



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 Note	1
Diary Dates & Notices	2
Charity Walk	3
Oklahoma News	4
Jubilee Line-up	5

### New Members

Welcome to all new members  
We hope you will have a long  
and happy association with  
our Society

### Did you know we are on Facebook?

For all you computer minded people, CODS has its very own group page on Facebook with lots of information, news and photographs.



Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

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

Or speak to Sarah Hutchings, James Hammond or Steph Beeken for more information.

### CODS Website

If anyone would like anything put onto the CODS website please contact matt at [m.g.barker@talk21.com](mailto:m.g.barker@talk21.com) or call 07872557446, Thanks.

# Codswallop!

MAY 2012



**"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN"  
A VERY HAPPY  
DIAMOND JUBILEE!**

## NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Luvvies and Techies,

It's Spring (apparently) and we are rehearsing our entertainment for the Queen's Jubilee street party in Cranbrook. The cast are enjoying working with our new director Jack Davidson, who is whipping them all into shape (!) to entertain the masses in the afternoon of June 5<sup>th</sup>. Please come along to support the society and perhaps help to drum up a few new members.

*Oklahoma!* is cast and will have started rehearsals by the time you read this. You will find a cast list later in Codswallop. We still need a prompt for the show, so if you are interested please contact Angela on 712175.

*Fallen Angels* was an unqualified success. The play looked spectacular with a stunning set and great props and costumes. It was an entertaining evening, which was brilliantly acted and directed. Congratulations to all involved and shame on you if you missed it. The adjudicator was most complimentary and we await the nominations for the KDA awards with fingers crossed.

Breaking news is a change to our proposed Autumn musical for 2013. We had applied to stage *Sound of Music* next year, but have been pipped at the post by the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone who will be doing the same show in the same week as we had hoped to do it. The committee has decided therefore to put on *Cabaret* in 2013 followed by *Sound of Music* in 2014. You will find further information requesting potential directors later in the newsletter.

Andrew and Marian have finalised the monies raised by the sponsored walk and there is an article about this fundraising event in the following pages.

Finally, the committee has been discussing our publicity and ways in which we could produce still more 'bums on seats'. We have come up with the following suggestion: As you know, we currently put up several large posters in and around Cranbrook as well as one or two banners. We would like to propose that members be given the opportunity to sponsor one of these large posters. We will be able to publicise our shows more efficiently and in more places around the town if we can afford to buy more large posters. The cost for a large poster would be £20 (or £50 for a banner) and these could be sponsored by individuals or by groups of people. Please get in touch on 01580 211749 or [chesters853@btinternet.com](mailto:chesters853@btinternet.com) if you would be willing to support CODS in this way.

With many thanks to you all for your continued support,

Annie x

## News & Diary Dates

### A message & thank you from Jenni Brand

#### JACK PARSONS

"My sincere thanks to CODS members for the numerous cards, letters, and e-mails, I received on the death of my father. I have been totally overwhelmed by the kindness shown, both to his memory and also to myself, and I am sure that he will continue to be at all productions and events "in spirit" as CODS played such a major part in his life.

Thanks also to the brave who attended his Thanksgiving Service in the dreadful weather as he would have been not only appreciative, but also humbled, by the respect shown to him. An era has ended.

Jenni Brand"

#### THE WEALDEN CONSORT

Saturday June 2nd: the WEALDEN CONSORT are putting on 'a Concert for Queen Elizabeth II' as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations at Christ Church Kilndown 7.30 pm - free entry but there will be a retiring collection. Refreshments available. Please support the CODS members who sing in the Wealden Consort (at least 6 of them are members of CODS!). Any queries phone Tina on 01892 890426

#### MESSAGE FROM MAURICE

"What a wonderful set we built for Fallen Angels under Derek's supervision. It seemed such a pity that it had to be taken down, all that hard work for just 3 performances. Nonetheless, within 30 minutes of the final curtain 3 of us had already taken half of it to pieces. The message went round for the usual help on Sunday morning to start at 9.30 to finish the job and clear out the theatre.

At the after show get together, courtesy of Jo and Richard Levett, murmurings of revolt suggested 10 o'clock was a more popular start time.

I arrived at the Theatre at 9.25 to find Derek, Alan and Gavin already well stuck in. Gavin had been there since 8 o'clock and had single handedly removed the seating, retrieved the piano from its hidey hole and moved it to its normal resting place, and replaced all the seating before continuing with the strip down.

