

DAG DIGEST

Reviews, news and previews from Dewsbury Arts Group

January 2019

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Millard Byron (who he?) had a wonderful night out at Aladdin, the Group's first pantomime. In his crit he rained praise on a cast that brought to life an Abanazar with baddie venom, an Aladdin who got every ounce of fun and feeling from this iconic role, a Wishee Washee with huge energy and gangling legs with a mind of their own and a dame who was everything a pantomime dame should be. All of this was backed by a skilful chorus of junior members, colourful costumes and slick staging. The whole run was sold out a fortnight beforehand. So, to see the next offering, "book early!"

The Old Time Music Hall once again entertained the hardy souls who braved the winter weather. The chairman introduced an amorphous amalgam of adulatory artistes culled from the four corners of the labour exchange. Artistes who had appeared before the caravaners of Crosland Moor, the golfers of Wath and the Magistrates at Ponte Carlo and Cas Vegas. It was also a chance to celebrate and acknowledge Gordon Balmforth's elevation to be a B.E.M.

For the Youth Section, at the infamous Christmas party a fun time was had by all. There was plenty of food to feast on and the highlight of the evening was the playing of traditional party games such as "Stirring the porridge" and the eating game (usually quite messy). The Buff team were back on top this year. Plays are currently being chosen for the Junior and Senior groups for them to perform at the Youth Theatre Showcase in May. For anyone interested, there are still a few places left for the Junior Group on Saturday morning. Please contact *Maria Bailey* on 0786297492

The eagle eyed among will have spotted that the Spring Exhibition cannot take place at Crow Nest Park. Whilst it would have been exciting to return to the

park, it will be just as exciting to be at our usual home at Batley Library between 9th February and 23rd March.

Please accept the invitation attached to attend the preview on Friday 9th February at 7.

All members are invited to come along to a meeting at the Artspace on Wednesday 6th February at 7 to consider a change to the criteria for entering work to be exhibited at the Group's art exhibitions. The proposal is that any member of the Group can enter their work to be considered for the Spring Exhibition and the Summer Exhibition without the need to be first accepted as an exhibiting member by submitting a portfolio of work. Because this would be a significant change, the Group wants to give all members a chance to discuss the matter and express their opinion. The Group really do want to know how members feel so please do try to attend and have your say.

COME AND MAKE YOUR MARK No, this is not an invitation to recreate our esteemed chairman in a sculpture medium of your choice but an opportunity to try your hand at still life. All DAG members are cordially invited free gratis and for nothing to come along for 7 o'clock on 13th February to have a go. All materials will be provided and help will be at hand. Go on, you know you want to. After you have released your inner artist, there will be a social get together with refreshments provided.

For the foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery we are pleased to feature the work of not one but two artists.

Andrew Bennett has been a member of the Group since 2006. He studied at Batley Art College and went on to graduate from Coventry University with a degree in Fine Art. He works mainly in watercolour. He has exhibited throughout Yorkshire and has works in private collections not only in the UK but also Belgium, the Netherlands and Australia. *Alec Jackson*, meanwhile, has been a member of the Group for ten years. He too works mainly in watercolours but more recently has been working with pastel for a series of portraits.

If you are interested in screen acting or any other aspect of film making, the DAG Film and Screen Acting Group is to be launched. The group will focus on writing and shooting short films, sketches, experimental work and anything else that might be interesting. The group would like to reach out to people interested in any aspect of film making whether as an actor, writer, director or as a member of the production crew. All aspects of production and post production will be covered. The intention is to create a series of short scripts, film them and then screen them at The Artspace. All aspects of production and post production will be covered. It is hoped to build towards work of sufficient quality that can be submitted to film festivals.

To find out more about this exciting new initiative, please come along to an initial meeting on **Monday 4th February at 7.30** when the scope of the project will be discussed in more detail. If you cannot make it, but would like to know more, please contact Mark Ashwell on 07870 914320 or mdashwell@mac.com

The Group retains on its databases contact details for members, season ticket holders and sponsors. Specifically, this is so we can communicate with them to keep them informed of the activities of the Group and to conduct the Group's business. Those details are not shared with any other party and will only be used by or with the authority of members of the committee. It is important that the secretary is notified if any details change in the future

By being a member, season ticket holder or sponsor you agree

- to your contact details and any other personal data and images to be held on the Group's databases;
- that the Group can use them for the specific purpose of contacting you about the Group's activities and for conducting the Group's business;
- that you understand that the Group will not supply them to any other person without first obtaining prior further express consent; and
- that at any time you can communicate to the secretary for the time being (by e-mail, telephone or in writing) that you no longer wish for those details to be retained.

Barbara's Wardrobe is hiring out costumes. Please contact Helen Fox on foxy.volpines@sky.com or 0787 2833704. Leave a message if need be.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRODUCTION

16th and 18th to 23rd March 2019

Pygmalion

By George Bernard Shaw

BOOK NOW (Flyer attached)

Valid for season ticketholders.

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

ART ACTIVITIES

Drawing sessions

Wednesdays between 7 and 9

Opening up to exhibitors

Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 7

Spring Exhibition

9th February to 23rd March 2019 at

Batley Art Gallery.

Come and make your mark

13th February 2019 from 7 p.m.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

DAG film and Screen Acting Group – initial meeting.

4th February 2019 at 7.30

MARK THE DATE-6TH APRIL

POP-UP AFTERNOON TEA

Full details next time