

CODSWALLOP!

APRIL 2023

MADE IN
DAGENHAM

AGM

GRAY
ROOM

BLACKADDER
NODA REVIEW

CHAIR'S
NOTES

EUROVISION

CONTENTS

<u>CHAIR'S NOTES</u>	3
<u>AGM</u>	4 - 9
<u>BLACKADDER NODA REVIEW</u>	10
<u>MADE IN DAGENHAM</u>	11 - 15
<u>EUROVISION</u>	16 - 17
<u>NOTICES</u>	18 - 19
<u>OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY</u>	20
<u>THE BACK PAGE</u>	

Contact details for the committee are available via :

Website - cranbrookods.org.uk/committee

Email - CODS.secretary@gmail.com



CODS FACEBOOK GROUP

CONTACT: REBECCA EVANS, GUY FILLMORE, LEE HATCHER

EMAIL: VIA CODS.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM



CODS WEBSITE

CONTACT LEE HATCHER

EMAIL: VIA CODS.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM

CHAIR'S NOTES

A final word from me a few days before our AGM. Well what a wonderful year CODS have had! And look how far we've come since our return to 'Live' performance after the turmoil of the Pandemic! And what a return!



From our initial tentative steps with our first production in December 2021, at the end of the Pandemic. We presented **Dick Whittington**, despite having experienced cast members hit by COVID, sudden recasting, a shortage of back of house crew and set builders, and lower than usual audience numbers we managed to make people laugh and run a small profit.

Each subsequent production has made a profit, We've seen an amazing return of our audiences, society members, new performers along with our backstage support. From the wonderful Brian Hobbs, Wills Stoneham, Tom Luck, Mark Jeffreys, Kirstie Scarlett-Bruff and Ian Harby (Musical Director for Priscilla. To new directors in the shape of Charlie Barnett, who directed, wrote and appeared in our last Panto, **Evermore**. A fantastic directorial debut from Katie Kember who produced the fantastically atmospheric, polished production of **Blackadder Goes Forth**. Again profitable. (Watch out for potential KDA awards! It would be well deserved!) **Priscilla Queen of the Desert's** box office beat all CODS musical records over the past 15 years, an amazing success for Annie Hatcher, director and CODS stalwart. Our production of The Vicar of Dibley, won a NODA Accolade of Excellence which we will be collecting next month, plus a profit. Looking forward we have fantastic expectations for our next production, **Made in Dagenham**. Again we have two new directors debuting with CODS. And this show will be an evocative uplifting production.

CODS is in a fantastic place having weathered some tricky patches over the last several years, like many other groups, but we have come out and are on an upward trend. I am so happy to know that CODS is back with a vengeance and I would like to thank not only the committee for supporting me over the last two years, but also the CODS membership and our Trustees. Everyone has been instrumental in creating the success that CODS is now experiencing.

I shall be standing down from the committee and I wish the new committee every success. I am sure the new Chair will develop new directions and opportunities and CODS will continue to go forth!

It's Goodbye from me..... and Hello from.....

Lou x

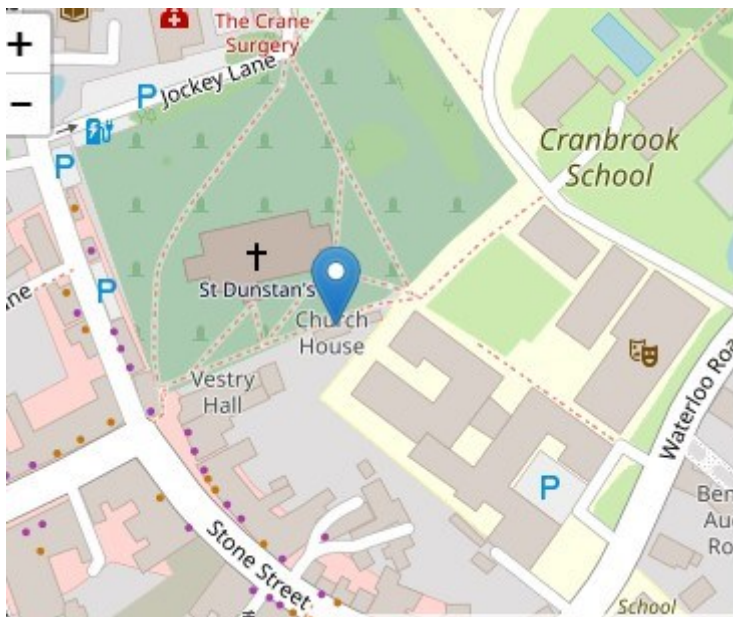
AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

CRANBROOK OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

To be held on Tuesday, 25th April 2023

at 7.30pm in Church House, Cranbrook TN17 3HA



CODS AGM is open to all members.

