

# Canterbury Players Newsletter

May 2011

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## A Word From The Chairman

Hello every one.

Doesn't time fly, it only seems like yesterday that I was wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas, and now I want to wish you and all your family a most wonderful summer holiday.

However before you travel to distant shores please try and attend the AGM which will be on Wednesday 29th at Brook Road. All the committee members will be happy to see you. On the form that David will be sending there is a part asking if you want to become a committee member, if you feel that you have the time and can bring something to the committee, please do feel that you can put yourself forward. Please note that if in the event we have more than 12 standing, there will be a vote on the night.

We are well down the line of announcing our forthcoming play to be staged in November. I know that we have performed some great farces and comedies over the last few years, but we feel it is now time to put on a thriller or a "whodunit?", so our next production will be of this ilk. We still are very open to ideas for our April production, so if you have a play in mind that you would love Canterbury to put on, please contact me or any committee member.

Our last play, "Outside Edge", was very well received by both attendees and the local press, so I thank everyone who contributed in any manner; Actors, stage builders, prompts, director, producer, selling of raffle tickets, making and serving of the teas, front and back of house, props, but especially those that attended. Sadly even with everyone pulling together we have made slight loss. Lessons have been learnt and I am sure that our next production will show a profit.

Due to various reasons we have not arranged any social events since Christmas, but there are plans to have two play reading nights again with the church. These have been pencilled in for early September and early December. Once again I am appealing for any volunteers, to choose several one act plays, hold the "auditions" and see it through until the night of performance. If you feel that you can offer any help in this area, again please contact me. I am hoping that we can resurrect the quiz nights that we used to hold, but again I will be looking for someone to organize this on our behalf.

Sadly since we last had our newsletter, we have lost a most remarkable member. Much has already been said about June, that I won't dwell too long in this piece, but it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the passing away of a most wonderful member and servant of our society. She will be missed by both young and old. There wasn't a role that June did not carry out in her membership. June actually gave me my first acting part in "Off The Hook" in 1996, so it was her fault that you have seen my ugly face many a time on stage since!

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM.

## We hit a six with "Outside Edge"

Review by **Julia Taylor** for the online **Messenger** of our recent presentation of "Outside Edge".

*The sound of leather on willow and the smell of newly mown grass come to mind in Outside Edge, the Canterbury Players latest production.*

*Richard Harris's comedy is about the members of a cricket club, their wives, and other ladies who bowl them over.*

*Matt Fox gives a well-timed performance as team captain, Roger. He is so caught up with cricket, he has no time to listen to his long-suffering wife, Miriam.*

*Diane Cornes plays the hyperactive Miriam. How well she illustrates her frustrations as the unappreciative team's reluctant tea maker. With heartfelt rage she lets rip about cricket and life in general.*

*Team member Bob (newcomer Andy Kielty) is a slimy character juggling an ex-wife and current wife whilst Dennis (Chris Corry), a self-opinionated womaniser, treats his wife with such contempt that she torches his prized new BMW.*

*An actor who stands out for her down-to-earth humour is Christine Perry who plays Maggie. She aims her funny lines like cricket balls straight at the audience in a wonderfully expressive way. She's a natural comedienne.*

*Laura Cookson's Ginnie is the complete opposite yet still gets laughs for her droll remarks.*

*The tension builds up to the match which we see through the eyes of those watching. Their reactions to the game says it all.*

*Director, Jonathan Coupe, cleverly uses the hall as an imaginary cricket pitch from which the players emerge for the sanctuary of the clubhouse.*

*The set aka the cricket pavilion is well designed and with an eye for detail.*

*Outside Edge is dedicated to the society's late President, June Lucas. She would have loved it. The Canterbury Players have scored another six!*

*Star rating: \* \* \* \**

## Play Reading & Hot Pot Supper

It seems a long time ago now but, for those who couldn't make the play reading and supper in December, I can tell you that it was another great success. Terry Walker's play, what he wrote, went down well - enjoyed as much by the readers as it was by the audience. (I can see potential royalty savings here on a future CP production!). Thanks to Diane Cornes and ladies from the church, we enjoyed a very amusing reading of a play called "Shepherd's Pie", and Duncan's hot pot and apple pie supper was delicious, as usual.

Although we were slightly fewer in numbers compared to the previous year, it was still a very enjoyable evening and

resulted in a useful surplus which went to Church and Society funds.

It's likely there'll be another one again this year. We'll keep you posted.

### Annual General Meeting

Any day now, members should receive, by email or post, the formal **Notice Of AGM** together with a copy of the minutes from the last AGM. If you don't get yours in the next few days, please contact Heather, Membership Secretary.

The AGM is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2011 in room 2 (refreshments room) at Brook Road.

Please complete and return the form indicating whether or not you will be attending. Remember that you must pay your subscription on or before the meeting in order to get your play vouchers and to be included in the cash prize draw.

As usual, the entire current committee will stand down and, together with any other proposed and seconded members, become the new candidates for election, by the society, to form a new committee. The newly elected committee then elect or re-elect the officers of the society. If any member is interested in becoming a candidate for election onto the committee, it would be useful, though not essential, if we knew of your intentions in advance so that ballot arrangements can be made if necessary.

### Future Social Events

**Nothing planned at the moment.**  
Anyone want to organise something?

### Future Productions



We almost there with the decision on the our autumn production, but we remain open to suggestions from members for Spring 2012.

If you've got a favourite that you'd like to see, or would like like to read through some scripts, have a chat with a committee member.

### Diary Dates

22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

"Don't Dress For Dinner"  
The Club Theatre, Altrincham

23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

"High Society"  
Altrincham Garrick Theatre

26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

"Dead Fishy" (sketches)  
Chorlton Players

29<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Canterbury Players AGM

7<sup>th</sup> September 2011

"September Serenade Concert"  
Urmston Choral Society (at Brook Road)

24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October 2011

"Oliver"  
Urmston Musical Theatre

November 2011

"tba"  
Canterbury Players

March 2012

"tba"  
Canterbury Players

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This newsletter is written and compiled by David Holstein and approved by the committee prior to publication, which is usually every few months or as required. It is distributed to the entire membership by email or post as necessary. In addition it is sent, by email only, to ex-members, friends in other societies, suppliers etc.; in fact, to anyone with an email address who wants it. If you know someone who would like to receive it, please send me their name and email address and I'll add them to the list. If you have an article or snippet of news which you would like to be considered for inclusion in a future newsletter, please send it to me, preferably by email. There's an archive of recent past newsletters on our website:  
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