By 10 o'clock we had virtually finished the clear up when slowly, one by one, the party goes trickled in trying to recover from their 5 o'clock finish. Ivor arrived and we set to loading his trailer and then departed to Flishinghurst to unload and have coffee and cake courtesy of Sarah.

Once again, my eternal thanks, especially to Gavin, but to all 14 who turned out to help, even if you ended up by not actually doing anything!"

Maurice

#### GOUDHURST DRAMA CLUB

June 7-9th: THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR by William Shakespeare an outdoor production by Goudhurst Drama Club at Cherry Garden Farm Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst. 7.30pm (come prepared for the weather!). For more information contact Chris Roome 01580 891686 or e-mail [chris.roome@zulogic.co.uk](mailto:chris.roome@zulogic.co.uk)

#### Do YOU want to direct "Cabaret" in Autumn 2013 ?

As described elsewhere in this edition of "Codswallop", the Committee have decided to substitute the proposed Production of "The Sound Of Music" in Autumn 2013 for "Cabaret" instead.

We now need to select a Director for "Cabaret" – are you interested in the challenge ?

If so, please can you let me know in writing by no later than 15<sup>th</sup> July, together with details of any previous experience, why you wish to direct this Production, any initial thoughts and any other factors which you consider would support your request.

We would be looking to appoint the successful Director in August / September this year.

Any queries, or any further information, please contact me.

Andrew White

Tel 01424 718328 or E-mail: [supertr@mp7902.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:supertr@mp7902.wanadoo.co.uk)

#### CHAPERONE NEWS

Please could everyone with a chaperone licence please e-mail Jackie at [j.i.bennett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:j.i.bennett@hotmail.co.uk) with contact details and when their licence expires, please also state if you are willing to renew your licence when required. Alternatively call Jackie on 07590218524. If anyone is interested in becoming a chaperone please contact Jackie as above. Many thanks.

Matt Barker

## “OKLAHOMA!” 31st October—3rd November 2012

Angela has asked me to say WELL DONE and to thank all those who auditioned. In some cases the auditioning panel had difficult decisions to make but they are thrilled with the final outcome. Commiserations to those who did not get the part they hoped for and congratulations to those of you did.

Here is the cast list as it stands at the moment (it may change as we are waiting for confirmation from a few 'company' members). **The first rehearsal is at Queens Hall on Monday 21st May at 7.30pm.** This will be to go through all the songs with our musical director Sue Wightman. She will not be with us again until the end of July so it is very important that you are all there (I know people rehearsing for the Jubilee entertainment will be in and out if possible).

Any problems please contact me on 01892 890426, or 07909 946195. Angela's number is 01580 712175 but she is not on e-mail.

Most of you will already be members but for any new members who haven't already joined you will find an application form on the website: [www.cranbrookods.org.uk](http://www.cranbrookods.org.uk). Existing members will hopefully have already paid their subs for this year (!). If not please do so as soon as possible. Any queries contact Vicky King our Honorary Secretary:

victoria\_king70@hotmail.com      07720 843772

There is also a show fee which each member of the cast has to pay which goes towards costumes and other production costs. I will be collecting these fees during the early rehearsals; the fee is £10 for senior members and £5 for junior members.

Also here is a list of the Production Team so you know who is involved and how much work will go on and has already gone on to get this production off the ground - and that doesn't count the Officers and Committee members of the Society who also do so much behind the scenes. We thank them all for their hard work.

If there any errors in spelling of names etc. or if you notice that I have left anyone out please let me know! I am sending a separate e-mail to the children. Some of you still have books - please bring them back on Monday. Look forward to seeing you on Monday.  
Best wishes, Tina Gallagher, Production Secretary

