

CODSWALLOP!

The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Bi-Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2017

CODS
SOCIAL

PETER
PANTO

YOUR SOCIETY
NEEDS YOU

NOTICES

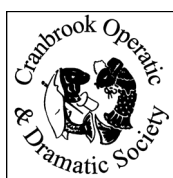
SCROOGE
REVIEWS

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CODS FACEBOOK GROUP
CONTACT RACHEL, LEE OR JACKIE
EMAIL: CODSFACBOOK@GMAIL.COM



CODS WEBSITE
CONTACT JAMES HANAWAY
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“YOU KNOW THAT PLACE BETWEEN SLEEP AND AWAKE, THE PLACE WHERE YOU CAN STILL REMEMBER DREAMING? THAT’S WHERE I’LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU, PETER PAN. THAT’S WHERE I’LL BE WAITING.” – J.M BARRIE, PETER PAN

NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear fellow CODS members

Greetings from your Chairman!

My work often obliges me to be away during the week and so for Scrooge I missed out on all the planning, coaching and polishing by the directors, the setting of the stage, testing of the props, positioning of the lights, practising of the orchestra - together with seeing the dozens of people who support the show.



And so it was that my first experience of Scrooge was as a finished product, sitting in row K and accompanied by my father and son .

Absolute silence from the audience demonstrated that all were captivated as the mood of the show was set. I do not intend to attempt a review of the show (please read the reviews by NODA's Anne Lawson and by Councillor Brian Clifford later on in CODSwallop) but suffice to say I know that the deafening applause at the end of the show followed by the standing ovation that greeted Andy Fairweather's walk down were definitely most deserved.

At this time of year there is no break from CODS activities and rehearsals are well under way for Peter Panto, together with CODS members assisting with the perennial challenges of wardrobe, set design and build, chaperoning, directing decisions and rehearsing, rehearsing and rehearsing. I wish good fun to all, both on and off the stage and hope that the experience enables all to develop new skills and new friendships.

In this edition of CODSwallop you will see a number of CODS advertisements asking if our membership could take on new challenges to support the society. Please do actively consider how you could give further support to your society - we would love each and every one of you to consider a further way in which you could contribute to the society. See you at Peter Panto,

Guy

Thanks From the Committee....

The Committee would like to thank Jackie Barker very much indeed for her tireless and unseen work behind the scenes of our shows in co-ordinating the chaperones for CODS. Without her attention to detail, we would not be permitted to have any children in our productions. Jackie will continue to assist with chaperoning, but is stepping down from the co-ordinator's role.

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

The executive committee finds it necessary to co-opt a member to fill the role of

SOCIAL SECRETARY

This role could either be filled by one person, or by someone to head up a small team of society members to run our social events.

Please contact Guy (guyfillmore@hotmail.com)
or Annie (annie.hatch33@gmail.com)
if you would like to find out more about this role

CHAPERONE CO-ORDINATOR AND CHAPERONES

Please get in touch if you could organise the provision of Chaperones for our productions, or if you would be willing to become a chaperone to enable us to continue to stage shows involving children.

To become a chaperone you would need to complete a short, online course and attend a local session to complete your qualification, which would be valid for 3 years.

Please contact Guy (guyfillmore@hotmail.com)
or Annie (annie.hatch33@gmail.com)

SHOW SELECTION COMMITTEE

Are you interested in having a say in our choice of shows for the future?

Angela Woodcock is the chair of the committee and would like to hear from anyone who is interested in serving on the panel, whether at every meeting or on a team to be called upon on occasions, (which would mean less commitment).

Please get in touch with her, or with any member of the committee if you are interested.

angelacowling1@gmail.com

PETER PANTO

Peter Panto rehearsals are steaming ahead as we sail towards Neverland. We have an enthusiastic cast and crew who are working their socks off to bring pantomime back to Cranbrook. There are plenty of goodies and baddies for you to cheer and boo, custard pies galore, swashbuckling pirates, fairies, mermaids and magic. Captain Hook and Peter Pan cross swords once more in this family friendly adventure.

What more could you ask for during the festive season? We just need an audience and that's where you- CODS members come in. Tick Tock Tick Tock, Mr Crocodile's clock is ticking. Time to spread the word and get those tickets fast- or Captain Hook will make you walk the plank!

Tickets available from cods.ticketsource.co.uk or from The George Hotel, Lambert & Foster or Fancy Pants in Cranbrook.

