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August 2022

Monthly Newsletter

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September Launch

Friday 16th September 7pm

The drama groups calendar starts in September so we are beginning our year with a September launch. Friday 16th September, East Bridgford Village Hall, 7pm.

Bring along your own drinks and we will provide cheese, bread & crackers etc. It will give us a chance to catch up, share our news and chat about the year ahead.



There will be a slideshow of Chairperson's Challenge photos, Dingbat, guess the celebrity and what's the logo quiz sheets.

READING



Some of our directors will be talking about plays that are under consideration for the year ahead.

Please remember to email Cathy_ebdg@btinternet.com if you will be attending so we know how many to cater for.

This is an evening for our members but if you would like to know more about being a member please email Cathy_ebdg@btinternet.com.

Chairperson's Challenge

Members, please remember the chairperson's challenge, to take a photo of yourself (dress up optional) reading a play script.

Here we have Father Christmas enjoying the playscript
Rebecca.



November Play - Something to Hide

We have cast the next production, 'Something to Hide' by Leslie Sands. Leslie famously wrote many episodes of Z Cars and Van Der Valk and we put the play on in 2008 when it was directed by Len. The play is set in a converted toll house, in a small Essex village, the part-time home of the successful novelist Howard Holt and his wife and publisher Karen. Karen arrives unexpectedly one night and inadvertently runs over Howard's mistress with her car and kills her. They agree to dispose of the body and from this point on the true relationship unfolds between the pair as they double cross each other at every turn. The arrival of a detective adds a twist to the tale. Howard Holt is played by new member Adam Bowler, Karen Holt by Karen Peckover, Detective Davies by Hazi Mistry, the girlfriend, Julie, by Rebecca Cresswell, a local busybody, Miss Cunningham, by Diana Jackson, the cleaner, Stella, by Naomi Cope and the car mechanic, Will, by Mark Aldrich.

Members Spotlight

Meet Julz Dawson

Hi, I am Julz and I 'do' the lighting for the drama group. My wife Ro suggested that we join the group when we moved into the village. She thought it would be a good place to meet people and have some fun. She had done some acting before with another drama group, I hadn't and had no intention of, but I found a role none the less.



The picture is of me a while ago in Italy. The horse was called Punchinello, as far as I recall and given my skill at the time, was a fine animal with a great reluctance to canter. There aren't very many pictures of me, I'm mainly found behind the camera, and that is where I found myself a home in the drama club. Very much not on stage but behind the scenes, solving problems and shining lights onto the people who like to be seen.

I was fortunate that for the first few plays I had help from a very knowledgeable recently retired lighting man, Bob Massey. He showed me how to safely use the equipment, how it plugged together and gave me some idea about what the role is all about. There were other helpful people too and I soon got some idea of what lighting a play and stage is about.

Lighting isn't just sitting at the back during a performance, pushing buttons and pulling levers. It is that of course but it is also creative in designing how and what to use to get the desired effect. Being part of the crew who make the play look and feel how the director envisions it in their minds eye. Rigging the lighting, plugging the equipment together and setting it up, so that come play evening, it all goes as planned, well mostly.

Some plays have many lighting cues. One, Henry and Alice had over 120 and lighting was very much part of the performance. Others have very few, just fade up and down at the start and end of each scene. However, these too are creative endeavours. The lighting has to reflect just the right ambiance for the performance and then get out of the way and let the actor shine.

I have very much enjoyed my time learning how to use lighting and hope that over the years I have become a little better at it. I have helped make some changes to our equipment. Dragging the group from the late fifties into perhaps the last decade of the last century. Moving from fully analogue to a hybrid digital analogue chimera. Going fully digital and onto LEDs is the next phase, funds permitting. However, the age of the equipment and its limitations are not really the point. Using the rig we have to best get the effect you and the rest of the troupe want and have the audience not even notice is the point.

By the way, my wife was correct (as she always is), the drama group is a great place to meet, friendly, dedicated and welcoming people.

Free funds for our group!



We've registered East Bridgford Drama Group with #easyfundraising, which means over 6,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them.

These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eastbridgforddrama/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_source=social&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=gs-fl



Can you help?

We are seeking new members with an interest in lighting and sound.

Our two experts in this area are keen to garner support and are happy to provide training as necessary.

For those with some prior knowledge, we use the theatrical industry standard Qlab software for sound cueing on Apple Mac, over a 6 channel sound system, so some Apple knowledge would be helpful but is not essential.

On the lighting front the equipment is a mixture of old and older but does use current digital control methods. It's limits are mainly within it's operators so imagination and enthusiasm are mostly what is required.

The group is a friendly, sociable lot and holds regular club nights, makes theatre visits and generally has a great time together!



Anyone interested please contact ebdg@btinternet.com you will be made very welcome!



Jeff's Joke



HA HA HA

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