

BUSY BUSY!

This where the hard work starts as we present our first play of the season, hold auditions for productions coming up and generally get in to the swing of things.

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The summer art exhibition ended on 26th August. There was a very good attendance and we are delighted with the number of art works sold. A big thank you to all visitors and exhibiting artists. Attention now turns to the Spring Exhibition at Batley Town Hall between 11th February and 25th March 2017

Whilst the Park Mansion was very pleasant, because of the uncertainty surrounding its future, there will be another change of venue for next year's summer exhibition. The Victoria Hall is used increasingly for other things and alternative rooms at the Town Hall are not really suitable. The Art section have, therefore, chosen St Paul's church in Mirfield. Quite apart from being an impressive and beautiful building, it is next to the existing arts hub at the Eastthorpe Gallery.

More details will follow nearer the time.

The opening social evening on 7th September attracted over sixty people keen to learn more about the group. Each director was on hand to give a description of their production and explain how people could get involved.

The evening was rounded off with entertainment from Hugh Raine, Chris Fletcher, Richard Brook and Ben Telford otherwise known as The Podolski Players. It was their first attempt at a scripted live show.

To hear it, go to the website and then to the podcast.

First year youth drama classes started on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th September. Existing members were so pleased to see each other after the break that there was much excited chatter as they caught up

with what they had been up to over the summer. New members came with a look of trepidation but left the sessions with beaming smiles

The classes are open to children aged 11 and upwards. Volunteers and helpers are always welcome. Spaces are still available on Saturdays between 10.30 and noon. The cost is just £20 a year.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining the classes, please contact Maria Bailey on 0113 2049772 or 07586297492 or e-mail her: mandm90@btinternet.com

Life drawing sessions are held throughout the year. They are open to all members and take place *each Wednesday between 7 pm and 9 pm.*

Play readings are held throughout the year. This is the chance to have a go at a variety of different parts in one evening in a relaxed informal atmosphere. Now that he has got *The Ladykillers* out of the way, Chris Ward (01977 301405) will supply dates and times for future numbers.

The foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery features the work of the late David Longbottom. David's family have decided that DAG should benefit from the sale of this eclectic mix of paintings and prints. 50% of the proceeds will be given to the group.

The exhibition for *The Adventures of Ebenezer Scrooge* will feature the work of Lesley Bohanna

After every production the set needs to be struck to make room for construction of the next one.

If you can, please join Chris Ward on *Sunday 9th October from 10.30 a.m.* onwards to help with this important task.

David and Judith Wood have lovingly kept and collated every script, poster and programme for everything the group has ever done. Work is now in hand to create a library for this material in Room 3. More details of this project to follow.

Over the years the group has amassed a sizeable wardrobe. However, we need to declutter. Big thanks then to Sue Daniels and her band of helpers who have bagged up and thrown out unwanted costumes. To free up Room 3 and to make space for our new library, we need a final effort. Please ring Sue on 01924 495998 if you can join her on *Monday 7th November at 7 p.m.*

The museum at Crow Nest Park Mansion is at risk of closure following a review by Kirklees Council. This has caused very great concern amongst members.

The group has been kept abreast of developments by The Friends of Crow Nest Park who are to make a presentation at the cabinet meeting at which a decision is to be made.

Publicity officer Sue Saville must have ticked the box for no publicity. The list of committee members with the last *Digest* did not include her contact details which are: 01924 408197 or 07866087985.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRODUCTIONS

16th October 2016: *The Professor of Adventure*, a professional production starring Peter Macqueen.

Meet true English eccentric Millican Dalton, in a one man show celebrating his unique outlook on life.

22nd to 25th November 2016 (evenings) plus matinees on 19th 20th 26th and 27th November 2016: *The Adventures of Ebenezer Scrooge*

Join that well known Victorian misery on a journey from grumpy miser to better person and find out whether after all he still thinks Christmas is all a load of old "Humbug!"

BOOK NOW (Flyer attached)

(Valid for season tickets)

8th to 10th December 2016: *A Seasonal Old Time Music Hall*

Once again, ladies and gentlemen, feast yourselves on the febrile ferocity of The Good Old Days and our celebrated Buffet Supper.

BOOK NOW (Flyer attached)

TICKETS

www.dewsburyartsgroup.info or call the Ticket Source box office on **03336663366**

AUDITIONS

11th October 2016 at 7.30:

The Vertical Hour

A wonderfully angry and tender play, it examines the cultural, philosophical and familial tensions between an articulate and passionate former war correspondent, her student partner and her partner's lethally charming father.

20th October 2016 at 7.30:

Time and The Conways.

This is one of Priestley's time plays. Intriguing and dramatic, it is a challenge to the actors who, with one exception, need to be able to age about 25 years in the course of the play and then revert to their original ages.

3rd November 2016 with runs through on 12th and 26th October 2016, all at 7.30:

Assassins

Perhaps the most controversial musical ever written, it requires a company of versatile singers and actors who will find this production a very challenging and rewarding experience.

Find out more on the website: www.dewsburyartsgroup.info or from our secretary Jacky Fletcher : 01924 505861 or jackym.fletcher@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (cont)

ART ACTIVITIES

Life drawing sessions

(Between 7 and 9 p.m.)

October

5th (Room 3) : costumed model

12th, 19th and 26th (Room 1)

November

2nd and 9th (Room 1)

16th and 21st (Room 3) : costumed model

2017

Spring exhibition

11th February to 25th March

Batley Town Hall

Summer exhibition

17th to 23rd June

St Paul's church Mirfield

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Striking the set

Join Chris Ward on **9th October** from 10.30 a.m. onwards

Coffee afternoon

29th October 2016 from 12.30 to 3 (ish)

This is an initiative by Lacey Telford to create an Italian style coffee house. It will be straight after the youth classes. So, rather than rush away we hope people will stay back and join members and friends alike to enjoy a variety of Italian coffees. There will also be proper tea served from interesting tea pots in to the very best china. Home made cakes (yes, cakes) are included at moderate charge. Should a curious Italian pass by we can offer Espresso from the pot

As well as eatables and drinkables, I.T wonks will be there to help you navigate the online booking system.

Do please join us for a bit of Dolce Vita

Wardrobe clear out

Join Sue Daniels and the gang on Monday **7th November** from 7 p.m. onwards.