



Monthly Newsletter

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Hello members and followers of EBDG

We are back on track with the newsletter coming out at the end of the month. So, here we are half way through the year!



Last week I was at the village show... always an enjoyable day out, especially if the weather is good, which it was! We sat and watched the St. Peter's parade (hence the photo) and listened to the Seaforth Highlanders....always a traditional highlight to mark the opening of the show.

Later in the day, as we were watching the Tug of War, an onlooker turned to me and said, "I really enjoyed the last play at the beach. We try and come to all of them, but this was so clever. It was so different! And the tickets were like gold dust". She continued to praise its content just as "Bring Me Sunshine" blasted out over sound system which made us all smile!

Then on Tuesday, auditions were held for the November play, Wait until Dark. This will be in stark contrast to Deckchairs and, having been cast as the lead female, I'm looking forward to developing the character of Suzy Henderson. A challenging role as she is a blind woman. An interesting fact is that 2 of our members have played the role in 2 different drama groups in the past. Caroline in 1995 and Marjory in 1973.

Another note of interest is that I shall be sharing the stage with a former pupil whom I taught in my first year of teaching back in 1986.

The group welcomes Craig Butterworth to the cast in the role of Mike Trenton. We have acted together in several pantomimes and I'm really looking forward to playing opposite him in this tense thriller.

So, that's all from me.

Ta ta for now

Karen.





Wait Until Dark



Our group last performed Wait Until Dark November 1989. Have a look at the cast list on our website:

<https://ebdg.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Wait-Until-Dark-Nov-1989.pdf>



Members' Spotlight

Meet Ashley Hopkins



My name is Ashley Hopkins and my wife Janice and myself relocated to East Bridgford in January 2020 in order that she could be closer to her siblings having been diagnosed with a hereditary brain disease following a stroke in December 2015. It took a few years of persuasion to up sticks being a Southerner through and through, but little did I know then what a fantastic decision it was to move to this beautiful village. However, on initially arriving in Nottinghamshire, I had a serious health issue and subsequently sought therapy, which fortunately was a turning point in my life having met Rowena who is also a member of our drama group.

It was Rowena who introduced me into the drama group and it soon became obvious what a wonderful and accepting group they are, because in no time at all I was climbing ladders helping Julz ((Rowena's husband) rig up the numerous spotlights and assisted with the props during the May play. Sadly the Covid virus curtailed any further productions for a while, but in the next post Covid production, I took on the prompting role, which was challenging but very enjoyable under the brilliant directorship of Caroline Aldrich. In the latest production, Deckchairs, I took on a small walk on role which was good fun, but any future involvement will be strictly back stage. Suffice to say though that everyone within the group mucks in which has forged a marvellous camaraderie. It was also through the drama group that Julz introduced me into the pub dominoes team and I also met Dave Chapman who like myself is a cricket nut and we have spent much time together at Trent Bridge and we always retire for a liquid lunch in the Trent Bridge Inn. A lovely friendship forged by our love of cricket.

In Buckinghamshire, I had been a member of Marlow Entertainers for many years who performed a summer musical and a winter panto, so whilst I can sing treading the boards is not my forte. We had settled near High Wycombe after I left the RAF in 1980 after a short career spent predominantly down operations bunkers briefing aircrew on operations, although the real reason for joining the RAF was for the sport. I then spent the next 32 years in the financial services industry, initially as a Company Adviser and then operating my own advisory practice for 12 years.

Other than the drama group, cricket and dominoes, my favourite pastime is cycling. Our son is a GB triathlete living in Hounslow and hence I get his hand me down bikes, the latest being a Specialized bike, which with a fit pair of legs can still go quite fast. He gets a Boardman bike courtesy of Mum & Dad. The good news though is that I can spend most of the time in the saddle riding around the locality as the land is so flat, whereas in the Thames Valley, I spent a lot of time walking the bike up very steep hills. The condition of the roads though is a different proposition as you feel all the bumps through the saddle, so it is just as well that we have had our children!

Roll on The Ashes series which starts on Friday 16 June at Edgbaston and best wishes to Ben Stokes and the England squad.

Cheers

Ashley



**DON'T
MISS
OUT!**

JEFF'S OPEN HOUSE



This Sunday 2nd July
details have been
emailed.



*Club
Night*

Next 'Club
Night' Tuesday
4th July, 7 for
7:30, EB Royal
Oak, skittle
alley, Non
Verbal
Communication

AGM

CHANGE OF VENUE!

Our next AGM will take
place on Friday 21st July at
7.00pm in the Village Hall,
East Bridgford.
All welcome.



SKEGVEGAS

Members' trip
Saturday 22nd
July



Drama Group
Picnic



August 20th, details
have been emailed out.