

CODSWALLOP!

The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Bi-Monthly Newsletter

JANUARY 2016

CARDS ON THE TABLE

Dramatised by Leslie Darbon from the original novel by

Agatha Christie



7th – 9th April
Queen's Hall
Theatre

Tickets from:

'UberSports'

tel: 01580 713887

cods.ticketsource.co.uk

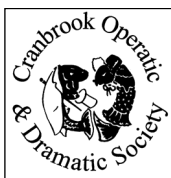
BUY YOUR TICKETS SOON!

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**"THERE'S TOO MUCH TENDENCY TO ATTRIBUTE TO GOD THE EVILS THAT
MAN DOES OF HIS OWN FREE WILL"
AGATHA CHRISTIE**

NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Welcome to 2016 Folks!

Trying hard to ignore how bloomin' cold it is and rigorously hoping that all the recently departed artists, actors and musicians are secretly gathered on the International Space Station, rehearsing a kick-ass show to be broadcast from the moon on Halloween... that'll happen right?



Anyway, back to reality and riding on the back of a really successful and entertaining pantomime, we're looking forward to a year packed with great productions and exciting events!

Thanks to some great audiences and a big effort from everyone involved in putting the show together, Sleeping Beauty's success means that we have been able to donate £2,400 to share between Camara and Demelza, two fantastic charities helping children at home and abroad. Our donations will mean that over 240 children in Africa can become digitally literate and can provide over 60 Music Therapy sessions for children using Demelza's services! So a Big Thank You! To everyone who supported the show.



See

www.camara.org for more info.

See www.demelza.org for more info.

The rest of the year offers more delights and opportunities to get involved with some fantastic productions and events. The Spring Play, Agatha Christie's 'Cards on the Table', is well into rehearsals and promises entertaining intrigue and investigations in true British whodunit style! There's only a few performances planned so get your tickets early... see all the details later in the newsletter.

Before that we have the AGM in March and this year we're looking to combine the

NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

formalities with some frivolities afterwards, with a night of Cheese! That's the edible kind mixed with the Karaoke kind! Come along, have your say about the society and then have a good old sing song! Details to be found later in the newsletter.

Later in the year there's the return of Shorts to Cranbrook, with Silly Shorts taking place at the end of July. You'll see some of the chances to audition to be absurd and ridiculous in public spaces up for grabs in a few pages, but essentially this year it's all about the funny!

Later still, but worth waiting for, is our October production of Gypsy, the "Mother" of all Musicals, full of Styne and Sondheim classics like "Everything's Coming up Roses", "Together" and "Let me entertain you"... don't miss the chance to be part of this popular musical coming just of the back of an amazing West End run... Audition details to follow in forthcoming newsletters.

In an amongst all of this fun stuff will be some social events, including a planned sing-a-long a Sound of Music and Rocky Horror Picture movie shows in the summer and of course they'll be Panto again before we know it!

Phew! Told you there's was lot's to look forward too! And saying that, that's where we need members to come forward. If you'd like to direct this year's Panto and raise more money for charity, or if you've got a passion for a play, musical, summer show or anything else that you'd like to see CODS put on in 2017 then get in touch!! There's a call for all of these slots, and details of what needs to be presented to the show selection committee further on in this issue, so don't be shy, get your dream show put onto the stage!

Thanks everyone, enjoy this latest edition and I hope like me and Neil Gaiman "that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something." Or if not that then at least don't make eye contact with anyone whilst eating a Banana. Ha! Banana!

Cheers

James jameshanaway@hotmail.com



Registered Charity No 1105153
Affiliated to the National
Operatic & Dramatic Association
and Kent Drama Association

CARDS ON THE TABLE – TEAM

Superintendent Battle
Mrs Ariadne Oliver
Dr. Roberts
Ann Meredith
Mrs Lorrimer
Major Despard
Rhoda Dawes
Shaitana/Stephens
Miss Burgess
Sergeant O'Connor
Doris
Mary

Charlie Barnett
Sharon Pickles
David Baker
Samantha King
Sarah Davis
Jez Druce
Rachel Croft Golding
Peter Ashby
Debbie Knight
Andy Fairweather
Becky James
Vicky King



PROPS

We need lots of props for Cards on the table. They all will need to be as specific to the period (20s/30s) as possible. Among others we need;

Card table, 4 chairs, 2 display cases, armchair, drinks table, small table, bridge score cards, ashtray, drinks trays, coffee pot, sugar bowl, milk jug, 6 cups and saucers, desk & swivel chair, 2 upright chairs, books, pictures, another armchair, sofa, stool, round table with shelves and books, cabinet, cabinet, ornaments...

