

DAG DIGEST

News reviews and previews from
Dewsbury Arts Group

November 2016

YO HO HUMBUG

With our first main production out of the way we look forward to the festive period with a story of redemption, a mesmeric multiplicity of musical mementoes and a baker's dozen.

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The Ladykillers got the season off to a cracking start. Re-imagined for the stage by Graham Linehan (Father Ted, Black Books) the play stayed faithful to the gentle whimsy of the Ealing Comedy film. A strong ensemble cast coped well with a set on two levels and was well received by 90% capacity audiences.

Peter Macqueen gave a bravura performance as Dalton Millican the "Professor of Adventure" on Sunday 16th October. For two hours Peter drew his audience in to Dalton's simple world, eking out an existence in a cave up a Cumbrian hillside subsisting on coffee and fags. The event was well supported and enjoyed.

The Artist members' social evening will be a film evening on 30th November at 7.30. Light refreshments will be provided. All DAG members are welcome.

The Foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery features the work of Lesley Bohanna. All works are available to for sale.

The first play reading of the year took place on 26th October to breathe life into Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None". However, there was not much of the cast left at the end of the evening. Everyone had the chance to try a variety of characters they might otherwise not have thought to have a go at. The next reading will be of *Luther* by John Osborne on 14th December at 7.30. For more information ring Chris Ward on 01977301405 or e-mail chriswardofackworth@yahoo.co.uk

Youth drama classes continue apace. During the Autumn term the classes for all year groups have focussed mainly on

+ team building exercises including script and improvisation work;

+ exercises with a strong focus on developing characters followed by improvised scene building with those characters;

+ movement, spacial awareness and basic scene building using different theatrical styles;

+ exercises using poetry for dialogue and performance. These can vary from the nonsense of *The Jabberwocky* to the sombreness of *Dulce et Decorum Est*.

Groups will also look at using music in relation to scene building.

After the legendary Christmas party in December the groups will break up until 6th and 7th January.

There are still some vacancies for the first-year group at a cost of just £10 for the Winter/Spring term.

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

It was decided on 3rd October to close Dewsbury Museum this month. To find out more or to get involved you may wish to e-mail Jenifer Devlin of The Friends of Crow Nest Park jeniferd@tiscali.co.uk

A goodly number of folk turned up on 29th October for our coffee morning. Organised by Lacy Telford, a wide range of proper coffees, teas and delicious cakes and buns were served up. Steve Goddard himself looked particularly fetching in his pinny. The response was very encouraging and it is hoped that this is the first of many.

After every production the set needs to be struck to make room for construction of the next one. If you can, please join Steve Goddard after the final performance on *Sunday 27th November from 5 o'clock onwards.*

Just as importantly, we need to build the set for the music hall. As the first performance is now on 6th December it only gives us a week to do it.

Therefore, please join David Fletcher on *Monday 28th November at 7.30* to make a start on this very important task. If you can put your hands to the pump, please give David a ring on 01924 505861.

The group has not quite as sizeable a wardrobe as it used to have. Big thanks to Sue Daniels for organising a further assault on 7th November to get rid of unwanted costumes. Gradually, Room 3 is being freed up to make space for better use of the recording studio and for our new library. Ben Telford has been busy collating the scripts for virtually every production the group has performed. Programmes for everything the group has ever done are also being collated.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRODUCTIONS

6th (new date) and 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.

As the Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances sold out almost before the ink was dry on the tickets, we can now offer a performance on Tuesday 6th December. This is already over half full, so hurry.

To book tickets it is best that you ring David Fletcher on **01924 505861**

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th January 2017 at 7.30: *Bakers Dozen*

The Group are pleased to host Malcolm and Carol Parkinson, Richard and Kathryn Buxton, Stephanie Roe Helen Fox and friends as 13 people serve up healthy portions from all 13 Gilbert and Sullivan operettas including the 13th musical item from each one. This is a tasting menu with not a soggy bottom in sight.

See flyer attached.

BOOK NOW

Tickets for this production are not available on the website or from Ticket Source. Instead, **contact Stephanie Roe: 07810447183**

21st and 23rd to 28th January 2017
The Vertical Hour by David Hare

Nadia Blye is sure of her place in the world and her opinion of it. Until, that is, she meets her boyfriend's father, an equally opinionated and charming man over a weekend in Shropshire. His intervention has far reaching consequences for them all.

See flyer attached.

BOOK NOW

(Valid for season ticket holders)

TICKETS

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

RETURNS

If for any reason you are not able to attend a production you have booked for please do let us know as soon as you can by telephoning Jacky Fletcher on 01924 505861. The sooner we hear from you the sooner we can make those tickets available. This is particularly important where there is a production like the music hall with a high demand for tickets.

ON LINE BOOKING

If you have not yet dipped your toes into online booking, come on in, the water's lovely. As David Fletcher has built up quite a number of frequently asked questions, give him a ring on 01924 505861 and he will do all he can to help.

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUDITIONS

3rd (not 31st) January 2017 from 7.30

The Odd Couple, by Neil Simon

Brian Gibson is looking for four guys to play poker, two women out for a good time, a slob and a clean freak. He would also like people to turn up to audition for this classic comedy. Production dates are 28th and 29th April and 1st to 6th May 2017.

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

ART ACTIVITIES

Life drawing sessions

(Between 7 and 9 p.m.)

November

21st (Room 3): costumed model

2017 dates to follow

Spring exhibition

11th February to 25th March 2017

Batley Town Hall

Summer exhibition

17th to 23rd June 2017

St Paul's church Mirfield

Entry forms will be issued to artist members by the end of the year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Striking the set

Sunday 27th November 2016 at 5 p.m.

It would be really helpful if people can help to get this done so that we can make a clean start with...

Building the set for the music hall

Monday 28th November from 7.30

We have only a week to get this done. Full houses await and we want them to have something spectacular to look at.

Artist members' social

Wednesday 30th November at 7.30

Play reading

Wednesday 14th December at 7.30

Luther. John Osborne's 1961 play depicts the life of Martin Luther. Plenty of parts to have a go at.