Target Achieved in Less than 18 Months
By Bruce Reed

Less than 18 months after launching the appeal for funds to install air conditioning to the main theatre auditorium we are delighted to announce that the appeal target has been reached and the generosity of our supporters and patrons means that we have an additional amount that will allow for us to incorporate other small additions to the proposals.

Apart from those little red buckets, which, once again have excelled and raised the amazing amount of £8000 the FOBs, have given donations totalling £10,000 and there have been other substantial personal donations which have ensured the success of this project.

Contractors have been appointed and the theatre will officially close from 1st June through to the 6th July for the works to be completed. This is a very tight programme for the installation but we are confident that the system will be in operation for the charity concert, Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance 3 which opens on the 10th July.

All of the major works will be contracted out but we do need your help also please, at the beginning and end. The works will be concentrated in the loft area over the auditorium and when the ceiling is opened for the air distribution grilles to put in place there will be much dust, that horrible dust only found in old lofts and which penetrates everywhere. We already have seat covers but do not want these to be ruined so if you have any old cotton bed sheets or clean dustsheets which you are able to donate please do bring them down to theatre next time you come and they will be used over our existing covers. We need them for early on Sunday 1st June please.

Apart from protecting the seats, all the stage lights have to be removed from the stage and auditorium, stage curtains and fittings are to be taken down and the building generally left suitable for the works to proceed from the following day when contractors arrive on site.

So any help with this will be welcome and as this Sunday is also a Sunday Club day why not come and help with preparations and then join us for a drink in the bar.

Following the major part of the works and prior to final commissioning the auditorium has to be thoroughly cleaned, re-dressed with lights and curtains etc ready for the reopening and any help over the last weekend of June and during the following week days will be gratefully received.

If you think you may be able to assist please let me know either by email at Barntheatre@btinternet.com or telephone 01959561811 or 07802302025, or simply turn up.

To all of you that have made this latest vision a reality a huge thank you from everyone at the Barn.