### CAST LIST

### PRODUCTION TEAM

<b>Aunt Eller</b>	Madeleine Jordan	<b>Director</b>	Angela Woodcock
<b>Curly</b>	Jez Druce	<b>Assistant Director</b>	Dinah Chamberlin
<b>Laurey</b>	Lisa Ferris	<b>Choreographer</b>	Rachel Elliott
<b>Ado Annie</b>	Michelle Sandys	<b>Musical Director</b>	Sue Wightman
<b>Ali Hakim</b>	Mark Cheeseman	<b>Set Designer</b>	Derek Moore
<b>Will Parker</b>	Jack Davidson	<b>Stage Manager</b>	Andrew White
<b>Andrew Carnes</b>	Maurice Wilkins	<b>Lighting</b>	David Beeken
<b>Jud Fry</b>	James Dawes	<b>Make-up</b>	Debbie Knight
<b>Gertie Cummings</b>	Sharon Pickles	<b>Props/Programme</b>	Lee Hatcher
		<b>Sound</b>	Gavin Hogben
<b>Company</b>		<b>Props Consultant</b>	Ian Wookey
Julie Austin, Brenda Driscoll, Tina Gallagher, Marion Hobday, Nicola Hogben, Joanne Hill, Debbie Knight, Charlotte Mullis, Becca Mullis. Annie Oulton, Shirley Staddon, Jane Watkins, Alison Withey-Harrison.		<b>Wardrobe</b>	Liz Tapper & Marilyn Coleman
		<b>Front of House</b>	Marian Cumberland & Louise Dixon
		<b>Business Manager/Hall Manager</b>	Maurice Wilkins
		<b>Chorus Mistress/Chairman</b>	Annie Chesters
		<b>Rehearsal Pianist</b>	Ruth Roberts
		<b>Orchestra Co-ordinator</b>	Ruth Roberts
		<b>Foyer Displays &amp; Publicity</b>	Charlotte Fillmore
		<b>Photography</b>	Guy Fillmore
		<b>Booking Secretary</b>	Joan Marchant
		<b>Teas &amp; Refreshments</b>	Rosemary Ettridge
		<b>Chaperone Co-ordinator</b>	Jackie Barker
		<b>Production Secretary</b>	Tina Gallagher
		<b>Prompt</b>	??? Could you help???
		<b>The Flishinghurst Gang:</b>	Dennis Russell, Alan Hodge, Bill Marshall, Bernard Beardsmore, Maurice Wilkins
		<b>And not forgetting all those on the Executive Committee!</b>	

**THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE  
ENTERTAINMENT—6TH JUNE 2012**

11:00am	Street closed	Set up of stage and tables/chairs	Any help gratefully received by organizers
2:30pm	Entertainment begins	Wandering Jazz Band	
3:30pm CODS Entertainment Part 1 Songs from 60 years of musicals	1950s	Oklahoma (if ready) Singing in the Rain Wouldn't it be Lovely	Chorus/singalong Chorus/singalong Solo/singalong
	1960s	Oom Pa Pa Anyone who had a Heart	olo/singalong Solo/chorus
	1970s	You're the One that I Want Bring Me Sunshine	Duet/singalong Duet/singalong
	1980s	Music of the Night	Duet
	1990s	Dancing Queen	Chorus/singalong
	2000s	Always Look on the Bright Side of Life	Company/singalong
4:00pm	Elizabeth Consort	Cranbrook School	
4:30pm CODS Entertainment Part 2 Community Singing	A kind of mini "Good Old Days" entertainment with compere and music hall style acts	Down at the Old Bull & Bush	Singalong
		My Old Man	Solo/singalong
		Lambeth Walk	Chorus/singalong
	Wartime Medley (inc)	Pack up your Troubles Long Way to Tipperary Run Rabbit Run Roll Out the Barrel White Cliffs of Dover	Singalong With solos
		Rule Britannia	Solo/singalong
		Land of Hope & Glory	Solo/singalong
		National Anthem	All
Evening	Bands	A selection of more modern music from local bands	Anyone like to get a band together to play?

We will also be staging a small exhibition of the last 60 years of CODS in the Vestry Hall which will also promote Oklahoma / Calendar Girls.

**This is it folks—no more time for negotiation or argument!**

There may be slight alternations due to problems with music, etc., but we have come up with a compromise and hope that everyone is happy and can find something they'd like to perform!

**Auditions / sing-through will be at Cranbrook School in QH on Monday 16th April.**

**SEE YOU ALL THERE!**

## CODS SPONSORED WALK—SUNDAY 10TH MARCH



WELL DONE  
&  
THANK YOU  
TO ALL WHO TOOK  
PART



Following on from previous and successful Charity Walks, it was decided earlier this year to organise another Walk, this time to help raise funds for the Children's Unit at Benenden Hospital. However, as a tribute to both Mike Wilkinson (Cranbrook School) and one of our former members, Peter Manktelow, who sadly died just over a year ago, it was decided and approved by the Committee to use this year's Charity Walk to help raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

With this in mind, a gallant group of Society members, various friends and several dogs gathered in the Jockey Lane Car Park on the morning of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Shortly after 10am we were off, travelling northwards, past the Primary School, over the Long Field and up to Angley Road. A little white dog in a neighbouring property barked furiously as we passed, though he stopped and looked at me suspiciously...did he remember biting me only a month before, I wondered...

