

# DAG DIGEST

News reviews and previews from  
Dewsbury Arts Group

April/May 2017

## MAYDAY! MAYDAY!

It's all happening at once.

### In this number:

- \* Time and the Conways
- \* Whose Show is it anyway?
- \* Festival News
- \* Foyer Exhibition
- \* Spring Exhibition
- \* Life Drawing Sessions
- \* Script Archive
- \* Clear outs/set strike
- \* Parking
- \* Front of house staff
- \* Dates for your diary
- \* Ticket information
- \* Returns
- \* Audition

***“Time and the Conways”* by J B Priestley, was a terrific piece of theatre.** Another strong cast conveyed the post war optimism of the twenty somethings of the Conway family and contrasted it with the “reality” of their

lives twenty years later. By the end of the third act, when the action flicked back twenty years to where it had left off, the audience was left to reflect on the “what ifs?” thrown up. Was it reality or reverie, a tragedy waiting to happen or one that could be avoided?

***“Whose Show is it Anyway?”* played to good houses for two nights in March.** Richard and Kat Brook, Hugh and Lucie Raine Chris Fletcher Dan Henry and Ben Telford presented an eclectic mix of improv. A svelte Richard Brook will now hit the mean streets of that London in the London Marathon with an extra £714 in the NSPCC kitty. Thanks to all for your support.

***“Acting Leader”* won through at Bridlington and will contest the semi-final of the All England Theatre Festival at Saltburn on 6<sup>th</sup> May.** In a case unprecedented some people may wish they were divisible in to three. 6<sup>th</sup> May is the last night of “The Odd Couple.” We are also playing host to a meeting of the Little Theatre Guild (LTG) when 22 representatives of small theatre groups from the northern area are to gather to talk about all things theatrical, have tea and watch the play. Three opportunities to show case the group and they all come at once. Every good wish to the team in Saltburn; those who cannot get there will want to catch up with you in Bridgewater on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

**The Foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery features the work of Bruce Mulcahy.** Produced *en plein air*, the practical

difficulties of working outdoors in all seasons are put to one side as the important thing for him is to react directly to the landscape and the colours, textures and light of the moment. All works are for sale.

**The Spring Exhibition at Batley Art Gallery concluded on 25<sup>th</sup> March.** It was very well received as this selection of comments shows:

*“Absolutely brilliant, what a lot of gifted artists, so varied in their skills. We have talent up north, eh?”*

*“A fantastic selection, vibrant and subtle, beautifully curated.”*

*“Excellent and varied as always. Need to keep this exhibition space and library”*

**Life Drawing sessions continue every Wednesday evening.** No experience necessary, just turn up.

**Ben Telford has now completed the curation of the script library.** He has catalogued over two thousand scripts for over nine hundred titles. David Wood has kindly donated a copy of each one of his plays. The plan now is to make these works available to a wider audience. N.O.D.A. and the LTG are to be circulated. Anyone wanting to access material should contact Ben Telford whose contact details are [mrtel@hotmail.com](mailto:mrtel@hotmail.com) 0113 8058142 and 07507260082. Grateful thanks go to Ben for his assiduous attention to this significant task.

**After the last performance of every production the set must be struck and the decks cleared for the construction of the next one.**

We also try to get rid of stuff that has not been seen since Adam was a lad. We need as many as possible on the morning of **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May** from 10 onwards **to strike the set** and make a start on the big clear out planned for the **working day on 21<sup>st</sup> May**.

**Parking in Lower Peel Street is challenging.**

We must be considerate to our neighbours. To avoid a performance being halted, a registration number being read out and a walk of shame to move your vehicle (as nearly happened a couple of times during Time and the Conways) please respect the entrances on both sides of the street. We plan to erect signs showing where to avoid. Please also give yourself plenty of time to park and where you can, make use of the car parks at the other side of Bradford Road.

**We are always grateful to those who come along to help front of house.** Welcoming our audiences and making sure they are well catered for is an integral part of every production. If you would like to help in any way (perhaps selling programmes or coffee tokens at a performance you are coming to) please contact Jacky Fletcher on 01924 505 861

**To make the switch from the paper version of DAG Digest to an e-Digest, please e-mail [jackym.fletcher@gmail.com](mailto:jackym.fletcher@gmail.com)**

The envelopes containing the paper version will still be in the tray by the booking office ready for collection by those attending productions. Please remember to swing by and keep in touch with all that is happening.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### PRODUCTIONS

**23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July**

#### **“Assassins”**

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by John Weidman.

Perhaps the most controversial musical ever written, it follows nine individuals who attempted to assassinate a President of the United States.

#### BOOK NOW

See flyer attached

Valid for season tickets

**6<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

Festival play: **“Acting Leader”**

Saltburn Community Theatre

**This is the semi final of the All England Theatre Festival.** We have been allocated 15 tickets for the Saturday evening performance. Please contact Maria Bailey on 0113 204 9772 or Sheenah Taylor in Saltburn: 01642 2481638 or [sheenataylor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheenataylor@hotmail.co.uk) The winners go through to the English Final in Bridgwater on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

**16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**The Youth Section** members are working on **three one act plays**

1<sup>st</sup> years: **“Someone”** by David Foxton.

2<sup>nd</sup> years: **“Sleeping Dogs”** by David Foxton

3<sup>rd</sup> years: **“Table for Six”** by Matt Bailey

See flyer for details.

**TICKETS (Artspace productions)**  
[www.dewsburyartsgroup.info](http://www.dewsburyartsgroup.info) or call the **Ticket Source** box office on **03336663366**

**RETURNS** Please telephone David Fletcher on 01924 505861 or email [dewsburyartsgroup@ntlworld.com](mailto:dewsburyartsgroup@ntlworld.com) as soon as you know you cannot come.

#### AUDITION

1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 at 7.30.

#### ***Entertaining Angels.***

This funny, touching and thought provoking comedy calls for Grace, a spikey, no holds barred recently bereaved vicar’s wife, a calm spiritual, empathetic (though deceased) vicar, their psychotherapist daughter with marital problems, Grace’s quirky, warm and playful missionary sister and the new young, female vicar struggling with the prospect of her first ministry.

**Find out more** on the website: [www.dewsburyartsgroup.info](http://www.dewsburyartsgroup.info) or from our secretary Jacky Fletcher: 01924 505861 or [jackym.fletcher@gmail.com](mailto:jackym.fletcher@gmail.com)

## ART ACTIVITIES.

### ***Summer Exhibition***

**17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017**

St Paul's Church Mirfield. Details of the preview and opening times will follow in the next number

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### ***Striking the set***

**7<sup>TH</sup> May 2017 from 10 a.m.**

**This is a vital job that we can flatten in an hour or so.** There was a good turn out after Time and the Conways and it would be good to see the same again after The Odd Couple. A bit of graft and then down the pub by lunchtime.

### ***Working Day***

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2017 10 a.m. until whenever**

**A chance for everyone to contribute to decluttering the premises** We fight a constant battle to avoid being overwhelmed by the stuff we accumulate and to make space to accommodate everyone and everything. This is particularly true of the workshop/backstage area where we want to make everything more accessible. It would be helpful if you could let David Fletcher know whether you can come along by giving him a ring on 01924 505861

### ***Barbeque and Treasure Hunt***

**9<sup>th</sup> July 2017 from 1 onwards**

Relax in the garden, eat drink and be merry and if you are brave enough, try and get in to the head of Stanley Accrington. Fun for all the family.

**See flyer attached.**