"So come with me, where dreams are born, and time is never planned. Just think of happy things, and your heart will fly on wings, forever, in Never Never Land!" (J.M Barrie)

Alison Withey-Harrison



PETER PANTO

CRANBROOK OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY PANTOMIME 2017

Sponsored by Peter Jones (Opticians), Hartley Dyke Farm Shop & Costa
Poster photography by www.legend-photography.com



Peter Panto

by Suzan Holder Adapted from JM Barrie's Story 'Peter Pan'

THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER 5.30PM
FRIDAY 29TH DECEMBER 5.30PM
SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER 2.30PM & 7.30PM

QUEEN'S HALL THEATRE, CRANBROOK

Tickets from:

www.cods.ticketsource.co.uk

01580 713887

The George Hotel, Lambert & Foster or
Fancy Pants - Cranbrook

PETER PANTO

Cast

Peter Pan: Jo Reader

Tinker Bell: Ellie Pattenden

Wendy: Lucy Butterworth

John: Alfie Hayes

Michael: Lucas Grimes

Mr. Darling/Big Chief Little Panther: Mark Jeffery

Mrs. Darling: Samantha Cheeseman

Captain Hook: Robin Harrison

Nana the dog: Sarah Hutchings

Shadow: Scarlett Mansfield

Smee: Charlotte Fillmore

Mrs Hook the Cook: Sharon Pickles

Mr Crocodile: Mark Cheeseman

Tiger Lily: Cherry Webb

Morning Cloud: Michaela Tick

Marina the Mermaid: Phoebe Harris

Athena the Mermaid: Sophie Grimes

Tootles: Rosie Barker

Slightly: Lucinda Hurt

Twins 1 & 2: Max Chesters, Raife Withey-Harrison

Nibs: Juniper Thomas-Davies

Curly: Cedar Thomas-Davies

Pirates: Matt Barker, Elly Hills, Ryan Marriot, Michaela Tick, Erica Loy

Native Americans: Imogen Barker, Kiera Ashton, Ryan Marriott

Dancers (Mermaids, Fairies, Native Americans): Phoebe Harris, Scarlett Mansfield, Cherry Webb, Sophie Grimes, Kiera Ashton, Imogen Barker, Sarah Hutchings

Additional Peters x 3: Elly Hills, Michaela Tick, Erica Loy

CODS SOCIAL

Feeling a bit down after Christmas?

It's the middle of January.

The weather is dismal.

Our survey says you wanted social events -
here's your opportunity...

An antidote to the post-Christmas blues! The CODS January Social Event at the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook from 6.30 on 13th January

**Only £20 for a 4 course meal and an evening of unrivalled
entertainment - provided by yourselves.**

Bring your own entertainment – would you like to sing, dance, read a monologue, do a magic trick, or just enjoy a wonderful 4 course meal and the company and scintillating conversation of your fellow CODS members (and anyone else you care to bring along).

We need to sell at least 30 tickets to make this event viable, so please save the date now and we will send further information soon.

Tickets are available from cods.ticketsource.co.uk

Otherwise, contact Jo Levett on 07803 585012 or

email jolevettslt@gmail.com

SCROOGE REVIEW

ANDY JOINS A LIST OF TOP PERFORMANCES....

Playing SCROOGE, Andy Fairweather simply stole the show and can now add his name to a host of artists including Tommy Steele, Albert Finney, Jim Broadbent and Shane Ritchie who have all played the leading role of Ebenezer Scrooge on stage with rave reviews.

On stage for virtually all of the two hour show, Andy captured the two sides of Scrooge with ease. Supported by a a huge cast on stage and a backstage production squad the CODS production was a show not to have missed. The energy that the cast put into performances was recognised by constant hand-clapping after each scene. Songs including Thank You Very Much gave the first class band every opportunity to support the cast singing so enthusiastically.

Let's hope that the urchins and children in the cast retain their stage hunger. Andy Fairweather will agree I am sure that SCROOGE was only possible because of a committed group of CODS members all playing their role in a host of ways from appearing on stage to being responsible to providing back stage refreshments to keep the crew going!

CODS was established in 1919 when young Daisy Allen was walking down the hill in Cranbrook when she met newcomer to the town Eva Campbell who asked Daisy if she could sing. The chance meeting led to the start of the Cranbrook and District Operatic and Dramatic Society.

Future productions include the Christmas Pantomime Peter Panto, and next years musical Guys & Dolls.

Cllr. Brian Clifford

Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council

SCROOGE NODA REVIEW

Author: Anne Lawson

A Dickensian Christmas with Ebenezer Scrooge in Leslie Bricasse's well written and exciting ambitious period costumed musical. An excellent choice for a true company show allowing all ages to explore most interesting characters – something for everyone. The challenge was taken up by Lisa Ferris and Rachel Croft-Golding as directors with Peter MD allowing in us the audience to enjoy the end results from all the hard work put in. The story – evocative at times but with a joyous merry conclusion portrayed by well-cast principals, ensemble, and little ones, we were transported back to 1843 London where bitter, miserable Scrooge had lessons to be learned.

