



THE SANDBACH PLAYERS – A HISTORY

Sandbach Players History..... MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Unfortunately the minutes for the first few years of the last society to bear the name Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society (Sandbach Players) from 1945 to 1952 have been lost and have so far never been recovered. During a clear out Stewart Green (Compiler of this History) discovered the old minutes books (1952 onwards) in the attic above the dressing room at the Little Theatre in Hope Street. He kept them in his house until he could transcribe the important bits of history from them. The result is what you see in the following pages.

We do however start with a previous society founded in the 1800's of which little is known except the occasional review of a production as seen below.

SANDBACH PLAYERS - A HISTORY

The Crewe Chronicle

6 Jan 1894 (Sat)

AMATEUR DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE--

On Friday evening an amateur dramatic performance, given by Major and Mrs Kennedy and Party, for the benefit of the relief fund, was held in the Town hall.

The proceedings opened with a dialogue, entitled, "A Joint household". Miss Kennedy appearing as Mrs Smithers, and Miss B Smith as Mrs Tallett. The Dialogue was very well delivered and received. A Comedietta was given, entitled, "Lady Barbara's Birthday" Mr E Armitstead represented Lord Verifyne, and Sir Thomas Gay was admirably personated by Mr Fraser. Lady Barbara Brilliant was well represented by Miss J Baird Smith, and Miss Baird Smith was most bewitching as Dorothy Daylight. Miss Kennedy took her part as Finnicker, and Mr C Kennedy, servant to Sir Thomas Gay. There was much laughter at the farce entitled "Woman's wrongs", Mr Fraser representing Harold Woodleaf; Miss J Baird Smith appeared as Camelia Buskint. The Scenery was very good, and the dresses exceptionally fine. Mr Ford's string band did their part with Great taste and skill.

The Crewe Guardian 10 February 1894 (Sat) Page 2.

6 Feb 1894

THE SCREW LOOSE (Comedy) at the Town Hall.
by Mark Melford

- Incl; Mr Harry Hildyard as Sir Willifer Alladay
- Miss L Saxon as Lady Alladay
- Mr Nock as Mr Strummitt
- Mr Nixon as Major Abbott
- Mr Hodgson as Mr Peckham
- Mr Nicholson as Dr Pounds
- Mr J Nield as Dr Pottle
- Miss Whittaker as Miss Arabella Bestt
- Mr Norman Hague as a Peeler
- Mr A Larder as a Butler
- Miss Walton as Housekeeper at Alladam Hall
- Mrs Nock as Lady Alladay's Maid
- Mrs Strummitt as Mrs Williams

Scenery Painted by Mr S Ford

Perruquier Mr W Ellis of Crewe.

Orchestra Conducted by Mr S Ford (Announced 10 Feb as Mr S Lord
Change of name 14 Feb)

In aid of the Audley distress fund..

7 March 1894

THE SCREW LOOSE (Comedy) at the Town Hall.

by Mark Melford
Followed by TURN HIM OUT
Feature Page 4, 3 Mar (Sat) Crewe Guardian (+ advert Page 1)
Review Page 5, 10 Mar (Sat) Crewe Guardian

The Crewe Chronicle

16 Feb 1895 (Sat)

In a report in the Chronicle of the above date (Page 5) about a concert in aid of the 'Audley Distress Fund' many of the members of the group were mentioned as well as Mr Ford's band. The Concert took place on the previous Tuesday at the town hall.

18 Feb 1896 The New Secretary

The Congleton Chronicle

22 Feb 1896 (Sat)

SANDBACH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY ---

This society gave a production of "The New Secretary" in the Town Hall, Sandbach on Tuesday evening. There was a large and appreciative audience, and the performance was in every way a success, and the parts allotted to the performers were well sustained throe-out the piece.

the Crewe Chronicle

22 Feb 1896 (Sat)

PERFORMANCE OF 'THE NEW SECRETARY' -- On Tuesday evening the Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society gave a Performance of the Farcical comedy "The New Secretary" in the Town Hall. The Curtain rose to a large audience at 8 O Clock and taking the performance as a whole it may be pronounced as a very creditable one for the society. Mr H Ferrand in the role of the New Secretary was especially good and won the repeated applause of the audience, by the capital way in which he rendered his part. It is the highest art for an actor to be able to sink his own personality and for the time to live and think and feel as if he were in reality the character he represented. Mr Ferrand did this on Tuesday, One or two of the performers were not so successful in this sense. In the character of Harry Marsland and Mr Gibson, for instance, there were more of Mr Pearson and Mr Foden in the presentation than there was of "Squire Marsland's nephew", and "The fashionable Taylor". Mr H Gee in the character of "Dick Ratterpole" showed considerable talent in lovemaking, Mr and Mrs Nock and Miss Walton did their work well; Mr Nock having a character, which suited him in Mr Ratterpole, "The rich uncle from India". Mr Ford's band played in good style a large number of selections during the evening. The Performance was over about 10 O Clock and we believe all who were present had a very enjoyable evening. Messrs C Wardle and F Allen were stage managers.

The Crewe Chronicle

5 Mar 1898 (Sat)

A School Concert given at the Town Hall on the previous Monday, the second of a 'National Schools Concert', included a report that the scenery for "The Fickle Fortune" written and composed by J.E. Grieve, was loaned by the Sandbach Dramatic Society.

The Crewe Chronicle

Front page of the Crewe Chronicle 20 & 27 Feb 1904 an advert appeared for

SANDBACH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

PRESENT **POOR OLD PERKINS** by Percival Sykes

At the Sandbach Town Hall. Tickets from Mr A B Thorne.

The Orchestra was led by Arthur Ford

The Crewe Chronicle

The Following Advert appeared on the front page of the Crewe Chronicle 16 April 1910

SANDBACH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Tues 19 April 1910

THE BOOTS AT THE SWAN

AND

THE AREA BELLE

At Sandbach Town Hall 7.30 for 8pm start.

Reserved Seats 2s

Second Seats 1s

Gallery 6d

A Plan of the Hall is available at EACHUS & SON

Seats can be reserved from the Secretary of the society Mr A H Poole of
Middlewich Road, Sandbach.

THE FOLLOWING WEEK A REVIEW OF THE PRODUCTION WAS PUBLISHED.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Sandbach Dramatic society made their first appearance at the Town Hall on Tues when they provided two excellent performances, which were much appreciated. Mr E Shaw and Miss E Furnival were the stars of the evening. Mr Shaw causing great Merriment, while Miss Walton and Mr F Long gave splendid displays of their acting powers. Two comedies were submitted namely "The Boots at the Swan" and "The Area Belle" The Serious element of the former was of a romantic character, sustained by Mr A Long as Mr Henry Higgins, Miss A Sherratt as Emily Trevor; and Miss E Walton as Miss Celia Moonshine. The Ludicrous element was provided by the "Boots at the Swan", Jacob Earwig (Mr S Shaw), Peter Pippin (Mr E Poole), Frank Friskey (Mr F Long), Sally Smith (Miss E Furnival), Betty Jenkins (Miss M Nock). In "The Area Belle" Mr A H Pool as "Pitcher in the Police", and Mr M Cooper as "Tosser in the Grenadiers" made capital rivals to Penelope. Miss E Furnell and Mr R.A. Sant, as "Walker Chalk" a milkman was successful. Mrs Croaker the "Misses" was Miss A Scarratt who acted her part in an exceedingly able manner. The Orchestra rendered some splendid selections, which were much appreciated. The Band was composed of Mr Higgins and Mr Walker, 1st Violins, Miss J Dickenson & Miss N Bird enough, 2nd Violins, Mr G E Dickenson, Viola, Mr Cope, Cello, Mr Jenkins, Double Bass, and Mr W H Dickinson, Piano.

The Secretary Mr A H Pool together with Mr E Boycott, Stage manager, had worked whole-heartedly and assiduously, and to their efforts in a great degree the splendid success of Tuesdays concert was undoubtedly due.

PLAYS The Boots at the Swan by Charles Selby (1802- 1863)

The Area Bell by William Brough (1826 - 1870) & Andrew Halliday (1831 -1877)

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SANDBACH DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS

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1930-38 LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD (at the Town Hall)

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SANDBACH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY PRODUCTIONS 1945 to 2006.

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THE FOUNDING FATHERS

The Founding father of the "Sandbach Players" / "Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society" is considered to be a gentleman called KEN PETERS (Of 43 Bradwall Road, Sandbach). However when I spoke to him just before the 40th anniversary celebrations he said that it was he that had been approached to help form the society due to his experience during the war putting on shows for ENSA ("Entertainment's National Service Association" or as entertainers put it "Every Night Something Awful").

Ken's interest in the art of entertainment had started with the 1939-45 war when he was asked to take part in ENSA working with the "Windmill Tour" run by the famous London theatre.

In 1932 the Windmill Theatre had opened. it was known during the war because it advertised itself with the phrase "We never Close" It had a mixture of "Nude" tableau performances and comedians, including Peter Sellers, Tony Hancock, Spike Milligan and Michael Bentine, who appeared in shows called "Revueville" which started in the late morning and ended in the late evening. By 1964 the theatre was in decline as this form of show was appearing at other theatres and in the medium of Cinema forcing the Windmill Theatre to close for the last time as a theatre. The building is now a lap dancing club (2003).

Ken Peters shows also included many of the stars or soon to be stars of the theatre like Jimmy Edwards. When he returned to Sandbach in 1945 to join his wife Enid he became involved in the chemist business along with "Staniers". It was during this time that he came to know Bessie and Clifford Welsby who along with their son Tony (Anthony) were to become part of the backbone of the Society he was to form in 1945 -6. The first workshop of the "Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society" was held in rooms above Stanier's the chemists in Hightown, on the Roundabout, next to Hope Street.

Ken told me that one day after his return he was approached by local enthusiasts who asked him to help them set up an amateur dramatic society in Sandbach. I don't know if they knew of the previous society but I like to think that they thought they were forming the first society of its kind in the town.

For other Founding members see the cast of "Without the Prince" 9 - 10 Apr 1946.

SANDBACH PLAYERS PAST PLAYS and HISTORY

Because information has come from cuttings supplied by Muriel Farnworth Smith and Bessie Welsby who cut off the date bit of the information sometimes the date and page numbers are unknown. Also as original copies were unavailable in Sandbach Library I was unable to check such dates. However original photocopies are available in the official archive.

DATE

TITLE

WRITER



THE CAST OF "WITHOUT THE PRINCE"

9-10 Apr 1946

WITHOUT THE PRINCE

by Philip King

Incl; Leonard Brindley as Rev. Simon Peters
 Jack Unsworth as Ezra Weatherhead
 Jack Sambrook as P.C. James Hawkins
 Phyllis Birch as Emma Weatherhead
 Richard Hawthorn as The stranger

Harold Ashurst as Wyndham Johns
 Yvonne Pritchard as Madeline Lees
 Laura Scutcheon as Mrs Peters
 + 5 others including Bessie Welsby, Edith Cooke, Robert Hovey,
 Norman Palmer, Joe Sambrook,
 Producers H. Gordon Poole and Enid Peters
 Stage Manager R.L. Hovey
 Furnishings by F. Ford
 Lighting by T Consterdine
 Radio Equipment by the Radio House
 Front of House staff included Muriel Farnworth -Smith

INFORMATION 1946

Patron	Lady Barlow
Chairman	W. Jack Sambrook
Secretary	Edith A Cooke
Treasurer	Leonard Brindley
Business Manager	R.H. Spencer

1946	NIGHT MUST FALL by Emlyn Williams
1947?	ACACIA AVENUE by Mabel and Denis Constandouros
Unkn	FLASHBACK (A Review Date Unknown) by Enid Peters
13 - 16 April 1948	STARDUST (a Review) by Enid Peters

Incl; Jill Jayes (Variety)
 Jean Tandy (Queen of Ballet)
 Betty Ryder (Sandbach's own Soprano)
 Phyllis Birch (Comedienne)
 W.H.Manley (BBC Light Baritone)
 Doug Read (Lad from Liverpool)
 Geoff Musker (Tango Specialist)
 Bessie Welsby (Yvette)
 W.P. Llewelyn as Bob the Cameraman
 Ken Peters as Professor Keyhole
 K Lewis (Film Director)
 K Hulme (Film Producer)
 G Moses (Eastern Slave)
 D Burgess (Eastern Slave)
 H Peters (Hind legs of Horse)

Producer Ken D Peter
 Ass Producer Enid Peters
 Stage Manager F Birch
 Choreography by Jean Tandy
 Comedy Compiled by Doug Read
 Lighting and Scenic effects by Ken Peters and W.P. Llewelyn
 Scenic artist A Nash
 Wardrobe by Vera Warburton
 Props by H Peters and H.D. Chatton
 Publicity Manager K Lewis
 Electrical advisor G Mitchell

ORCHESTRA
 Musical Scores and Director of Orch, by Roy Warburton
 L Johnson (Leader)
 L Cullen and C Katif (1st Violin)
 T Hewitt and G Brammer (2nd Violin)
 W.J. Tibbitt (Cello)

S. Johnson (Woodwind)
R Morris and L Hilton (Trumpets)
R. Knott (Trombone)
J Salmon (Timpani)
DANCERS
Brenda Williams / Rosemar Whiting / Joan Brereton / Doreen Fare /
Doris Dean / Margaret Twemlow / Margaret Birch / Janet Warburton /
Kathleen Richardson / Audrey Stokes / Joyce Tomkinson /
Patricia Hawthorn / Pamela Neild / Jean Manley / Rosamund Harding /
Ann Locke / Joan Trueman

24-26 March 1949
TEN LITTLE NIGGERS
by Agatha Christie
Incl; Vera Warburton as Mrs Rogers
Joan Brookes as Vera Claythorne
Wally Brooks Mr Lombard
Dennis Rosson as the Doctor
Tim Harper as

19-21 October 1949
Pic and Feature Page 1, 25 Mar 1949 Sandbach Chronicle.
FULL HOUSE
by Ivor Novello
Incl; Yvonne Pritchard as Lola Leadenhall
Marjorie Walker as Maud the Maid
Phyllis Birch as Frayne Rodney
Wally Brooks as John
Richard Hawthorn as Archie Leadenhall
Bessie Welsby as Lady April Hannington
Kenneth Hulme as Charlie
Dennis Rosson as Mr Rosenblatt
John Wilson as Lord Hannington
Tim Harper as Detective Inspector
Kenneth Lewis as First Policeman
Percy Cartlidge as Second Policeman

Producer H Frost
Lighting and Effects by D Chatton, L Chatton and Ken Peters
Music by Mr S Johnson
Stage Manager Ken Peters
ASM F Birch
Stage Carpenters H Peters and K Hulme
Props P Cartlidge
Publicity K Lewis
Make up Enid Peters
Prompt Joan Brooks
Chairman J.R. Sambrook
Secretaries Margaret Walker and Mrs Hickman

24-25 January 1950
Pic and Feature Page unkn , 21 Oct 1949 Sandbach Chronicle.
BOBBY SETTLES DOWN (1 Act)
by Gertrude E Jennings
Incl; Yvonne Pritchard as Roberta (Bobbie)
Betty Cubbon as Agnes Brompton
Conrad Olive as George Phillips
Margaret Birch as Grace the maid

as above
Producer Irene Lea
THE LATE MISS CORDELL (1 Act)
by Philip Johnson
Incl; Margaret Walker as Miss Simpson
Alice Brindley as Miss Bowd
Gloria Smith as Mrs Woolbrook
Christine Foden as Mrs Sidbury
Phyllis Hawthorn as Bessie

as above
David Chatton as Mr Budleigh
Producer Enid Peters
THE HARUM (1 Act)
by Edward Percy and Reginald Denham
Incl; Dennis Rosson as Capt Ned Throughberry
Ken Hulme as Alf Portal
Edith Cooke as Beulah Burrage
Bessie Welsby as Daisy Burrage
Madge Cartlidge as Martha Springett
Enid Peters as Susan Phillip
Phyllis Hawthorn as Maria
Producer Phyllis Birch

ALL THREE PRODUCTIONS

22-24 March 1950
Stage manager Ken Peters
ASM Percy Cartlidge
Lights D Chatton and L Chatton
Stage Carpenters H Peters and K Hulme
Publicity C.J. Massey
Chairman J.R. Sambrooke
REBECCA
by Daphne Du Maurier
Incl; Conrad Olive as Firth
Alice Brindley as Mrs Danvers
Phyllis Hawthorn as Beatrice Lacy
Harry Frost as Giles Lacy
Walter Brooks as Frank Crawley
Percy Cartlidge as Robert
Madge Cartlidge as Maid
Richard Hawthorn as Maxim de Winter
Joan Brooks as Mrs de Winter
Johnny Wilson as Jack Favell
David Brindley as 2nd Footman
Clifford Massey as Mr Coleman Fortesque
Christine Foden as Mrs Coleman Fortesque
Tim Harper as Colonel Julyan
Dennis Rosson as William Tabb
Producer Phyllis Birch
Ass Producer Enid Peters
Stage Manager Ken Peters
ASM's R Lowe and A Hulse
Lights D and L Chatton
Props Percy Cartlidge
Backcloth painter Monica Ford
Garden Scene Painter Derek Smith
Prompt Vera Warburton
Make up by Enid Peters and H Frost
Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin
Chairman W.J. Sambrooke

Pic and Feature Page and Date Unkn Sandbach Chronicle. (Back Stage Crew)

Pic and Feature Page Unkn Sandbach Chronicle. (Review)

About 4 different articles appeared in the Sandbach Chronicle Unfortunately I did not note down the dates or pages.



Rebecca.

1950

25-27 October 1950

GIVE ME YESTERDAY

by Edward Percy and Reginald Denham

JUST MARRIED

by Adelaide Matthews and Anne Nichols

Incl; Harold Peters as Johnny Walker
 Margaret Britain as Mrs Johnny Walker
 Derek Shaw as 1st Steward
 Muriel Farnworth-Smith as Victoire Bertin
 Robert Townsend as Ship's Officer
 Dennis Rosson as Mr U. Makepeace Witter
 Edith Cooke as Mrs U. Makepeace Witter
 Margaret Turner as Mrs Jack Stanley
 Johnny Wilson as Jack Stanley
 Clifford Massey as Percy Jones
 Cecil Rigby as Robert Adams
 Elizabeth Jackson as Roberta Adams
 Conrad Olive as Taxie Driver and 2nd Steward

Producer Phyllis Birch

Prompt Wera Warburton

Stage Manager Ken Peters

Lighting R Lowe and A Hulse

Props Jean Broster

Make up Enid Peters

Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin

Chairman Irene Lea

Vice Chairman Harold Peters ?

Secretary Margaret Walker

Treasurer A.L. Brindley

Pic and Feature Page 2 , 27 Oct 1950 Sandbach Chronicle.



Just Married.

24-26 January 1951

DEAR OCTOPUS

by Dodie Smith

Incl; Conrad Olive as Charles Randolph
Christine Foden as Dora Randolph
Jean Broster as Hilda Randolph
Margery Dickenson as Margery Harvey
June Beck as Cynthia Randolph
Richard Hawthorn as Nicholas Randolph
Paul Finlow as Hugh Randolph
Mary Beard as Gwen Harvey
Peter Birch as William Harvey
Wendy Farnworth -Smith as Kathleen Kenton
Alice Brindley as Belle Schlessinger
Bessie Welsby as Edna Randolph
Jennifer Barlow as Laurel Randolph
Harold Ashurst as Kenneth Harvey
Joan Brooks as Grace Fenning
Joan Dean as Nanny Patching
Mildred Cragg as Gertrude

Producer Phyllis Birch

Stage Management Cecil Rigby / Bob Lowe /
Johnny Wilson / **Ronnie Devlin**

Lighting Laurence Chatton

Make up Enid Peters

Props Muriel Farnworth-Smith and Edith Cooke

Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin

Prompt Vera Warburton

Chairman Irene Lea

Hon Secretary Margaret Walker

Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 26 Jan 1951 Sandbach Chronicle.

DOUBLE DOOR

by Elizabeth Mc Fadden

Incl; Vera Warburton as Avery
Conrad Olive as Telson
Kathleen Snow as Louise
Derek Shaw as William
Doris Lester as Anne Darrow
Margaret Walker as Caroline Van Bret
Phyllis Birch as Victoria Van Bret
Frank Barber as Chase
Robert Townsend as Edward Mortimer
Michael Finlow as Robert Van Bret
Johnny Wilson as Dr Sully
Leonard Fourte as Lambert

Producer Irene Lea

Stage Management Ronnie Devlin / Derek Shaw / Robert Townsend /
J Wilson / C Rigby / J Booth / N Smith / S Farr

Lighting Frank Thompson

Make up Enid Peters

Props Margaret Britain and Christine Foden

Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin

Prompt Emily Hancock

Chairman Irene Lea

Hon Secretary Margaret Walker

Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley

Publicity Muriel Farnworth -Smith

Apr 1951



Double Door

21-23 November 1951

SEE HOW THEY RUN

by Philip King

Incl; Bunty Snow as Ida the Maid
Bessie Welsby as Miss Skillon
Michael Finlow as The rev Lional Toop
June Beck as Penelope His wife
Cecil Rigby as Lance Corporal Clive Winton
Leonard Fourte as The Intruder
Rev. Norman Betts as The Bishop of Lax
Leonard Brindley as The Rev. Arthur Humphrey
Dennis Rosson as Sergeant Towers

Producers Alice Brindley and Christine Foden

Stage Management Robert Townsend

Stage Team Richard Hawthorne / Robert Lowe / Derek Shaw /

Derek Smith / Neil Smith / Johnny Wilson

Stage Carpenters Eli Dickenson and Denis Knight

Lighting Frank Thompson

Props Vera Warburton and Phyllis Birch

Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin

Prompt Muriel Farnworth- Smith

Chairman Irene Lea

Vice Chairman Phyllis Birch

Hon Secretary Margaret Walker

Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley

Publicity Jean M Broster

Pic and Feature Page 1, 23 Nov 1951 Sandbach Chronicle



See How they Run.

24-27 January 1952

A MURDER HAS BEEN ARRANGED

by Emlyn Williams

Incl; Jean Broster as Miss Groze
Robert Townsend as Cavendish
Marjorie Dickenson as Mrs Wragg
Ronald Henshall as Jimmy North
Joan Brooks as Lady Jasper
Alice Brindley as Mrs Arthur
Cecil Rigby as Sir Charles Jasper
Richard Hawthorne as Maurice Mullins

Phyllis Birch as A Woman
 Producer Alice Brindley
 Stage Management Robert Townsend
 Stage Crew Derek Shaw / Johnny Wilson / Michael Finlow / Paul Finlow /
 Bunty Snow / Jean Owston
 Lighting Frank Thompson
 Props Enid Ford and Margaret Brittain
 Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin
 Prompt June Beck
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Vice Chairman Phyllis Birch
 Hon Secretary Margaret Walker
 Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley
 Publicity Irene Lea and Bunty Snow



A Murder Has Been Arranged.

26-28 March 1952

A QUIET WEEKEND

by Esther Mc Cracken

Incl; Robert Townsend as Sam Pecker
 Margaret Britain as Mary Jarrow
 Jean Owston as Miranda Bute
 Joyce Warburton as Sally Spender
 Phyllis Birch as Mildred Royd
 Frank Barber as Arthur Royd
 Bessie Welsby as Bella Hitchins the Maid
 Emily Hancock as Marcia Brent
 Harold Ashurst as Adrian Barasford
 Paul Finlow as Jim Brent
 Edith Cooke as Ella Spender
 Michael Finlow as Denys Royds
 Muriel Farnworth-Smith as Rowena Marriott

Producer Irene Lea
 Stage Management Robert Townsend
 Stage Crew Robert Lowe / J Wilson / Derek Smith / R Hawthorn /
 Bunty Snow / J Warburton
 Stage Carpenters D Knight and J Booth
 Lighting Frank Thompson
 Electricians Ken Critchley and Barry Edmondson
 Props Christine Foden
 Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin
 Prompt Vera Warburton
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Vice Chairman Phyllis Birch
 Hon Secretary Vera Warburton
 Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley
 Publicity Jean Broster and Bunty Snow

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Date Unknown Sandbach Chronicle
2nd Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Date Unknown Sandbach Chronicle

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Date Unknown Crewe Chronicle



A Quiet Weekend

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13 August 1952

Held at the Institute. The Chairman Mrs Irene Lea and 7 Others

Dates of the Dance 11 or 14 November in the Town Hall if available. Ticket prices should be 10/6 with a limit of 250. If possible the band should be Ralph Gethies. Mr Thompson would do the lighting for the event.

Rehearsals at the Youth Fellowship room were getting expensive at 7/6 per night. Mr Brindley would enquire about the use of the Hope Street Church for rehearsals, failing this, the showrooms. Mr Finlow said that the second play had not been chosen, but the last play would be **Worms eye view**, which would be produced by Mrs Lea.

It was agreed that Foden's should make new flats. Mr Townsend would arrange this.

22 September 1952 (Institute)

Two new members were accepted by the committee, they were Miss Sonia Malpas and Miss Rosemary Foster.

The Treasurer said that there was £55/11/00 in the Bank.

Work on the stage was very slow said Mr Townsend was in charge of the working party. A card was sent to all male members to remind them of the working nights.

The Next play would be **Shop at Sly Corner**.

Mrs Goodwin wasn't available to get the Wigs or beards.

Referring to the dance the proceeds would be given to the British Legion this was discussed with the committee. A dancing demonstration would be given during the interval at the dance. Proceeds from this would go to the Earl Heig fund.

Cheshire Rural Community council wanted 5/- for 'Prompt Corner' this was sent for.

Another advert would be put in the papers for the next play.

Money in the bank £58/10/00

The play **Worms Eye View** would be done on the 11 of Jan.

The books for the play **See How They Run** would be sold to the Wrenbury Dramatic society for 2/- each and the books for **Worms Eye View** would be brought from Middlewich (This was later to be found impossible as they would arrive too late).

During the play Ice cream would be sold (Supplied by Mr Hawthorn) The cast would get a cup of tea and a biscuit for the first two nights and something special would be laid on in the board room for the last night.

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8-10 October 1952

TONS OF MONEY

by Will Evans and Valentine

- Incl; Robert Townsend as Spules
- Jean Owston as Simpson
- Margery Dickinson as Miss Benita Mullett
- June Beck as Louise Allington
- Frank Barker as Aubrey Henry Maitland Allington
- David Brindley as Giles
- Michael Finlow as James Chesterman
- Rosemary Foster as Jean Everard
- Leonard Fourte as Henery
- Ronald Henshall as George

Producer Alice Brindley
 Stage Management Robert Townsend
 ASM Robert Lowe
 Stage Carpenters Dennis Knight and Frank Moors
 Lighting Frank Thompson
 Electricians Ken Critchley and Barry Edmondson
 Props Muriel Farnworth -Smith and Jean M Broster
 Wardrobe Phyllis Birch
 Prompt Phyllis Birch
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Business Manager Michael Finlow
 Vice Chairman Christine Foden
 Secretary Emily Hancock
 Hon Treasurer A. L. Brindley
 Publicity Alice Brindley
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 10 Oct Sandbach Chronicle
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle

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20 October 1952

The Dance was postponed due to Ralph Gethick wanting 24 guineas for his services.

Money in Bank £105

Expenses from play	Mr Twemlow	£61/19/00
	Doors 3 Nights	£16/5/00
	Programmes	£3/13/00
	Ice Cream	£7/10/00
	Adverts	£15/00/00
	Props	£1 /5/7

The profit is £30 or £40

The play **Worms Eye View** will be produced by Miss Foster (New Member) Mr Townsend asked if there could be two dress rehearsals.

Elworth PTA asked if they could borrow some flats it was agreed that a charge would be made but it would be given back as a donation.

27 October 1952

(Institute)

New books purchased.

The Dance was cancelled

Mr Brindley said £103/6/4 was taken from the play **Tons of Money** making a profit of £23 approx.

The profit from **Quite Weekend** was £29/8/11

It was proposed that two one act plays should be produced. Mr Touite, Mrs Broster and Mrs Hancock offered to produce them.

17 November 1952

The Bank Balance now stands at £95/2/5

A request from the old peoples treat committee for a dramatic entertainment was considered and it was decided that Mrs Broster would produce a one-act play Down on the farm.

23 November 1952 (Church Showrooms)

Fodens said that they would like the one act plays at their club any Mon., Wed or Thurs. We are also in demand from Arclid and Goostrey.

Mr Thompson said that the Rotary club would like us to take plays to Gawsworth Hall.

Money in Bank £65/14/8

The Social committee resigned.

A third of the profit from the last play would go towards the coronation concert committee and it was suggested that we put on a one-act play for the concert. Mrs Farnworth Smith and Mrs Brindly would go along to the concert to watch our interests.

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December 1952

DOWN ON THE FARM (1 Act)
by Ivor Dean

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5 January 1953

Mrs Lea was absent so Mr Brindley took the chair.
We were asked to help with extending the Town Hall Stage for a concert by Fodens Band to raise money for the coronation fund. We would charge £5/5/00, which we would then donate to the fund.
No Date could be arranged to take the one act play to Arclid.
The Bank Balance was £48/19/8.
It was decided that we should again sell Walls Ice Cream in the interval.

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13-15 January 1953

WORMS EYE VIEW

by R.F. Delderfield
Incl; Rev. R.N. Betts as Pop
Derek Shaw as The Duke
William Middlebrook as Mark
Enid Ford as Mrs Bounty
Muriel M Smith as Thelma
Dennis Rosson as Mr Bounty
Robert Townsend as Sydney Spooner
Johnny Wilson as Taffy
Leonard Fourte as Porter
Sonia Malpas as Bella
H Cecil Rigby as S/Ldr Briary

Producer Rosemary Foster and Michael Finlow
Stage Management Robert Townsend
ASM Robert Lowe
Stage Crew Robert Townsend / Robert Lowe / Johnny Wilson /
Leonard Fourte / Michael Finlow / Derek Shaw.

Lighting Frank Thompson
Electricians Ken Critchley and Barry Edmondson
Props Jean Owston and Muriel M Smith (See Above)
Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin
Prompt Emily Hancock
Chairman Irene Lea
Business Manager Michael Finlow
Vice Chairman Christine Foden
Secretary Emily Hancock
Hon Treasurer A. L. Brindley
Publicity Alice Brindley

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 16 Jan Sandbach Chronicle
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 16 Jan Sandbach Chronicle
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle ?

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19 January 1953 (In the Church Schoolrooms)

Bank Balance £62 / 16 / 8 (November)
Mr Foden donated £5
Murgatroids asked if they could hire the stage equipment.

26 January 1953 (School Rooms)

The one act plays would be staged on the 13th of Feb at Goostry and at Fodens on the 14th of Feb

Worms eye View accounts	Money Taken at Door	£20/15/00
	Programmes	£10/ 4 / 6
	Mr Twemlow	£79/2/6
	Profit from Sale of Ice Cream	£1/15/00

Play books	£3
Cost of Town Hall	£15/15/1
Royalties	£13/13/00
<u>Caretaker</u>	<u>£3</u>
Profit	£50

Mr Middlebrook resigned.

A Letter from Mrs Brindley was received.

Mr Foden donated another £5

Mr Foden would be asked if he would like to become a life member.

Mr Thompson asked if the money that the society received from the hire of scenery could be kept by the society for the purchase of new lights and not be given back to the society that hired the equipment as a donation. This was referred to the business committee.

31 January 1953 (Sat)

(Institute)

The visit to Goostry with the one act play was cancelled.

Mrs Brindley resigned from publicity and her part in the play '**Shop at Sly Corner**' due to personnel reasons.

Tom Hill, Miss Neild, and Mr Bailey who want to join were sent applications forms.

Mr Middlebrook resigned by letter it was decided to send him a letter asking him to reconsider.

Mr Thompson said that the society should not lend out the scenery as it cost him a lot of manpower with not much return for the society.

Mr Finlow asked if he could have a good version of 'the Queen'. Mr Thompson said that a good version would be by Fodens.

5 February 1953 EMERGENCY MEETING. (The Church Showrooms)

This meeting was called to discuss the two resignations from the next play. Mr Fourte was asked to take one of the parts and he agreed. Mr Derek Shaw was asked to take the other part.

Mrs Birch was still the producer.

Mr Rosson suggested that we do something for the flood fund appeal. It was decided to send a donation of £20/20/00

Another resignation was received from the play '**Shop at Sly Corner**'

16 February 1953 (Institute)

Mr Middlebrook stood by his resignation.

Bank Balance £102/16/11

Mr Foden accepted the life membership to the society.

Three new members were accepted.

Mr Townsend said that if we were going to do a play for the coronation then we should hire the scenery. This was agreed.

23 February 1953 (The Church Rooms)

Mr Fourte resigned his part in the next play as he was leaving the area.

A member of Cheadle ADS would be asked if they could take his part in '**Shop at Sly Corner**' as they had just done the play.

It was suggested that the Sandbach Players donate a clock to the Town Hall during Coronation Year.

#####

25-27 March 1953

SHOP AT SLY CORNER

by Edward Percy

Incl; John Dickenson as Decius Heiss
Michael Finlow as Archie Fellows
Rosemary Foster as Margaret Heiss
Bunty Snow as Joan Deal
Margaret Britain as Mathilde Heiss
Bessie Welsby as Mrs Catt
Derek Shaw as Robert Graham
Malcolm Hollinshead as Corder Morris
Anthony (Tony) Welsby as Steve Hubbard

Ron Henshall as John Elliot
 Producer Phyllis Birch
 Stage Management Robert Townsend
 ASM Robert Lowe
 Stage Crew Robert Townsend / Robert Lowe / Johnny Wilson /
 Rosemary Foster / Michael Finlow / Derek Shaw.
 Lighting Frank Thompson
 Props Christine Foden
 Wardrobe Ethel Goodwin
 Prompt Vera Warburton
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Business Manager Michael Finlow
 Vice Chairman Christine Foden
 Secretary Emily Hancock
 Hon Treasurer A. L. Brindley
Feature Page 53, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle



Shop at Sly Corner

#####

30 March 1953 (Institute)

Mrs Brindley suggested that the next season's tickets should be in different coloured blocks instead of the usual tickets. This would make each day's tickets more distinguishable. It was also suggested that the 1/6 price for the first night be reintroduced.

20 April 1953 (Institute)

Mrs Birch resigned

The Chairman suggested that we join the Central library theatre this was agreed.

The selection was reduced to three. Non-playing members would choose the plays and the producers would form a committee to cast them.

27 April 1953 AGM (Institute)

Bank Balance £108/10/01 at 18 Apr 1953

Election of officers

President	Mr J.E. Foden
Chairman and Business manager	Mrs Ireen Lee
Vice Chairman	Mrs Foden
Secretary	Mrs Warburton
Minutes secretary	Mrs Hancock
Treasurer	Mr Brindley
Ass Stage Manager	Mr Lowe
Publicity	Mrs Muriel Farnworth Smith
Wardrobe mistress	Mrs Goodwin
Librarian	Mrs Bessie Welsby

Miss Wakefield should assist Mrs Smith

The Selection committee will consist of Mrs Lee, Mrs Foden, and Mrs Brindley.

Producers for the season were to be Mrs Lee, Mrs Smith, and Miss Foster.

Complaints were received that members were talking in the balcony during the performances. This would be looked into.

10 August 1953 (Institute)

The next three plays would be performed on the 4 Oct, 24 Jan and the 21 March.

The first play would be **When we are Married** or **Fools rush in.**

We would hire the scenery for the plays. Rehearsals will still take place at Westfields.

21 August 1953 (Institute)

Bank Balance £56/4/2

Mr Cottan was welcomed to the society.

The second play in the season would be **Holly and the Ivy.**

Mr Hawthorne would again supply the ice cream.

There would be a play reading after the meeting.

28 September 1953

The meeting was chaired by Mrs Foden.

Three new members were welcomed to the society.

Mrs Chrystatet Busniston will give a lecture to the S.A.D.S. on the 5th of November.

The Bank Balance now stands at £65/13/2.

#####

4 -6 October 1953

WHEN WE ARE MARRIED

by J.B. Priestley

Incl; Kathleen M. Wakefield as Ruby Birtles

John N Betts as Gerald Forbes

Margery Dickinson as Mrs Worthrop

Cynthia Taylor as Nancy Holmes

Derek Shaw as Fred Dyson

Malcolm Hollinshead as Henry Ormonroyd

Harold Ashurst as Alderman Joseph Helliwell

Bessie Welsby as Maria Helliwell

Dennis E Rosson as Councillor Albert Parker

Robert Townsend as Herbert Soppitt

Emily Hancock as Clara Soppitt

Edith A Cooke as Annie Parker

Muriel Farnworth Smith as Lottie Grady

Johnny Wilson as Rev. Clement Mercer

J.E. Foden as Mayor of Cleckewyke

Producer Irene Lea

Stage Management Robert Townsend / Derek Shaw/ Johnny Wilson /

Robert Lowe / Michael Finlow / Malcolm Hollinshead.

Lighting Frank Thompson

Electrician Ken Critchley

Props Christine Foden

Wardrobe Irene Graham

Prompt Vera Warburton

Chairman Irene Lea

Hon Secretary Vera Warburton

Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley

Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith

Feature Page Unknown, 9 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.



When we are Married.

#####

19 October 1953

The takings of the last play were £102/00/00

The scenery for **Holly and the Ivy** will again be hired

An application was received from Mr R Hassop to join the society and was accepted.

The lecture on the 5th of November will be at 7.30 and a charge of 2/6 will be made. This will include light refreshment.

26 October 1953

2 new members joined the society and Mr Hockenhill resigned

Cash in hand £118/7/4. Income from the pay £115/13/-. Approx. profit £28/14/4.

The next play **Holly and the Ivy** will be produced by Muriel Farnworth Smith.

Mr Stubbs from Barclays Bank would like to become a vice president. We would write to him.

The meeting ended with a play reading.

23 November 1953

There was a loss of Approx. £4 from the lecture given by Mrs Burnistone on the 5th.

It was suggested that if there were any more lectures, they would be given only to members and would be free.

The Bank Balance £91/8/1

The total profit from **When we are Married** was £24/4/11.

An application was received from 12-year-old Maureen Kelly and accepted, making her the youngest member to join the society.

21 December 1953

The usual fee for a junior joining the players will still be £10/6/-. Maureen Kelly will only pay 7/6 due to her joining half way through the season.

Bank Balance now £96/14/1

Rehearsals after Christmas would be three times a week for the next production.

A request from Lady Barlow was received asking if we could do a one-act play.

#####

24-26 January 1954

THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

by Wynyard Browne

Incl; R. Norton Betts as Rev. Martin Gregory

Jean Owston as Jenny (Elder Daughter)

Jo Kenny as Margaret (Younger Daughter)

Raymond Harrop as Mick (His Son)

Irene Graham as Aunt Lydia

Margeret Britain as Aunt Bridget

Johnny Wilson as Richard Wyndham

John Woodhouse as David Paterson.

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Management Robert Townsend / Derek Shaw / Johnny Wilson /

Robert Lowe / Michael Finlow / Jack Betts.

Lighting Frank Thompson

Electrician Ken Critchley
Props Edith Cooke, Marjorie Jackson, Christine Foden.
Wardrobe and Make Up Rosemary Foster
Prompt Bessie Welsby
Chairman Irene Lea
Hon Secretary Vera Warburton
Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley
Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith and Kathleen Wakefield
Pic and Feature Page Unknown, 29 Jan 1954 Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unknown, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

22 February 1954 (Meeting)

The Chairman received notification regarding the rates to be paid on the room at the Westlands, they amounted to £3

The treasurer reported a loss from the last play. The total takings were £65/6/9 while the expenses amounted to £58/2/2 with other small expenses to be met.

Cups of tea were served during the last play and it was such a success that it was decided to carry on with it for the next production.

24-26 March 1954

FOOLS RUSH IN

by Kenneth Horne

Incl; Sonia Malpas as Millicent (Barmaid)

Margaret Nield as Mrs Coot

Vera Warburton as Mrs Mandrake

June Beck as Angela

Rosemary Foster as Pam (Bride)

Malcolm Hollinshead as Charles

John Woodhouse as Paul

Derek Shaw as Joe

Producer Irene Lea

Stage Management Robert Townsend / Derek Shaw / Johnny Wilson /
Robert Lowe / Michael Finlow.

Lighting Frank Thompson

Electrician Ken Critchley

Props Muriel Farnworth Smith, Christine Foden.

Wardrobe C. Irene Graham

Prompt Marjorie Jackson

Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith

Pic and Feature Page 1, 26 March 1954 Sandbach Chronicle.

29 March 1954

It was proposed that we get rid of all our scenery except our lighting.

It was noted that Miss Wakefield, Mrs Welsby and Jack Betts had been missed off the last programme.

Bank Balance £157/15/7. This did not include any bills from **Fools Rush in**. A suggestion of an end of season show or dance was put forward. It was agreed to hold a dance on the date of the 29th Apr (Thurs) was suggested.

Mrs Smith was asked for two new make up boxes.

Mrs Graham would receive a bottle of wine and a bunch of flowers when she leaves the society to go to New Zealand.

26 April 1954 AGM

Chairman's remarks. Referring to the overall loss on the last three shows Mrs Lee considered that television was chiefly to blame.

Bank Balance £68/7/10 despite the £7/9/8 loss on the shows.

Election of officers

President Mr Foden

Chairman and Business Manager Mrs I Lee

Vice Chairman	Mrs J.E. Foden
Secretary	Mrs V Warburton
Minute Secretary	Miss K M Wakefield
Treasurer	Mr A L Brindley
Stage Manager	Mr Bruce Mottram
Ass Stage Manager	Mr R Lowe
Publicity	Muriel Farnworth Smith
Wardrobe	Mrs R Cooke and Miss C.S. Taylor
Librarian	Mrs B Welsby
Selection committee	Miss R Forster / Mr A.L Brindley / Mr B Mottram
Casting Committee	Mr F Thompson and Mr J Betts
Producers	Mrs Ireen Lee / Mrs Muriel Farnworth Smith / Miss Foster / Mrs Jackson / Rev Betts / Mrs Foden / Mr Hollinshead (To Assist)

The next season's plays will be on the 3 Oct, 5 Dec and 13 March.