If you can help or have any ideas please contact Lee on 01580 388716 or leedavehatcher@gmail.com

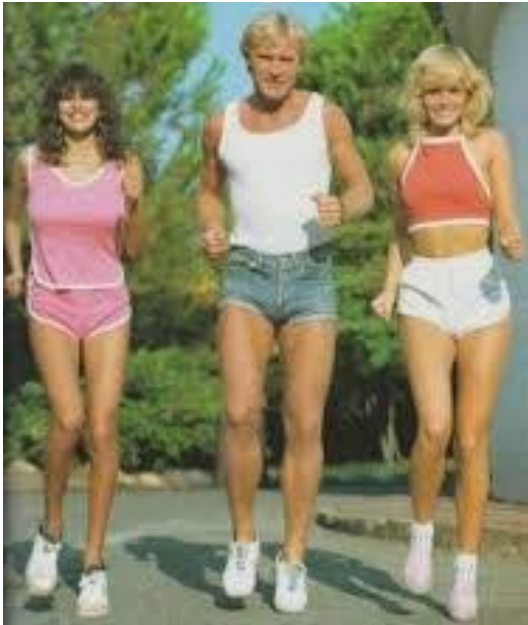
Director	Annie Chesters
Assistant Director	Matt Barker
Stage Manager	Vicky King
Properties	Lee Hatcher
Costumes	Sharon Pickles
Prompt	Michaela Tick

If you want to get involved contact Annie on 01580 388716 or email annie.chesters33@gmail.com

SILLY SHORTS

The Shorts are coming back to Cranbrook, and this time they're going to be Silly!

Now by that I don't mean this:



Or this:



At the moment, I'm on the look out for for 4 or 5 absurd, funny, not necessarily short, people to help take on the direction one of each of the productions and some other lovely folk to help with some technical bits and some costumes... Get in contact ASAP if you're interested in getting involved?

Audition dates and details will be given out soon, once the team is in place, but will be after Cards on the Table has finished, with Rehearsals taking place between the play and the end of June/ early July Performances.

A very brief outline of the productions is below, and there is plenty of opportunities for lots of people and just so you know, the format will be similar to the original Cranbrook Shorts production, with the audience split into groups and travelling around the venues lead by their own Silly Shorts Guide, starting and finishing at the Vestry Hall.

SILLY SHORTS

SILLY SHORTS:

ACCIDENT– The Vestry Hall - A small theatre company is preparing for opening night of their friend's original play

SONGS – A Church – An absurd montage of singing!

BOX – A Bench – A woman asks a passer-by to look after her precious cardboard box, but what's inside and what's she up to?

FISH and other animals – Venues around Cranbrook's streets – surprising sketches, experiences, music and dance in various and unexpected spaces

SUPERHEROES! - A pub – even Superheroes need to let off steam every now and then!

TICKETS PLEASE? – A bus - An absurd journey around Cranbrook's points of interest...

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Gerald

jameshanaway@hotmail.com



GYPSY

*Jules Styne Stephen Sondheim
& Arthur Laurents'*

GYPSY AUDITION PIECES

SONGS

ROSE - SOME PEOPLE

HERBIE & ROSE – SMALL WORLD

LOUISE – LITTLE LAMB

JUNE & LOUISE – IF MOMMA WAS MARRIED

TULSA – ALL I NEED IS THE GIRL

STRIPPERS – GOTTA HAVE A GIMMICK

ENSEMBLE – DAINTY JUNE & THE FARM BOYS

MADAM ROSE'S TOREADORS



AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- Learn the song for your character
- If you are auditioning for ROSE, be familiar with the duet as you may be required to sing this song with HERBIE
- BURLESQUE DANCERS. Mazeppa (Trumpet Player) – Electra (Fairy Lights) Tessie (Ballet Dancer). Be familiar with the whole song, choose who you would prefer to sing.

SCRIPTED AUDITION PIECES

A short monologue from the following characters will be available for all auditionees
Rose , Herbie, Louise & a short exchange between Louise & June

AUDITION HELP NIGHT: MONDAY 11/4/2016

AUDITION 1: SUNDAY 17/4/2016

AUDITION 2: MONDAY 18/4/2016

1ST REHEARSAL MONDAY 2ND MAY AT QUEENS HALL

GYPSY

AUDITION TIMES

SUNDAY 17TH APRIL – QUEENS HALL THEATRE

Children	Between 12p to 1pm
Ensemble & Support Roles	Between 1pm to 2pm
Protagonists Males	Between 1:45 to 2:30pm
Protagonists Females	2:30pm



