



Monthly Newsletter

In This Issue

Chair's Chat

Did you know?

Rehearsal Photos

September Launch
Photos

Members'
Spotlight

Don't Miss It!

Len's Lockdown
Blog

Upcoming Events!



If you would like to join our mailing list please send your details to:
ebdg@btinternet.com

Please follow us:



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

Hello members and followers of EBDG,

So, we are officially into Autumn, the "Seasons of mist and mellow fruitfulness" (Keats Ode to Autumn) Children have returned to school, Hallowe'en merchandise is taking priority on the shelves in the few High Street shops that remain, the seasonal aisles in the supermarkets are stocked with Christmas goodies and I have had my first iced mince pie!

I enjoy some of the changes Autumn brings, apart from altering the clocks at the end of October!

Since the last newsletter we have enjoyed a successful club night, see the photos below from the launch and I was at the Playhouse on Saturday to see one of the most powerful pieces of theatre I have seen in a long time. The Real and Imagined History of The Elephant Man was exceptional. The cast included the daughter of Warwick Davis who was so expressive in her variety of roles. Zak Ford-Williams, I remembered from the T.V drama, Better, was absolutely astonishing! For those of you who saw John Hurt in the film version will recall the prosthetics that transformed him into Joseph Merrick.

Zak's portrayal of Merrick was solely in his acting, his movement his expressions and interaction with the ensemble. Mesmerising!

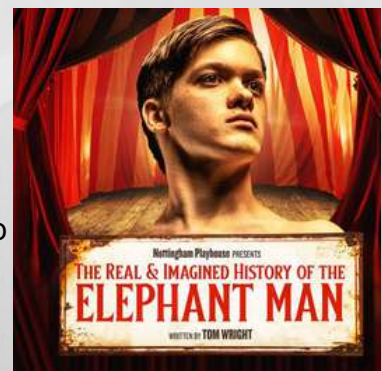
It runs for another week, I believe, so there's still time to catch it.

I shall be back at the theatre next month to see Elvis , at The Royal Concert Hall, a tribute artist show and Hobson's Choice at The Lace Market Theatre and then, of course, I'm looking forward to taking to the stage myself in November. Lots of rehearsals to fit in before then so I am off to do some line learning.

Ta ra for now,
Karen



Karen as Teresa Phillips in the play How the Other Half Loves – Nov 2021



Our November Play:



Meet the cast:



Tickets now on sale!

Did you know?

Facts about Wait Until Dark!

The West End production, starred Honor Blackman and Peter Sallis, and was performed at the Strand Theatre

The film ranked tenth on Bravo's The 100 Scariest Movie Moments

The film explores themes of vulnerability and empowerment. Through the character of Susy, "Wait Until Dark" delves into the resilience of the human spirit and the strength that can arise even in the face of darkness.

Audrey Hepburn photographed by Howell Conant for Wait Until Dark, 1967.



The film features a memorable final act. The climax of "Wait Until Dark" is regarded as one of the most suspenseful and nail-biting sequences in cinema history, leaving viewers breathless.

Decades after its release, "Wait Until Dark" continues to captivate audiences, solidifying its status as a must-watch film for thriller enthusiasts.

Wait Until Dark is a play by Frederick Knott, first performed on Broadway in 1966

a Broadway revival opened on April 5, 1998 and starred Quentin Tarantino

In an effort to duplicate the suspense on screen, movie theaters dimmed their lights to their legal limits, then turned off one by one until each light on-screen was shattered, resulting in the theater being plunged into complete darkness.

The suspense and tension build throughout the movie, providing a thrilling viewing experience as the audience becomes deeply invested in Susy's struggle for survival.

It showcases a unique perspective on disability.

"Wait Until Dark" challenges stereotypes and highlights the resourcefulness and strength of individuals with disabilities, showcasing Susy's determination in the face of adversity.

Warner Bros.-Seven Arts purchased the film rights in 1966. The film premiered October 26, 1967. It starred Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, Richard Crenna, Efrem Zimbalist Jr., Jack Weston, and Julie Herrod, and it was produced by Hepburn's then-husband Mel Ferrer.