26 July 1954 (Westfields)

Two plays were recommended for production this season. **The House Master and Blithe Spirit**. Both plays were accepted.

The first would be produced by Miss Foster with Mrs Farnworth Smith assisting.

As to cheaper seats it was agreed to have a certain amount of 3/- seats available for the first night (Wed) to be reserved with the rest being at 1/- available at the door on the night.

27 September 1954

Two new make up boxes had been purchased.

The Society now had £27/2/9 in the Bank

Regarding the next production **Blithe Spirit**, the publicity manager reported that 2,000 handbills had been distributed and the newspapers had been notified, as well as a large poster, which was on display. The programme would have 12 pages of adverts.

Mr Woodhouse suggested that for the next production members should be given so many tickets to be sold. The ticket would admit the owner to any of the three performances of the next play, but it was up to the bearer to notify Mr Twemlow of the night he wants to attend the play. (This idea was accepted at this meeting but at the meeting on the 25 Oct the idea was scrapped as being unworkable)

#####

6 - 8 October 1954

BLITHE SPIRIT

by Noel Coward

Incl; Kathleen M Wakefield as Edith (The Maid)

June Beck as Ruth

John Woodhouse as Charles

Robert Townsend as Dr Bradman

Emily Hancock as Mrs Bradman

Bessie Welsby as Madame Arcati

Jo Kenny as Elvira .

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Management Bruce Mottram

Stage Crew Bruce Mottram / Bob Lowe / Bob Townsend / Johnny Wilson /

Derek Shaw / James Bolton / Tony Welsby / M Glynn

Lighting Frank Thompson

Electrician Ken Critchley

Props Marjorie Jackson and Christine Foden

Wardrobe Cynthia S. Taylor

Prompt Vera Warburton

Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith and Kathleen M. Wakefield

Pic and Feature Page 1, 8 Oct 1954 Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Date unkn Crewe Chronicle.



Blythe Spirit.

 25 October 1954

The play **The Housemaster** had been abandoned due to the producer being unable to cast it. It was replaced by **Fresh Fields** this will be the December production. Again there will be a cheap first night.

Bank Balance £84/5/7.

Expenses from the play Blythe Spirit amounted to over £90

Mrs Barrisford was to be given 15/- instead of 10/- to cater for teas instead of Ice Cream.

29 November 1954 Business meeting

The Manse Players and the Young Farmers asked if they could hire the stage extension and curtains. It was decided that they could at a charge of 5 Guineas (19 Jan and 22 Feb)

Mr Tompson asked to join the society and Miss Kenny said that she would have to leave as she was moving out of the area. She was also getting married; best wishes were expressed to her. Handbills and posters advertising the next play had been distributed

Bank Balance £60/13/6. The profit on Blythe Spirit would be £6/14/- when all the money had been collected in.

The stage for the next production will be set up on the Sunday before the production.

#####

8-10 December 1954

FRESH FIELDS

by Ivor Novello

Incl; Vera Warburton as Miss Swaine
 Raymond Street as Ludlow
 Muriel Farnworth Smith as Lady Lilian Bedworthy
 Margaret Britain as Lady Mary Crabbe
 Bruce Mottram as Tim Crabbe
 Bessie Welsby as Mrs Pidgeon
 Bunty Snow as Una Pidgeon
 Malcolm Hollinshead as Tom Larcomb
 Margery Dickinson as Lady Strawholme
 Producer Irene Lea Assisted by Malcolm Hollinshead
 Stage Management Bruce Mottram
 Stage Crew Johnny Wilson / Robert Townsend / Derek Shaw /
 Malcolm Hollinshead / Robert Lowe / R Smith.
 Lighting Frank Thompson
 Electrician Ken Critchley
 Props Christine Foden and Rosemar Foster
 Wardrobe Cynthia S. Taylor
 Prompt Emily Hancock
 Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Vice Chairman as Christine Foden
 Secretary Vera Warburton

Minute Secretary Kathleen M. Wakefield
Treasurer A.L. Brindley
Pic and Feature Page 1 and 7, 10 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

15 January 1955

It was decided to produce **The Housemaster** as the society now had more members. The play would be produced by Muriel Farnworth Smith.

31 January 1955 (Institute Card Room)

Mrs V Warberton chaired this meeting

It was reported that there weren't many stewards at the last production. It was suggested that the men have the large dressing room for the next productions there were 12 of them.

Mrs Welsby suggested that the society buy some sound effect's records from Messrs French Ltd for the fee of 1 Guinea.

It was suggested that as well as the three one act plays the society should produce a series of one act productions at the same time.

It was also suggested that a one-act play reading should be done at each monthly meeting. There will also be auditions held for each production to help the producer to choose a cast.

28 February 1955

Mrs Lee was in the Chair

Balance in the Bank £57. The society had however lost £27/14/6 on the last production, **Fresh Fields**. The treasurer suggested that we paint our scenery to save money. Other ideas to save money were to put on two productions a year and to only charge 3/- for all the seats with no reductions. Questions were asked about the casting of outsiders in the production of **The Housemaster**. It was hoped that the outsiders would join the players after the production. Mrs Snow proposed that the society should hold another dance. It was decided to hold one at the Old Hall Hotel on the 26 Mar 1956.

#####

16-18 March 1955

THE HOUSE MASTER

by Ian Hay

Incl; Reymond Street as Charles Donkin
Tony Wesby as "Bimbo" Faringdon
Malcolm Hollinshead as Victor Beamish
R.A. Smith as Frank Hasting
Margaret Nield as Ellen
Margaret Britain as Barbara Fane
Maureen A Kelly as "Button" Faringdon
Cynthia S Taylor as Matron
Michael J Warrington as "Old Crump"
Kathleen M Wakefield as Rosemary Faringdon
Sonia Malpas as Chris Faringdon
Bruce Mottram as Philip de Pourville
Peter H Birch as "Flosie" Nightingale
Andrew Henderson as The Rev. Edmund Orlington
H Thomlinson as Sir Berkley Nightingale
Michael R.E. Hovey as Travers
Graham Mitchell as "Pop"

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Management Bruce Mottram

Stage Crew Robert Townsend / Derek Shaw / Johnny Wilson /

H Tomlinson / R Smith / Tony Wesby / P Birch / M Hovey /

R Lowe

Lighting Frank Thompson

Electrician Ken Critchley

Props June Becke and Enid Ford

Wardrobe Bunty Snow and Cynthia Taylor
 Make Up Bessie Welsby
 Sound Effects and Music Michael R.E. Hovey
 Prompt Bessie Welsby
 Chairman Irene Lea
 Vice Chairman Christine Foden
 General Secretary Vera Warburton
 Minute Seretary Kathleen M Wakefield
 Hon Treasurer A.L. Brindley
 Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith and Kathleen M Wakefield
Pic and Feature Page 1 and 6, 18 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.



The Housemaster.

#####

25 April 1955

Mrs Foden requested that the society move the equipment from the Westfields stables as she had found someone to rent the rooms and was unable to let the SADS use the room at no cost. Mrs Foden was thanked for the use of the rooms over the years and it was decided that the players would sell the equipment.

25 April 1955 A.G.M

Mrs Ireen Lee announced that she was retiring from her job as Chairman of the society. When she took office over 7 years ago the society was £50 in Debt, now it was over £50 in credit. She thanked all who had helped bring this satisfactory state of affairs. Mrs Lee will still be a member
 Bank Balance £59/2/6 the loss of the years workings was £9/5/4.

It was pointed out that the sale of programmes had not covered the cost of printing while the sale of tea had provided a profit.

Election of officers.

President	Mr J.E. Foden
Chairman and Business manager	Mrs Muriel Farnworth Smith
Vice Chairman	Mr M Hollinshead
General Secretary	Mrs R C Ford
Minutes secretary	Mrs R Hancock
Treasurer	Mr H Thomlinson
Stage Manager	Mr R Smith
Ass Stage Manager	Mr R Townsend
Honorary stage manager	Mr R Lowe
Lighting	Mr F Thompson
Publicity manager	Miss K M Wakefield
Ass Publicity Manager	Miss M Nield
Librarian	Mrs B Welsby

Producers were also chosen as well as a selection committee.

Mrs Dickinson suggested that one person should buy the refreshments for the last night and that everyone should contribute to the cost (Poss. this refers a last night Party)

24 May 1955 (Literary Institute)

Miss Joan Carter Miss Sheila Mc Gilcrest and Jennifer Hunt joined the society
Mrs Ford resigned as general secretary. Miss Warberton was asked to take her place.

Three plays were chosen for the next season they would be **The Happiest days of your life, Cure for Love** and **Nothing but the truth** and a three act play written by Mr M Hollinshead. These would be performed on the 24 to 28 Oct, 5 to 10 Feb and 23 to 28 Apr

It was also suggested that the tickets shouldn't have numbers on them.

4 July 1955

The chairman had contacted Mr Cooke of the Young farmers about purchasing our stage equipment, She didn't hold much hope.

Tickets for the next production will be in colours and not numbered.

First night tickets will be 2/- and Thurs and Fri tickets will be 3/-.

26 August 1955

Mr R Street resigned from the society, as he is moving out of the area.

The first play was changed to **The Chiltern Hundreds**.

5 September 1955

Mrs G Hovey took over the job of secretary with Mr H Hollinshead becoming minute secretary.

Bank Balance £51/2/6

It was announced that Derek Shaw was getting married on the 6th Sept and he was congratulated.

26 September 1955

Bank Balance £70/3/5

It was reported that there wasn't a stage manager for the next production as Mr Derek Smith was leaving the district when he got married. The job will be offered to Mr Fox.

A letter was received from a hospital in Market Drayton asking if we would like to present a performance of **The Chiltern Hundreds** as a charity fundraiser. It was decided to do this on the 19th of November.

3 October 1955

Bank Balance £75/8/5

Many organisations had enquired about the society putting on a one-act play. The society will be willing to do this as long as a producer can be found.

There will be an advert advertising the next production in the Parish magazine.

The Chairman was authorised to sell all the remaining tickets to the old folk at 1/- each.

Fish and Chips will be provided on the Friday night of the play at the expense of the society for the stage crew.

#####

24-28 October 1955

THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS

by William Douglas Home

Incl; Malcolm Hollinshead as The Earl of Lister

Margaret Britain as The Countess of Lister

June Beck as June Farrell

Sonia Malpas as Bessie

Robert Townsend as Beecham

John Woodhouse as Lord Pym

Sheila McGilchrist as Lady Caroline Smith

Unknown as Mr Cleghorn

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager Ken Fox

Stage Crew K Fox / R Townsend / J Wilson / B Lowe / A Welsby / N Jones/

L Williams / and members of the Elworth PTA

Lighting Frank Thompson and Ken Fox

Electrician Ken Critchley

Music and Sound Effects Michael Hovey

Props Enid Ford and Bruce Mottram
Wardrobe Cynthia S Taylor
Chairman
Vice Chairman
Hon Secretary
Hon Treasurer
Publicity Kathleen M Hovey and Margaret Nield
Pic and Feature Page 1, 28 Oct 1955 Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Date Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

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7 November 1955

Mr F Thompson resigned as lighting expert; Mr Fox will take the post until someone with more experience comes along.

After the meeting a make up demonstration was given by My Austin J Hawkes the headmaster of Alsager Secondary Modern School.

23 November 1955

An application was received from Miss Hopley to join the society.

The approximate profit from **The Chiltern Hundreds** was £3 this brings the bank balance to £73/6/2.

It was decided to charge 3/- for all three nights of the play with the usual reductions for the balcony.

The Stage manager Mr Fox pointed out that we needed more stage equipment. It was agreed to purchase felt for padding the stage. We would also buy a lightweight expanding ladder. It was also decided that we should find a suitable place to store the lighting equipment.

5 December 1955

We received a cheque from Market Drayton for £3/10/- with many thanks. The bank balance stands at £87/14/5.

It was decided that we would have a Christmas party. The cost will be 10/- a head, this will include a meal and refreshments, and these will be supplied by the Co-op at this price if there is a minimum of 30 people.

2 January 1956

The Christmas party has been cancelled due to the lack of support.

12 January 1956

The next play was due to have been **To Kill a Cat** but due to Mrs Lea being able to cast it. It has been decided to do three one act plays. **'The Browning version', 'The Bride wore an opal ring' and 'Unto which it shall please God'**. The last two plays will also be performed at Nantwich.

2 February 1956

Mrs E Hancock and Mr and Mrs Jessop resigned from the society.

Bank Balance £90/12/2

The cost of the set for **The Browning Version** from Messrs Watts and Corry would be £18. It was decided to hire the set, as it would also do for the other two plays.

6 February 1956

Bank Balance £77/3/10

#####

15-17 February 1956

THE BROWNING VERSION (1Act)

by Terrence Rattigan

Incl; Tony Welsby as John Taplow

Michael Hovey as Frank Hunter

Bunty Snow as Millie Crocker-Harris

Robert Townsend as Andrew Crocker-Harris

H Tomlinson as Dr Frobisher

Peter Birch as Peter Gilbert
 R Valerie Farmer as Mrs Gilbert
 Producer Malcolm Hollinshead
 Technical See below
 as above THE BRIDE WORE AN OPEL RING (1 Act)
 by R.F. Delderfield
 Incl; Sonia Malpas as Heather Beckett
 Enid Ford as Mrs Phelps
 Bessie Welsby as Mrs Beckett
 Bruce Mottram as Henry Beckett
 Wendy Farnworth Smith as Rose Manders
 Derek Shaw as Ted Harvey
 Producer Derek Shaw
 Technical See Below
 as above UNTO WHICH IT SHALL PLEASE GOD (1Act)
 by T.B. Morris
 Incl; Joan Boadle as Marion Powell
 Marjorie Dickinson as Gladys Long
 Sonia Malpas as Iris Boyd
 Linda Parkes as Beatrice Folkes
 Rose Mason as Florrie Buss
 Muriel Farnworth Smith as Diana Renton-Clark
 Doris Brereton as Prissie Withers
 Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Technical for all three Shows
 Stage Manager Ken Fox
 Stage Crew Tony Welsby / C.G. Hovey / Bruce Mottram / L Williams.
 Lighting Ken Critchley
 Music and Sound Effects Michael Hovey
 Make up Bessie Welsby
 Props June Beck
 Wardrobe Cynthia S Taylor
 Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
 Vice Chairman Malcolm Hollinshead
 Hon Secretary Kathleen M Hovey
 Hon Treasurer H Tomlinson
 Publicity Kathleen M Hovey
Pic and Feature Page 1 and 6, 17 Feb 1956 Sandbach Chronicle.

 5 March 1956

A letter was received from the Nantwich Festival committee thanking us for our one act play entry.
 The third play in the season **To Kill a Cat** will be postponed.
 The treasurer reported that we now have £79/ 11/ 2
 An aluminium ladder will be bought at a cost of £20/5/- A padlock will also be purchased so that only
 authorised persons could use it. It will also be looked into to see if a proscenium curtain could be
 purchased.

9 April 1956

A ladder had been bought.
 Bank Balance £57/14/9. The last production made a loss of £19/0/8

#####

25-27 April 1956

TO KILL A CAT
 by Roland Pertwee and Harold Dearden
 Incl; Kathleen Hovey as Ruth Henley
 Bruce Mottram as Dr Raikes
 Margaret Nield as Margaret Fenwick
 Valerie Farmer as Stella Martin

Michael Hovey as Esmond Proust
June Beck as Lilian Proust
Harold Ashurst as Brand the Butler
John Woodhouse as Jessop Crawley
W.R. Duff as Mark Proust
Malcolm Hollinshead as Whitton
Toots as Himself (The cat)

Producer Irene Lea
Stage Management Ken Fox
Stage Crew G Hovey / Bruce Motram / Michael Hovey / V Farmer /
Enid Ford / Sonia Malpas / Tony Welsby / Maureen Kelly
Lighting Ken Critchley
Music and Sound Effects Michael Hovey
Make up Bessie Welsby
Props Enid Ford and Sonia Malpas
Prompt Margaret Snow
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Vice Chairman Malcolm Hollinshead
Hon Secretary Kathleen M Hovey
Hon Treasurer H Tomlinson
Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith
Pic and Feature Page 1 and 6, 27 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

30 April 1956 AGM

All the stage equipment at Westfields had now been disposed of.

Election of officers

President	Mr J E Foden
Chairman	Mrs M Farnworth Smith
Vice Chairman	Mrs I Lee
Secretary	Mrs C G Hovey
Treasurer	Mr Thomlinson
Auditor	Mr H Ashurst
Publicity	Miss S Malpas
Stage Manager	Mr Fox
Wardrobe	Mrs Mawdesley

The Next years plays will be, '**Job for the Boy**', '**Dial M for Murder**' '**Love in a Mist**' and possibly '**Busman's Holiday**' as a reserve.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the society a visit to the Theatre was arranged.

12 June 1956

A letter from Nantwich festival committee was received asking if we would like to take part in the next festival.

The last play **To Kill a Cat** had made a loss of £9/6/10 leaving our bank balance now at £42/2/9

Mrs Farnworth Smith had received details of a producers and leaders school to be held on four Tuesdays at a fee of One Guinea for the whole course.

16 July 1956

New members were accepted into the society including the return on Mrs Birch. The others were Mr Davies, Mr N Victor Brown, Mr R Brookes, Mr D Foden and Mr R Hawthorn

13 August 1956

It was reported that the cast for **Job for the Boy** had been found. It included an American airman stationed at Cranage station.

Bank Balance £25/14/7

For the next play the tea would be served at the back of the hall.

3 September 1956

Mrs Farnworth Smith had found out about an article in the Sandbach Chronicle about the Sandbach Players. She considered it to be in bad taste and had written to the editor to get part of the article banned.

It was proposed that the cast names be put on the poster outside the Town Hall and the Crown. It was also proposed that a complimentary ticket be given to each shop that displayed the poster. A Sandwich board man would parade outside the Town Hall on the Thursday and Saturday before the play.

#####

3-5 October 1956

JOB FOR THE BOY

by Dennis Driscoll

Incl; Margaret Nield as Patience Lomax
Joan Boadle as Maggie Lomax
W Davies as Walter Lomax
Ernest Worswick as Amos Entwhistle
Thomas E Rager as Dwight Schuleman
Michael Hovey as David
Sonia Malpas as Lady Ariadne Crofield

Producer Phyllis Birch

Pic and Feature Page 1 and Back Page, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

15 October 1956

Sheila Mc Gilcrest resigned

The publicity for the last play was a great success. It was decided that as there hadn't been any pre-publicity in the newspapers, we would put a paid advert in the local Chronicle.

Bank Balance £110/13/4

Dial M For Murder was now in production. It was decided to use the sandwich board man again in the publicity for the production. It was also suggested that each row of seats should have a letter on them, as it would make showing people to seats much easier.

The Stage manager reported that an aluminium bed was needed for the floodlights as they were getting very hot and might cause a fire.

Mr Fox then asked if it was possible to purchase a tubular microphone to amplify the actor's voices, as it was difficult to hear them.

#####

14-16 November 1956

DIAL M FOR MURDER

by Frederick Knott

Incl; June Beck as Sheila Wendice
John Woodhouse as Tony Wendice
Bruce Mottram as Max Halliday
W.R. Duff as Captain Lesgate
Robert Townsend as Insp Hubbard

Producer Irene lea

Stage Manager Ken Fox

Stage Crew M Hovey / G Hovey / J Woodhouse / Tony Welsby /

Bruce Mottram / Robert Townsend / Mrs Enid Ford

Lighting George Robinson

Music and Sound Effects Michael Hovey

Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow

Props Enid Ford and Margaret Neild

Prompt Bessie Welsby

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Vice Chairman Irene Lea

Secretary Kathleen M Hovey

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity R Valerie Farmer and Sonia Malpas

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 16 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

3 December 1956

Mr A Twemlow, Miss S Hillsden and Mr R Hawthorn joined the society.
Mrs Farnworth Smith reported that **Job for the Boy** would be produced at Cranage on Fri 14 Dec.
Bank Balance £162/18/3

It was decided not to do the Nantwich festival, as we didn't have enough time to put together a production. It was however decided to do a 1-act play in January for all those who hadn't had a part in any of this year's production.

The Chairman thanked the cast of **Dial M for Murder**. She also said that the booking plan would not be at Twemlow's because the staff had complained that the extra work was interfering with the usual workload at Christmas. The producer also asked for more helpers to build the stage. She also asked for any old fashioned props that could be used on stage.

As the last two sets from Watts and Corry were of poor quality it was decided that for the next play **Love in a Mist** other companies would be asked to tender an estimate.

22 January 1957

It was reported that **Job for the Boy** had not been put on at Cranage due to a misunderstanding. The officer in charge had apologised.

Bank Balance £64/12/9 after all the bills had been paid. The profit from **Job for the boys** had been £5/11/6 Mr Hovey was given £4 to purchase equipment to make the building of the stage more efficient.

8 February 1957 (Business meeting held at The offices of Mr H C Rigby)

Due to the illness of the chairman there wasn't a 1-act play put on in January.

It was reported that Watts and Covy were the only firm in the district that supplied sets. So the set for **Love in a Mist** had to be ordered from them hoping that it was better than the last two.

The Next play-- There will be 7 rows of seats at 3/- (Book able) downstairs with 2 rows in the balcony. The cost of teas will go up from 3d to 4d, tickets to be sold before the show starts. The price of the programme will stay the same at 3d.

#####

20-22 March 1957

LOVE IN A MIST

by Kenneth Horne

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Mrs Evans

Derek Shaw as Nigel

Kathleen Hovey as Pat

N Victor Brown as Mr Evans

Robert Townsend as Howard

Maureen Kelly as Rose

Producer John Woodhouse

Stage Manager Ken Fox

Stage Crew G Hovey / J Woodhouse / Tony Welsby / Derek Shaw /

Bruce Mottram / F Moss / M Burns / N Victor Brown

Lighting George Robinson

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Make up Bessie Welsby

Props Enid Ford and June Beck

Wardrobe Mrs R Mawdsley

Prompt Margaret Nield

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Vice Chairman Irene Lea

Secretary Kathleen M Hovey

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity R Valerie Farmer and Sonia Malpas

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 22 March Sandbach Chronicle.

EXTRA INFORMATION 20-22 Mar 1957 and 11 - 15 Oct 1983

The "Love in a mist" is a flower also known as a NIGELLA DAMASCENA. The Tv Cook Nigella Lawson was named after the plant.

15 April 1957

Bank Balance £109/12/4

The profit from **Love in a mist** was approx. £8

29 April 1957 AGM

Bank Balance £74/18/4

The profit from the years plays was £7/9/10

Miss C.S. Taylor resigned.

The support from the public had been most encouraging especially with the treat of Television.

Election of officers

President Mr J E Foden

Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith

Vice Chairman Mr J Woodhouse

Treasurer Mr H Tomlinson

Secretary Mrs Hovey

Publicity Mr R Brooks

Ass Publicity Miss S Malpus

Suggested plays for the next season '**As Long as there Happy** ', **Bonaventure**','**Jane steps out**', With '**Reluctant Hero's**' as a reserve.

It was decided as an end of season outing to go to either the Opera House or the Library Theatre in Manchester, the secretary would arrange it.

9 May 1957

Bank Balance £70/18/4

Subscription to the County drama committee was requested and accepted at 5/-.

The Stage manager was authorised to spend up to £5 on the construction of a new switchboard.

17 June 1957

The third play was changed from **Jane Steps out** to **Young Wives tale**.

9 September 1957

The tickets will all be 3/- with half price for Children under 12 if accompanied by an adult.

Enquiries for the nun's costumes for Bonaventure would be made or hired if necessary.

It was announced that the Vice Chairman Mr J Woodhouse was leaving the area and would have to leave the society.

9 October 1957

It was reported that Watt's and Corry were unable to supply the set for Bonaventure, so another firm Bert Lomas Ltd would supply it for £27 + £35 for transport. After considering an offer from Congleton Players to lend us their flats. As this would require us to paint them it was decided to hire the set.

#####

6 - 8 November 1957

BONAVENTURE

by Charlotte Hastings

Incl; Pamela Jackson as Nurse Phillips

Wendy Farnworth Smith as Nurse Brent

Joan Boadle as Sister Josephine

Fred Moss as Willy Pentridge

Bessie Welsby as Sister Mary Bonaventure

William Davies as Dr Jeffreys

Margery Dickinson as The Mother Superior

"Bob" Kirkham as Melling

June Beck as Sarah Carn

Margaret Nield as Miss Pierce

Enid M Ford as Martha Pentridge

Producer Phyllis Birch

Stage Manager Ken Fox

Stage Crew Bob Townsend / Derek Shaw / Anthony (Tony) Welby /

Graham Hovey / F Brookes / Peter Birch.

Lighting George Robinson
Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey
Make up Bessie Welsby
Props Kathleen Hovey and Muriel Farnworth Smith
Prompt Vera Warburton
Publicity Reg Brookes and Sonia Malpas
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 1 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 7 Nov Sandbach Chronicle



Bonaventure

20 November 1957

3 new members were welcomed, Miss Collins, Mr Hammond and Ivan Chetwynd
Bonaventure had cost £99/4/10 to present.
Mrs Warberton was elected as the new vice chairman.

#####

29-31 January 1958

AS LONG AS THEY'RE HAPPY

by Vernon Sylvaine

Incl; Maureen Kelly as Gwendoline
Valerie Farmer as Linda
Sonia Malpas as Patricia
Monica Owen as Stella Bentley
Robert Townsend as John Bentley
Ian Hammonds as Bobby Denver
Bill Davies as Hermann Schneider
Howard Fox as Michael Kenley
Freddie Moss as Peter Pember
Bunty Snow as Pearl
Joan Boadle as Corinne
"Bob" Kirkham
Mr Skeffington as Himself

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith and Enid Hind

Stage Manager Phyllis Birch

Stage Crew B Davies / K Fox / G Hovey / Robert Townsend / B Kirkham /
Tony Welsby / P Birch / D Shaw / J Brookes / F Moss /
Ian Hammonds / H Jackson

Lighting Geoege Robinson
Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey
Make up Bessie Welsby and Ian Hammonds
Props June Beck and Enid Ford
Wardrobe Marjorie Collins
Prompt Pam Jackson
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Secretary Kathleen M Hovey
Treasurer H Tomlinson
Publicity Reg Brookes and Sonia Malpas

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 6 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

#####

3 February 1958

3 New members were welcomed to the society, Miss Hesketh, Mrs Hesketh and Mr T Sharp
Mr Robert Townsend was given permission to produce stage boarders.

Bank Balance £128/15/-

20 February 1958(Rivington)

Janet Wood joined the society.

Bert Lomax's set was £20 with transport.

The cost of hiring fly curtains for each show was £4, which was thought to be rather costly, especially as it would only cost £8 to make our own. It was decided to spend money and own our own set of fly curtains. Next years suggested plays are '**Women aren't Angels**', '**The Mousetrap**', '**Little Lambs eat Ivy**', and '**Sleeping Prince**'.

#####

26-28 March 1958

YOUNG WIVES TALE

by Ronald Jeans

Incl; "Bob" Kirkham as Rodney Pennant

Sonia Malpas as Sabina Pennant

Enid Ford as Nurse Blott

Pam Jackson as Eva Lester

Janet Wood as German Woman

Joan Boadle as Mary Banning

Ian Hammonds as Bruce Banning

Bill Davies as Victor Manifold

Margaret Nield as Nurse Gallop

Producer Vera Warburton

Stage Manager Unknown

Stage Crew Phyllis Birch / Bob Townsend / H Jackson / Graham Hovey /

Tony Welsby / Derek Shaw / John Brookes / Ian Hammonds /

Bill Davies and Peter Birch.

Lighting George Robinson and John Turney ?

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Make up and Prompt Bunty Snow and Bessie Welsby

Props Muriel Farnworth Smith

Wardrobe M Collins and D Mawdesley

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Kathleen M Hovey

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity Reg Brookes and Sonia Malpas

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 27 March Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

28 April 1958

At this time there were 36 paid up members of the society.

Bank Balance £49/15/5. This showed a loss of £25/2/11 through the year.

The membership over the year had grown by 2 although many members had left the area.

Election of officers.

President Mr J E Foden

Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith

Vice Chairman Mr Hovey

Treasurer Mr H Tomlinson

Secretary Mrs H W Boadle

Publicity Mr R Brooks

Ass Publicity Miss W F Smith

The price of tickets would go up from 3/- to 4/6 on the first 5 rows, and 4/- through out the rest of the house. OAP's would have special concessions. A new rehearsal hall was needed, as we are unable to rehearse at the present venue, suggestions were made, The Town hall, The Wheatsheaf and the Retreat Cafe.

The Annual Dance will be held at the Old Hall on Fri 16 May (To be arranged)

13 May 1958

It was decided that rehearsals would take place above the Retreat Cafe, as they would only charge us for coffee, which we would purchase during rehearsals. The Town Hall would have charged us 15/- a night.

16 May 1958 (Event) Sandbach Chronicle (Date and Page Number Unknown)

The Sandbach and District Amateur Dramatic Society held a dinner at the Old Hall Hotel on the 16th of May.

21 May 1958

Bert Lomas Ltd would be able to supply the set for '**Reluctant Hero's**' at a cost of £30. The next seasons plays will be '**Reluctant Hero's**' '**Murder Mistaken**', '**Sailor beware**'. It was suggested that members buy their own copies of the play to cut down expenses.

1 July 1958 (2 Offley Road)

Usual meeting followed by a casting meeting.

15 September 1958

It was suggested that the producers of each play make their speech of thanks after each night and not just after the last night (Fri).

#####

15-17 October 1958

RELUCTANT HEROES

by Colin Morris

Incl; Reg Worthington as Morgan
"Bob" Kirkham as Tone
Bob Townsend as Gregory
Victor Brown as Sergeant Bell
Freddie Moss as Sergeant Mackenzie
Derek Liquorish as Medical Orderly
Valerie Farmer as Patricia Thompson
Jennifer Hesketh as Penelope Raymond
Bunty Snow as Gloria Dennis
Raymond Harrop as Captain Percy
Graham Hovey as A Soldier

Produced by Ian Hammonds

Electricians George Robinson and John Tunney

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Stage Management team Phillis Birch / Bob Townsend / Harold Jackson /

Graham Hovey / John Brookes / Ian Hammonds / Derek Shaw /

"Bob" Kirkham / Raymond Harrop / Victor Brown.

Make up Bessie Welsby and Wendy Farnworth Smith

Props Harold and Pamela Jackson

Wardrobe M Collins and D Mawdesley

Prompt Joan Boadle

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Joan Boadle

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity Reg Brooks and Wendy Farnworth Smith

Pic and Feature Page 1 and 6, 16 Oct 1958 Sandbach Chronicle

#####

3 November 1958

Mrs B Starkey was welcomed to the society.

Due to the lack of organisation only two members turned up to erect the stage for **Reluctant Hero's**.

The society had been helped by the Elworth PTA. Mrs V Warberton resigned as assistant secretary; her job was taken by Mrs Enid Ford.

The date for the Christmas Party will be the 9th Jan at the Old Hall.

Ian Hammond suggested that the society should join the Amateur Stage players club so that members could join organised trips to the theatre at special rates.

5 January 1959

Bank Balance £63/12/7

Mr R Townsend reported that the Town Hall wiring would take a 9Kw load, which would take more lights. It was agreed to purchase two more Floodlights.

With the rising cost of hiring the Town Hall it was suggested that we put the plays on at the Literary Institute. The Cost of Hiring the hall would be £15. It would be looked into further.

12 January 1959

Mr P Slack and Mrs K Starkey joined the society

The play **Murder Mistaken** will be entered into the play of the year festival.

The Christmas party had been cancelled due to the death of the Old Hall Manager.

The Society had now joined the Amateur play Gower's society (Club).

It was decided to try and find someone who would like to purchase old play copies.

#####

28-30 January 1959

MURDER MISTAKEN

by Janet Green

Incl; Margery Dickinson as Emmie
Elsie Nowill as Monica Bare
Patrick J Slack as Philip Mortimer
Ian Hammonds as Edward Bare
Joan Boadle as Freda Jefferies
June Beck as Charlotte Young

Producer Sonia Malpas

Electricians George Robinson and John Tunney

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Stage Management team Bob Townsend / Harold Jackson / Tony Welsby /
Graham Hovey / John Brookes / Ian Hammonds /
Derek Liquorish / John Tunney / A William / P Slack

Make up Bessie Welsby

Props Derek Liquorish

Wardrobe M Collins

Prompt Enid Ford

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Joan Boadle

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity Reg Brooks and Wendy Farnworth Smith

Pic and Feature Page 6, 29 Jan 1959 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

9 March 1959

The proposed move to the literary institute was put on hold due to the fact that it would cost £33 to extend the stage etc.

2 April 1959

Mrs Rose Mason Joined the society

The proposed move to the literary institute was again put on hold.

Mr Hammond asked, even if we didn't move would it be possible to purchase a new lighting system rather than patch up the old one, which is falling to bits. He had details of a lighting board that would cost £115, which could be built up gradually over the years.

Mrs B Snow would donate a box of chocolates to be raffled off on the Friday night production of **Sailor Beware**. It was decided to sell the raffle tickets at 3d each. We would have one thousand books printed with 5 tickets in each. The draw will then take place at the 6 July meeting with a reporter from the Crewe Chronicle to record the result.

There will also be a jumble sale at the literary institute on the 8 May with an admission price of 2d.

The Adjudicators report had arrived from the **Murder Mistaken** play and was read by the chairman.

Loman's had asked £30 for the set of Sailor Beware and transportation so the chairman had asked the Lyceum Theatre in Crewe if they could supply the set. Some of the society's equipment had been damaged during a Congleton RDC dance. When the damage had been assessed, the Council will be billed for the replacement.

#####

8-10 April 1959

SAILOR BEWARE

by Philip King and Falkland L. Cary

Incl; Enid Ford as Edie Hornett
 Bessie Welsby as Emma
 Joyce Hall as Mrs Lack
 Bruce Mottram as Henry Hornett
 Ian Hammonds as Albert Tufnell
 Patrick Slack as Carnoustie Bligh
 Sonia Malpas as Daphne Pink
 Margaret Nield as Shirley Hornett
 "Bob" Kirkham as The Rev Oliver Purefoy

Producer Robert Townsend

Electrician George Robinson

Stage Management Bob Townsend / Derek Shaw / Ian Hammonds /

Tony Welsby / Bruce Mottram / P and J Slack / Derek Liquorish /
 Graham Hovey / D Farmer.

Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow

Props June Beck and Elsie Nowill

Wardrobe Marjorie Collins

Prompt Valerie Farmer

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Joan Boadle

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity Reg Brooks and Wendy Farnworth Smith

Pic and Feature Page Unknown, 10 Apr 1959 Sandbach Chronicle.



Sailor Beware.

#####

27 April 1959 AGM (Conservative room)

Miss Joyce Clements joined the society, her Mother Mrs Ouston rejoined at this meeting.

At this time there were 26 known Members.

Bank Balance £55/4/8

Election of officers

President Mr J E Foden
 Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith
 Vice Chairman Mr Ian Hammond
 Treasurer Mrs Margaret Owen
 Secretary Mrs Joan Boadle
 Ass Secretary Mrs Enid Ford
 Publicity Mr R Brooks
 Ass Publicity Wendy Smith and Joyce Clements

The Chairman reported that the trustees of the Literary institute were unable to grant permission for the society to use the Institute for future productions.

The Draw for the box of chocolates took place, it raised £8.

Ticket prices for the next season will be 1/6 for a limited number of seats with the rest at 3/6 with a special price of 1/- for pensioners.

The charge for programmes will stay the same at 3d.

It was agreed to hold a social event at the conservative rooms on the 23 May (Sat)

8 May 1959

The next play will be **Trespass** by Emyln Williams.

12 June 1959

A letter had been received from the Cheshire Community Council had been received telling us that the play **Murder Mistaken** had come 9th in the play of the year competition.

Next years plays will be '**The Devil was sick**', '**Trespass**' and '**Dry Rot**' in that order.

To save money it was decided that the society would build and paint its own sets. Enquiries will now be made to find a place to store the flats.

6 July 1959

Bank Balance £93/18/10

Ian Hammond found out that a new lighting board would cost about £80, it was decided that the business meeting would decide if we could afford it.

Mr Robert Townsend suggested that we get FODENS to build the frames for the flats.

The Social evening held on the 23 May was a great success and it was decided to hold one each year.

16 September 1959

The storage had been arranged. The flats can be made and stored at Mrs Coppenhalls. They could be painted at their bus station on Sundays. Fodens were already making the frames. The secretary will buy the Canvas from Brodie and Middleton, while the stage brace's and screws will be purchased from Watts and Corry.

21 September 1959

It was decided to purchase new lighting equipment from Strand at a cost of £82 and meet the cost from the next production as our bank balance now stands at £55.

The cost of the flats so far had cost £20, £5 of which had been donated by Mr Foden towards them.

#####

21-23 October 1959

THE DEVIL WAS SICK

by Kenneth Horne

Incl; Bob Townsend as The Rev Arthur Sexton-Hifflish

Elsie Nowill as Emily Sexton-Hifflish

Bruce Mottram as Victor Sexton-Hifflish

Valerie Farmer as Violet

Jennifer Hesketh as Ann Brown

Peter Hulme as Martin York

Bessie Welsby as Matilda Hope

"Bob" Kirkham as Dr Frederick Silvaine

Producer Ian Hammonds assisted by Bunty Snow

Electrician George Robinson

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Make Up Bessie Welsby, Bunty Snow and Ian Hammonds

Props Maureen Kelly, Cynthia Dutton and Alec Mellor

Wardrobe Rose Mason

Prompt Enid Ford

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Joan Boadle

Treasurer H Tomlinson

Publicity Reg Brooks and Wendy Farnworth Smith

Pic and Feature Page 6, 23 October 1959 Sandbach Chronicle.



The Devil was Sick.

 29 October 1959

Bank Balance now stands at £140. There were however bills for £148/13/8 to pay. The treasurer asked that a special meeting be held to discuss fund raising to make up the balance.

16 November 1959

The lighting board had now been bought; also the materials for the flats had been bought and paid for. This had left the society with a debt of £2.

It was decided to make posters for the next play more striking. Mrs Starky suggested that we held a competition to design a poster with a free ticket as a prize. Also it was suggested that a car and bus sticker be designed.

Mr Hammond would arrange a large banner to be slung between the Town Hall arches.

The suggestion was made that we need to get more interest in the society; Mr Hammond suggested that we put on a Musical in 1961.

To help raise funds a jumble sale would be held on the 11 Dec (Fri) at the institute. The Admission price will be 2d.

It was also suggested that a party should be held on Sat 2 Jan 1960 in the Conservative rooms. The cost will be 7/6 per head.

Other suggestions for fundraisers were another draw, many prizes were offered. The Next Two plays, **'Trespass' and 'Dry Rot'** will both be entered in the Cheshire County Council Festival.

4 January 1960

Fifty car stickers were printed as well as the usual posters for publicising the next play.

The Jumble sale raised £6/5/-.

The party had also made money with a Profit of £6/17/- making our bank balance now at £21/10/-

New dimmers would be purchased by Mr Hovey.

#####

27-29 January 1960

TRESPASS

by Emlyn Williams

(1st Presented on the 16 July 1947 at the Globe Theatre, London)

- Incl; Alec Mellor as Bill
 Margaret Owen as Gwan
 Joyce Hall as A Maid
 Bruce Mottram as Mr Grice
 Enid Ford as Mrs Henting
 Muriel Farnworth Smith as Christine
 Bill Davies as Dewar
 Joan Boadle as Mrs Amos
 Bob Townsend as Saviello

Producer Ian Hammonds assisted by June Beck

Electrical R Fry and George Robinson

Music and Sound Effects Graham Hovey

Scene builders and Painters Directed by Bruce Mottram, Gladys Hammonds
and Mary Beard

Make Up Bessie Welsby
Prompt Maureen Kelly
Wardrobe Rose Mason
Props Cynthia Dutton, Peter Hulme, Anne Bailey
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Secretary Joan Boadle
Treasurer H Tomlinson
Publicity Reg Brooks

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 29 Jan 1960 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

22 February 1960

Four new members were greeted into the society.
The Raffle tickets were passed out to members to sell.
Bank Balance now stands at £19/16/3

#####

23-25 March 1960

DRY ROT

by John Chapman

Incl; "Bob" Kirkham as Colonel Wagstaff
Jean Owston as Mrs Wagstaff
Anne Bayley as Beth Barton
Ann Torr as Susan Wagstaff
Alec Mellor as John Danby
Reg Worthington as Alfred Tubbe
Bruce Mottram as Fred Phipps
Ian Hammonds as "Flash" Harry
Paul Stallard as Albert Polignac (Jockey)
Joyce Clements as Sergeant Fire (a Policewoman)

Producer by Ian Hammonds
Stage Manager Bob Townsend
Electrical George Robinson and Ron Fry
Sound Effects and Music Ron Fry
Stage design by Bruce Mottram, Ron Fry and Anne Bayley.
Prompt Joan Boadle
Props Enid Ford and June Beck
Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow
Wardrobe Marjorie Collins
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Secretary Joan Boadle
Treasurer H Tomlinson
Publicity Reg Brooks

Pic and Feature Unknown, Date Unknown Sandbach Chronicle.



Dry Rot.

#####

25 April 1960 AGM

The end of year balance stands at £80/6/10 this was an amazing profit as there had been so many
technical expenses (£150) o Sound and Lighting.

Election of officers.

President Mr Foden
Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith
Vice Chairman Ian Hammond
Treasurer Mrs Thomlinson
Secretary Joan Boadle
Ass Secretary Mrs Enid Ford
Publicity Mr Peter Mc Niff

2 May 1960

The final rehearsal for the one act play festival will be given before the society, **Goodnight Kathy**. This will then be followed by a film shot by Clifford Welsby of the society's last party. Mrs Farnworth Smith offered to provide the refreshments. Mr Hammond thought that with a little alteration he would be able to work the stage lights from the back of the hall rather than on stage. It was considered desirable to subscribe to 'New Plays Quarterly' so we did.