MONDAY 18TH APRIL – QUEENS HALL THEATRE

Additional Date and call backs from Sunday 8pm

SUPPORT CAST

UNCLE JOCKO GEORGE ARNOLD (& HIS GUITAR) POP WEBER MR GOLDSTONE MISS CRATCHITT
PASTEY TESSA TURA MAZEPPA ELECTRA CIGAR RENEE PHIL BOUGERON-COCHON

ENSEMBLE CAST

FARMBOYS :YONKERS – L.A – ANGIE -TULSA
HOLLYWOOD BLONDES – AGNES – MARJORIE MAY – DOLORES – THELMA – EDNA – GAIL
SHOWGIRLS

CHILDREN ROLES

BABY JUNE – BABY LOUISE – BALLOON GIRL – NEWSBOYS (7-10 YEARS)

PROTAGONISTS – ADULTS

ROSE – LOUISE – JUNE – HERBIE - TULSA

GYPSY

WE WILL ALSO REQUIRE A PRODUCTION TEAM



YOUR DRAMA GROUP NEEDS YOU

- PRODUCTION SECRETARY - PUBLICITY COORDINATOR
 - STAGE MANAGER & ASSIST SM
 - STAGE CREW
 - WARDROBE – SHARON PICKLES
 - PROPERTIES
 - LIGHTING TECHNICIAN
 - SOUND TECHNICIAN
 - CHOREOGRAPHER
 - MUSICAL DIRECTOR – ANDREW WITHAM
 - REHEARSAL PIANIST – ANDREW WITHAM
 - PROMPT
 - FOH MANAGER & STAFF
 - FOYER DISPLAYER(S)
 - PHOTOGRAPHER – GUY FILLMORE
 - POSTER & PROGRAM DESIGNER
- PLEASE CONTACT JACK DAVIDSON OR LOUISA NELSON CHAMBERS



TRIBES

Dear wonderful theatrical folk.

The KDA festival line up this year looks fantastic with some really diverse and interesting plays.

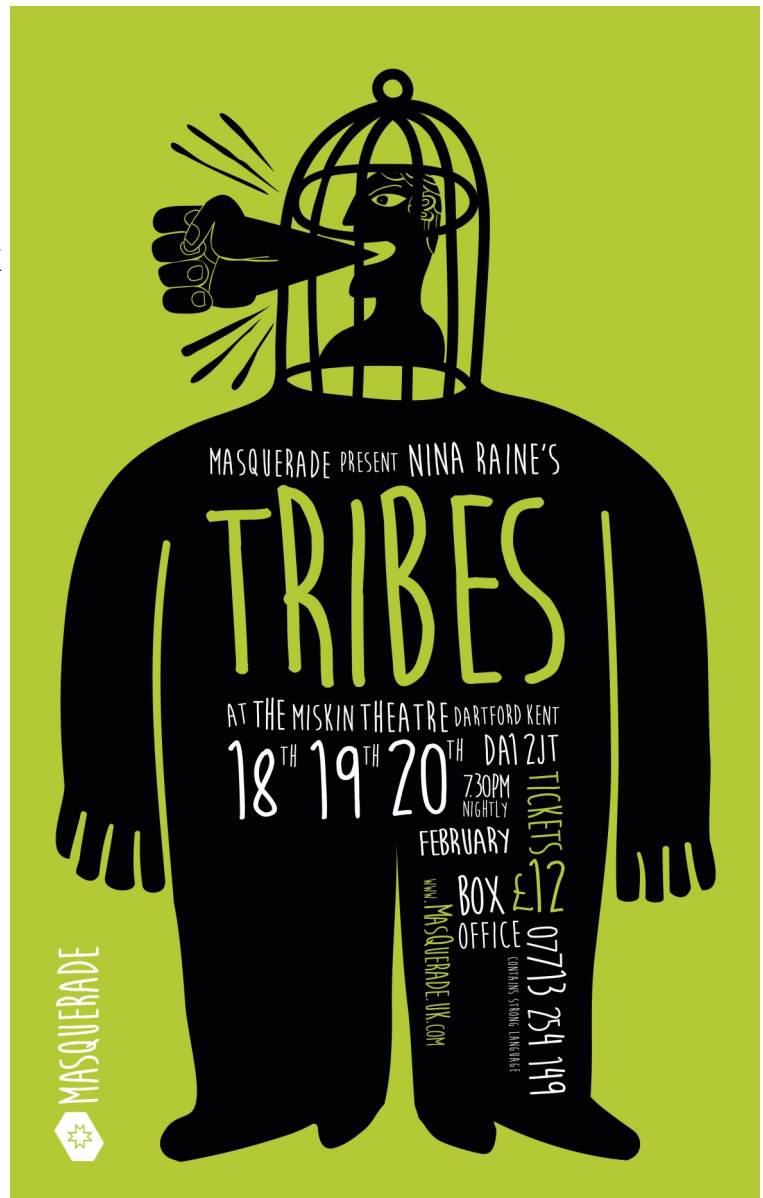
I would be eternally grateful if you could circulate the attached poster of our production 'Tribes' or bring it to the attention of your members and theatre going audiences. Masquerade are a tiny group of 20 members and it becomes increasingly difficult to get those seats filled as well you know.