Attending the AGM:

All members are requested to attend where possible. Members who are unable to attend should advise CODS Secretary in advance. (Cods.secretary@gmail.com)

Members not attending may request a copy of the Minutes & Accounts in their absence.

Voting:

All members over 18 have one vote. Junior Members are welcome to attend, but cannot vote or be elected onto the Committee. In accordance with our Constitution a quorum of five members or one tenth of the membership, whichever is greater, must attend the AGM for voting to take place and ratification of the Executive Committee.

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

Standing for Committee:

All CODS Members may nominate themselves for election to the Executive Committee, but this must be made in writing and emailed to the CODS Secretary at (Cods.secretary@gmail.com) for receipt by the **11th April, 2023**.

The Vice Chair will automatically assume the role of Chair for two years, unless they choose not to assume the automatic role of Chair at the next AGM. In which case, the Vice Chair must notify the current Chair and Executive Committee at the start of their term in accepting the role of Vice. This will enable the Executive to select a new Chair from within the existing Executive Committee. The Chair's role should be ratified by CODS Membership.

Trustees:

The Trustees must be ratified at the AGM, as they formally retire and must be re elected by the Charity (Membership).

AGM AGENDA 2023

Apologies for absence

Confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

Proposed & Ratified

Matters arising

Treasurer's Report

Business Manager's Report (What we've done, plans for the year ahead)

Outgoing Chair's Report & Statement

Election of Trustees, President & Honorary Members

New Chair's Statement

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

Election of Executive Committee

Election of Independent Examiner

Fix membership subscriptions for the year 2023 (to run from 1 Jan, 2023)

Any other business

CODS Secretary can be contacted via cods.secretary@gmail.com

				<p>WE ARE STANDING FOR CODS COMMITTEE</p> <p>ARE YOU?</p> <p>Come and Join Us. Complete the nomination Form and return to CODS.secretary@gmail.com</p> <p>BY APRIL 11th</p>
<p>Chair & Tech Mgr James Harper</p>	<p>Treasurer Glyn Roberts</p>	<p>Business Mgr Guy Fillmore</p>	<p>FOH Mgr Mark Jeffreys</p>	
				
<p>Publicity Rebecca Evans</p>	<p>Member Penny Tobin</p>	<p>Member Alison Withey-Harrison</p>	<p>Member Annie Hatcher</p>	
				
<p>Member Kaz Kember</p>	<p>Member Katie Kember</p>	<p>Member Stephen D Smith</p>	<p>ARE YOU THE New Member?</p>	

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

All adult members can apply for any role on the Executive Committee, except for **Chair**, which is subject to a two year tenure. All other roles retire annually and are subject to re-election.

Should nominations exceed vacancies, elections will be by ballot.

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Nominee	Role	Year
Guy Fillmore	Business Mgr	2023/2024
Louisa Nelson Chambers	Chair - Outgoing	2021/2023
James Harper	Chair incoming & Tech Mgr	2023/2024
Mark Jeffreys	FOH Mgr	2023/2024
Ali Withey Harrison	Member	2023/2024
Annie Hatcher	Member	2023/2024
Katie Kember	Member	2023/2024
Kaz Kember	Member	2023/2024
Stephen D Smith	Member	2023/2024
Chrissie Smith	Publicity	2023/2024
Rebecca Evans	Publicity	2023/2024
Glyn Roberts	Treasurer	2023/2024

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

Please email this to cods.secretary@gmail.com by April 11th 2023

NAME OF NOMINEE	
NOMINATED ROLE	
SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

EXPECTATIONS & GUIDANCE

General:

Members wishing to stand on the committee should be aware that all members are expected to contribute and undertake all reasonable functions required for the efficient and effective running of the committee.

In show terms, CODS is a Producer and the committee must run as a Production Team for each show. Which means carrying out administrative support as well as providing physical assistance. This includes helping with publicity and the organisation of events. Working as a team to organise set construction and transportation.

It also requires a certain amount of your time and attendance of monthly meetings. We welcome all new experiences, suggestions and approaches and we like to incorporate each of the members' strengths to run the committee.