Rehearsals

I went along to see a rehearsal this week to capture a few photos for the newsletter and what a treat I had! Not only had the director made cookies and I got to meet the new Guide puppy in training Vicky but what great acting I witnessed. I hadn't heard or seen anything yet so it was very interesting to capture part of the sense of the play. In parts, I had shivers down my spine! Can't wait to see more!



September Launch



What a lovely evening
we had at our
September launch.
Here we are enjoying a
glass (or two) of wine
and some delicious
cheese.



Caroline talked about the forthcoming play and Julz showed us his 3D set design.



Jeff and Geoff talked about the plays Mr Wonderful and Ghost Train, two possible plays for the future.



And then we were entertained by Tom, Len, Jackie and David.

Summer Snaps!

Rowena & Julz



We've been to see the Kelpies and the Falkirk wheel, on our way back from Orkney visiting Gill and Russell.

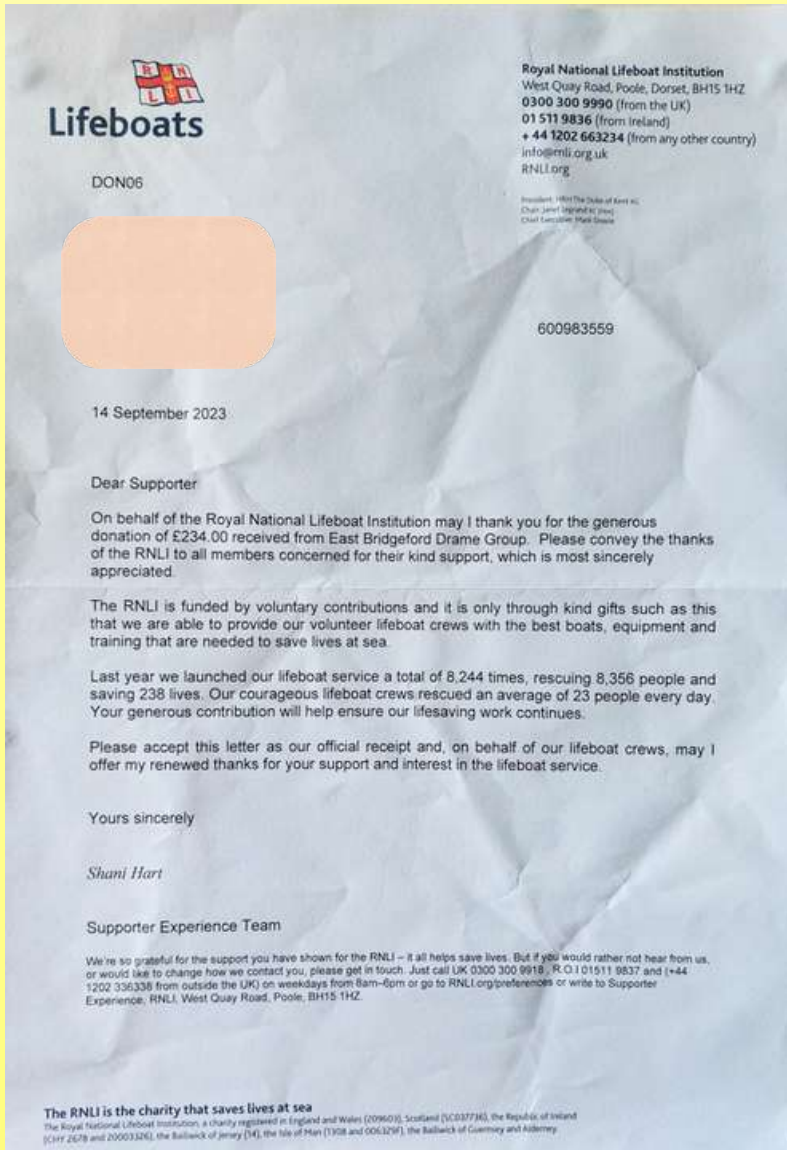
the lace market theatre

If you happen to follow us on Facebook, you will have seen the little video clips of Len's forthcoming production of Hobson's Choice.

EBDG members will be coming to support you Len. We are really looking forward to seeing it.



