



1906 – 2006

Carver Theatre Newsletter

November 2012

Well what a hoot that was, I thoroughly enjoyed *Bedroom Farce*, our recent Carver production, and it was great to see some new acting members on stage too, so well done to one and all responsible for and involved with the production. But now it's on to the next, Panto fever is now gripping the society and it's all systems go to get the stage and cast ready. If you are able, please lend a hand in whatever way you can - painting the set is the current priority, but there will be lots of other tasks both in the run up to the Panto and during the shows, so no excuse for not getting involved in one way or another! These things don't just happen by themselves! (See also Mike's message below) Also in the Newsletter this time, John continues his excellent review of his Chairman's activities (and we all thought he just sat around looking important!), Joanna has sent a couple of items from the Exec meeting for our information, Andy provides an update on the activities at Mellor Mill and there are a few words about the social events, past and upcoming.

So, enough of me, enjoy the Newsletter!

Chairman's diary October to November 2012

On 9th October I joined the tail end of the get-together and read-through for all new acting members organised by the Production Committee. It attracted fourteen participants of different ages and experience. This was a great way to make new members feel welcome and also led to a number of participants being offered parts in forthcoming plays. There was also an important message from the Production Committee Member which was that if new members wanted to get involved they needed to be proactive and not just wait to be asked.

During October I've been working as Director of our play, *Bedroom Farce*, which will have completed its run by the time you read this. This is what we are here to do and as usual it's a major team effort calling on all the skills our members have to offer.

15th October I chaired my second Executive Committee Meeting - so not quite so nervous this time. Here are a few of the highlights:

- We approved five new Carver members.
- We agreed some recommendations from the Finance and Property Committee on ways of tackling the theatre maintenance backlog, including more use of a paid handyman and giving responsibility for overseeing major maintenance matters to our newly formed Building Development Group (see my last Diary).
- We also received a report from Finance Committee on the good work being done to try and reduce our fuel costs.
- We heard that Production Committee are preparing a questionnaire for members to gather opinions on play selection, casting processes and so on because for some time

we have been having difficulty finding members to be in plays. We really want to get this right. Watch out for the questionnaire coming. (Ed. These have now gone out, so if you haven't received a copy and think you should have done, please contact Debbie Woodruff, deborahwoodruff100@yahoo.co.uk)

- We had a substantial discussion on the issue of respect between members and how to resolve differences in a fair way. Further work on this was agreed and will be considered again at our next meeting.
- We decided to continue for at least one more play with the changes we put in place at the beginning of the season to the raffle, programme selling and interval teas. This means, for example, that interval teas and coffees will only be served on Monday through to Thursday during the run of Bedroom Farce.
- We had a report from the first meeting of the new Building Development Group and we agreed that £890 should be spent on conducting a survey of the timber which makes up most of the structure of our auditorium. This will be the last stage in checking out the structural integrity of our building and is essential before we invest any of our reserves in any other major works or internal refurbishment. The Group also informed us about other areas they are beginning to look at including energy management and more precise control of the internal temperature of the auditorium.
- Finally, we had an update on our discussions with Kirkland Developments who will be responsible for the supermarket project on Chadwick Street/Trinity Way. A few of us will be meeting with the Project Architect very soon to discuss the impact on the Carver including minimising disruption during the construction phase and making sure our audiences can easily park and access the theatre once the supermarket has been completed and opened.

By the way, if you go to the Members' Area of the Carver Website you can see the Executive Committee and AGM Minutes.

The Carver Autumn Social took place on Saturday 27th October with afternoon tea and music in the bar and library. We all enjoyed endless mugs of tea and the superb cakes baked by several of our members whilst listening to piano and guitar playing in the background.

It's Panto next so watch out for calls to help - particularly with scenery painting. Such fun!

Finally, in an attempt to attract more of you down to our Wednesday club nights, I would like to point out that if you had just one drink each Wednesday during our season in the Carver Bar, instead of say in the Ring O'Bells, you would come out £25 better off even after having paid your Carver annual subscription!

That's all for now.

John Woodruff

chair@carvertheatre.co.uk

Carver revamp

Dear Carver Members,

Following on from our "What If" session at Murrillos, a team is being put together to create a proposal for a new look for the whole of the inside of the theatre, from the foyer, toilets and corridors to the bar areas.

Joanna Bircher and Debbie Woodruff are looking for 3 more volunteers to join them. We want to try and represent all ages, from the Youth to our long standing members and are hoping that at least one volunteer will be male.

We will be choosing styles, colours, furnishings, and maybe even floor layout....

So if you fancy contributing to the interior design for the Carver, please email Debbie Woodruff by noon on Sunday 11th November. (Ed. Yes I know the date has passed, so if you are interested make sure you contact Debbie asap!)

deborahwoodruff100@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you,

Joanna Bircher and Debbie Woodruff

Mellor Mill

Many of you will know of the Mellor Archaeological Trust and their recent work on the site of Mellor Mill, which for anyone who does not know is near the "Roman Lakes".