May 1960 GOODNIGHT KATHY (1Play Festival)
#####

3 June 1960

After a long discussion between Mr Hammond and Mr Fry it was decided that it would be best to carry on working the lights from the stage rather than at the back of the hall. Another possibility would be for the switchboard to be placed above the stage, which could be reached via scaffolding. Bank Balance now stands at £75/14/7
The one act play **Goodnight Kathy** Came 3rd at the one act play festival held by the Cheshire Community council at Upton. The cast were congratulated.

28 June 1960

It was decided to order proscenium curtains at a cost of £45 to replace the ones we had made ourselves.

12 August 1960

Bank Balance £66/3/10
The scenery will now be stored at the stables behind the Market Tavern.

25 September 1960

The Bank Balance now stands at £131/17/-
The Last play **Friends and Neighbours** had now made a profit of over £2/7/10
Mr Hammond complained that members and the public were going through the Curtains once the play was over and before it had started. It was pointed out that this looked bad and a sign would be made to stop people from doing this in the future. He also pointed out that very few people were helping with the scene making.

7 October 1960 Sandbach Chronicle Page 8 Pic and Feature.

Possible picture also in Crewe Chronicle Date Unknown.
Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a "Bangers and Bingo" Barbecue evening at the home of Mr and Mrs Broadie in Manor Road, Sandbach. Arrangements were also made to move the event to the Conservative assembly Room at Crewe Road if the weather turned nasty but it was not needed.
#####

19-21 October 1960

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS
by Austin Steele
Incl; Ann Bayley as Doris Holmes
Bessie Welsby as Lily Grimshaw
Cynthia Hulme as Susan Grimshaw
Ian Hammonds as Albert Grimshaw
Bill Davies as Wilf Holmes
Peter McNiff as Vladimir Previtch

Margaret Maddock as Petri Garanakdva
 Six Eskimoes (Supers)
 Producer Joan Boadle assisted by Bob Townsend
 Decor and Stage Management
 under the direction of Bruce Mottram and Ian Hammonds
 Lighting Ron Fry
 Sound Effects Michael Barnett
 Electrical Work by George Robinson
 Prompt Ann Torr
 Props June Beck and Enid Ford
 Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow
 Publicity Peter McNiff

Pic and Feature Page 1, 21 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.



Friends and Neighbours.

28 October 1960 Sandbach Chronicle Page Unkn Pic and Feature

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society were looking into the possibility of building a new theatre for the society in the town. Mr Ian Hammonds brought along a model of his thoughts for a new theatre to a meeting on Tuesday

13 January 1961 Sandbach Chronicle Page 1

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a Fancy Dress party on the 8th of January at the Crewe Road Conservative Club

The party was hosted by Mrs Muriel Farnsworth-Smith and her husband John.

People at the Party included John Holliday and Tom Jenkinson as a couple of Gamekeepers, Maureen Kelly and Winnie Brennan as St Trinian's girls (Featured in the original picture but just left of the frame in the new article).

Joan and Bill Boadle as two Indian characters, Wendy Farnsworth-Smith as Cleopatra, Jin Farnsworth-Smith (Wendy's Sister) as a Brownie, Bunty Snow and her husband Harry as a Spanish Couple, Robin Boyd as an American Tourist, Ian Hammonds as a Scoutmaster with his wife Gladys as a grass skirted Hawaiian.

Enid "Gran" Ford as old Mother Riley, Bessie Welsby as a girl from the Philippines, Ann Bayley as "Danger Men at Work", Pam Clarke as the Queen Elect of Poland and David Brierly as a Chinaman
 Gillian Cheetham won the best dressed competition as a young Squaw.

Picture reproduced in the Sandbach Chronicle 11 July 2013.

#####

13 January 1961

The next social event will take the form of a discussion about Amateur Drama. This will be hosted by Joyce Hall. It was also hoped that Mr Welsby would show the film of the society's party.

#####

25-27 January 1961

BREATH OF SPRING

by Peter Coke

Incl; Joan Boadle as Miss Nanette Parry
 Peter McNiff as Brigadier Albert Tayne
 Bunty Snow as Lily Thompson (The Maid)
 Enid Ford as Alice, Lady Miller
 June Beck as Dame Beatrice Appleby

Elsie Nowill as Miss Elizabeth Hatfield
 Bruce Mottram as Detective Sergeant Pape
 Max Leese as P.C. Kemp
 Producer Ian Hammonds assisted by Bruce Mottram
 Stage Management Bruce Mottram
 Electrical Ron Fry
 Prompt Ann Bayley
 Props Ann Torr / Maureen Kelly / Wendy Farnworth Smith
 Make Up Bessie Welsby
 Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
 Secretary Joan Boadle
 Treasurer H Tomlinson

19 March 1961
 as above

Pic and Feature Page 1, 27 Mar 1961 Sandbach Chronicle.
 A LITTLE BELL FOR SAN MARCO (1 Act)
 THE SAXON WIVES OF ELLNDUNE (1 Act)

(the Above were performed at Bradwall Village Hall)

Pic and Feature Page 1, 24 Mar 1961 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

4 April 1961

Mr Thomlinson the treasurer was leaving the area and had handed over all the papers and accounts to Mr Ashurst for auditing.

The next social event will be on the 6 Apr and will be hosted by Bessie Welsby and Joan Boadle. Mr Welsby will show some film of past parties.

#####

26-28 April 1961

STRIKE HAPPY

by Duncan Greenwood

Incl; Joan Boadle as Clara Hellewell
 Margaret Owen as Elsie Hellewell
 Bill Davies as Albert Hellewell
 Max leese as George Seegar
 Ian Hammonds as Benjamin Tapeworth
 Bessie Welsby as Mrs Flannel
 Maureen Kelly as Rosie Flannel
 Ann Holliday as Yvonne
 Heather Donovan as Estelle

Producer Phyllis Birch
 Stage Manager Ian Hammonds
 Electrical Ron Fry
 Prompt Ann Torr
 Props Richard "Bob" Hall and Barrington Eachus
 Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow
 Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
 Secretary Joan Boadle
 Treasurer H Tomlinson



Strike Happy

8 May 1961 AGM

The Chairman welcomed members to the society.

Election of officers

President Mr J E Foden
Chairman Mr Ian Hammonds
Vice Chairman Bessie Welsby
Secretary Mrs Joan Boadle
Ass Secretary Mrs Enid Ford
Treasurer Mr A White
Publicity Peter Mc Niff

A letter was received from Anne Holliday thanking the society for the wedding gift that they had sent her.

A letter had been received from the Sandbach Woman's Conservative association saying that the key to the hall will be left with the caretaker after each of our meeting's. The letter then went on to be very critical about the society. It was decided that the society should look for another venue to hold our meetings.

The Publicity manager Peter Mc Niff said that the Sandbach District Council had agreed to have a banner outside the Town Hall a full week before the play.

The Society was now in negotiations to purchase a piece of land in Newfield Street to build a new theatre on.

A New Theatre committee was formed to arrange moneymaking ideas to raise funds for the building project.

17 May 1961

The play **Strike Happy** made a profit of £15, our bank Balance now stands at £38.

There will be a play reading of 'Look Back in Anger' on the 12 June. The First play of the season will be produced by Bruce Mottrem and will be '**The Long the Short and the Tall**'.

19 June 1961

The next seasons plays will be '**The Long the short and the Tall**', '**The Woodcarver**', and '**Brides of March**'.

The Jumble sale had made a profit of £15; this was earmarked as social committee money.

The price of hiring the Conservative room for meetings etc. is 2/6.

Mr Binns says that the scenery can stay where it is.

As a fund raising / social event it was decided to hire the local cinema for a midnight matinee. Mr Jelly agreed and said that we could book the cinema late Sept / Oct and we could chose our own two films.

There are 164 seats upstairs at 5/- and 280 seats downstairs at 3/-; this will be discussed at the next meeting.

It was pointed out that Saltsford School are selling off bricks at £3 per 1,000 if we can collect.

10 July 1961

Mr White, David Leek, John Point on, Richard Francis, Margaret and Janet Riley were welcomed to the society.

It was decided that September would be the best time to hold the Midnight matinee. The films hadn't yet been chosen.

The English Theatre Guild informed us that **The Brides of March** was not in print. They would try to get as many copies as they could to us before the casting meeting on the 17 July.

Bank Balance £48/16/4. Mrs Foden made a donation of £2 to the society.

The cost of the new Theatre will be £7,000 if it is made of brick.

It was decided to hold yet another jumble sale, this time in Elworth as a fundraiser. Lady Barlow has agreed to open it.

Date Unknown - Between 10 July and 9 October 1967 Sandbach Chronicle.

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a "Little Theatre" garden party at Elworth on Saturday in the grounds of Roundabout House, Vicarage lane, the home of Mr and Mrs Snow. The event was opened by Lady Barlow of Bradwall.

14 August 1961

Bank Balance £33/5/9

Mrs Birch has heard about a metal building 100ft by 25ft going for £1,000. Although this was a good price nothing was done about it, as the society couldn't raise the funds in time to purchase it.

It was agreed to hold another Christmas party.

A New Membership card will be printed with the rules of the society in it.

9 October 1961

The Chairman read out a letter from Elworth thanking us for the donation given to the church Hall. It also said that when the hall was redecorated they would consider renting the hall out to us once a week. Also we had received bills from the Caledonian Society and the Judo Experts re our Jumble (Fate) Sale at Elworth.

The Long the short and the tall couldn't be done due to us not being able to cast it. The play was substituted by play **Sleeping Partnership** written by Kenneth Horne.

Paul Anthony has volunteered to do the ladies hair before the next production for free. He also has some spotlights we could borrow

30 October 1961

The 2nd play will now be **Ladies in Retirement**.

Bank Balance £102/18/6

November 1961

At a meeting on the 14 August 1961 it was agreed that a New Membership card will be printed with the rules of the society in it. It was first used in November 1961. About 4" by 6" when opened it has a pink cover with the members name on the front and the date they joined. (See also 1979)

#####

13 - 15 December 1961 **SLEEPING PARTNERSHIP**

by Kenneth Horne

Incl; Max Leese as Mark Graham

Ann Torr as Phyllis Peabody

Bill Davies as Julian Peabody

Ron Fry as A Doctor

Joan Boadle as Jill Peabody

Ian Hammonds as Stephen Clench

Bunty Snow as Violet Watkins

Producer Joan Boadle

Stage Managers Richard Hall and Barrington Eachus

Prompt Joyce Hall

Wardrobe Enid Ford

Lighting Ron Fry and Pam Clarke

Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow

Chairman Ian Hammonds

Secretary Margaret Smith

Treasurer Mr A White

Pic and Feature Page 8, 15 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 22 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

20 December 1961

Mr Jelly has left the area, which means that the Midnight matinee at the Cinema will have to be cancelled.

The Dance lost 18/11

The play **Sleeping Partnership** lost £5/4/-

Bank Balance now stands at £116/18/7

It was suggested that we put some of our money into Premium Bonds.

The Christmas party was cancelled.

It was suggested that the S.A.D.S. put on a production for the Leonard Cheshire home. This will be looked into.

17 January 1962

Ticket prices will be able for block bookings for the next play. For 20 or more tickets the price will be, Adults 3/- each, and for 20 or more Children 2/6 each.

A new spotlight will be bought before the next play at a cost of £11/0/6

#####

14-16 February 1962

LADIES IN RETIREMENT

by Edward Percy and Reginald Denham

Incl; Gladys Hammonds as Lucy Gilham
Muriel Farnworth Smith as Leonora Fisk
Joyce Hall as Ellen Creed
Bruce Mottram as Albert Feather
Joan Broadle as Louisa Creed
Enid Ford as Emily Creed
Margaret Maddock as Sister Theresa

Producer Ian Hammonds
Lighting Ron and Pam Fry
Stage Manager Richard Hall
Make up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow
Prompt Betty Rowe
Props Barbara Walton and Ann Torr
Chairman Ian Hammond
Secretary Margaret Smith
Treasurer Mr A White.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 16 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 23 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

26 February 1962

The play **Ladies in Retirement** has made a loss of £1/8/4

It was decided that Children could attend the plays for half price.

Richard (Bob) Hall has a printing press and would be willing to print our tickets. It was also decided to have tickets available in various shops, Kelly's, Welsbys, and Brains the newsagents.

We will also get some car stickers done at Delta Studios.

Ian Hammonds will host a play reading of '12th Night' on the 5 March.

2 March 1962 Sandbach Chronicle Page 9

Some members of the Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society joined hairdresser Paul Anthony at an "Arabian Nights" event.

#####

11-13 April 1962

BRIDES OF MARCH

by John Chapman

Incl; Ian Hammonds as Tony Scudamore
Joan Boadle as Sally Scudamore
Joyce Hall as Mrs Spencer
Max Leese as Ken Scudamore
Bob Kirkham as Jack Krasner
David Shackleton as Van Driver / Policeman / Haroun
Bessie Welsby as Mrs Scudamore
Bruce Mottram as Arthur Scudamore
Jennifer Hesketh as Girl 1
Margaret Maddock as Girl 2
Wendy Farnworth Smith as Girl 3
Pamela Longshaw as Girl 4
Christine Miller as Girl 5

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager Richard Hall
ASM Joyce Clements
Lighting and Sound Ron and Pam Fry
Prompt Enid Ford
House Manager Margaret Smith
Make Up Bessie Welsby and Bunty Snow
Chairman Ian Hammonds
Secretary Margaret Smith
Treasurer Mr A White.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 13 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 20 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.



Brides of March.

20 April 1962 after "Brides of March" Sandbach Chronicle Page Unknown.

Pictures of party after the show.

#####

25 April 1962

Paul Anthony had let us use his rooms for rehearsals and has also donated some floodlights.
Bank Balance £38/1/10 with £75/10/3 in a deposit account.

30 April 1962 AGM

An acting course will be held by John Garner.

Election of Officers

President Mr J E Foden
Chairman Mr Ian Hammonds
Vice Chairman Mrs Bessie Welsby
Secretary Margaret Smith

The rest of the committee was as last year.

3 May 1962

Acting course will take place between 14 May and 25 June

24 May 1962

The plans to build a new theatre in Newfield Street have been dropped and plans have been dropped and plans have been drawn up to convert the Coach House in Zan Drive into a little theatre.

There will be a jumble sale on the 15 June at the reading room in the institute.

Between May 1962 and April 1963

Previous plans to build a theatre on a plot of land in Newfield Street have been dropped. At a meeting on the 24th of May 1962 plans have been drawn up to convert the Coach House in Zan Drive into a little theatre. On the 30 August 1962 the Purchase of the Coach House had the go ahead.

by the 5 October 1962 meeting the deeds to the Coach House were in the process of being signed with news at the AGM on the 29 April 1963 that the Society has bought THE COACH HOUSE in Zan Drive.

20 July 1962

The Jumble Sale made £15

Mr A White resigned as treasurer as he has been promoted in his job; this takes him out of the area. Mr David Speed has taken over.

25 August 1962 Sandbach Chronicle Page Unkn

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a coffee evening in aid of the "Little Theatre" fund at Rivington, Crewe Road Sandbach the home of Mr and Mrs John Farnworth Smith.

30 August 1962

The purchase of the Coach House will go ahead.

5 October 1962

The deeds to the Coach House were in the process of being signed.

#####

8-10 November 1962

THE CURIOUS SAVAGE

by John Patrick

Incl; Joan Boadle as Mrs Ethel Savage
Muriel Farnworth Smith as Lily Belle
Christopher Fallows as The Doctor
Florence as Dakin
Bruce Mottram as Hannibal
Gladys Hammonds as Fairy May
Tony Harrison as Geoffrey
Enid Ford as Paddy
Christopher Sutherby as Titus
John Dickinson as Samual
Ann Torr as Miss Wilhelmina ?

Producer Ian Hammonds

Stage Manager Richard Hall

Lighting Ron and Pam Fry

Props Pam Clements and Barbara Walton

Prompt Jill (Gillian) Aldersay

Above taken from poor quality Newspaper review.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 9 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

Review Page Unkn, 16 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

20 December 1962

Bank Balance £24/1/9 and £17/16/0 in the deposit account.

Bill Davis and John Pointon Resigned from the society.

#####

10-12 January 1963

THE WOODCARVER

by Morris Brown

Incl; Ian Hammonds as Bill
Enid Ford as Kate
Ann Torr as Susan
Christopher Fallows as Paul
David Shackleton as Pedre
Tony Harrison as Griff
Wynn Adlington as Old Woman
Sandra Cooke as Little Girl

Produced by Joan Boadle

Stage Manager Richard Hall

Props Joyce Clements

Prompt Betty Rowe

Lighting Ron and Pam Fry

House Manager Margaret Smith

Chairman Ian Hammonds

Secretary Margaret Smith
Treasurer David Speed
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 11 Jan Sandbach Chronicle.

28 January 1963

June Beck Left the society after 12 years. She was moving out of the area.
The last play **The Woodcarver** made a loss of £25

15 March 1963

A Circular with bits about the S.A.D.S. was discussed.

#####

28-30 March 1963

THE AMOROUS PRAWN

by Anthony Kimmins

Incl; Colin Newton as Corporal Sydney Green
Judy Kingsbury as Private Bidy O'Hara
Dorothy Bagnall as Private Suzie Tidmarsh
Bessie Welsby as Lady Fitzadam
Bob Kirkham as Major General Sir Hamish Fitzadam
Michael Debenham as Private Albert Huggins
Bruce Mottram as Private Willie Maltravers
Dennis Air as Sam Goulansky
Christopher Suddaby as Larry Hoffman
Peter Havard as The Prawn
Ian Hammonds as Uncle Joe

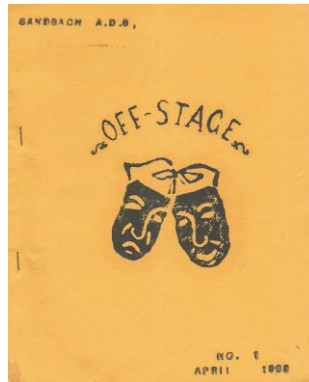
Director Muriel Farnworth Smith
Prompt Margaret Maddock
Stage Managers Richard Hall and Joyce Clements
House Manager Margaret Smith
Electricians Ron and Pam Fry
Chairman Ian Hammonds
Secretary Margaret Smith
Treasurer David Speed

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 29 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.
Feature Page 1, 5 April Sandbach Chronicle.



Amourous Prawn

#####



"OFF STAGE" Magazine Number 1 April 1963

This is the first edition of what we hope will become a monthly publication. It is launched primarily as a source of information and interest, and to replace that most impersonal of all things, the circular.

In this issue we have tried to provide material to interest all members, and information all will find useful. We have also endeavoured to form something of a pattern which we hope you will all like; but we are sure you'll let us know if you have any other ideas on the subject.

We invite material for inclusion in succeeding issues - news of past members, articles and adverts, for instance. Quite obviously space is somewhat limited, but don't let that deter you - as Desdemona said "The Moor, the merrier"!

Your attention is drawn to the diary on page 8 containing details of forthcoming events, which we hope you will be able to attend. On this page we hope to include in the future, not only a diary of our own Society's activities, but of all events of interest (Theatrically speaking) in the locality. Finally may we say that this was started by a few of us to fill what we felt was a need. From now on we hope you will all "Take it from here".

PAGE 2.

BATTLE REPORT FROM "THE FEW". a jocular report about the Jumble sale.

PAGE 3

THE LITTLE THEATRE PROGRESS REPORT

In the old coach house acquired for conversion we have at last found permanent accommodation for our scenery. Home and dry, after all the trials and tribulations of the last few seasons.

Building work has been quite impossible since the purchase was completed, due to appalling weather conditions, but now that these have improved it is hoped to get under way. First, a detailed survey must be made, so that final plans may be drawn up, and submitted to the Council for approval.

Once this has been obtained, alterations can start just as soon as sufficient money is raised.

written by Ian. Hammonds.

BUILDING FUND

New ways of raising money for this fund are constantly sought, and we, mesdames Hammonds and Boadle have decided to establish a Mart.

Please let us have full details of anything of which you wish to dispose - clothing, toys, books, household equipment, children, cup final tickets, etc. Proceeds will, of course, go to the fund, but on more expensive items we'll be happy to arrange a percentage for the fund.

To start the ball rolling, we have:- Attractive black net over white silk evening dress. Short strapless 38" bust. Expensive when bought, and worn only once, not in Sandbach. May be tried on.

Price 10/- only.

PAGES 4 and 5

"THE FLATS ARE WHITE TONIGHT" A story about cleaning / Stripping the Flats over a weekend.

PAGE 6

SOCIETY GOSSIP (Edited version)

Ann Torr will be leaving at Easter to start work in London at a large Comprehensive school.

Tony Harrison is also going to London this time to train as a Studio Manager for the BBC.

June Beck has also left the society to move to Nantwich.

Joyce Hall has returned to the society after a long illness.

News of a past member Christopher Fallows is living in London and is now working in a Supermarket.

PAGE 7

NEWS LETTER (Edited)

It has been suggested that we mix with other societies in the area for the benefit of all. To this end Bengers Drama Group from Holmes Chapel have been approached to hold a joint meeting with a guest speaker. One meeting will be held in Sandbach with the other in Holmes Chapel. The first of these will be on the 8th of April at the Conservative room at 7.30pm when Peter Cheeseman (Manager of the Victoria Theatre Stoke on Trent) will be talking about "Theatre in the Round".
Some time ago we made a film with the help of Clifford Welsby. This year we intend to make a better film. Please contact Ian Hammonds if you are interested in helping with this project.

PAGE 8

DIARY DATES 8th April Social Meeting see Newsletter (Page 7)

29 April Annual General Meeting

THE PRODUCERS PRIMER a Monthly ABC for the amateur Dramatist.

A stands for ACTRESS the female who sits at the front of the stage, showing her undies to the delight of the stage staff at Dress rehearsals .

A is also for ACTOR (Male) now alas almost extinct as a species, who also frequently reveals his undies (Long Johns) on the stage, to the delight of the prompt.

A is for AUDIENCE without which many of our best plays are performed, and also for AUDITORIUM where they sit when there are any. In addition A stands for APPLAUSE a device invented by people to combat sub-zero Town Hall temperatures.

A stands for ANTI-FREEZE sold at 4d per cup during intervals. (For Biscuits see next issue)

A stands for ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING do try this on April 29th if your Telly beaks down.

#####

29 April 1963 AGM

The Society has bought THE COACH HOUSE in Zan Drive.

Bank Balance £17/16/- and £21/3/10 in the deposit account.

Election of Officers.

President Mr J E Foden

Chairman Mr Ian Hammond

Vice Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith.

The rest of the Committee was as Last year.

8 May 1963

The Society is now in Debt to the amount of £11/9/5

The Dates of the next plays were set.

16 May 1963

The society is now out of debt.

'Off Stage ' the society's magazine is now being prepared as a monthly publication.

A Dance / Party has been arranged. David Shackleton would be approached to play the organ. Charlie Kelly is to M C the evening.

#####

16 May 1963 'Off Stage' Magazine

The society is producing a magazine called "Off Stage". It is now being prepared as a monthly publication having had a successful first edition in April 1963.

"OFF STAGE" Magazine Number 2. May 1963

PAGE 1

EDITORIAL Note about the contents.

PAGE 2

THOUGHTS DURING A PLAY by Joyce Hall

PAGE 3.

SOCIETY BUILDING FUND MART Items for sale

BRUCE'S BRING AND BUY BOOKSTALL This will be available at every meeting to purchase all types of books and to build up the funds for the theatre.

PAGE 4.

A report about a visit to see the play CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING. by Chris Suddaby

PAGE 5.

THE RED LINE about the financial debt of the society and a plea for prompt payment of SUBS and TICKET money. by Bessie Welsby.

PAGE 6.

CALLING ALL TRAMPS

It has been decided to hold a Tramps Dinner on the 15 June at 7.30pm at the Conservative Room. (See also Sandbach Chronicle)

PAGE 7

BUMPER JUMBLE SALE on the 28 June 1963 at the Literary Institution. A reminder.

PAGE 8.

COMPETITION PAGE List the authors of the following plays etc.

PAGE 9.

ABC for the Amateur Dramatist.

The Letter B.

PAGE 10.

SOCIETY GOSSIP

Wendy Farnworth Smith celebrated her 21st birthday on the 22 May 1963

1st June Margaret Maddock and Michael Debenham are getting Married at St Mary's Sandbach.

Max Leese and Peter Chrimes are waiting the results of exams they have taken, Max for the Higher National and Peter for a Banking exam.

Chris Suddaby has moved from Alsager to Sandbach.

Ann Torr has settled in London as per last months report.

PAGE 11.

NEWS LETTER Report of the AGM

Chairman Ian Hammonds

Vice Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Peter Harvard

Treasurer David Speed (of Williams Deacons Bank, Sandbach Branch)

Assistant Sec. Enid Ford

Publicity W. Broadle, David Leake and Paul Berra.

4 Ordinary members (on the Committee) Bessie Welsby, Christopher Suddaby, Gladys Hammonds and Joyce Hall

13 May 1963 12 members of the Sandbach ADS went to a meeting of the Bengers Dramatic Society to listen to a recording of a play. It was most instructive.

PAGE 12 and Back Page

DIARY

15 June Tramp Party

24 June Proposed Social evening with Guest speaker and Bengers Dramatic Society.

28 June Jumble Sale

#####

5 June 1963

Various plays were put forward for consideration for the next year's production.

15 June 1963 (Date of Event) (Feature of Event in the Sandbach Chronicle, Date and Page Unknown)

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a Tramps Supper at the Conservative Rooms in Sandbach on the Saturday evening.

20 June 1963

A course of lectures by John Garner has been arranged for Monday 1st to the 22 July.

The 1 Act play Mothers Day by J B Priestly will be produced by Bruce Mottram.

24 June 1963

The Annual subscription is now £1/1/- per member or £1/10/- for joint membership.

#####

"OFF STAGE" Magazine Number 3. July 1963

PAGE 1.

EDITORIAL and SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Also DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Thanks to people involved in Tramps party. MC - Charles Kelly , Bar - John Farnworth Smith,
Winners of Tramps costume competition. Bob Hall 1st, Pam Fry and Susan Bentley runners up.
1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd July Practical instruction in stage Craft by John Garner.

PAGE 2

THE PROMPTERS NIGHTMARE by Jill Aldersay. A report about prompting.

PAGE 3

LITTLE THEATRE BUILDING FUND A Report

The report included mention of a Sandbach ADS pen being sold.

PAGE 4

An announcement that David and Janet Leake have had a baby son (Paul Graham) on the 30 May 1962.
Bessie Welsby wrote a piece about HINTS FOR NEW FATHERS.

PAGE 5.

FOR ONE BRIEF MOMENT Bill Dakin wrote about Queen Elizabeth 1st and her involvement in an
Amateur theatre production.

PAGE 6.

SOCIETY GOSSIP

Birth of son to David and Janet (See above)

Ex member Peter McNiff one time news hawk for the Sandbach Chronicle has got married in Dublin on
the 29 June 1963 to Ann a beautiful Irish Red Head.

PAGE 7.

DO IT YOURSELF MIME a report about the art of Mime by Gladys Hammonds.

PAGE 8.

PASS ME THE LIMELIGHT DARLING a report about her accidents on stage by Joan Boadle.

PAGE 9.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTHS QUIZ (May)

PAGE 10

Report about the forthcoming play DUET FOR TWO HANDS

PAGE 11.

THREE FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

Report about performing three one act plays in August 1963

PAGE 12.

Letter from Ann Torr

August 1963	ROOM IN THE TOWER (1 act)
	by Hugh Stewart
as above	THE 500 th W.A.C.
	by Frank Bryce

"OFF STAGE" Magazine Number 4. Aug - Sept 1963

PAGE 1.

EDITORIAL

Due to the holiday season, which has meant a shortage of material for the magazine, we are combining
two monthly issues into one Summer issue.

We have been pleased to find that the enthusiastic response to the society's magazine has been on the
increase, especially during the past month.

Many Sandbach people have commented favourably on our venture, including the local press, who
quoted an item from our last issue, and, in fact, credited us as their source.

All this publicity must surely do us a lot of good, and may help to increase our audience numbers.

Our thanks to all contributors, and please, please, everybody do keep on sending materials in to us. We
would love to have the "Editorial Desk" swamped with articles, comments, etc.

by Gladys Hammonds.

PAGE 2.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR Silly letters.

PAGE 3.

THOUGHTS DURING A PLAY by Gran (Enid Ford)

PAGE 4. and PAGE 5.

RESISTANCE GROUP A Silly story about the Plumley DS version of Love's a Luxury, by A.J.Clements of Plaumley Dramatic Society.

PAGE 5.

ABC for the Amateur Dramatist.

The Letter C

PAGE 6.

BUMPER JUMBLE SALE REPORT

28 June Jumble sale raised £21

PAGE 7

SOCIETY GOSSIP

David Shackleton spent several weeks in Paris on holiday.

David and Mary Dakin had a baby boy on July 8th weighing 10lb 15oz .

Bessie Welsby has been in hospital with a painful arm.

Max Leese and Judy Mitchell are to be married on the 14th of September.

PAGE 8 and 9.

ANOTHER BRIEF MOMENT Further stories by Bill Dakin. (See last issue)

PAGE 10 and 11.

OFF STAGE CROSSWORD CLUES and PUZZLE

PAGE 12.

NEWS LETTER

Report of the drama course held last month, the On act plays due to be performed and the County play of the Year festival.

#####

5 - 7 December 1963

DUET FOR TWO HANDS

by Mary Hayley Bell

Incl; Gladys Hammonds as Abigail Sarclet

Joan Boadle as Herda Sarclet

Enid Ford as Fletty

"Bob" Kirkham as Edward Sarclet

Bruce Mottram as Stephen Cass

Producer Ian Hammonds

Stage Manager Richard Hall

Stage Crew Jill Aldersay / Susan Bentlet / Chris Suddaby /Wynn Adlington

Lighting Ron and Pam Fry

Sound Effects Michael Debenham and Roger Edwards

Prompt Betty Rowe

Chairman Ian Hammonds

Secretary Peter Havard

Treasurer David Speed

Pic and Feature Page 1, 6 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

13 December 1963

(Crown Hotel)

Bank Balance £35/9/-

20 December 1963

It was reported that Mrs Mawdsley had died.

It was decided to give a performance of the 3, I act plays at Bradwall on the 7 Feb 1964.

30 December 1963

Jennifer Hesketh resigned from the society

#####

20-22 February 1964

FAREWELL, FAREWELL EUGENE

by John Vari (Adapted by Rodney Ackland)

Incl; Joan Boadle as Minerva Goody (Nee Povia)
Bessie Welsby as Florence Povia
Jill Aldersay as Queenie Boworth
John Dickinson as Willie Bosworth
Gladys Hammonds as Peony Povia
Chris Suddaby as Mick Delaney
Dorothy Bagnall as Mrs Bosworth
Bruce Mottram as Mr Bosworth
Wyn Addlington as Mrs Flack

Producer Ian Hammonds
Stage Manager Richard Hall
Stage Crew Ian Berry / Sandra Cooke / Peter Havard
Sound Effects Michael Debenham and Roger Edwards
Wardrobe Mrs Enid Ford and Miss E.S.Louch
Prompt Mary Dakin
House Manager W Boadle
Chairman Ian Hammonds
Secretary Peter Havard
Treasurer David Speed

Pic and Feature Page 1, 21 Feb 1964 Sandbach Chronicle.
Feature Page Unkn, Unkn 1964 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

24 February 1964

Farewell Farewell Eugene lost £25.

#####

16-18 April 1964

BILLY LIAR

by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall

Incl; Marjorie Dickenson as Florence Boothroyd
Ian Hammonds as Geoffrey Fisher
Joyce Hall as Alice Fisher
Gavin Sutherland as Billy Fisher
Tony Welsby as Arthur Crabtree
Dorothy Bagnall as Barbara
Gillian Aldersay as Rita
Gladys Hammonds as Liz

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith
Stage Manager Ian Berry
Prompt Enid Ford
Lighting and Sound Effects John Dickinson and Roderick Edwards
Chairman Ian Hammonds
Secretary Peter Havard
Treasurer David Speed

Pic and Feature Page 1, 17 April 1964 Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 21, 25 April 1964 Crewe Chronicle.



Billy Liar.

THE ARCHIVE for Billy Liar

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Evans Plays" the royalties for 3 performances were 13 / 13/ - .

**Sometime between April and October 1964 Sandbach Chronicle Picture Page Unknown,
Date Unknown Pic Number 570.**

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a Mods and Rockers evening at the Conservative Rooms.

27 April 1964 AGM

Nine issues of the Society's Magazine 'Off Stage' had been produced to date.

Ian Hammonds resigned as chairman because he is leaving the area to run a chicken farm in Wiltshire.

Chairman Mr Ian Berry

Vice Chairman Mrs Farnworth Smith.

The rest of the committee was as last year.

30 April 1964 (Whitehouse Snede Green)

Mr Glending wanted to dispose of some lighting equipment. It will be looked into to see if we could purchase it.

21 May 1964

It was discussed that all the society's stationary should have an emblem on it. It was decided to run a competition to design one.

25 September 1964

The next production will be '**Arsenic and Old Lace**'.

29-31 October 1964 ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by Joseph Kesselring

Incl; Joyce Hall as Abbey Brewster
Geoff Armitage as The Rev. Dr Harper
David Shackleton as Teddy Brewster
Keith Hill as Officer Brophy
Colin Newton as Officer Klein
Bessie Welsby as Martha Brewster
Jill Aldersay as Elaine Harper
David Coan as Mortimer Brewster
John Powell as Mr Gills
Tony Welsby as Johnathan Brewster
Chris Suddabey as Dr Einstein
Ian T Berry as Officer O'Hara
Geoff Armitage as Lieutenant Rooney
John Powell as Mr Witherspoon.

Produced by Joan Boadle

Stage Manager Ian T Berry

Props Rene Newton and Olwyn Newton

Scenery Janet Ollier

Prompt Janet Olliver

Front of House Manager Peter Havard

Chairman Ian T Berry

Secretary Jill P Aldersay

Treasurer David Speed (Manager of local Bank)

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 30 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

3 November 1964

It was agreed to purchase 4 Spotlights.

John Powell will be taking over the job of assistant publicity.

12 November 1964

Roy Warburton has taken over the job of Treasurer as the Bank Manager (David Speed) who had done the job up to now couldn't attend our monthly meetings and we needed regular reports on our finances. The second play of the season will be **Something to Hide**

15 January Sandbach Chronicle Page 1

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held its annual seasonal party at the Crown Hotel on Saturday evening. (9 January)

#####

11-13 February 1965

SOMETHING TO HIDE

by Leslie Sands

Incl; Tony Welsby as Howard Holt
Jill Aldersay as Julie
Valerie Foster as Karen Holt
David Coan as Inspector Davies
David Shackleton as Mr Purdie
Honor Knight as Stella
Joyce Hall as Miss Cunningham

Producer Robert E McClinton, Assisted by Geoff Armitage

Stage Manager Ian T Bery

Scenic Design Janet Ollier

Props Rene Newton and Olwyn Newton

Publicity John Powell and David Shackleton

Front of House Manager Roy Warburton

Prompt Enid Ford

Chairman Ian T Berry

Secretary Jill P Aldersay

Pic and Feature Page 1, 12 Feb 1965 Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, Unknown Sandbach Chronicle

#####

18 February 1965

The Coach-house/ Little Theatre. It has been noted that the back of the old building, the stables and another room at Zan Drive have now been cleared. The main problem is the bulging wall.

Bank Balance £53/16/1

We are going to enter the last play of the season **Goodnight Mrs Puffin** for the 3-act festival run by the Cheshire County Council.

No Minutes until May 65

#####

1-3 April 1965

GOODNIGHT MRS PUFFIN

by Arthur Lovegrove

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Ethel Fordyce
Janet Aldersay as Jacqueline Fordyce
Janet Ollier as Pamela Fordyce
Tony Welsby as Nicholas Fordyce
Margery Dickenson as Annie
Joan Boadle as Amelia Puffin
Lionel Moore as Henry Fordyce
Geoff Armitage as Stephen Parker
John Powell as Victor Parker
Keith Hill as Roger Vincent

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager Ian T Berry

Scenic Design John Dickinson
Props Rene Newton and Olwyn Newton
Publicity John Powell and David Shackleton
Front of House Manager Roy Warburton
Prompt Joyce Hall
Chairman Ian T Berry
Secretary Jill P Aldersay
Treasurer David Speed

Pic and Feature Back Page, 2 April 1965 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

11 May 1965

£25 is needed to connect the Little theatre to the electric mains.
It was suggested that we enter the Taped play festival this year.

15 June 1965 AGM

As last year

24 July 1965

The first play will be **The Rape of the belt.**

The future of our magazine 'Off Stage' is in the balance. It was suggested that we make it a 2 Monthly Magazine, and sell it in the shops at 6d a copy.

#####

21-23 October 1965

THE RAPE OF THE BELT

by Ben W Levy

Incl; Brenda Bell as Hera
 Lional Moore as Zeus
 Joyce Hall as Hippobomene
 Ivor Jones as Theseus
 David Coan as Heracles (Hercules)
 Janet Ollier as Antiope
 Christine Morrey as Diasta
 Olwyn Newton as Anthea
 Jill Aldersay as Hippolyte
 Enid Ford as Thalestris (Minister of Maternity)

Producer Joan Boadle

Props Rene Newton

Make Up Bessie Welsby

Prompt June Boulton

Front of House Manager Roy Warburton

Publicity John Powell

THE ARCHIVE for "Rape of the Belt"

In the archive is a copy of two invoices for the play "Rape of the Belt" issued by "Samuel French" they are possibly for books of the play 4 / 1 / 3 and 1 / 5 / 2.

#####

8 November 1965

Bank Balance £15/3/40

It was suggested that we raise ticket prices from 3/6 to 4/6. OAP's ticket prices will remain the same.

It was thought by many including the chairman that The Coach-house / Little Theatre was a milestone round the society's neck. It was decided to get it valued with a view to selling it.

#####

10-12 February 1966

TREASURE HUNT

by M.J. Farrell and John Perry (1st produced in London 1949)

Incl; Enid Ford as Brigid O'Keefe
 John Powell as William Burke
 Jill Aldersay as Mrs Guidera

David Hinde as Gerald Walsh
 Bessie Welsby as Mrs Consuelo Howard
 Ivor Jones as Hercules Ryall
 Frank Hunter as Sir Philip Ryall
 Pauline Sedgley as Veronica Howard
 Joan Boadle as Aunt Anna Rose
 Lionel Moore as Eustace Mills
 Thelma Angus as Mrs Dorothy Cleghorne-Thomas
 Margaret Littlemore as Yvonne Cleghorne-Thomas
 Tom Easton as A Taxie Driver

Producer Joyce Hall
 Lighting Tony Baker and David Coan
 Props Pauline Jackson and Rene Newton
 Make up Bessie Welsby
 Prompt Olwyn Newton
 Publicity John Powell
 Front of House Manager Roy Warburton
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 11 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 18 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.



Treasure Hunt.

THE ARCHIVE for "Treasurer Hunt"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Samuel French" the royalties for 3 performances were 13 / 13 /- (5/5/0 1st night, 4/4/0 and 4/4/0 for the other two nights) .

#####

7 March 1966

Robert Holmes the solicitor has been asked to draw up plans of the building in Zan Drive with a view to the sale of the property.

The next play will be **Doctor in the House**

#####

21-23 April 1966

DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

by Ted Willis (from the Book by Richard Gordon)

Incl; Lionel Moore as Tony Grimsdyke
 Frank Hunter as Simon Sparrow
 John Powell as John Evans
 Jill Aldersay as Vera
 Tom Easton as Bromley
 Ivor Jones as Sir Lancelot Spratt
 Margaret Littlemore as Miss Winslow (Riggie) a Nurse
 Joyce Hall as The Matron
 Pauline Sedgley as Janet a Nurse

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith
 Stage Manager Robert McClinton
 Lighting Tony Bowker
 Prompt Enid Ford
 Props David Shackleton and John Dickinson
 Make up Bessie Welsby

Publicity John Powell
Front of House Manager Roy Warburton.
Pic and Feature Page 1, 24 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 29 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

THE ARCHIVE for "Doctor in the House"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Samuel French" the royalties for 3 performances were 13 Guineas (13 / 13/ -) .

Unknown Sandbach Chronicle Page Unkn.

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held an end of season party in the Conservative Rooms on Saturday.

ARCHIVE

In the archive is a copy of the Prudential Assurance company renewal for the insurance at a cost of £2/ 3 / 9 for £700 worth of goods.

#####

18 July 1966 AGM
Bank Balance £4/19/5
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Vice Chairman Joyce Hall
Rest as last year.

24 October 1966

Mr Jonathan Dudley from the Victoria Theatre, Hanley gave a talk on "Theatre in the round" on the 10 September.

The next play will be **Epitaph for George Dillon.**

#####

17-19 November 1966 EPITAPH FOR GEORGE DILLON (56th Production ?)

by Derek Benfield

Incl; Margaret Littlemore as Josie Elliot
Thelma Angus as Ruth Gray
Bessie Welsby as Mrs Elliot
Joan Boadle as Norah Elliot
Bruce Mottram as Percy Elliot
Lional Moore as George Dillon
John Powell as Geoffrey Calwyn-Stuart
Tom Easton as Mr Webb
Frank Hunter as Barney Evans

Producer Paul H. Stallard

Stage Manager Robert McClinton

Lighting Tony Bowker

Props Pauline Sedgley, Carol Lewis and Christopher Sedgley.

Prompt Enid Ford

Make up Bessie Welsby

Front of House Manager Roy Warburton

Publicity John Powell

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 18 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 25 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

THE ARCHIVE for "Epitaph for George Dillon"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence (Issue Number 7206) to do the play issued by "Evans Plays" the royalties for 3 performances were 13 Guineas (13 / 13 / -) .

