

DAG DIGEST

Reviews, news and previews from Dewsbury Arts Group

March

2019

LIGHTS ACTION TEA

* Come and make your mark

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Life x 3 is a darkly comic play of manners, conflicts and Cheesy Wotsits.

Set in a Paris apartment, two couples argue over child rearing, laddered stockings, infidelity and the meaning of life as the same scene is played out three times, each one leading to a different outcome. Although the concept is not, perhaps, as effective as, say, J.B. Priestley's *Time and the Conways*, this was ensemble acting at its best. Lucas Fletcher, playing the pre-corded six year old Arnand, was said by Ursula Dean to be a natural and one to look out for in the future."

Do please support the youth section, now in the midst of rehearsals for the Youth Showcase in May. They are to tackle two plays by David Foxton. The junior group will present *Daft*, a play set in Bradford in 1858 which explores the effects of a batch of peppermints that leaves people sick and dying. The senior group, meanwhile, will tackle *Showdown at Cayote Flatts*, a classic western tale in the best B Movie tradition.

If you haven't yet been along to the Spring Exhibition there is still time. It runs at Batley Library until 23rd March. After an enjoyable Preview evening, footfall and comments have been very encouraging.

A change to the criteria for entering work to be exhibited at the Group's art exhibitions has been considered. Several proposals were discussed at a meeting of the Art Section and members of the committee including whether 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. There was talk also of a youth class. All of this is directed towards encouraging increased participation whilst at the same time ensuring that standards at exhibitions are maintained.

The Art Section invited people to come and make their mark. Newcomers doubled the usual attendance. It was a very good night, friendly and welcoming. There was plenty of help on hand, which was all very encouraging and an exciting choice of five different still lifes to provide artistic stimulus. So stimulating in fact that several freshers have become regulars. Mark Bailey said “it was very enjoyable and I’d certainly encourage others to have a go as you never know what you are capable of unless you try. I’d definitely go again.” The Wednesday evening sessions are for everyone.

The Foyer exhibition in the Frank Mitchell Gallery will once again be provided by Andrew Bennett and Alec Jackson. Andrew 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 U.K but also Belgium, the Netherlands and Australia. Alec, meanwhile, has been a member of the group for ten years. He too works mainly in watercolours but more recently has been working in pastel for a series of portraits.

The Art Section continues to be active with weekly drawing sessions two annual exhibitions and exhibitions in the Frank Mitchell Gallery during productions. All this needs coordinating by an Art Secretary. Sue Daniels carried out this role but is shortly to leave for pastures new. If you would like to know more about what would be entailed, please contact *Jacky Fletcher on 01924 505861*

The fledging DAG Film and Screen Acting Group is forging ahead and has been very active. After a “getting to know you” meeting on 4th February, the group met again a month later when there was an introduction to screen acting and camera basics when the emphasis was on practicalities rather than theory. At the next session on *25th March at 7.30* people will be given the chance to shoot a scene and develop an understanding of how blocking both action and camera impacts on performance. There are already 30 people on the group’s list. If you are interested in getting involved please contact **Mark Ashwell on 07870 914320** or mdashwell@mac.com You don’t need to make every session or have any prior experience or technical knowledge. Just turn up and as you can see, there is a lot to get stuck in to

The Owl Pop up Coffee Shop’s latest social event is the Pop Up Afternoon tea on Saturday 6th April. Relax with a wide range of sandwiches teas and coffees or perhaps treat yourself to a glass of fizz. See the attached flyer for details.

With the AGM coming up the group will be looking for nominations for committee and officers. As well as an Art Secretary, we shall need a new treasurer after Chris Ward steps down and there will be elections for the committee as well as the appointment of the inaugural Art Selection Panel. Ever thought you might be up to taking a role? Why not have a think about how you could really contribute when the nomination forms come out?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRODUCTIONS

Bedroom Farce

By Alan Ayckbourn

4th and 6th to 11th May 2019

BOOK NOW

(Flyer attached)

Valid for season ticketholders.

Youth Theatre Showcase

17th & 18th May 2019

An evening of plays presented by the Group's Youth classes: ***Daft and Showdown at Coyote Flatts***

By David Foxton

BOOK NOW

(Flier attached)

ART ACTIVITIES

Drawing sessions

Wednesdays between 7 and 9

Spring Exhibition

9th February to 23rd March 2019

Batley Art Gallery.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

DAG film and Screen Acting Group

next session:

25th March 2019 at 7.30

Pop-up Afternoon tea

6th April 2019 at 1 and 3 p.m.

Two sittings: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Book early to avoid disappointment

(See flier attached)

TICKETS

(for the productions and afternoon tea)

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

If you have any queries regarding the booking, return or exchanging of tickets, please ring David Fletcher or e-mail: dewsburyartsgroup@ntlworld.com