

CODSWALLOP!

FEBRUARY 2022

VICAR OF
DIBLEY

PRISCILLA,
QUEEN OF THE
DESERT

NOTICES

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CODS FACEBOOK GROUP

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CODS WEBSITE

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CHAIR'S NOTES

It's hard to believe it is now February 2022 already! And we are now mid-way through rehearsing our second production, **The Vicar of Dibley**. The last time I looked we were knee deep in Pantoland. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who was involved with the Panto. Despite the many obstacles that arose we managed to successfully put on a show that, judging from the feedback, our audiences thoroughly enjoyed.



Well we kicked off the New Year by starting rehearsals on our much anticipated production of **The Vicar of Dibley**. And so far we are all having a ball getting this show on the road. Without doubt this is going to be a very funny and beautifully acted production, looking at what is going on in rehearsals. You are in for the most delightful treat! I really have to reiterate what I said in our last Newsletter, when the tickets go on sale '**Book**' them. If you want some belly laughs and a feel good factor this is a show for you.

Steaming ahead to our **Autumn Musical**. We have another popular show bursting with toe tapping and foot stomping music. High Camp fun with a great story and some fantastic musical anthems which will have you singing along and possibly dancing in the aisles. I defy audiences not to want to see this spectacle! **PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT** will be bursting onto the scene shortly. Audition dates to follow soon.

Hopefully the dark days are behind us, and CODS certainly has the goods to keep you entertained with our next two productions.

CODS will continue to ensure that we look after our members and audiences by protecting ourselves from COVID as outlined by Government Guidelines.

CODS Committee Round-Up?

- **Fantastic news!** Our annual membership subscriptions are **£10** for adults and **£5** for the under 18's. Having multiple memberships with other societies won't break the bank and should make CODS one of your '**Go To**' Societies.
- Looking ahead there is **still** time to put your name in the mix to **direct** our Christmas Extravaganza, which will be performed in December 2022. So get

CHAIR'S NOTES

thinking!

- Still forward thinking, we welcome ideas for productions for our **2023** season. Submit your ideas for shows or interest in directing and contact Cods.secretary@gmail.com. It's never too early.

REMEMBER - One of the great things about CODS is that we produce **3** shows a year and have great facilities to perform **our** shows. There should always be something appealing to everyone in the year!

Things to look out for this year:

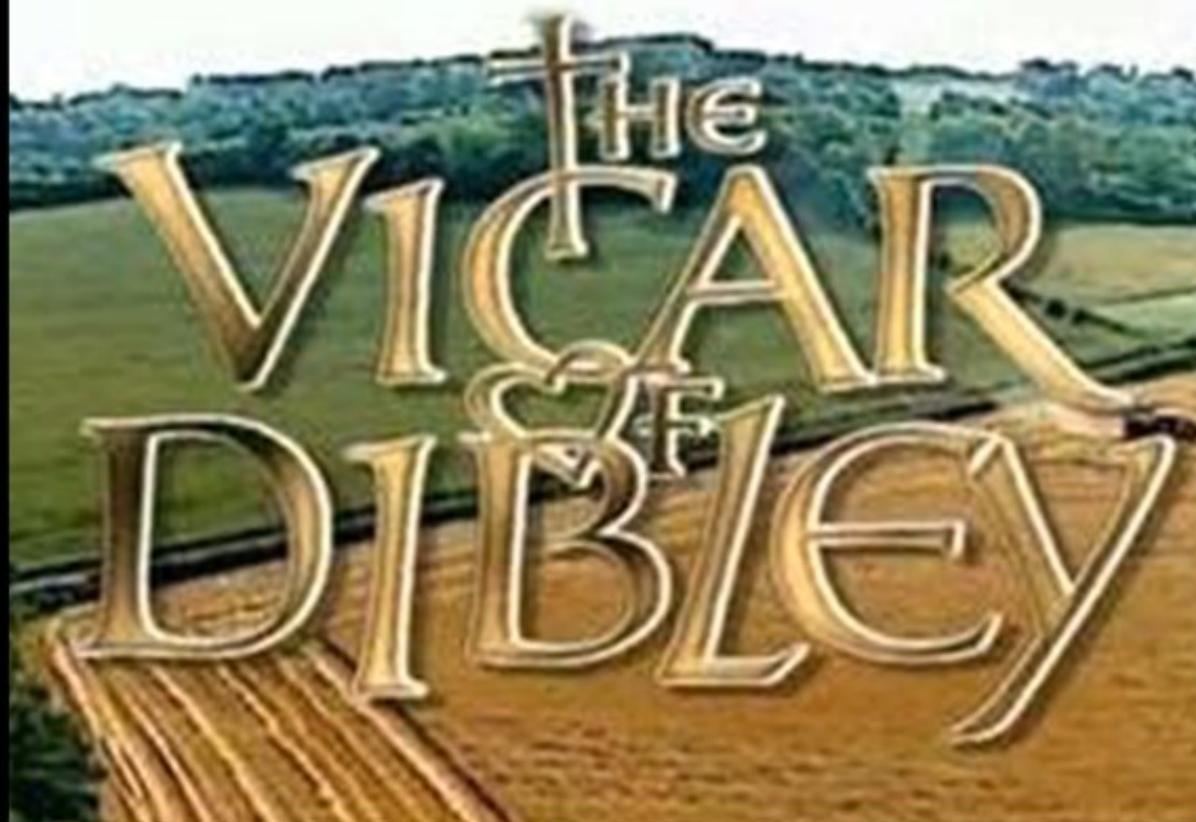
- We are always looking for new members, both performers and on the production side for each of our shows.
- If you are interested in being behind the scenes - crew, sound, lighting, building sets, doing production admin work, organising things contact us, by completing our online **Contact Form on our Meta (FB Page)**
- If you like being on stage, directing, choreographing, singing or dancing contact us. We can support you in many ways. Again, complete our online **Contact Form**
- If you have **ANY** suggestions, plays, concerts, quizzes, email: Cods.secretary@gmail.com. Everything will be brought to the committee to discuss. We are friendly and inclusive

Until the Next Time

Lou :-)

THE VICAR OF DIBLEY

Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society proudly presents:



QUEEN'S HALL THEATRE, CRANBROOK

Thursday 14th - Saturday 16th April - 7.30pm

Saturday Matinee 16th April - 2.30pm

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cods

Or from The Hive, Cranbrook - £12 (£6)

By kind permissions of Richard Curtis and Tiger Aspect Productions.

Supporting Comic Relief. This stage play is adapted by CODS

from the original TV series by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer.

SPONSORED BY CRANBROOK FARMSHOP & NURSERY AND PETER JONES (OPTICIANS)

THE VICAR OF DIBLEY

Our play begins with the arrival of Dibley's new Vicar, Geraldine (Gerry) Granger and ends with the marriage of Alice Tinker, the Verger to Hugo Horton, the son of Dibley's wealthy Chairman of the Parish Council, District Councillor-And-Self-appointed Pillar of the Community - Mr David Horton MBE

The Characters of Dibley

Robin Harrison

David Francis Matthew Horton MBE

Matthew Sims

Hugo Horton - Councillor, David's son & Campaign Mgr

Jess Leaper

Alice Springs Tinker - Verger

Steve Smith

Frank Pickle - Council Secretary

Adam Button

Jim Trott - Council Member and Farmer

James Harper

Owen Newitt - Council Member and Farmer

Sharon Pickles

Letitia 'Letty' Copley - Councillor, Church Warden

Siana Weston

Geraldine 'Gerry' Granger - Vicar

Sarah Hutchings

Housekeeper/Chorister/Wedding Crasher

Annie Hatcher

Chorister

THE VICAR OF DIBLEY

THE VICAR OF DIBLEY

SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE CHARACTERS



Jim Trott :And I was down to the last two boxes! £250,000 in one box, 10p in the other! And the Banker offered me £100,000, and No-no-no-no-no-no-Edmonds asked me the question, "Deal or No Deal?" Well, I wanted to deal. So I said, "No-no-no-no-no deal." And for some reason that I cannot fathom, they thought I meant, "No-no-no-no deal." and what was in my box?..... 10p

Owen Newitt: - I am not a lunatic. I have the psychiatric report to prove it. A slender majority of the panel decided in my favour. My bladder has been playing up again. I've spent so much time in the stables toilet I'm thinking of sending out change of address cards.