#####

28 November 1966
The next play will be **The Secret Tent**.

9 January 1967

The play **Epitaph for George Dillon** made a loss of £7/7/-

#####

16-18 February 1967

THE SECRET TENT

by Elizabeth Addyman

Incl; Lionel Moore as Christopher Martyn
Jill Aldersay as Ruth Martyn
Joan Boadle as Naomi Martyn
Bessie Welsby as Miss Mitchum-Browne
Paul Stallard as Ernie Briggs
David Coan as Inspector Thornton
Joyce Hall as Miss Pearce
Pauline Sedgley as Peter's Voice

Produced by Thelma Angus

Stage Manager and Set Design by Bruce Mottram

Lighting and Sound Effects Tony Bowker

Props Pauline Sedgley and Jackie Bailey

Prompt Enid Ford

Make Up Bessie Welsby

Publicity John Powell

Catering Marjorie Dickenson

Front of House Manager Roy Warburton

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Thelma Angus

Treasurer Roy Warburton

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 24 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

20 February 1967

Jill Aldersay and Tony Baker were congratulated on their forthcoming wedding on the 14 March '67.

The next play will be '**Doctor at Sea**'

4 April 1967

The Secret Tent Lost £12/6/10

This year according to some is the 21st anniversary of the SADS. There was a discussion as to how it would be celebrated.

#####

17-19 May 1967

DOCTOR AT SEA (21st anniversary Production)

by Ted Willis (Adapted from the book by Richard Gordon)

Incl; Chris Spragg as Simon Sparrow
John Powell as Easter
Tom Easton as Hornbeam
Bruce Mottram as Trail
Colin King as Captain Hogg
Pauline Sedgley as Wendy Wilson
Bessie Welsby as Edna Swithinbank
Lional Moore as Major Montmorency
Carol Lewis as Joyce
Jackie Bailey as Mimi
Margaret Littlemore as Dodo

Produced by Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager and Set Design Bruce Mottram

Lighting and Sound Effects Tony Bowker

Props Thelma Angus and Joan Boadle

Prompt Enid Ford

Make up Bessie Welsby
Publicity John Powell
Catering Marjorie Dickenson
Front of House Manager Roy Warburton
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith
Secretary Thelma Angus
Treasurer Roy Warburton
Pic and Feature Page 1, 12 May 1967 Sandbach Chronicle.

DOCTOR AT SEA (21st anniversary production) **Page 1, 12 May 1967 Sandbach Chronicle.**
As this was the anniversary production for the Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society it was appropriate that they had a cake. Supplied by Joint President Mr Arthur Chatwin (1967 to date) who owned a series of Cake and bread shops the anniversary cake was cut on the Saturday night, after the performance. The other President of the society had been its president from the start Mr J.E. Foden (Motor works - owner of Foden Lorries) (1946 to date)

6 June 1967

It was decided not to have any more raffles during the play as it broke up the flow of the production. At this point in time there were 26 paid up members of the society.

14 June 1967 A.G.M.

The highlight of the year had been the winning of the General class trophy at the Cheshire Community play of the year festival with **The Secret Tent**.

Bank Balance £13/4/4

Election of Officers

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Vice Chairman Joyce Hall

The rest as last year.

18 August 1967

The next play will be **All things Bright and Beautiful**.

#####

26-28 October 1967

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall

Incl; Lionel Moore as Desmond Cooper

Jill Bowker as Deanna Hesseltine

Rex Lees as Charles Hesseltine

Carol Lewis as Baloo

Tom Easton as Old Jakie

Joyce Hall as Queenie Hesseltine

Bruce Mottram as Albert Hesseltine

John Powell as Harry Lauder Hesseltine

Colin King as Douglas Dobson

Justine Farnworth Smith as Rory Hesseltine's voice

Producer Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager and Set Design Bruce Mottram

Lighting and Sound Effects Tony Bowker

Props Rene Newton

Prompt Enid Ford

Make up Bessie Welsby

Publicity John Powell

Catering Marjorie Dickenson

Front of House Manager Jack Irving

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 27 Oct 1967 Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

#####

19 January 1968 Sandbach Chronicle Page Unknown.

"The Trio" (Joan Davenport, Maurice Cox and Muriel Nicklin) a Crewe based group paid a visit to Sandbach on Monday. The Trio were paying a second visit to the town this time with a new programme of sketches called "On Stage" which consisted of short plays and sketches, mime, original material and selections from well known plays. The event was attended by 20 members of The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society.

13 November 1967
Bank Balance £30

15 January 1968
Bank Balance £29/19/3

Rehearsals for the One act play for the Ellesmere port (Cheshire Drama festival) were going well '**Ye Gods**' will be performed at a social meeting on the 19 February 1968 before it goes to the festival.

#####

24 Feb / 4 April 1968 **YE GODS (1Act)**
by William Barnes
(Performed at the Civic hall, Ellesmere Port on the 24 February as part of the Cheshire Drama Festival and at St Mary's Hall, Sandbach on the 4 April 1968 in front of the St Mary's Women's Fellowship)

Incl; Bessie Welsby
 Bruce Mottram
 Lionel Moore
 Carol Lewis
 John Powell
 Margaret Sugden
 Jane Vernon
 Pauline Sedgley

Producer Thelma Angus

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 23 Feb 1968 Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 8, 11 Apr 1968 Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

11 March 1968

The next play will be **Ring Round the moon.**

#####

2-4 May 1968

RING ROUND THE MOON

by Jean Anouilh (Adapted by Christopher Fry)

Incl; Rex Lees as Joshua (the Butler)
 Lionel Moore as Hugo and Frederic (Hugo's Twin Brother)
 Jane Vernon as Diana Messerschmann
 Margaret Sugden as Lady India
 John Powell as Patrice Bombelles
 Joyce Hall as Madame Desmortes
 Carol Lewis as Capulet
 Stuart Hirst as Messerschmann
 Tom Easton as Romainville
 Pauline Sedgley as Isabelle (A Ballet Dancer)
 Bessie Welsby as Her Mother
 Bruce Mottram as A General

Directed by Bruce Mottram (and Set Design)

Lighting and Sound Effects Tony Bowker

Prompt Enid Ford

Make up Bessie Welsby

Publicity John Powell

Catering Marjorie Dickinson

Properties Pauline Jackson

Front of House Manager Jack Irving.
Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith (Rivington, Crewe Rd, Sandbach)
Secretary Miss Carol Lewis (150, Crewe Rd, Sandbach)
Treasurer Mr Jack Irving (147 Crewe Rd, Haslington)
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 3 May 1968 Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature see Page 10, 25 Jan 1973 Crewe Chronicle.?

10 May 1968 (EVENT)

Jumble Sale at the Town Hall Boardroom at 6.30pm.

#####

28 May 1968 A.G.M.

During the year only two plays had been performed plus the one act play for Ellesmere Port.
There were no changes to the committee.

August 1968

The next play will be **Angels in Love** and the 1 act play **Tea with Mr Bellinger** have both been cast.
The one play will be entered into the festival like last year.

9 September 1968

Bank balance is now £10 overdrawn.

#####

31Oct-2 Nov 1968

ANGELS IN LOVE (or the Perils of Purity)
by Hugh Mills

Incl; Leslie Heaton Cooper as Burton
Jane Vernon as Dearest (The Hon. Mrs Errol)
John Powell as Cedric, Lord Fauntleroy
Pauline Sedgley as Lettice, Lady Fauntleroy
Margaret Sugden as Violet, Comtesse de Chaumont
Stuart Hirst as Furse
Bruce Mottram as Molyneux, Earl of Dorincourt
Roger Hurley as Sir Pomerory-Pomeroy- Jones
Rex Leese Eustace Pomeroy -Jones

Director Margaret Sugden

Set design Bruce Mottram

Lighting and Sound Effects Tony Bowker

Prompt Enid Ford

Make up Bessie Welsby

Publicity John Powell

Catering Marjorie Dickinson

Properties Carol Lewis

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith (Rivington, Crewe Rd, Sandbach)

Secretary Miss Carol Lewis (150, Crewe Rd, Sandbach)

Treasurer Mr Jack Irving (c/o Stringer and Co, 3 Crewe Rd, Sandbach)

Pic and Feature Page 11, 8 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 17, 7 Nov Crewe Chronicle.



STUART HIRST ROGER HURLEY

Angels in Love.

 4 November 1968

Jill Bowker thanked Margaret for taking over her part of Violet due to illness.
 The next play will be **Claudia by Rose Franklyn.**

20 January 1969

Tea with Mr Bellinger had been performed at the Ellesmere Port festival on the 28 February 1969.

12 February 1969

Five new members were welcomed David, Jackie, Valerie, Stuart and Trevor.
 The next play will have a Civic party in the Audience. Bruce Mottram had given up his part in the next play; it will be taken over by John Powell.

#####

20-22 February 1969

CLAUDIA

by Rose Franken

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Mrs Brown
 Lionel Moore aa David Naughton
 Jill Bowker as Claudia Naughton
 Joyce Hall as Bertha
 Roger Hurley as Fritz
 John Powell as Jerry Seymour
 Leslie Heaton Cooper as Madame Daruschka
 Pauline Sedgley as Julia Naughton

Directed by Eric Hughes
 Set Design John Dickinson
 Prompt Enid Ford
 Publicity John Powell
 Catering Margery Dickinson
 Lighting Tony Bowker
 Stage Manager John Dickinson

Pic and Feature Page 14, 13 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

28 February 1969

TEA WITH MR BELLRINGER (1Act)
 by Joy Anderson
 (Performed at Ellesmere Port)

 6 March 1969

The dates of the next play had been changed to the 15 to 17 May 1969.
 A Coffee evening had been arranged for the 1 May at Muriel Farnworth Smiths house.

The next play would be **Chase me Comrade**

17 March 1969

Jill Bowker resigned from the society

A Jumble sale raised £23/6/9

10 April 1969

The one act play **Tea with Mr Bellringer** was to be performed for the disabled club on the 18 Apr 1969 at the Sandbach Clinic 7.30pm

#####

15-17 May 1969

CHASE ME, COMRADE

by Ray Cooney

Incl; Sylvia Hurley as Nancy Rimmington
Trevor Kirkham as Commander Rimmington
Stuart Hurst as Hoskins
Margaret Sugden as Alicia Coutney
John Dickinson as Petrovyan
John Powell as Gerry Buss
Bruce Mottram as Mr Laver
Stuart Oakes as Constable Pulford
Leslie Heaton -Cooper as Janet Rimmington
Andrew Burgess as Bobby Hargreaves

Directed by John Dickinson

Prompt Enid Ford

Publicity John Powell

Catering Margery Dickinson

Lighting Chris Banks

Props Pauline Sedgley

Front of House Muriel Farnworth Smith

Chairman Muriel Farnworth Smith

Secretary Mrs Carol Vernon (6 Willow Tree Grove, Rode Heath, S-O-T)

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 16 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 10, 15 May Crewe Chronicle.

#####

9 June 1969 A.G.M.

(The Minutes of this meeting were lost but the next meeting confirms the below statement)

Election of Officers Chairman John Powell

18 August 1969

Mr Mottram was asked if he had found out about the cost of new flats. He had not had the opportunity.

Water was getting into the flats next to our building from the Zan drive theatre.

A play reading followed.

15 October 1969

The cost of the plays for the 1968/9 season was £70/5/10

Jane Vernon resigned from the society.

A gift auction raised £80/16/0

The play dates were changed to the 23 to 25 April 1970 due to the Sandbach Arts Festival.

It was decided not to renew are subscription to the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild.

The Zan Drive building was in a bad way and it was decided by the society that it should be demolished at a cost of £200 and a pre-fabricated building be erected in its place. Pauline Sedgley would put an advert in the paper asking for someone to store flats while the demolition took place.

#####

30 Oct-1 Nov 1969

ALL IN GOOD TIME

by Bill Naughton

Incl; Margaret Sugden as Lucy Fitton
Bruce Mottram as Ezra Fitton

Tom Gaston as Geoffrey Fitton
Adrian Smith as Joe Thompson
Bessie Welsby as Liz Piper
Pauline Sedgley as Molly Thompson
Roger Hurley as Fred Stanfield
John Powell as Arthur Fitton
Eddie Hudson as Eddie Taylor
Justine Farnworth Smith as Violet Fitton
Lionel Moore as Leslie Piper

Director Joyce Hall
Stage Manager and Set Design David Brookes
Lighting Christopher Banks
Sound Effects Christopher Banks and Martin Hall
Prompt Enid Ford
Publicity Pauline Sedgley
Catering Margery Dickinson
Props Chris Bailey, Joy Bloor, Susan Glynn
Front of House Manager Rex Lees
Feature Page 1, 7 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.



All in Good Time.

#####

10 November 1969

The play **All in Good Time** attracted 504 paying customers. It was thought to be a record audience for the society.

It was stated that under no circumstances should seats be reserved in future.

A One-act play would be produced by Mr D Brookes, which will be performed at the Sandbach Arts Festival.

The advert in the Chronicle has brought offers of a new home for the flats from three members of the public and an offer to buy the ground from Mr Wyatt of HOPOL.

It was noticed that Zan would make an offer for the land either by cash payment or by swapping with the society for another piece of land on the other side of Zan Drive.

Mr John Powell (Chairman) asked the opinion of Adrian Baxter of J Hind and Co for his opinion, he said that it would be better to sell the land. The market value would be about £750, but a sale of £500 would be a satisfactory offer Zan would buy it. Zan would be approached to find out what they would be prepared to offer.

Murgatroyds and Foden's Clubs have asked the society if they could do a review or sketch. Mr Bruce Mottram was asked to see if it was possible to cast.

Three new members were welcomed to the society.

24 November 1969

John Powell is to produce **Trap for a Lonely Man**

A One-hour review organised by Bruce Mottram has been organised and will be performed at the end of January.

2 February 1970

A profit of £4/11/3 has been made at a meat and potato supper.

The Review was now booked for the 6th March, 17 Apr and a date in the middle of March for the Leonard Cheshire Home.

#####

12-14 February 1970

TRAP FOR A LONELY MAN

by Robert Thomas

Incl; Bruce Mottram as The Man
Roger Hurley as Police Inspector
Adrian Baxter as Priest
Margaret Sugden as The Woman
Tom Easton as The Tramp
Margery Dickinson as The Nurse

Directed by John Powell

Stage Manager and Set Design David Brookes

Lighting Christopher Banks

Sound Effects Christopher Banks and Martin Hall

Prompt Enid Ford

Publicity Pauline Sedgley

Props Doreen Ford

Front of House Manager Rex Lees

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 6 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, 20 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

18 February 1970

The question of a third trustee had arisen; John Powell was asked if he would like the job.

Mr D Brookes had decided to leave the society.

A Jumble sale had raised £20/6/- minus Caretakers fee's etc

'Trap for a Lonely man 'was a success

Members of the audience asked what happened to the photographs that the Players had in the foyer as they liked them in the last play. It would again be considered for the next production.

The play's programme at the moment was only stencilled. It was thought that we could do a little better.

It was suggested that Mr G Sullivan of the Market Tavern would supply glossy covers as long as he could have the back page for an advert.

Mr Lees suggested we should have a sweet tray at plays for the audience, Mrs Dickenson said that she could supply the sweets on a sale or return basis.

There was a dance organised for the 21 March 1970 at the Town Hall with groups 'Frankie and the countdowns' and 'The Apollo' supplying the music.

An Auction was also arranged for the 8th May 1970 in the Town Hall boardroom.

Wheelock, Zan Drive, having had two quotes for demolition a meeting was called for the 26th February to discuss the plans for the building.

7 April 1970

Bank Balance £613/14/10

A new member Miss G Dickinson was welcomed to the society.

The Dance on the 21 March had raised £19 profit.

The review has also made money for the society.

Mr Richard Brown and other members of the society had collected the lead off the roof of Zan Drive.

So far it had made £44 for the society.

A Cheese and wine had been arranged for Tues 28 Apr 1970 in the Masonic Hall.

Dates for the next season's plays 22,23,24 Oct 1970

11,12,13, Feb 1971

22,23,24 Apr 1971

Martin Hall was leaving the society; a party was arranged at the Crown for the 9 May 1970.

#####

23-25 April 1970

BOEING, BOEING

by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross

Incl; John Powell as Bernard
Pauline Sedgley as Janet
Bessie Welsby as Bertha
Adrian Baxter as Robert
Christine Brown as Jacqueline
Joyce Hopewell as Judith

Directed by Bruce Mottram

Stage manager and Set Design by Wynn Adlington

Lighting Christopher Banks

Sound and Lighting Assistants Martin Hall and Eddie Hudson

Prompt Enid Ford

Publicity Pauline Sedgley

Props Susan Glynn, Susan Gafney and Ann Dickinson

Catering Margery Dickinson

Front of House Manager Rex Lees

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 17 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 11, 16 Apr Crewe Chronicle.



Boeing Boeing.



#####

28 April 1970

Cheese and Wine evening at the Masonic Hall, The Commons. Starting time 7.70pm. Tickets 5/-

5 May 1970

Mr S Oakes had supplied photographs for '**Boeing Boeing**'.

The Cheese and wine had made a loss of £5 or £6 due to the lack of support from members.

A new hammer was purchased by the society.

8 May 1970

A Gift Auction with Auctioneer Adrian Baxter A.M.R.S.M. at the Town Hall Boardroom. Viewing 6pm sale 7.30pm.

4 June 1970

A suggestion of the providence chapel, Sandbach was put forward as a new home for the society but as it would cost £4,000 and was in a possible 3 year New development area it was decided that it was unsuitable.

8 June 1970

Two new members Peter and Gill Barwell were welcomed.
The Auction had made a profit of just over £60.
Another Jumble Sale was to be held on the 26th June.
The 14th Oct was booked for a Fashion show and Fork supper, with John Powell and Muriel Farnworth Smith comparing the show.
A Barbecue had been arranged for September the 4th at 8pm, at Bradwall village hall. It was suggested that a 'Ho Down' in the hall would be nice. It would be looked into.
It was thought that the Society didn't have enough social events. Mrs Banwell suggested inviting potential new members to a party a date was fixed for the 17 August 1970 for this event.

23 July 1970

The social evening 17 Aug 1970 for new members will have food and drink supplied by the members of the society, with new possible members paying for what they have.
Publicity wise it was suggested that a glass fronted board be put up in the town. John Powell will ask the banks if they would be prepared to have a permanent board at their branch.
The ticket prices for the fashion show would be 8/- with the Barbecue price being set at 5/- with food extra.
A letter was received from the Council re Zan Drive, saying that they had no objection to demolishing the building and re building with a rehearsal room. However a resident in Zan drive asked the S.A.D.S. if they would undertake any repairs needed due to damage caused by the collapse of the building to her house and property. The society said that they would get this undertaking from the contractors if they decide to continue on this course.

25 September 1970

A poster in a glass case had been put on the side of the Midland Bank.
The Barbecue raised £10/15/-
A poster would be put outside the Town Hall. The cost of the poster would be 30/- and be printed by Spencer brothers.
Soup and Hot dogs would be provided for the Stage Crew for their lunch on the Sunday before the next play '**Spring and Port Wine**'.
The play after **Spring and port wine** will be '**The Anniversary**'.
Crewe Rep. would do a performance of 'The Promise' for members and friends on the 9th Nov 1970 in the Town Hall. Admission would be 4/- to cover expenses.
The Fashion show ticket price was reduced to 6/-

14 October 1970

The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society held a "Fashion Supper" at Sandbach Town Hall.
Pic and Feature Page 1 and inside Page, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle.

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22-24 October 1970

SPRING AND PORT WINE

by Bill Naughton

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Daisy Crompton
Joyce Hopewell as Florence Crompton
Pauline Sedgley as Betsy Jane
Eddie Hudson as Wilfred Crompton
Adrian Smith as Harold Crompton
Justine Farnworth Smith as Hilda Crompton

Bruce Mottram as Rafe Crompton
 Peter Barwell as Arthur
 Directed by Joyce Hall
 Stage Manager and Set Design Miss Wyn Adlington
 Lighting Christopher Banks
 Prompt Enid Ford
 Publicity Carol Anthony and Rex Lees
 Props Joyce Hopewell and Linda Beacock
 Catering Margaret Dickinson
 Front of House Managers Rex Lees and John Powell
 Photographs Stuart Oakes



Spring and Port Wine.

#####

2 November 1970

Mrs Linda Ingham and Mrs Sue Reade were welcomed to the society.

The Jumble sale raised £34/0/9

The quality of paper used by Spencer Brothers who produced the programme for **Spring and Port Wine** was brought into question; the matter would be looked into.

26 January 1971 Extra ordinary meeting.

The fashion show raised £8/11/- profit.

The show by Crewe Rep made a loss of £1/14/-

The play '**The Anniversary**' hit a snag when Joyce Hall became ill and was unable to continue rehearsals. She offered both a cheque to cover printing expenses and her resignation if the society wanted. It was decided that the play would be postponed until the 18-20th March with Bessie Welsby taking Mrs Halls part. Another change was that Mrs Bramwell was unable to make the new dates so her part was given to Mrs Sugden.

1 February 1971

Bank Balance £516

New lights would be purchased. Two cheap lights at £7 each and two quality ones at £12/12/- . The Society would also purchase two barn doors at £2/4/- and £4/8/- with 4 Clamps at 5/5 each and 10 filter sheets at 6/5 each.

The price of tickets was discussed and it was proposed that they rise next season from 23p to 25p each. (*The Decimal system came in this year*)

#####

18-20 March 1971

THE ANNIVERSARY

by William Mc Gilwraith

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Tom
 Linda Ingham as Shirley
 Roger Hurley as Henry
 Lionel Moore as Terry
 Gill Barwell as Karen
 Joyce Hall as Mum

Directed by John Powell

Stage Manager and Set Design Bruce Mottram

Sound Effects and Lighting Chris Banks
Prompt Enid Ford
Publicity Pauline Sedgley
Catering Margery Dickinson
Front of House Manager Rex Lees
Photographs Stuart Oakes

Pic and Feature Page 1, 19 March Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 11, 11 March Crewe Chronicle.

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No Minutes available.

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6 - 8 May 1971

THE BEST LAID SCHEMES

by H.J. Meyer

Incl; Bruce Mottram as Rufus Pugh
Ann Rowland as Vera Pugh
Margaret Sugden as Victoria Pugh
Adrian Smith as Charlie
Pauline Sedgley as Mrs Hudson
Adrian Baxter as Sid Harper
Joyce Hopewell as June Clarke
Lional Moore as Sylvester Pugh

Directed by Muriel Farnworth Smith
Stage Manager and Set Design by Wynn Adlington
Sound Effects and Lighting by Christopher Banks
Props Linda Ingham and Sue Reade
Prompt Enid Ford
Publicity Pauline Sedgley
Catering Margery Dickinson
Front of House Manager Rex Lees
Photographs Stuart Oakes

Pic and Feature Page 1 and 9, 7 May Sandbach Chronicle.

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13 May 1971

The Sandbach Festival had been cancelled due to a postal strike. The S.A.D.S. decided that the 1 act play they were going to performed would also be cancelled.

The cast and crew were thanked for **The Anniversary**. Thanks were also expressed to the cast and crew for '**The Best Laid Schemes**', which was presented in just 12 rehearsals.

Mrs Farnworth Smith pointed out that a meeting of members had been held behind the back of the committee about the running of the society. It was a casual meeting of like-minded people who had opinions about the society and not a revolution.

26 May 1971 A.G.M.

Elaine Neal was welcomed to the society.

During the year 7 new members had joined the society.

Election of new committee

Presidents	Mr A Chatwin and Mr J.E. Foden
Chairman	Mrs Sugden (by 22 Votes to John Powell's 18 Votes)
Vice Chairman	Adrian Baxter (by 24 Votes to 18 against John Powell)
Secretary	Roger Hurley
Treasurer	Mr Irving
Posted Secretary	Rex Leese
Publicity Manager	Pauline Sedgely

Dates for the next play's 21-23 Oct 1971, 10 - 12 Feb 1972, 20 - 22 Apr 1972.

The take over was discussed, Adrian Baxter pointed out that it was a meeting of ideas to get people more involved in the society.

It was also suggested that the following be discussed.

- a) Regular meetings to be held on a regular basis e.g. 1st Monday in each month.
- b) The Agenda of each meeting and the minutes to be circulated to all members.

- c) All information to be posted to members about anything to do with society business e.g. Wheelock.
 - d) A copy of the rules to be given to all members.
- Proposed changes to the Constitution.
- a) In addition to the managing body there would also be formed three sub committee's covering Drama, Business and Social events, each with 5 members one of which would be a manager.
 - b) That the management committee should consist of: ---
Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and the managers of the sub committee's. A Quorum should be 50% of the two halves of the committee e.g. 50% of the managers and 50% of the elected committee (Chairman etc.)
 - c) The current rules 4,5,and 6 would have to be changed to allow the cost of membership to rise if necessary
 - d) Also rule 12 should be classified.

It was decided to leave the discussion of these proposals until the next general meeting on the 23 June 1971.

23 June 1971 (Crown)

Discussion of the proposals of the Sub committee's took place. Chris Banks said that whatever the arrangements there would still be a lack of workers to build the sets etc. Another member said that they doubted that the society had 19 competent members to fill the posts. Eventually it was decided to give the proposals a trial period of 1 year. The constitution would be changed accordingly; the task of sorting it out would be taken on by Eddie Hudson and Adrian Smith who would take it to a solicitor to have the wording done properly.

It was also decided to omit the date of the A.G.M. The choice of play would be left to the management committee, also if the society folded then the constitution should say that the funds of the society should be split according to the management committee's wishes and not that of the charity commission.

It was suggested that there be a junior section in the society.

Copies of the amendments would be circulated to members and a vote would be taken at the next meeting on the 7 July.

28 June 1971

Fund raising was discussed, a Jumble sale was organised for the 13 Aug, an Auction on the 17th Sept and a Halloween barbecue for the 29 Oct and finally a raffle was discussed.

21 July 1971

A raffle was decided upon with 750 tickets / books being printed.

It was suggested that the society have an emblem. Ideas were asked for on postcards. The winning design would be put on the society's notepaper etc.

A Halloween party was booked at the Crown for the 30th Oct.

It was proposed to stage a Victorian music hall after the 3rd play.

A 1-day acting course was arranged for the 3 Oct the teacher would be Mr Geoff Doherty.

Mrs Farnworth Smith informed the meeting that the Bold Street Co-op is going to be turned into a community centre with a small stage and theatre.

The survival of the 'Off Stage' Magazine, the society's publication was discussed and it was decided to leave it as a 3 monthly magazine.

(During this meeting the society brought up the amendments to the constitution, although it was not recorded in the minutes, as later in the year they were put into operation)

18 August 1971

The Jumble sale on the 13 Aug made a profit of £22/12/-

The Union folk group was booked for the barbecue at £16. Chris Banks offered to do a disco in the intervals.

The 1st play of the season would be **The Gazebo**.

15 September 1971

Since the society had left the Mid Cheshire theatre guild it had been re-organised. After discussion it was decided to re join for a year.

Ticket prices were put up for the next play to 25p a rise of 2p for adults, up 2 and a half pence to 15p for children while OAP's stay at 5p

Chris Banks reported that the new lighting board was being built; all would be ready for the next play. The new emblem was chosen out of about a dozen designs', it was designed by Carol Anthony.

13 October 1971

Brian Stubbs joined the society.

Residents of the Leonard Cheshire home were invited to attend the dress rehearsal of **The Gazebo**.

Bank Balance £521

John Powell has become unable to produce the second play of the season. Mrs Sonia Slack will take his place.

Plans to turn the Bold Street Co-op into a community building have fallen through.

The barbecue was a great success. But the Halloween party has been cancelled because it was felt that it was too close to the last night party.

#####

21-23 October 1971

THE GAZEBO

by Alec Coppell

Incl; Greg Fay as Elliot Nash
Adrian Smith as Harlow Edison
Ann Dickinson as Matilda
Margaret Sugden as Nell Nash
Pamela Cornes as Mrs Chandler
Dave Rouse as The Visitor
George Rowlands as Mr Thorpe
Bruce Mottram as The Dook
Mike Milbyer as Lovie
Roger Hurley as Dr Wyner
Ernie Bell as Ryan
Dave Pitt as Druker
Dave Rouse as A Cop

Directed by Peter Barwell

Stage Manager and Set Design by Wynn Adlington

Lighting by Christopher Banks

Sound Effects Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Prompt Sue Reade

Publicity Adrian Smith

Catering Margery Dickinson

Front of House Managers Rex Lees and Pauline Sedgley

Props Gill Barwell and Sue Gaffney

Pic and Feature Page 10, 29 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

10 November 1971

Expenses for '**The Gazebo**' were only £80.

The price of a cup of tea for the next play was set at 3p with biscuit's being extra.

The second play would be **The Heiress** with the third play being '**Wild Goose Chase**'.

8 December 1971

The Coach House at Zan drive was getting worse. Mr Ball an architect had been asked to give his opinion as to how safe it was.

17 January 1972

Mr Ball the Architect has been to Wheelock three times to assess the state of the Coach House. In his opinion it would be all right to pull it down. It was suggested that the society strips the building of all its assets and demolish the building during the time of the third play.

Alternations are planned for the Town Hall. It was suggested that the society write to the Council suggesting they build a permanent stage.

#####

10-12 February 1972

THE HEIRESS

by Ruth and Augustus Goetz

Incl; Linda Ingham as Maria (The Maid)
 Bruce Mottram as Dr Austin Sloper
 Pamela Cornes as Mrs Lavinia Penniman
 Joyce Hopewell as Catherine Almond
 June Kaneps as Mrs Elizabeth Almond
 Pauline Sedgley as Marian Almond
 John Futcher as Arthur Townsend
 John Powell as Morris Townsend
 Elsie Thomason as Mrs Montgomery

Produced by Sonia Slack
 Stage Manager and Set Design Patrick Slack
 Lighting Christopher Banks
 Sound Effects Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson
 Prompt Enid Ford
 Props Brian Stubbs , Sue Reade and Carol Anthony
 Wardrobe Muriel Farnworth Smith and Joyce Hall
 Catering Margery Dickinson
 Publicity Adrian Smith

Pic and Feature Page 7, 18 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.



The Heiress.



#####

15 February 1972

'The Heiress' was a great success despite the threat of power cuts and smaller audiences due to other events in the town.

Mrs Morag Davenport joined the society.
 Takings from the Christmas fair were £37

13 March 1972

Bank Balance £524.81

It was suggested that an end of season function should take place. The Masonic Hall was suggested and the date of the 12 May was provisionally booked.

Sue Rease joined the society.

#####

20-22 April 1972

WILD GOOSE CHASE

by Derek Benfield

Incl; Joyce Hall as Ada

Bruce Mottram as Lord Elrood
Joyce Hopewell as Patricia
June Kaneps as Lady Elrood
Morarg Davenport as Jenny Stewart
Bessie Welsby as Miss Partridge
Adrian Baxter as Chester Dreadnought
Roger Hurley as Capone
(Eddie Hudson as Wedgewood)

John Powell played Wedgewood as Eddie Hudson was ill during the week of the play.

Graham Russell Dickinson as Hilary Pond

Director John Powell
Stage Manager and Set Designer Patrick Slack
Sound and Lighting Christopher Banks
Props Sonia Slack
Prompt Enid Ford
Publicity Muriel Farnworth Smith
Catering Margery Dickinson
Front of House Manager Pauline Sedgley

24 April 1972

Two new members Mrs Brenda Reynolds and Miss Carol Ferguson were welcomed to the society. The "stuffed goose" that John Powell had ordered had not arrived due to a rail strike 'Go Slow' (It was needed for the Play '**Wild Goose Chase**').

A letter was received from Adrian Baxter thanking the society for the wedding present he and his new bride Judy had received.

The play '**Wild Goose Chase**' was chosen as one of the excerpts for the county play of the year festival at Macclesfield on the 20th May 1972. As Mrs Hopewell and Mrs Welsby were both away on that date an excerpt without them would be chosen.

22 May 1972 A.G.M.

New member Mark Mac Alpine was welcomed.

Of this years 3 plays the first '**The Gazebo**' Suffered some difficulties in casting, the second '**The Heiress**' was affected by the threat of power cuts and the third '**Wild Goose Chase**' had been chosen for the play of the year festival.

Bank Balance £570

With the years trial of the constitution it was decided by a vote of 16 to 9 to continue with the new look (Sub Comities etc.)

Election of Officers.

Chairman	Margaret Sugden (Beat John Powell 17 to 13)
Vice Chairman	Adrian Baxter
Secretary	Roger Hinley
Treasurer	Mr Irving
Publicity	Sue Reade
Electrician	Chris Banks

19 June 1972

The Society was to purchase a toolbox with a lock; also a list of contents would be drawn up so that a check could be kept on the tools

The rules and regulations of the society would be printed up so that each member could have a copy. John Powell suggested that compliments slips be printed to go off with patron's tickets etc.

Adrian Smith suggested that a poster be printed to tell people about the society. It was agreed that 6 such posters be made.

10 July 1972

Miss Joan Powell, Chairman of the South Cheshire festival of music and Dance asked the society if they could put up a trophy for the festival. It was decided to spend £20 to do so.

Social events discussed were a Chicken pickin' dance and draw, as well as a car treasure hunt.

7 August 1972

Wheelock, more problems, to knock down the building would mean that a new gable would have to be built for the house next door, owned by Miss Coates, according to our surveyor.
The Trophy for the South Cheshire festival had been purchased and engraved at a cost of £19.
The first play of the season will now be '**Ride a cock Horse**' by William Burrow and will be produced by Joyce Hall. The price of tickets is to be 30p for Adults, 15p Children and 5P OAP's
Two new members John Berrisford and Nina Donley were welcomed.

29 August 1972

A new development at Wheelock, Mr White who lives next door to the building is interested in purchasing it as it stands (Or doesn't as the case may be).
A dance was arranged for the 8th September.
Patrick Slack wants to produce '**The Prime of Miss Jean Broadie**' for the second play.

2 October 1972

News of the Town Hall renovations was: - they would begin in January and should take many months.
The Secretary was asked to write and find out how it would affect the bookings for the second and third plays.
The Chicken picken' dance was a success making about £50.
After yet more quotes for pulling Wheelock (The Coach House) down and selling the land it was suggested by Mr Robert Holmes the society's solicitor that the building should be sold as soon as possible as it stands. The Society agreed.

#####

26-28 October 1972

RIDE A COCK HORSE

by William Barrow

Incl; Bruce Mottram as Ben Crother
John Futcher as Peter Marshall
Graham Dickinson as Sam Randle
John Berisford as Amos Bumpstead
John Powell as John Willie Fothergill
Margaret Sugden as Mrs Bella Hirst
Judi Baxter as Betty Crowther
Bessie Welsby as Rhoda Bumpstead
Pamela Cornes as Gwen Evans
Pauline Sedgley as Daphne Hogg

Director Joyce Hall

Set Design by Brian Stubbs and Patrick Slack

Stage Manager Brian Stubbs

Lighting Christopher Banks

Sound Effects Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Front of House Manager Adrian Baxter

Props Morarg Davenport and Sue Gaffney

Catering Margery Dickinson

Publicity Sue Reade

Pic and Feature Page 20, 3 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 10, 19 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

#####

6 November 1972

At the first play it was suggested that the society should bring back the curtain speech. The meeting agreed and thought that it should be the producer's job.
The Town hall alterations had been put back to April.
The Christmas fair raised £68.60p
An offer of £250 had been offered to the society for the building in Zan Drive Wheelock. It was accepted.

2 January 1973

An agreement had been received by John Powell for the sale of The Coach House.

#####

8-10 February 1973

THE ENQUIRY

by Charlotte Hastings

Incl; Judi Baxter as Kate Walmer
Pamela Brunskill as Probyn
Lynn Machin as Collins
Margaret Sugden as Frances Treadgold
Pauline Sedgley as Marcy
Elaine Harvey as Marion Oates
Bessie Welsby as Laura Fenn
June Kanaps as Janet Graham MD
Sonia Slack as Gow
Adrian Baxter as Rev. John Shillitoe
Sue Gaffney as Valentine
John Powell as Tom Walmer

Director Patrick Slack

Set Design Brian Stubbs and Patrick Slack

Stage Manager as Brian Stubbs

Lighting Christopher Banks, Roger Hurley and Eddie Hudson

Sound Effects Christopher Banks

Publicity Sue Reade

Catering Margery Dickinson

Wardrobe Mistress Cathy Hesketh

Front of House Manager Bruce Mottram

Props Nina Donley and Eileen Rowland

Pic and Feature Page 1, 9 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

13 February 1973

A Jumble sale was arranged for March 9th. It was suggested that the profit be put into buying equipment for the next play e.g. Paintbrushes.

The deed of sale for Zan Drive had been signed and a cheque was on its way.

13 March 1973

Profit from the Jumble sale £17.50

#####

12-14 April 1973

WANTED - ONE BODY

by Raymond Dyer

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Miss Barraclough
Joyce Hall as Mabel Middy
June Kanaps as Anne Beale
John Berrisford as Ted Johnson
Graham Dickinson as Mr Blundell
Adrian Baxter as Mr Mickleby
Sonia Slack as Agnes
Roger Hurley as Doctor Brown
Bruce Mottram as Mr Sorrell

Directed by John Powell

Stage Manager and Set Design Patrick Slack

Lighting Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Sound Effects Christopher Banks

Publicity Sue Reade

Catering Margery Dickinson

Front of House Manager Adrian Smith

Props Sue Gaffney and Judi Baxter

Pic and Feature Page 18, 13 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 15, 5 Apr Crewe Chronicle.

#####

24 April 1973

Roger Thurlingham resigned from the society; this left the secretaries job open.

Mr Slack suggested that a budget be given for the stage crew and producer of each play so that they knew how much they had to spend.

The poor turn out for the last play was put down to the lack of tickets given to members to sell. It was pointed out that if members could sell more tickets they should ask for more and not wait for the publicity department to give them more.

15 May 1973 A.G.M.

Alan Crabtree was welcomed to the society.

The Chairman Margaret Sugden resigned both as chairman and as a member of the society. She wished her successor all the best. She also wished the society well in the future.

Election of Officers.

Presidents Mr Chatwin and Mr Foden.

Chairman John Powell

Vice Chairman Judi Baxter

Secretary Judi Baxter

Treasurer Mr Irving

It was also decided to scrap the sub committee's, as the society didn't think they were working.

23 May 1973

The question of the pack of tools to build the sets was brought up. It was decided to purchase some.

Chris Banks pointed out that the society didn't have any sound equipment for the plays. Eddie Hudson and Chris Banks had supplied the equipment used for the plays. It was decided to get some quotes and submit them to the next meeting.

Dates for the next season's plays 18-20 Oct, 21 - 23 Feb and 25 to 27 Apr.

20 June 1973

Joyce Hall is unavailable to produce the first play so this will now be done by John Powell.

A Barbecue or Chicken picken dance as it was called, was arranged for the 14th Sept.

The meeting was asked about the option of changing the name of the society from the Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society (S.A.D.S.) to a new name possibly The Sandbach Players, giving the society a more modern name. The Idea was left to the next meeting to decide.

25 July 1973

It was decided that the new name for the society was needed to modernise the image of the society. Five suggestions were put forward to be voted upon.

- a) Sandbach Players
- b) Sandbach Dramatic Society
- c) Sandbach Theatre Club
- d) Sandbach Theatre Group
- e) Sandbach Theatre Workshop

Bradwall village hall had been booked for the Chicken picken dance with a band called 'Dry Ginger'.

Bank Balance £1074.28 deposit account, £188.69 current account.

22 August 1973

A vote was taken on the new name of the society and it was decided to change it to the Sandbach Players.

Sandbach Players	9 Votes
Sandbach Dramatic Society	4 Votes
Sandbach Theatre Workshop	1 Vote
Sandbach Amateur Dramatic society	1 Vote

'An evening with the Sandbach Players' would be held on the 23 Nov 1973, with a play performance as one of the attractions.

On the 19th of August the Flats and stage equipment had been moved from Zan Drive to the garages in Hope Street, Sandbach.

19 September 1973

Profit from the Chicken pickin dance were approx. £22.99

Bob Hall was made an Honorary member of the society.

The next play proposed was '**Murder in Company**'. A casting meeting will be held on the 26th November 1973 at 7.30pm

#####

The name of the Society changed for the production of "Relatively Speaking" to the

SANDBACH PLAYERS

Although officially the group kept the official title "Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society" the use of Sandbach Players had crept into everyday use.

18-20 October 1973

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

by Alan Ayckbourn

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Greg (the Boyfriend of Ginny)

Judi Baxter as Ginny Tadwick

Bruce Mottram as Philip

June Kaneps as Sheila (See Below)

The Part of Sheila was played by Muriel Bedford from the Cheadle Hulme Amateur Dramatic Society who had played the part recently. She took over from June Kaneps who was suddenly indisposed as her mother had been taken ill last Monday.

Directed by John Powell

Stage Manager and Set Design by Patrick Slack

Lighting by Christopher Banks

Lighting and Sound Assistants Joyce Hopewell and Eddie Hudson

Props Morarg Davenport and Susan Gafney

Publicity Adrian Baxter

Catering Margery Dickinson

Front of House Managers Joyce Hall and Bessie Welsby

Pic and Feature Page 20, 26 Oct 1973 Sandbach Chronicle.

CAST CHANGE PRE PROGRAMME PRINTING

The part of Mrs Tadwick was due to be played by Christine Dugdale but she was indisposed and the part was taken over by Judy Baxter.

#####

26 November 1973

The evening with the Sandbach Players was cancelled due to a lack of support

9 January 1974

A new members meeting was proposed for the 8th or 15th March 1974

5 March 1974

Mr Irvin has left the society and the job of treasurer has been taken over by Mr John Farnworth-Smith until the AGM.

The new members meeting was again cancelled.

#####

4 - 6 April 1974

MURDER IN COMPANY

by Philip King and John Boland

Incl; John Powell as Alan Wilson

Joyce Hopewell as Margaret Stephens

Bruce Mottram as Ted Smith

John Fatcher as Philip Stephens

Adrian Baxter as Ronnie Meadows

Bessie Welsby as Phoebe Kershaw

Pauline Sedgley as Patricia Robins

Jane Shore as Doris Steward

Directed by Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager and Set design Patrick Slack

Lighting Christopher Banks

Lighting and Sound Assistant Eddie Hudson

Front of House Managers Carol Anthony and Kath McHale

**Pic and Feature Page 1, 5 April Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 8, 18 April Crewe Chronicle.**

THE ARCHIVE for "Murder In Company"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Samuel French" the royalties for 3 performances were £26. 40p .

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10 April 1974

Three new members were welcomed to the society.