They intend to stage a Promenade Theatre at the site next summer to raise funds for future work.

They invited other local groups that might be interested to an initial meeting to discuss the idea and ascertain who might be interested in participating,

Antonia Fielding and myself attended as representatives of the Carver.

Whilst it is certainly a rather interesting project we did not feel it was something we as an organisation would get involved in. However, individual members might well want to do so.

Here is a very brief outline:

The event is to take place next summer around Mellor Mill, its wheel pits, the Apprentice Hostel and the "Roman Lakes" (which far from being Roman were actually built as the mill lodge) with a cast of both adults and children. Being a promenade performance, in summer, moving from location to location the staging and technical requirements are likely to be minimal. Of course an event of this nature will also require personnel to look after ancillary things like car parking stewarding etc.

If anyone would like to get involved the initial contact for the moment is Bob Humphrey- Taylor, Trustee Mellor Archaeological Trust and Manager, The Mellor Mill Project at bobh-t@ntlworld.com

Andy Tinsey

From the Exec

1. Dave has got a new card payment machine for the shop that enables him to take payments for Carver tickets by card (including over the phone) for a booking fee of £1 per transaction. I've advertised this on the website and Facebook group and will add it to new publicity leaflets for the future. Great news!

2. The exec has given permission for the Publicity team to use their discretion if they are approached by local charities to use any spare space in the programmes for their appeals (like we did for Marple Christian Care in the last programme).

3. Jane is now wardrobe mistress so is looking to pass on her role as ticket secretary and plans to do this in a gradual way, working alongside whoever takes over to help out and 'show them the ropes'. She is going to produce a description of the tasks involved in printing and selling tickets as well as handling the season tickets - if anyone wants to have a go at doing the ticket sales (a vital role for the theatre), now is a great opportunity to ease your way in to the role.

Joanna Bircher, publicity@carvertheatre.co.uk

Social activities

Hi Folks!

Thanks to all who supported the Great British Carver Bake Off Tea Party! A fun afternoon was had by all who came and we raised lots of dosh for Brain Tumour UK and the musicians.

Sooooooooo..... what's next? THE CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!!?????!!!! Tickets are selling fast already so don't delay buying yours!

£5for a night to remember at Marple Social and Forces Club on Wednesday 19th December , 7.30 'til late with festive turkey baps and homemade mince pies included!! Please, please, please come and "PARTY". Teenagers from 13 to 113 very, very welcome. Buy your ticket

*from me at the theatre on club night on Wednesday 21st and 28th between 8.30 and 9.30

*from me at home, 17 Bowden Lane, Marple 0161 449 0034 (phone to check I'm home)

*from me by texting how many tickets required (07843 444372) and I will leave your tickets with Dave at Hollins (cash on pick up please)

*from me by e-mailing me on

social@carvertheatre.co.uk and requesting tickets and I will leave at Hollins or you can pick up from 17, Bowden Lane.

PHEW! No excuse that you couldn't get a ticket!!

Need confirmation of numbers by the end of the month please!

Thank you

Dx

And talking of the Bake-off, Liz Galloway adds....

'Thanks Denise for your efforts this afternoon- I think you should be very pleased with the result- lots of people there and a lovely get together- the boys played beautifully too. Great cakes- congratulations to the bakers.'



Over and above the card sales, we raised almost £35 in donations for Brain Tumour UK, which is wonderful- so thanks to everyone for your support. It means a lot- it's a small charity and helps so much with research, raising awareness and practical help and advice to families who have someone with a brain tumour.

If anyone else would like to buy cards to support this charity, you can do so online at <http://www.braintumouruk.org.uk/shop> or contact me.'

Plea for help with Panto

So far, apart from yesterday, the numbers of members turning up for painting the sets is pitifully few. Tonight for instance we had just 5 of us working at the theatre. If we are to finish the painting for the kids to get on stage next weekend we need a concerted effort from as many of you as possible to get the painting finished. It is not difficult and no skill is required, just a willingness to help for a couple of hours. We are working every night next week (Monday to Friday) from 7:30pm. So forgo the rubbish on television and come and spend an hour or so doing something for the community. Remember that the panto won't happen without the concerted effort of our membership.

Regards

Mike Strivens

Other events that might be of interest

Marple Band Concert, Sunday 16th December, Marple Conservative Club - 8pm

No door charge, raffle and collection

City of Manchester Opera, Come and Sing Wagner, Verdi and Britten, Saturday 16th February 2013, Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church, visit

<http://cityofmanchesteropera.org.uk> for further details.

Mossley Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (MAODS), Whistle Down the Wind, December 3rd - 8th, visit www.maods.org for more details.

Dates for your diary

Carver Christmas Party	19 th December 2012
Jack and the Beanstalk	11 th -19 th January 2013
Secret Rapture, David Hare	22 nd Feb-2 nd March 2013
Gang Show (Scouts production)	14 th -23 rd March 2012
Unoriginal Sin, David Tristram	10 th -18 th May 2013
We'll Always Have Paris, Jill Hyem	20 th -28 th September 2013