

BACK STAGE

DIARY DATES

5th FEBRUARY

HABEAS CORPUS AUDITIONS

Tenterden Pavilion

21st - 23rd FEBRUARY

FOLLIES

Sinden Theatre, Tenterden

16th MARCH

DEATH MOUNTAIN

(Venue to be confirmed)

23rd - 25th May + Matinee

HABEAS CORPUS

Tenterden Town Hall

(KDA adjudication Friday 24th)

OCTOBER

**THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES
(TBC)**

Tenterden Town Hall

16th NOVEMBER

TODS BIG QUIZ

Tenterden Town Hall

2020

MAY

GOODNIGHT MR TOM

Sinden Theatre

OCTOBER

I AM A CAMERA

Tenterden Town Hall

TODS



**TENTERDEN
OPERATIC AND
DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

NEWSLETTER

EDITION 1901

FRONT OF HOUSE

WELCOME

A few thoughts from our chairman

January 2019 – it doesn't seem a month ago that I was wishing you all a very happy Christmas and now it is all over and we are looking forward to another year and all it brings. I will start by wishing you all a very happy and fulfilling 2019 and that you achieve all you wish to. Already TODS members are busy with this year's events. First will be our production of Sondheim's 'Follies' at the Sinden Theatre with performances on February 21st, 22nd and two performances on the 23rd. The Director – Louisa Nelson- Chambers and all the cast have been rehearsing extremely hard for the past few months and it promises to be an excellent show so do publicise it amongst your friends and acquaintances and ensure we get full houses for each performance.

Alan Bennett's 'Habeas Corpus' will follow this in May, which is also our KDA entry for this year. Auditions are to be held on February 5th (see details elsewhere in the newsletter) so do come along and audition for a part. We are very pleased to welcome David Waters as director for this production, which promises to be great fun and we hope David will enjoy working with TODS.

The murder mystery – 'Death Mountain' which is our contribution to the fundraising for the Big Wrap Charity is getting under way so again do support this event on March 16th and prepare to be challenged by trying to decide 'Who did it?' !!

Once again many thanks to everyone who supported the society in so many ways last year and we look forward to seeing you all again this year and just to once again wish you all a very, very happy and successful 2019.

Sally Klemen.

We need a new secretary and a new treasurer with effect from June 2019. The present incumbents are stepping down after many years service, but wish to have a smooth handover. Email: contact@tods.me.uk for full details. Go on.....Get involved.....You might enjoy it.

CONTACT TODS AT:

Secretary: contact@tods.me.uk
Website: www.tods.me.uk
Newsletter: newsletter@tods.me.uk
Social Media: social@tods.me.uk
Productions: productions@tods.me.uk

FOLLOW TODS AT:

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Instagram: [@tenterden_drama](https://www.instagram.com/tenterden_drama)
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Facebook Group: [@TenterdenODS](https://www.facebook.com/TenterdenODS)
Twitter: [@TenterdenDrama](https://twitter.com/TenterdenDrama)

Call us on 01580 241966 or write to The Secretary, TODS, Holly Cottage,
Orchard Court, The Street, Benenden, Kent. TN17 4DE

ACT ONE

SNIPPETS

TODS 200 CLUB

A Happy New Year and thank you to all members of the 200 Club for their support during 2018. Membership for 2019 is now due so please remit £10 for the year, details of how to pay are shown below.

How does it work?

£10 per year (less than 20p a week) gives you the chance to win a cash prize in any of 4 draws which will take place during the year. You will also be supporting your Society. For every entry fee of £10 (you can have as many entries as you wish) you will be issued with a number. A draw will take place quarterly on 1st day of March, June, September and December and the number drawn will win a cash prize.

Example:

48 entries of £10 each = £480. 50% will be allocated to the prize fund and 50% to society funds.

