



@latchingdon_artsdrama



@ladsdrama



L.A.D.S Latchingdon Arts and Drama Society

L.A.D.S

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2020—WEB ISSUE #4

COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

Chair - Cathy Hallam

Vice Chair/Box Office -
Alana Wilson

Treasurer - Richard Lang

Secretary - Moir Gunfield

Production Manager -
Mandi Tickner

Health & Safety Officer -
Charlie Potter

Website Manager -
Matthew Bacon

Social Secretary -
Heather Bainbridge

Publicity—Michelle Kuta

Buildings - Tom &
Richard Playle

Sound - Teddy Allen

Lighting - Sean Sullivan /
Connor Anderson

Stage/Set - Martin
Gunfield

Costumes - Sharyn
Hughes

Support - Kath Lang

NETG Liason - Doreen
Neale



Our History at the Farm

The Shed—A memoir by Richard Playle...

Hello everyone, so I was asked to do a small bit about the inception of the Tractor Shed. Well, this is interlinked with preceding years and the latter years. One might ask why, well, as with all local village drama groups, they were set up by the locals to provide a way for the villagers and others to come together. So Villagers could socialize, get to know each other and foster a feeling of good will and contentment for those that joined in, by whatever means they could!

This I gather from those more learned than me, started out with small groups of about a dozen or so who would perform bible and cultural plays based upon real life, and they would move from village to village, or large settlements called Hamlets. I must mention, that I can not dissociate any of my tale from the presence of Peter Jones, who without a shadow of a doubt, did just as described above. He was the driving light right at the beginning for all of us that joined his merry band of would be thespians.

Back in the day, way back in the 1400s, there are records of a drama presentation being performed in the area. But with all things, it would be best to move to slightly more modern times!

So Peter was, dare I say, headhunted, even though such a term did not exist in the day. He was asked to produce a play in the new hall at Latchingdon, which he did just that!

The rest is history, not just history but all of our history from our latest recruit to our merry band or maybe the ancient well worn actor from years back. We are all apart of LADS history.

To continue, from about 1975/1980 we had started to have problems as the village was expanding, and so the call for the hall from so many new society's and groups was curtailing our use, which we had grown accustomed to. Our two week block booking was being questioned, as was our liberal wiring up new sockets and switch boards, all to enable us to build our reputation. This extended to the fact we wanted the stage area in a dark wall paint to suit productions, and as ever, the eternal bug-bear of our scenery and where to store it!

The scenery had always been a problem, we lost the back room as the hall needed it to store tables & to run the new clinic. We put a container in the back but this was not a great solution. I kept nagging Peter that we had plenty of space at the farm, as well as the fact that every production we had to haul it on trailers to the hall and bring it all back.

One morning I found Peter scanning the for sale pages of the Farmers Weekly, a very unusual thing for him to be doing as it was normally Plays and Players or anything with Drama content, the reason was he wanted a shed to replace one we had, he found one, and so the Tractor Shed Was born.

Please DO NOT ENTER the Shed at this time under any circumstances as requested by Tom & Richard, due to Government Guidelines of self-isolation due to Covid-19.

Please stay safe.

Detailed Notices

An insight into the current notices for society!

CONGRATULATIONS!

For this newsletter, we have a **VERY** special announcement, from one of our most special members and Vice Chair, Alana Wilson and partner Matt Wilson....



As a society we are PROUD beyond belief to announce the birth of their baby boy,

Robert (Bobby) Frank Wilson,

born on the 26th May 2020 at 9:09pm. Weighing just 7lb 5oz, we're sure we can all agree on how much of a gorgeous, happy baby he is.

We are looking forward to hopefully meeting him in person soon, once it is safe to do so!

Welcome to the LADS family Bobby!

Member Spotlight

I was 8 years old when one day I found myself hanging around the front door, peeking into what was going on in the Village hall in Latchingdon. This was my first peak and what was my starting journey into LADS. Here I am 30 something years later either helping out somewhere or on a small part on stage, I've done most LADS roles from making cups of teas for the audience, to getting under the stage and changing Cinderella into her dress.

I have had many roles over the years in earlier plays in the village Hall, Under Milk Wood, Our day out and Toad of Toad Hall (I had to help Gavin change his costume from a toad to a washer woman to make his escape.). After having a little break between shows, that good old Lads stage draws you back. From singing to dancing, acting and helping out directing to also being on stage not even having to say a word, just use my legs (Dads Army, Comedy laugh) I have done a lot. I have also had an awesome time of directing the children section in Show Hits, Even Co directing/ producing Show Hits one year. I am now the Publicity representative in the group and organize the chats on Radio for LADS up and coming Shows and try and make sure the posters go out to the needed locations to maximize interest. My next role will be my first directing a play for LADS the Next Production "Last of the Summer Wine" lets hope when all these strange times are over. Stay Safe all.



Chelle Kuta - Publicity