Ideas for gaining new members

- a) Circulars in the schools, social clubs and libraries.
- b) A display in a shop window.
- c) A piece in the new Sandbach Newspaper
- d) More eye-catching posters
- e) Coffee available after each play for the audience to meet the 'Players'

An action committee was set up to look into the above; Chris Banks, Eddie Hudson, Sonia Slack, Alan Crabtree and Kath Mc Hale were its members.

#####

23-25 May 1974

THE FLIP SIDE

by Hugh and Margaret Williams

Incl; Joyce Hopewell as Sharon

Judith Ball as Candida

John Powell as Theo

Adrian Baxter as Julian

Directed by Sonia Slack

Stage Manager and Set Design Patrick Slack

Lighting and Sound Eddie Hudson

Props Nancy Lomas

Assistant Stage Manager Alan Crabtree

Pic and Feature Page 11, 31 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 8, 16 May Crewe Chronicle.

#####

10 July 1974

The Borough Council wrote saying that one set of lights had fallen. When an electrician had looked at them he said that they would be better if they had chains on them as well as rope.

John Powell had phoned the Sandbach Chronicle complaining about the spelling of character names in their article about the latest play '**The Flip Side**'. The editor said that the reporter was a trainee and he was glad we had pointed it out.

At the County play of the year festival, the set for '**Relatively speaking**' was praised but it didn't win the award.

8 July 1974 A.G.M.

Bank Balance £1237.00

Election of officers

Presidents Mr Chatwin and Mr Foden

Chairman John Powell

Vice Chairman Joyce Hall

Secretary Jackie Idden

Treasurer John Farnworth- Smith

Publicity Judith Bell

Business Manager Muriel Farnworth - Smith

Social Managers Eddie and Annette Hudson

Dates of this season's plays 24 to 26 Oct, 20 to 22 Feb., 24 to 26 Apr

Subscription charges are to rise to £1.50 per year. Ticket prices to go up to 35p which includes a programme and 4p for tea.

14 August 1974

Muriel Farnworth-Smith requested that producers put a quote in for each production for a budget. This was granted.

The Players had received a letter from the BBC saying that they were doing a programme and wanted details (The minutes do not say which programme or what details were needed). Reductions for party bookings would be of 10p (25p ticket price instead of 35p) for each party booking of 25 or more. Fund raising ideas put forward at this meeting include a Chicken Pickin dance, A Christmas dinner, and a float at the May day celebrations at Wheelock.

A meeting had been held between the elders and the society about the Hope Street Chapel and a proposal to rent the schoolroom for £250 yearly. The proposal to build a theatre within the schoolrooms now has to be put to the Church Synod and the Elders to be confirmed.

It was suggested by Judith that posters should have a symbol on them so that the public would know it was one of the Players productions.

29 August 1974 Crewe Chronicle Page 1.

The Sandbach players are in need of new members to help with their next production. (the play was advertised as "Loot".)

11 September 1974

The new design for posters would look the same as the letterheads; these could also be used for programme covers when folded.

With regard to the posters members were asked for any competent artists to produce them on the new-headed notepaper. It was suggested that the posters be printed not hand painted. This discussion will be held at the next meeting.

It was suggested that the secretary's name and address should be put on all letter headed paper and also in newspaper articles making it easier for new members to join the society. It was also suggested that a notice be placed in the Library, again to attract new members.

9 October 1974

Hope Street Chapel has accepted the Players offer of £250 to rent the hall.

#####

7 - 9 November 1974

THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE

by Jay Presson Allen

Incl; Jackie Iddon as Sister Helena
Adrian Baxter as Mr Perry
Chris (Christine) Dugdale as Jean Brodie
Jeannette Berrie as Sandy
Sue Johnson as Jenny
Elsie Thomason as Monica
Chris Merrifield as Mary Macgregor
Bessie Welsby as Miss Mackay
Graham Morgam as Gordon Lowther
John Powell as Teddy Lloyd
Eddie Hudson as McCready
Annette Hudson as Schoolgirl 1
Judy Baxter as Schoolgirl 2
1st Sandbach Heath Guide Company as the Girl Guides.

Director Judith Ball

Stage Manager Patrick Slack

ASM Alan Crabtree

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks, Eddie Hudson and Timothy Jones.

Props Annette Hudson.

President of Society Joyce Hall

Chairman John Powell

Secretary Jackie Iddon

Pic and Feature Page 1, 8 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

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13 November 1974

Yet another Jumble sale to be held, on Fri 15th of November at the Town Hall boardroom.

Judith Ball resigned from the society.

With regards to new producers of plays. In future they have to prove themselves by doing either a one-act play or by co producing a production before being aloud to embark on a 3-act production.

The giving of a programme with every ticket has proved popular. It not only saved time but it also gave the impression that the audience was getting more for their money.

Book Markers in the library had Judith Ball's number on them. As she had resigned from the society it was decided to recall the promotion.

The Prime of Miss Jean Broadie was considered a success, although John Powell had cause to write to the Sandbach Chronicle who had printed an unfavourable report.

It was decided to delay the time of the next play and to spend more time at Hope Street.

12 December 1974 HELD AT HOPE STREET

The meeting was not well attended with only John Powell (Chairman) Secretary Jackie Iddow and 9 others attending. This was due in part to the date being changed to accommodate certain members.

Andrew Wood has applied to join the society.

Bank Balance £1340.00

The meeting at the potential new home of the Players then went on to discuss the lease of the building. Robert Holmes had drawn up a lease, which at the present time means the society can use the hall Tuesday to Saturday inclusive with the exception of occasional Fridays when the elders will require the use of it. The cost will be £250 paid quarterly in advance. It was asked if the society could install its power supply for light's etc. This would be looked into. A Budget of £1,000.00 was the limit for building the stage and any other alterations to the building.

22 January 1975 (Crown Hotel)

John Fletcher is going to a new job in Indonesia and will be leaving the society.

The Fire safely officer had inspected Hope Street. The main problem was the boiler room in the cellar under the kitchen. This was a potential fire hazard as the roof is made of wood.

Manweb have quoted £47 to put in a meter for the society to monitor its use of electricity.

The next play will be '**Doctor in love**' with the society also joining the Townswomen's guild to do a 1 act play for a social evening at Bradwall village Hall.

29 February 1975

The elders of Hope Street Chapel are not being helpful. The lease drawn up by Robert Holmes didn't meet with approval so they are getting one drawn up themselves. They now only want the society to have only three nights not 5. They also want to be able to rent out the hall on other nights. The society considered this unfair as the Players will have decorated the building and also would have valuable equipment on site.

The wooden boiler room ceiling will cost £80 to make fire proof.

29 March 1975

Jumble sale booked for 5 Apr at St Peters Church hall, Elworth.

Posters have been ordered from Spencer Brothers for '**Doctor in Love**'

It was suggested that a loudspeaker van could be used to advertise the next play.

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24-26 April 1975

DOCTOR IN LOVE

by Ted Willis (Adapted from the book by Richard Gordon)

Incl; Christine Dugdale as Mrs Tadwich
Adrian Baxter as Simon Sparrow
John Powell as Wildewinde
"Chick" Larson as Sir Lancelot Spratt
Paul Quinlan as Grimsdyke
David Powell as Delivery Man
Alan Crabtree as Mr Claribold
Jackie Iddon as Kitten
Pauline Sedgley as Nikki
Pat Mellor as Florence Nightingale

Directed by Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager and Set Design Patrick Slack

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson
Props Annette Hudson
Pic and Feature Page 21, 2 May Sandbach Chronicle.

5 May 1975

After receiving the new price list for the Town Hall and finding it twice as much as last year to hire the hall. John Powell had written to the council asking if the society could have a reduction because of their 30 years of use. In reply the council have said they cannot give a reduction but if the society make a loss they will give a grant up to £50 per play (3 times a year).
The printed programmes were commented on with their bad typing and punctuation. A letter will be written asking if the society could have a reduction of the £7.78 fee due to the above errors.

2 June 1975 AGM

Election of officers

Chairman	John Powell
Vice Chairman	Joyce Hall
Secretary	Jackie Iddon
Treasurer	John Farnworth-Smith
Business Manager	Muriel Farnworth-Smith
Publicity Manager	David Powell

2 July 1975

Mr Swindles was still unavailable to do the work at Hope Street so John Powell had contacted Mr Swinnerton to do the cellar roof.

The chapel elders at Hope Street were ready to meet the Players terms for a lease. John suggested that we compare costs of Hope Street with those of staying at the Town Hall.

Because the society had only done 2 plays last season it was decided to reduce the Vice Presidents fee to a £1 this year.

16 July 1975

Estimated costs of Hope Street

Manweb Meter	£55
Electrical work	£95
New Stage	£110
Paint	£50
Seating 100 seats	£350
Fire extinguishers etc.	£75
Ceiling	<u>£62.72</u>
Total	£ 869.38 + VAT

On top of this there is a plumbing of between £65 and £185. Legal fees £11. Rates £20 for the first year, and the first quarter rent £75.

After a long discussion everyone except Bessie Welsby wanted to continue with Hope Street.

20 August 1975

A copy of Exchange and Mart will be purchased in order to get some seats for the Hope Street theatre. The important thing above all when looking at seats is comfort.

The Hope Street elders wrote confirming the agreement and are now just waiting for the Players next move.

Holland's shop had been acquired for the 10th of Sept. at 6pm to sell second hand clothes for fund raising.

17 September 1975

£112.68 was raised from the second hand sale at Holland's shop.

#####

9 - 11 October 1975

LADY DRACULA

by David Campton (Based on a story by Sheridan Le Fanu)

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Captain Field
 David Powell as Ivan

Judi Baxter as Laura
Bessie Welsby as Madame Derrodon
Chick Larson as Colonel Smithson
Pat Mellor as Carmilla
Andrew Wood as Dr Spielsberg
Directed and Designed by John Powell
Stage Manager Alan Crabtree
Lighting and Sound by Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson
Publicity David Powell
Pic and Feature Page 20, 17 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

ARCHIVE MATERIAL

Among the archive is an invoice for the play "Lady Dracula" is is for the rental of a Layex Skeleton. The cost for 7 days hire is £3.50p with £2.38 on Red Star transportation to Crewe Station. It was hired from A Robinson and Son 76 Neal Street, Saftesbury Avenue, London. Another invoice this time was for 4 Cloaks at a cost of £5.40 from S.B.Wats and Co Ltd Theatrical costumiers, Princess House, 144 Princess Street, Manchester 1.

ARCHIVE

With the move into the LITTLE THEATRE in Hope Street it is important that the audience have seats to sit on. An invoice shows that they cost £191. 16 for 100 seats (Including VAT) and were purchased from Carlton -Brookes Associates Ltd, 61 Tower Street, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 1ND.

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20 October 1975

The play **Lady Dracula** was a success.
The lease for Hope Street Chapel hasn't gone through yet.

17 November 1975

The adjudication of **Lady Dracula** had been received.
The above play had made a loss.
New Member John Percival suggested a bingo night as a fundraiser. This would be considered for after X Mas.

15 December 1975 Extra Ordinary Meeting

This meeting was called to look into the future of the Sandbach Players and was prompted by letters and phone calls both from solicitor Bob Holmes and the Rev Swindles asking if the Players had come to a decision about Hope Street.
Opinions expressed ranged from a lack of support to help furnish the theatre and people worried about the finance needed. After much discussion a vote was taken and with Chris Banks being the only one against, it was decided to continue with Hope Street.

12 January 1976

Because the society had made a loss on the last show they had as instructed applied to the Congleton Borough council for a grant. A letter had been received saying a decision had been deferred by them until April 1976.
Brian Elsby phoned John Powell to say that he was putting on an Old Time Music Hall 23 - 24 Feb 1976 and wondered if the Players would like to do a 15 to 20 minute show / Play. It was decided to do a potted Panto.

9 February 1976

A Whist drive was fixed for 4 March at 7.30pm (Thurs) in the Labour hall.
Nancy Lomas resigned.
The contract and lease had been received from the Hope street elder's solicitors. This would be checked and signed.

2 March 1976

The potted Panto as part of the old time music hall was a great success.

Sue Read will be leaving the society
Bob Holmes the solicitor is waiting for a map showing the areas that the players can occupy under the lease, meanwhile everything else is in order and work can start in Hope Street.
The elders will pay a third of the costs to sort out the boiler room.
Work will start on clearing the building at Hope Street on Saturday 24 April 1976 at 2pm
Chris Banks has got married

26 April 1976

(Hope Street)

Nicky Boyd joined the players

The first working party (24 Apr) at Hope Street was a great success with most of the membership turning up to help remove the many years of rubbish and grime. They were also joined by 4 boys from community service.

Sunday 9 May would be the date set to bring the lights etc. from the Town Hall to Hope Street.

17 May 1976

The lease was signed and returned by our solicitor Bob Holmes, who said that he wouldn't be charging the society for his time. It was decided that he should be offered Honorary Membership

The roof at the back of Hope Street, what will be the storeroom, will be the first major job at the hall. 150 slates with wooden slats will be purchased for this job. The job will be done between the 25 - 26 May at 7pm.

21 June 1976 AGM

The only play of the season was **Lady Dracula**.

Bank Balance £1349.42 a loss this year of £126.40

Election of officers

Chairman	John Powell
Vice Chairman	Joyce Hall
Secretary	Jackie Iddon
Treasurer	Pat Mellor
Publicity	David Powell

19 July 1976

The roof was now mended thanks were expressed to Adrian Baxter, David Powell, Eddie Hudson, Bob Hall, and Alan Crabtree and Chick Larson for their work.

Muriel Farnworth-Smith resigned from the society.

Chris Banks and Brenda thanked the Players for their wedding present

Repair bills continue to climb; a quote by Lea and Morgan was accepted.

Plastering	£34.56
Repair roof / Pointing etc.	£11.88
Brick wall around oil tank	£142.56
Extend Vent pipe	£12.96
Fill Wall Opening	£9.72
Fitting asbestos sheets in Cellar	£236.00
Sundries	£10
Decorate ceiling	£155.44 (The Players decided to do this themselves)

Jumble sale booked for 27 Aug. at Hope Street.

16 August 1976

The colour scheme for Hope Street was discussed.

The Hall --- Peach

Behind the stage area --- Sky Blue

Entrance Hall ---- Magnolia

Chris Banks commented on the electrical supply.

a) The wiring was poor with a lack of plug Sockets.

b) The out building hasn't any electricity

c) The lights in the hall (Auditorium) needed to be longer, closer together and with bigger bulbs with another two or more lights.

- d) Outside lights need to be fitted above all the doors.
- e) The stage lighting needs installing and the control units are now obsolete. Chris Says that he can build a new set of dimmers for about £6.
- f) A system of communication was needed between the front of house and back stage.

It was decided to give Chris a £20 float for him to purchase plugs, sockets etc.

13 September 1976

Joan Boadle was offered honorary membership and has accepted.

John Had received a letter from the chapel inviting the players to a 10th Anniversary party of the Minister The Rev Swindles. Several members are to attend.

Bank Balance £1190.68

A Gift auction was arranged for Fri 12 Nov 1976. It was decided to have the posters professionally done and also to put an advert in the paper.

Other fund raising activities --- 1st Oct an under 10p jumble sale and on the 28th Oct 1976 a good as new sale.

Adrian Baxter had put a door on the back of the building.

11 October 1976

A tape machine has now been purchased in good condition for £18.

It was decided to leave one of the garages as soon as possible, cutting down the cost of storage.

8 November 1976

The Sandbach Town Council has written to the players asking if they would like to take part in the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations. It was decided to leave the decision until another meeting.

The Balcony, kitchen, dressing room and cellar have all been done. The walls have received a coat of paint. Hope Street is now looking a lot better.

19 November 1976

The Sandbach Players held a "Gift Auction" at Hope Street with viewing from 5pm with Mrs Iddon the contact organiser of the event.

6 December 1976

Both the chairman and vice chairman were unavailable to take this meeting so Pat Mellor (Treasurer and Elsie Thomason became acting Chairman (Pat) and acting Secretary (Elsie).

#####

4 January 1977

Bank Balance £367.23

23 March, John Powell will hold a slide evening as a fundraiser for the players. Entrance fee 20p Scaffolding had been hired for the week of the 10th Jan so that the beams could be filled in and the lights could be altered.

More working parties were needed to clean the Toilet areas. , The dressing room needed more fireproofing and the main tabs needed hanging.

It was decided to have the first play at the Hope street theatre as a Silver Jubilee grand opening. Dates of the 24th to 28th May were tentatively booked for this event.

7 February 1977

Jubilee arrangements were being organised by Bob Holmes with the Players having a grand 'Theatre Opening' in the week beginning the 30th May 1977.

A Whist drive was arranged for wed 9 Mar. A cheese and Wine evening at Pat Mellor's house was also arranged.

Chris Banks has managed to acquire a telephone system. This will be of use as an internal system in Hope Street. The cable for the system however will cost £40. Bessie Welsby has donated £20 to this cost.

7 March 1977

An advertising board has been acquired to go outside the Nat West bank for the Players Posters etc. £23 Profit was made at the cheese and wine evening.

The first play in Hope Street will be 'I'll get my man'. The casting meeting will be held on the 24 Mar 1977.

Progress on Hope Street.

Dressing room floor completed and carpeted.

Curtains have been dyed.

Edging of the stage finished

4 Brass handles put on the front door.

The fire officer has informed the Players that the storage area upstairs must be kept clear.

The elders had asked what would happen to the chairs if the society were to leave after the lease had ended. The Players said that some chairs would be left for their use.

5 April 1977

Profit from the Whist drive £16.35. Profit from the slide show £19.

Hope Street.... The electronics were well on the way to being completed and with only a few odd jobs the theatre was well on its way to being ready for an October opening.

Prices for the first play Tickets. Adult's 40p

Children and OAP's 30p (OAP rate only on Tues/Wed)

Tea 5p

Programmes 5p

Muriel Dickenson offered to be in charge of the box office / Ticket sales.

It was decided that the Tuesday performance would be the official opening with the Mayor and anyone who helped with the Zan drive project being invited as guests.

There are only 100 seats in the Hope Street Theatre so tickets will be limited.

Flyers will be printed. Prices quoted are £7.50 per 500 or £9.50 per 1000 from Eachus.

#####

1976 There were no plays done this year due to the Sandbach Players moving from the Town Hall to it's new home *THE LITTLE THEATRE* in Hope Street.

During the first season of the Sandbach Players at their new home they distributed an introduction letter.

SANDBACH PLAYERS

An introduction to our

"LITTLE THEATRE"

AFTER SOME 32 YEARS without a "home" the Sandbach Players reached an agreement with the Elders of the United Reformed Church in Hope Street, Sandbach whereby we would share the use of their schoolroom and they would allow us to convert the room into a "little theatre" with permanent stage facilities.

This work commenced in the spring of 1976 and is now almost complete after a great deal of effort and time. During the summer months of last year an outbuilding(now our scenery store and dressing rooms) was practically re-roofed, gutters and drains re-newed and an electricity supply fed in.

As the days grew shorter we moved inside and prepared walls for re painting. Our own electrician also started the major task of adding new plug sockets and lighting points, etc. to bring the building to the standard required by the Electricity Board this was virtually a complete re-wiring job.

The permanent stage (hopefully free of the creaks and groans we suffered at the Town Hall) has also been constructed by our members. Lighting and sound will be controlled from the former balcony area, giving our technicians a full view of all that is happening on stage to enable them to "cue-in" lighting changes and sound effects.

We shall also have our own telephone links between dressing room / front of House / kitchen / technical department in order to co-ordinate curtain -up, end of interval, etc.; this facility has been possible through the generosity of Telephone Rentals.

One of the few jobs we have been unable to carry out ourselves was the fire- proofing of the cellar / boiler room to comply with the fire regulations.

We must also thank the North West Arts Association and the Cheshire Community Council for a grant towards stacking chairs.

We hope you will enjoy your visits to us - our seating capacity is 100 and the Orange, brown and cream colour scheme we have chosen gives our "Little Theatre" an intimate atmosphere. The small foyer has been given an extra touch of comfort with a carpet supplied and fitted with the compliments of Vernons of Middlewich.

It is planned to hold at least three productions in each season and these will run from Tuesday to Saturday. We shall also be running social and money-raising events from time to time and hope you will support these.

You will appreciate that we have had to spend large sums of money to carry out the renovations and improvements briefly described. As we gradually become financially strong again it is our aim to spend this money on further refinements to the interior and exterior of the "Little Theatre".

Finally, just two special points to bear in mind when visiting. If you travel by car you are advised to leave this on The square or the Commons as parking is very restricted in Hope Street - we are only a couple of minutes walk from the public parking grounds mentioned. When you require tickets for plays it will be necessary for you to state the night you wish to attend. Your ticket will guarantee you a seat but these will not be numbered or reserved.

We look forward to seeing you at our "LITTLE THEATRE".

THE SANDBACH PLAYERS

May 1977 Newsletter

The May newsletter for the Sandbach players showed that the prices for tickets for the opening season were 40p Adults, 30p Children and OAP (Child and OAP price only on the Tuesday and Wednesday) Tickets from Edith Mellor (Pat Mellor's Mother)

#####

5 May 1977

Paul Anthony has agreed to do a hair demonstration in Oct as a fundraiser for the Players.

Liz has painted a board beautifully which will be placed at the top of Hope Street to direct people to the Little Theatre.

A Float was booked for Wheelock May Day.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ABOUT THE NEW HOME AND I'LL GET MY MAN.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 13 May Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 15 May Sandbach Chronicle.

31 May - 4 June 1977

I'LL GET MY MAN

by Phillip King

Incl; Andrew Wood as The Rev. Arthur Humphrey

Joyce Hall as Mrs Carter

Pat Mellor as Harriette Humphrey

Bessie Welsby as Winifred Barrington-Locke

Adrian Baxter as Peter Graham

David Powell as a Photographer

Pauline Sedgeley as Josephine De Brissac

Jackie Iddon as Pixie (I'll get my Man) Potter

Chick Larson as The Bishop of Lax

Directed by John Powell

Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Lighting and Sound by Chris Banks and Brenda Banks
Publicity David Powell
Front of House Manager Edith Mellor.
Pic and Feature Page 1, 13 May Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 1, 15 May Sandbach Chronicle.

THE ARCHIVE for "I'll get my Man"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Samuel French" the royalties for 5 performances were £31.00 .

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9 June 1977

The Wheelock May Day float was a success.

It was decided not to take part in the Sandbach 'Silver Jubilee' procession.

Comments on the first play

- a) The posters were Drab in colour
- b) The seating arrangements were unsatisfactory and a seating plan will be drawn up for the next play, numbering the seats.
- c) There were not enough teacups.

Production wise it was a great success.

29 June 1977 AGM

The vice presidents fee was raised to £2.

This year there have been 4 Jumble sales

2 Good as new sales

1 Whist drive, Slide evening and a medieval banquet.

Bank Balance £405.17 with two outstanding accounts still to be paid.

- a) The last three months rental on Hope Street
- b) The Fire extinguishers.

Election of officers

Chairman John Powell

Vice Chairman Joyce Hall

Secretary Jackie Iddon

Treasurer Pat Mellor

Business manager Chick Larson

Publicity David Powell

Electrician Chris Banks

Dates of plays 24 to 29 Oct, 20 to 25 Feb, 8 to 13 May 1978

Judy Baxter introduced the society to a new system called Patrons. This is like having a season ticket for all three plays by paying just over the odds for a ticket they will be guaranteed a ticket for whichever night they want. Although it clashed with the presidents / Vice presidents system already in operation it was decided to try it out this season.

Ticket prices are to go up to 50p, which will include tea. The usual Tues / Wed rate for children and Pensioners will continue at 30p.

11 July 1977

Patrons at other society's usually receive 2 free tickets for each play, Paying £3.50 for advance booking. Tickets are not transferable. Other society's charged £3 for 6 tickets informing the patron 2 weeks before the play either by letter or word of mouth. It was decided to go for the above with Chick Larson being Patron secretary and he would hold a plan of the theatre. Letters will also be sent to vice presidents to ask if they would like to join the scheme. The society would review the scheme after 1 year.

An appeal will be put in the library for new members as well as an advert in the Saxon Crosses Publication and the Chronicle.

Sandbach Rotary club asked if they could bring along some old and disabled people, to the dress rehearsal of the next play for a donation. It was decided to say yes to this request.

The next play will be '**Pull the other one**' by Norman Robbins. The casting meeting was made by Joyce Hall for the 19th Aug (Fri)

11 August 1977

The question of Cups and saucers was raised. After the last play it was felt that more were needed. The Chapel elders were approached to provide them without any success. Bessie Welsby knows of someone who can provide seconds and will look into purchasing them. Meanwhile it was suggested that members provide some cups and saucers for the next production.

A 'Nothing over 10p' sale was booked for the 12 Aug, a Garden coffee evening, a Gift auction, a Whist drive (9th Nov), and a Dance with a band were booked for the 26 Nov.

9 September 1977

3 new members were welcomed, Beryl and Mac from Haslington and Theresa.

Fund raising. The jumble sale raised £19.05 profit and the Coffee evening made £66.85 profit.

Wed 12 October was booked for a hairdressing demonstration.

The Cheshire community council fee for the adjudication has gone up to £7 for a written adjudication for each play.

5 October 1977

A quote of £6.50 for 12 cups + VAT has been received; as this is only 13p a cup it was decided to purchase the required sets.

A Grant of £100 has been received from the Cheshire Community Council to go towards the fire emergency lighting.

It has come to the notice of the Players that the Hope Street elders have sub let the building to the R.S.P.C.A. without asking if the players minded. They had also used all the Sandbach Players chairs. As this breaks the agreement held by the society the matter will be taken to Bob Holmes (Solicitor) to see the legal position, which will then be taken up with the elders.

#####

25-29 October 1977

PULL THE OTHER ONE

by Norman Robbins

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Boadicea Heptinstall

Alan Crabtree as Wilf Turner

Pauline Sedgeley as Muriel Perkins

John Powell as Albert Perkins

Elsie Thomason as Virginia Brown

Adrian Baxter as Hilary Armitage

Chick Larson as Rev. Elijah Nookey

Directed by Joyce Hall

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks and Brenda Banks

Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Props (and Publicity) Dave Powell

Front of House Manager Edith Mellor

Pic and Feature Page 6, 28 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

The Sandbach Players have started a "Patrons list". This will secure your seat in advance of tickets normally going on sale. Judy Baxter was put in charge of the list taking a years ticket money from patrons to give them advance notice of plays etc. The scheme was advertised on the back of the MURDER MISTAKEN programme.

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1 November 1977

The Cheshire community council are holding a festival in Crewe during 1978; they have asked the Players if they would like to sponsor it by placing an advert in the syllabus. It was decided to place a £15 half page advert.

The Hair dressing demonstration by Paul Anthony rose between £35 and £40.

Leslie Sanderson had been approached by the Chapel elders to see if the Players would like to have a stall at their chapel Christmas fair with 10% of the profit going to the chapel. It was agreed to do this. 'Gran' Ford was made an honouree member.

6 December 1977

Bank Balance £604.95

Profit from '**Pull the other one**' was £169.77

After a meeting with Bob Holmes (Solicitor) the question of the Chapel sub letting was still unresolved. It was suggested that neither side be allowed to sub let. Another meeting between Joyce Hall, Bessie Welsby and Bob Holmes was arranged.

The Christmas stall and the Auction were both a great success. The auction raised £63.95

The dance organised by Chris and Brenda Banks was disappointing having sold only 91 tickets, 33 by Pat and Edith Mellor

Janet suggested that her brother could design a motif to be used on a permanent blank poster.

A party would be held at the Iron Grey on the 17th Dec where a buffet would be served at a cost of 75p each.

9 January 1978

Chairman John Powell

Secretary Jackie Iddon

At this point in time there were about 28 Members

Bessie had been in touch with Bob Holmes about the sub letting of the Hope street building. In the original agreement it was stated that the elders should have the use of 25 of the Players chairs and no more. As there wasn't any mention of their use by a third party many of the members were unhappy about the situation.

The design by Janet's brother was excellent and would be printed by David and will be used to publicise Jumble sales and plays.

A Gift auction was arranged for the 3 March 1978, and a jumble sale was booked for the 20 January.

A Flower arranging evening by Marjorie Larson was booked for the 5 Apr 1978.

8 February 1978

The Next play will be '**My Fat Friend**' with Adrian Baxter producing. The casting meeting will be held at 39 Roman way, on Mon 27 Feb.

A new board was needed to display the posters outside the National Westminster Bank.

#####

14-18 March 1978

MURDER MISTAKEN

by Janet Green

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Emmie
 Joyce Hall as Monica Bare
 Adrian Baxter as Philip Mortimer
 John Powell as Edward Bare
 Pat Mellor as Freda Jeffries
 Janet Bloor as Charlotte Young

Directed by Chick Larson

Lighting and Sound Christopher and Brenda Banks

Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Props and Publicity David Powell and Graham Naylor

Front of House Manager Edith Mellor

Pic and Feature Page 8, 9 Mar Crewe Chronicle.

#####

22 March 1978

Bank Balance £350.75

A cheque was received from Mr Foden for £10 and Mr Chatwin had donated £20.

The Players were invited to an introductory service for the new Hope Street minister Mr Clifford Bembridge.

David Powell resigned from the job of Publicity manager due to the pressure of work. The job was taken over by Elsie Thomas.

The gift auction made £57.20. A jumble sale was arranged for the 21 Apr 1978.

26 April 1978

Jane Tomkinson was welcomed to the society

Jackie Iddon has resigned from the Players as she is moving to Southport.

Pauline Sedgely suggested that we have music playing while the audience was coming into the theatre during a performance night.

Bob asked John if he could contact the elders to see if they could fix the blocked grid and the damp wall.

#####

9 -13 May 1978

MY FAT FRIEND

by Charles Lawrence

Incl; David Powell as James

John Powell as Henry

Janet Bloor as Vicky

Alan Crabtree as Tom

Director Adrian Baxter

Stage Manager as Graham Naylor

Props Chick Larson

Prompt Mildred Royle

Lighting and Sound Christopher and Brenda Banks

Front of House Manager Joyce Hall and Pat Mellor

Ticket Secretary Chick Larson

Set Design Adrian Baxter.

Pic and Feature Page 36, 11 May Crewe Chronicle.

#####

17 May 1978

Bank Balance £598.42

'**Murder Mistaken**' had made a profit of £114.97

My Fat Friend It was discovered that many of the patrons had not attended the performance of this play. It was decided that patrons would be asked if they could not attend the show that they pass on their tickets so that we had a full house and not have any empty chairs.

An advert didn't appear in the Chronicle due to a strike.

It was suggested by Pauline that the society purchase some large trays for use with the teas.

21 June 1978 AGM

There are 32 Members of the society.

Bank Balance £ 2012.82.

Election of Officers	Chairman	John Powell
	Vice Chairman	Joyce Hall
	Secretary	Murial Dickenson
	Treasurer	Pat Mellor
	Business manager	Chick Larson
	Publicity	Elsie Thomas
	Electrician	Eddie Hudson

Dates of the next plays 30 Oct to 4 Nov / 19 to 24 Feb 1979 / 7 to 12 May 1979.

18 July 1978

It was suggested that we print '7.45 pm Prompt ' on all the tickets and posters so the society can start its shows on time.

John Powell reported that the Damp patch and the other repairs had been made by the church elders.

The Chester Gateway Touring Company was looking for venues to perform in. It was suggested that the Little theatre could host an evening. Dates in November were suggested.

16 August 1978

2 New members were welcomed, David Berry and Tim Crowson (?)

A cookery demonstration by the Milk Marketing Board was booked for the 6 Sept 1978 at the Little theatre.

13 September 1978

Bradwall Village Hall was booked for the Dance, with group 'Private Line' for the 20th Jan 1979.

The Cookery demonstration made £21.90

Bank Balance = £638.20

A Market stall was booked for Saturday the 30th of Sept as a fundraiser.

11 October 1978

The Dance will now be held on the 27th January 1979.

Chick Larson had asked Clifford Welsby if he could take some pictures of the set of the next play for a display in the Building society window. (**Two and Two make sex**)

The market stall made £57 and the jumble sale made £28.70

It was with great sadness that John reported the sudden death of Marjorie Dickenson. It was decided that a tribute would be printed in the next plays programme.

#####

31 Oct - 4 Nov 1978

TWO AND TWO MAKE SEX

by Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon

Incl; Andrew Wood as George

Judi Baxter as Clare

David Powell as Nick

Jill Bowker as Jane

Yvonne Goodman as Ruth

"Chick" Larson as Mr Bowers

Directed by John Powell

Stage Manager and Props Bruce Mottram

Directors Assistant (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Lighting and Sound Eddie Hudson and Tony Bowker

Publicity Elsie Thomason

#####

8 November 1978

A Letter was received from Mr Chatwin saying that although he wished the Sandbach Players well in the future, however he didn't want to continue as Joint president. A letter of thanks was sent to him for his support.

Chris Banks was asked to get a quote for a Baby Burco to boil the water for the tea's as during the last play Pat Mellor had been scolded and a boiler would be safer.

The Chester Gateway tour will be on the 22 Nov? A working party was booked for the 21 Nov to set out the theatre.

It was decided to put an outside light at the end of the passage.

5 December 1978

Bank Balance £851.21

A quote was received for some more cups and saucers at £20 for 4 dozen. John will order some.

3 January 1979

The Baby Birco would cost £25.84 for a 5 and a half-gallon boiler. The decision to purchase was deferred.

The Casting meeting for '**Portrait of Murder**' took place after the meeting. The Play dates were changed to the 13-17 March.

31 January 1979

4 new members were welcomed. Pam, Julie, Tracy and Paula.

Bessie Welsby said that she could get a baby birco from Rumbelows for £23.85 and gave a donation of £10 towards it.

A Jumble sale was booked for the 16 Feb at 6.30pm.

The use of the chairs by other organisations and the church elders was discussed. It was decided that a charge of £1 would be charged if they wanted more than the 25 chairs agreed with the elders in the lease.

28 February 1979

The Elders had a meeting with the Sandbach Players where it was decided that if they hired the theatre out to other organisations part of the fee would be donated to the Players.

Fees were agreed for the hire of the Players equipment. Use of Chairs £1.50 / Use of Dressing room stage and lighting £5.00 / Use of stage and dressing room £ 3.00 / use of everything £6.50

John would write to the playgroup to ask them to remove their equipment from under the stage, as it was a fire risk. Also the front curtain was being ripped.

The Casting meeting for the next play ' **Fish out of Water**' will be after the meeting on the 19 March 1979.

#####

13-17 March 1979

PORTRAIT OF MURDER

by Robert Bloomfield

Incl; David Berry as Tod Logan
Pauline Sedgley as Agnes Webster
John Powell as Eliot Barlow
Pat Mellor as Paula Barlow
Elsie Thomason as Denise Murray
Alan Crabtree as James Guthrie

Director / Producer Judi Baxter

Co Producer Yvonne Goodman

Lighting and Sound Eddie Hudson and Christopher Banks

Stage Managers David Powell and Lesley Taylor

Producer's Assistant (Prompt) Andrew Clark

Pic and Feature Page 7, 8 Mar Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 29, 16 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

19 March 1979

During the second production (The first being the Chester Gateway Tour) the theatre was cold when the audience arrived. John would see Mr Bembridge about this.

Cliff Welsby will take pictures for the next play at the next meeting. The 30th April was booked with the building society for the exhibition.

9 April 1979

Bank Balance £ 892.77

Chick Larson had found a new printer for the programmes who will do them for 2p each.

The profit from the last play was £46.13

An application from 14 year old Tracy Dean was received and it was decided that if she wanted to join she could become an associate member as you have to be 16 to be a full member of the society.

#####

6 -12 May 1979

FISH OUT OF WATER

by Derek Benfield

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Brigadier Hubback
Yvonne Goodman as Mrs Hubback
Janet Bloor as Marisa
Leslie Taylor as Dora Cowley
Bessie Welsby as Agatha Hepworth
Pat Mellor as Fiona Hepworth
Chick Larson as Mr Mallett
David Berry as Julian Whittle
David Powell as Len Barrett

Producer Yvonne Goodman

Co producer Joyce Hall

Producers Assistant (Prompt) Elsie thomason

Stage Manager Andrew Clark

Lighting and Sound Eddie Hudson and Christopher Banks

Pic and Feature Page 21, 11 May Sandbach Chronicle.

EXTRA INFORMATION

11 May 1979 Sandbach Chronicle Page 21

Under the article about "Fish out of water" is a story about George Reynard becoming "Heating engineer for the Mersey Area of North West gas". George will later join the Sandbach Players

See 23-28 Feb 1981 onwards.

#####

16 May 1979

The rental of the Hope Street Theatre was put up £50 to £300 per year.

11 June 1979 AGM

Bank Balance £2028.65

Ticket prices were changed to 40p for Tues, 60p Wed to Sat and Patrons £2.50 for the season

Election of officers

Presidents Peter and J E Foden

Chairman John Powell

With the rest as last year besides the Electrician now being Chris Banks rather than Eddie Hudson.

Chris suggested that a master control was needed for the lighting board at a cost of £15.20 it was agreed to purchase it.

2 July 1979

On the 17 June 1979 at the county Play of the Year festival the Sandbach Players production of **'Two and Two make Sex'** won the Peter Dornford May award.

Chris Banks suggested that the players host a mini festival as the theatre had the facilities to do this. It would be looked into by a committee of Chris, Janet, Frances, Chick, Pat and John.

Money raising events -

A Dance at Bradwall village hall 26 Jan 1980 / A Gift auction 19 Oct (Fri) / Jumble Sale 7 Sept /

Concert by Trio 6 Feb 1980 / Hair demonstration by Paul Anthony 31 Oct / Slide show 21 Nov

27 July 1979

The Middle of June 1980 was the provisional date booked for the festival.

It was decided to join the Congleton Arts Council at a cost of £2 thus allowing us to get a grant.

A change in the constitution was made: -

1) The title of the organisation shall be the Sandbach Players.

The rest was altered in the above name.

The next play will be **'No Time for Fig Leaves'**

A new pair of Stepladders will be purchased

David and Leslie are getting married on the 1 September.

29 August 1979

Bank Balance £973.05

Muriel suggested we hold a social meeting to attract new members. This will be held on the 7 Nov 1979.

25 September 1979

A gift auction was arranged for the 18 Oct and an advert will be put in the paper.

#####

2 - 6 October 1979

NO TIME FOR FIG - LEAVES

by Duncan Greenwood and Robert King

Incl; Lyn Bosbury as 1st Lord of the Admiralty

Frances Humphrey as Minister of Science

Andrew Clark as a Scientist

Janet Bloor as the Private Secretary

Pat Mellor as The Prime Minister

Jill Bowker as Dora the cockney Maid

Pauline Sedgley as WRAC Corporal

Bessie Welsby as WRAC Major

Dave Berry as Unkn

Producer John Powell

Pic and Feature Page 25, 5 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

During 1979 the SANDBACH PLAYERS produced a new version of its "Membership card and Rules". (See November 1961)

#####

11 October 1979

4 New members were welcomed, Cynthia Kelly, Eddie Gerrard, Claire Toms (?) and Hazel (?) Dudley. A 'Christmas at the Little Theatre ' was arranged for the 12 and 13 of December. It would consist of poetry readings, a one-act play and Carols.

It was decided to put up the price of programmes to 10p

Chris suggested the purchase of a new lighting board, as the original was a fire hazard. It was decided to buy one at £75

14 November 1979

2 New members joined, Alf (Alfred) and Alice Johnson

The elders have agreed to have a board outside to advertise the plays.

The cost of a new lighting board when looked into would be £800 to £1,000. Chris said he could design and build one for about £100.

Gift auction made £89.25 and the hair demonstration made £33.50.

5 December 1979

2 New Members were welcomed to the society, John Kelleher and Carol Stone.

Bank Balance £1283.06

The tickets for the 'Trio' evening on the 6 Feb 1980 will be 50p

6 January 1980

The meeting was taken by Chick Larson as John was unavailable.

Profit from the Christmas show's £57 approx. It was decided that the show was not as well produced as our usual productions and again the hall was cold.

29 January 1980

Jumble sale booked for the 7 March.

Chris said that he could get a cyclorama for use at the Festival for £10.20. It was also mentioned that the lighting box was becoming a storeroom and it was felt that shelves were needed.

#####

19-23 February 1980

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL

by Maurice Mc Laughtin

Incl; Lyn Bosbury as Sister Henry

Carol Stone as Sister Lucy

Frances Humphries as Sister Bridget

Pat Mellor as Rev. Mother

Bessie Welsby as Sister Magdalen

Adrian Baxter as Arthur Shilton

Elsie Thomason as Ruth Shilton

Ted Watt as Captain Lee

Eddie Gerrard as Father Schiller

Producer Yvonne Goodman

Producers Assistant (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Stage Managers David Powell and Andrew Clark

Props Leslie Powell

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Box Office and Publicity Chick Larson

Flowers Marjorie Larson.

Pic and Feature Page 35, 22 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

27 February 1980

The evening with the Trio was badly attended but made £11.

The festival was still on and a meeting of interested bodies was arranged for the 3 March at Pat Mellor's house.

A £50 cheque was received from the Chester community council (Funded by North West arts) with the proviso that we make reference to this on our publicity. It was agreed.

We also received a cheque for £100 from Congleton Arts Association.

It was reported that a pop group was using the hall for rehearsals during the play week and leaving their equipment under the stage .The Elders will be written to about this use as the Players are supposed to have exclusive use during the week of the plays.
27 March is the date for a visit by the Chester Gateway Company who will be performing a play for £90 as a fundraiser for the society.

18 March 1980

The jumble sale made £13

The profit from the Play was £91.79

The newsletters sent to every member were temporary stopped, as Judy who usually prepares them is unable to get them copied. Other avenues were being looked into.

15 April 1980

Bank Balance £1614.71

The visit by the Gateway Theatre made £12.50.

Congleton Borough council had written to John asking if the Players would like to take part in the Elizabethan Market on the 5th of May in Sandbach. It was agreed to do this with dressing up in costumes optional.

The Summer festival. We had one reply from the Wheelock Townswomen's Guild.

