



Newsletter-March 2018

To all Carver members

Welcome to the latest Carver newsletter.

All members who went to see Enlightenment recently will appreciate that I am writing this in a state of bewildered exhaustion. I was asked on the last night if I had enjoyed the previous week...and at the time I likened it to someone asking a marathon runner at the finish line if they had enjoyed the experience. What an experience. And what a pleasure to have worked with our guest director David Carlise who succeeded in creating a piece of theatre, that I feel will be remembered for years. Though not to everyone's taste (bleak storyline, some bad language), many audience members shared their positive feedback especially around the remarkable and imaginative use of audio-visual effects. I hope David will direct for us again in the future.

Thank you to the 75 members who participated in the recent Health and Safety survey. I feel this was a fantastic response and your comments and ideas will feed into the work Richard R Mike C and I will be doing over the next few months.

Members might be pleased to hear we are gradually building up more of an 'on line' presence and have 335 followers of our Carver facebook group and 198 Twitter followers. We also have 5 star ratings on our Google reviews and on Tripadvisor. Word of mouth (including virtual 'word of mouth') is one of the most important ways we publicise our productions, so if you have enjoyed a show, please put a review on one of these social media sites, as it can really help with ticket sales. You can find our Facebook group via the carvertheatre.co.uk website.

Our theatre has been used as a film venue for the recently released third (and final) episode of the web series **Two Sundays**. The series has been created by Carver members Rachel and Adam Bircher (my children ☺). If you are interested in watching, the whole series is available on youtube, with episode 3 on this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzKqHNW8NjI>.

Don't forget to let the exec know if you have any issues or proposals you would like to put forward for discussion. If you do have an idea or suggestion to put to the exec committee please could you email it to secretary@carvertheatre.co.uk, ideally a couple of weeks prior to the meeting dates. Our next Exec meetings are: 23/5/18; 18/7/18.

Again, thanks to all of you who volunteer for roles both in preparation for our productions and during the run...and don't forget to continue to sign up on carverhelpers.co.uk.

That's all for now

Joanna
Carver Chair

Newsletter-March 2018



OVERHEARD IN THE BAR...

One of my joys of belonging to the Carver is watching my friends perform. I get excited and nervous for them. This was the case when my dad and I came to opening night of Enlightenment. I knew how great an achievement it was for the actors, my Joanna included, to have learned the 1000s of words.

I overheard a conversation at the interval as we shuffled to the bar. It went like this:

'Marple wouldn't be Marple without the Carver'

'Yes, we are so lucky to have a theatre'

'The young lad with the red hair has come on hasn't he? He was the Captain in Journeys End. Nice to see Jenny on stage again'

'Is she the one with the Curley hair?'

'No, that's the Evil Queen from the Panto. Jenny is the young one playing the psychic'

It's wonderful we are talked about. People feel they know us, and our plays become topics of conversation. We become incorporated into people's histories and folklore. We enrich people's lives.

Richard Bircher

NEW SEASONS LAUNCH

WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL

"Production Committee invite all members to New Season's Launch on Wednesday 11th April, 8.00 pm, where next Season's plays will be unveiled by the appropriate Directors to encourage members to sign up for parts they may be interested in. This will be followed by a light supper provided by Caroline Calverley."

Why not come along Carver Theatre to hear what next season has in store for us.

For further information contact:
registrar@carvertheatre.co.uk

A little Enlightenment.... on Enlightenment

Despite the snow at the beginning of the run; it was touch and go whether opening night would happen on Friday 3rd as many roads were blocked. Some cast and crew had to arrange overnight accommodation locally, others to take the motorway route from Hyde and Glossop, drive miles out of their way, walk or dig themselves out to get to the theatre and every performance of Enlightenment started on time Friday and Saturday audiences were well down because of the weather but the theatre was full by the end of the run.

Feedback was great – **"simply brilliant, moving, thought provoking, very different from the usual"** were frequently heard comments. The Technical department produced lighting and visual effects that have never been achieved before – (Phil was giving me the lowdown on a new lighting board /projector they'd bought) the set apparently inspired by a professional production seen by Director David Carlile.

Eden Carruthers- Publicity

Newsletter-March 2018

STILL TO COME THIS SEASON

May 11-19

Vicar of Dibley directed by Sally Jolley.