AGM NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA 2023

COMMITTEE ROLES

2023 /2024 Committee & Officer Roles	
Business Mgr	Guy Fillmore
Chair	James Harper 2 year Tenure
Chair - Vice	Vacant
Cods Secretary	Vacant
FOH Mgr	Mark Jeffreys
Librarian & Archivist	Vacant
Members 1	Ali Withey Harrison
Members 2	Annie Hatcher
Members 3	Katie Kember
Members 4	Kaz Kember
Members 5	Steve D Smith
Newsletter Editor	Lee Hatcher
Programme Editor	Vacant
Props Coordinator	Vacant
Publicity Coordinator(s)	Rebecca Evans & Chrissie Smith
Treasurer	Glyn Roberts

If you want to make a positive contribution in shaping CODS, and you feel you have a creative interest in taking on our programmes or any of the above roles SIMPLY nominate yourself and come and join your committee . You are welcome to stand against any of the roles with the exception of Chair

BLACKADDER GOES FORTH - NODA REVIEW



Be inspired by amateur theatre

CODS. Black Adder goes Forth. Queens Hall Theatre.
Cranbrook 9th April 23

'Blackadder Goes Forth' based on the TV series, now brought to the stage as a play, any small screen to stage adaptation runs the risk of imitation but CODS have made the transition work powerfully.

The set, created by the company, I think, by James Harper and Kirsty Scarlett-Bruff was impressive and took us into the trenches of World War One straight away. The amount of detail was exceptional. Also props all the way through in the production were to period and useable, well done to the stage crew and all that made this possible. Lighting by William Stoneman was perfect for this play and at the right level blending in with the set that was being depicted. Sound, Music and make up also must be mentioned, chosen well and makeup when needed was expertly applied, by Penny Tobin.

Rarely do you see a play that you cannot put a feather between the actors, all working together, but this Black Adder was word perfect and acted superbly by all.

Stuart Collier (Edmund Blackadder) took the lead with exceptional acting ability as did Steve Saunders as (Private Baldrick). Supporting these were Richard Gray (General Melchett) James Harper (Lieutenant George) Steve Lenham (Captain Kevin Darling) Rebecca Evens (Driver Bob Pankhurst) Jez Druce (Squadron Commander Lord Flasheart) Hayley Jones (Nurse Mary) Robin Harrison (Brigadier Smith) and of course a well behaved Masie the Dog. You all gave us good characterisations.

Although I wasn't a lover of Blackadder way back, but this production certainly made me think what did I miss.

Co-directors, Kathryn Kember and Stephen Smith clearly have a love for the material which oozes from every scene. But their love of drama really comes to life in the final moments with a poignant moment in the dropping of poppies. Thank you for inviting my guest and I.

Gordon Harris For Anne Lawson

NODA SE *District 5*

National Operatic and Dramatic Association

15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough PE2 7UH

Tel 01733 374 790 **Fax** 01733 237 286 **Email** info@noda.org.uk **Web** www.noda.org.uk

Twitter @NODAtweets **Facebook** NationalOperaticDramaticAssociation

Registered charity number 254640 Registered company number 241572 Registered in England and Wales at the above address. **Patron: The Lord Lloyd Webber**

MADE IN DAGENHAM

**Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society
(CODS)**



Directed by Wendy Thomas and Angela Wright

INFORMATION EVENING

Thursday 04th May 2023
at 7.30pm

Performing Arts Centre (PAC), Cranbrook School, TN17 3JD

AUDITIONS

Sunday 14th May 2023 at 10am

Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.30pm

Queens Hall Theatre, Cranbrook School, TN17 3JD



MADE IN DAGENHAM

SYNOPSIS

Based on the 2010 film of the same name, Made in Dagenham is drawn from the real-life 1968 sewing machinists strike at the Ford factory in Dagenham, Essex which was influential in the passing of the Equal Pay Act of 1970.

The musical focuses on the leader of the strike, Rita O'Grady, as she encourages the women of the Ford factory to walk out after they are re-classified as unskilled workers, while their male counterparts see their wages increase.

After Rita is patronized and snubbed at a union meeting, the women's grievances over their worker status turn into a fight for equal pay. Determined not to be treated like the poor relation, the women vote unanimously to strike and encourage the women at the Liverpool factory to strike also. However, when the American bosses fly in and lay off 5,000 men as a result, including Rita's husband Eddie, cracks begin to show in the women's solidarity.

Risking her marriage and friendships, Rita continues her efforts for equality and gives a rousing speech at the Trade Union Conference, leading to the passing of equal pay within the union. As Eddie finally recognizes his wife's achievements, the women celebrate their life-changing success.

Funny, touching and timeless, Made in Dagenham shows how ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they stand together.

We are delighted to be directing this fabulous feel-good, toe-tapping musical for CODS this Autumn and look forward to sharing our vision with you soon!

Wendy Thomas and Angela Wright

MADE IN DAGENHAM

FEMALE CHARACTERS

Lead Character

RITA O'GRADY: (playing age 30s). An average working-class mum, likeable with a good sense of humour. Though uneducated (and not 'well spoken') she speaks from the heart and goes on a journey of self-discovery where she finds an inner passion, confidence and resolve that drives her to fight for the cause.