Over Angley Road, into the woods, over the Goudhurst Road and into further woods, which led to a rather spectacular modern detached house with a nameplate in the form of a traditional road sign. Over the lane, up to a Farm, where the oast houses were being renovated and then through various fields around Friezley, where we admired the main timber-beamed house. Two members of our cheerful party left at this point, and the rest of us continued up to Starvenden Lane and then over various paths to reach the main road.

Crossing the busy main road with caution, and walking down London Road, we passed Ian Hislop's house, to reach further woods, where we had to swing off the path quite widely to pass several fallen trees. A few paths later we had reached our desired lunch stop outside Sissinghurst Castle, where we were able to enjoy our lunch in both scenic conditions and glorious sunny weather.

Once lunch had been consumed we made our way through the Castle grounds and into further woods, stopping to admire a majestic oak tree in a clearing. Up to Sissinghurst Village and then over several more fields before we arrived back at the car park just after 3pm, having walked at total of 8.5 miles, with lots of fun en route.

The total sponsorship raised for British Heart Foundation totalled £657, of which all participants on the day can feel very proud. Another similar event will be organised for next Spring, and if you have any particular Charity whom you wish us to raise funds for, please can you let Marian and I know accordingly. In concluding this article, I would like to thank all participants on the Walk and all those members who gave sponsorship on this occasion, your efforts have been very gratefully appreciated.

And our thanks to Andrew White & Marian Cumberland for their continued efforts in sourcing interesting & entertaining routes and organising everyone! Thank you!!

## The Back Page

Any questions about what you have read? Please contact your  
Codswallop Editor Michelle: 01580 752802  
or email: [michellesandys@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:michellesandys@yahoo.co.uk)

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

*Michelle x*

### 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 your Editor, Michelle, details at top of this page.

**Cranbrook Symphony Orchestra**  
Conductor - Michael Robertson  
present a concert of light classical music, including

## Charity Concert

raising funds for  
**action medical research**  
for children, for life

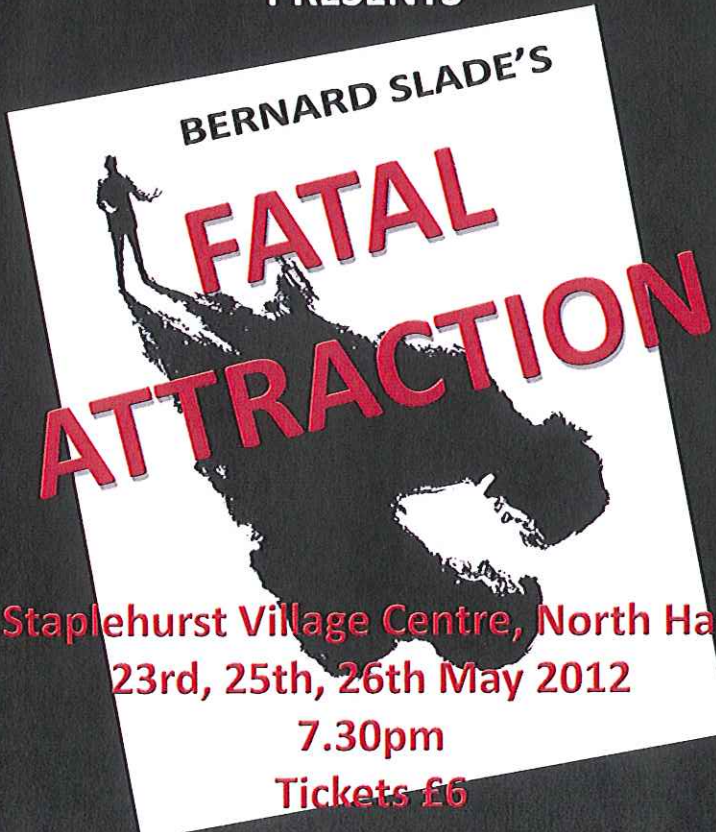
**PETER & THE WOLF**  
The classic children's tale  
narrated by  
**Davina McCall**



2.30pm - Sunday 17th June 2012  
Saint Ronan's School  
Tickets £10-£20 available online at  
[www.thecso.org.uk](http://www.thecso.org.uk)

**STAPLEHURST DRAMATIC SOCIETY  
PRESENTS**

**BERNARD SLADE'S  
FATAL  
ATTRACTION**



**Staplehurst Village Centre, North Hall  
23rd, 25th, 26th May 2012  
7.30pm  
Tickets £6**

Available from Coachmans Cottage Studio,  
Milestone Buildings, High St, Staplehurst.

Deadline for copy for  
next edition:

Friday 13th July 2012