

As usual East Bridgford Drama Group would like to thank:

Frank Smith, Landlord at the Royal Oak, for providing our rehearsal facilities.

East Bridgford News and East Bridgford Post Office for selling tickets; also members and friends of the group who have kindly loaned furniture, props, and costumes, not forgetting all those who have helped with the set build and serving refreshments.

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New members are always welcome.



We are always in need of new members to act or to work backstage. As you can imagine there are numerous jobs that take a variety of skills for each production and there is always someone willing to teach any inexperienced person, all you need is enthusiasm, we were all new once! Don't just watch the telly, get involved in live theatre! We also hold play readings through the summer months and have social events. If you would like to join the group please ring our secretary, Michael Clarke, on: **01949 20682** or ask any member of the group.

Our Next Production

'Present from the Past' by Richard Everett

22nd-26th February 2005

The perfect finish to your evening, a visit to the **Royal Oak**, Main Street, East Bridgford; the group recommend its friendly atmosphere.

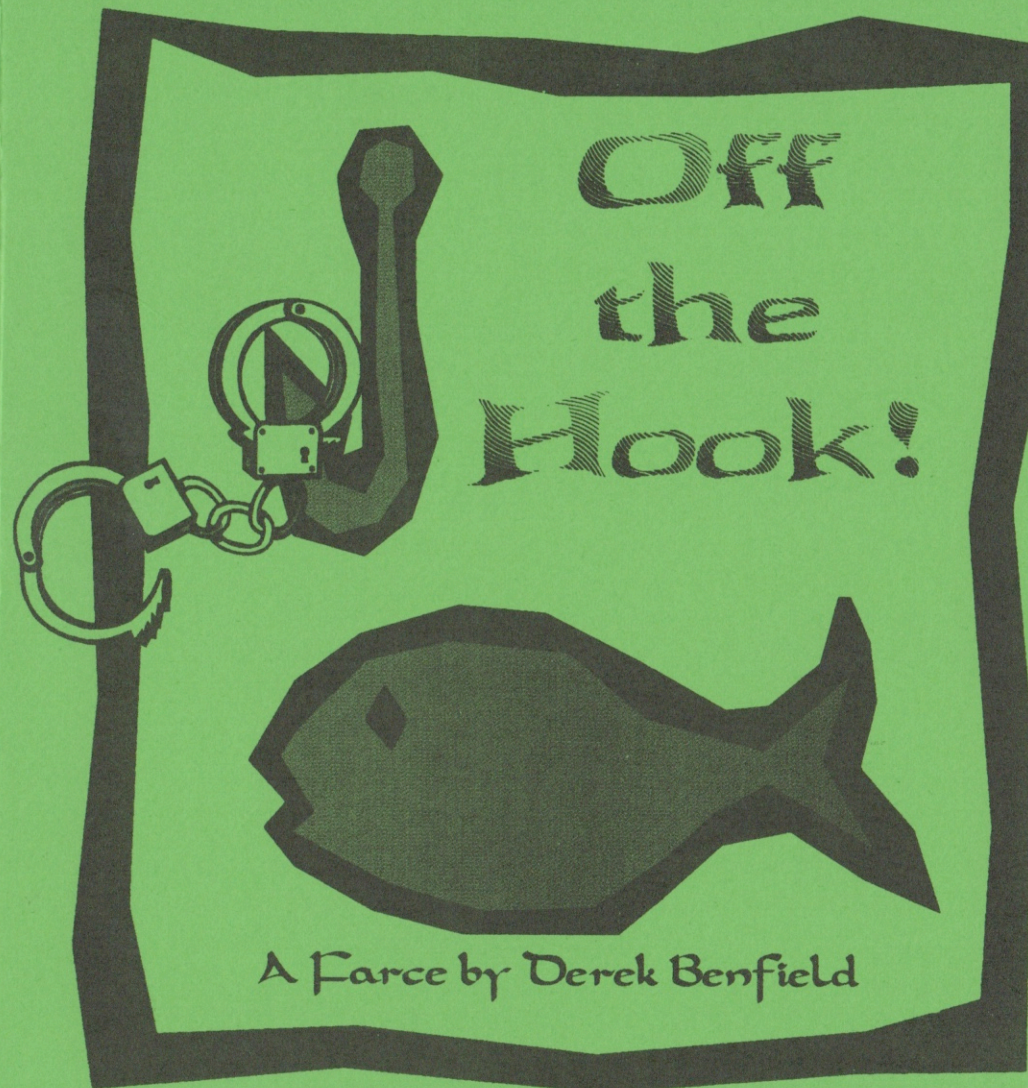


St Peter's, East Bridgford's 13th century church. Alan Haydock will make you very welcome.



East Bridgford Drama Group

Presents



Tuesday 16th—Saturday 20th November
2004

Off the Hook!

A Farce by Derek Benfield

Cast

Norah Catchpole	Freda Quinn
Edna, her sister	Molly Wood
Fred Baxter	Jeff Casterton
Major Catchpole	Simon Faithfull
Charlie Mullins	Malcolm Cope
Harold Spook	Alan Haydock
Mrs Fletcher-Brewer	Jean Starbuck
Carol, her daughter	Sarah Taylor
Polly	Victoria Pepper
Mr Parkinson	Reg Bee

Directed by Victoria Pepper

A Salter and Pepper Production

The Backstage Crew

Producer	Peter Salter
Set Design/Build Manager	Mick Quinn
Prompter	Barbara Sharp
Props	Diana Dwyer/Michael Clarke
Lighting/Sound	Clive Allen
Stage Manager	Kate Thornburrow
Front of House	Phil Blackmore/Ruth Casterton
Ticket Sales	Alan Haydock
Refreshment Manager	Sandy Hall

The action of the play takes place in the lounge bar of Hook House Country Hotel, somewhere in the country. Time: the sixties

Act One

Scene 1. An afternoon in Spring.

Scene 2. The same evening.

Interval

Act Two

Scene 1. A few moments later.

Scene 2. The early hours next morning.

About the Play

Take a small hotel and fill it with belligerent staff and strange guests, add three 'crooks' mix it up a bit and you have tonight's offering.

Derek Benfield has written many plays in a variety of styles and this play is very much in the Whitehall Farce genre. Many of you will remember the Brian Rix offerings of the 1960's on black and white TV.

Molly Wood plays one of the awkward staff (cleaning is what she does, that's all!)

Freda Quinn returns to our stage playing Norah, the Major's wife, who makes everyone very welcome (especially men).

Simon Faithfull makes his debut with the group tonight as Major Catchpole, who runs his hotel like the Captain--of a sinking ship!

Mrs Fletcher-Brewer is the perfect role for Jean Starbuck as she always excels at old battle-axes (type casting?).

Sarah Taylor plays Carol, a calming influence on Mrs F-B but will romance win out?

Jeff Casterton plays Fred Baxter the 'leader' of the gang of miscreants, but who would want to lead a band like this??

Malcolm Cope is Charlie Mullins, crook, romancer and, as things turn out, a 'Proper Charlie'!

Alan Haydock plays the hapless and hopeless Harold Spook. He doesn't want to be in a hotel, he'd like to be in H.M. Prison, warm, fed and tucked up in bed.

No doubt some of you were wondering why Reg Bee didn't welcome you on the door tonight; well he's on stage playing a deaf old man, Mr Parkinson (see Jean above!)

Our director, Victoria Pepper, appears tonight as Polly, a caring daughter who's taking her old dad on holiday; at least that's what it looks like, on the surface.