Alice:- I'm all ears. Well, I'm not all ears... I'm face and tummy and legs and lots of other bits, including some rather private bits I only let a doctor see. Only he wasn't a doctor, and he got arrested soon after.

Mrs. Cropley :- I rather enjoyed Lady Chatterley. Some very useful tips.

David Horton: I beg your pardon?

Mrs Cropley: Oh, gardening tips. Mellors was a game keeper. Very good at hedge control.

David Horton: I see.

Mrs Cropley: I thought the sex was jolly good fun as well!



THE VICAR OF DIBLEY



Frank [said very slowly]: Mister. Hor-ton. Had. A. Shag. Pile. Car. Pet. Installed.

Alice: Can I just say, um, that I thought Mr. Pickle gave a lovely sermon as lay preacher. **Hugo:** Yes, bravo. How you kept going for two and a half hours was amazing.

Owen: As I say, it's absolutely ***vital*** that she doesn't miss another Sunday. I need hardly remind you that we actually lost a couple of the older members of our congregation during last week's service.

Jim: Don't worry Frank, they were going to die anyway. And that fellow who stood up and said **if this moron doesn't shut up soon I'm going to kill myself** and then five minutes later shot himself in the head... well, he'd been gloomy for quite some time...

Geraldine: You were expecting a bloke - beard, bible, bad breath.

David Horton: Yes, that sort of thing.

Geraldine Granger: And instead you got a babe with a razor cut and a magnificent bosom.

David: So I see



David: This is outrageous - I won't have my village used like some laboratory animal to see if women vicars 'work'.

Hugo: Well, she seemed a decent sort of chap to me.

David: That's the whole point - she's not a chap.

Hugo: No, not technically.

David: Well, that is quite a technicality. I mean, what is happening? Are we to have topless bathing on the Rectory lawn come summer?

THE VICAR OF DIBLEY



The Vicar of Dibley

CODS production has been adapted by Louisa Nelson Chambers with kind permission of Richard Curtis and Tiger Aspect Productions. Supporting Comic Relief.

