

CODSWALLOP!

The Cranbrook Operatic & Dramatic Society Bi-Monthly Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2018

**PETER
PANTO**

**YOUR SOCIETY
NEEDS YOU**

TW LOTTO

**INSPECTOR
HOUND**

NOTICES

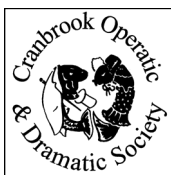
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CODS FACEBOOK GROUP
CONTACT LEE HATCHER
EMAIL: CODS.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM



CODS WEBSITE
CONTACT JAMES HANAWAY
EMAIL: BUSINESSMANAGER@CRANBROOKODS.ORG.UK

“I DON'T THINK FALLING IN LOVE IN SLOVAKIA IS MUCH DIFFERENT FROM FALLING IN LOVE IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS.” – TOM STOPPARD

NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Greetings from your Chairman!

What an absolutely fantastic show. I am, of course, referring to the knock-out production of Peter Panto at Christmas. There's a good chance that you saw the show as well as the auditorium was nearly or completely full for each performance; thank you to all who supported your society. Alison Withey-Harrison once again took on the challenge of a panto with absolute dedication, delivering a wholly captivating performance from each and every member of the cast which I believe can only happen when the director ensures each cast member is completely comfortable – both in their roles and in their understanding of the director's expectations. In addition, Alison ensured that every challenge and need, small and large was addressed... not least the high quality breadth of publicity activities, including our very own Captain Hook appearing on BBC's The One Show. Congratulations Alison.



On Saturday 13th January, a number of us went to the Vestry Hall for CODS Members' Evening to enjoy a fully catered four course meal followed by an 'open mic' event superbly led by Ruth and Glyn Roberts. Even I was persuaded (a euphemism) into playing the cajón to accompany my sister's performance of 'You Belong To Me' this was the first time I had performed anything in public since playing a knight in 'Murder In The Cathedral' as an eleven year old boy! It was lovely to welcome a contingent from our near neighbours, TODS, the Tenterden Operatic and Dramatic Society. Very many thanks to Jo Levett for stepping into the breach and arranging a most enjoyable evening, ably supported by Vix, Jez, James, Rachel and Keith.

Since the last issue of CODSwallop we have had a number of changes in the Executive Committee. A fond farewell to Rachel Croft-Golding who stepped down from the committee and her role as Honorary Secretary to manage a production of her own; Rachel: many thanks for all your enthusiasm and energy and our very best wishes for your new arrival. Thank you Lee Hatcher for agreeing to fill the role pro-temps and adding to the great support you already give to the society. A warm farewell and thank you to Vicky King, for her dedication and patience as Board Secretary who has stepped down from the committee but definitely not from more on, and off-stage activities.

Please make a note in your diaries for the CODS Annual General Meeting being held in the Lecture Theatre of Cranbrook School at 8:00pm on 20th March. Detailed information will be sent separately by email. I hope to see you there, to tell you about an interesting year, for you to elect members to the Executive Committee and for us all to look to the future of your society.

Guy

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

I was absolutely determined to bring the pantomime back to Cranbrook for 2017 and raise much needed funds for CODS. I am delighted to say that this goal was achieved. We also raised nearly £400 for Great Ormond Street through the bucket collections by Twins 1 (Max) and 2 (Raife) at the end of every performance. A percentage of the royalties will also go to GOSH.

We worked enormously hard to publicise the show. The cast and crew were out and about and made sure EVERYONE in the local area knew that Peter Panto was happening. Our own Captain Hook (Robin Harrison) even appeared on the BBC One Show as a pantomime villain! It demonstrates that if you choose the right show and put enormous amounts of effort into the publicity, the audience will come flocking.

Peter Panto was a joy to direct and produce. I was lucky to have such a talented, dedicated team on and off stage all working together to create such a happy, successful show. Thank you to everyone involved who helped make it happen.

There is clearly a demand for a family friendly pantomime in Cranbrook at Christmas. I really hope someone comes forward to direct for 2018.

Alison Withey-Harrison



PETER PANTO

PETER PANTO SET BUILD AND STRIKE

I would like to thank all the members who gave their time, muscles, talent, tools and trucks to assist with building and moving the Peter Panto set in and out of the Queen's Hall for the Christmas Panto.

As a novice stage manager and set designer I was even more grateful than usual to the gallant few who built and painted the set and the few more who helped move it and assisted backstage.

As we always say 'Without these people there would be no show'

Many, many thanks to all of you!

Annie x



PETER PANTO NODA REVIEW



CODS

Peter Panto by Suzan Holder

Director: Alison Withey-Harrison

Choreographer: Laura Larkin

Queen's Hall Theatre, Cranbrook

Saturday matinee 30th December 2017

By arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts Peter Pan in Panto style, a noisy full house was quickly transported with 'Pure Imagination' to the wonders of Neverland.

A colourful impressive actual Hook and Pan on the front cover of a very full A5 interesting programme was most attractive – five copies plus posters taken in time for the NODA competition.