Solo singing: Several big solo songs. Carries the show.

Main Characters

BARBARA CASTLE: (playing age 40s/50s). Minister for Transport. Self-assured, feisty, strong. Likeable, but does not mince her words or flinch at holding her own against the men.

Solo song, and occasional appearances in some ensemble songs.

BERYL: (playing age 40s+). Funny, foul-mouthed, factory worker. Ballsy, bolshie and inappropriate, she has a massive heart and is very well-loved with her self-deprecating humour (when she's not irritating everyone!).

Solo singing: Female ensemble and occasional solo lines in the girls' songs

CONNIE RILEY: (playing age 50s+) Shop steward and machinist. Has dedicated her life to the Labour Party and representing the rights of the factory women but is tired and disillusioned about what she's been able to achieve in the face of male opposition.

Solo song, and ensemble

LISA HOPKINS: (playing age 25-35) Wife of the Factory manager. Cambridge graduate – well-spoken, eloquent with RP accent but not at all a 'snob'. Longs for a career and intellectual stimulation, she is passionate about women's rights, starts a petition to stop caning in her son's school and befriends Rita.

Solo singing: None. Does not appear in the factory scenes or songs.

Supporting Characters

CLARE: (playing age 20s +) One of the machinists. Excellent comedy skills and good singer. Low in ambition she is saving up to get a flat and marry Ken.

Solo song and ensemble

SANDRA BEAUMONT: (playing age 20s) One of the machinists. Young, attractive, and keen to make the most of her looks. She confidently 'plays the field' but would like to bag a man who could keep her in nice things.

Solo singing: female ensemble and occasional solo lines in the girls' songs

CASS: (playing age mid 30s) One of the machinists. Ambitious and the most sensible and down to earth of the girls. Is frustrated in her work and (idealistically) wants to be an airline pilot.

Solo singing: female ensemble and occasional solo lines in the girls' songs

SHARON O'GRADY: (playing age 13-16). Rita & Eddie's daughter. Resourceful and confident. Wants to be a doctor, rather than conform to the expectations of the time. Does her brother's homework for him (at a fee). (Auditioning age 16 years +).

Small amount of singing. Also, female ensemble.

MADE IN DAGENHAM

MALE CHARACTERS

Main Characters

EDDIE O'GRADY: (playing age 30s). Rita's husband. Unskilled factory worker at Ford. An ordinary, likeable, working-class bloke. Happy-go-lucky and a bit of a joker. Loves Rita but is 'one of the lads' and would expect his 'tea on the table'. However, he is a decent guy.

Solo song, and male ensemble

HAROLD WILSON: (playing age 50s). Labour Prime Minister. Able to capture something of the quality of this well-known politician. Is played as something of a comic buffoon in the show, struggling to find a solution to the country's many problems at the time.

Solo song, plus occasional, brief appearances in a few ensemble songs.

MONTY: (playing age 50s+) Working class factory worker and Union steward who represent the girls at Dagenham – good-hearted and quietly unassuming. He wants to support the girls as he believes in their cause but isn't particularly assertive with the management and doesn't want to swim against the tide.

Singing: part of male ensemble.

JEREMY HOPKINS: (playing age 35-45) Ford Dagenham Managing Director Ex-public school, university-educated and well spoken (RP accent). A conformer who wants an easy life and a submissive wife who will support him in his corporate career.

Predominately a non-singing role. Appears in some ensemble numbers when they include 'the management'.

MR TOOLEY: (playing age 30s +) Ford Executive from Texas USA. Confident, powerful, arrogant, insulting. Speaks over everyone in a bullish way but can also be subtly sinister. Doesn't get the British sensitivity and expects everyone to and jump to his orders and the American way.

Solo song.

Appears later in the story – possibility of doubling with CORTINA MAN and/or other supporting roles.

Supporting characters

CORTINA MAN: (playing age 20s-30s) 'Front man' for the Cortina launch. Cheesy, charming, insincere, and attractive. The definitive 'car salesman'. His only appearance is his song 'Cortina' – so he can double with other supporting roles.

RON MACER: (playing age 30+) Ford Dagenham Production Manager. Working-class middle management. Sings as part of male ensemble.

GREGORY HUBBLE: (playing age 30+) Ford Dagenham Personnel Director. Working-class middle management. Sings as part of male ensemble.

SID: (playing age 20s+) Factory worker and union steward. One of the factory workers on the shop floor who represents the 'fitters' and spouts half-hearted Marxist banter. But his priority is larking about - a 'double act' with Bill. Sings as part of male ensemble.