#####

29 Apr - 3 May 1980

A TOMB WITH A VIEW

by Norman Robbins

Incl; Chick Larson as Hamilton Penworthy
John Powell as Lucien Tomb
Elsie Thomason as Dora Tomb
Yvonne Goodman as Emily Tomb
Eddie Gerrard as Marcus Tomb
Janet Bloor as Anne Franklin
Bessie Welsby as Agatha Hammond
Cynthia Kelly as Freda Mountjoy
Adrian Baxter as Peregrine (Perry) Potter
Carol Stone as Monica Tomb

Producer Joyce Hall

Producers Assistant (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Stage Manager Lyn Bosbury

Props Frances Humphries

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Catering Edith Mellor

Flower Arrangements Marjorie Larson

Pic and Feature Page 48, 2 May Sandbach Chronicle.



A Tomb with a View.

#####

14 May 1980

Due to the lack of response from other organisations the Summer Festival idea was dropped.

The Elizabethan Market stall made £73. It would have made more but the stall ran out of produce by 1pm.

Chris Banks said that the lighting was now fine, but the sound equipment was in need of repair or replacement. He was given permission to look into replacements.

12 June 1980 AGM

Bank Balance £1909.29

Election of Officers

Chairman John Powell

The rest of the committee was as previous.

Chick Larson put forward the suggestion to reduce the seats to 88, giving more room to the patrons.

The loss of seats would be made up by doing the show for 6 nights (Mon to Sat). It was decided to try it out for the first play.

Ticket prices were now 60p Monday / 80p Tuesday to Saturday / £3 Patrons fee.

9 July 1980

The Players now have some new-headed notepaper.

The Pop Groups equipment had now been moved from under the stage.

The Subscription fee was raised to £3

Bessie Welsby suggested that members purchase the playbooks. This would cut the cost of the productions. It was decided however that it was unfair and the purchase price would come out of production costs as usual.

Mr A Chatwin was made an honouree member after his many years as Joint president. This would keep him in touch with the players.

A jumble sale was fixed for the 19 Sept. John would arrange a Slide show on 'The Far East' for the 29 October.

The lease up next year was discussed. The Church wanted us to have 3 nights per week with one extra day the week before a play. However the meeting felt that two extra nights over two weeks before the play were needed.

The casting meeting for '**Big Bad Mouse**' was arranged for the 1 Aug 1980

6 August 1980

A play reading of A Taste of Honey will take place on the 25 Sept 1980 and will be taken by Frank.

Bradwall village hall for a dance on the 24 Jan.

It was decided to purchase some new curtains at £318.46 for the main tabs.

A Christmas show on the 8 Dec was discussed starting with a concert and review followed by a 'Potted Panto'.

A market stall was booked for the 30 Aug

4 September 1980

A Bonfire party at Ken and Cynthia Kelly's was arranged for the 5 November

Lyn Bosbury was unwell and her part in the next play will be taken by Pat Mellor.

#####

14-18 October 1980

BIG BAD MOUSE

by Philip King and Falkland Cary

Incl; Frances Humphrey as Fiona Jones

Andrew Clarke as Harold Hopkins

Judi Baxter as Miss Spencer

Ted Watt as Mr Price Hargreaves

John Powell as Mr Bloome

Pat Mellor as Lady Chesapeake

Pauline Sedgley as Doris Povey

Producer Yvonne Goodman

Assistant Producer Margaret Parker

Continuity Elsie Thomason

Stage Manager John Kelleher

Props Mark Aldridge and David Powell

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks and Eddie Hudson

Box Office and Publicity Chick Larson

Catering Edith Mellor

Flowers Marjorie Larson
Pic and Feature Page 24, 17 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

#####

4 November 1980

Chris has purchased a Phillips tape machine at a cost of £258.

Profit from **'Big Bad Mouse'** was £184.34

EVENTS

9 - 10 Dec 1980 Christmas Show

20 January 1981 Dance at Bradwall Village Hall

3 February 1981

Bank Balance £1559.16

The Dance on the 24 Jan wasn't well supported by members but was a financial success.

Chester Gateway was again on tour, this time with 'A Pinch of Salt', a drama. As the cost would be £100 the decision to host an evening was discussed and by a minority it was decided to put on the production. It was also put forward that we contact the Sandbach Arts association to see if they would be prepared to go halves with the cost etc.

#####

23- 28 February 1981

THREE HISSES FOR VILLAINY

by Brian J. Burton

Incl; Adrian Baxter (Chairman of the evenings entertainment)

Judy Baxter

Janet Bloor

Lyn Bosbury

Mark Aldridge

David Berry

John Kelleher

Due to the complicated number of character changes there is no list of the parts each member took in the production.

Directed by John Powell

Musical Director Nigel Stonier

Technical assistants

Margaret Parker

Mildred Royle

Muriel Dickinson

Christopher Banks

Eddie Hudson

Bruce Mottram

George Reynard (See 11 May 1979)

Chick Larson

Robert "Bob" Hall

Pic and Feature Page 15, 19 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 20 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 25, 27 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

ARCHIVE

Includes Ajudication by Gareth Jones of Cheshire Commuiry Council, Play of the year awards.

#####

10 March 1981

The Monday night performance of the last play was cancelled due to a lack of support.

The 20 March was booked to get the theatre ready for the visit of the Gateway.

7 April 1981

The profit from the visit by the Chester Gateway made £16.25.

There was a change of cast as Bruce felt he was unable to continue with his part.

28 April 1981

John Kelleher has taken over the part of the policeman and Pat Mellor has taken over from Carol for the next production.

12 May 1981

The Elizabethan Market stall made £90.45

The Players have been asked to do an excerpt (7 Mins) from '**Three Hisses for Villainy**' at the Lyceum Theatre Crewe on the 7 June for the County play of the year festival.

#####

19 - 22 May 1981

THE SOUND OF MURDER

by William Fairchild

Incl; Andrew Wood as Charles Norbury

Pat Mellor as Anne Norbury

Andrew Clarke as Peter Marriott

Pauline Sedgley as Miss Forbes

Ted Watt as Insp. Davidson

John Kelleher as Police Constable Nash

Producer Pat Mellor

Co-Producer Yvonne Goodman

Stage Manager Lyn Bosbury

Lighting and Sound Christopher Banks, Eddie Hudson and Alf Johnson

Pic and Feature Page 47, 22 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

#####

4 June 1981

John Powell, Eddie Hudson, and Muriel Dickinson expressed a wish that at the AGM (Next Meeting) they would be standing down.

7 June 1981

Cheshire Amateur theatre Awards were held at the **Lyceum Theatre Crewe.**

#####

THE MINUTES BOOKS FOR THIS PERIOD WERE MISSING.

BELOW IS A LIST OF EVENTS ETC OF THE PERIOD

7 June 1981 Cheshire Theatre Awards at the Lyceum Theatre. We had been asked to produce an excerpt of '**Three Hisses to Villainy**'

23 July 1981 Stewart Green Joined the Players

A X Mas show was discussed (Date not mentioned)

Members who wish to receive a newsletter should give the secretary 5 self stamped addressed envelopes.

24 July 1981 Casting meeting for '**Basinful of the Briny**'

3 Oct 1981 Mini Market on Sat morning outside the town hall 10 till 12 noon

19 Oct 1981 '**Basinful of the Briny**' Play starts.

#####

20 - 24 October 1981

BASIN FULL OF THE BRINEY

by Leslie Sands

Incl; Bessie Welsby as Mrs Austin

Yvonne Goodman as Florrie

Cynthia Kelly as Louise Smith

Eddie Hudson as Mr Pepper

Frances Humphrey as Mrs Pepper

Chick Larson as Joe

Pat Mellor as Clara

Pauline Sedgley as Miss Windermere

John Powell as Syd Collins

Directed by John Powell

Producer Yvonne Goodman
 Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle
 Stage Manager and Set Design George Reynard
 Props **Stewart Green** and Muriel Dickenson
 Lighting John Kelleher
 Sound Mark Aldridge
 Front of House Manager Andrew Clarke
 Catering Edith Mellor
 Flower Arrangements Marjorie Larson
Lyn Bosbury was due to direct this production but became ill before rehearsals started so John took over.
Pic and Feature Page 19, 22 Oct Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 23 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 29 Oct Crewe Chronicle.



#####

7 Nov 1981 Bonfire Party at Cynthia Kelly's

20 November 1981
A Gift Auction at the Little Theatre.

23 Nov 1981 Play reading organised by Adrian Baxter

25 Nov 1981 Casting for '**Murder for the asking**'

28 Dec 1981 Slide Evening Theme 'The Greek Islands'

13 Dec 1981 X Mas 'do' at Carol Anthony's house

Jan 1982 Started selling Key Rings with 'I support the Sandbach Players' cost 20p each

20 February 1982
Annual Dance at the Masonic Hall, Sandbach Common with the SPECTRUM disco.

2-6 March 1982* **MURDER FOR THE ASKING**
 by Derek Benfield
 Incl; John Powell as Henry Scrubb
 Cynthia Kelly as Dora Scrubb
 Hilary Heady as Janet Gregory
 John Kelleher as James Franklyn
 Ted Watt as Detective Sergeant Thatcher
 Stewart Green as Fred Pender
 Elsie Thomason as Rita Franklyn
 Director Yvonne Goodman
 Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle
 Stage Manager Eddie Hudson
 Props Pauline Sedgely
 Lighting and Set Design George Reynard

Sound Alan Crabtree and StewART
 Workshop Team Stewart Green, Eddie Hudson and George Reynard.
Pic and Feature Page 34, 5 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 4 March Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 13, 11 Mar Crewe Chronicle.



Murder for the Asking.



 17 Mar 1982 Welcome service for the Rev Paul Frampton (Hope Street Chapel 7.30pm)

24 March 1982
 The Gateway theatre (Chester) presented "MUSICAL MURDERS" at the Little Theatre, Hope Street.

3 May 1982 Elizabethan Market

 11-15 May 1982 ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR

by Alan Ayckbourn
 Incl; Andrew Clarke as Sidney
 Hilary Heady as Jane
 Adrian Baxter as Ronald
 Lyn Bosbury as Marion
 Eddie Gerrard as Geoffrey
 Frances Humphrey as Eva
 Director John Powell
 Assistant to the Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle
 Set Design George Reynard
 Lighting John Kelleher
 Sound Stewart Green
 Stage Crew Eddie Hudson, George Reynard and Gareth Williams
 Props Cynthia Kelly and Elsie Thomason
 Ticket Secretary Chick Larson
 Flower Arrangements Marjory Larson
 Set Builders Stewart Green, Bob Hall, Eddie Hudson, John Kelleher,
 George Reynard, Campbell Saint and Gareth Williams

**Feature Page Unkn, 12 May Manchester Evening News.
 Feature Page Unkn, 12 May Evening Sentinel.
 Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 13 May Crewe Chronicle.
 Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 14 May Sandbach Chronicle.
 Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 20 May Crewe Chronicle.**



Absurd Person Singular

#####

19 May 1982 Drama Course at Little Theatre with John Garner

26 May 1982 Drama Course at Little Theatre with John Garner

6 June 1982

Cheshire Amateur theatre Awards were held at the Lyceum Theatre Crewe. The sandbach players presented an excerpt from "Murder for the Asking"

10 June 1982 Drama Course with John Garner

17 June 1982 Drama Course with John Garner

25 June 1982 Drama Course with John Garner

27 July 1982 Car Treasure Hunt organised by Eddie Hudson and George Reynard

3 Sept 1982 Good as New / Jumble Sale

12 September 1982 Eddie Gerrard ran the Sandbach Marathon to raise funds for the society.

#####

12-16 October 1982 **THE FARNDALE AVENUE HOUSING ESTATE TOWNSWOMEN'S
 GUILD DRAMATIC SOCIETY MURDER MYSTERY**

by Walter Zerlin Jnr and David Mc Gillvray
 Incl; Bessie Welsby as Sylvia / Insp O'Reilly
 Pat Mellor as Felicity
 Elsie Thomason as Audrey
 Lin Bosbury as Mrs Reece
 Helen Ruberry as Thelma
 John Powell as The Producer

Directed by John Powell
 Assistant to the Producer / Director (Prompt) Mildred Royle
 Props Muriel Dickenson
 Wardrobe Hilary Heady and Alice Cavendish
 Stage Manager and Set Design George Reynard
 ASM Andrew Clarke
 Lighting John Kelleher
 Sound Stewart Green
 Flowers Marjory Larson

**Pic and Feature Page 1 and Back Page, Unkn Sandbach Chronicle.
 Feature Page Unkn, 13 Oct Evening Sentinel.**

**Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 14 Oct Crewe Chronicle.
 Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 15 Oct Crewe Advertiser.
 Pic and Feature Page 1 and Back Page Sandbach Chronicle.**



FAHETGADMM (Bessie Welsby)

#####

23 October 1982

Members of the Sandbach players were invited to a party at 43, Lynbrook Rd, Crewe, to celebrate the marriage of Frances Humphrey and Mark Aldridge.

30 Oct 1982 Halloween Party at Cynthia Kelly's

#####

8 -11 December 1982

**HUMBUG (Based on the book by Charles Dickens)
 by Ron Wood (Book) and Tony Weston (Music)**

Incl; John Powell as Ebenezer Scrooge
 Adrian Baxter as Bob Cratchet
 Yvonne Goodman as Ghost of Christmas Past / Mrs Dilber
 Eddie Hudson as Ghost of Christmas Present / Mr Fezziwig and Joe
 Ted Watt as ghost of Christmas yet to be / Marley
 Gareth Kelly as Ebenezer (as a Boy)
 Lisa Walker as Tiny Tim
 Pauline Sedgley as Mrs Wilbey
 Gareth Williams as Fred
 Andrew Clarke as Ebenezer (as a Young Man) and Second Gent
 Lyn Bosbury as Mrs Cratchet
 Elsie Thomason as Martha
 Frances Aldridge as Bellinda and Belle
 Mark Stone as Peter Cratchet and First Gent
 Helen Rubery as Ella Cratchet and Fan
 Miranda Bailey as Nan Cratchet
 Cynthia Kelly as Mrs Fezziwig
 Carol Stone as Fred's Wife
 Richard Stone as Dick Williams
 Alan Crabtree as Third Gent
 Edith Mellor as Nancy
 Alice Johnson as Nellie
 Alf Johnson as Mr Hamshaft
 Bessie Welsby as Guest
 Jennifer Gerrard as Little Girl

Michael Gerrard as Ben and Boy
 Director Eddie Gerrard
 Music Director Pat Mellor
 Set Design Stewart Green
 Set Builders Stewart Green and Ronnie Devlin
 with George Reynard, Eddie Hudson and others.
 Stage Assistant Ronnie Devlin
 Lighting George Reynard
 Sound Mark Aldridge
 Choreographer Christine Gerrard
 Prompt Mildred Royle
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 9 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 16 Dec Crewe Chronicle.
Feature Page Unkn, Date Unkn The Advertiser
Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.



Humbug

 12 Feb 1983 Dance

26 Feb 1983 Dinner at Saxon Crosses Motel
 #####

1- 5 March 1983* **FLOWERING CHERRY**
 by Robert Bolt
 Incl; Judi Baxter as Isobel Cherry
 Ronnie Devlin as Jim Cherry
 Eddie Hudson as Tom Cherry
 John Kelleher as Gilbert Grass
 Frances Aldridge as Judy Cherry
 Stewart Green as David Bowman
 Sheila Mac Kenzie as Carol
 Producer Eddie Gerrard
 Stage Managers George Reynard and Muriel Dickinson
 Set Designer George Reynard
 Props Muriel Dickenson
 Lighting George Reynard
 Sound Pat Mellor
 Prompt Elsie Thomason
Feature Page Unkn, Date Unkn The Crewe Advertiser.
Feature Page Unkn, 2 Mar Evening Sentinel



Flowering Cherry

#####

9 March 1983 (Fund Raiser)
Hair Dressing Demonstration by Paul Anthony. Tickets 75p

11 Mar 1983 Casting for '**Man most** '

19 Mar 1983 Dance at Bradwall village Hall with Spectrum Disco. Tickets £2-50

20 Mar 1983 Lighting course at Little Theatre, Gloucester St. Chester attended by tech crew of the Players.

#####

10 -14 May 1983 THE MAN MOST LIKELY TO

by Joyce Rayburn

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Victor Cadwallader
Maggie Percy as Joan Cadwallader
John Powell as Martin Morley
Helen Rubery as Shirley Hughes
Andrew Clarke as Giles Cadwallader

Producer Yvonne Gooman

Assistant to the Producer (Prompt) Elsie Thomason and Mildred Royle

Set Design George Reynard

Lighting Ivor Mottram

Sound Stewart Green

Props Pat Mellor and Pauline Sedgley

Ticket Secretary Chick Larson

Flowers Marjory Larson

Workshop Team George Reynard / Stewart Green / Ronnie Devliv /

Ivor Mottram / Eddie Hudson / John Kelleher

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 19 May Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, Unkn The Advertiser.



(Helen Rubery, John Powell, Adrian Baxter, Maggie Percy)

#####

June 1983 Newsletter.

The Sandbach Players have decided to produce a cardboard sleeve to put the current programme notes in. A competition was started to design the cover for this new outer sleeve.

4 June 1983	Market stall
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7 June 1983	Treasure Hunt
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9 June 1983	A.G.M. A New Chairman was Elected - Elsie Thomason
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12 June 1983	The "Cheshire Amateur Theatre Awards" at the Gateway Theatre, Chester.
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30 June 1983	Play reading of 'For Better or Worse' written and organised by Ray Mottram.
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18 Aug 1983	Casting for ' Love in a mist '
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5 Sept 1983	Casting for ' Puss in Boots ' at 20 Roman Way, Judy Baxter.
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28 Sept 1983	Visit by MASKS theatre group as a fundraiser #####
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11-15 October 1983 **LOVE IN A MIST**
by Kenneth Horne
Incl; Bessie Welsby as Mrs Evans
 Eddie Hudson as Nigel
 Helen Rubery as Pat
 John Kelleher as Mr Evans
 Gareth Williams as Howard
 Carol Stone as Rose
Producers Adrian Baxter and Elsie Thomason
Sound and Lighting Stewart Green and Adrian Baxter
Stage Manager Ivor Mottram
Props and Wardrobe Pat Mellor
Prompt and Assistant Stage Manager Mildred Royle
Feature Page Unkn, 12 Oct Manchester Evening News.
Feature Page Unkn, 12 Oct Evening Sentinel.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 14 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 20 Oct Crewe Chronicle.



(Helen Rubery, Carol Stone, Gareth Williams, Eddie Hudson)

EXTRA INFORMATION 20-22 Mar 1957 and 11 - 15 Oct 1983

The "Love in a Mist" is a flower also known as a NIGELLA DAMASCENA. The Tv Cook Nigella Lawson was named after the plant.

16 October 1983

An acting course was held at the Oakley Centre in Crewe. Organised by the Cheshire Community Council it included Tutors Peter Dornford May, Derek Smith, Mark Dornford May and William Peter Kennerley. Members of the Sandbach Players attended the days events.

28 Oct 1983 Jumble Sale / Good as new

5 Nov 1983 Party at Cynthia's (Social Evening)

9 Nov 1983 Spice evening with Josephine Whitelegg .Tickets 75p

#####

13-17 Dec and 5-7 Jan 1983 *

PUSS IN BOOTS

by Local Writers

Original songs by Linda and David Messham

Incl; Yvonne Goodman as Narrator and Violet

Alan Crabtree as Ben

Gareth Williams as Bill

Helen Rubery as Rollo

Alison Saint as Puss

Frances Aldridge as Prunella

Elsie Thomason as Princess Pamela

Catherine Williams as Primula

John Powell as Miss Demeanour

Lisa -Ann Merner as Lavinia

Lisa Walker as Victoria

Gail Radcliffe as Nicotinia

Rachel Pierpoint as Hysteria

Alan Crabtree as Yokel

Eddie Hudson as Tooting

Ray Mottram as King

Stewart Green as 1st Messenger, Ned and Lion (Dec, dates only)

Gareth Williams as 2nd Messenger

John Kelleher as 3rd Messenger and Will

Maggie Percy as Mavis

Ted Watt as Giant Munchbones

Director Judi Baxter

Stage Manager George Reynard

ASM Mildred Royle

Scenery Painter Adrian Baxter and Helen Rubery

Lighting and Sound Ivor Mottram

Stage Crew Campbell Saint and John Ratcliffe

Props Pauline Sedgley

Wardrobe Muriel Dickinson

Musical Director Pat Mellor

Feature Page Unkn, 14 Dec Evening Sentinel

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 40, 16 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.



(Helen Rubery and Alison Saint)

EXTRA INFORMATION

Stewart Green was unable to do the second week of the run as he had a job stage managing the Winsford Civic Hall Pantomime "Dick Whittington".

31 January 1984 (Event)

The Sandbach Players held "AN EVENING WITH DYLAN THOMAS" with readings from the works of the great Welsh writer performed by Derek Smith. Tickets £1.

11 February 1984 (or 10 Feb 1984)

The Sandbach Players held a St Valentine's Day Dance at "Cheshire Leisure", Vicarage Lane, Elworth. The dancing was to the SPECTUM 2000 disco.

17 Feb 1984 Guest speaker Raphael Gonley the Director of North West Arts at the Little Theatre. This was arranged by Congleton Borough Arts with The Players acting as Hosts.

18 Feb 1984 Dinner at Saxon Cross Motel (Social)

4 Mar 1984 Casting for '**Love from a stranger**'

#####

13-17 March 1984

NOT NOW DARLING

by Ray Cooney and John Chapman

- Incl; Fiona Bell as Miss Whittington
 John Powell as Arnold Crouch
 Pat Mellor as Miss Tiptate
 Yvonne Goodman as Mrs French
 Adrian Baxter as Gilbert Bodley
 Ronnie Devlin as Commander Frencham

Eddie Hudson as Harry Mc Michael
Carol Stone as Janie Mc Michael
Helen Rubery as Sue Lawson
Pauline Sedgley as Maude Bodley
Alan Crabtree as Mr Lawson

Director Ray Mottram

Sound and Lighting Stewart Green

Stage Manager Ray Mottram

Props Muriel Dickenson and Elsie Thomason

Prompt and ASM Mildred Royle

Set Builders George Reynard / Ivor Mottram / Eddie Hudson /

Elsie Thomason / Ronnie devlin / Fiona Bell / Chris Banks /
John Kelleher

Scenery Painters Adrian Baxter and Helen Rubery

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 14 Mar Evening Sentinel.

Pic and Feature Page 1 and 22, 16 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.



The play NOT NOW DARLING was the first to use the new Outer Sleeve for the programmes. It was designed by Pippa Thomason (The daughter of Elsie Thomason).(See June 1983 Newsletter)

15-19 May 1984

LOVE FROM A STRANGER

by Frank Vosper (Based on a story by Agatha Christie)

Incl; Cynthia Kelly as Louise Gerrard

Kathy Pimlett as Mavis Wilson

Helen Rubery as Cecily Harrington

Adrian Baxter as Bruce Lovell

Mark Aldridge as Nigel Lawrence

John Kelleher as Hodgson

Pat Mellor as Ethel

Ronnie Devlin as Dr Gribble

Directed by Yvonne Goodman

Sound Stewart Green

Lighting Ivor Mottram

Props Pauline Sedgley and Muriel Dickenson

Prompt Elsie Thomason

Set Designer George Reynard

Set Builders George Reynard / Eddie Hudson / Ivor Mottram /

Stewart Green / Fiona Bell / Ronnie Devlin.

Pic and Feature Page 52, 18 May Sandbach Chronicle.



Love from a Stranger

(Pat Melor, Adrian Baxter, Helen Rubery)

 17 June 1984 Cheshire Amateur Theatre awards at the Lyceum Theatre Crewe.

19 July 1984 Crewe Chronicle Page Unknown

The Sandbach Players advertised for new members. New Chairman Mrs Elsie Thomason who has taken over from John Powell put out the appeal for both actors and technical staff.

31 Aug 1984 Casting for '**Move Over Mrs Markham**'

29 Aug 1984 It was agreed by the society to join the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild.

18 Sept 1984 Officially joined the M.C.T.G.

27 Sept 1984 Yvonne Goodman left the Society.

19 Oct 1984 Jumble Sale.

15 November 1984 Crewe Chronicle Page Unkn.

Ten days before Tuesdays opening night, Sandbach Players found that all the tickets for the forthcoming production "Move Over Mrs Markham" had been sold.

16 Nov 1984 Play Reading

#####

13-17 November 1984 **MOVE OVER MRS MARKHAM**

by Ray Cooney and John Chapman

Incl; Pauline Sedgley as Joanna Markham

Andrew Clarke as Alister Spenlow

Fiona Bell as Sylvie Hauser

Carol Stone as Linda Lodge

John Powell as Philip Markham

Adrian Baxter as Henry Lodge

Eddie Hudson as Walter Pangbourne

Bessie Welsby as Olive Harriet Smythe

Debbie Rhodes as Miss Wilkinson

Directed by Ray Mottram Assisted by John Kelleher

Stage Manager Ivor Mottram

ASM (and Prompt) Mildred Royle

Lighting George Reynard

Sound Stewart Green

Props Elsie Thomason and Nicki Osbourne

Set Builders Ivor Mottram / George Reynard / Eddie Hudson /

Paul Harrison (Fiona Harrison's Brother) / Ronnie Devlin /

Karen Tredgett / John Kelleher / Marcus Tomlinson /

Stewart Green / Nicki Osbourne /

Sue Howarth / Philip Sutton (Sue Howarth's boyfriend)

Pic and Feature Page 51, 16 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.



 28 Nov 1984 Slide Evening
 #####

19 December 1984 NONE THE WISER (1 Act Just for Friends)

by Anthony Booth
 Incl; Lyn Bosbury
 Sue Howarth
 Nicki Osbourne
 Pat Mellor
 Helen Rubery
 Cynthia Kelly
 Kathy Pimlett

Directed by Elsie Thomason ?
 Presented on the same set as "Ladies in Retirement" just before
 it was painted with old oak beams etc.



26 Feb - 2 March 1985* LADIES IN RETIREMENT

by Edward Percy and Reginald Denham
 Incl; Nicki Osborne as Lucy Gilham
 Bessie Welsby as Leonora Fisk
 Lyn Bosbury as Ellen Creed
 Stewart Green as Albert Feather
 Cynthia Kelly as Louisa Creed

Pat Mellor as Emily Creed
Elsie Thomason as Sister Theresa

Directed by Lyn Bosbury
Assistant Producers Pauline Sedgley and Elsie Thomason
Stage Manager and Set design George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle
Props Eddie Hudson
Wardrobe Frances Aldridge
Lighting Ivor Mottram
Sound Effects John Kelleher
Flowers Marjorie Larson

Feature Page Unkn, 21 Feb Crewe Chronicle
Feature Page Unkn, 28 Feb Evening Sentinel
Feature Page Unkn , 1 Mar The Advertiser
Pic and Feature Page 7, 1 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 8, 7 Mar Crewe Chronicle.
Feature (Review) Page Unkn, 7 Mar Crewe Chronicle (See above)



(Ladies in Retirement)

(Nicki Osborne, Stewart Green)

29 Apr - 4 May 1985*

THE ACCRINGTON PALS

by Peter Whelan

The 29 April performance was in aid of St Luke's Hospice.

Incl; Judy Baxter as May (Fruit stall Holder)
Stewart Green as Tom
Eddie Hudson as Ralph
Nicki Osborne as Eva (A Mill Girl)
Hilary Heady as Sarah
Deborah (Debbie) Rhodes as Bertha
Jo Kay as Annie
Ray Mottram as Arthur
Russell Tunney as Reggie
Adrian Baxter as C.S.M. Rivers a regular Soldier

Directed by John Powell
Assistant Directors Ronnie Devlin and Mildred Royle
Stage Manager Ronnie Devlin
Properties Marcus Tomkinson and Kath Pimblet
Wardrobe Lyn Bosbury
Lighting George Reynard and Chris Banks
Sound Effects Ivor Mottram and John Kelleher
Set Design and Construction by Members of the Players, including Stage staff and Stewart Green / Eddie Hudson / Ray Mottram from the cast.

PROPS The Boys Brigade - London Archivist.
Central Library - Accrington (For list of Accrington Pals)
The Accrington Observer and Times (For authentic local Newspapers £5.38)
Greater Manchester Transport Society (For Debbie Rhodes Costume)
The Wilmslow Guild (For Uniforms and Costumes)
Bridgehouse Antiques.
Frank Johnson for "England's Glory" (The Pigeon)
Sandbach School C.C.F. (For Guns?)
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 9 May Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 26 Apr The Advertiser.



(Stewart Green)

Memories by STEWART GREEN.

This was probably the best performance the Sandbach Players ever performed. It was certainly the most thought provoking. The story is about the men of the First World War who lost their lives in the battle along the Western front between Autumn 1914 and July 1916. The reason it was such a success was due to George Reynard, Ivor Mottram, Chris Banks and Stewart Green among the stage staff who between them created special effects and made the ending into a poignant reminder of the war . The ending went something like this. At the end of the acting the cast vacated the stage it was plunged into darkness with lights creating explosions and war effects including slides being projected onto the back wall of the first World War before the lights stopping and the voice of Ronnie Devlin read out all the names of the Accrington Pals that had died with the soundtrack of the last post and solemn music before the house lights came up and the audience walked out to silence. Not one member of the audience said a word many were still thinking about the production. For Months, even years after that show I still met people who were effected by the performance. The proof of a good production is how long people talk about it and this was brilliantly done.

The play was entered into the Mid Cheshire theatre Guild awards. we were asked to perform ac excerpt from the play on awards night 20 June 1985 at Little theatre in Northwich.

The chosen excerpt was the bit where Eddie Hudson (Ralph) takes a bath. In the actual show Eddie wears swimming trunks but on this night he decided that as the stage was at the bottom of raked seating he would go natural and we would use lots of soap bubbles to cover his modesty. All went well until the bit when Eddie gets out of the bath and walks off stage just before the end of our scene. We draped him in a towel as he left the bath, but as we had used a lot of soap and the stage was smooth he slipped on his way off stage revealing everything as he slid into the wings.

#####

11 June 1985 Treasure Hunt.

20 June 1985 Mid Cheshire Theatre Awards Night at Northwich or
Cheshire Amateur Theatre Awards at the Gateway in Chester. We presented an
excerpt of '**Accrington Pals**'.

14 Aug 1985 Casting for '**Look who's Talking**'

#####

15-19 October 1985

LOOK WHO'S TALKING (1st presented April 1983 in Swindon)

by Derek Benfield

Incl; Jo Kay as Sheila
Adrian Baxter as Brian
Andrew Wood as Andrew
Helen Rubery as Carole
Carol Stone as Jane

Directed by Ray Mottram assisted by Pat Mellor

Stage Manager Ivor Mottram

ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Props Muriel Dickenson

Lighting George Reynard

Sound Stewart Green

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 17 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 52, 18 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

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13 Nov 1985 Casting for 'Confusion's'

26 Nov 1985 Shoe sale at Judi Baxter's home (Fund Raising)

#####

25-29 February 1986*

CONFUSIONS

by Alan Ayckbourn

Incl; *Mother Figure*

Judi Baxter as Lucy
Helen Rubery as Rosemary
Eddie Hudson as Terry

Drinking Companion

Andrew Clarke as Harry
Nickie Osbourne as Paula
Hilary Headey as Bernice
Alan Crabtree as Waiter

Between Mouthfuls

Andrew Clarke as Waiter
Andrew Wood as Pearce
Pat Mellor as Mrs Pearce
Stewart Green as Martin
Hilary Headey as Polly

Gosforth Fete

Pat Mellor as Mrs Pearce
Judi Baxter as Milly
Eddie Hudson as Gosforth
Alan Crabtree as Vicar
Andrew Wood as Stewart

A Talk in the Park

Andrew Clarke as Arthur
Nicki Osbourne as Beryl
Alan Crabtree as Charles
Helen Rubery as Doreen
Stewart Green as Ernest

Director Lyn Bosbury

Musical Interludes by Michelle Coles

Stage Manager George Reynard

ASM (Prompt) Elsie Thomason

Stage Crew Campbell Saint and John Ratcliffe

Lighting Ivor Mottram

Sound Effects Doug Blair

Props Muriel Dickinson and Marcus Thomlinson

Front of House Flowers Marjory Larson

**Pic and Feature Page 9, 26 Feb Evening Sentinel.
Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 28 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.**

2 March 1986 Lighting a concert at the Leisure Centre Sandbach. Organised by John Berry.

8 March 1986

The Sandbach players organised a fundraising event with members of the Gateway Theatre Chester. They presented, "THE CARETAKER" by Harold Pinter. Tickets £2.

20 Mar 1986 Slide show by John Kelleher.

23 Mar 1986 Speech course at Meredith Centre, Crewe with Derek Smith.

17 Apr 1986 The Anniversary committee had been busy and at a meeting on this date they put forward their proposals.

21 Apr 1986 The Anniversary committee had got together to prepare a special programme for the 40th anniversary. The printing of the programme would be done by Ray Cowdall who would like to have a copy of the adverts etc by the 8 April. The Committee consisted of Lin Bosbury, Murial Dickenson, Cynthia Kelly, Elsie Thomason, and Stewart Green.

#####

13 - 17 May 1986

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (40th Anniversary Play)
by Oscar Wilde

Incl; Andrew Wood as John Worthing J.P.
Andrew Clarke as Algernon Montcrieff
Adrian Baxter as Rev. Cannon Chasuble
John Kelleher as Merriman
Alan Crabtree as Lane
Lin (Lyn) Bosbury as Lady Bracknell
Helen Rubery as Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax
Nicki Osbourne as Cecily Cardew
Pauline Sedgley as Miss Prism

Director Pat Mellor Assisted by Eddie Hudson.
Stage Managers Ivor Mottram and George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle
Props Elsie Thomason
Lighting and Sound Effects Stewart Green
Scene Painting Adrian Baxter and Helen Rubery ?.
Front of House Flowers Marjory Larson

Pic and Feature Page 1, 15 May Sandbach Chronicle.

EXTRA INFO by Stewart Green.

After each show on the final night there is usually a party. Because of the restrictions being in a church hall we have usually packed up and gone to a members house. On our 40th anniversary we thought it would be nice if the audience joined us for this celebration. With special dispensation from the church to have alcohol that night we invited all who wished to remain behind plus the Local M.P. Anne Winterton and the Borough Mayor to help is cut a specially made cake and celebrate our anniversary. Past and present member of the Society Bessie Welsby cut the cake (Provided by Dane Bank Collage, Crewe), she had been involved with "Without the Prince" the first production of the society. Bessie was also presented with a bunch of flowers at the end of the play by Chairman Elsie Thomason. Also at the evening were ex members of the society including past Chairmen and women, among them Irene Lee.

EXTRA INFO 2 also by Stewart Green

As Bessie Welsby had been a member of the society for all of the 40 years we are celebrating it was decided to have a surprise luncheon for her. Usually she dines at the Saxon Cross Motel with her

husband Clifford on a Sunday lunch time, so it was decided that this would be the location and venue for the event.

At the appropriate time and day Cliff would take Bessie to the venue where members, who had arrived earlier would greet her. All went to plan apart from the timing. Cliff tells me that on that Sunday Bessie insisted on leaving a little bit earlier. Earlier enough to pass me on the way to the motel (I was walking) when I arrived at the appointed time the surprise had been sprung and Bessie said to me as I walked in "If I had known you were coming here, I would have got Cliff to stop and give you a lift". That would have spoiled the surprise wouldn't it. The dinner was great with memories of the society flowing, towards the end of the meal a special plate was presented to Bessie in recognition of her continued support of the society.

#####

18 May 1986 Surprise dinner for Bessie Welsby at the Saxon Cross Motel in celebration of 40 years of the Sandbach Players.

15 June 1986 Cheshire Amateur theatre Awards at Gateway Chester

18 June 1986 A.G.M. Election of officers

Chairman	George Reynard (New)
Vice Chairman	Elsie Thomason
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	Ivor Mottram (New)
Business Manager	John Kelleher
Publicity	Elsie Thomason
Patrons secretary	Judy Baxter

Tickets £1-75 (Monday special £1) Subscriptions £5

28 June 1986

Strawberry and Sparkling Wine Evening at Moss Dene, Watch Lane, Moston (Cynthia Kelly's House) to celebrate 40 years of the Sandbach Players. Tickets £3

10 July 1986 Mid-Cheshire Theatre Guild awards night at the Harlequins Theatre, Northwich.

23 July 1986

2 new Members were welcomed, Audrey Roberts and Stewart Lowe.

Sara Austin had applied to the elders of Hope Street to hold a theatre workshop at the hall. The society was asked if the group would lend its stage for them to put on a show at the end of the course. It was agreed that we would help.

A Meeting had been held with the elders to discuss the state of the hall.

- 1) The leaking roof above the dressing room .
- 2) The lack of water heaters in the hall.

20 August 1986

Bank Balance £2939.04

The strawberry evening had made £251

Another Garage was offered to the society to store its equipment and flats, but at this time it was still being occupied by someone else.

The water heaters in the kitchen area had been installed by the elders.

George was able to get 600 tickets printed for £20.

The Play '**A Nightingale Sang**' needed gas masks and a child's respirator. An advert would be put into the paper asking for help with these props.

The church was having a Bazaar on the 15th of November. This meant that the chairs and stage apron would have to be put up on the Sunday before the show.

Sara Austin put forward proposals for 'Curtain Call' a youth group that would, if acceptable use the Little Theatre for its operations.

A Sunday treasure hunt was arranged by Adrian and Judy Baxter for the 4 Oct.

25 September 1986

A New member Debbie Colby (or Celby) was welcomed to the society.

Congleton Borough arts asked for grant applications. It was decided to put in an application towards a new lighting board.

'A Talk in the Park' part of the play '**Celebration**' was to be performed at the Congleton Daneside Theatre on the 6th of Oct as part of the Congleton Borough arts showcase.

17 October 1986 Extra General Meeting

This was called due to the unexpected and **sudden death of Ivor Mottram** earlier in the week. Ivor was at this point the treasurer, George Reynard took over this post in the interim until the next general meeting.

Today was also the day of his funeral. Members of the Sandbach Players were amongst the bearers of the coffin.

#####

9 -15 November 1986 **AND A NIGHTINGALE SANG**

by C.P. Taylor

Incl; Hilary Heady as Helen Stott
 Helen Robrey as Joyce
 John Powell as George
 Audrey Roberts as Peggy
 John Kelleher as Andie
 Andrew Clarke as Eric
 Eddie Hudson as Norman

Director Lin Bosbury

Stage manager Stewart Green

ASM (Prompt) Cynthia Kelly

Piano Accompaniment Pat Mellor

Sound George Reynard

Lighting Chris Banks and Doug Blair

Props Muriel Dickinson and Ann Naden

Flower Arrangements Margery Larson

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 14 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 15 Nov South Cheshire Mail

(Published by the Crewe Chronicle)

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

See 23 - 24 July 1987 for Awards

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19 November 1986

2 new members were greeted Fiona Hantusch and 'Ace' (Daisy)

Tributes were paid to Ivor Mottram and a 2-minute silence was taken.

The photographic society wanted to borrow our chairs it was agreed for a small donation.

Val Blair had agreed to join the society (Wife of Doug) and act as treasurer.

Thanks were expressed to Mary Noden for her help with the last play.

The casting meeting for **84 Charring Cross Road** was arranged for the 16 Feb 1987.

Jo Kay resigned from the society due to other commitments.

New programme covers were needed and it was agreed to order some more.

The chapel would be asked if the main doors to the theatre could open outwards so that they could be closed during the performance.

12 December 1986

Bank Balance £3096-57

It was suggested that the society obtain a key for a night safe to put the door money into the bank after each performance.

Chris Banks suggested that we ask the chapel to clear up the balcony area so that it could be used as a meeting place. This would be warmer in the winter as it would be easier to heat.

John Kelleher suggested that a heavier curtain be put up in the entrance to keep the warmth within the hall.

22 January 1987

This was a candlelit meeting due to there being a power cut.

3 new members were welcomed to the society, Keith Bowker (Later in the year he committed suicide), Brian and Barbara Fellows.

When the meeting was over the lights came on. (Just in time to go round the pub).

18 February 1987

Bank Balance £ 3006-89.

A Quote for foyer curtains had been received at a cost of £97 to £150

Val Blair had discovered that we had paid the chapel more money for the electricity than we should have. This will be put right at the earliest opportunity.

The books needed for the set of the next play ' **84 Charring Cross road**' would be borrowed from Cheshire Libraries at Runcorn where all the books for disposal are kept.

The casting meeting for the play the '**Haunted through lounge and dining nook at Farndale castle**' would be held on Wed the 18th of April.

Chris Banks thanked George Reynard for the new style of newsletter.

Sara Austin had started her drama group. George and Doug would talk to her about the use of the Players facilities as well s payment.

John Powell asked 'after the poor reviews we had had during the last production could we use the press tickets for sale as the seats would be more appreciated by the members of the public'. Doug suggested that we send a report to the papers instead of sending tickets.

#####

10 -14 March 1987 *

84 CHARING CROSS ROAD

by James Roose-Evans (Based on the book by Helene Hanff)

- Incl; Lin Bosbury as Helene Hanff
- Adrian Baxter as Frank Doel
- Elsie Thomason as Cecily Farr
- Fiona Bell as Megan Wells
- Ronnie Devlin as Mr Martin
- Stewart Green as William Humphries
- Fiona Hantusch as Maxine Stuart
- Cynthia Kelly as Joan Todd
- Eddie Hudson as Thomas

Director John Powell

Stage Manager Eddie Hudson

ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Sound Ivan Edwards

Lighting George Reynard and Chris Banks

Props Cynthia Kelly

Flowers Margery Larson.

Pic and Feature Page 25, 20 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

19 March 1987

A New member was welcomed - Kevin Curran.

Fiona Bell resigned from the Society.

A treasure hunt was arranged by George for the 16th of June. The Dinner dance on the newsletter had been changed.

The Sandbach Chronicle was upset at not receiving press tickets for **84 Charring cross road**. As the tickets had not been sold it was felt that we should keep up with the Chronicle and would in future send them some tickets.

14 April 1987

84 Charring cross road had made £317-87

During the last play a technical fault had caused Val Blair's speakers to melt, according to Doug, £40 would cover the cost of repairs.

