

Dunsfold Amateur Dramatic Society

presents



Stepping Out

A comedy by Richard Harris

at the

Winn Hall Dunsfold

19-21 November 2015

By kind permission of Samuel French

Stepping out – in The Winn Hall

Stepping Out as a play wouldn't be much as much fun without the tap dancing, and the cast would have been lost without the kind, gentle but firm, and most of all patient teaching from Dance Professional Gemma Rix.

Most of the cast have learned to tap dance from scratch, and have been diligently attending lessons led by Gemma every Monday since April. Gemma has also choreographed our dance routines. We hope you'll agree that Gemma's patience, and the cast's hard work, have paid off.

Learning to tap dance
in the Winn Hall 2015



Tap dancing has proved to be so much fun that many of us want to carry on. We intend to continue our Monday evening class, and would welcome more members whether totally new or of any level, to come and join us. Contact Gemma Rix on gemstonerix@aol.com or 07411243103

Gemma Rix is a professional dancer and dance teacher who trained at the Italia Conti Arts Centre in Guildford. As well as Tap Gemma teaches all types of dance including Ballet, Modern and Contemporary. Gemma hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed being a part of the making.

A Brief History of DADS

DADS has its origins in the First World War. The Society was born from very simple beginnings in August 1916, when a musical ballet, **A Flower Play**, designed and arranged by Mrs Hollins, wife of the then village Rector, was acted out on the lawn of the rectory by



And a Bow was Set in the clouds 1926

children from the village. Swathed in yards of flowing coloured muslin, with piano accompaniment from Mrs Hollins, the children reprised this and several other mimes/ ballets in the newly-built Winn Hall and at local village fetes over the next couple of years. The initial aim was to raise funds for bandages for the Red Cross. Three years later, the society had become firmly established, been officially christened "DADS", and sometimes even went out "on tour" to local village halls and

churches. Within five years the Society had so grown in capability and reputation that the *Surrey Advertiser* could write that "Dunsfold has a reputation for the successful presentation of amateur theatricals which few Surrey villages can equal, and none can surpass. This is due largely to the Amateur Dramatic Society, and to the enthusiastic encouragement and help given by the Rector and Mrs Hollins"

From 1939, the Society stayed silent until after the War, when the headmistress of the village school, Miss Kit Hearn, started rehearsals for some short plays presented to an appreciative audience in February 1948. During the 1950s DADS presented its first three-act play, **Love's a Luxury**, and then, its first dramatic play, **Night Must Fall**. The mood of the 1960s and the early 70s, on the Dunsfold stage at least, was mainly for plays from the West End theatre circuit. A core cast of village thespians regularly played to full houses over three nights. In keeping with its origins, DADS regularly made donations from show profits to many worthy causes in the area - The Red Cross, Spastics Society, Cheshire Homes, Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, etc. Most recently, the Society has made donations to more local charities such as The Meath and, in Dunsfold itself, Puddleducks and Evergreens.



Miss Kit Hearn

By the end of the 1980s DADS was producing two shows a year, including many thrillers, comedies, and classical dramas, but at the same time the character of DADS was changing – fewer and fewer cast members were from the village itself, and ticket sales were increasingly relying on out-of-village support. Audiences plummeted. Matters culminated in 1998 when a proposal to wind up the Society was tabled. Instead, a new committee drawn from people living in the Dunsfold area took over, and we have the Society as we know it today. (continued.....)

Stepping Out.....

..... join a group of women (and one man!) who meet every week in a North London church hall for tap dance classes, socialising, and so much more. Each one has a story to tell, and each comes to classes for a different reason. Taught by ex-professional dancer Mavis, as they slowly improve, they are offered a chance to perform in concert. As usual, there is as much drama off stage as on.....

Cast

Mavis	Jo Jones
Mrs Fraser	Mary Stiles
Lynne	Catherine Diamond
Dorothy	Sahana Chanda
Maxine	Amanda Worpole
Andy	Gemma Versteeg
Geoffrey	Phil Travis
Sylvia	MaryAnne Pryor
Rose	Mary Murphy
Vera	Louise Enticknap

Time – the 1980s

Act 1

- Scene 1 – a February evening
around 8pm
- Scene 2 – a month later 7.45pm
- Scene 3 – a month later 9pm
- Scene 4 – a month later 7.45pm

Act 2

- Scene 1 – mid May about 8pm
- Scene 2 – 2 weeks later around 9pm
- Scene 3 – 2 weeks later 8pm
- Scene 4 – 3 weeks later about 8pm
- Scene 5 – 2 weeks on – concert
rehearsal

There will be an interval of approximately 20 minutes between Acts

Written by Richard Harris in 1984, this play was first presented at the Thorndike Theatre, Leatherhead; it subsequently transferred to the West End, London, where it received the Evening Standard Comedy of the Year Award.