Each quarterly draw would give prizes of:-

1st £30 : 2nd £20 : 3rd £10

Any amount of numbers may be held, **the larger the number of entries, the larger the prize fund.**

In order to participate in the first draw, payment must be made before 28th February when entries for the 2019 draws will close.

Why not start the New Year by making sure you are part of TODS 200 Club?

Send a cheque (payable to TODS) **NOW to:-**
TODS Treasurer, Holly Cottage, The Street, Benenden, Kent TN17 4DE or:

Payment by BACS to:-

Lloyds Bank: Sort Code 30-90-28

A/c Tenterden Operatic & Dramatic Society

A/c No. 01730399

GOOD LUCK IN THE DRAWS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Register

The warmest best wishes from TODS to the following folk who have birthdays in January.

Dawn Theresa O'Bryan - 26th

Heather Coles - 31st

If you would like a birthday or anniversary acknowledged in these pages send an email to newsletter@tods.me.uk

CORRECTIONS

In the December issue I kept referring to Susanne Buckley as Suzanne - my apologies.

I said that the Rusty Racquets won the TODS quiz and scored 89.5 out of 100. In fact it was 89.5 out of a possible 110 - I had not made allowance for the "Joker".

The banner advertising Habeas Corpus refers to the director as David Walters, it should be David Waters - our apologies David.

ACT TWO

FOLLIES



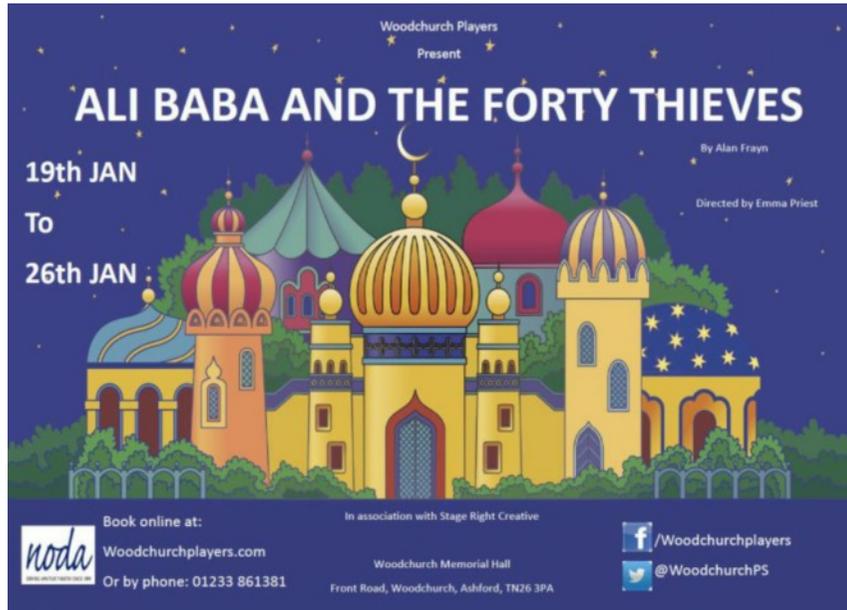
Introducing Hugo Maughan:

Hugo regularly performs as a pianist, musical director, organist and woodwind player around Kent and south east London. Recent theatre includes: Rehearsal pianist/Keys 1, 9 to 5 the musical (Rose Theatre) Keys 1, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, (Langley Centre for performing arts), Keys 1, Oklahoma, (Stag Theatre), Musical Director, You're a good man, Charlie Brown, (Edward Alderton Theatre), Assistant musical director/Keys 1, Whistle Down The Wind, (Stag Theatre). Hugo is cover organist at St. Margaret's, Halstead, St. Katharine's, Knockholt and St. Andrew's, Grove Park and regularly accompanies the Royal Tunbridge Wells Orpheus Male Voice Choir and the Langley Community Choir. He is also currently studying for A-levels in Music, English Literature and French at St. Olave's School.