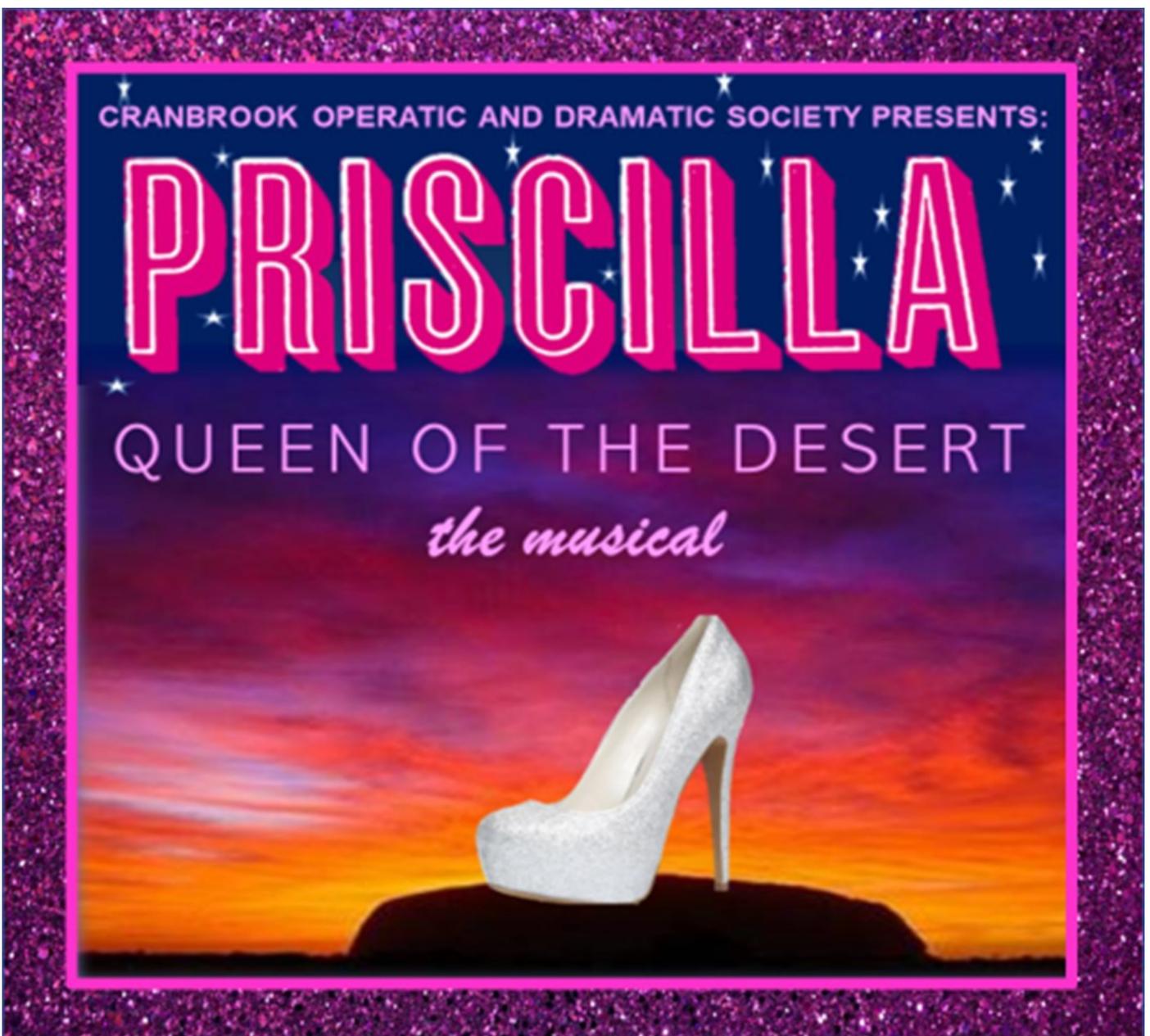
Directed by Louisa Nelson Chambers

Assisted by Katie Kember

PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT - THE MUSICAL

**Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook
October 2022**

**Here's all you need to know about our next musical -
Watch this space for news about Auditions**



PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT - THE MUSICAL

SYNOPSIS

Based on the smash-hit movie, PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT is the heart-warming, uplifting adventure of three friends, Tick, Bernadette and Adam, a glamorous Sydney-based performing trio who agree to take their show to the middle of the Australian outback. They hop aboard a battered old bus (nicknamed Priscilla) searching for love and friendship and end up finding more than they ever imagined. With a dazzling array of outrageous costumes and a hit parade of dance floor favourites including "It's Raining Men", "I Will Survive", "Hot Stuff", "Boogie Wonderland", "Go West", "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun", and "I Love The Nightlife", this wildly fresh, colourful and funny musical is a journey to the heart of FABULOUS!

CAST

7 female, 9 male, and 1 boy featured roles

Opportunities for featured casting in the ensemble.

Adam (Felicia)	Lead – young man - drag artiste
Bob	Lead - Older male
Bernadette	Lead – Older male – transsexual
Tick (Mitzi)	Lead – approx. 40s – drag artiste
Jimmy	Local (originally Aboriginal character) any age
3 Divas	Female singers, good voices, able to hold a line
Miss Understanding	Compere in nightclub – drag artiste, any age
Cynthia	Bob's exotic wife – sings and does a 'turn' with ping-pong balls!
Frank	Prejudiced thug, any age
Marion	Tick's wife 35/40 ish
Farrah	Drag artiste – any age
Young Bernadette	Dream sequence - sings
Shirley	Bar owner – any age - sings
Benji	Young boy – son of Tick – under 12 years
Ensemble	Male and female - these appear in many of the songs, lots to do!

Many of the drag queen vocals can be lip synced, some can be sung, depending on casting.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Most numbers are group songs - if the drag queens are singing, they are usually accompanied by the 3 divas who are major players.

There is lots more work for the ensemble in the stage show than in the film and this is the main draw for the cast.

You'll see from the list below that it's all rather stylised and the company turn up in most musical numbers.

PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT - THE MUSICAL

Here is a list of who sings what:

It's Raining Men	Company
What's Love Got to Do With It	Miss Understanding and Divas
Don't Leave Me This Way	Company
Venus	Company Felicia (Adam)
Go West	Company
I Say a Little Prayer	Tick and Divas
I Love the Nightlife	Company
True Colours	3 Queens
Sempre Libera	Adam (Felicia)
Color My World	Company
I Will Survive	Company
Thank God I'm a Country Boy	Company
A Fine Romance	Young Bernadette
Shake Your Groove Thing	3 Queens and Divas
Pop Muzik	Company
Girls Just Want to Have Fun	Felicia (Adam) /Divas
Hot Stuff	Queens and Divas, then Company
MacArthur Park	Queens and Divas
Boogie Wonderland	Company
Always On My Mind	Tick and Benji then Company
We Belong	Company
Finale	Company

Dancing requirements and difficulty - this will be adjusted according to the abilities of those cast. Dancing can be as simple or as complicated as necessary.

Possible Crew – Would you like to be involved?

I will need a stage manager, a production secretary, a MD, a choreographer as well as crew for set building, sound, lighting, wardrobe, wigs, make up and props – though I've already had lots of enthusiastic volunteers for some of these roles. Please get in touch if you'd like to help -

annie.hatch33@gmail.com

Sooooooooo exciting!

Annie x

NOTICES

AGM 2022

Our CODS Annual General Meeting will be held at

7.30pm on Thursday 27th April 2022

This will be in the

Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook

and will be followed, not only by a drink and a nibble or two

but also by the first foray into the fabulous world of

'Priscilla Queen of the Desert'.

We will have our information evening for the show after the AGM.

[See you there!](#)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR AND PROGRAMME EDITOR

Our wonderful newsletter/programme editor - Hatch, is having to give up his duties due to Parish Council and other commitments and we need someone to take over either one or both of these roles.

Are you interested?

Please get in touch.

cods.secretary@gmail.com

NOTICES

DECOMMISSIONING FLISHINGHURST - THE END OF AN ERA

As the world of amateur theatre changes, and as loyal set building teams become older and less able to work their magic, we are left in a situation where we have no 'Flishinghurst Gang' to design, build, paint and move our sets.

This has been brought to a head recently, and the committee and trustees have come to the sad decision that we will need to move the bare minimum of props and flats to an alternative or smaller venue (with less asbestos) and get rid of most of our equipment.

If anyone can provide storage for this pared down amount of kit, please get in touch with a member of the committee.

We will need to have a working party or two up at Flishinghurst.

The first of these will be on 1st May - the day before the Bank Holiday. Please come along to help.

DIRECTORS NEEDED FOR OUR NEXT SHOWS!

We are beginning to think about the CODS productions which will follow Priscilla.

We need ideas for shows, starting with the 2022 pantomime and followed by the play and musical for 2023, which may be in their usual slots or could be changed.

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, Alan Pickett, Dennis Russell,
John Tapper, Ian Wookey, Marian Cumberland

Executive Committee

Chair

Louisa Nelson-Chambers

Vice-Chair

Sharon Pickles

Business Manager

Guy Fillmore

Treasurer

Glyn Roberts

Committee Members

Annie Hatcher, Alison Withey-Harrison,
Kaz Kember, Katie Kember, James Harper

Contact details for the committee are
available via :

Website - cranbrookods.org.uk/committee

Email - CODS.secretary@gmail.com

Officials of the Society

Orchestral Secretary

Ruth Roberts

Wardrobe Mistress

Sharon Pickles

Properties Master

Lee Hatcher

Newsletter Editor

Lee Hatcher

Independent Examiners

Messrs McCabe, Ford and Williams

Trustees

Marian Cumberland, James Hanaway, Glyn Roberts,
Jackie Barker, 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 OUR RECENT PANTOMIME—
DICK WHITTINGTON. HERE ARE A FEW PHOTOS—MORE TO FOLLOW AT
CRANBROOKODS.ORG.UK/DICK-WHITTINGTON-2021



**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION:
FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 2022**