



The 1st Edlesborough Shakespeare Festival

A Midsummer Night's Dream

St Mary the Virgin Church, Edlesborough
19th – 21st May 2023



Community Involvement

Cast – 22 (17-78 years)

Creative – 7

Volunteers - 12

Fairies

Age 11-15 from local
Performing Arts Academy
KFPR - 14



Audience

- Friday 19th – 62
- Saturday 20th – 58
- Sunday 21st (1.30pm) – 56
- Sunday 21st (7pm) - 62



Venue

- The beautiful St Mary the Virgin Church, Edlesborough.
- Using both the inside of the Church and the amazing landscape as a 'walk about' production.
- The Church has never been used in this way before – in full, as a theatrical venue for the local community to enjoy.
- Many had never been to the Church but once seen were smitten!





Funding

- £500 Small Grant - Edlesborough Parish Council
- £300 Main Sponsor – NMJ Motorhouse Ltd
- £250 – Premium Sponsor – Fine & Country Estate
- £400 The Players Sponsor – A Perfect PA Lilimited



Expenses

- Lighting
- Sound / Music
- Set
- Insurance
- Costumes
- Printing –
Leaflets/Banners/Programme
- Health & Safety & Welfare





Next Year?

- Some issues to sort out with the Friends of the Church and the CCT
 - Parking
 - Venue Use
 - Support



Success?

Absolutely! An amazing community event that has been not only enjoyable for both cast and audience alike, but that has brought together a village around its central icon.

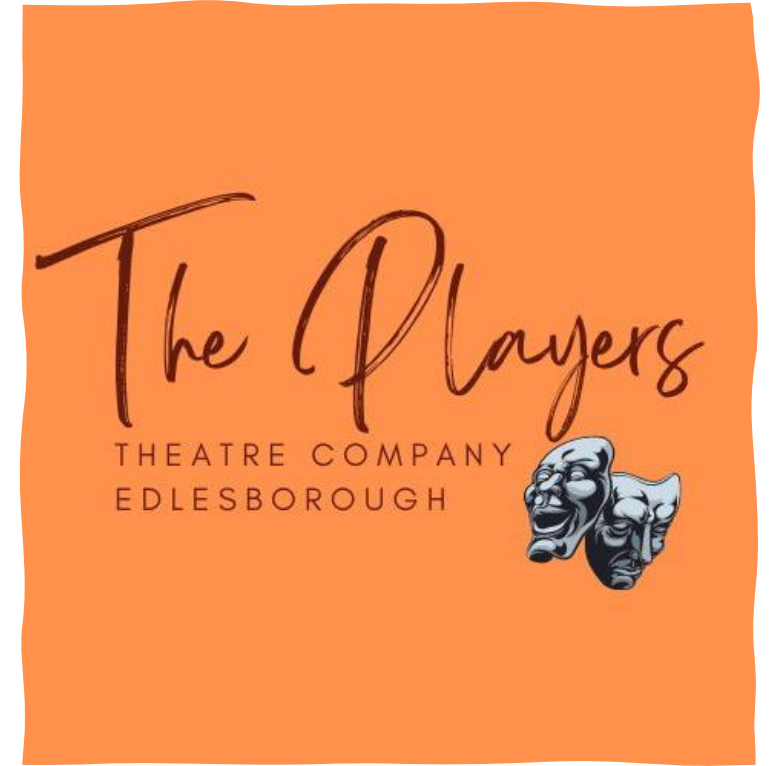
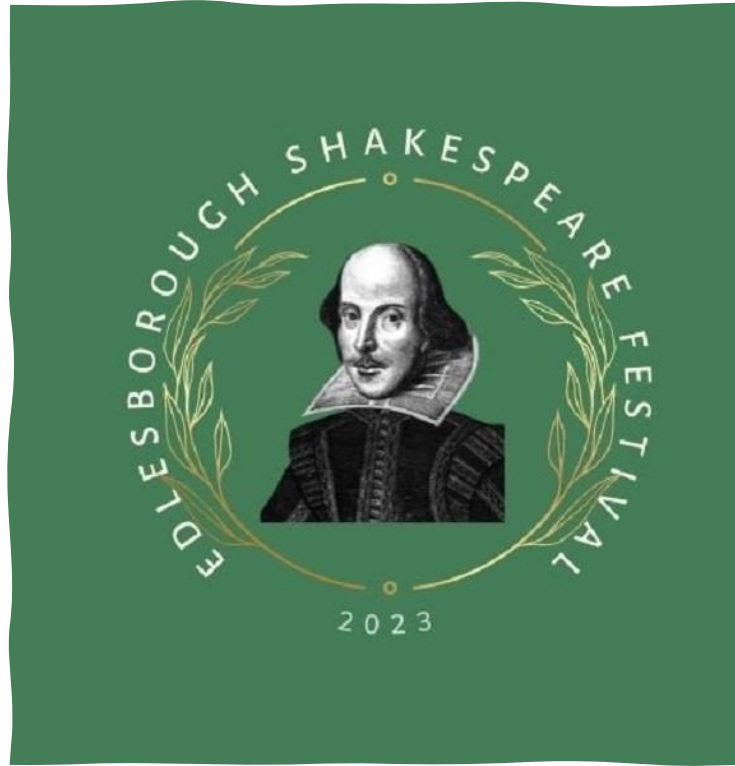
“Those who climbed the hill to Edlesborough’s ancient Church of St Mary the Virgin the Virgin for a promenade performance of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” were richly rewarded. Who could possibly have imagined that its beautiful interior and the steep grassy slopes around it could work as a setting for live performances of the Bard’s famous comedy set in Athens – with the church’s interior transformed to a Duke’s palace and with all the rest of the action moving about the grounds, scene by scene – the audience following. Well Sarah Jones did – with tremendous flair and imagination. Sarah’s professional experience and love of Shakespeare drew on the talents of local performers and came up with a gem of a production. |She had been working with her cast in rehearsal at Edlesborough Pavilion since last October – in a leap of faith that, come May 19-21st the weather would be fine. Well the gods were with her and her company did her proud. The performances were polished, confident and didn’t flag for a moment as we the audience followed them scene by scene, totally absorbed. All praise to the cast - it would be unfair to highlight individual performances since they were all so confident and convincing. A special mention though for the flock of lively fairies who escorted us from scene to scene, always with a smile and never missing a beat. Sarah plans to make this an annual event – so watch out for the advertisements next year!”

Reviews

“Huge congratulations to the Players Theatre Company Edlesborough, for their superb production of "The Dream" which I saw last night. My actor friends Haydn Davis, Andy Faber, Filipa Garrido, Andy Shaw and Marlon Gill did a splendid job, as did Paris Arnold and the young fairies who very nearly stole the show! Wonderful setting, excellent direction from Sarah Jones and beautiful costumes. Great use of the outdoor and indoor space in the gorgeous church and its settings. A joyous production and deserved its sell out status. Here's to the next show in 2024!”

“So enjoyed the last performance on Sunday evening. Loved every moment of it. Looking forward to the next production”





Edlesborough Parish Council

Thank you for your support!