

The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Newsletter

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New Members!

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

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

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

Contact <u>Steph or Jackie</u> 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.

Godswallop!

August 2013

NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Members,

I do hope you are all well and have been enjoying the summer and the recent spell of fine weather. Certainly there has been lots to celebrate in recent weeks, with Andy Murray's victory at Wimbledon and the birth of a future King. Notwithstanding these great national moments, there have also been several great events within the Society during this period.

Shortly after our last Codswallop was published, one of our members, Julie Austin, found herself waiting in anticipation at the prestigious Kent Drama Association Awards Evening, having been nominated for Best Actress for her sterling performance in the recent TODS Production of "The New Electric Ballroom". Whereas Julie was pipped to the post by the narrowest of margins, it must be remembered that a nomination within this event is a great achievement in itself, and hopefully we will see Julie collect this award within one of our Productions and in the very near future.

Only a few weeks later, our ambitious summer event of "Cranbrook Shorts" took to the streets, where numerous landmarks witnessed Cate Blanchett rubbing shoulders with the duck feeders, Geoff found himself reborn, the Windmill moved to the sound of some wonderful music, singing and dancing, Leon's film gave us something to think about every time we open the fridge and the Church saw the arrival of the Queen in the grandest of style. This event promoted many aspects of the Society and was clearly appreciated by the large audience that it generated. More importantly, several new faces joined the Society for this Production, which is a healthy sign. Credit goes to those members of the Society who took responsibility for particular elements; for some this was a new experience and several great results were achieved. Particular credit is extended to James, for devising and producing the Shorts Production. For those of you who enjoyed either participating or watching this event, I am able to announce that a similar Production is being considered for next year, and details will be announced within the forthcoming months.

Such enthusiasm has also continued, with David Beeken being co-opted onto the Committee for the remainder of the year, followed by a good turnout for the Snow White Auditions, again with a few new members joining the Society. Our Oliver rehearsals went from strength to strength in July, and whereas we have stopped for a break in August, we will be re-starting shortly and are looking forward to performing this ever-popular musical at the end of October. Our new Publicity Sub-Committee is devising and implementing a marketing strategy to ensure our houses are filled to capacity, and I hope you can help promote this Production to ensure that the success of the Society continues into the Autumn months.

We have submitted two possible Productions to the RSC for consideration within their Open Stages promotion and hopefully we will have some further good news to share within the next few weeks. Looking ahead, our Snow White rehearsals start in September and as soon as the final curtain falls on Oliver, work will be starting on our Spring Play, " A Streetcar Named Desire ". We will also be announcing our Autumn Musical for next year within the forthcoming months, as well as several other plays and musicals which our Show Selection Sub - Committee is currently considering.

As ever, the Society does not sit still, though we need help in all areas of our Productions, so if anyone is interested to learn or can offer assistance, particularly with set building, technical / stage management, musical accompaniment and front of house, please get in touch; we have many members who are willing to share their knowledge and provide training if required to ensure that the Society can continue well into the future.

Finally, on a more personal note, may I thank all those members who recently sent cards or messages for my big birthday celebrations; I had a wonderful day and your kind wishes certainly complemented the occasion. See you all at rehearsals soon

Andrew

Tel 01424 718328

E Mail supertr@mp7902.wanadoo.co.uk

"Acting is all about honesty. If you can fake that, you've got it made." - George Burns

Snow White

Audition Results

Thank you to all who came to auditions. We are pleased to announce the Cast List as follows:-

Cast

Narrator 1 Sharon Pickles.

Narrator 2 Alison Withey-Harrison

Queen Olivia Sarah Hutchings
Dame Ploppy Steve Saunders
Fairy Nuff Wallyce Cheverall
Muddles Charlie Barnett
Wicked Witch Matt Barker
King Barry Mark Cheeseman

Snow White Sam King

Queen Nefaria Rachel Croft-Golding Squelch Simon Tomlinson Magic Mirror Victoria King Prince George Victoria Tinkler Prince Harry James Hanaway James Hammond Jack Valerie King Fairy liquid Fairy Cake **Emily Rudden** Huntsman Alan Hodge

Enchanted Trees 1,2 &3 TBC

Nursie **Annie Chesters** Grouchy Max Chesters Phoebe Harris Sniffly Bovvered Henry Fillmore Jolly Sarah Hutching Rebecca Mullis Dozy Charlotte Mullis Lazy King Richard Andrew White

Rehearsals for Snow White will begin in September on some Wednesdays and Sundays, Jack or Andrew will be in touch with dates, time and venue shortly. Rehearsals will change to Mondays and Thursdays once the 'Oliver' run is over. There will also be some Sunday afternoons in December.

