To round off your evening, recommended by EBDG, The Royal Oak.



Whilst on Sundays Services are Rendered at 9 am and 6.30 pm....



ST PETER (13th Century) East Bridgford

# **EAST BRIDGFORD DRAMA GROUP**

PRESENTS

W. Somerset Maugham's



**MAY 1996** 

## ABOUTT-ONIGHT'S PLAY

This was Maugham's penultimate play, written in 1932. It is a very strong drama cataloguing the sufferings of war and their effect on a rmiddle class English family. It is also a savage attack on a society which had betrayed those who had fought and died for it in the First World Wair.

Maugham expercted it to be controversial and it was, running for only 86 performances (despite a cast including Ralph Richardson, Flora Robson and Cedric Hardwicke). It was condemned as "malevolernt propaganda" by a large segment of its middle and upper class audience.

Maugham had seen the suffering and destruction of the First War at first hand. He worked with the Ambulance Service using his medical training in an improvised hospital near Amiens where 300 wounded were treated by two doctors and two dressers.

Talking to his son many years later Maugham recalled that at the fiirst night the audience sat in complete silence at the end of Sydney's key speech (when he says that patriotism and honour are bunk). He said "I think it shocked them in a way, but I knew that I'd fiailed. I knew it was no use because they would never understand". From our perspective in the future perhaps we can offer more understanding. It is at least a timely reminder that this July is the 80th anniversary of the terrible Battle of the Somme.

## EAST BRIDGFORD DRAMA GROUP

Presents

## FOR SERVICES RENDERED

a play by

W SOMERSET MAUGHAM

First performed in September 1932 at the Globe Theatre, London

## FOR SERVICES RENDERED

by W Somerset Maugham

#### CAST

(in order of appearance)

Charlotte Ardsley Gertrude	Kate Thornburro
	Sarah Johnson
Sydney Ardsley	Peter Salter
Ethel Bartlett	Jean Starbuck
Gwen Cedar	Val Earlam
Lois Ardsley	Sarah Taylor
Wilfred Cedar	Michael Clarke
Eva Ardsley	Liz Morgan
Collie Stratton	Paul Gardener
Leonard Ardsley	Alan Haydock
Howard Bartlett	David Darby
Dr Prentice	Mike Scott

## **Directed by** Geoff Morgan

The action of the play takes place in the Ardsley's house at Rambleston, a small country town in Kent near the cathedral city of Stanbury in September 1932.

Act 1 A warm afternoon

Act 2 After lunch, two weeks later

Act 3 Late afternoon the following day

There will be an interval of twenty minutes between Act 1 and Act 2.

#### PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer Jeff Caur	nt
Stage Manager Bill Marli	n
Properties Len Jackso	n
Lighting and sound Jeremy Row	e
Set Design Paul Gardene	er
Nardrobe Val Earlam and Sarah Johnso	n
Make Up The Cas	st
Front of House Manager Reg Be	e

#### **OTHER CREDITS**

The set was built by members and friends of the Group.

Refreshments prepared and served by The Village People Venture Scout Unit and members of the group.

Mr Salter's glasses by Lancaster and Thorpe, Trinity Square.

The Group would like to thank:

The Royal Oak, East Bridgford for rehearsal facilities;

East Bridgford News for selling tickets; and

everyone who has lent us properties and items of costume.

#### NOTES ON TONIGHT'S CAST

Kate Thornburrow has been in the group for many years preferring to direct or manage the stage (which doesn't answer back). Occasionally we pursuade her to act. It is over a year since she was May in "Salt of the Earth".

Sarah Johnson is a new member of the Group taking to the stage for the first time. Let's hope we see her again soon. She has also bravely taken on a share in the Wardrobe co-ordination.

Peter Salter was last seen as Algernon in "The Importance of being Earnest" and before that Jeff in "The Curious Savage".

Jean Starbuck is well known on our stage, last appearing as Mrs Twine in "Rookery Nook" and before that as Gwendoline in "The Importance of being Earnest" she always has some kind advice for the less experienced amongst us.

Val Earlam makes her second appearance after combining prompting with a single line in "Rookery Nook". She has also shared the Wardrobe co-ordination for this play.

Sarah Taylor makes her debut with us after many years at Radcliffe Drama Group where she was last Deborah in "Happy Family" and Kate in "The Winslow Boy".

Michael Clarke makes a welcome return to our stage after a year away since he performed Lane in "The Importance of Being Earnest", he blames OFSTED.

Liz Morgan is well known to our regulars performing a great variety of roles in the last four years. She was last seen as Frances Cowdray in "Dead Ringer" giving Alan Haydock the kiss of life.

Paul Gardener making his second appearance following Nigel in "Dead Ringer". He has also demonstrated his set designing skills for this play, including building a superb scale model of our stage.

Alan Haydock an EBDG veteran well known on our stage, selling tickets, managing the Front of House. Alan was last seen in the dual role of Prime Minister and actor replacement in "Dead Ringer"

Dave Darby another well known face last seen as Gerald Popkiss in "Rookery Nook". Dave is also directing "Pack of Lies" for Radcliffe Drama Group's summer production.

Mike Scott appears in his third role for the Group after his appearance as Colonel Hardacre in Dead Ringer and Tosh in "Salt of the Earth".

### MEMBERSHIP OF EAST BRIDGFORD DRAMA GROUP

If you would like to join the Group, go on our mailing list for tickets or want to know more about us contact our Secretary, Christine Jackson on 0115 966 4088.

#### **NEXT PRODUCTIONS**

On 6 July we will be staging one of our occasional Charity Nights. This year it is to raise funds for the Shelford and East Bridgford Scout Group Minibus appeal. The evening will include entertainment and refreshment. Tickets will be available from early June.

Our next production will be the comedy "Seasons Greetings" by Alan Ayckbourn from 12 to 16 November 1996. Tickets will be on sale from members in September.

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W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S Thirties' from Tuesday to Saturday, directed by Geo drama, For Services Rendered, in which a family reaps the full rewards of its first world war efforts, will be presented by East Bridgford Drama Group in the village hall from Tuesday to Saturday, directed by Geo Morgan and produced by Jeff Caunt. Pi tured left to right are Jean Starbuck, Mik Scott, Kate Thornburrow, Sarah Taylor, V. Earlam and Peter Salter.