

Faringdon Community Theatre

Presents Oxfordshire's Amateur Premiere of



Cold
Comfort Farm

by

PAUL DOUST

from the best selling novel by Stella Gibbons

21 - 23 April 1994

Cold Comfort Farm

ACT I

Scene 1	The kitchen
Scene 2	The kitchen
Scene 3	The cowshed
Scene 4	The kitchen
Scene 5	The kitchen / Ada's room
Scene 6	The kitchen
Scene 7	The meeting place of the Quivering Brethren

ACT II

Scene 1	The gardens at Hautcouture Hall
Scene 2	The kitchen
Scene 3	The cowshed
Scene 4	The kitchen
Scene 5	The kitchen
Scene 6	Howling Church
Scene 7	The kitchen

The action of the play takes place in and around Cold Comfort Farm, near Howling, Sussex. Time: The 1920s

There will be an interval of twenty minutes between Acts I and II during which sweets and ice cream will be on sale. Patrons are also welcome to buy drinks in the Community Centre bar.

Directed by **Beryl Rees**

Characters in order of appearance:

Flora Poste	Helen Barter
Charles / Seth Starkadder	Nick Hobden
Mr. Neck	Walther Schoonenberg
Judith Starkadder	Carolyn Taylor
Rennet	Pauline Durham
Adam Lambsbreath	Dave Headey
Elfine Starkadder	Debbie Lock
Urk / Richard Hawk-Monitor	Alan Taylor
Reuben Starkadder	Mike Durham
Amos Starkadder / Sneller	Roger Leitch
Aunt Ada Doom	Nancy Reeves
Mrs. Hawk-Monitor	Carole Tappenden
Photographer	Steven Lewis

The Chorus, Quivering Brethren and various Starkadders:

Jill Headey	Kate Peer
Joan Lee	Irene Schoonenberg
Kate Lord	Jeni Summerfield

Starkadder children / Quivering Children:

Louise Benton	Philip Hurst
Louise Butler	Julian Probert
Claire Green	Paul Summerfield

Hawk-Monitor guests at the Ball and the Wedding:

Henry Adams	Mary Francis
Alan Batchelor	Celia Lewin
Dot Batchelor	Charles Lewin
June Coombs	Eric Yetman
Gordon Francis	Maisie Yetman

(from the Impetus School of Dancing, Swindon)

Continuity	Deirdre Hamley
Stage management	Jo & Peter Webster Joan Hurst Carole Tappenden
Properties	Jo Webster Carole Tappenden
Set design	Jo Webster
Set construction	Jo & Peter Webster Carole & Jim Tappenden Irene & Walther Schoonenberg
Special props	Jim Tappenden
Costumes	Joan Lee Jeni Summerfield
Lighting	Tim Reeves Steven Lewis
Sound	Melanie Pallett
Front of House	Ruth, Christina and Rory Willett Mary Green Denise Monk Eileen Drew Joyce Carter Roland Quinney
Publicity	Tim Reeves Walther Schoonenberg
Programmes	Dave Headey

We would like to thank:

Jean Dodson and Gerry Martin of the Impetus School of Dancing for arranging the dances, **Faringdon Travel** for the sale of tickets, and **Mary Green** who modelled for publicity and poster photographs.

Special thanks to **Ian Ashby** and the **Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group** for additional lighting equipment; to **Mark Hare** for posters; to the **Cotswold Motor Museum and Toy Collection** for the loan of the tricycle; to **Sudbury House Hotel** for the ice bucket; to **John Nicholls (Hanging Baskets)** for greenery; to **Bowlers** for the loan of buckets; to **Faringdon Camera Club** for photographs, and to **Steven Lewis** for the loan of the camera.

The Hymn of the Quivering Brethren

Whatever shall we do, O Lord,
When wretches in vainglorious pride
Do burn and perish in accord
With God, for sins he'll not abide.

We know what we must do, O Lord,
When Gabriel blows o'er sea and river,
Fen and desert, mount and ford,
The earth may burn, but we will quiver.

Glossary

The Howling dialect includes some terms which may be unfamiliar to people living outside that region of Sussex. This glossary may help with their interpretation.

Bute n. That part of any farm requiring the most scanletting.

Capsy adj. not having reached the age at which one is deemed capable of making use of the capstick.

Cowdling n. One who has been coddled or is in the act of being coddled (see *mommet*).

Marsh-tigget n. Elusive creature of the woods whose eggs are highly regarded as a symbol of fertility (see *mollock*).

Middock n. lit. Small extinct ancestor of the marsh-tigget. Used to describe any minute portion of anything and frequently applied to one deemed incapable of mollocking.

Mollock vb. Activity unaccountably associated with the flowering and harvest of the sukebind.

Mommet n. Term of endearment. See *cowdling*.

Scanlet n. Agricultural instrument used in scanletting. **To Scanlet** vb, make use of a scanlet.

Snood vb. to snooze, to nod. n. A place where one snoods.

Sporran n. Staple fodder crop, second only in importance to the sukebind.

Sukebind n. Climbing plant of the *Malvoliocae* family whose flowering season is known to provoke an outbreak of mollocking. The sukebind harvest is an occasion for great celebration and even more mollocking.

