

# CODSWALLOP!

AUGUST 2023

MADE IN  
DAGENHAM

BACK  
PAGE

GRAY  
ROOM

FLISHINGHURST  
CLEAR UP

CHAIR'S  
NOTES

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Contact details for the committee are available via :

Website - [cranbrookods.org.uk/committee](http://cranbrookods.org.uk/committee)

Email - [CODS.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:CODS.secretary@gmail.com)



## CODS FACEBOOK GROUP

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## CODS WEBSITE

CONTACT LEE HATCHER

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## CHAIR'S NOTES

So the calendar apparently makes out that summer is drawing towards its end phase. However the weather this far hasn't appeared to have got the memo! Despite this, much has been going on in CODSLand.



Rehearsals for *Made In Dagenham* are in full swing, and the musical numbers are really beginning to take shape. Less can be said for some of the questionable accents! The directors and some cast, along with a selection of the committee were seen out at Cranbrook on the Green, encouraging the locals to come and support this production. Upcoming events include the Cranbrook Apple Fair, the Southern Model Show and Running Retros (both held at Headcorn Aerodrome). For more information on how you can get involved and have a fun day promoting whilst ogling classic cars, please get in touch with myself, Wendy, Angela or the CODS secretary.

Outside of Dagenham we have been looking ahead to next year. With the current pitches for the October Musical slot, along with the recently selected spring play, it could well be a year of two halves with the styles of performance. Currently the pitches for the October musical slots are still open until the end of August so don't hang around if you have a directing itch! Watch this space for some new show announcements very soon!

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September the committee will be holding a tidy and organise day at Flishinghurst. There will be around 4 or 5 of the committee there on the day (from midday), but we will actively require the assistance of any members available to shunt around scenery, clear some space, and partake of some cheesy chips and a pint at the pub afterwards. The aim is to reclaim the workshop to the once very productive scenery and prop making workshop it once was. Anyone who has a weekly bit of spare time and would like to get involved please to get in touch with your nearest committee member and express what area(s) you'd like to put your hands to. Willingness to get a little grubby is desirable! See page 6 for more details.

Looking much further ahead, we are looking to revive our CODS Sunday carvery at London Beach which always used to be very popular before COVID. This is a great opportunity to get together for a chat and catch up with members current, new and old over some great food. It also benefits the society as London Beach donates the food bill back to us!

As always any enquires can be directed to [cods.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cods.secretary@gmail.com)

### **Wing Walking for Big Cats**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of August I took part in a charity Wing Walk in aid of Project Lion at The Big Cat Sanctuary in Smarden. Several members of CODS, both current and past have volunteered and/or worked there over the years, myself included. This particular project aims to rebuild and improve the now rather aged Lion enclosure facilities at the sanctuary, ensuring the best possible environments and care for the Lions there and also to support conservation projects globally.

I, somewhat famously, am not the biggest fan of heights and sheer drops. When Tanith at the sanctuary approached me and asked if I would consider filling a space I said "Sure why not? What's the worst that could happen?!" Well it turns out that being strapped to the wings of a plane, sat at the end of a runway waiting for parachutes to land is very nerve-racking indeed! But once I got over the shock and the fact I had zero control in the matter I could just about enjoy it! As you can see by the picture I just about made it!

My gratitude goes out to the members that have graciously donated to this cause already. If anyone would like to donate to the fundraising appeal, you can at

[www.justgiving.com/page/james-wingwalk](http://www.justgiving.com/page/james-wingwalk)

Many thanks for your ongoing support and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at *Made in Dagenham!*

Ta tah for now!

Little James

# MADE IN DAGENHAM - CRANBROOK ON THE GREEN



Our fabulous Dagenhamites have been working very hard in rehearsals since the beginning of June to create a truly incredible show so we were delighted to take the opportunity to promote Made in Dagenham to our prospective audience at the recent Cranbrook on the Green event.

The sun shone (before the heavens opened and the deluge began!) and we had enormous fun helping the committee to sell unwanted costumes from our extensive wardrobe and introducing our next musical, dressed appropriately in Ford overalls and 1960s costume!

Despite the challenging weather, a great time was had by all, singing and dancing along to the soundtrack and chatting to everyone we saw. It was amazing to meet people who knew the story behind of Made in Dagenham first-hand, having worked at Ford in the 1960s and it was really encouraging to hear from people who have been in the audience for other CODS productions telling us how much they were looking forward to another fabulous musical offering from their favourite Am Dram society!

