



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

The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Notes	1
KDA Awards	2
High Society	3 - 4
Notices	5
Beauty and the Beast	6 - 7
The Back Page	8

New Members!

WELCOME! We hope you have a long & happy life with CODS!

Did you know we are on Facebook?

CODS has its very own group page on Facebook with lots of information, news and photographs.



Visit www.facebook.com

'Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society CODS (official page)'

Contact [Steph or Jackie](#) for more information and to submit copy. Thank you.

CODS Website

If anyone would like anything put onto the CODS website please contact Matt at m.g.barker@talk21.com or call 07872557446, Thanks.

Codswallop!

June 2014



NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear fellow members,

Since our last Codswallop, we have continued apace, and the Society is as busy as ever. Our War Shorts event looks most interesting, and I am really looking forward to seeing this event from a Sgt. Major's perspective. I feel it is great for the Society to be performing new material within an event we successfully pioneered locally last year, rather than performing standard war-themed productions. I would encourage those of you not taking part within this production to support both the Society and your friends within this event, it should be a moving and great evening out.

In the meantime, our Autumn Musical, High Society, has been cast and I am delighted to see several rising stars within our membership taking principal roles. We also have new stage manager's and choreographers for this event, which I find most encouraging, and demonstrates that we can rotate roles when required, a healthy sign for the future.

Familiarisation evenings and Auditions for our Christmas Pantomime, of Beauty and the Beast, will also be taking place shortly, and I would also encourage you to support Vicky within her directorial debut for the Society. Notwithstanding the fun seen on stage, pantomimes (and indeed any other theatrical production) require great input prior to First Night to ensure their success. Hopefully you can find time to help within this event and help raise more money for charity.

On the subject of Streetcar, congratulations to James Hammond for securing a nomination for Best Cameo within this year's Kent Drama Festival. Whereas this nomination did not secure an Award, it must be remembered that a nomination is an achievement in itself. Hopefully we will see further nominations next year as part of our production of Wind In The Willows; from the initial ideas I have already seen, this looks to be an amazing production.

Behind the scenes within the Society, and as specifically requested at the Annual General Meeting, we are examining the Rules and Constitution to the Society. Maurice is leading a Sub Committee comprising several Committee Members to look at possible changes to the Rules and Constitution, as these have not been reviewed for some time. Rachel has been co-opted onto this Sub Committee, in order that the views of the general membership can also be taken into account. The work carried out by the Sub Committee will be considered by the Executive Committee in September, with a view to holding an Extraordinary General Meeting in November should any amendments to the Rules and Constitution be necessary. So, if you wish to make your voice heard within this process, please feel free to contact Maurice accordingly.

Finally, my thanks go to Alison who is temporarily standing in as Society Secretary for Jackie, whom we are all thinking of at present. Any Secretarial issues should be addressed to Alison in the first instance.

I look forward to seeing you all at War Shorts.

Andrew Tel 01424 718328

E Mail supertr@mp7902.wanadoo.co.uk

"All the arms we need are for hugging." ~ Author Unknown

KDA Festival Awards Evening

Our performance of Streetcar Named Desire did not get the best of critiques from the adjudicator, some of which was undoubtedly justified, some perhaps less so, so it was no surprise that we only had one nomination for the awards evening, that of James Hammond for his portrayal of the embarrassed young man at the hands of the sex hungry Blanche. It was disappointing though, that only two of us could go to the event.

The evening, hosted by TODS, started with an excellent meal of lasagne and salad followed by chocolate brownies with strawberries and cream, then followed by the usual introductory speeches in which the adjudicator, David Vince, praised the range of productions and the standards of performance, but confirmed at the end of the day it was only one man's opinion with whom you may or may not agree.

We didn't have too long to wait for our result, the Best Actor in a Cameo Role was the second presentation. Unfortunately, although James's performance received acknowledged praise the award was won by Godfrey West from Medway Little Theatre with James as runner up.

The presentations moved on to Best Debut in a Full Length Play. Although he was not among the nominations David Baker was acknowledged for his "impressive performance" as Stanley. When we reached the Best Actress in a Supporting Role, again although she was not among the nominations Vicky King got special mention for her portrayal of Eunice.

Our friends at TODS were nominated for four awards and finished the evening with winning two of them for Best Lighting and Initiative in Stage Presentation.

Overall we finished 14th out of 16 with a total of 65 points against the winners, Bromley Little Theatre with 91.

The full awards results can be seen by request to me.

