

About the Ebor Players



When we first mooted the idea of performing a pantomime in the village way back in 1994, none of us really knew what we were letting ourselves in for. The continued and growing success, though, of the Ebor Players is not just down to the original members who were brave (and silly!) enough to take on such a demanding event, but to everybody who has been part of the company in the 13 years since.

Looking back, there are only 5 people who remain active with us from that first year; 2 members have gone on to study drama at University; we've had 5 different Principal Girls, 4 Principal Boys, 4 Dames and countless different Chorus members. This summer we're very proud to have 2 members appearing in the school production of 'Les Miserables' at the Grand Opera House in York.

Whilst a Pantomime is all about playing for laughs, we do take what we do very seriously. We hire professional costumes, sound and lighting equipment that we hope set us apart from a more 'traditional' approach to village panto. Our budget, as ever, is limited and fundraising is an important part of our annual calendar. All our scenery is painted 'in-house' and every year we need new backdrops depending on the show we are doing - and our scenery team is very talented indeed! The music for the shows is now all sequenced, arranged and mastered in the recording studio, with real musicians playing most of the parts.

Interested in joining? Don't think that you need to be an expert actor - enthusiasm is much more important. There is a general shortage of men in the chorus - but if you don't fancy a shot at being on stage, there are always plenty of backstage jobs to do, from scenery painting to costume making. Age is unimportant - again, if you have the flair for anything, you're just the person we're looking for.

We have props teams, scenery teams, sound and lighting crew, backstage crew - you name it and we've probably got it!! There is a lot of hard work put in by many people who don't get the obvious glory of being seen on stage, but their contribution is no less important than those who are. Rehearsals start mid-September.

Have a look at our web site www.eborplayers.net where you'll find more details and an e-mail link, or alternatively call our Secretary, Tracey Patrick, on 01904 331802 for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!

The Ebor Players



Bishopthorpe's Own Annual Pantomime!

The Ebor Players are very pleased to be represented at this year's Gala. We were born in Bishopthorpe in October 1994 by Gordon Watkins, Mick Mills, Tim Bruce and the late Denis Ambler, one cold Autumnal night in the Ebor Inn, with the intention of providing the village with its' own annual Pantomime for the first time in at least 25 years (we're really not sure!!). It is from this establishment that the Players take their name. We have now performed thirteen pantomimes in the village hall, which is conveniently located almost next door to the pub! There are some 40 people on our members' list - made up of 'actors', stage crew, costume people ...the list goes on.

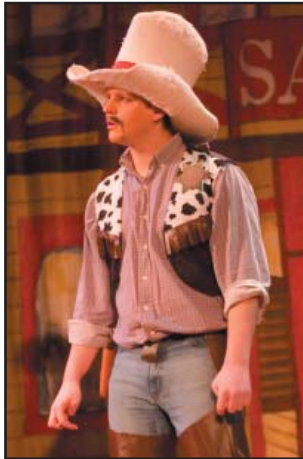


TURN OVER FOR DETAILS OF THIS YEAR'S SHOW!

King Arthur

A Pantomime Adventure In Camelot

This Christmas, we're presenting 'King Arthur - A Pantomime Adventure in Camelot'. It may not be a panto you've heard of before; indeed neither had we until we sent off for different scripts, as we do each year before deciding which show to present. There is now a set pattern to our productions - one year 'traditional' and the next 'unusual'; we took this decision in 2003 when we had exhausted all the 'traditional' shows, of which we reckon there are seven. It's proved very popular since, avoided too many repetitions and we've already done 'Dracula - The Pantomime' and 'Panto at the OK Corral' (see photos).



So there it is - 'King Arthur' will be presented at the Village Hall in Bishopthorpe from Tuesday 11 to Saturday 15 December 2007.



Evenings at 7.30pm, with a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday. The Saturday night performance has caberet-style seating along with a bar and will be **ADULTS ONLY**. This format has proved very popular for the last four years.

It's no coincidence that 'King Arthur' is our choice at the same time as 'Spamalot' creates waves in London. The opportunity to 'Python-up' the production was too good to miss and there will be some tactful references to a certain Holy Grail, not to mention some 'new' songs.

For the first time in 2007, we're adding a FIFTH night, such has been the demand for tickets in recent years. Tuesday becomes that night, which pushes back the technical and dress rehearsals into the preceding weekend!

Tickets will go on sale in September from the Ebor Inn in the village. See our web site for more details (details on back page). If you're interested in joining us for either this or our future shows, speak to one of our members at the stand at the Gala today.

Anyone for Cricket?



Photo: Simon Melton Photography

Sunday 22 July 2007
Bishopthorpe Cricket Field
Ferry Lane
Bishopthorpe
2.30pm

After a (hopefully!) sunny afternoon today in the Palace Grounds, our next outing this summer returns us to the village cricket square in a revenge match against the **Parish Council**. What we now hope will be an annual event began last year with a nail-biting last ball finish, which saw the PC emerge victorious. Our revenge is already plotted and our younger members will be encouraged to take part.

We play mixed teams of mixed ability (no discrimination here!!) and even permit underarm bowling for those that are not budding Freddie Flintoffs.

Come along, heckle and join in the fun; the match will start at 2.30pm and there will be an outside bar for the duration of the game plus refreshments in the pavillion at half time. A lot of Ebor Players members will be there too, so it'll be a good chance for you to meet us all.

Bishopthorpe Cricket Club have again kindly offered the loan of their equipment and facilities for the match (not to mention their well kept square and field!), without which the game couldn't take place - so a huge thank you to them for supporting us so willingly.

A small admission charge will be made as this is now a formal fundraising event for the Ebor Players

Last year we had stunning evening weather and hope that we can be as fortunate again this time around, although with the recent rain and floods we're probably more likely to be giving snorkels to the team!!