Made in Dagenham the Musical

25th - 28th October 7.30pm

Tickets on sale 1st September - £15 adults £12 children (parental advisory - explicit content!) - online from [ticketsource.co.uk/cods](https://ticketsource.co.uk/cods)



# MADE IN DAGENHAM - CRANBROOK ON THE GREEN



## FLISHINGHURST CLEAR UP - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2023

**To All members of CODS'.**

**We, the Committee, are inviting you to take part in the annual clear up of our storage area at Flishinghurst on Saturday 2nd September 2023.**

**This time we are aiming to start at midday, with an end time of 6 ish, which will then be followed by drinks and nibbles at The Peacock pub - all subsidised because you are a member and have come along to help.**

**We hope to see you there, and remember, wear old clothes and sturdy footwear.**

**Saturday 2nd Sept - from midday  
Flishinghurst**

**What3words - [bluffing.resources.observe](https://www.what3words.com/)**

**With thanks and hope to see you there,**

**The Committee**

**[CODS.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:CODS.secretary@gmail.com)**

## NOTICES

### GRAY ROOM HELP NEEDED

WOULD ANYONE LIKE TO HELP ANNIE TO CLEAR AND SORT THE GRAY ROOM COSTUME STORE AND ALSO THE SCHOOL COSTUME DEPARTMENT SO THAT THEY CAN BE COMBINED AND THE EXTRA SPACE USED FOR A BASIC PROPS STORE.

SOME OF THIS CAN BE SOLD ON 'VINTED'/EBAY, AUCTIONED OR SIMILAR, SO IF YOU ARE CLEVER AT SUCH ONLINE THINGS IT WOULD BE FANTASTIC. THIS IS TO RELIEVE THE CONGESTION IN THE GRAY ROOM AND TO AVOID ANY FURTHER DETERIORATION OF COSTUMES AT FLISHINGHURST.

I AM HOPING THAT MOST OF THIS CAN BE DONE ON A FEW FRIDAYS WHEN I AM NOT WORKING, SO IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAYS IT WOULD BE MARVELOUS.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

ANNIE

[annie.hatch33@gmail.com](mailto:annie.hatch33@gmail.com)

07876 501760

### CODS STILL NEEDS AN ARCHIVIST

We would love someone to take over the organisation of CODS' archives. We have 100 years of information, most of which has already been filed in plastic boxes. Posters and photographs of shows from the past few years however are waiting to be added, and we need someone who can continue to keep our records up to date. If you are interested in helping with this please get in touch. It would be lovely to have a society member getting involved.

Contact: [cods.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cods.secretary@gmail.com)

## NOTICES

### DIRECTORS NEEDED FOR OUR SHOWS

Would you like to direct a show for CODS?? We are open to pitches for our 2023 Christmas Pantomime as well as our 2024 musical. We have already had some great ideas put forward so **please get in touch with your ideas BEFORE 31st August!**

[cods.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cods.secretary@gmail.com)

### MEMBERS' CORNER

Members are invited to contribute to the Newsletter by sending in their comments, jokes, ideas, opinions, recipes, tips etc., to **CODSWALLOP** at

[cods.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cods.newsletter@gmail.com). Depending on the response, we are thinking

about creating a Section called **MEMBERS CORNER**.



# OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

## **Presidents**

Maurice Wilkins & Rita Wilkins

## **Vice Presidents**

Bernard Beardsmore, Pam Baker, Jeremy Cartwright,  
Dinah Chamberlin, Alan Hodge, George Hudson,  
Peggy Latter, John Tapper,  
Ian Wookey, Marian Cumberland

## **Executive Committee**

Chair

James Harper

Business Manager

Guy Fillmore

Treasurer

Glyn Roberts

Secretaries

Penny Tobin, Rebecca Evans

Committee Members

Annie Hatcher, Alison Withey-Harrison,  
Kaz Kember, Mark Jeffery,  
Stephen D Smith

## **Officials of the Society**

Orchestral Secretary

Ruth Roberts

Newsletter Editor

Lee Hatcher

Independent Examiners

Messrs McCabe, Ford and Williams

Trustees

Marian Cumberland, James Hanaway, Glyn Roberts,  
John Tapper, Annie Hatcher

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Any questions about what you have read?  
Please contact your CODSWALLOP Editor

Lee Hatcher:  
tel: 01580 388716

or email: [cods.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cods.newsletter@gmail.com)

If you have any news, views, or ideas for what YOU  
want to see in CODSWALLOP, let me know!



# MADE IN DAGENHAM TICKETS ON SALE 1ST SEPTEMBER - [TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CODS](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cods)

Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society Proudly Presents

# made in Dagenham

THE MUSICAL



## Queen's Hall Theatre Cranbrook

Wednesday 25th – Saturday 28th October 2023, 7.30pm

Tickets: £15 adults / £12 children from [ticketsource.co.uk/cods](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cods)

Book by RICHARD BEAN Music by DAVID ARNOLD Lyrics by RICHARD THOMAS  
Based on the Woolley/Kartsen/Number 9 Motion Picture [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre  
International (Europe). All authorised performance materials also supplied by MTI



## DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION: FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2023