



**FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH
COMMUNITY THEATRE VISIT GROUP
DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER**

After the recent long newsletter, with Christmas and New Year greetings, I wasn't intending to write to you again until early in the New Year. However, some recent comments have led me to send to you one or two reminders and the promise of a more detailed message early in January.

There is also one piece of news at the end and it would help to get any early reactions to that.

First, the reminders:

1. Please make sure that those of you who have booked to see GUYS AND DOLLS, A CHRISTMAS CAROL and HAMLET have responded to any outstanding requests from Sharon for final payments. Travel information has been sent out already for at least two of these shows and any which remain to be provided will be written over Christmas and posted to you in early January.
2. It is very probable that we will be arranging a first visit by the Group to the Duke's Playhouse in Lancaster probably on 3rd March 2018. This will be to see a special adaptation of the novel HARD TIMES which was written by Charles Dickens. The setting of course was Preston which was named Coketown in the novel. The production will be by the wonderful Northern Broadsides Company. We have seen them perform on a number of occasions and never been disappointed.

3. Our last newsletter gave information about two residential visits planned for 2018. One was an overnight stay in Stratford-upon-Avon (to include the option of seeing ROMEO AND JULIET) and returning via the National Arboretum at Stoke-on-Trent. The other, in early October, will be a four night stay at a lovely hotel in Buxton, in the Peak District. We are working currently on the details of the itineraries and the costs and will announce them in early January.

4. Some of you will know that in 2020 the very famous OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY will be performed throughout the summer. This occurs every tenth year, to fulfil a very ancient promise by the local people, and in 2010 we led a party to Germany for a 6 night holiday. The tour companies we worked with are beginning to make their own arrangements and if we are to repeat our visit we will need to make some tentative reservations ideally before Easter 2018....payment would not be required then but maybe a deposit. This genuinely is an amazing experience and visitors come from all over the world. Costs reflect that and, including tickets, flights and hotel rooms, the cost for a 6/7 night stay will be at least £1500. It is probable that if there is sufficient early interest (totally without commitment) I will call a meeting before Easter for interested people. Please let Sharon or i know if you might have an interest. 2020 is a long way off but.....

Finally, and once more, every good wish for Christmas and the New Year.

Ken Wales