Please make sure you are a fully paid member of the society before September if you have not done so already, cheques along with a membership form can be posted to our Secretary, Jackie Barker, 53 Linden Road, Coxheath, Kent, ME17 4QS. We will be carrying out a membership check in August and contacting anyone who is not yet a member to ensure that subscriptions are paid prior to the very first rehearsal in September

A show fee of £10 per cast member will also be payable, and we wish to collect these from all cast members once rehearsals start.

If you have any queries please contact Jack Davidson (Director) on 07863 132920 or Andrew White (Production Assistant / Chairman) on 01424 718328.

We are really looking forward to working with you all on this Production!

Jack and Andrew

Codswallop, August 2013

The Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society
Christmas Pantomime 2013



A Lazy Bees script by Alexander Slater.

December 27 – 31

www.cods.ticketsource.co.uk
Telephone 01622 749762
or from Lambert and Foster

Sponsored by Peter Jones (Opticians) and Waterloo House Tearooms

Oliver - Rehearsal Schedule

Look carefully at rehearsal times. They will start at 7.30 except for the children who will usually start at 7.00 and finish at 8.30. I may stagger start times so that you are not hanging around doing nothing but if you are called at the beginning you will usually be needed all evening even if others join later . Vicky will decide on principal dancers and will call them herself. They may be working in another room.

This is a detailed plan. Michael, Vicky and I can make it work but only if people don't miss rehearsal. This especially applies to children ,who all have individual things to do The show is complicated because the children can't do full evenings but as they are mainly in Act one it should work well.

If I can possibly fit more into each rehearsal I will and please tell me if you feel you are being neglected or you want more rehearsal for something specific .I'm happy to do small rehearsals on other days in my house.

<u>Date</u>	Work to be done	<u>People Needed</u>	<u>Hols</u>
September	Act 1 Sc 6. Pick a Pocket,	7.00-8.30 children Dodgers till 9.00	Michael
Mon 2nd	Fine Life, I'd do Anything	7.30 Fagin	
Ruth	Act 2 Sc 3 Reprise of It's a Fine Life	8,00 Nancy and Bet	
	Then music for Nancy, Fagin, Sykes	8.30 Sykes	
Thur 5 th	Act 1 Scene 3+4 . all words and music	730 Mr +Mrs Sowerberry, Bumble, Olivers	Michael
Tracy	If time other music Bumble	8.00 Noah, Charlotte	
Mon 9 th	Act 1 Sc 6 Finish the scene	7.00-8.30 Children, Nancy, Bet 7.30 Fagin	Vix, Jez,
Ruth	Act 2 Sc 1 tavern	8.30 .All cast in Scene including Dodgers	Michael
Thur 12	Act 1Sc5 Consider Yourself	7.00-8-30 All children	Vix, Jez
No Pianist	Act 2 Sc 2 Dialogue	8.30 Brown, Grim Mrs B, Nancy, Sykes, Shirley and	Michael
	Act 2 Sc 5 Dialogue	Freya	
Mon 16 th	Act 2 Sc2 Who Will Buy	7.00 Brown, Grim, Mrs B, Olivers ,Tommy,Tilly	Vix, Jez
Ruth	Words and music	7.30 Dodger, Bates Bros +All cast.	
	Plus Capture of Oliver	Olivers may be needed until 9.00 if we are to use both boys	
	Act 2 scene 6		
Thur 19 th	Act 1 Sc 5 Consider yourself with all cast	7.00 -8.30 Children Olivers . Dodgers till 9.00	Vix, Jez
Tracy	Act 2 Sc3 Thieves Kitchen	7.30 All adults in scene	
	Any other work involving Nancy,,Sykes Fagin	8.30. Nancy,Sykes,Fagin	
Mon 23 rd	Music Brush up for children	(note later time) All children and adults who sing	Pat
Ruth		with them	
	Dance Rehearsal	To be advised	
Thur 27 th	Dance Rehearsal	To be advised	Pat
Mon 30 th	Act 1 Sc1 Food Glorious Food	7.00 All children ex Dodgers	
Ruth		7.30 Bumble, Widow C, Workhouse assistants Emma, Sarah, Alan, James H	
	Act 2 Sc4 Act 1 Sc 2	8.30 Old Sally, Old Lady	
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Oliver - Rehearsal Schedule

