

The Linford Luvvie

**Newsletter of the Bradgate Drama Society
Winter 2009**

Editorial

Buoyed by the continuing success of the 'Luvvie' – we even had a congratulatory phone call after the last issue went out, though the caller did go on to try to sell me a fitted kitchen – here we go with the winter edition, an ideal antidote to the cold weather when rolled up and used as a fire lighter.

Highlight of this edition is the no-holds-barred review of our Christmas production, 'Radioacting'. With my own thespian background being largely in music hall – until recently I still thought that Troilus and Cressida were the two new Sugababes and the Caucasian Chalk Circle was something you marked out on a football pitch – this was a production very much after my own heart; but what did the critics think?

In this Issue

- 'Radioacting' – what the critics said
- The Spring Production –
- The new stage extension – the final chapter
- Jack Bates
- Social events
- The next newsletter

Christmas Production

Spring Production

Stage Extension

Those of you with a high boredom threshold who have been following closely the saga of the new stage extension will be delighted to hear that the new structure was delivered and used for the first time at the Christmas production. As promised, it turned out to be ridiculously simple to put up, so much so that the first aid box was not called upon and even the Secretary was able to make a moderately useful contribution to the process.

The construction seemed to cope admirably with the combined weight of some of the more substantial Society members

Jack Bates

As many of you will know, Jack died on 27 October last year.

Jack had been a great supporter of the Society since he and Joan moved to Newtown Linford on his retirement in 1983. Although there is no record of Jack actually treading the boards (unless, of course, anyone knows differently!) he provided a lot of help and encouragement backstage. Jack's particular interest was classical music and many of you will remember the joint events he organised in conjunction with Loughborough Recorded Music Society which he served for many years as Chairman and then President.

Jack was born in Lincolnshire in 1919, moving to Leicester before the war to begin his architectural studies. After distinguished service with the 8th. Army in North Africa and Italy he was invalided home after being badly wounded at Monte Cassino. On recovering from his injuries, he left the army, completed his training and began his architectural career working mainly on educational projects for Local Authorities in Tynemouth, Lincoln and Leicester.

As well as his practical work behind the scenes, Jack will be remembered particularly for the support and friendship which he and Joan gave to everyone connected with Bradgate Drama Society. The Committee has written to Joan to express out our condolences at her loss and I'm sure all members who knew Jack will join with us in theses sentiments.

Social Events

The Next Newsletter

The Spring/Summer edition of the newsletter will appear after the Spring production and will contain reviews of this along with plans for the Christmas show. There will also be feedback from the AGM

Member Survey

We think it's about time that we updated our membership lists both to ensure we have your current contact details and also to check which areas of our activities you are interested in so we can keep you informed accordingly.

Please find enclosed a registration form on which we would like you to confirm your details and indicate those areas you would like to contribute to.

You may think we know all about you already but we would nevertheless like you to return the form so we can check details such as phone numbers and e-mail addresses – in particular we have a number of e-mail contacts which keep bouncing back to us because we either got the details wrong in the first place or they have changed in the meantime.

Also, annual subscriptions are now due - £4 adult and £2 juniors - why not keep the Treasurer off you back by enclosing a cheque made payable to Bradgate Drama Society when you return your form.

In terms of the areas you may be able to help us with, anyone seeing us perform on stage may well have thought that they could do considerably better. Well now's your chance to show what you can do – remember anyone wanting to take part in the Christmas show is guaranteed their opportunity in the limelight! Also, if you are able to offer any of the other performing arts such as dancing, singing or playing a musical instrument we're anxious to give you a chance to shine.

Backstage we are always short of skilled help in the technical areas of lighting and sound. We're happy to train anyone up from a low technical base so if you can rewire a plug or work a DVD recorder you could be just the person we're looking for. In addition we can always use more help, both skilled and unskilled, in scenery construction and painting – knowing which end to hold a hammer should be enough to get you started on this.

Finally, you may find your niche front of house where the main requirement is to dress smartly and take money off of people whilst being nice to them – not always as easy as it might at first seem.

Please complete the form and return to the Secretary in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope.

SPECIAL CASH BACK AND KEEP FIT OFFER

Instead of posting the reply just steam the stamp off the envelope, walk up the hill out of Newtown Linford and put it through the Secretary's door.

Autumn's Newsletter

What do you think of the first edition of the newsletter? Any feedback plus ideas or contributions for the next edition should be sent to the Secretary

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