Maurice

High Society

High Society Cast

C. K Dexter	Simon Tomlinson
Mike Conner	Jez Druce
Tracy Lord	Vicki Tinkler
Liz Imbrie	Jo Levett
Uncle Willie	Robin Harrison
Margaret Lord	Val King
George Kitteridge	Glyn Roberts
Seth Lord	Geoff King
Dinah Lord	Millie Smith and Tash Pope
Sidney Kidd	Alex Roberts
Edward the Butler	Roy Barclay
Mac the Night watchman	Charlie Barnett
Waitress	Freya Dawes
Girl trio:	Charlotte Fillmore, Emma Hancock, Rachel Croft Golding
Baritone	Alan Hodge

Reporters, Secretaries, Ball Guests, Wedding Guests, Servants

Vix King, Becca Mullis, Emily Rudden, Annie Oulton, Lana Williams, Sarah Hutchings

Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society presents:

HIGH SOCIETY

Music and lyrics by Cole Porter
An amateur production by kind permission of Boosey and Hawkes



**Queen's Hall
Theatre
Cranbrook**

**29th October -
1st Nov 2014**

Tickets: £12/10 (£6/5)
cods.ticketsource.co.uk
'Ubertogs' High Street
or 01580 713887

Sponsored by Peter Jones (Opticians) and Waterloo House Tearooms

High Society

Props

With rehearsals for High Society well under way, we are looking to borrow, hire, or otherwise obtain some props that may be a little tricky! Please have a look below and let Annie or me know if you can help at all, or if you have any ideas on where we could get these from. These would be 1940s/50s.

3+ telephones

Swivel (or similar) chair

3 x typewriters (they need to go 'ding' but we should be able to add the 'ding')

Hat stand

Silver egg dish

Garden shears

Sofa and Armchair

Telephone (may be able to use one of the above 3 telephones)

Camera on strap - needs to break open when dropped

Table lighter

2+ chairs and a table - ironwork (garden furniture)

2 sunloungers

1 poolside table

Suit stand or trouser press

Cheval mirror

Ice bucket in stand

4 chairs for ballroom

2-3 bar stools for Diner

2-3 tables with chairs

Bench (but could use iron chairs and table)

Kidd's camera

Thanks everyone!

Lee - leehatcher@madasafish.com 07539 460571

Notices

One Business Manager Required

Although it was not announced at the AGM I have made no secret of my wish to stand down as our Business Manager at the AGM next March. It's not that I don't like the job because I do actually quite like it, or am fed up with it, or even the fact that I can't cope any more, it's just the fact that there comes a time when I believe somebody else should step forward for the recumbent holder to step backwards and having reached my four score years I feel that that time has come, although I will still maintain my position of Hall Manager at least for the foreseeable future.

It is the fervent hope that this short article will spur somebody into offering to shadow me for the rest of the year leading to a smooth hand over in March. But what is involved you may well ask. Well, the job is not as arduous as you might think and certainly not as arduous as it used to be since various aspects of the job were removed.

Basically, it involves collecting advertising copy for the programmes and subsequently issuing invoices, collecting the money and passing it to the Treasurer, setting up ticketing arrangements and organising the public box office. Everything else that the BM once did is now done by somebody else.

Now that we have on-line ticketing that side of things has been very much simplified. Tickets no longer have to be ordered or printed and I would even be happy to continue handling this aspect if that was an issue for anybody.

With regard to collecting advert copy even this has been simplified as most of our clients take out a full year's adverts for the benefit of a 20% discount which obviates the need to call and see them each time, just once at the beginning of the year, apart from the odd one who puts a show theme into their advert.

So there we are, it's not an arduous task, it doesn't take up much time and it's even hardly worth the title of Business Manager. But if I step down somebody needs to take it over regardless of what it's called and this might just help someone to come forward. If there is anyone out there who is teetering on the brink give me a call or contact Andrew and we can have a little chat and go through things in a bit more detail. I look forward to hearing from you. Maurice.

Summer Barbeque/ Props Hut Sort

Please join us at Flishinghurst on Saturday July 19th from 10.30am for a Barbeque and a drink. You may well (as in definitely) be asked to assist Lee with sorting and organising the props hut (and providing some BBQ fuel!).

We need an idea of how many people who are likely to be on site, requiring food and drink. So please email, or phone Lee or Marian ASAP. We will also setup a Facebook event to get a better idea of numbers.

