanks to Mike, Caroline and David for organising this. We have a rich program of social events to look forward to:



- Spooky Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 8pm. Live music, good food and expect the unusual. Anyone in fancy dress is guaranteed entry. £5 per person, £2.50 for juniors.
- Carver Christmas Party Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Get in the mood for Christmas with our usual fun-filled evening.

## FEEDBACK FROM OUR PATRONS

It's always lovely to hear when we get things right, and we've had a couple of great pieces of feedback recently. One of our visitors has reviewed us on TripAdvisor:

*"The great energy and performances consistently offered by the Carver and definitely to be recommended. Performances are well chosen and performed by enthusiastic and talented amateur actors some of which could give up their day jobs! The theatre itself is small but perfectly formed, including a licensed bar. Such a great asset to the local community!"*

Gerard Lennox and Brian Bircher "came up trumps" whilst on front of house during the last production. We received an email thanking them:

*"I have visited before, but my friend hadn't and I want to thank you very much for the kind effort and help she was given; it made it a stress free night and created a very good impression of the theatre. Please thank the two men who helped us as I don't know their names, one who helped with the chair and the one who brought us tea!"*

This helps us to remember how important our great front of house volunteers are. We are always in need of new people to help out both with this role as well as bar staff and people to make tea and sell ice creams. If you can manage to carry out 1-2 'shifts' per season this would lessen the load on the usual volunteers. Please sign up to the rotas as they are emailed. Nick Bradley will happily provide training to all new front of house volunteers.

## LETTER FROM AUDREY BRAMWELL

Those of you who were at this year's AGM will be aware we announced our decision to present Audrey with a Long Service Award. Here is her response:



*Dear Mr President,*

*I would like to thank the members of the Carver Theatre, for the surprise of my life, when I received the award from our Chairman. The Season Ticket for life is also a shock!*

*It is very much appreciated and I am sorry I was not at the AGM which is the first I have missed in 51 years!!! The reason being I felt very weak after my spell in hospital.*

*Yours Sincerely,*

*Audrey Bramwell*

## **ABI ANDERSON COURSE- EMAIL FROM JANINE ROYLE TO PRODUCTION COMMITTEE**

*Hi. I wanted to quickly thank everyone who was involved in organising this weekend's acting course with Abi at the Carver. Having worked with Abi before I was keen to work with her again and I wasn't disappointed. She is very approachable and easy to listen to/follow and it was a great opportunity to work with a professional director in an intimate and safe environment, free to make mistakes. It was lovely to see some familiar faces on the course and to meet a couple of new ones too. The work was challenging but fascinating and it was great to try out new acting techniques.*

*Once again, many thanks for sorting the weekend out for the carver members and for those who didn't/couldn't attend, their loss was most definitely my gain.*

*Regards*

*Janine*

## **LETTER FROM THE CHRISTIE CHARITY**

*Dear Mike & Members*

*Thank you so much for your kind donation of £125.00 to The Christie, raised from your collection and raffle held during your Junior Show. I am pleased to let you know that your gift is being used to support our Cancer Appeal Fund in loving memory of Emma Howie. This fund is particularly important as it allows us to allocate money to the greatest need, wherever it is within the hospital, at any given time. Whether it supports one of our priority projects, like our New Young Oncology and Haematology department, or ground breaking research, your donation will make a real difference here at The Christie.*

*As Europe's largest cancer centre, we treat 44,000 patients each year, but we are much more than a cancer centre. We have been pioneering cancer breakthroughs for the last 100 years. From discovering new treatments in our laboratories to finding new ways of making our patients' lives easier, thousands of people*

*are now leading fuller, happier, longer lives because of our ground-breaking work. Much of our treatment, care and research would not be possible without donations from caring members of the public. The impact that your donations have on our patient's lives can never be underestimated. Without you The Christie charity cannot continue to support work to deliver the highest quality cancer care alongside world class research and excellent education. So on behalf of all of our patients - thank you!*

*Please feel free to get in touch if I can support you with any future fundraising by providing resources, advice or guidance. On behalf of The Christie, thank you for your support.*

*Best wishes*

*Jill McDonnell*

*Community Fundraising Assistant*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2015**

**SPOOKY SATURDAY @CARVER THEATRE £5 (£2.50)**

**6<sup>TH</sup>-14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

**ENTERTAINING ANGELS**

**SAT 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015**

**CARVER CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**8<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**DICK WHITTINGTON**

**26<sup>TH</sup> FEB-5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**BUSYBODY**

**6<sup>TH</sup>-14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

**LADIES DOWN UNDER**