Doug asked about the use by Mr Cartlidge of welding and paint sprays in the garage under our wood store. The Matter of Insurance etc. would be discussed with the elders and The Rev Paul Frampton.

#####

18 -22 May 1987 THE HAUNTED THROUGH LOUNGE AND RECESSED DINING NOOK AT FARNDALE CASTLE

by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr

Incl; Helen Rubery as Thelma
Bessie Welsby as Lottie
Lin Bosbury as Mrs Reece
Carol Stone as Felicity
Nicki Osborne as Jasmine
Andrew Clarke as David

Directed by Elsie Thomason
Stage Manager George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle
Sound Eddie Hudson and Ivan Edwards
Lighting Chris Banks
Props Muriel Dickinson
Artwork Adrian Baxter
Floral Arrangements Margery Larson.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 19 May Evening Sentinel.

Pic and Feature Page 23, 22 May Sandbach Chronicle.

27 May 1987.

The curtains had arrived for the foyer.

The last play only sold £560 worth of tickets, it was suggested that a box office in the town was needed, 2 Saturdays before the show as people only booked well-known plays.

20 June 1987 Cheshire Community Council Awards at The Gateway Theatre, Chester.
The Sandbach players also picked up the "Peter Dornford May Award" for special merit.

24 June 1987 AGM

New member Thelma Norwood was welcomed

Bank Balance £5555-12

"84 Charring Cross Road" had won the Peter Dornford May award at last Saturdays Cheshire Community Council awards.

A meeting with the elders had bought discussion with the Rev Paul Frampton pointing out that the use of the garage next to the dressing room was the concern of the chapel and not of the Players. George Reynard insisted that during the performances the safety of the public was the concern of the players. The use of the car park outside the church entrance was also discussed with the elders. The outcome was that it would only be opened for church members and not the general public, thus it would be closed during the performance.

It was agreed to ask Robert Holmes, Peter Foden and Ireen Lee to continue as Honouree Presidents. Projects suggested for during the closed season were the replacement of part of the staging floor (Suggested by Stewart Green), Shelves to be put on the wall for props stage Left (Suggested by George Reynard).

Doug was working on a new lighting board.

Appointment of officers: ---

Chairman	Lin Bosbury
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	Val Blair
Publicity	George Reynard
Business manager	John Kelleher
Patron Secretary / Tickets	Judy Baxter

Stewart Green then asked if he could use the stage for a Hospital Radio Quiz. It was agreed.

15 July 1987

Before the meeting a minute's silence was held for Keith Bowker who had died in tragic circumstances (He committed suicide).

A New member was welcomed, Christine Keeling.

John Powell had managed to get the curtain makers to add an extra half width to give fullness to the foyer curtains, as the original ones were just big enough to fill the gap.

The question of manning the box office was raised. It was suggested that George take names of helpers for the 3rd and 2nd Saturday before the play at the co-op and the last Saturday at the Little Theatre.

The Next play will be **Celebration**, with the casting meeting on 22 July 1987. Rehearsals start 12 Aug. George had received a quote for some more prominent posters in black and fluorescent yellow, £34 for 250.

AWARD "BEST ACTRESS"

15 July 1987 Crewe Chronicle Page 29.

17 July 1987 The Guardian (Crewe) Page 4.

23 July 1987 The Advertiser.

24 July 1987 Sandbach Chronicle Page Unknown.

At the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild Awards Hilary Heady won the Best Actress Award for her role as Helen Stott in "And a Nightingale Sang".

13 August 1987

The rebuilding of the stage had been a bigger job than first thought because the supports needed replacing.

George had written to the chief executive of the co-op to gain permission to have the box office.

7 New members had been cast in the next production with a member of Holmes chapel players playing the part of Uncle Arthur.

John Kelleher offered to do a slide show of his recent travels. This would be held on the 22 Sept (Tues) as a fundraiser.

15 September 1987

The curtains had been returned. It was suggested that a new brass pole be purchased.

The Christmas dinner this year was to be at 'La Place' on the 30 Jan 1988.

George will display photo's etc in the co-op before the next play. Posters and Car stickers were handed out.

22 September 1987

John Kelleher presented a slide show of his recent trip round the World. Called "AROUND THE WORLD IN TWO HOURS" it was a fund raiser for the society at the Little Theatre.

#####

22 -24 October 1987

CELEBRATION

by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall

The Marriage

Incl; Nicki Osbourne as Christine Lucas (The Bride)

Russell Tunney as Bernard Fuller (The Groom)

Brides Family Muriel Dickinson as Rhonda Lucas (Mother)

Alan Crabtree as Edgar Lucas (Father)

Andrew Clarke as Jack Lucas (Brother)

Hilary Headey as Irene Howes (Cousin)

Julian Rowland as Stan Dyson (Irene's Fiance)

Audrey Roberts as Lillian Howes (Aunt)

Stewart Lowe as Frank Broadbent (Uncle)

Derrick Cleal as Arthur Broadbent (Great Uncle)

Grooms Family Pauline Sedgley as Edna Fuller (Mother)

Cynthia Kelly as Alice Fuller (Aunt)

Kevin Curran as Lionel Fuller (Cousin)

Ann Naden as Margo Fuller (Lionel's Wife)

The Wake (Funeral)

The Mourners Alan Crabtree as Edgar Lucas

Muriel Dickinson as Rhonda Lucas

Andrew Clarke as Jack Lucas

Audrey Roberts as Lillian Howes

Hilary Headey as Irene Howes

Stewart Lowe as Frank Broadbent

Julian Rowland as Stan Dyson

Russell Tunney as Bernard Fuller

Nicki Osbourne as Christine Lucas

Helen Rubery as May Beckett
John Kelleher as Sergeant Major Tommy Lodge
Director Lin Bosbury
Stage Manager George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle
Lighting and Sound Stewart Green
Props Pat Mellor, Carol Stone and Thelma Norwood
Flowers Marjory Larson

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 30 Sept Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 2 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 11, 23 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, Unkn Crewe Chronicle.

#####

29 October 1987

We had purchased 5 doz cups for £52

The Slide show had made a profit of £31

The elders of the chapel had agreed to a £70 reduction of the rent for the next 2 quarters to cover the overdue amount for electricity.

The Fire officer had inspected the building for the Theatre licence, and was unhappy with the wiring of the emergency lighting system. A Council officer said that the exit lights should also be illuminated during the performance. The wiring was fixed by Peter Hanlon and son. Two low light exit signs would be purchased to comply with the new regulations.

The fire extinguishers were also inspected (By Swift) and found to be in need of replacement with new types as the old extinguishers were out of date.

The next play would be '**On Golden Pond**' with a casting meeting being held on Wednesday 11th of November 1987

The photos of the cast taken by Reg Lewis were appreciated by the audience and Reg was thanked for taking them.

10 December 1987

Joanne Hurst was welcomed to the society.

John Powell sent a letter to the society saying he was unable to give 100% to the players. It was suggested that he be made an honouree member, this was deferred due to a phone call made to him (The reason for this decision was not mentioned in the minutes)

X Mas entertainment by members followed the meeting with mince pies. The Evening was hosted by Doug.

16 January 1988

'**Celebration**' cost £303-26 with a profit of between £300 and £400.

It was suggested that we buy some new speakers with a grant of £150 from the Cheshire community Council.

It was suggested by Elsie that we change the overhead working lights to fluorescent tubes to save electricity and make it brighter for working.

28 January 1988 EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING

This meeting was held to discuss the Caravan sited outside the dressing room at the back of Hope Street and owned by John Cartlidge.

The discussion took the lines of what was the position with the chapel, and what should be done if this situation happens again.

It was stated that a gentleman's agreement was made re the supply of electricity to the garage also owned (Used by) John Cartlidge.

It was discovered that the meter run by the players was using 3 times as much power as in previous years. Chris Banks, George Reynard, Doug Blair and John Kelleher investigated the box and found that the caravan was connected to the players power supply. Chris with the consent of the others disconnected the supply from our power and put it onto the chapel's side of the meter.

Lin (Chairman) Bosbury was then informed 24 hours after the work was done (She was away on the night in question) at which point she contacted Rev Paul Frampton (The Minister) who although he knew about the caravan he didn't know about the power being connected to the chapel supply.

Lin was annoyed that she had not been consulted before any action had been taken.

The Chapel elders had given John Cartlidge 3 Weeks to remove his caravan and that he should pay a sum of money towards our power costs.

(The event eventually led to Lin leaving the society and forming with other members a group in Middlewich called FULCRUM)

Doug Blair resigned from the society.

This left us without a new lighting board making us hire equipment until a new board can be made.

#####

23-27 February 1988

ON GOLDEN POND

by Ernest Thompson

Incl; Ray Mottram as Norman Thayer Jnr
Audrey Roberts as Ethel Thayer
Kevin Curran as Charlie Martin
Carol Stone as Chelsea Thayer Wayne
Andrew Tomlinson as Billy Ray
Adrian Baxter as Bill Ray

Director John Kelleher

Stage Manager Eddie Hudson

ASM (Prompt) Elsie Thomason

Lighting George Reynard

Sound Stewart Green

Props Thelma Norwood and Ann Naden

Scenic Artists Jean Rogers and Adrian Baxter

Flowers Marjory Larson

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 29 Jan Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 24 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 26 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 5, 26 Feb Crewe Guardian.

#####

2 March 1988

Doug Blair resigned (See 28 Jan). The reason for this was the way members of the society had been treated during the affair of the caravan outside our dressing room. During the discussion that followed Chris Banks asked what was the purpose of the Vice Chairman if it wasn't to take decisions when the chairman is unavailable as in this case. He also resented the way he was treated after the 'Caravan' affair. He didn't like being treated like a naughty schoolboy.

Due to Doug's resignation the lighting board he was designing had become unavailable. Fortunately the society had not paid out anything towards its development. The society had lost the prototype and the design. Fortunately Chris Banks had made a telephone contact with John White at Keel University who would like to design a lighting board for us. The University would do all the project work for free but we would have to pay for component parts. . A Budget of £500 was agreed to fund the board.

John Powell donated 3 fluorescent fittings for above the stage.

A new fire extinguisher will be purchased at a cost of £49.50 + VAT to replace the old modal.

It was decided to change our fire extinguisher supplier / service contract from 'Swift' to 'Safeguard' who would give us a better deal.

12 April 1988

As a fundraiser, a 24-hour play reading was suggested. A committee was formed to look at the possibility.

The Play '**Celebration**' made £383-93

#####

16-21 May 1988*

HABEAS CORPUS

by Alan Bennett

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Arthur Wicksteed
Judi Baxter as Muriel Wicksteed
Andrew Clarke as Dennis Wicksteed
Helen Rubery as Constance Wicksteed
Bessie Welsby as Mrs Swab
Kevin Curran as Canon Throbbing

Lin Bosbury as Lady Rumpers
Thelma Norwood as Felicity Rumpers
Eddie Hudson as Mr Shanks
Paul Hantusch as Sir Percy Shorter
Stewart Green as Mr Purdue

Director Lin Bosbury
Stage Manager Stewart Green
ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle
Lighting and Sound Chris Banks, George Reynard and John Kelleher
Props Jane Brooks and Joanne Hurst
Set Design Jean Rogers
Flowers Marjory Larson

Feature Page 1, 29 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page 14, 18 May Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feat page unkn, 18 May Crewe Chron (Sandbach edition only)

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 20 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 17, 20 May Crewe Guardian.

#####

26 May 1988

Hillary Heady resigned from the society as she was leaving the area to live in Yorkshire.

We had changed the fire extinguisher maintenance from 'Swift' to 'Safe Guard'.

Eddie Hudson and Fiona Hantusch were getting married on the 6 Aug 1988. Members of the Players were invited to the reception at Warmingham village hall in the evening.

A Cheque had arrived from Congleton Arts for the refit of the dressing room.

We had been asked to do a 15 min excerpt of the play '**Habeas Corpus**' at Northwich for the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild awards night.

29 June 1988 A.G.M.

During the chairman's report Lin mentioned that we had gained 5 new members this year they were Thelma Norwood, Jane Brooks, Joanne, Paul Hantusch and Graham. We had also lost two members who had moved out of the area, Alan Crabtree and Hillary Heady.

Lin Bosbury resigned as chairman.

There were only 12 members present so it was felt inappropriate to vote on all the officers' posts.

Appointment of Officers: --

Chairman John Kelleher

Vice Chairman Chris Banks

At this point the meeting was closed.

12 July 1988

This meeting included a continuation of the previous meetings business as time had run out last time.

The above posts were confirmed with the rest being voted upon.

Secretary Cynthia Kelly

Treasurer George Reynard

Publicity Stewart Green.

Ticket Prices for the next season £2 (£1.25 OAP), Patron's fee £7, Programmes 20p

The suggestion of a fixed payment was made by Val for officer's expenses as Lin had asked for £13 phone expenses during her year in office. It was suggested that George (Treasurer) would purchase some stamps, which he would hand out to those who need them.

The Sponsored play reading was postponed.

The "Make up Table" in the dressing room was now finished. (see Below)

12 July 1988

During 1988 a new dressing room "Make up Table" was designed and Built by Stewart Green. It had four mirrors and lights all round them. He was assisted by Chris Banks and other members of the players Technical Team. The table was finished by the 12 July 1988 AGM meeting.

6 August 1988

Eddie Hudson and Fiona Hantusch were married. The Sandbach Players were invited to the reception at Bradwall Village Hall.

10 August 1988

Lights had been fitted over the exit sign's to illuminate them during the performances.
A Treasure Hunt was arranged for the 28 Aug ending up at Ronnie Devlin's house.

13 September 1988

Lin Bosbury resigned from the society.
The make up table was now complete (see 12 July 1988 AGM).
New speakers were now ready after they had been made up by Chris Banks.
There were possibilities of a 1-act play for friends produced by Elsie and an auction by Adrian Baxter.

13 October 1988

The 1 act play was arranged for Wednesday 14 December.
"Sandbach Arts" wanted to use the hall for a meeting on the 25 Nov 1988.

#####

15 - 19 November 1988 **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK**

by Neil Simon

Incl; Helen Rubery as Corrie Bratter
 Eddie Hudson as Telephone Man
 John Kelleher as Delivery Man
 Andrew Clarke as Paul Bratter
 Cynthia Kelly as Mrs Banks
 John Powell as Victor Velasco

Director John Kelleher

Stage Manager George Reynard

ASM (Prompt) Mildred Royle

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Stewart Green

Props Jane Brooks and Joanne Hurst

Flowers Marjory Larson

Feature Page 1 and 3, 16 Nov Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page 43, 18 Nov Crewe Guardian

Feature Page 18, 18 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

26 November 1988

A new Member Joanne Haines was welcomed to the society
Bank Balance £2403-13

The casting meeting for the next play ' **Cat's Cradle**' was booked for the 30 Nov

John Powell asked if we could apply for reduced royalties as we only seat 88. This would be looked into.

Ray Mottram had entered a Piccadilly Radio play competition. After the meeting the membership was treated to a reading with sound effects of the play.

11 January 1989

The Auction was booked for 10 Mar 1989.

The New lighting board should be ready for the 3rd play of the season.

Our fire extinguishers had been discharged and left empty while the Players were out of the building.

The Rev Paul Frampton would look into what had happened.

John Powell was concerned about the downhill slide of the society, Ray suggested the enthusiasm had gone out of the society and a new incentive was needed.

6 February 1989 (News)

It was announced that **Bob Hall had died**. His funeral was on the 13 February 1989 at Wheelock it was attended by most of the Sandbach Players and friends from the British Legion. he had been a member of the society for many years and spent the last few years as Front of House Manager greeting the public as they came into the Little Theatre. He was sadly missed by all who knew him.

STEWART GREEN'S Last Memory of Bob.

The last time I saw Bob was at a "Sounds of X Mas Concert" I was recording for Hospital Radio on the 10 December 1988. The Crewe Co-operative and Audley Male Voice Choir were in concert and Bob was a great fan of Brass Band's. I spoke to him in the intervals as any friend would. I think I dropped off a recording of the concert for him to listen to Early in the new year he was taken into hospital and died on the 6th February.

10 February 1989 (Meeting)

Bob Hall had died on Mon 6th of February after a long illness. The society will donate £25 to ward 2 at Leighton as per Joyce Hall's wishes. The funeral will be on the 13th February 1989 at 2pm for those who wish to go.

The Fire extinguishers will be refilled and returned in the next few days by Safeguard.

The Lighting board --- All three circuit boards had been built and the rest was progressing well. It would possibly be ready for the next play.

Following a meeting with the rev Paul Frampton, the topic of the lease renewal was raised. During the Players discussion it was suggested we put in a letter of tender offering an increased rent. It was also suggested we find a better way of heating the hall. We are currently paying £3.50 per night to heat the hall. Suggestions included lowering the ceiling.

#####

28 Feb - 4 Mar 1989*

CAT'S CRADLE

by Leslie Sands

Incl; Elsie Thomason as Peggy Fletcher
Paul Hantuech as Sam Fletcher
Bessie Welsby as Miss Merton
Joanna Hurst as Sarah Fulton
Carol Stone as Pamela Fulton
Andrew Wood as Det. Inspector John Frost
Stewart Green as Bob Marriott
Ray Mottram as Sir Charles Cresswell

Director Ray Mottram

Stage Manager Andrew Clarke

ASM (Prompt) Thelma Norwood

Lighting Jane Brookes

Sound and Set Design George Reynard

Props Muriel Dickenson

Flowers Marjory Larson

Feature Page Unkn, 8 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, 18 Feb The Entertainer.

Feature Page 1, 8 Mar Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page 46, 3 Mar Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page 29, 17 Mar The Crewe Guardian.

#####

16 March 1989

Re the Lease, Adrian Baxter suggested a figure of £700 be put to the Chapel as a realistic rental.

Bessie Welsby suggested, as a cost cutting measure that members purchase their own playbooks this would be looked into at the next meeting.

13 April 1989

Chris Banks gave an update of the new lighting board, one unit was near completion and the two remaining would follow shortly.

#####

16-20 May 1989

THERE GOES THE BRIDE

by Ray Cooney and John Chapman

Incl; Pauline Sedgley as Ursula Westerby
Fiona Hudson as Judy Westerby
Ronnie Devlin as Dr Gerald Drimmond
Ray Mottram as Timothy Westerby
Paul Hantusch as Bill Shorter

Bessie Welsby as Daphne Drimmond
Joanne Haines as Polly Perkins (Flapper Girl)
John Kelleher as Charles Babcock

Director Adrian Baxter
Stage Manager George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) and Choreographer Joanne Hurst
Lighting Chris Banks
Sound Stewart Green
Props Elsie Thomason
Flowers Marjory Larson

Pic and Feature Page 51, 19 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 52, 26 May Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 29 July The Entertainer.

25 May 1989

It was agreed that cast members should pay half the cost of their playbooks.

21 July 1989 The Guardian (Crewe) Page 6.

The Guardian reviewed the years events with the Sandbach Players.

This year has been one of both happiness and sadness, sadness at the loss to the society of some of its long serving members. The greatest loss was of **Bob Hall** who had been with the society for many years, helping to build the sets and to supply that great welcome you get when you enter the theatre.

The last play of the season was easy for the players up to the second night of the play. Due to unforeseen circumstances John Kelleher the 1988/9 Chairman and actor in the play was taken into hospital and was unable to play his part. Producer Adrian Baxter stepped in to play an Australian father of the Groom. (the article also looked at Joanne Hurst and Haines 1st appearances with the players).

July 1989

July saw the introduction of an earlier idea a monthly Magazine (See 1963/ 4 "Off Stage"). It included information about designing sets, the next play, and various other bits of information about the Players.

September 1989

Issue 2 of the Magazine.

21 June 1989 A.G.M.

Bank Balance £5960-76

Election of officers: --

Chairman	Pat Mellor
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	George Reynard
Business Manager	John Kelleher
Publicity	Stewart Green
Tickets	Judy Baxter

Concern about a lack of new members was raised. Chris Banks suggested a meet the Players Evening and exhibition.

George Reynard suggested a quarterly magazine for members written by members.

A letter of support was sent to Mildred Royal after the loss of her husband Wal.

(1st mention of Joan Betts as a member of the play reading committee)

13 July 1989

Chris Banks circulated a draft copy of a leaflet to be distributed to the people of Sandbach inviting them to an open evening.

The Date of the evening was fixed for the 14 Sept 1989

9 August 1989

3 New members were welcomed. Margaret Boschi, Norman Lucas, and Richard Sadler

The 'Open Night ' ---- The distribution of leaflets was originally planned to be done by the Scouts, but they were unavailable so the local free newspaper was approached to do the job at £12 per thousand leaflets.

Visitors were invited to look at the History of the Sandbach Players and an opportunity to meet members of the society with the prospect of joining.

The History exhibition was put together by Stewart Green with help from Bessie Welsby and Muriel Farnworth Smith who supplied pictures.

The format of the evening will be a look at the set in construction, a lighting display, a look at the sound and lighting box, and a display of old pictures and programmes, arranged for the evening by Chris Banks and Stewart Green. Tea and coffee will also be available.

7 September 1989 Express Page 12.

8 September 1989 South Cheshire Herald and Post. Page 12.

20 September 1989 Crewe Chronicle Page 2

22 September 1989 Sandbach Chronicle Page 28.

21 September 1989

Bank Balance £2862-15p

The Open evening had been a great success. Unfortunately none of the visitors had attended this meeting.

The distribution of leaflets by the Guardian Paper had not gone as smooth as possible. It had been pointed out that a number of Papers with our leaflets in had been dumped in the hedgerows. The Paper would look into this.

Stewart was thanked for the display of old photo's etc. They had brought back many memories to old and new members of the society.

Chris Banks suggested that we ring those who came to the open evening informing them about the next play and the next meeting.

It was suggested by Elsie that the leaflets be adapted so that they could be used at anytime.

A Jumble sale was arranged for 27 Oct 1989

Props for '**Deathtrap**' like the guns would be hired from a firm in Denton at a cost of £46 + VAT

It was suggested by Stewart Green that we get copies made of the Photographs that we used in the exhibition as they had to be returned to Bessie Welsby and Muriel Farnworth Smith. This would be the start of an official History / Display file.

#####

17-20 October 1989*

DEATHTRAP

by Ira Levin

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Sidney Bruhl
 Muriel Dickinson as Myra Bruhl
 Stewart Green as Clifford Anderson
 Judi Baxter as Helga Ten Dorp
 Ronnie Devlin as Porter Milgrim

Director John Kelleher

Stage Manager Eddie Hudson

ASM (Prompt) Elsie Thomason

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Effects George Reynard

Props Margaret Boschi

Front of House Flowers Marjory Larson.

Pic and Feature Page 18, 20 Oct 1989 Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page Unkn, 25 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

#####

23 November 1989

After the meeting a talk on the history of 'Globe Theatre' was given by Bill Stanton one of our new members.

#####

6-10 February 1990

BLITHE SPIRIT

by Noel Coward

Incl; Joanne Hurst as Edith the Maid

Margaret Boschi as Ruth Condomine
Andrew Wood as Charles Condomine
John Kelleher as Dr Bradman
Muriel Dickenson as Mrs Bradman
Judi Baxter as Madame Arcati
Elsie Thomason as Elvira

Director Pat Mellor
Stage Manager George Reynard
ASM (Prompt) Deborah Birdno
Sound Effects Stewart Green
Lighting Alan Jones (Alan Hughes-Jones)
Props Cynthia Kelly and Carol Stone
Costumes Jenny Jones
Front of House Flowers Marjory (Marjorie) Larson
Pic and Feature Page 15, 9 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 1, 14 Feb Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 9, 15 Feb Express.

#####

14 February 1990

The casting meeting for 'Strike Happy' was booked for the 15 Feb.

A report was given by Pat Mellor (Chairman) into ways to improve the 'Sandbach Players'. It included the setting up of a committee to run the societies day-to-day business, Making sure that the heating was on during meetings to make new members more welcome, and more popular plays to attract bigger audiences.

It was decided to let the committee run the society for a trial period and to look into the other points raised.

15 March 1990

The Sudden **death of Ronnie Devlin** was reported (He died in his garden at home a place he loved), A minutes silence was taken

Madge Cartlidge phoned Pat Mellor to complain that the front door had been left open after a Friday rehearsal, she also stated that certain members had been in the hall on days when it was not the Players 'Official Time' (This was to drop off or pick up display material or set building goods e.g. Wood). Keys would now only be held by committee members, the producer of the current play, sound and lighting technicians. These would be signed for to keep a record of the location of keys.

The Lighting board - Bessie Welsby asked why we were still hiring equipment, Chris replied that our own equipment was not ready but he hoped it would be ready for instillation for the next play.

The Committee had met to discuss publicity. The usual ideas of keeping the press informed of productions etc were mentioned. Other ideas included producing some bookmarks publicising the Players which the library could give-away.

17 April 1990

The meeting was held in the 'Crown'. The venue was chosen by Alan and Jenny Hughes- Jones who had been asked to look into an alternative venue because of the cold hall.

An 'American Show' was put forward by George Reynard as a fundraiser. This would be performed in July 1991 with the Players doing some sketches etc. and a group called Opus 11. The Membership was asked to look out for ideas for this evening.

The evening ended up with a 'Give us a Clue' (How do you do 'Wuthering ' Heights)

#####

15 -19 May 1990 STRIKE HAPPY

by Duncan Greenwood

Incl; Pauline Sedgley as Clara Hellewell
Gill Pickering as Elsie Hellewell
Norman Lucas as Albert Hellewell
Richard Sadler as George Seegar
Adrian Baxter as Benjamin Tapeworth
Carol Stone as Mrs Agatha Flannel
Joanne Hurst as Rosie Flannel

Sharon Windsor as Yvonne
Jane Banham as Estelle

Director Joan Betts
Stage Manager Alan Jones
ASM (Prompt) Paul Hantusch
Sound Effects Chris Banks
Lighting George Reynard
Props Margaret Boschi and Jane Banham
Flowers Maisie Mottram

Pic and Feature Page 10, 18 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page 28, 24 May Express.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 16 May Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 18, 25 May Crewe Guardian.

#####

22 May 1990

A review of our First Aid Kit was done and it was decided to get a second one for front of house.
Joanne Hurst was getting married on the 26 May 1990 and thanked the society for her wedding gift.
(She married a man called Mark Cutter)

26 May 1990

Sandbach Player, Joanne Hurst married Mark Cutter.

28 June 1990 A.G.M

Bank Balance £3007-26

During the year Judy Baxter had been nominated as Best Supporting Actress in the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild awards, for her portrayal of Madame Arcati in **'Blithe Spirit'**

Election of Officers

Chairman	Pat Mellor
Vice Chairman	Pauline Sedgley
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	Elsie Thomason
Business Manager	John Kelleher

The Job of publicity was to be re- defined by the above committee.

Ticket prices to rise to £2-50, Concessions £1-50, Patrons £8

Elsie suggested that we fix our meetings for a specific day each month I.e. 3rd Tuesday in the month.

The condition of the garage was discussed. The roof was leaking and the rent had gone up from £72 to £104 per year. We would ask Mr Alcock to repair the roof or give us a better garage to store our flats in.

3 July 1990 Committee Meeting

The Job of Publicity was discussed and the job would be undertaken by the committee / Producer of each play.

17 July 1990

Another garage was offered to the society.

John Kelleher organised a play reading of 'Reluctant Heroes' after the meeting

26 July 1990 Meeting with the Church elders

The Church had installed a new heating pump, which means that the hall should heat up in about 1 and a half hours

The new rent proposed by the chapel was £750 pa

21 Aug 1990

We had now changed garages

The Meeting rejected the rise in rental to £750 by the chapel

2 October 1990

The Lease at Hope Street was looked at. The lengthy meeting discovered that we didn't have a legal lease from 1986. It was decided to get Robert Holmes to draw up a new legal document.

#####

30 Oct - 3 Nov 1990 * **WHEN WE ARE MARRIED**
by J.B. Priestley
Incl; Sharon Windsor as Ruth Birtle
 Richard Sadler as Gerald Forbes
 Bessie Welsby as Mrs Northrop
 Jane Banham as Nancy Holmes
 Paul Hantusch as Fred Dyson
 Adrian Baxter as Henry Ormonroyd
 Ray Mottram as Alderman Joseph Helliwell
 Margaret Boschi as Maria Helliwell
 Norman Lucas as Councillor Albert Parker
 Ernie Mellor played the part on some nights due to a
 death in Norman's family.
 John Kelleher as Herbert Soppitt
 Pat Mellor as Clara Soppitt
 Cynthia Kelly as Annie Parker
 Carol Stone as Lottie Grady
 Ernie Mellor as Rev. Clement Mercer
 Stewart Green took over this role when Ernie played
 Norman's part.
Director Joan Betts
Stage Manager Alan Jones
ASM (Prompt) Gill Pickering
Sound Effects Stewart Green
Lighting George Reynard
Props Stephanie Clews and Jenny Jones (Jennifer Hughes Jones)
Flowers Maisie Mottram
**Pic and Feature Page 5, 31 Oct Crewe Chronicle. (on the same page is
the announcement of Freddie Garity's wedding to Congleton
lady Christina Lea. The reception was at the Saxon Cross
Motel on Monday)**
Pic and Feature Page 1, 2 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

ALL CHANGE "When we are Married"
Norman Lucas had a family problem this week. It was known that he may be unable to attend the whole weeks shows. Thus Ernie Mellor was asked to also learn the part of Cllr Parker and Stewart Green was asked to play the role of Rev. Clement Mercer. As it happened these changes were only needed for one performance.

#####

5 November 1990 Meeting with the Church Elders.
The meeting with the elders of the church and the Sandbach Players was held by the committee members and were joined by John Powell and Muriel Farnworth -Smith who knew about the original agreement with the church they are also the official trustees of the society and are on the agreement. The original details of the lease were read out: --
 1976 Original Lease signed for a 5-year period
 1979 Increase of Rent to £300 (Addendum to Lease)
 1981 Original Lease ran out
 1984 Another Lease only signed by the church elders and not by the Players.
 1986 Rent increased to £500
A new lease was agreed and a rent increase to £750 for 3 Years from May 1990.
The play **When we are married** saw a change of cast when Norman Lucas had to leave the production due to a family death. The part of Cllr Albert Parker was taken by Ernie Mellor while his role of the Rev Clement Mercer was taken by Stewart Green.

20 November 1990

A Christmas evening was arranged for the 8 December with a Victorian theme, Ray Mottram to M.C. the evening with the Players supplying the 'Turns' at the Marriott Room of the library. John Kelleher reported the public Liability insurance had been raised to £1,000,000 We had applied to the Congleton Borough Arts Council for a grant of £120 to re cover the flats. Chris Banks reported that the lighting board was near completion. Three components were needed at a cost of £32 each. This was approved. Over the three years the system had cost £800 approx. Future meetings would be followed by a make up demo, 15 Jan, a first aid demonstration, 19 Feb and a skittle evening for late March

15 January 1991

Bank Balance £3001-52

Wyn Addlington rejoined the society at this meeting

Debbie Birdno became the new business manager as John Kelleher was going abroad.

A Skittle evening was booked for 6 May at the Bickerton Poacher.

The next play is '**Brides of March**' and would be produced by Muriel Farnworth- Smith, as Joyce Hall who was going to produce was unavailable to do it.

The American evening with Opus 11 was cancelled, as they couldn't make the dates we were available plus a lack of interest from the membership.

12 February 1991

Pat welcomed a new member Melanie Leach.

A Coffee morning was booked for the 20 July 1991. The Town Crier would be asked to help publicise the event. Costumes from '**Brides of March**' would be worn by cast to publicise the morning.

A X Mas party at the library was booked for the 14 Dec.

A make up demonstration after the meeting was a great success.

#####

19 -23 February 1991*

SOMETHING TO HIDE

by Leslie Sands

Incl; Richard Sadler as Howard Holt

Sharon Windsor as Julie

Margaret Boschi as Karen Holt

Ray Mottram as Inspector Davies

Stewart Green as Mr Purdie

Gill Pickering as Stella

Muriel Dickinson as Miss Cunningham

Director Judi Baxter

Stage Manager Alan Jones

ASM (Prompt) Elsie Thomason

Sound George Reynard

Lighting Chris Banks

Props Pauline Sedgley and Stephanie Clews

Flowers Maisie Mottram

Feature Page 27, 7 Feb Express.

Pic and Feature Page 7, 20 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 14, 22 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 23, 28 Feb Express.

#####

19 March 1991

After the meeting a first aid demonstration took place.

16 April 1991

Bank Balance £3370-13

The cost of heating was now £7

Stewart Green was staging an exhibition at the library during July.

The roof of the new garage was leaking, more than the old one. Mr Alcock would be told about this.

The Lighting board had now been completed, but it needs testing. Hopefully it would be ready for the next play.

#####

14-18 May 1991*

THE BRIDES OF MARCH

by John Chapman

Incl; Adrian Baxter as Tony Scudamore
Carol Stone as Sally Scudamore
Bessie Welsby as Mrs Spencer (Her Last appearance on stage)
Andrew Wood as Ken Scudamore
Richard Sadler as Jack Krasner
Richard Simcock as Van Driver
Stewart Green as Haroun El Bahn
Margaret Boschi as Mrs Scudamore
Ray Mottram as Arthur Scudamore
Pat Mellor as Policewoman

Harem Girls

Deborah Birdno as Vana
Sharon Windsor as Oleena
Jane Banham as Sassar
Gill Pickering as Rakeesha
Stephanie Clews as Maloo

Director Muriel Farnworth Smith

Stage Manager George Reynard

ASM (Prompt) Pat Mellor

Sound Chris Banks

Lighting Alan Jones

Props Elsie Thomason and Catherine Wilson

Flowers Maisie Mottram

Pic and Feature Page 1 and 3, 15 May Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 1 and 20, 17 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 31, 23 May Express.

#####

22 May 1991

3 new members welcomed, Wyn, Christine and Kay Johnson

A discussion about the continuation of "Tea's" took place: --

Against - Safety (An accident happened at the last play)
Noise from the kitchens during the performance.
Lack of helpers.

Alternative suggestions

To serve soft drinks

It was decided to sell soft drinks at the first play of the season and review the situation after that. The hire of equipment was raised. Elsie reported that we had received £85 for equipment £55 for lighting. We had purchased 2 bulbs at £30 each to replace after hire. Elsie asked if it was worth the time etc. It was agreed that the hire of equipment be requested in writing to the committee and that the hire of lights be stopped as it shortens the life of the bulbs if they are moved.

The 'Crown' is changing hands. Alan Hughes -Jones was asked to contact the new landlord to see if we could continue the present agreement to hold meetings.

A Barbecue was booked at Cynthia and Ken's house for the 27 July. The evening would cost £5 each.

30 May 1991 Meeting with Church elders

The lease was discussed but it was still not signed.

26 June 1991 A.G.M.

Bank Balance £3728-34

Election of officers

Chairman	Pat Mellor
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	Elsie Thomason
Business Manager	Debbie Birdno
Publicity	Margaret Boschi
Patron's Secretary	Judi Baxter.

Alan suggested that a technical director be appointed. They would be responsible for co-ordinating the upkeep of the theatre.

They would also work with producers re technical requirements for plays. This job was given to Alan who along with publicity would be co-opted onto the committee when needed and not as a permanent member.

Ticket prices will stay at £2-50 with the patron's fee rising to £8-50. Subs will stay at £5.

Bonfire party, 9 Nov at Judy and Adrian Baxter's house.

The Theatre licence was going up to £80. We would write to the council to ask for a reduction as last year the licence had gone up from £20 to £50.

Cost of the lighting board this year £385-22.

Joyce Hall was made an Honouree life member (Proposed by Elsie and Bessie).

20 July 1991

A new exhibition at the library in Sandbach was all about the history of the Sandbach Players. It included the Haroun El Bahn costume worn by the exhibition compiler Stewart Green for the recent "Brides of March" play. Old programmes, the cut out from "There goes the Bride", books about the theatre, props and pictures from the history file made this event a success. The opening was performed by the Town Crier Dennis Robinson and Harem Girls, Sharon Windsor (Oleena), Stephanie Clews (Maloo), Gill Pickering (Rakeesha) and Deborah Birdno (as Vana) who added that touch of glamour to the photographs.

26 July Crewe Guardian Page 15.

27 August 1991

John Kelleher is leaving on the 26 Aug 1991 to go to Tasmania to live a leaving party will be held on the 24th August at 8pm at Cynthia and Ken's house.

Coffee morning raised £179 Profit. Another one was raised for the 16 Dec.

BBQ raised £130

Pat Mellor was concerned about the woodworm in the dressing room ceiling timbers. A working party of people in protective clothing would treat the timbers and beams in the loft.

The suggestion of Saturday working parties were put forward to get the set built instead of Thursday evening.

Another open evening was discussed.

23 September 1991

Mr Squires a local photographer has offered to do some photographs of Sandbach Players members for use in publicity. The first of two sessions was arranged for today at 7.30pm at his studio in Bold Street.

24 September 1991

After the meeting Muriel Farnworth Smith and Stewart Green organised a play reading of 2 x 1 Act plays, The Trial (MFS) and A Mystery adapted from a 'Whodunit' (ITV Series) story (by Stewart).

#####

15-19 October 1991

SCARLET RIBBON

by Rae Shirley

Incl; Andrew Wood as Rev. James Vaughan

Margaret Boschi as Catherine

Gill Pickering as Rachel

Catherine Wilson as Jane

Kay Johnson as Mrs Morgan the Cook

Sharon Windsor as Annie May The Maid

Richard Sadler as Rev. David Lennox

Carol Stone as Lynda Carter

Director Pat Mellor

Stage Manager Alan Jones

ASM (Prompt) Deborah Birdno

Sound George Reynard

Lighting Chris Banks

Props Cynthia Kelly and Stephanie Clews

Flowers Maisie Mottram

**Pic and Feature Page 43, 18 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.
Feature Page 3, 16 Oct Crewe Chronicle.**

#####

29 October 1991

Bonfire booked for 9 Nov

Chris Banks had purchased a stereo system for £50 (Goodmans)

Open evening booked for 23 Jan 1992.

10 December 1991

Profit from Bonfire Party £88

Dry Rot had been discovered in the walls of the theatre. During the survey the plaster had been removed from part of the walls. The chapel were waiting for a quote before making repairs. This meant that the theatre wouldn't be ready for the February Play.

Another venue would have to be found to stage the production. After much discussion it was decided to cancel the February play until a new venue had been found.

14 December 1991

The Sandbach Players held a Christmas Coffee morning at Sandbach Library.

10 January 1992 Sandbach Chronicle Page 1

15 January 1992 Crewe Chronicle Page 1 (Pic of Pat Mellor and Madge Cartlidge)

The Sandbach Players have cancelled their next production "Dr Morrell" because the hall they perform in is in desperate need of repair. The United Reform Church in Hope Street have commissioned a survey of the building that has revealed "Dry Rot" in the walls. As part of the survey large areas of plaster has been removed from the walls. Madge Cartlidge of the Church said that the estimate for repairs to the building would cost between £25,000 and £30,000. The Sandbach Players are looking for a new venue to stage their next production in May 1992.

23 January 1992

The Town Hall didn't have any dates available to stage our 3rd play.

After an article in the papers about our problem 'Sandbach School' had offered us the use of its stage for the next production.

The play week was booked for 4 -6 May with Dress rehearsals and dates to build the set also being arranged.

Alan said that it could be a more permanent home for the 'Players' but Pat Mellor said that the society should keep it's options open with the church hall in Hope Street.

The Hall curtains had become dirty during the survey of the Church. Our insurance doesn't cover the cleaning cost. It was decided that the Players should send the bill to the firm who did the survey a cost of £291 + VAT

24 February 1992

During a meeting at the Crown (After a working Party) Stewart Green suggested as a fund raising Idea a scheme called 'Adopt a Flat'. This like the adoption of animals at the Zoo would get the public to adopt part of a flat (1 Foot wide) for £5 they would then have there piece of flat marked in the programme and a reminder would be sent to the adopter telling them of its next appearance. The Name of the adopter would be written on each flat. For this play (**Dry Rot**) things like the Bar would also be available for hire. The First amount came from the Crown who sponsored the bar.

5 March 1992 Express Page 25.

As Part of the new move to Sandbach School the society started a scheme to raise funds. From a idea by Stewart Green, who was discussing fund raising ideas in the Crown Public house after a working party, it was suggested that we have an "ADOPT A FLAT" Scheme. Members of the public and Patrons could support the "Players" by purchasing either a full flat (Part of the Scenery) or a quarter of the flat. Their name will be marked on the flat as the sponsor.

The cost rises from £5.00

The flats are 12 foot high and vary from 1 foot to 6 foot wide. Each Flat was divided into 12 foot by 1 foot strips (£5 a strip)

5 March 1992 Express Page 25. (See also above)

The Players were looking for a HGV driver to help with the final move of the Sandbach Players from Hope Street to their new home at Sandbach School on the 25 April 1992.

23 March 1992

We were given £150 by the Sandbach Town Council towards the cost of cleaning the curtains.

Transport of the flats etc to the school was arranged by Chris Banks.

Box office arrangements were made for both Safeway and the Co-op for the 18th, 25th of Apr and the 2nd May

20 June Booked for a coffee morning at the library.

13 April 1992

The 'Adopt a flat' scheme had been on BBC Radio Stoke. To date it had made £320.

A stall at the Sandbach Transport festival had been arranged and had raised £85.

The repairs to the Little Theatre would be in excess of £6,000.00. The elders had decided to close down the church and Schoolroom possibly in mid July. This means that the Players would have to move all their equipment out before then. According to the terms of the lease we must be given 6 months notice to quit in writing by the chapel. If we could persuade the elders to keep to this it would give us a breathing space.

