

Order your copy online

Copies of a new book celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Dukinfield Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society can be ordered online.

David Owen and Paul Wadworth have joined forces to document the last 75 years of the society, created in 1946.

Their book, entitled 'Act One Beginners, Please', features chapters on each decade of the group, full cast lists, a review of the performances, lots of nostalgic photographs and more.

With 260 pages dedicated to the history of the society, it has taken years to complete and is set to be released on February 18, the same date as the society came into being.

Priced at £15, details about how the book can be pre-ordered will be released on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/DukinfieldAODS>

The Tameside local studies library will also be stocking physical copies of the book, but David encourages business to get in touch if they'd like to distribute and stock some of their own.

Latest laptop delivery for children from IT company

By Adam Higgins

An IT support company in Dukinfield has supplied much-needed laptops for pupils at an Oldham school to support their learning from home during the current lockdown.

Alexandra Park Junior School in Glodwick is one of the latest schools to have benefitted from the appeal led by ZenTec Network Solutions, after Cerid Grimshaw and business partner Mike Brooks put the call-out to encourage people to donate old technology so it could be refurbished and donated to families who need it.

While schools remained closed to the majority of pupils, online learning has become the tool of the modern teacher for supporting youngsters at home.

Stephanie Griffin, deputy head teacher at the Brook Lane school, said: "We are delighted to have received this kind donation for our families.

"Many are struggling to access remote learning through mobile phones and some children are sharing devices with their siblings so they can't always access work or live lessons.

"We know just how important this will be to them, we can't thank ZenTec enough for how they are supporting schools and pupils in the local area."



SPECIAL DELIVERY: Pupils at Alexandra Park Junior School with the latest laptop deliveries from Dukinfield's ZenTec Network Solutions.

Samantha Nicholson-Hickling, Year 5 teacher at the school, added: "We recognise that not everyone has a stable internet connection at home, or access to a laptop or tablet to do online learning.

"It's been an uphill struggle to provide the best for our families, especially those who have no device.

We thankfully have an amazing team around us who are doing their absolute best to support the children working from home."

The school has accessed and ordered laptops via the scheme ran by the Department for Education on behalf of the government, but has had to look further afield to ensure they received

as many devices as possible to support families.

Some families have also been offered data bundles for their mobile phones, or routers to support a more stable internet connection.

Heading up the hunt for devices is Simone Corry, a member of the school admin team.

She said: "We are incredibly grateful to ZenTec for their help in supplying our school with devices to assist our children with home learning.

"We have had a lot of families who have been working on one mobile phone between siblings and made it our mission to be able to supply all our families with at least one device and we have almost reached our goal.

"We appreciate all the support and kindness from ZenTec in helping our children access learning from home."

As previously reported, ZenTec Network Solutions have been busy refurbishing computers and iPads for children locally and wider afield.

Among other schools to benefit are Ravensfield Primary in Dukinfield, Buckton Vale Primary in Stalybridge, St Anne's Primary School in Denton, Stanley Road Primary in Chadderton and Horton Mill Community Primary in Glodwick.

The company has already sent out more than £7,500 worth of technology and has now spent over £2,000 refurbishing devices.

They have set up a GoFundMe page to raise £10,000 so they can continue refurbishing tablets and laptops to help children learning from home.

You can donate at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/helping-children-learn-from-home>

The company continues to ask businesses and individuals to continue with any donations of unwanted desktops, monitors, laptops, tablets (Windows and Mac) in working order which can be refurbished then given free to children whose families cannot afford computers to help with their studies.

If you can help with donations call 0161 359 3986.



MISSION: Cerid Grimshaw and Mike Brooks at ZenTec Network Solutions in Dukinfield.

Still time to take on the Dragons' Den

There is still time to apply for this year's Dukinfield and Stalybridge Rotary Club's 'Dragons' Den' challenge.

The Rotary Club runs the event annually so that local charities and community groups can apply for Rotary funding for a project during the forthcoming year. Despite the lockdowns, this year will be no exception.

Club President Judi Kelly said: "We ran the Dragons' Den last year during the first national lockdown and gained valuable experience in how to conduct it virtually.

"Then our Local Heroes presentations later in the year gave us the opportunity to stage an event using Zoom, which was a great success. We plan to put all the skills we've learned to good use now in running the Dragons' Den this year.

"We recognise that local charities are seeing an increase in the demand for their services during the pandemic whilst often experiencing a drop in income, whether from individual donations or

from funding. With that in mind we felt it was more important than ever to hold the Dragons' Den again this year and give those charities and local groups an opportunity to apply for Rotary funding for a project that will benefit the local community.

"In the recent past our Dragons' Den has donated to a wide range of charities including those helping children and young people, animal welfare charities and those providing community facilities or services.

"We hope to see a similarly wide range of applications again this year."

To apply email rotarydands@gmail.com or call 07478 946454 for an application form. The deadline for applications is March 22 and the criteria for entry is charities or local groups located in Dukinfield, Stalybridge or Mossley with a project that will benefit the local community.

The Den event is planned for Thursday, April 29 on Zoom.

Online



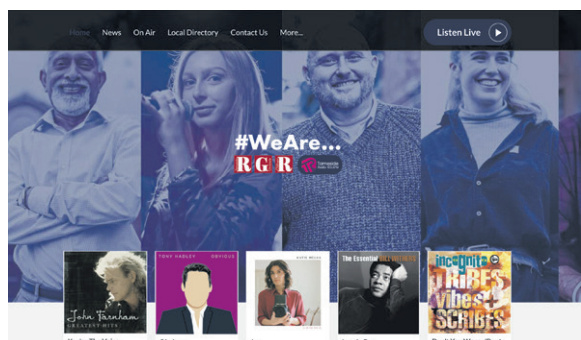
HERE TO HELP YOU...

ADVERTISE WITH US

650,000 monthly visits to our website

Over **70,000** followers on social media

Over **2 million** people reached every month across our social channels



www.questmedianetwork.co.uk

For more information contact: 0161 379 0240