June 29th - 30th June

Carver Juniors Present -Shakespeare



Season tickets

The focus is now on next season and we want to recruit as many new season ticket holders as we can; this will start as soon as next season's brochure becomes available, meanwhile it's worth planting the seed to remind people that season tickets make great gifts – and it's the only way to guarantee a seat to each of our four productions



Forthcoming Social Events on a club night

Wednesday 11 April- New season launch

Wednesday 6 June The Luvies make a welcome return

If anyone has other ideas for entertaining club nights please let Caroline Calverley know.



A WARM WELCOME goes out to our following new members:

Jonathan Nolan who is interested in acting, set design, all aspects of stage work, lighting, sound, props, prompting, bar work and helping with the Juniors.

Ed Spreckley who is also interested in acting, set design, stage work, lighting, sound, front of house, teas, ticketing, programmes and helping with the Juniors

Newsletter-March 2018

Enlightenment And The Creative Process!

It was Picasso who said that every child is born an artist but that the problem is how to remain an artist when we grow up! I suppose that is why I joined The Carver..... not to draw or paint specifically but to continue my own creative journey with like minded people. Being a part of the last play Enlightenment offered exactly this opportunity. The words "let's perform it in a white box set!" did not necessarily come as music to everyone's ears but being creative is generally an act of bravery as there will always be a likelihood that someone hates what you love! David Carlisle was "brave"! His bravery made the cast brave enough to explore our characters in rehearsal to their very inner depths so we understood exactly what we should do and say as that person, the sound engineers brave so that recordings of the actors voices were made to haunt and taunt the audience with key words and phrases between scenes and audible sounds to match the moment, the lighting engineers brave so the idea of an audience being transported to a different environment with a series of visual projections were developed to create realistic and meaningful content and the crew brave to encapsulate all the ideas together to run smoothly on "the night". The TEAM with David at the helm, was quite honestly extraordinary; focused, professional and innovative. The "marmite effect" was prevalent in the reaction from our Carver audience but that was surely the creative process working at its best!

Denise Vaughan



National Recognition 1978

Thursday 22nd - Saturday 31st October

Marple Gang Show has taken over!

70+ members of the cast have descended on the theatre and are our run is in full swing!

There are still a few tickets left for **THIS** Friday and Saturday.

Email: tickets@marplegangshow.com

Or phone Deb Spreckley: 07498751059

Newsletter-March 2018

Summary of responses to February 2018 email Health & Safety Survey of members

This is a summary of the schedule of responses from our membership through the Survey Monkey exercise.

There were 75 responses, an encouragingly high proportion of our active membership. About 85% had no health and safety concerns and the satisfaction ranking given to health & safety in our theatre averaged about 4½ out of 5.

The main issues of health & safety concern and/or for consideration raised were (in no particular order):

- Clutter/tripping hazards both backstage and in Green Room during set construction
- Unsuitability of the ladder access to Lighting & Sound Box (raised by 2 respondents)
- Testing of lifting equipment used around stage (this is already done)
- Safe/appropriate use of ladders (raised by 3 respondents)
- Availability of hard hats for stage work (already available but more since supplied)
- Unsatisfactory access to FoH lighting bars (already under consideration) and weight limit of FoH bar
- Insufficient Food Hygiene knowledge/practice; ill health when booked to serve beverages, drinks & ice creams, and associated cash handling procedures.
- Inadequate hygiene in the Dressing Room Corridor kitchenette (raised by 4 respondents) plus scald risk with hot water boiler.
- Damp in Dressing Rooms (raised by 3 respondents)
- Desirability of health & safety talks to casts (depending on the set design and the familiarity of the cast with the theatre)
- Suggestion of a designated first aider for every public performance
- Wheelchair access to escape doors considered poor
- Rule needed for no working alone in theatre

Other non-health & safety issues raised, but which were to do with the well-being of members and patrons were:

- Refurbishment of old Bar Cellar if it is to be used as a dressing room during some productions
- Provision of water and biscuits in auditorium for patrons with limited mobility

Several complimentary comments were made about health & safety and about consideration afforded our limited-mobility patrons.

All these comments will be considered in the Health & Safety Review and the conclusions discussed by the Exec.

Richard Rhodes, Facilities