

The Society is a member of the Swindon Theatre Guild and the British Drama League. The annual subscription is 5/-

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

- 1949 BUSMAN'S HONEYMOON by Dorothy M. Sayers
- 1950 QUIET WEEKEND by Esther McCracken
DISTINGUISHED GATHERING by James Parish
- 1951 WHEN WE ARE MARRIED by J. B. Priestley
THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS by W. Douglas Home
(Festival of Britain Production)
WHO LIES THERE by Philip Johnson
- 1952 THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE by John Dighton
- 1953 A WAGGONLOAD OF MONKEYS by R. F. Delderfield
BEGGAR MY NEIGHBOUR by Arnold Ridley
(Coronation Production)
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FARINGDON DISTRICT DRAMATIC SOCIETY

(President : Mrs. ALAN HAINES)

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THE
LITTLE
THEATRE

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FARINGDON

BERKSHIRE

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SOUVENIR PROGRAMME :: :: ONE SHILLING

TO COMMEMORATE THE OPENING OF THIS THEATRE
DECEMBER, 1953

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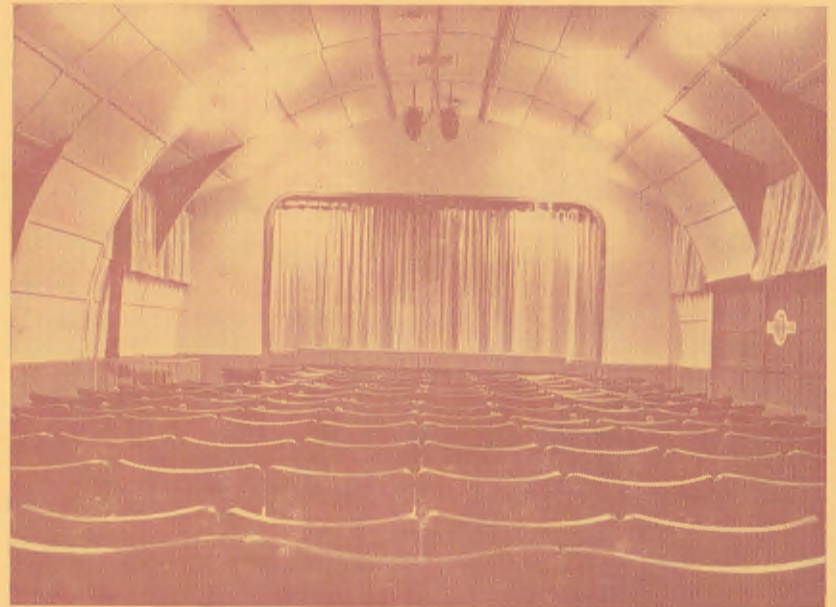


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THE LITTLE THEATRE
FARINGDON

FARINGDON DISTRICT DRAMATIC SOCIETY

P R E S E N T S

THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN

by

Emlyn Williams



CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Dr. HAGGETT WILLIAM REEVES
SUSAN HAGGETT SUSAN GAULE
GWENNY BETTY LILLEY
Mrs. HAGGETT NANCY REEVES
ADA HAGGETT KATHLEEN ALLANSON
BRUCE McRAE HOWARD BIGGS
TALLANT PETER LILLEY
ROSEN GEORGE YOUNG
DAVENPORT JIM CALDWELL

The play produced by BILL CARTER

Set designed and constructed by G. R. GREGSON

The scene is laid in the living room of "The Old House," the Haggett's home in Childer Barnston, a small village somewhere near the centre of England.

The time is *Circa* 1912.

ACT I.—Morning.

ACT II.—Noon.

ACT III.—Afternoon.

A day in May.

Patrons :

Lord Faringdon, Miss A. H. Moore, O.B.E., M.A., J.P.,
Mrs. Allen-Stevens, Alderman D. W. Lansdown, J.P.,
A. H. Willes, Esq., J.P., A. W. Saunders, Esq., H. B. Indge, Esq.,
F. Thair, Esq., F. Bowerman, Esq.

Stage Manager : G. R. GREGSON

Stage Staff : PAT PURCELL, RON VENN

Properties : ARTHUR PROBERT, JUNE WICKHAM

Make Up : JOAN PERKINS, EILEEN DREW

Wardrobe : MARJORIE BOWERMAN, KATHLEEN HILL

Electrician : BOB DREW

Front of House : DORIS WILLIS

Publicity : GEORGE YOUNG, WILLIAM REEVES

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our thanks are due for their assistance with this production to Messrs. Whites Bros., for sale of tickets, to Mr. Frank Thair for his window display, to Mr. Harold Indge, Miss C. Lee, Mr. C. Lucas, Mr. B. Wareham, and Mr. E. A. Roper, for so kindly loaning furniture.



BRIEFLY

Do you remember "Busman's Honeymoon" in 1949? The scenery was made from an old crate and the stage was extended a further four feet by balancing tables on concrete blocks. That is how we started. Since then, we have learnt a lot (we think) about how to do things and how not to do things and here we are, more or less at our journey's end, but still learning a lot from that expert teacher, trial and error.

There has been a deal of trial and error about this venture. At no time, because of lack of money and materials, have we been able to plan ahead, but step by step, sometimes very precarious ones, we have reached our goal—a home of our own, somewhere to make our scenery, tried to make it attractive to the eye, warm and comfortable, and looking like a theatre.

In the main, the work has been done by ourselves and the money has been raised by ourselves; but we could never have completed it without the help and encouragement of many, many Faringdonians. To these we owe an everlasting debt. We shall endeavour to repay that debt by giving you good entertainment. Our aim in that respect is to raise our standards without failing to respect the taste and preferences of our audience. It is gratifying to us to know that there is a very great interest in the amateur theatre in Faringdon. One might even claim that in these days of mechanical entertainment a live theatre is almost a necessity. But one could go on for hours about this

Now that we have this Little Theatre, we hope that we shall attract more members from every section of the community and we feel sure that in our population there must be many potential talented actors and actresses, stage managers, carpenters, electricians, make-up artists, etc. A bigger membership means more varied plays at shorter intervals and more entertainment and enjoyment for everyone.

We are wondering what you think of our effort. Please don't assume we have finished. There will still be repairs and improvements to effect. We hope sometime to buy back and side curtains for the stage and to obtain floor coverings. But that will have to wait until the money is available. We estimate that so far, we have spent about £400.

Finally, a personal thanks, which I know will be supported by all our members, to G. R. Gregson, our Chairman, who has done everything humanly possible to make this theatre a success, to Bill Carter for being a nuisance to everyone and for keeping the Secretary up to scratch, to Bob Drew for working wonders electrically and to Doris Willis, who has done everything from making the tea to painting the outside of the theatre—in short, thanks to everyone.

W. G. REEVES,
Secretary.

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