Please do feel free to forward me your publicity and I will circulate with my email database as well. Good luck with all your productions and thank you.

Kind Regards,

Danny Waters.

Masquerade Director.



NOTICES

AGM AND CHEESE NIGHT!

This year the CODS AGM will be held in the Queen's Hall Theatre on Friday 18th March from 7.30pm and in a change to the usual format the meeting will be followed by an evening of Cheese!

By that we mean a social evening of Karaoke! and Cheese & Crackers! If you'd like to join in just bring along your favourite piece of cheese and the cracker or biscuit of your choice and your cheesiest song to sing! They'll be some drinks available, but again please bring along what you'd like to drink for the night as well.



More details on the AGM agenda, Nomination forms for Committee members and other matters will be sent out shortly. We'd really like to see as many people there as possible, so that you can have your voice, on the society and on the microphone!

CODSWALLOP!

We aim to release the newsletter bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November, shortly after the Committee Meeting (2nd Tuesday of that month). All articles to be submitted by the Friday following the meeting, keeping them concise (under two pages) with contact for, or links to, further information if required.

We are continually looking to improve CODSWALLOP! Any thoughts on what we could do would be gratefully received. Please contact Lee on leedavehatcher@gmail.com . Thank you.

CALL FOR SHOW IDEAS

Ever wanted to Direct a play, musical or pantomime? Or do you have a new idea for a show that you'd like to put on?

Well now's the time to make it happen!

We're looking for Directors to pitch their ideas for the following slots:

Pantomime in 2016 and Spring Play, Summer Show (this doesn't have to be shorts! but can't be a big production either!), October Musical & Pantomime in 2017. We'd also love to hear from you



NOTICES

if you have an idea for a play with a small cast, simple or no set/ tech. / costume requirements that can be put on in a small theatre space.

If you have an idea then please let the Show Selection Committee know by getting in touch with Angela (details below) and you'll be invited to come and pitch your idea at the next Show Selection Committee meeting, which will be on March x from 7.30pm in The George Pub in Cranbrook. (If you can't make that date/time, then we can always arrange something else with you.)

Please don't read the word Committee and think that it's a formal, scary process! The pitch is just so we can get a feel of what your idea is and how you would go about putting it on, as well as understanding what is involved and seeing whether it fits with CODS' current programme.

You will need to put together the following information for the pitch:

Tell us what slot you are pitching for and the name of show you are pitching. Give us an outline of the show - genre, storyline, main characters, style, background, where it's been on, is it original etc... and include why you want to put it on, your vision/passion for the production. This doesn't have to be 10,000 word dissertation, but more than the Wikipedia entry please!

Put together details of the cast: How many, gender/ age split - singers, dancers, children etc... , Technical requirements - anything out of the ordinary needed or that you would like to include - think flying in Peter Pan! Who will help you put the show on , do you have people interested/ agreed to be Stage Manager, Choreographer, Musical Director, Set Designer, PR? (A list of all the key roles are included in the CODS Production Guidelines, that we can send on to you before you pitch.) The guidelines also include sample budgets from other show and we will ask you to give us a Draft Budget for your show that has a general outline of some costs based on past shows and taking into consideration anything like large casts, tech. requirements etc.

Lastly we'll just need an idea of what experience you've had in putting on shows in the past, either with CODS or other groups.

There's plenty of help if you need it to put all of this together and members of the committee have all put on shows in the past, so they can try and answer any questions you might have.

So please, don't be shy! Get in touch and get your ideas to us as soon as you can!

Thanks everyone

The Show Selection Committee

Send your ideas or questions to the Committee's Chair Angela on angelacowling1@gmail.com

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THE BACK PAGE

Any questions about what you have read? Please contact your Codswallop Editor Lee Hatcher: tel: 07539 460571

or email: leedavehatcher@gmail.com

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



SLEEPING BEAUTY PHOTO CDS

You can order a DVD of photographs of our 'Sleeping Beauty' production taken by Guy Fillmore for just £7.00 (£7.50 if postage required) by contacting Guy at guyfillmore@hotmail.com - all proceeds to CODS.



**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION:
FRIDAY 11TH MARCH 2016**