



Registered Charity No 1105153
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Operatic & Dramatic Association
and Kent Drama Association

Codswallop!

July 2015



**The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic
Society Bi-Monthly Newsletter**

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Codswallop has changed!

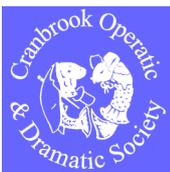
If you receive Codswallop via email you can navigate through the newsletter simply by clicking. For instance, clicking 'Chairman's Notes' above will take you directly to that article. Clicking our contact details below will open your default email program or the CODS Facebook page etc., clicking at the top of any page will bring you back here. Please let me know if you have any ideas for Codswallop! Lee



[CODS Facebook Group](#)

Contact [Rachel, Lee or Jackie](#)

Email: codsfacebook@gmail.com



[CODS Website](#)

Contact Matt Barker

Email: businessmanager@cranbrookods.org.uk

"How could this happen? I was so careful. I picked the wrong play, the wrong director, the wrong cast. Where did I go right?" - Max Bialystock, The Producers

Notes From Your Chairman

Hi CODS folks,

It's been a while since the last newsletter and a lot's happened! Our production of *The Wind in the Willows* was a fantastic success and to prove it there were gongs across the board for the show at the KDA awards! We all rubbed our hands together with Glee (we always keep a tin of Glee handy for these sorts of occasions). You can see all the details of the glory further on! Well done to Ali as Director and everyone involved. A third year of a summer production of "Shorts" saw us move to wonderful setting of The Ellen Terry Barn Theatre with "Short Letters". The production moved through themes of Life, Love, Lust and Death and through the music and words of such folk as Shakespeare, Mozart and Pinter. It was well received by Barn Theatre, National Trust and CODS members alike. A short letter below gives a good idea of what you missed if you didn't make the show! Thanks everyone who put in the hard work to make this production happen and to Peter Mould, The Ellen Terry Barn Theatre and The National Trust for allowing us to use such a historic and beautiful theatre, we hope to be invited back again...



It's worth pointing out that the Summer slot is open to any suggestions for future productions from anyone, it needs to be something fairly small, with minimal set and other production requirements... but any ideas should be sent on to the Show Selection committee for consideration in 2016 and beyond - contact Angela at angelacowling1@gmail.com

On show selection, I'm delighted to say that we have two new shows for 2016: Agatha Christie's "Cards on the Table" as the Spring Play directed by Annie Chesters and Styne and Sondheim's "Gypsy" as the October musical co-directed by Louisa Nelson-Chambers and Jack Davidson. More details to follow on both of these exciting productions...

Next up for the society is the fabulous show "The Producers"... rehearsals are well under way and this promises to be full on show, spectacularly staged and packed with laughs & high energy performances. I hope you'll all come along and help

Notes From Your Chairman

spread the word to get the audiences it deserves. Tickets are already on sale online so don't be shy!

After that, "Sleeping Beauty" is the Christmas Pantomime and you can find audition dates and more details later on in this newsletter.

We'll be looking to give you a "new look" newsletter in the coming months and any suggestions on what you'd like to see more or less of would be fantastic.

Enjoy the read and remember be safe out there, please remember the words of Mr. Milligan: "Contraceptives should be used at every conceivable opportunity"

All the best, James

jameshanaway@hotmail.com

Appleby
Friday 19th June.

Dear Peter,

Just a quickie to say what an immensely enjoyable evening it was last night with such a wide variety of talent and such an ingenious script with unusual program! Most entertaining & which, as they say, "ran the gamut of human emotion", and which in places was quite side-splitting. Full marks to all the actors & production team, and, of course, a special mention for James Hanaway. Helanous!

The company deserved a much bigger audience, I wonder what happened, their loss, such a pity as the company ~~has~~ has such talent. Do please pass on my sentiments & those of my friend.

So very sorry to hear that you'd been "proper poorly", for sure it was a very nasty virus indeed & I have never been laid so low for so long in my life.

Well, onwards & upwards! Do look after your good self.

See you soon. All the best,
Li3

The Wind in the Willows - KDA Awards

Hello All,

A few weekends ago a group of CODS members attended the Kent Drama Festival. It was a very exciting evening! Well done to everyone who was nominated. Results below:

Kent Drama Awards 2015-CODS The Wind in the Willows WON:

Best New Festival Director- Alison Withey-Harrison, Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society

Best Play- Second place Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society

Adjudicator's Special Award for imaginative stage make-up- Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society

Best Actor in a Supporting Role- James Hanaway, Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society

The Lifetime Achievement Award for 2015 was awarded to Dennis Russell, of Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society.

Poster Competition- Winner: Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society- The Wind in the Willows

CODS were runners up and were awarded certificates for:

Best Director (Alison Withey-Harrison)

Youth Drama Award

Best Actor (Robin Harrison)

Best Stage Presentation

Best Technical Achievement

Best Wardrobe Achievement

Best Lighting

Best Sound



The Wind in the Willows - KDA Awards

The Wind in the Willows won 2nd place in the entire Kent Drama Festival and were only one point behind the winners (Bromley Little Theatre) in Presentation, Direction, Acting and Dramatic Achievement. We achieved 90 points out of 100. A detailed list can be found at www.kentdrama.org.uk

This is a massive achievement for Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society. The play had so many unexpected challenges right up until the end of the production. There were times when I actually thought 'The Wind in the Willows' was never going to happen and really didn't want to enter the KDA! However I am so glad we did and am very grateful to everyone who pulled together and worked so hard to make it happen.