INTERVAL

COMMERCIALS



Benenden Players

The Legend of King Arthur

Show dates: 31st January 2019 - 3rd February 2019 Matinees 2nd February & 3rd February

Yet another World Famous Benenden Panto, The Legend of King Arthur takes place in Kent (Camelot and all that Tintagel nonsense is merely shameless cultural appropriation by Cornwall). We see Arthur being brought up by his 2 Aunts (Nelly & Nora Knockers), with his friends Guin and Merlin, facing peril from the evil Major Bragalot. Bragalot is deeply envious of Arthur, particularly when he learns from the village crone that Arthur is destined to be king hereafter. But his evil plans are thwarted by 3 feisty witches, who ensure that Arthur grows up safely. As an adult Arthur manages to prove his rightful inheritance, but he still has to face up to Bragalot, his nemesis. Will he secure his crown and the lovely Guinevere? Will his Nelly & Nora get the men of their dreams?? Will anyone pay their taxes in full before the Tax Inspector (portrayed by our Angela Patrick) catches up with them???

DRESS CIRCLE

THIS IS THEIR LIFE

From this vantage point up in the Gods we are able to look down upon the TODS community. This month we take a look at **Monika Green**.



My Favourite Role - Without a question it would have to be the TODS production of Sister Act as "Deloris Van Cartier aka Sister Mary Clarence". She was such a fabulous character and I thank Heather Coles for giving me the opportunity to play her! The whole process and production was such an amazing experience. The cast and crew were phenomenal. We were like one big family. I will never forget it.

Roles I would like to play - There are many I would love to play!!!! "Christine" from "Phantom of the Opera", "Fantine or Eponine" from "Les Miserables" "Elphaba" from "Wicked" "Evita" from "Evita" "Titania" from

Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and many more!

Other hobbies; I don't really have any except for performing but I love going to the theatre, cinema, socialising with friends.

Born in Farnborough, Kent. First car was a Red Nissan Micra.

I nominate **Chloe Swan** to provide next month's bio.

DEATH MOUNTAIN

Ashten Blades has cast the March production of Death Mountain as follows:

Laurel Streep - **Susannah Mayor**
 Ellen McCartney - **Lynne Andrews**
 Olga Pavlova - **Hannah Laws**
 Theresa Mater - **Gillian Davis**
 Mikkell Shoemaker - **Vernon Reeve**
 Winston Burchill - **Ian Klemen**
 Hirokami Mukaru - **Robert Percival**
 Vincent Van Vinci - **Peter Huxley**

We wish them all the very best of luck in what sounds like a very funny play.

At the time of writing there is some doubt over the venue as The Woolpack has changed hands. So watch this space for further information.

STOP PRESS - Ian Klemen has had to withdraw so new Winston Burchill required. Contact: productions@tods.me.uk for further information if you are interested.

STAGE RIGHT

HABEAS CORPUS

IS TENTERDEN READY FOR THIS?

Alan Bennett's characters are taken from the traditional cheeky seaside postcards. They are all 'cartoon characters', but in their world, they are perfectly serious about their situation. The action of the play takes place in Dr Wicksteeds' house in Hove, around 1970.

Mrs Swabb, a cleaner and all-knowing 'Fate,' introduces the main characters. **Dr Wicksteed** has an eye for the ladies and lacks ambition; his wife, **Muriel**, is a more assertive figure; their son, **Dennis**, is a wimpish hypochondriac, frustrated at his lack of a girlfriend.

Connie is a flat-chested spinster who secretly longs to be sexually alluring; **Sir Percy Shorter** was once Muriel's sweetheart and bears a grudge against Wicksteed; **Lady Rumpers** is concerned for the purity of her daughter **Felicity**; **Canon Throbbing** is anxious to abandon his celibate state, which he finds a strain to keep up.

