

Faringdon Dramatic Society

presents

Affiliated to NODA



My Friend Miss Flint



by Donald Churchill,
and Peter Yeldham

Wed 10th May
Thur 11th May
Fri 12th May
Sat 13th May



Buscot Park Theatre

by kind permission of Faringdon Collection Trust,
Lord Faringdon, James and Lucinda Henderson

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

My Friend Miss Flint

by Donald Churchill and Peter Yeldham

When Tom Lambert, botanist and TV gardening personality, receives a call from Inland Revenue enquiring about his public relations consultant Joanna Flint, he can honestly say he has never heard of her. By lunchtime, he knows all about Miss Flint: his accountant and ex-wife, Sarah, confesses that she invented Miss Flint as a tax dodge.

The action takes place during one day in the 1980s.

Act 1

Scene 1 - Morning

Scene 2 - Early afternoon

Act 2

Scene 1 - Mid - afternoon

Scene 2 - Late afternoon

There will be an interval of around twenty minutes between acts, during which refreshments will be served.

Cast:

Tom Lambert	Jeff Barry
Lucy	Suzanna Carter
Albert	Martin Waymark
Sarah	Janie Eyre-Brook
Mr Dodds	Gary Bates
C.P. Lens	Katie Dyet

Directed by Gary Field and Richard Lock

Production Team

Producer	Debbie Lock
Stage Manager	Alan Merrick
Props	Ceri Baker
Lighting / Sound	Steve Greening
Continuity	Peter Webster
Bar Manager	Shela Rowan
Bar Team	Carole Tappenden, Alan Taylor
Programmes	Dave Headey
Publicity	Adrian Wells, Shela Rowan, Gary Field
Front of House Manager	Debbie Lock
Front of House	Lynda Bates, Roddy Benson, Dave Headey, Sandra Keen, Ian Lee, Anna Marlow, Denise Monk, Jeni Summerfield, Carolyn Taylor, Helen Thrower, Jo Webster

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank:

- **Faringdon Collection Trust, Lord Faringdon, and James & Lucinda Henderson** for permission to use the theatre,
- **The staff of Buscot House** for their cooperation,
- **Faringdon United Church** for rehearsal facilities,
- **Gifted Magpie** for ticket sales.

Some Rehearsal Photos





Thanks to **Anna Marlow** for photos

Cast Profiles

Jeff Barry (Tom)

Curiously, Jeff's last stage appearance was also as a Tom – the hapless vet in *Living Together* (2015). Although he has spent most of the last few years behind the scenes in stage management and set construction he has had major roles in **The Odd Couple**, **Dancing at Lughnasa**, **The Cherry Orchard** and **Cold Comfort Farm**. In 2006 many people will recall his fall down two flights of stairs as Garry Lejeune in **Noises Off**. Jeff made his directorial debut the following year with **The Importance of being Earnest**.



Janie Eyre-Brook (Sarah)

Janie first appeared in an FDS production (**Beside the Seaside**) around forty years ago. Since then she has been a member of several different groups and appeared in a wide variety of roles including Titania in **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, motherly Mrs Webb in **Our Town** and Monica in **Present Laughter** (2012). She has also appeared in the "background" of several films and even pressed her body against Pierce Brosnan in **The World is not Enough** (well, someone had to do it).



Martin Waymark (Albert)

After five years in the orchestra pit at the FDS panto, Martin has decided it's finally time to put a toe in the water and step onto the boards. Though he's played in a number of local bands over the past twenty years, this will be Martin's first foray onto a stage without a bass guitar around his neck. In doing so, he says he's determined he's not going to make a crisis out of a drama.



Suzanna Carter (Lucy)

This is Suzanna's fourth appearance with FDS, but her first in a comedy. Previously she has played Prince Charming (in **Cinderella**, 2012), Jack (of **The Beanstalk**) in 2013 and the evil Morgan Le Fay in this year's panto **Arthur's Adventure**. Suzanna has had a few years away whilst starting a family but she is delighted to be back.





Gary Bates (Mr Dodds)

Although Gary can usually be found as part of the backstage crew of FDS (lighting and sound effects) this is his second appearance on stage at Buscot. Last year he played Rev. Paul Latimer in **Side Effects** and he is pleased to be back on the boards especially in this lovely theatre. Previous accolades have been an English soldier in **Reflections** (2014) and officer O'Hara in **Arsenic and Old Lace** (2004).

Katie Dyet (C P Lens)

Like Gary, Katie's last stage appearance was here at Buscot where she played June in **Side Effects**. Katie has also appeared many times in panto, most recently as the Evil Queen in **Happily Ever After** last year and Jack Frost in **The Snow Queen**. Other plays she has been in include **Candleford** (where she won critical acclaim but didn't utter a word!), **The Odd Couple**, **London Suite** and **Wife After Death**. Katie has been the chair of FDS and has taken numerous roles behind the scenes.



Gary Field (Co-director)

Gary joined FDS in February 2005 and although he first worked backstage it wasn't long before he stepped into the spotlight took his first role as the cynical manservant Yasha in **The Cherry Orchard**. He has been in numerous plays since and taken several roles in panto (most recently as Sir Jikal-Trusse in **Arthur's Adventure**, but also as Bo Peep!). Gary also directed **I Thought I heard a Rustling** (2009) and **Wife After Death** (2013), and is the current chairman of FDS.

Richard Lock (Co-director)

Richard has been involved with FDS for many years and is most often found playing in our panto band, or working backstage, although his misspent youth included many stage appearances in pantomimes and musicals. He once made only occasional forays onto the stage, but last year we saw him as PC Locket in **Agatha Crusty** and grumpy Frank in **Side Effects** – a role for which he won a NODA "best actor in a play" award. He has also taken the roles of Kevin in **Wife After Death** (2013) and Henry in **Present Laughter** (2012) and this is his first go at directing.



Faringdon Dramatic Society

Faringdon Dramatic Society was formed nearly seventy years ago, in 1948. Since then it has mounted over 150 productions, ranging from pantomime to dramas, comedies and Shakespeare. We have carried off a number of awards including the NODA Flame Award for **Heroes** in 2010: 'for inspirational contribution to the pursuit of excellence in Theatre' and we have won four of the last five pantomime competitions run by the Oxfordshire Drama network. The most recent was for **Arthur's Adventure** earlier this year.

Our current membership is around sixty, but new members are always welcome, and there are opportunities for backstage and front of house personnel as well as actors. For up to date details of the Society or membership, or to write us a review of this production, please visit our website:

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Our next production will be **Cider with Rosie** by Laurie Lee – a stage adaptation by James Roose-Evans – on **November 9th, 10th and 11th** in Faringdon Junior School. We hope to see you there!

Buscot Park Theatre

Set in the East Pavilion on the east side of Buscot House. Buscot Park's theatre dates from the 1930s. It seats 64 in a raked auditorium with purpose-built armchairs covered in fire-proof velvet. The vaulted ceiling provides excellent acoustics and an audio system is available for the hard of hearing.

There is an orchestra pit below large enough for 20, and a podium can be raised for the audience to see the conductor. A Steinway "baby grand" piano is kept in the wings. Full stage lighting is available as well as a digital audio-visual display system.