Annie Hatcher, in dual role as Stage Manager and Set Designer created with her team a magical open set. The nursery with double windows centre, set rocking chair, toys and a baby trampoline that lifted the Darling children into flight. Adventures followed encountering underwater swirling mermaids, a delightful jellyfish, a ticking crocodile, a motley crew of pirates on board the Jolly Roger, headed by a comical Smee, assistant to a very fine Captain Hook – an Indian encampment and set downstage, a large wigwam great for exits and entrances to the Lost Boys secret underground home, all enhanced with an interesting lighting plan, forest effects, noises off and dry ice. Doubling up on the technical side and make-up, Penny Tobin devised sound effects with John Wright working the board this time. Penny's expertise in make-up added to the characters appearance albeit no gore! Unseen, Elly Hills certainly 'brightened' up the stage, using some great colours and patterns. 'Shine a Light' was most inventive.

A great pirate clad four piece band with the three Roberts and Jez Druce got us all clapping along to good lively numbers and choreographer Laura Larkin keeping the cast on their toes, with modern dance interpretations that the youngsters enthusiastically performed.

Alison Withey-Harrison once again directed a CODS production – a very versatile lady from playing the Cinderella Fairy Godmother to a more serious role as Agnes in Dancing in Lughnasa and living with dastardly Captain Hook – Robin Harrison, plus young Raife performing a twin and a pirate – a real family affair. Audience participation was particularly good. Hoovering Mrs Hook the Cook, played by Wardrobe Mistress Sharon Pickles was not only playing a comical, well timed 'Dame' she got the best out of the little ones with the laughter competition. The slapstick item was well executed, with bird lover Smee taken on by Charlotte Fillmore, having a great time with custard pies. Colourful, fun and original costumes were created by Sharon together with Rita Wilkins. Both Hook and Pan, as was Head Mermaid Marina played by Phoebe Harris in her sparkles – perfect. The Darling children were a delight with Alfie Hayes as older bespectacled brother John and Lucas Grimes as Michael kept in charge by confident Lucy Butterworth as the 'girl' Wendy. Sarah Hutchings played an agile Nana the Dog. Ellie Pattenden, took on the Fairy with attitude Tinker Bell role convincingly, who came good in the end by saving Peter, Jo Reader playing our hero of the plot, with real energy and command. The company support in the many other roles was commendable and together with assistance from your helpers both front and back stage what a most enjoyable finale to the CODS 2017 season.

A Front of House greeting from members and hospitality was received together with raffles available in the foyer plus the usual well-presented photographs were on display. Thank you once again for a most enjoyable afternoon.

A precis of this review will be available on the NODA website shortly.

Anne Lawson

Regional Representative

NODA SE

District 3

TODS – SISTER ACT THE MUSICAL

Many of our members are taking part in the TODS production of Sister Act The Musical from the 14th to the 17th of February at the Sinden Theatre, Tenterden. Good luck to everyone involved!

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions



THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

Hello Folks, another thank you to everyone who auditioned for 'Hound'.

I'm delighted to say that the final casting panel have been able to cast the show as follows:

Moon: James Harper

Birdboot: Leon Chambers

Cynthia: Jo Reader

Felicity: Vicky King

Simon: James Hanaway

Magnus: Geoff King

Inspector Hound: Mark Cheeseman

Mrs. Drudge: Angela Woodcock



Congratulations to all those who got a part and commiserations to those who didn't but thank you for your time and efforts.

We are looking forward putting on a fantastically entertaining production with an excellent cast and crew!

All the best

James - jameshanaway@hotmail.com

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.



Registered Charity No 1105153
Affiliated to the National
Operatic & Dramatic Association
and Kent Drama Association

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.

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 Flishinghurst Gang. He will be delighted to see you there.

TW LOTTO

Here's a great opportunity to support your society **and** get the chance to win £25,000! Buy a tickets for the TW Lotto for just £1 each and CODS receive 50p from every ticket sold! There's cash prizes and extra tickets to be won each week! So go on what are you waiting for Click on the image and buy your lucky ticket today!



Happy 2018

Put your **New Year promises** into actions! Sign up to support local causes in **YOUR community**

- Support local causes that could change lives forever
- Sign-up for only £1 a week and be part of something great
- You get the chance to win cash prizes up to £25,000 every week
- We get 50p from every £1 ticket (and a further 10p goes to other good causes in the area)
- Join your community in making where we live an even better place

To start supporting - visit:
www.twlotto.co.uk
Search for:
Operatic Dramatic



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older * Terms and Conditions apply - See website

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'. Send to Lee Hatcher 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

Lee Hatcher

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

Newsletter and Programme Editor

Lee Hatcher

Hon. Auditors

Messrs McCabe, Ford and Williams

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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!



DVDs of "Peter Panto" photos are available for the low price of £5!
Contact Guy Fillmore at guyfillmore@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.**

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FRIDAY 16TH MARCH 2018**