



Monthly Newsletter

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ebdg@btinternet.com

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<http://ebdg.co.uk/>



Hello to members and followers of the EBDG, I hope the start of 2023 has been good so far...Resolutions made - and broken? Exercise regime has kicked back in to conquer Christmas calories?

The workplace now feels like you've never been away as you look ahead to your next holiday!

So, however you are feeling, welcome to the first Drama Newsletter of the new year.

As usual members of the group have met up a couple of times this month: to watch Shrek the Musical at the village hall and to dine at Ashmores during a fun filled evening of "Quizzing & Entertainment!" Both evenings a great success!

I would usually to choose to hibernate through most of January but I've found myself co-directing the next play. Rehearsals are well underway for Breath of Spring and of course when it is performed in March we will have come through another Winter.

Bring on warmer weather and lighter nights.

Until next month, keep warm

Kind regards

Karen

Our Next Play - Breath of Spring 14th March - 18th March

East Bridgford Drama Group Presents:

Breath of Spring

A comedy by Peter Coke
14th - 18th March
At East Bridgford Village Hall
Performances start at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7pm).
Saturday matinee only at 2.30pm (doors open at 2pm).

£10.00 TICKETS
www.ebdg.co.uk / Box Office: 07342 823389

Breath of Spring is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Meet the cast of Breath of Spring

 Marjory as Bee	 Helena as Alice	 Naomi as Lily
 Brenda as Hattie	 Diana as Nan	 Len as Brigadier
 Jim as Pape	 Mark as PC Kemp	

We will be having a raffle. £1 a strip. Please bring along cash.

Scan the QR code to take you straight to Ticket Source

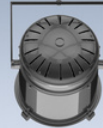


Ashmores - What a lovely evening!



What a charming evening at Ashmores in Radcliffe. A big thank you to Jo and Mark and their staff for providing a friendly welcome, delicious meal and excellent service.

Members enjoyed a quiz and entertainment from "Victoria Wood, Pam Ayres, The Two Ronnie's" and our very own Len and Duncan!



BREATH OF SPRING REHEARSALS



Members' Spotlight

Meet David Valentine



I was born into a very theatrical family. My mother trod the boards with the Leicester Amateur Operatic Society as well as singing in various choirs. In the 1950s My Mother and Father were 2 of the founders of the QT Drama group in Syston Leicester, still performing today. It was called the QT group because they rehearsed at the Methodist Hall in Birstall, and performing plays was frowned upon by Methodists. My father wrote and directed a Men only Pantomime every year, raising tens of thousands of pounds for the Methodist church and for the Hospice LOROS. I appeared in many church revues and Pantomimes. The picture shows me as a Hula Hula girl in one of Dad's Pantos, singing 'I am 16 going on 17!..... I continued acting and singing at school, as well as playing the trombone at school and with Leics. County Youth Orchestra, - our tour of Colwyn Bay is still talked of to this day - not necessarily for the right reasons. I also started up a folk band called 'Folk Like us', where we won a national competition and had a regular Sunday slot on Radio Leicester. I also appeared with the Leicester Operatics in 'Song of Norway' and 'Carousel'

At college I appeared as 'Sailor Sawney' in Osbournes 'Live like Pigs'. Moving into teaching I produced and appeared in several productions, - Fagin in Oliver, Jud Fry in Oklahoma, and as the 'Positive Action Man' in 'Dracula Spectacula' as examples.

I was also in a Folk/Rock band, - 'Prester John'

When Jackie and I got together it became clear how talented an actress she is, and we decided that we would like to work together in a Drama group. Jackie had acted with the EBDG in a previous life, and so it was they on whom we inflicted ourselves.

Although I have appeared in many productions, Directing is my favourite. Acting credits include 'Reg' in the Ayckbourn trilogy 'the Norman Conquests', Rex in 'We don't want you to Lose you' and being upstaged by Jackie's sweatband as Thomas in 'It's never too late'.

As regards Directing it has been a privilege to work with such talented actors. My favourite Directing experiences include 'Gaslight', 'Snake in the Grass', 'Bunkered', 'Volunteers', 'Scared to Death' and 'Gosforths Fete'

I have also written and directed 4 plays which the group has performed:- 3 Pantomimes, - 'Babes in the Wood', 'Humpty Dumpty' and the 'Pied Piper of Hamelin'. What particularly pleased me with the pantomimes was working with the Children from St. Peter's Academy in East Bridgford.

I also wrote and directed a full length play 'All Washed Up!' which has subsequently been published by J.Garner-Miller.

I am currently working with Jan and Esme on producing a musical for schools - the 'Fabulous Adventures of Marco Polo'

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as Chairperson of East Bridgford Drama Group. During my tenure we managed to increase the membership, as well as purchasing various items of technical equipment to bring us up to date with the digital age, as well as purchasing our new staging - a tremendous group effort.

I was sad to step down as Chairperson, but that was precipitated by health issues; however I continue to be a Director of the Limited Company, as well hoping to Direct one of the Summer plays.

It has been a privilege to be part of the group - one of the finest in the East Midlands, with a technical team second to none (I want it to rain on stage Jon!, I want it darker Julz, but I want the audience to be able to see!) and always acting to the very highest of standards (and never knowingly underfed!). Our weekend set-build sessions are a phenomena in their own right and long may they continue!

David



Me as dancing girl in men's panto

Members Club Night

Directing Workshop 7th February



Members' Club Night is Tuesday 7th February 7pm for 7.30pm in the skittle alley of The Royal Oak. 'Conveying a Vision' presented by David Valentine and Len Jackson.

NEWS

From the Directors:

- We are currently looking into making a lottery bid.
- Set Build Weekend - Friday supper (to be paid for by members' contributions) costs for Saturday and Sunday lunches will be met by the group.
- We will be holding another raffle at the next play, raffle donations gratefully received.
- Next meeting 26th February 2.30pm venue TBC



Would you like to advertise your business in our show programmes?

£40 for one advert in the programme and £100 for 3 adverts over the year.

Please get in touch if you are interested.
ebdg@btinternet.com



HISTORY

Breath of Spring – May 1986



<https://ebdg.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Breath-of-Spring-May-1986.pdf>

Breath of Spring – April 2006



<https://ebdg.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Breath-of-Spring-April-2006.pdf>

An amazing £354.00 was raised at our raffle during the last play week. Thank you so much for prizes donated and for buying tickets! This money will go back into the group to be used for productions.



**VALE OF BELVOIR
ROTARY CLUB**



CHARITY FROG RACE

to be held on

Saturday 11th February 2023

at

Orston Village Hall

First hop commencing 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm)

Come and meet our giant frogs, take a turn as "jockey," have a flutter on the Tote and see if you can win a prize in this popular event

Prizes sponsored by local companies and organisations

Tickets at £12.50 include a fish and chip supper

Full Bar Facilities

Proceeds to selected local and international charities

Tickets and more information available via our website:

www.valeofbelvoirrotary.org.uk

or by calling

Adrian 01949 851331

Stan 01949 859090



EBDG will be sponsoring a frog at this event.