

FARINGDON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

presents



70s
affiliated to NODA

Steel Magnolias



by Robert Harling

'The funniest play ever
to make you cry'

THURSDAY 12TH

FRIDAY 13TH

SATURDAY 14TH

JUNE



FARINGDON JUNIOR SCHOOL

FARINGDONDRAMATIC.ORG.UK



Steel Magnolias

by
Robert Harling

A heart-warming and bittersweet comedy, **Steel Magnolias** tells the story of six very special friends bonded together by mutual triumphs and tragedies. Sharing each other's strength and loyalty, these remarkable women survive the cycles of life, birth and death to emerge stronger, closer and still laughing. Steel Magnolias is the funniest play ever to make you cry.



The action of the play takes part in Truvy's beauty shop in Chinquapin, Louisiana.

Time - the present

Act I

Scene 1 - April

Scene 2 - December

Act II (eighteen months later)

Scene 1 - June

Scene 2 - November

There will be a short break between scenes, and between Acts I and II a twenty minute interval during which refreshments will be served and the raffle will be drawn.

Cast:

Truvy
Annelle
Clairee
Shelby
M'lynn
Ouiser

Helen Thrower
Laura Coleman
Joan Lee
Yvonne Kelly
Amanda Linstead
Jo Webster

Directed by Debbie Lock

Production Team:

Producer	Jayne Hoyland
Stage Manager	Alan Merrick
Set design	Jo Webster
Set construction / Backstage	Jeff Barry, Richard Lock, Ron McLaughlin, Alan Merrick, Peter Webster
Lighting	Ian Chandler, Paul Mountford-Lister
Sound	Gary Bates
Continuity	Helen Tate
Props	Ceri Baker, Fiona Merrick
Costumes	Jeni Summerfield, Joan Lee, Lynda Bates
Publicity	Adrian Wells, Fiona Merrick, Ian Lee
Programmes	Dave Headey
Front of House Coordinator	Carolyn Taylor
Front of House	Lynda Bates, Sarah Couzens, Katie Dyet, Gary Field, Jayne Hoyland, Mary Mountford-Lister, Denise Monk, Shela Rowan, Carole Tappenden, Alan Taylor

Cast Profiles

Helen Thrower (Truvy)

Helen joined FDS for last year's panto **Jack and the Beanstalk**, and she then took the role of Hippolyta in **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. She has plenty of experience in drama, both at the Pegasus Theatre in Oxford and in schools where she has taught. At the Unicorn in Abingdon she has directed productions including **Robin Hood**, **Oliver Twist** and **Cats**, and this year **The Scarlet Pumpernickel** for FDS.



Laura Coleman (Annelle)

We welcomed Laura back to FDS as **The Scarlet Pumpernickel** after a gap of over six years, and are delighted that she is also in **Steel Magnolias**. She played seventeen-year-old Anya in **The Cherry Orchard** (November 2007) before going away to study forensic science at university and has now returned to Faringdon, so we are looking forward to seeing her on stage in the future as well.

Joan Lee (Clairee)

Joan joined the Dramatic Society in 1987, and after making the mistake of admitting that she could sew, has been on the wardrobe team ever since. A panto star, she is more often seen in animal roles, being in her time a lion, two halves of a horse, a fish and a toad. Her last stage appearances were as Dolly Dainty the dame in **Jack and the Beanstalk**, and Mrs Starveling in **A Midsummer Night's Dream**.



Yvonne Kelly (Shelby)

A newcomer to FDS, this is Yvonne's second stage appearance with us – she was the mysterious Simone de Boudoir in **The Scarlet Pumpernickel**. Yvonne studied for a degree in Drama and Journalism in 2008 and now runs a soft play and party package hire company, as well as bringing up a family, so we hope she can find time for future productions!

Amanda Linstead (M'Lynn)

Amanda's first production with FDS was in **Daisy Pulls it Off**, followed by **Brush Up Your Shakespeare**, **Cabaret** (as Sally Bowles) and **Candleford** (as Dorcas Lane). Her most recent productions are **The Odd Couple** (Female Version), **Present Laughter** and **Wife After Death**. She is very happy to be performing again with FDS and is looking forward to being part of further productions.



Jo Webster (Ouisier)

A member of FDS for over 25 years, Jo has been the set designer for more than 50 productions. As a director her credits include **Arsenic and Old Lace** and **Cold Comfort Farm**, having acted in productions ranging from **Stepping Out** to **Wind in the Willows**. We last saw Jo stealing the show as the hen that laid the golden eggs in **Jack and the Beanstalk**, but she is relishing her part as the grumpy Ouisier and taking on a 'straight' role again.

Debbie Lock (Director)

Debbie has been with FDS for over twenty years – she has appeared in a variety of productions and has directed four pantomimes, as well as the one act play **Albert**, which won the Wallingford drama festival. On stage she has recently played Puck in **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, the front end of Magnesia the horse in **Jack and the Beanstalk**, and one of the Three Fops in this year's **Scarlet Pumpernickel**.