Thank You Letter



Hobson's Choice
Lace Market Theatre
Nottingham
2nd Oct to 7th Oct.

Members' Spotlight

Meet Karen Peckover

Hello,

I thought I would take my turn and write this month's "Spotlight On" feature of the newsletter. I'm Karen Peckover, Actor, Director and now Chair of East Bridgford Drama Group. I have been a member since September 2011 during which time I have: acted in 23 plays; co-directed 1, "A Breath of Spring" and directed 1, "Deckchairs" in June. I am presently rehearsing for the lead in our November Thriller, Wait Until Dark.

I was 3 years old when the film with Audrey Hepburn was released and I'm delighted to be given the opportunity to portray the same role as a movie icon.

This forthcoming production is also special because one of the lead males is a former pupil. I am a retired Primary School Teacher and in my first class as an NQT back in 1986 was 7 year old, Craig Butterworth.

It won't be the first time we will have acted together. We belonged to The Nelson Players in Kimberley and performed in several pantomimes during the 90's.

I spotted Craig's potential for the stage when I cast him in the lead role, Plutop, in the first play I ever wrote called "A Spaceman's Mission" which was a modern/traditional nativity which derived from Chris deBurgh's "A Spaceman Came Travelling". My acting debut was when I was 7 years old and in the Brownies. I played The Pied Piper and mimed playing the recorder to the music being played off stage only to be caught out by one of the pesky rats who accidentally knocked the recorder out of my hands. It wasn't meant to happen....but anything goes in pantos. Before that I did a couple of dance shows as I danced from the ages of 3 to 5 and performed a duet with my sister, Daddy wouldn't buy me a Bow Wow!



Young Cecil Budget the taxman's son (Craig Butterworth) looks none to happy as he receives the attentions of Boris and Doris Yardbrush (Dave Ackroyd and Karen Peckover).

Cecil & Doris



Robina Goode & Wyer Hook

Presstuds & Distemper the Dog



Craig & Tallulah



Other acting roles have seen me appear at the Edinburgh Festival with an International Summer School Group performing extracts from Macbeth and I got an insight into filming for T.V when I was an extra on "Storage Hunters"!

Whilst teaching, in a career that lasted 34 years, I directed many productions and during a break from classroom teaching I ran my own business, The Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, teaching 4-18 year olds.

When I'm not acting, I enjoy gardening, art and craft activities and Lego building. I'm also a big football fan and used to play for Nottingham Spartans in my younger days. I'm an optimistic Bluenose supporting Birmingham City ever since I was old enough to walk and talk and I had my first football kit when I was about 8, which I still have. I always wanted to appear in "Playing the Field", the BBC television drama following the lives of the Castlefield Blues, a fictitious female football team from South Yorkshire. I even wrote to Kay Mellor, one of the writers alongside Sally Wainwright (Happy Valley) She kindly wrote back but I didn't manage to "score" a role in that!

There are many plays that I would like to act in but for now, my time and energy is channelled into the role of Suzy Henderson, the blind woman in danger...a challenge in itself.

Karen



Radcliffe-on-Trent Drama Group Presents

LADIES IN RETIREMENT

Tues £9 and Wed - Sat £10

A THRILLER BY Edward Percy and Reginald Denham

7th-11th Nov 2023
7.30pm

CASH BAR

Grange Hall, Radcliffe-on-Trent

Tickets: (0115) 9332906 or Pen2Paper or www.radcliffe-on-trentdramagroup.co.uk

* Why not book a pre-theatre meal - available from 5.30pm at Café Piano (Book: 0115 9332233) or The Chestnut (Book: 0115 9331984), 10% discount when you show your theatre tickets.

DON'T MISS IT

The Bonington Players present

Agatha Christie's The Rule of Three

Wednesday 18th to Saturday 21st October 2023

The Bonington Theatre, Arnold
Tickets £9 each available from the Theatre Box Office
Tel: 0115 901 3640
or book online at www.boningtontheatre.co.uk

Burton Joyce Players present...

LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

A comedy thriller by Constance Cox

28-30 September 2023
7.30pm at Burton Joyce Village Hall

Tickets are priced at: £8.00 each and are available to purchase from:
Rhubarbs Café (Church Road) NOLA Coffee and Deli (Main Street)
The Willow Tree Tea Room (Main Street) www.ticketsource.co.uk/bjp

Hobson's Choice
2nd Oct 2023- 7th Oct 2023

the lace market theatre

<https://lacemarketttheatre.co.uk>

Birmingham Theatre Company

Beauty AND THE BEAST

The Ultimate Family Performance

DECEMBER 7TH - 9TH 2023

THURSDAY 7TH 7.00, FRIDAY 8TH 7.00 AND SATURDAY 9TH 2.00 AND 7.00

JUBILEE HALL, BINGHAM ARENA, MERCIA COURT, CHAPEL LANE, NOTTINGHAM, NG13 8QX

Len's Ruminative Blog during lockdown

Well, the 12th week of lock down and little has happened until this past week or so. Our incarceration has prompted me to ponder on who has benefited from this dreadful disease! Jehovah's Witnesses have - they know that everyone will be in. Young lovers - have more time on their hands - no doubt there will be a baby boom later in the year. Does it mean that some time in late 2033 we will have the "Quaranteens?"

On the international front it appears that Mexico are thinking of refusing to let in Americans in order to limit the Covid spread.

The owner of the local fruit shop has sent round a thoughtful plan for dealing with Coronavirus. It's far more detailed than Boris's if anyone is interested? We went from there to the Post Office and whilst queuing two men rushed in, sweating, looking nervous and wearing face masks. Everyone panicked but fortunately they were only there to rob the place.

We popped into the Chemist and asked the lady at the counter how best to guard against Covid 19. She said "ammonia cleaner". I said I'm sorry I thought you worked here.

Went to Morrisons for a "big shop". Saw a young guy in the wines and spirits aisle looking really fed up. He said he used to work in the fabric softener aisle. I said "so you're out of your comfort zone?" ---- he just looked at me.

Di has found a fool proof way of avoiding touching her face - she keeps glass of wine in each hand. I'm still an old romantic! I bought a map of the world, put it on the wall and gave her a dart. I said throw it and wherever it sticks I'll take you there for a holiday when all this is over. So next year we are spending two weeks behind the fridge.

We ran out of toilet paper yesterday and had to cut up squares of old newspapers. Times are rough! Has anyone else noticed how few blondes there actually are in the world?

We were watching a Tchaikovsky recital by The Bermuda Philharmonic Orchestra on TV last evening and half way through the bloke on the triangle disappeared!

Just heard on the news that Boris had a meeting with the Cabinet this morning. He then spoke to the Bookcase and had an argument with the Chest of Drawers. Try not to worry!

Len

Set Build Details so far...

Set build starts on Friday morning (17th November) at 11am. As many able bodied people as possible needed. Rowena is coordinating the front of house and refreshment rotas, so offers/availaibility to her please. We need someone to sort out the Friday night supper, but I am happy to arrange fish and chips if that is what is wanted - let me know. David

**DON'T
MISS
OUT!**

EAST BRIDGFORD
DRAMA
GROUP

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

October:

Len in Hobson's Choice at the
Lace Market Theatre
2nd-7th

Pizza & Play Reading - **13th** at
Caroline & Mark's. Bring your own
pizza!

Skittle Alley rehearsals - Please
come along: **11th 6.30pm, 15th
7.30pm, 25th 6.30pm & 29th
6.30pm**

November:

Play Rehearsal - **5th** -
Village Hall

Wait Until Dark - **21st-25th**
Play Week at the Village
Hall

December:

Christmas Club Night
12th
Skittle Alley, Royal Oak,
EB

January:

Aladdin - **16th-20th**
Tom at The Squires
Performing Arts Centre

Annual Dinner at
Ashmore's - **19th**

February:

SAVE THE DATE
17th

Stars of Stage & Screen
& Musical Icons!
An evening of
Celebration EB Village
Hall 7.30pm till 11.30pm

All of our next play dates:

November 2023 - 21st to 25th
March 2024 - 12th to 16th
June 2024 - 11th to 15th
November 2024 - 26th to 30th