Behind the Scenes

Directed by	Pip Ainsworth
Producer	Louise Enticknap
Stage Manager	Anne Cannings
Assisted by	Mark Edsall
Assistant Stage Manager	Barbara Elliott
Lighting and Sound	Tony Cannings
Assisted by	Peter Trappen
Scenery Construction and decoration	Chris Skinner, David Dallinger and John Mitchison
Dance Tutor	Gemma Rix
Wardrobe	Mary Hardcastle and Anna James
Make Up	Barbara Elliott and the Cast
Properties	Sheila Webster and Sue Walsh
Artwork	Jonathan Mason
Box Office	Gillian Kisch
Publicity	Anne Cannings and Gillian Kisch
Photography	Ken Lindup and Yvonne Lindup
Front of House	David Airey and Helpers
Catering Friday Night	Anne Cannings, Louise Enticknap, Georgie Trappen and Helpers
Catering Saturday Night	Georgie Trappen and Helpers

We stepped out to...

The Entertainer by Scott Joplin

Tea for Two by Caesar and Youmans

I Got Rhythm by George and Ira Gershwin

Let's Face the Music and Dance, Stepping Out with my Baby, and Top Hat, White tie and Tails

by Irving Berlin

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(History of DADS.....continued)

Over recent years DADS has gone from strength to strength; recent productions include the DADS 90th Anniversary pantomime **Aladdin** in 2006, **Neville's Island** in 2009, and our most ambitious to date: **'Allo 'Allo** in 2014, all involving complex staging – no mean feat given the Winn Hall stage size and facilities, but tackled with enormous enthusiasm and energy by the DADS. And we haven't even mentioned the Poetry Reading evenings (held each year since 2003), the Quiz Nights, the annual Garden Party & BBQ, or the Carol Singing.

But what about the future? DADS is now firmly rooted in the village, run by an enthusiastic committee who have all at one time or another "trod the boards". And all with an aim to continue presenting the sort of plays and entertainments that Dunsfold residents enjoy.

Please join us for our 2016 Centenary Production **Oh What a Lovely War**, commemorating both the Society's beginnings and the First World War.

(With thanks to John Simper for his research)

Enjoyed reading about our history?
Then treat yourself and your friends to our

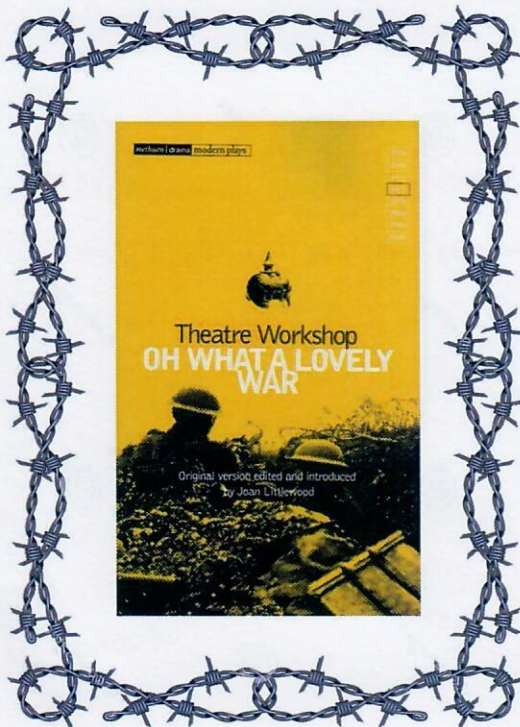
100th Anniversary Souvenir 2016 Diary

With a week to view, and over 80 photographs of DADS Productions since 1916
Order your copy tonight!



Lou Cox in Beside the Seaside – 1961

Celebrating 100 years of Dunsfold Amateur Dramatic Society



Our Next Production 24th – 26th November 2016



To celebrate our Centenary our 2016 Summer Barbecue will be open to all
Look out for further details of how to join us and help us celebrate this remarkable village achievement!

2016 Calendar of events:



15th February – AGM

16th/23rd April – Poetry Evening

11th June – 100 year Anniversary of Winn Hall

12th June – Village Fete/Queen's 90th Birthday celebration

7th August – Summer Barbecue /100 year party

24th-26th November – Oh What a Lovely War

DADS always welcomes new members, whether it's on stage or behind the scenes, reading a poem or just enjoying the Members' Barbecue

To find out more about DADS please talk to anyone you see involved tonight, or contact:

Louise Enticknap (Chair) on 01483 200283

Gillian Kisch (Secretary) on 01483 200252