Acknowledgements

We would like to thank:

- **Faringdon Junior School** for their cooperation,
- **Faringdon United Church** for rehearsal facilities,
- **The Nut Tree** for ticket sales,
- and **London Street Hair & Beauty** for all their help

Faringdon Dramatic Society Past Productions

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1949 | The Ghost Train
Busman's Honeymoon | 1966 | Rock-a-Bye Sailor
Post Horn Gallop
The Importance of Being Earnest |
| 1950 | A Quiet Weekend
Distinguished Gathering | 1967 | The Winslow Boy
Rookery Nook |
| 1951 | When We Are Married
The Chiltern Hundreds
Who Lies There | 1968 | Someone Waiting
Thark |
| 1952 | The Happiest Days of Your Life | 1969 | Pools Paradise
Dial 'M' For Murder
Blithe Spirit |
| 1953 | A Wagonload of Monkeys
Beggar My Neighbour
The Late Christopher Bean | 1970 | The Touch of Fear
I'll Get My Man
Something to Hide |
| 1954 | See How They Run
A Lady Mislaid | 1971 | Tons of Money
The Bride and the Bachelor
Dead on Nine |
| 1955 | The Shop at Sly Corner
Night Was Our Friend | 1972 | A Basinful of the Briny |
| 1956 | Mystery At Greenfingers
Miranda
And This Was Odd | 1974 | Beside the Seaside |
| 1957 | Haul For The Shore
Blithe Spirit | 1975 | The Brides of March |
| 1958 | Night Must Fall
Queen Elizabeth Slept Here
Love in a Mist | 1978 | Post Horn Gallop |
| 1959 | Madam Tic-Tac
Sailor Beware
Murder on the Nile | 1979 | A Murder Has Been Arranged
Doctor In The House |
| 1960 | The Blue Goose
Beside the Seaside
Breath of Spring | 1980 | Night Must Fall
The Brides of March |
| 1961 | A Play for Ronnie
The Paragon
Murder at the Vicarage | 1981 | House by the Lake
Mother Figure
Clara's On The Curtain
Time Murderer Please |
| 1962 | Look Out For The Catch
The Lovebirds | 1982 | Rookery Nook
Busybody
The Laboratory
Green for Danger |
| 1963 | When We Are Married
Russian Salad/Family Album | 1983 | Breath of Spring
Something to Hide
Fool's Paradise |
| 1964 | An Inspector Calls
Brush With a Body
Running Riot | 1984 | Babes in the Wood
Cat on the Fiddle
Murder in Company |
| 1965 | The Poltergeist
The Brides of March
The Geese Are Getting Fat | 1985 | The Madam
None the Wiser
Portrait of a Murder |
| | | 1986 | Tomb With a View |

	The Murder of Maria Marten	2000	Arthur's Adventure
	Gosforth's Fete		Old Time Music Hall
	Funeral Tea		Hell and High Water
	Albert	2001	Cinderella
1987	Sleeping Beauty		The Crucible
	Local Affairs		Daisy Pulls It Off
	Brush With a Body	2002	Babes In The Wood
1988	Jack and the Beanstalk		Brush Up Your Shakespeare
	After Magritte		Cabaret
	Between Mouthfuls	2003	The Wind in the Willows
	Nasty Things, Murders		Much Ado About Nothing
	Outside Edge		Separate Tables
1989	Cinderella	2004	How Clarence Earned His Wings
	Murder for the Asking		Arsenic and Old Lace
	Lord Arthur Saville's Crime		Shakers
1990	Aladdin		Dancing at Lughnasa
	Time and the Conways	2005	Snow White
	Ten Times Table		Idle Chatter
1991	The Wind in the Willows		Educating Rita
	Move Over Mrs Markham	2006	Dreamers
	Stepping Out		The Cherry Orchard
1992	Babes In The Wood		Noises Off
	Farndale Murder Mystery	2007	Pirates of the Faribbean
	Time To Kill		The Importance of being Earnest
1993	Sinbad the Sailor		(with GLT) Lend me a Tenor
	Black Comedy	2008	Peter Panto
	Blithe Spirit		Outside Edge
1994	The Wizard of Oz		Candleford
	Cold Comfort Farm	2009	Beauty and the Beast
	The Woman in White		I Thought I heard a Rustling
1995	Peter Panto		Our Town
	The Good Old Days	2010	Aladdin
	Visiting Hour		Cold Comfort Farm
1996	Dick Turpin		Heroes
	Time of My Life	2011	Dick Whittington
	Witness for the Prosecution		The Odd Couple
1997	Sleeping Beauty		London Suite
	Blood Brothers	2012	Cinderella
	Pygmalion		Best of British
1998	The Pied Piper		Present Laughter
	Lark Rise	2013	Jack and the Beanstalk
	Habeas Corpus		A Midsummer Night's Dream
1999	Alice in Wonderland		Wife After Death
	Confusions	2014	The Scarlet Pumpernickel
	Oh What A Lovely War		Steel Magnolias

Faringdon Dramatic Society

Faringdon Dramatic Society was formed over sixty years ago in 1948.

Since then it has mounted around 150 productions, ranging from pantomime to dramas, comedies and Shakespeare. Recently 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'.

Our current membership is around 45, 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 please visit our website:

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Or email us at webmaster@faringdondramatic.org.uk

Our next production will be on **November 6th – 8th** and will take the form of

"Reflections 1914 - 1918"

A collection of memories, letters, songs sketches and short plays remembering "the war to end all wars".