Move from the Little Theatre Hope Street to *SANDBACH SCHOOL* *Crewe Road Sandbach. 25 April 1992.*

6 - 9 May 1992*

DRY ROT

by John Chapman

Incl; Jim Milne as Colonel Wagstaff

Cynthia Kelly as Mrs Doris Wagstaff

Gill Pickering as Beth Barton

Stephanie Clews as Susan Wagstaff

Stewart Green as John Danby

Norman Lucas as Alfred Tubbe

Eddie Hudson as Fred Phipps

Richard Sadler as "Flash" Harry

Claude Ribeyre as Albert Polignac (Jockey) (A Real French man)

Kay Johnson as Sergeant Fire (a Policewoman)

Directed by Margaret Boschi

Stage Manager Alan Hughes- Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Sharon Windsor

Lighting George Reynard

Sound Chris Banks

Prompt Pat Mellor and Elsie Thomason

Props Pauline Sedgley and Carol Stone

Costume design Jenny Hughes- Jones

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor

Pic and Feature Page 1, 22 Apr Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 15, 8 May Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page 6, 13 May Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page 10, 14 May 1992 Express.

See Page 8, 4 Nov Crewe Chronicle.



12 May 1992

The Sandbach Players has a stall at the Sandbach Transport Festival.

17 June 1992 A.G.M.

Bank Balance £4243-66

Election of officers.

Chairman	Pat Mellor
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Cynthia Kelly
Treasurer	Elsie Thomason
Business Manager	Debbie Birdno (Post subject to review by the committee)
Publicity	Margaret Boschi
Patrons Secretary	Judy Baxter
Technical Manager	Alan Hughes-Jones

Bessie thanked everyone for their support after the death of her husband Cliff.

Pat suggested that as John Powell was no longer a member of the society we should enquire whether he wanted to continue as a Trustee. If he wanted to stand down then we would approach Adrian Baxter to take over.

20 June 1992 (event)

3 July 1992 Crewe Guardian. Page 56.

The Sandbach Players held a coffee Morning at Sandbach library. In attendance was the Crewe and Nantwich "Guardian Girl" for 1992 Sharon Windsor who also happened to be a member of the Sandbach Players.

23 July 1992

A meeting with Sandbach School had taken place and a contract had been drawn up to allow us to use the school as our new home. The contract was for 1 year with a review after that.

Madge Cartlidge (Hope street Caretaker) had contacted Pat Mellor about the amount of chairs we should leave at the church according to the original lease. The original lease had been lost making it impossible to confirm how many chairs but the memory of those present seemed to think that 30 chairs was the amount agreed. The remaining chairs would be stored at Adrian Baxter's home.

5 September 1992

Sandbach player John Kelleher is off to Australia to live with his daughter on the island of Tasmania.

17 September 1992 Crewe Guardian Page 53.

The Sandbach Players are looking for a young man about 21 to take a small part in their next production "Fringe Benefits".

12 October 1992

Bank Balance £2,977.00

3 new members were welcomed, Julia Gillbride, David Barlow and Susan Woodward

The Resource department of the school would be able to print the programmes for the next play.

John Powell resigned as Trustee and Adrian agreed to take over.

The agreement with the school was ready to be signed. Along with the usual points it was agreed to the use of a garage to store wood etc. The School also agreed to us putting a container on the old bike shed space.

A review of our insurance found out that we had not been covered since the 24 September. A new policy would put restrictions on the membership. The technical team would have to comply with safety regulations otherwise the insurance would be invalid (E.g. The Wearing of Hard hats). The policy would also restrict the age limit of the society to 70 as over that age they would not be insured. Moving out of Hope Street. The wood would be removed on the 17 Oct to Adrian and Judi 's for the bonfire in Nov. while the Flat's would be taken to the school on the 24 Oct with the rest of the Players effects.

22 October 1992 Crewe Guardian Page 47.

The Sandbach Players are to hold an open evening at their new home, Sandbach School on the 30 October.

5 November 1992 Crewe Guardian Page 3

Picture at the above event showing set building and rehearsals underway for "Fringe Benefits".

4 November 1992 Crewe Chronicle Page 8.

The Sandbach Players have signed a 12 Month deal with Sandbach School allowing them to continue producing plays with the option of either returning to the Little theatre or staying at the School. They also advertised for new members to join the acting and technical teams at the theatre. Report included picture of "Dry Rot" cast.

#####

4 -7 Nov 1992

FRINGE BENIFITS

by Peter Yeldham and Donald Churchill

Incl; Elsie Thomason as Isobel Hudson

Adrian Baxter as Colin Hudson

Jim Milne as Jim Nash

Carol Stone as Brenda Nash

Jane Banham as Doreen

Sharon Windsor as Fiona

Steve Knowles as Richard

Director Judi Baxter

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Stephanie Clews

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Stewart Green

Prompt Kay Johnson

Props Margaret Boschi and Gill Pickering

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor

Feature Page 45, 8 Oct Crewe Guardian

Pic and Feature Page 3, 28 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page 3, 4 Nov Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 38, 6 Nov Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

18 November 1992 in X.L at the school

The Players had received a bill from the school for £175 + £120 Caretaking fee for 4 nights. Members agreed that this was very reasonable

During the last play it was noticed that people were taking flash photographs and that digital watches were going off every 15 mins. It was decided to put in the programme a reminder for the public to refrain from taking pictures and to silence their watches.

The play was not as big a success as we would have liked due to the fact that it coincided with many bonfire night events around the town.

A coffee morning was booked for the 5 Dec 1992

12 Dec was booked for a X Mas party at the library.

Stewart Green was arranging a 1 Act play in XL for February, cast needed.

Because of the high costs of the last play it was decided that any play expenses would have to be approved by the committee.

Jobs to be done at the school: ---

Update lighting to school fittings (5 Amp Hope St to 15 Amp School Plugs)

Put racking in the garage to improve storage facilities.
Put wire mess over the door and window for security in the garage
Set up a phone / cue system in the hall for stage to lighting communication

5 December 1992

The Sandbach Players held a Coffee Morning at Sandbach library. In attendance was the Crewe and Nantwich "Guardian Girl" for 1992 Sharon Windsor (a member of the Sandbach Players) (see 20 June 1992). Town Crier Dennis Robinson was on hand to publicise the event and was photographed with Sharon by Stewart Green for the Guardian newspaper report (Their photographer was unavailable).

26 February 1993*

I SPY (1Act play just for friends - In the ExL room at Sandbach School)
by John Mortimer

Incl; David Barlow as Mr Frute
Julia Gillbride as Mrs Morgan
Kay Johnson as Gladys
Stephanie Clews as Lawyer
Roger Stockton as Captain Morgan
Sue Woodward and Stewart Green as Honeymoon Couple

Directed by Stewart Green

(Who also painted the backcloths and designed the set.)

Sound Alan Hughes-Jones

Lighting Chris Banks

#####

24 March 1993

Bank Balance £2400-38

Stewart's 1 Act play '**I Spy**' by John Mortimer was a great success. 40 people attended the performance. The production had cost £29. It was suggested by Elsie that a fee of 50p would be charged if we did this again to cover costs of future productions.

EVENT

18 April 1993 Sandbach Transport Festival.

#####

21-24 April 1993

CLERICAL ERRORS

by Georgina Reid

Incl; Debbie Rhodes as Julie Briggs
Craig Milne (Son of Jim Milne) as Pete Briggs
Pauline Sedgley as Gran Briggs
Jim Milne as James Martin
Cynthia Kelly as Miss Martin
Sue Woodward as Sylvia Grey
Elsie Thomason as Miss Pearson
Norman Lucas as Theodore Brown

Director Pat Mellor

Directors assistant Deborah Birdno

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Gill Pickering

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound David Barlow

Props Jane Banham and Dorothy Lunt

Prompt Val Milne

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor

Flowers Maisie Mottram

Set Design by Alan Hughes-Jones, Chris Banks and
Stewart Green (Especially the pulpit)

Feature Page 49, 1 Apr Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 15 Apr Sandbach /Crewe Guardian (See

Below).

**Pic and Feature Page 47, 22 Apr Crewe Guardian.
Pic and Feature Page 18, 23 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.**

15 Apr Sandbach /Crewe Guardian Pic and Feature Page 1.

The feature was about the family connection taking part in the play, Jim Milne as James Martin, Craig Milne (Son of Jim Milne) as Pete Briggs and as Prompt Val Milne (Jim's Wife) .

THE ARCHIVE for "Clerical Errors"

In the archive is a copy of the Licence to do the play issued by "Samuel French" the royalties for 4 performances were £180.00 .

8 May 1993 (Event)

Stephanie Clewes married Roger Stockton.

24 May 1993

Bessie Welsby thanked the society for their best wishes on her 80th birthday

The school had purchased a Tall scope and asked if we would be prepared to donate part of the purchase price. It was agreed to donate £250 of which Bessie donated £50.

A belated wedding gift was given to Roger and Stephanie Stockton (Nee Clewes) (Married on the 8 May 1993)

22 June 1993 A.G.M.

Pat Mellor resigned as chairman. Pat thanked everyone for their help over the years.

Election of Officers: --

Chairman	Margaret Boschi
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Debbie Rhodes
Treasurer	Kay Johnson
Technical Manager	Alan Hughes-Jones
Publicity	Jenny Hughes-Jones

An amendment to the constitution was proposed and accepted.

5a Delete the post of 'Business Manager' and create 2 positions on the management Committee, 'Publicity officer' and 'Technical director'. This was made possible as the job of business manager had become redundant with the move to the school meant that they would cover the theatre licence, Performance rights etc that the business manager was in charge of previously.

8b To reduce the lower age limit for membership from 16 to 14.

Ticket prices changed to £2-75 (£2 Concessions) with the 1994/ 95 season price becoming £3 (£2-50 Concessions) Patrons £9

Subs were raised to £16 (Under 17's £3)

Treasurers Report 1992-3

There are 27 official members of the society making a total subscription of £135.

Ticket sales were £350 less than last year, with donations and grants to the society also down by £170.

The coffee mornings raised £275 while the BBQ raised £100

TOTAL INCOME £3157.05 TOTAL EXPENDITURE £5106.83 Loss on the year £2049.78p
(Last Year £4298.00) (Last Year £3782.68)

MONEY IN BANK £7400. 71p (Last Year £8026. 34p)

8 August 1993 (Event)

The Sandbach Players held a Car Boot Sale in the car park of Sandbach School.

12 September 1993

The Sandbach Players organised a Duck Race to be held on the river near Macon Way, Crewe. About 500 ducks were sponsored with the winner being the first duck across the finishing line.

29 September 1993 Crewe Chronicle Page 3.

It was announced that former Sandbach County Councillor and Sandbach Players Chairman **Irene Lea** had died at the age of 89.

31 July 1993 Barbecue (BBQ) held at Jill and Ken Brown's house (198 Middlewich Rd)

8 August 1993 Car Boot Sale held at Sandbach School.

12 September 1993 Duck Race at Macon Way, Crewe (It raised £234. 05)

24 October 1993 Treasure Hunt (Members and Friends only)

October 1993 General Accident (Insurance Company) are changing their policy.
Members of the group must be under 70 Years old to be covered by the insurance.
This meant that people like Bessie Welsby were unable to take part in activities
on stage.

#####

13-16 October 1993

DEAD MAN'S HAND

by Seymour Matthews

Incl; Carol Stone as Jennifer / Kate
Adrian Baxter as Brian / Martin
Andrew Wood as David / Derek
Gill Pickering as Corinne / Angela
Mark Wade as Franco / Frank
Kay Johnson as Pamela

Directors Margaret Boschi and Jennie Hughes-Jones

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Debbie Rhodes

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Stewart Green

Prompt Deborah Birdno

Props Dorothy Lunt and Sue Woodward

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor

Flowers Maisie Mottram

Pic and Feature Page 29, 15 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

Feature Page 51, 21 Oct Crewe Guardian.

#####

6 November 1993

Bonfire Party at Adrian and Judy Baxters.

#####

5 -9 February 1994

BILLY LIAR

by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall

Incl; Pauline Sedgley as Florence Boothroyd
Margaret Boschi as Alice Fisher
Tony Keeley as Geoffrey Fisher
Mike Haynes as Billy Fisher
Mark Wade as Arthur Crabtree
Sue Woodward as Barbara
Jane Banham as Rita
Debbie Rhodes as Liz

Director Tony Keeley

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Debbie Rhodes

Scene Painting Stewart Green.

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound David Barlow

Prompt Pat Mellor and Elsie Thomason

Props Dorothy Lunt and Sharon Windsor

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor
 Bar Manager Ken Brown
Pic and Feature Page 8, 26, Jan Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 43, 3 Feb Crewe Guardian.
Pic and Feature Page 16, 4 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 1, 10 Feb Crewe / Sandbach Guardian.
Pic and Feature Page 6, 11 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

 March 1994 Changes were made by the committee to the rules of who could become a Director /
 Producer making it more difficulty for members to have a go at doing a show.
 Now you have to do four steps, which have to be assessed by the committee before
 you are allowed to look after a show of your own.
 This made it more difficult for member to have a go at producing.
 As the Players were an amateur society many thought this was a step too far,
 restricting who could do shows.
 #####

4 -7 May 1994 GONE UP IN SMOKE
 by Georgina Reid
 Incl; Sharon Windsor as Shelley
 Lisa Graham as Ann
 Mike Haynes as Rod Lester
 Debbie Rhodes as Marian Lester
 Mark Scott as Eric Bowers
 David Windsor as Inspector Hardwick
 Christopher Scott as Walter Bowers
 Director Margaret Thomas
 Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones
 Assistant Stage Manager Gill Pickering
 Lighting Chris Banks
 Sound Stewart Green
 Set Design and artistic building Stewart Green.
 Prompt Deborah Birdno
 Props Sue Woodward and Alison Jones
 Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor
 Bar Manager Ken Brown
Pic and Feature Page 18, 27 Apr Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 47, 6 May Sandbach Chronicle.



 11 June 1994 Barbecue (BBQ) held at Jill and Ken Brown's house.
 #####

27 June 1994 **Just like it was** (1 Act Play for Friends)
 Directed by Deborah Birdno it was performed after the AGM.
 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chairman	Margaret Boschi
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Jenny Hughes-Jones
Treasurer	Kay Johnson
Technical Manager	Alan Hughes-Jones

 27 June 1994

JUST LIKE IT WAS

by Joseph W Turner

(1Act Play for Friends - held in ExL Room at Sandbach School after AGM)

Incl; Gill Pickering as Martha Thompson

Alex York as Charles Thompson

David Barlow as Michael Thompson

Alison Jones as Susan

Sue Woodward as Rosie

Director Deborah Birdno

Sound Chris Banks.

 13 July 1994

Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild held their AGM and awards night on the stage of Sandbach School with the Sandbach Players acting as hosts.

27 and 28 August 1994

The Sandbach Players had a stall at Crewe Carnival. Debbie Rhodes and Susan Woodward appeared on BBC Radio Stoke with Alison Greatbatch (Presenter) to promote the society and the next show (28 Aug).

2 September 1994 (Date of Event)

25 August 1994 Crewe Guardian Page 51

60's Dance with live band "Shades of Grey"

4 September 1994 (Date of Event)

25 August 1994 Crewe Guardian Page 51

8 September 1994 Crewe Guardian Page 1.

9 September 1993 Crewe Guardian Page 46.

DUCK RACE

The Sandbach Players organised their second Duck Race to be held on the river near Macon Way, Crewe. About 500 ducks were sponsored with the winner being the first duck across the finishing line.

26 -29 October 1994

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE

by Ray Cooney

Incl; Debbie Rhodes as Mary Smith

Alison Jones as Barbara Smith

Damian Burdin as John Smith

Derek Jeynes as Det Sgt Troughton

Mark Scott as Stanley Gardner

Andrew Franklin as Press Reporter

Tony Keeley as Det Sgt Porterhouse

Mark Wade as Bobby Franklyn

Director Margaret Boschi

Stage Manager Alan Hughes- Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Stephanie Stockton (was Stephanie Clews)

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Stewart Green

Prompt Lisa Graham

Props Diane Bourne

Front of House Manager Ernie Mellor

Bar Manager Ken Brown

Pic and Feature Page 16, 19 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Feature Page Unkn, 26 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 20, 28 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

 7 January 1995

Chris Banks and Debbie Birdno married.

22-25 February 1995

PACK OF LIES

by Hugh Whitemore

Incl; Mike Haynes as Bob
Margaret Boschi as Barbara
Lisa Graham as Julie
Carol Stone as Helen
Tony Keeley as Peter
Mark Scott as Stewart
Jane Banham as Thelma
Gill Pickering as Sally

Director Lin Bosbury

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Assistant Stage Manager Debbie Rhodes

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound Stewart Green

Props Gill Pickering and Sharon Hough

Front of House Manager David Barlow

Bar Manager Ken Brown

Pic and Feature Page 14, 15 Feb Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 34, 24 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 3, 2 Mar Crewe Guardian.

#####

3 June 1995 (Date of Event)

6 June Evening Sentinel Page 4

7 June 1995 Crewe Chronicle Page 4

Also Crewe Guardian.

Leonard Cheshire home Fate - The Theme was a Celebration of the War Years. .

The Sandbach players stand at the fate was set out in 1939 -40's style with Second World War costumes and raised £56.

28 June 1995 Crewe Chronicle Pic and Feature Page 16.

Feature on Sandbach players looking for new members to join them. (Pic of "Pack of Lies")

28 June- 1 July 1995

AN EVENING OF ONE ACT PLAYS

1) **NONE THE WISER**

by Anthony Booth

Incl; Debbie Rhodes as Sister Rose
Elsie Thomason as Sister Angela
Jane Banham as Sister Jean
Gill Pickering as Sister Edith
Kay Johnson as Sister Bess
Margaret Boschi as Sister Susan
Susan Woodward as Sister Vera

2) **THEY CAME TO A COTTAGE**

by Mary Nield

Incl; Jane Banham as Mabel
Margaret Boschi as Mrs Margaret Leslie
Debbie Rhodes as Valerie
Gill Pickering as Bunty
Lisa Graham as Joan

3) **PASTICHE**

by Nick Hall

Incl; Ian Skeldon as Medford
Susan Woodward as Lady Alexandra Tanford
Jane Banham as Viola Vionysse
Alex York as Sir Peter Tanford

All Three plays

Director Tony Keeley
Stage Manager Chris Banks
Assistant Stage Manager David Barlow
Lighting Alan Hughes-Jones
Sound Stewart Green
Prompt Lisa Graham, Kay Johnson and Margaret Boschi
Props The Cast
Stage Crew David Barlow, Mark Scott, Mark Banham and Tony Keeley
Front of House Manageress Jennifer Hughes-Jones
Bar Manager Ken Brown.

Pic and Feature Page 5 and 16, 28 June Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 1, 29 June Crewe Guardian.

#####

29 July 1995 Barbecue (BBQ) held at Jill and Ken Brown's house.

2 August 1995 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chairman	Margaret Boschi
Vice Chairman	Chris Banks
Secretary	Derek Jeynes
Treasurer	Kay Johnson
Technical Manager	Alan Hughes-Jones
Publicity	Debbie Rhodes

26- 27 August 1995 Crewe Carnival - Stall Raised £90 Approx

3 September 1995 (Date of Event)

2 Sept 1995 Evening Sentinel Page 1.

The Sandbach Players held their 3rd Duck Race at Macon Way River. It Raised £102.

#####

18 -21 October 1995 BEDROOM FARCE
by Alan Ayckbourn
Incl; David Berry as Ernest
Margaret Boschi as Delia
Mark Scott as Nick
Lisa Graham as Jan
Ian Skeldon as Malcolm
Debbie Rhodes as Kate
Mark Wade as Trevor
Alison Jones as Susannah

Director Keith Noble
Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones
Assistant Stage Manager Jane Banham
Lighting Chris Banks
Sound Stewart Green
Props Ingrid Flemming
Scene Painting Ingrid Fleming, Debbie Rhodes and Chris Banks.
Front of House Manager David Barlow
Bar Manager Ken Brown

Pic and Feature Page 18, 11 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 17, 12 Oct Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 4, 12 Oct Evening Sentinel.

Pic and Feature Page 24, 13 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

29 October 1995 Car Treasure Hunt

16 February 1996 50 YEARS OR 100 YEARS OF THE SANDBACH PLAYERS (S.A.D.S.).
Stewart Green (Historian of the Society) discovered that another society had been in Sandbach before the "Players". **The Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society** were performing a play called "The

New Secretary" at the Town hall exactly 100 years ago according to an article called "Glancing Back" in the Sandbach Chronicle. Having told the society that it is only 50 years old this year (1995-6 Season) this was brought into doubt with this article. As no one remembers this society pre war it is possible that it folded before the 1939 war and thus the name is pure coincidence when it was used by the society in 1946. (see other file about plays this society performed)

#####

21 - 24 Feb 1996

THE FARNDALE AVE HOUSING ESTATE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD
DRAMATIC SOCIETY MURDER MYSTERY

by Walter Zerlin Jnr and David Mc Gilvray

Incl; Margaret Boschi as Mrs Reece
Sue Woodward as Thelma
Val Jeynes as Felicity
Jane Banham as Audrey
Gill Pickering as Inspector O'Reilly
Sonja Roberys as The Producer

Director Lin Bosbury
Director's assistant Lisa Graham
Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones
Assistant Stage Manager Debbie Rhodes and Ian Skelton
Lighting Chris Banks
Sound David Barlow
Props Derek Jeynes and Sonja Roberts
Front of House Manager Stewart Green
Bar Manager Ken Brown

Pic and Feature Page 6, 14 Feb Crewe Guardian.

Feature Page 12, 15 Feb Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 40, 16 Feb Sandbach Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 7, 22 Feb Evening Sentinel.

Pic and Feature Page 34, 23 Feb Sandbach Guardian.

EXTRA INFO

Part of the scenery used for this production was also used in the original Sandbach Players version on the 12-16 October 1982. The Fireplace that falls down was the object it was originally painted by Stewart Green and he kept in his garage from the last time. Stewart also painted the scenery for this production including the suit of armour.

A copy of the cover from the 1982 production was also used as the outer page of a quiz that patrons could do while they waited for the play to start.

#####

17 - 20 Apr 1996
(163 Plays to date)

PARTY PIECE

by Richard Harris

Incl; Mark Scott as Michael Smethurst
Lisa Graham as Roma Smethurst
Margaret Boschi as Mrs Hinson
David Jackson as David Hinson
Alison Jones as Jennifer Hinson
Ian Skeldon as Toby
Debbie Rhodes as Sandy

Director Julie Hargreaves
Stage Manager and Set Design Alan Hughes-Jones
Assistant Stage Manager Derek Jeynes
Lighting Chris Banks
Sound Stewart Green
Props Ruth Fieldhouse and Irene Melville
Front of House Manager David Barlow
Bar Manager Ken Brown

Pic and Feature Page 44, 4 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 14, 10 Apr Crewe Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 37, 19 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 4, 19 Apr Evening Sentinel.
Pic and Feature Page 21, 26 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

21- 22 June 1996 (Event)

13 June 1996 Crewe Guardian Page 10.

The Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild held a "ONE ACT FESTIVAL" at Sandbach School with the help of the Sandbach Players who would act as hosts for the event.

The Adjudicator for the weekend (Fri / Sat) would be Colin Snell who will judge plays by 8 societies, Davenham Players, Wilmslow Guild Players, Moulton Drama Group, The Club Theatre, Bollington Festival Players, Fulcrum Theatre Group, Frodsham Players and Nantwich Players. Prizes were presented at 9.10 on Saturday Evening.

27 June 1996 (Date of Awards Night)

4 July 1996 Evening Sentinel Page 1.

The Sandbach Players have been awarded the Bramwell Cup for the Best Set design at the recent Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild Awards night held at Manchester Airport. The award was for the play "Party Piece".

29 June 1996 (Event)

Summer Garden Party (Old name Barbecue (BBQ) held at Jill and Ken Brown's house.

50th ANNIVERSARY EVENT.

27 July 1996 The Sandbach Players Celebrated 50 Years. (See Events below)

3 July 1996 Crewe Chronicle Page 7.

12 July 1996 Sandbach Chronicle Page 20 (See Below)

With the help of Muriel Farnworth Smith and Stewart Green a list of Ex members addresses was compiled. Each past and present member was sent an invitation (Sent out 1st May) to join the society at a special event in the School to celebrate the half century.

12 July 1996 Sandbach Chronicle Page 20 and 21 (See Above)

MILESTONE REACHED IN AMATEUR DRAMATICS

This article featured in the Sandbach Chronicle was compiled from the script used for a celebratory video that had been put together by Stewart Green. It went through the whole history of the players from its start to the final play of the 50th year with many stories in between. If anything this was a highlight of the Anniversary as it actually celebrated the event.

27 July 1996 THE EVENT

A brochure was issued for the event below are some of the contents.

WELCOME

on behalf of the 50th Anniversary committee.

It seems the task of organising this event fell to me , almost because I was one of the few with anything like enough history with the group. After all, my 27 years span over half the period we are celebrating. There seemed an outside chance that I might even know half the people I was attempting to invite. The most surprising thing, being how many names had passed through our records in my time alone. I struggled to remember the names let alone the faces. So perhaps I too will be renewing long lost friendships as people arrive. We actually noted almost 400 names by careful study of records and minute books. I am grateful to Stewart Green for undertaking this mammoth task. Finally over 150 addresses were found and invitations sent out. We also decided that our patrons too deserve an invitation to join us. After all many have supported us through thick and thin, from one location to another, to leave these staunch supporters out would be most wrong.

Over 100 people are due to attend this event today (27/07/96) and I reckon there should be a real cross section of members from across the years, as well as a number of patrons and guests.

On a personal front I would like to thank my anniversary committee for their efforts and I look forward to a superb evening in the company of friends old and new. CHRIS BANKS (Chairman 50th Anniversary Committee)

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 7.30pm Reception
8.00 Official Welcome from Stage
8.10 Break - Time to Chat
8.30 A Series of Sketches on stage
(Incl; Victoria Wood, French and Saunders Sketches and "Like it always is"(see below)
8.50 Break
9.15 Buffet will be available
9.30 SP (SADS) Video Presentation by Stewart Green.
9.45 Musical interlude (Full audience participation)
10.05 Much needed Break
10.15 Time for a little light music - grab a partner, the tempo will be easy.
10.45 Turn up the heat.
11.30 The Bar regrettably, closes.
12.pm Time to review the situation.

50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Margaret Boschi	Drama Production
Debbie Rhodes	Publicity and Displays
Kay Johnson	Catering Co-ordinator
Mark Scott	Musical production
Alan Hughes Jones	Stage Management
Stewart Green	Video Presentation
Ken Brown	Bar Manager
Chris banks	Database management and Chairman of the Committee.

A play called "Like it always is" written by Chris Banks was performed.

GUESTS INVITED TO THE EVENT Featured in Sandbach Chronicle Cutting Cake.

2 August 1996 Sandbach Chronicle Page 22

Mrs Muriel Farnworth Smith

(Mr Chris Banks)

Mrs Alma Bebbington

Coun. Tom Thomson

Mrs Bessie Welsby

Borough Mayor Coun. Mrs Ann Thomson

(Margaret Boschi)

50 Years of the Sandbach Players and the end of a era.

50 YEAR CELEBRATIONS MY OPINION by Stewart Green.

The celebrations of 50 years were not in my opinion a celebration they seemed to fall flat.

My own part in the evening was to produce a video history of the society. In my opinion it should have complimented the rest of the days events but it turned out to be the high spot of what was a dull day. In the next few weeks after the video was shown John Powell, Bessie Welsby, Muriel Farnworth Smith and various others said that it was the best part of the evening. But enough of the self gratification. Lets talk about the year and my reasons for the disappointment.

Ten years ago we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the players with an exhibition of the history newly discovered by myself. We also staged "The Importance of being Earnest" a worthy play to make the celebrations work. Afterwards we held a cake cutting and a general social meeting with the audience joining the celebration. The following day we held a private dinner at the Saxon Cross Motel for members to celebrate this milestone. It was all organised by a committee made up of about 6 people who all had an interest in the event and were helped by other members of the society. Every little detail of the events was known to all (The exception to this was Bessie Welsby who we couldn't tell about the

surprise dinner at the Motel as it wouldn't have been a surprise.), we even talked about what we would do for our 50th anniversary. One thing I was keen to do for the 40th was to re do the play "Without the Prince" the very first play. We had discovered the scripts in a tin box in the loft of the Little Theatre but decided to stage "The Importance of being Earnest" as it would be a crowd pleaser that the audience would recognise, saving "Without the Prince" for the 50th year, a much more appropriate date to stage it.

By the time the 50th anniversary had arrived things had changed within the society, many of those who had helped to make the 40th anniversary a great success had left the society. The society was being run by a committee who met in secret and made decisions by themselves without the knowledge of a general meeting. It was at one of these meetings that Chris Banks was given the task of organising the events. The next we heard was the part we would play in the proceedings. I had suggested making a video of the history to be shown at the event, this was given the go ahead at the committee stage and with the help of a friend of Sue Woodward's (John Winsor) we put the pictures onto video and edited it with a soundtrack narrated by me onto mini disc. I had repeatedly asked members of the committee to view the finished tape but they were always too busy so it was not until the night that everyone except myself and John Winsor saw the programme.

As the evening went on I became more and more nervous until the start of the tape. Still wondering how people would take the presentation and the pictures of members from their youth I became happier standing at the back of the hall when the audience started laughing at the right spots in the narration and at pictures of people like John Powell from his earliest production. Afterwards I was congratulated on the production.

Let me go through my memories of the other events ;

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

7.30pm Reception Among those greeted was the Borough Mayor Coun. Mrs Ann Thomson and her husband Coun. Tom Thomson who were left alone for most of the evening, many of us felt embarrassed that we had invited her to the event and she had not had a chaperone or was spoken to by the committee for the rest of the evening. Rumours that she spent the night drinking didn't matter it was just that we were not catering for her. I was unable to help as I was looking after the technical side of the evening and taking photographs of the evening for the history file as this was the largest gathering of ex members of the society.

8.00pm Official Welcome from Stage / 8.10pm Break - Time to Chat

8. 30pm A Series of Sketches on stage Including writing by Victoria Wood, French and Saunders Sketches. These were very badly performed. It was also the first time I knew that they were being performed, all I was told was that their would be a sketch by the stage staff called "Like it always is". When I first got the script I felt let down as the quality of writing was bad (Sorry Chris) and in my view it was not appropriate to the event. It would have been better to have done it at a private do for current members not in front of the public.

9. 15pm Buffet will be available

9. 30pm SP (SADS) Video Presentation by Stewart Green. See Above for the story and other CD Page for script.

9.45pm Musical interlude (Full audience participation) Again another surprise on the day, it was like watching a very old karaoke evening with songs that made the evening feel very tacky.

10.05pm onwards.

The rest of the evening was spent in talking to past members and watching them leave early. From what I remember, when the Disco started all people that were remaining were the current members.

The above are my memories. If you have memories yourself please contact me to include them on this CD ROM.

6 August 1996 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chairman Tony Keely

#####

6 August 1996 WHAT'S FOR PUDDING ? (After the AGM)

by David Tristram

Incl; Alex York as Jack

 Val Jeynes as Mary

 John Winsor as Ted

 Gill Brown as Maureen

Derek Jeynes as Dennis
Director Debbie Rhodes
Prompt Ken Brown

STEWART GREEN (Own History).

6 August 1996 AGM

This was the last meeting that I attended as I handed in my resignation via the secretary to the next meeting. (officially left 14 August 1996)

CANCELLED

30 Oct - 2 Nov 1996

GASLIGHT Postponed due to a lack of Stage Builders.

by Patrick Hamilton

Feature Page 11, 3 Oct Crewe Guardian.

Feature Page 9, 4 Oct Eve Sentinel.

Pic and Feature Page 13, 24 Crewe Guardian

12 Feb -15 Feb 1997

GASLIGHT Postponed again due to a lack of Stage Builders.

Pic and Feature Page 15, 9 Jan Crewe Guardian. (Advert)

Pic and Feature Page 7, 10 Feb Crewe Guardian.

9 -12 Apr 1997

SHAKERS RESTIRRED

by John Godber and Jane Thornton

Incl; Debbie Rhodes

Sharon Windsor

Lisa Graham

Alison Jones

Directed by Margaret Boschi

Feature Page 10, 2 Apr Crewe Chronicle

Pic and Feature Page 2, 3 Apr Crewe Guardian

Pic and Feature Page 1, 4 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

(During August 1997 the above show won the "Adjudicators award"
at the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild Awards)

14 May 1997 Crewe Chronicle Page 13.

The Sandbach Players are facing a membership crisis. They are holding an open evening to recruit more technical staff on the 16 May 1997 at 8pm (Fri) at Sandbach School.

Picture shows Chris Banks, Alan Hughes-Jones and Derek Jeynes.

16 May 1997 (Event)

Open Evening to get new members held at Sandbach School.

15 August 1997 Sandbach Chronicle Page 16.

The Sandbach players have been awarded the "Ajudicators Award" for their production of "Shakers Re-stirred" at the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild awards. (See 9-12 Apr 1997).

The play also recieved nominations for Best Lighting, Sound and Best Director award's.

(Debbie Rhodes Publicity officer)

Picture of Debbie Rhodes, Sharon Windsor, Lisa Graham, Alison Jones and Margaret Boschi

#####

29 Oct - 1 Nov 1997

FUR COAT AND NO KNICKERS

by Mike Harding

Incl; Margaret Boshi as Edith Ollernshawe

Mark Simms as Kevin Ollernshawe

Alison Jones as Deidre Ollernshawe

Syd Smith as Nip

David Jackson as Peter Ollernshawe

Dave Parry as Mark Greenhalgh

Alan George as Father Finbar Molloy

Mavis Dixon as Barmaid at Oddfellows

Lisa Graham as Annie
David Sant as Reg
Directed by Lin (Lyn) Bosbury
Pic and Feature Page 51, 2 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.
Pic and Feature Page 2, 9 Apr Crewe Guardian.
Pic and Feature Page 4, 10 Apr Evening Sentinel.

#####

21 August 1998 Sandbach Chronicle Page 19

Debbie Rhodes has been appointed publicity officer for the Players. She will succeed David Sant. The article also mentions that the players were performing **The Rocking** in October and that Margaret Boschi and Verity Mullock have been nominated for awards at the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild Awards this year.

6 September 1998

Duck Race at Macon Way

Pic and Feature Page 1, 10 Sept Crewe Guardian.

#####

14- 17 Oct 1998

THE ROCKING

by D.H. Lawrence Adapted by Robert Meadows

Incl; Sue Woodward as The Mother

Paul Sloss (14 Year Old)

Jenny Fletcher (School Child)

Lucy Smith (School Child)

Director John Lonsdale (Sandbach School)

Pic and Feature Page 22, 7 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 16, 8 Oct Crewe Guardian.

2 November 1998 Evening Sentinel Page 7

The Sandbach Palyers are looking for new members. They are holding an open evening on Monday 9 November if anyone is interested in joining the society.

9 November 1998 (Event)

Open Evening to get new members.

30 January 1999 Evening Sentinel Page 5

Bernard Edwards (Councillor) and Brian Branson (Managing director of the company that built the Wheelock Bye pass) have been made Honorary members of the Sandbach Players.

7- 10 Apr 1999

PULL THE OTHER ONE

by Norman Robbins

Incl; Syd Smith

David Sant

Derek Jeynes

Irene Cunliffe

Keith Hindley

Alison Jones

Debbie Rhodes

Directed by Debbie Rhodes

Pic and Feature Page 52, 1 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

24 July 1999

HOBSON'S CHOICE

by Harold Brighouse

Incl; Keith Hindley as Hobson

Dave Hannam as Willie Mossop

Sue Woodward as Maggie

Chris Cleaver as Dr MacFarlane

Graham Wright as Tubby

+ 7 Other cast members

Directed by Margaret Thomas

Pic and Feature Page 25, 23 July Sandbach Chronicle.

27- 30 Oct 1999

THE HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN

by Martin Downing

Incl; Chris Cleaver as Baron Victor von Frankenstein
Alan George as Ygor
David Sant as the Monster
Gill Pickering
Norman Graham
Derek Jaynes
+ 3 Unknown in Photo

Director Debbie Rhodes

Pic and Feature Page 18, 22 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

Unknown 2000

SALT OF THE EARTH

by John Godber

#####

2 - 5 Aug 2000

BIG BAD MOUSE

by Philip King and Falkland L Carey

Incl; David Hannam
Emma Deakin
Joanne Carter
Debbie Rhodes
Mark Wade

Directed by Margaret Boschi

Pic and Feature Page 9, 21 June Crewe Chronicle.

AWARDS

Oct 2000

SALT OF THE EARTH

(Won Best Lighting, Sound and Direction, Mid Cheshire theatre Guild)

#####

18 - 20 April 2001

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

by Alan Ayckbourn

Incl; Mark George as Greg
Ruth Arnold as Ginny
Alison Jones as Sheila
Alan George as Philip

Director Debbie Banks

Stage Manager Brent Cresswell

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound David Muncaster

Props Christine Mathews

Wardrobe and Bar Manager Yumi Muncaster

Front of House Manager Ken Brown and Ian Hannam

Pic and Feature Page 7, 10 Apr Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 52, 20 Apr Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

24 - 27 Oct 2001

VISITING HOURS (Best Poster award Nominated)

by Richard Harris

Incl; Emma Owen
Norman Graham
Sandra Patrick
Syd Smith

Directed by Debbie Rhodes

Pic and Feature Page 19, 18 Oct Crewe Guardian.

Pic and Feature Page 24, 19 Oct Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

13- 16 Feb 2002

ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE

by Joe Orton

Incl; David Hannam
Alison Jones
Richard Sadler
Alan George

Directed by Mark George

Pic and Feature Page 1, 8 Feb Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

19 July 2002 Sandbach Chronicle Page 48.

The Sandbach Players have been awarded the "Best Poster Award" for the production of "Entertaining Mr Sloane" at the Mid Cheshire Theatre Guild awards held on the 10th of July.

Sid Smith was also nominated for the Best Supporting award for his performance as the Grandad in "Visiting Hour".

Picture of Debbie Rhodes, and Sid Smith with their awards.

#####

24 - 26 Oct 2002

NO SEX PLEASE WERE BRITISH

by Anthony Marriott and Alistair Foot

Incl; Emma Owen as Frances Hunter
Chris Hughes as Peter Hunter
Zoe Evans as Barbara
Alison Jones as Susan
Norman Graham as Brian Runnicles
Tony Nickson as Leslie Bromhead
Therese Hickland as Eleanor Hunter
Phil Manning as Mr Needham
Mark George as Det Superintendent Paul
Ruth Arnold as Delivery Woman
Debbie Banks (Voice) Tv Newscaster

Director Debbie Rhodes

Stage Manager Alan Hughes-Jones

Prompt Ruth Arnold

Lighting Chris Banks

Sound David Muncaster

Props David Evans

Front of House Manager Debbie Rhodes

Bar Manager Yumi Muncaster

Pic and Feature Page 4, 23 Oct Crewe Chronicle.

#####

COMMITTEE

Chairman	Debbie Rhodes
Vice Chairman	Tony Nickson
Treasurer	Ruth Arnold
Technical Director	Alan Hughes -Jones
Secretary	Emma Owen
Life Members	Chris Banks, Judy Baxter, Joyce Hall

#####

23- 26 Apr 2003

BEDSIDE MANNERS

by Derek Benfield

Incl; Alison Jones
Phil Manning
Mark George
Tony Nickson
Ruth Arnold

Pic and Feature Page 8, 15 Apr Crewe Chronicle.

#####

30 July - 2 Aug 2003

TRIAL AND ERROR

by Kenneth Horne

Incl; Ruth Arnold

Tony Nickson
Deborah Banks
+ 3 Others

Pic and Feature Page 25, 18 July Sandbach Chronicle.

13 September 2003 MURDER MYSTERY EVENING
A fund raiser for the Sandbach Players is a "Dinner/ Murder Mystery Evening" with guest acting group
"Murder to Die For" who present "Dinner with the Don" at St Michael's Church Hall, Ford Lane,
Crewe.
#####

13 Dec 2003 CONFUSIONS +
 by Alan Ayckbourn
 Incl; Norman Graham
 Ruth Arnold
 Phil Manning
 Kimberley Fielding
 Giles Hodges

(Only part of the play was performed as part of an evenings entertainment along with -
TARPOLEY SILVER BAND (Brass Band - Musical interludes)

The above performances were in the "Maxwell Davies Centre" at the School.

Pic and Feature Page 3, 26 Nov 2003 Crewe Chronicle.

Pic and Feature Page 68, 5 Dec 2003 Sandbach Chronicle.

15 Dec 2003 PLAY READING from "BABE: THE SHEEP PIG" by Dick King-Smith.
 (This will take place in the room above the Rehersal Room at the school
 Pic and Feature Page 68, 5 Dec Sandbach Chronicle.
#####

18 Apr 2004 SANDBACH TRANSPORT FESTIVAL
 The Players has a float aboard a Galliard horse and cart.
#####

Oct 2004 PERFECT PITCH
 by John Godber
#####

11 Dec 2005 AN INSPECTOR CALLS
 by J.B. Priestley.

 At Bradwall Village Hall

19 Dec 2005 AN INSPECTOR CALLS
 At Sandbach Town Hall
#####

1 April 2006 EDUCATING RITA
 by Willie Russell
 At Sandbach Town Hall
 Incl; David Munchester as Frank
 Eloise Desogus as Rita

Pic and Feature Page 15, 30 March Crewe Guardian.

3 June 2006 Performance at Winsford Festival. (PLAY UNKNOWN)
#####

7 June 2006 JOINING THE CLUB (1Act Play)
 by David Tristram
 At Hale One Act Play Festival.
#####

24 June 2006 PROSCENOPHOBIA
 by Bettine Manktelow
 At Sandbach Town Hall
 Pic and Feature Page 27, 1 June Sandbach Chronicle.

#####

CHAIRMAN (PERSON) OF THE SOCIETY

1946		W.J. Sambrook (Jack)
Apr	1951	Ireen Lee
25 Apr	1955	Muriel Farnworth- Smith
8 May	1961	Ian Hammonds
27 Apr	1964	Ian Berry
18 July	1966	Muriel Farnworth-Smith
9 June	1969	John Powell
26 May	1971	Margaret Sugden
15 May	1973	John Powell
UNK poss	June 83	Elsie Thomason
18 June	1986	George Reynard
24 June	1987	Lin Bosbury
29 June	1988	John Kelleher
21 June	1989	Pat Mellor
22 June	1993	Margaret Boschi
6 Aug	1996	Tony Keely
Pre	2003	Debbie Rhodes