Beauty and the Beast

Read through: The Church House at 7.30pm 9th July 2014

Audition: Performing Arts Centre 7.30pm 17th July 2014

A traditional British pantomime, incorporating visual comedy, slapstick and audience participation.

Characters

Belle

The principal girl and youngest daughter of Dusty Cob. A kindly but feisty young girl, who likes nothing better than reading her books. (Female, singer and dancing role)

Dame Dolly Donut

The head baker at Cob's Bakery and the typical over-the-top world-weary panto dame character. (Male, Can move a little and sing)

Crouton

The head dough-boy at Cob's Bakery. Comic feed and audience link. Buttons Character. (Male, sing and dance a little)

Charlotte

Stepdaughter of Dusty Cob. Think Cinderella ugly sister type. (Male or female, move and sing a little)

Marzipan

Another of Mr Cob's stepdaughters and mirror image of Charlotte. (Male or female, move and sing a little)

Dusty Cob

A harassed baker, who only wants what's best for his family. (Male)

Beast/ Prince Rupert

A "Haughty" and "spoilt" prince, who isn't all he appears to be. The Beast is the alter-ego of prince Rupert. (Male, sings well and moves a little)

Victor Vandare

A nasty and vain egomaniac who believes that all females should fall at his feet. (Male, sings well and moves a little)

Gaston

A good-hearted French manservant. (Male/Female, sings and moves well)

Fairy Rosebud

The typical good fairy who makes a bad decision and has to try and undo the consequences. (Female, sings well)

Beauty and the Beast

Witch Greenfly

A nasty witch who delights in trying to prove that deep down everyone is inherently bad. (Female, sings well)

Kingsmill

(MR COB'S HORSE)

Chorus/Minor roles

Paramedics, Bakery workers, Castle servants, Werewolf, Children, Villagers, etc

Synopsis

Cob's Bakery is awaiting a royal visitor in the shape of the handsome but vain Prince Rupert. Upon arrival the Prince proves to be every bit as vain as his reputation, although this doesn't put off Mr Cob's two ugly daughters Charlotte & Marzipan. But his beautiful youngest daughter Belle, refuses his arrogant advances. The egotistical Victor Vandare also has designs on Belle and uses blackmail in order to try and force her to go out with him.

Meanwhile Fairy Rose and Witch Greenfly are having an argument about goodness and strike up a bet to decide who is right. They chose Belle and Prince

Rupert to prove their point, but Witch Greenfly believes that she has been tricked and in her rage she turns Prince Rupert into a Beast. But before this happens, Belle discovers the Prince's true nature and they both fall in love.

Belle eventually ends up as a prisoner at the Beast's castle, unaware that he is really Prince Rupert. But Victor hasn't given up on Belle and strikes a deal with her father, to rescue her from the Beast in return for Belle marrying him.

Comedy comes in the form of Dame Dolly Donut, Crouton and Charlotte and Marzipan. But the laughs are shared amongst many other characters and includes a very funny scene, where Charlotte and Marzipan play 'fetch' with the Beast. This is a thoughtfully crafted panto, which as well as making you laugh will also tug at your heartstrings.

Any questions please contact Vicki

vickitinkler@hotmail.co.uk 07826 856203

Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Presents

THE CHRISTMAS 2014 PANTOMIME

Beauty
and the
BEAST

Directed by Victoria Tinkler

Open Auditions
Read through 9th July
Audition 17th July

to find out more information go to
www.cranbrookods.org.uk

December 27th - 31st 2014
Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook

All proceeds to local charities

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!

WANTED / FOR SALE

Do you have anything you wish to sell that might be of interest to other members? Are you looking to buy something that another member might be wanting to sell? Do you have an event, an occasion, or a notice you'd like your fellow members to be aware of? If so, for a small donation of £2 per entry, you can ADVERTISE YOUR GOODS OR "WANTS" in Codswallop. To advertise in the next edition, or for further details, please contact me using the details at top of this page.

Did you Know? If you receive Codswallop by email, things like website addresses, or email addresses are usually 'clickable' www.cranbrookods.org.uk

The Executive Editor Ponders....

Now, lad, I know you usually use me as a bit of comic relief in these newsletter thingies, but this is important. Last time I talked about your War Shorts and it got me thinking, and reading - reminded me of this poem by Major John McCrae who wrote it during the Great War in the days after he lost his friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer. Please lad, the story's important, the poem's important and the names are important. All the lost names are.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Charlie Knight (Sir) B.A. DO.g. Ar.F. g.RR.



DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION: FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST 2014