Wicksteed meets **Felicity** and is consumed with lust for her. **Muriel** finds her old feelings for **Sir Percy** rekindled and she plots a rendezvous. A false bust arrives for **Connie**. **Felicity** and **Dennis** go off together. **Mr Shanks**, the false bust fitter arrives and mistaking **Muriel** for his client, handles her substantial bust. **Muriel**, aroused to a predatory frenzy, pursues **Shanks** until interrupted by the arrival of **Sir Percy**, who misreading the situation, injects **Shanks** with a tranquilliser. **Connie** has put on her padded breasts, which make her feel suddenly attractive. She mistakes **Sir Percy** for the fitter, and invites him to handle her bust. He is aroused and is discovered trouserless by **Canon Throbbing**, whom he attempts to tranquilise, pursuing him with a hypodermic. **Dennis** and **Felicity** declare their intention to marry, but he is sent away by **Wicksteed**, who then attempts to seduce **Felicity**. **Sir Percy** catches him in the act and threatens to have him struck off. **Muriel** joins in the denunciation and the uproar is increased by a suicide attempt by Wicksteed's patient **Mr Purdue**, who tries to hang himself just as **Lady Rumpers** enters. **Lady Rumpers** removes **Felicity**. **Muriel** tells **Wicksteed** to leave the family home, **Throbbing** and **Sir Percy** argue about which of them is to marry **Connie**. **Muriel** later relents and allows **Wicksteed** to remain, provided he resumes his long-neglected conjugal duties. **Shanks** comes round from the tranquiliser and denounces **Muriel** as a sex-maniac. **Wicksteed** tells her that it is now she who must leave the family home.

Lady Rumpers arrives to remove **Felicity**. It emerges that she has had sex with **Dennis**. She is already pregnant, but has agreed to marry him – only because she wants a father for her child; she believes **Dennis** has a fatal illness and that he will soon leave her as a widow.

Lady Rumpers reveals that history is repeating itself: she was seduced when young and made a marriage of convenience to give **Felicity** a legal father. **Sir Percy** makes a casual comment that leads to the discovery that he was the seducer – and is **Felicity's** father.

It emerges that Dennis's imagined fatal illness is real, and **Felicity** agrees to go ahead with the marriage. **Throbbing** and **Connie** also pair off. **Wicksteed** is left alone to reflect on the transience of human life and the importance of seizing sexual opportunities whenever possible: "He whose lust lasts, lasts longest".

All perfectly straightforward! The play is quite 'rude' and although 45 years old is an evergreen of the amateur stage. The outrageous plot about **sex and lust** will still surprise some people!

STAGE LEFT

HABEAS CORPUS

AUDITION NOTICE

Tenterden Pavilion

Tuesday 5th February

7.00 for 7.30 start.

Your role : whatever role you take, you'll need to be broadminded! The script is full of what the BBC call 'adult themes! Our production won't hold-back on what the script demands – so there'll be a good deal of physicality, breast-fondling and trouserdropping– so please beware! Provided you share that sense of humour, we can promise it should be a lot of fun to work on together! Full character descriptions from productions.tods.me.uk

Mrs Swabb

role domestic cleaner

age 40–60, but could be any age

voice cockney or regional accent

Arthur Wicksteed

role a family doctor

age early 50's

voice an educated man

Muriel Wicksteed

role the doctor's wife

age 40 – early 50's

voice well spoken / very proper

Felicity Rumpers

role Lady Rumpers' daughter

age 20 – 30

voice well spoken, bright

Dennis Wicksteed

role the Wicksteed's son

age 20 – 30

voice whingeing , whiny, childlike

Connie Wicksteed

role the doctor's sister

age 30 – 40

voice light, dizzy, insecure

Sir Percy Shorter

role a senior doctor

age early 60s – 70

voice military, pompous

Lady Rumpers

role an expatriate posh lady

age early 60s

voice frightfully posh / cut glass

Canon Throbbing

role a celibate priest

age 30 – 40ish

voice soft, modest, bumbling

Mr Shanks

role salesman / bust fitter

age 30 – 40ish

voice over keen, loud, confident

Mr Purdue

role a suicidal patient

age any age

voice stutterer, quiet, depressed