

DAG DIGEST

News reviews and previews from Dewsbury Arts Group

September 2017

BACK TO IT

We look forward to the new season in our refreshed premises

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The opening social evening on 6th September attracted between fifty and sixty people keen to learn more about the group. Each director set their stall out to give a description of their production and other stalls dealt with front of house and back stage jobs. Those attending were encouraged to visit each stall to get a stamp so they could enter the related competition.

The evening was rounded off with entertainment from Hugh Raine, Chris Fletcher, Richard Brook and Ben Telford, otherwise known as *The Podolski Players*. They presented a radio show. The radio version of the Sudoku competition (complete with solutions) sticks in the memory.

The group took part in the Heritage Open Weekend on 9th September. Despite the atrocious weather, which impacted on numbers, several people new to the group came along. Co-ordinated by Steven Goddard, it was a good social event and a good team building exercise. Publicity in the Heritage Weekend brochure was very positive for the group. As ever, Lacey Telford's cakes and coffee were very popular. A big thanks to all concerned, especially the significant number of youth members who turned out.

First year youth drama classes started on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd September. The classes are open to children aged 11 and upwards. Volunteers and helpers are always welcome. Spaces are still available at a cost of 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*. Full details can be found in the “Dates For Your Diary” section.

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. The first will be on Wednesday 26th October at 7.30. Whilst the play has yet to be chosen, Chris Ward (01977 301405) will chose one that can involve as many people as possible.

The foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery features the work of Dennis Palmer. Dennis has exhibited and sold art at exhibitions and shows mainly in West and North Yorkshire. He now restricts his work to the Spring and Summer exhibitions at DAG to which he is a long standing contributor. His work varies from the figurative via the stylised to the abstract working in acrylics on paper or canvass with a particular emphasis on the use of pattern. He trained as a lecturer at Bretton Hall College of Education and taught at schools in Batley and North Leeds, the latter as Head of Art.

Work to the auditorium has now been completed; it is truly something to be proud of. Look out for one or two finishing touches to the premises generally, inside and just as importantly, outside. No longer will be a “hidden” gem.

After every production the set needs to be struck to make room for construction of the next one. If you can, please join Tony Fox on *Sunday 8th October from 10.30 a.m.* onwards to help with this important task.

Over the summer there has been a sizeable wardrobe clearout. For some time, there has been a progressive declutter. However, a full clearout this summer became a necessity because of a significant moth problem. Big thanks to Jacky Fletcher Helen Fox and Sue Daniels and their band of helpers who have bagged up and thrown out unwanted costumes and taken the opportunity to evaluate everything. They have identified a number of costumes that are either too small or now too precious to be used on stage. *It has been decided to offer those items for sale at a Vintage Fair to be held at the National Coal Mining Museum on Sunday 26th November.*

As we display their posters, West Yorkshire Playhouse very kindly reward us from time to time with free tickets for their productions. We receive slips. All you need to do is ring the number and refer to the slip. To make it fair for all, the slips will be pinned on the noticeboard in the foyer next to the room allocations. Please help yourselves on a first come first served basis.

For as long as anyone can remember, Roger Holdsworth has been the group's photographer. He has taken thoughtful evocative photographs of every DAG production. Please take time to appreciate his work in the corridor between the kitchen area and the bar. Sadly, Roger has chosen to stand down; we welcome Mark Ashwell to take his place.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRODUCTIONS

19th to 21st October 2017: *The Best of Act It - Sing It*

An evening featuring the most popular items from our series of Act It – Sing It productions, coupling musical items from the best of Broadway and the West End with their source material.

BOOK NOW Tel: 01924 505861

21st to 25th November 2017 (evenings) plus matinees on 18th, 19th and 25th November 2017: *Gargling with Jelly. The Play!* by Brian Patten.

This is an extremely funny and entertaining family play where the baddy is bad, the goody is scatty and the goody's parents are witless. Join the fun and help Jimmy outwit the evil Dr Sensible.

BOOK NOW (Flyer attached)

(Valid for season tickets)

14th to 16th December 2017: *A Seasonal Old Time Music Hall*

Back by popular demand, 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

10th October 2017 at 7.30:

Handbagged, by Marie Buffini

Clever, witty and challenging, *Handbagged* calls for two Queens aged twenty years apart, two Margaret Thatchers aged twenty years apart and two actors to play everyone else from Arthur Scargill to Ronald Reagan.

24th October 2017 at 7.30:

All My Sons, by Arthur Miller

A compelling story of love, family secrets and the corrupting power of good. This is the chance to be part of classic Americana written by one of the greats of the age.

2nd November 2017 at 7.30:

The Music Man

A West End musical for all the ages packed with songs such as “(Ya Got) Trouble”, “76 Trombones” and “Till There was you”. That’s right; this one has tunes.

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

ART ACTIVITIES

Life drawing sessions

(Between 7 and 9 p.m.)

October 2017

4th (Room 2): Still Life.

11th (Room 1): Life, Helen.

18th (Room 3): Clothed, Roger.

25th (Room 1): Life, Rachel

November 2017

1st (Room 1): Life, Steve.

8th (Room 1): Life, Dave.

15th (Room 3): Still Life.

22nd (Room 3): Clothed, Ken.

29th (Room 1): Life, Helen.

2018

Spring exhibition

Batley Town Hall: tbc

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Striking the set

Join Tony Fox on **Sunday 8th October 2017** from 10.30 a.m. onwards

Playreading

Join Chris Ward on **Wednesday 23rd October 2017** at 7.30.

Wardrobe clear out

Come along to the stall at the Vintage Fair at The National Coal Mining Museum on **Sunday 26th November 2017.**