



6 May 2015

Dear societies

I hope you are all well and that and looking forward to the summer and the forthcoming season of shows. There have been some fantastic shows performed by Guild societies at the Carriageworks Theatre, Morley Town Hall and Adel & Ireland Wood Community Centre, and it's been a pleasure to see some great pieces, as well as seeing so many people from societies collaborating together, with faces in some productions recognisable from different societies.

Some of it has been addressed at the open forum, but this is a wider note to let you know what's going on.

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Workshop and LAC set

As you may know, the Guild have purchased the set off Leeds Arts Centre, at a cost of £3,000 and it is currently in the workshop. If you haven't been in to the workshop for a while you may notice that it looks quite different to how it has looked previously. Myself and the Exec thank everyone who was involved in moving the set, and who are working down in the Workshop. It is a work in progress but by everyone working together, it is developing and coming on and soon it will be a much different place to how it was this time last year.

We have been asked who the members of the Workshop Resources Committee are, so here is a list:

Steve Fryatt  
Judith Huntley  
Paul Myers  
Tina Nutt  
Dave Peters  
Pete Sandles  
Matt Stirk  
Barry Unwin (advisory)

Most of these names should be familiar to you and your societies, so these are your main contacts for the workshop in co-ordinating activities and requirements.

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Bridewell Move & Croydon House

The Bridewell at Leeds Town Hall has served as our storage facility since we moved

to the Carriageworks from the Civic Theatre 10 years ago, but as we have previously said, we are required to be out of the Town Hall by the end of August. As you'll appreciate, there will be a fair amount of logistical planning in getting the stuff from the Bridewell to Croydon House, however I want to take this opportunity to remind you that you are responsible for your own areas and transport and disposal of your society props, set and costumes. We will be working with Leeds City Council on how the move out of the building will work and keeping you all up to date.

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### 2015/2016 Theatre Hire Costs

The new costs were issued at the recent Open Forum, and your committees have been sent through the new costs, which have gone up slightly.

Leeds City Council don't fund the Guild, however they have stated on many occasions that they are supportive of us, our activities and want us to remain an integral part of the Carriageworks Theatre. The rates we pay for rehearsing and theatre hire are much less than they would be if we were an external group wanting to hire the venue and in a time where austerity seems to be the keyword and the council has to make savings, a small increase in the hire charges is reasonable.

The theatre have no intention of pricing us out, as we make up a substantial amount of the revenue the venue gets, and the increase that are given to us are also given to the non-Guild organisations.

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### Carriageworks 10th Anniversary

November sees the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Carriageworks Theatre and there is going to be a week long event, starting on 11 November, the focal point of which will be a Guild show. Anita Adams has been brought in to lead on a show will be a look back at ten years of the Guild, the Carriageworks and indeed Leeds itself. We will be looking to include some pieces from some past shows, to find out if members past and present would like to be involved and most importantly to create new pieces combining talents from across the Guild. There is an ideas meeting in May that your society chair's have been invited to so that they can pitch in ideas and suggestions and from the (hopefully!) vast selection of suggestions, Anita will put together a show. This is a show in addition to the Guild Awards, so there is going to be a lot going on, but it should be great fun. We will have more on what is going on after the meeting.

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### Guild Awards

This is plenty of advance warning as the Guild Awards 2015 will be Saturday 5th September and we will soon be in touch with the winners from last year to arrange for the return of the trophies. We would also like you to start thinking of pieces to

perform at the Awards as part of the entertainment, and it would be great if there are pieces of upcoming shows you want to highlight as in previous years but all suggestions are helpful.

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## AGM

Another date for your diaries as the LCAG AGM is due to be held on Monday 7 September 2015. Further details will be sent out soon.

Enjoy the upcoming LCAG shows and hopefully I will see you there.

David Wheatley  
Chair of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild

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LCAG Website: <http://www.lcag.org.uk>

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