As the play was also a financial success £400 has been donated to the Nepalese Earthquake appeal and also £100 to Folly Wildlife Trust. This seems fitting as the funds will benefit other injured squirrels, such as my Squirrel Shirley. I am delighted to say Arwen is now back playing her harp, flute, piano and dancing.

It's now time to leave Ratty, Mole, Toad and Badger on the River Bank. However I take with me many fond memories of woodland creatures and truly wonderful people who helped along the way.

Thank you all.

Best Wishes,

Alison



Future Productions

Sleeping Beauty - Christmas Pantomime

Information for the Christmas pantomime:

Thursday 3rd September - 7pm - 7.30pm

PAC - Show information, audition pieces.

Saturday 5th September

Main Audition day - all parts - Venue and timings to be confirmed.

Audition pieces and information on the show will also be available on the CODS website, Facebook site and via email from September.

James

jameshanaway@hotmail.com



Cards on the Table - Spring Play

Synopsis

Mr. Shaitana is a strange and wealthy collector of snuff boxes and other objets d'art. One evening he invites two specialists, Superintendent Battle of Scotland Yard and crime novelist Ariadne Oliver, to a dinner party to view his special collection: four people who have committed murder and got away with it. As they play bridge after dinner, Shaitana is daringly murdered by someone at the party. Battle sets out to solve the crime aided, of course, by the eager Mrs. Oliver who begins with psychological deductions from the bridge score cards. After many red herrings, skeletons in the cupboard and two more deaths, Battle lays his cards on the table.

I intend to use interesting set and staging to evoke the atmosphere of 1930's England - a very nostalgic look into the era. There are several decent sized parts for men and women, both older and younger.

Future Productions

Auditions will take place after 'The Producers' – watch this space – it will be fun!

Characters

Anne Meredith	(Guest) Young woman from poor origins
Mrs Lorimmer	(Guest) Older rich lady, expert bridge player
Dr Roberts	(Guest) GP
Major Despard	(Guest) Explorer and adventurer
Shaitana	The host – and victim
Mary	Shaitana's Maid (cameo)
Mrs Ariadne Oliver	Eccentric amateur sleuth
Superintendent Battle	Policeman in charge of the investigation
Butler	(Cameo)
Sergeant O'Connor	Battle's second in command
Miss Burgess	Dr Roberts' secretary (Cameo)
Rhoda Dawes	Anne Meredith's friend
Doris	Mrs Lorimmer's Maid (Cameo)
Stephens	(Cameo)

Director

annie.chesters33@gmail.com

01580 388716

Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society presents:

Agatha Christie's

CARDS ON THE TABLE



Spring Play 2016

Sponsored by Peter Jones (Opticians) Ltd and Waterloo House Tearooms

Notices

The Producers

Tickets have now gone on sale at cods.ticketsoure.co.uk! Rehearsals are going really well, the cast is working very hard and the show is on course to be a good one! However we still need more ensemble members please as there are lots of chorus numbers in the show and we need more bodies. We also need help painting the scenery at Flishinghurst on Friday mornings. Please contact Jack for more info on 07863 132920 or strictlyproductions@gmail.com.

Your Committee

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any of your committee members;

President - Bill Marshall

Chairman - James Hanaway, jameshanaway@hotmail.com

Vice-Chairman - David Beeken

Treasurer - John Tapper

Membership Secretary - Jackie Barker, secretary@cranbrookods.org.uk

Business Manager - Matt Barker, businessmanager@cranbrookods.org.uk

Social Secretary - Marian Cumberland

Committee Members -

Annie Chesters, annie.chesters33@gmail.com

Vicky King

Maurice Wilkins

Alison Withey-Harrison

Guy Fillmore

Rachel Croft-Golding

Notices

CODSWALLOP!

We aim to release the newsletter bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November shortly after the CODS Committee meeting (2nd Tuesday of that month). All articles need 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.

As noted elsewhere in the newsletter we are hoping to further revamp CODSWALLOP! in the coming months, any thoughts would be gratefully received. Please contact Lee on leedavehatcher@gmail.com . Thank you.

CODS Logo

Do you like the CODS logo? Why not send us your thoughts and ideas for a new design.

We will be looking at ideas at the next Committee meeting in September.

You don't have to be an award winning designer or artist. You can send your ideas by email to businessmanager@cranbrookods.org.uk or by snail mail to;

Matt Barker,
53 Linden Road,
Coxheath,
Maidstone,
Kent ME17 4QS

by 31st August 2015. Good luck and maybe you will see your design on future CODS publications.

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!

You can order a DVD of over 600 photographs of our 'Short Letters' production taken by Guy Fillmore and Peter Mould for just £7.00 (£7.50 if postage required) by contacting Guy Fillmore at guyfillmore@hotmail.com - all proceeds to CODS. This is just a small sample!



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