October Thur 3 rd	All Children's Work. You need to know your words by now	7.00-8.30 All children . People who work with them as early as possible after 7.00
Tracy	8.30 Act 1 Sc 3+4	8.30Sowerberrys,Bumble,Charlotte, Noah, Olivers till 9.00
SUN 6 th Ruth	Run Act One Sc1,2,3.4.5.6 twice using both lots of children	2-30—5.30+. All cast Bring a drink with you and we will have a short break. Dodgers and Olivers not performing will be expected to watch
Mon 7 th Ruth	Act 1 Sc 1, 2, 5 8.30 Run Act 2 from beginning	7,00-8.30 Children. Sam (Oliver till 9.00)As early as possible everyone else in these scenes 7.30 in scenes All adult cast
Thur10th No Pianist	Act 1 Sc 6 Act 2 sc 3, 4, 5	7.00-8.30, all children Dodgers until 9.00 .We'll run twice using both Olivers and Dodger Adults as soon after 7.00 as poss 8.30 Sykes,Nancy,Bet,Dodger,Fagin, Bumble, Corney,Sally,Old Lady, Bedwin,Brownlow
SUN 13 th Ruth	Run Act 2 at least twice. Bring drinks	2.30-5-30+. All adults and all children included in Act 2

Pat Smith (Director)



Cranbrook Shorts

A Message from James, and Tom Jensen

Hi all,

A lovely message from Tom Jensen below that I thought you'd like to see...

Well done again all of you, hope you enjoyed it, you're all stars!

See you soon

James x

'Dear James,

This is just to say thanks again for choosing to put on "A Life-Changing Experience". It worked brilliantly, and it was great to have the opportunity to say so in person to the director and actors. I also really enjoyed meeting you and other CODS people. We (my wife and a couple of in-laws) thoroughly enjoyed the evening - an ambitious idea that fell into place like clockwork, helped along by fine weather. And I never imagined it would involve a free bus ride!

Good luck with all your next dramatic endeavours.

Best wishes

Tom.

--

www.tomjensen.co.uk

https://twitter.com/absurdistworld'



Cranbrook Shorts



Notices

New Co - Opted Member

Following the announcement in the last Codswallop, it was encouraging to see no less than four good members of the Society offering themselves for co-opting onto the Committee for the remainder of the current term of office. At the last Committee Meeting, a formal vote was taken by all Committee Members present, and we are pleased to announce that David Beeken has been elected onto the Committee until next March.

David has been a loyal member of the Society for many years and has substantial experience in all aspects of technical theatre and health and safety. We look forward to David's contribution to the running of the Society during the forthcoming months.

Anyone wishing to consider themselves for election onto the Committee should note that the next AGM will be held in March next year, and nomination - forms will be enclosed within the issue of Codswallop preceding the AGM.

Playing Dates - "A Streetcar Named Desire"

We are now able to confirm that our Spring Production of "A Streetcar Named Desire" will be performed between Thursday 10th April - Saturday 12th April 2014 inclusive. A Familiarisation Evening and Auditions will be held in November this year, with rehearsals commencing in January 2014. Further details of the Familiarisation Evening and the Audition will be announced within the next Codswallop.

Spring Play 2014 - Can YOU Help?