It was good to see this musical production was generously sponsored by Costa, Hartley Dyke Farm Shop, the optician Peter Jones and the Waterloo House Tea Rooms. Together with a dedicated group of Officers and the huge band helpers enabled a well-rehearsed group of actors to perform the familiar story. A good programme front cover – dark with a lit candle creating a silhouette of Scrooge with tilted top hat. Detailed information inside was both interesting and informative. The interesting photo gallery was neatly exhibited in the foyer.

Well-designed and constructed by the four-man team, the open set had three large angled red brick arches, black back drop – beautiful arched wooden door and pillar with orchestra placed below and into the wings. From my position I could only see a keyboard player and the conductor's arm. Excellent sound balance although perhaps dressed in period costume those on stage wouldn't have looked quite so incongruous.

Bricusse's musical numbers, with copious lyrics were well rehearsed and executed with bags of energy. Not an easy task with added interesting and balanced movement and shapes. The downstage areas were well dressed – Scrooge's office furnished with a desk, perfect lectern with painting above – good set of steps. Props appropriately distributed. The stage extension with grill created a great mystical effect for the phantoms to appear through with the addition of cued bursts of dry ice and colour. The other inset was the churchyard set with cold grey headstones set in leaf swept grass for Bob, sympathetically portrayed by

SCROOGE NODA REVIEW

Glyn Roberts, to mourn before Tiny Tim's little wooden cross – quite moving. Above was the beautiful shop frontage of the beguiling toyshop. Other scenes were cleverly set using the roll-on four poster bed, outside scenes using a barrow, baskets, and boxes. Large puppets were well made for the Punch & Judy show, amusing turkeys, the Cratchit's fully laid out dining table, bunting etc. all placed and moved efficiently. Penny, James and Elly tirelessly managed the technical side which was complex.

Costumes throughout were delightful provided by Sharon and Rita from street urchins to posh ladies, costers to gents. Both the costumes and the makeup were all in keeping which with the very good headgear and footwear completed the images well.

A mammoth part for Andy Fairweather with both script and musical lyrics which he interpreted effectively becoming a different man after being so frightened by the four ghosts. Convincing were Peter Ashby as Jacob Marley – Scrooge's old partner followed by delightful Ghost of 'Christmas Past' cheekily played by Charlotte Maughan Jones. Jez Druce a big charismatic Ghost of 'Christmas Present' in statue and presence – a wonderful coloured robe, red beard and wig, with wreath headdress most impressive and a splendid laugh! Our 4th Ghost was of 'Yet to Come' was nicely played by Colin Barnes who also doubled up as the Punch and Judy Man. Ensemble movement was always inventive, practised and obviously enjoyed.

Other cameos roles were worthy of mention, but you were many, plus the children, congratulations on providing a first-class piece of musical theatre.

NOTICES

CODSWALLOP SCHEDULE

We aim to release the newsletter bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December, shortly after the Committee Meeting of the previous month (second Friday of each 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. Any article received after this will go into the next issue.

We are continually looking to improve CODSWALLOP Please contact Lee on leedavehatcher@gmail.com with your thoughts. Thank you.



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Affiliated to the National
Operatic & Dramatic Association
and Kent Drama Association

SCROOGE THE MUSICAL

I have said it before and I'll say it again that it is my job as our Hall Manager to ensure the theatre is ready for our show and it is also ready to hand back to the school afterwards and when I ask for help to achieve this end I never know just how many people I am going to get until they turn up. I know not everybody can make it, we all have other commitments or family duties, but this time you all surpassed yourselves. For the get in and set build a good proportion of the cast came up to Flushingurst to load up or down to the hall to help, but for the clear out almost all the cast turned up and a few more besides which made the task so much easier and quicker to complete. Not only does it help to get the job done it also brings home what goes on behind the scenes to get a show put on. So a massive thank you to all who turned out on either or both days, whether you loaded up at Flushingurst, set built or just helped out making tea and coffee your efforts were really, really appreciated. Thank you everybody. Maurice

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

A copy of the society's Rules and Constitution is available on our website, please go to the following link to view these -

<http://www.cranbrookods.org.uk/committee/constitution.pdf>

TICKETSOURCE

CODS now charge NO booking fee when you buy tickets for our shows and events online. That means the price for tickets remains the same whether you buy them online or from one of our box office partners.

NOTICES

MAURICE'S LAST STAND

From the 28th Feb to the 3rd March Maurice Wilkins will be making his last appearance on stage in a comedy play ***All Balls and Ashes*** with the Beckley Players. Maurice has performed with Beckley several times and will be happy to get tickets for anyone who wants to come along and support him (01580 713887). After more than 20 years with CODS it is, perhaps, unfortunate that this last stage appearance is not with CODS, but he is not deserting the ship, he will still be around backstage and part of the Flushingurst Gang. He will be delighted to see you there.