BILL: (playing age 20s+) Factory worker and union steward. One of the factory workers on the shop floor who represents the 'engineers' but, like Sid, is more likely to be larking about and sharing sexist jokes. - a 'double act' with Sid. Sings as part of male ensemble.

GRAHAM O'GRADY: (playing age 14-16). Rita & Eddie's son. Essex accent. Has a scholarship to the local 'posh' school where he gets caned and is struggling a bit. He gets his sister to do his homework. His father's son. (Auditioning age 16 years +).

Small amount of singing. Also, male ensemble.

MADE IN DAGENHAM

CRANBROOK OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY PROUDLY PRESENTS:

made in Dagenham

THE MUSICAL



**QUEEN'S HALL THEATRE
CRANBROOK**

26th – 28th October 7.30pm - 28th 2.00pm

**ticketsource.co.uk/cods or
Lightning Tech, High Street**

Tickets £15 adults/£12



Book by RICHARD BEAN Music by DAVID ARNOLD Lyrics by RICHARD THOMAS
Based on the Woolley/Karlsen/Number 9 Motion Picture www.mtishows.co.uk

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

EUROVISION

TICKETS ARE FREE

MAY 13
BAR FROM
7:30 PM

EuroVision
Screening

**THE QUEENS HALL
THEATRE**

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT...
WWW.QUEENSHALLTHEATRE.CO.UK

EUROVISION

Eurovision is back!

The days of nil points are officially over! This year the biggest show on the continent is being hosted on home turf, if you can't make it up to Liverpool then join us at

[Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook](#)

Tickets are required for our live screening BUT are *FREE*
Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook in association with CODS

www.queenshalltheatre.co.uk

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[CSPA Cranbrook School Parents' Association](#) [Cranbrook School](#)

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

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

NOTICES

2022 PRODUCTIONS HAVE ALL MADE A PROFIT

Exciting news from our Treasurer. Every CODS production in 2022 made a profit! The final figure for Priscilla Queen of the Desert was a profit of £2380, Evermore final figures to be confirmed but estimated to be more than £3000.



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. Depending on the response, we are thinking about creating a Section called **MEMBERS CORNER**.

DIRECTORS NEEDED FOR OUR DECEMBER 2023 SHOW

We are always thinking about the next CODS productions.

We need ideas for shows, starting with the 2023 pantomime .

Please get in touch with your ideas!

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

Louisa Nelson-Chambers

Business Manager

Guy Fillmore

Treasurer

Glyn Roberts

Committee Members

Annie Hatcher, Alison Withey-Harrison,
Kaz Kember, Katie Kember, James Harper,
Rebecca Evans, Mark Jeffreys,
Stephen D Smith

WE ARE YOUR COMMITTEE

If you have any questions, suggestions or want to know more about CODS contact us either by

Facebook Private Message or Email us at CODS.secretary@gmail.com

Chair Louisa Nelson Chambers	Treasurer Glyn Roberts	Business Mgr Guy Fillmore	Tech Mgr James Harper
Alison Withey-Harrison	Annie Hatcher	Kaz Kember	Katie Kember
Mark Jeffreys	Rebecca Evans	Chrissie Smith	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

THE BACK PAGE

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

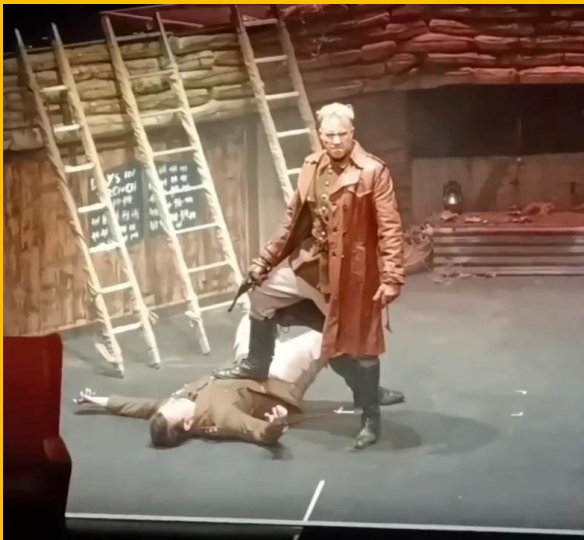
Lee Hatcher:
tel: 01580 388716

or email: cods.newsletter@gmail.com

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



WELL DONE TO THE CAST AND CREW OF BLACKADDER GOES FORTH - OUR AUDIENCES LOVED YOU!



**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION:
FRIDAY 26TH MAY 2023**