Several of our members who regularly take part with our essential lighting, sound and stage management duties will be unavailable for our forthcoming Production of "A Streetcar Named Desire" and in the event of these roles not being filled, there is a risk that the quality of the Production could be severely compromised. As ever, we need more members to take an interest in all the important off - stage areas and help out, and plentiful experience can be obtained during our forthcoming Productions of "Oliver" and "Snow White". Furthermore, we are willing to offer training in all these areas, but to do this, we need people to step forward. Can YOU help with lighting, sound or stage - management next April? If so, please can you let Andrew know as soon as possible (tel 01424 718328).

Notices

TODS Quiz Night

TODS are hosting a Quiz for other Theatre Societies in the local area and we have been invited to enter a maximum of two teams, of up to eight players per team. The Quiz is to be held at Tenterden Town Hall, on Saturday 16th November, to start at 730pm. Cost per person will be £1, to cover the cost of hiring the venue, but please provide your own refreshments.

We would hope that the Society would enter one or two teams and if anyone is interested in being within such a Society team please can they contact Andrew as soon as possible.

Wardrobe Assistance needed for "Snow White" - Can YOU Help?

We have a few members of the team involved in "Snow White" taking an interest in the sourcing and making of costumes for our Production, but we could do with a few more helpers, preferably those who can be exclusively committed to the Production and/or with some knowledge or experience in Wardrobe.

Our regular Wardrobe representatives are prepared to offer guidance and the benefit of their knowledge and come September, work on the necessary costumes will be starting. Can YOU help and /or assist the team? If so, please can you let Andrew know as soon as possible (tel 01424 718328).

A Streetcar Named Desire

Pulitzer Prize Winner Tennessee Williams wrote A Streetcar Named Desire in 1947. The themes of the play resonate today. The clash between tradionalist and modernist; fantasist and realist. When these themes collide in the personal relationships of the characters it makes for explosive viewing. Throw into this, alcoholism, sex, jealousy and lies and you have a heady mix that creates spell-binding characters looking for actors to play them!

There will be a read through of the play on Tuesday 12th November and auditions on Tuesday 19th 2013. The play will be entered into KDA with performances on April 10th -12th 2014. There are 11 roles. We will need a stage crew, a production team, audition panel and publicist coordinator. Audition pieces will be available to download, along with a script from CODS website from November 1st 2013.

Anyone interested in being on the production team please contact Louisa. We need a production secretary, set designer, sound engineer, (If David is available lighting is in place) stage manager and crew. Further information and a character breakdown will be available in November.

Louisa



Any questions about what you have read? Please contact your Codswallop Editor Lee Hatcher: tel: 07539 460571 or email: leedavehatcher@facebook.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.

The Executive Editor Ponders....

Ahhh, Shakespeare. The Bard, William, old Bill (or is that someone else?)

Today, dear reader, I feel I must talk about Shakespeare and some of my times on stage with him.

I am certain that, were we to have lived at the same time, Bill and I would have been fast friends, though, maybe I would have just had the occasional 'good boy, who's a good boy? YOU'RE a gooood boy!' but perhaps belly rubs and bacon may have also been involved? Sigh, we can but dream....

In 1947, shortly after leaving the forces, I went to London to seek my fortune. I took the habit of carrying around a complete works of Shakespeare and I could, given any line for Shakespeare, recite the next several pages of lines. ... stop coughing boy, what's wrong?... anyway, where was I?

Ah yes I loved language! And the bard helped me express that. From Prince Hal in Henry IV, opposite Anthony Quayle don't you know, to Hamlet and Corialanus at the Old Vic, as well as Othello and Iago in, erm, Othello. I even reprised my Hamlet on Broadway, where I was nominated for award after awa...

What, boy, what is it now? I was just about to give a brief interlude about how I met the 2nd Mrs Charles when she played an Egyptian queen and I was a Roman general. Sorry? Richard Burton? Um, err, never heard of him, don't you dare accuse me... erm. Well, 'they' won't know, your readers, will they now?

Or.... Was that being recorderised? Sneaky boy, sneaky.

Blackmail is it? I suppose you want the whole afternoon off. Well, no, who would fetch my pipe and slippers before supper? You wouldn't dare reproduce this.

Would you?

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