SPRING PLAY

A big thank you to all those who auditioned for a part in 'People'. Unfortunately, despite having a good range of talented people to fit most parts, we were unable to cast two crucial roles. So we will need to find a new play to put in for Spring 2018.

Thanks again to all those who put themselves forward and supported the proposed production.

Angela Woodcock and the Show Selection Committee will be having an emergency show selection meeting on Thursday, November 30th. at The George, 7.30pm . They are optimistic that they will find a play/director to fill the slot for April 2018 and thus be able to make their recommendations to the exec' committee. So, if you would like to take on this challenge and you have an idea for a show please get in touch with Angela (angelacowling1@gmail.com).

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

At last years' AGM we agreed to raise the membership fee to reflect the need to cover our costs.

As a reminder, the new membership levels are as follows and are due on 1st April each year:

- FULL MEMBER £40 (monthly £3.34)
- CONCESSIONARY or JUNIOR MEMBER £20 (monthly £1.67)
- JUVENILE MEMBER (under 16) £10 (monthly £0.84)
- MAILING LIST ONLY £10 (monthly £0.84)

If you have already paid – THANK YOU.

If it has slipped your mind or perhaps you have paid by standing order and need to top it up to the new amount, please can you do so as soon as possible – see below for payment details - **you cannot participate in productions unless you are a paid-up member.**

Pay by Monthly Standing Order

This spreads the cost of membership over the year and may help reduce the impact. See below for more details

CAF account closed – please change to NatWest

As CAF recently started to charge us a monthly fee for the use of their services, we have closed this account, so anyone paying by standing order into that account should change to Natwest (details below).

Gift Aid – please fill in a membership form

Registering for Gift Aid means that we can claim additional money from the government - we can get a few hundred pounds extra income. But we do need you to fill out a Membership form and tick the box in order for this to happen, even if you've filled one out in previous years. The form can be found on our website or the Facebook page.

PAYMENT DETAILS

By Cheque

Made payable to 'Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society'. Please send to Rachel with your membership form.

By Bank Transfer / Online banking

Use the details below. Please include in the reference the surnames and initials of the members.

By Standing Order

Standing Order Mandate forms for the Natwest account are on the website or can be sent to you. If you need one or are not sure how to set it up, please contact Glyn (ghroberts@tiscali.co.uk) for help.

If you didn't start paying in April and want to pay monthly, please get in touch so we can work out your payments.

BANK DETAILS

Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society, NatWest Bank, High Street, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3EJ.

Account No :30096669 Sort Code : 60-06-18

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

President

Bernard Beardsmore

Vice Presidents

Pam Baker, Jeremy Cartwright, Dinah Chamberlin,
Peter Gray, Alan Hodge, George Hudson,
Peggy Latter, Bill Marshall, Alan Pickett, Dennis Russell,
John Tapper, Maurice Wilkins, Ian Wookey
Marian Cumberland

Executive Committee

Chairman

Guy Fillmore

Vice Chairman

Annie Hatcher

Hon. Secretary

Rachel Croft-Golding

Board Secretary

Victoria King

Treasurer

Glyn Roberts

Business Manager

James Hanaway

Show Selection Chairperson

Angela Woodcock

Committee Members

Jo Levett, Maurice Wilkins,
Matt Barker, Alison Withey-Harrison

Officials of the Society

Hall Manager

Maurice Wilkins

Orchestral Secretary

Ruth Roberts

Librarian

Bill Marshall

Wardrobe Mistress

Rita Wilkins

Properties Master

Lee Hatcher

Front of House Manager

John Tapper

Chaperone Co-ordinator

Jackie Barker

Newsletter and Programme Editor

Lee Hatcher

Hon. Auditors

Messrs McCabe, Ford and Williams

Patrons of the Society

Biddy Danin, Clem Danin, Lee Hatcher

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THE BACK PAGE

Any questions about what you have read? Please contact your CODSWALLOP Editor Lee Hatcher:
tel: 07539 460571
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!



DVDs of "Scrooge!" photos are available for the low price of £5! Contact Matt Barker at m.g.barker@hotmail.com - all proceeds to CODS.



LOOK OUT FOR OUR ADVERTISEMENTS IN EACH ISSUE OF THE NEW MAGAZINE 'PARISH CAKE - YOUR SLICE OF CRANBROOK AND SISSINGHURST LIFE' OUT QUARTERLY, DELIVERED TO EVERY HOME IN THE PARISH.

**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT EDITION:
FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY 2018**