



Witney Dramatic Society presents

# 'Old Time Music Hall'

Songs of the Great War



Directed by:  
Wendy Lodge

To commemorate the  
Centenary of the  
Armistice  
1918 - 2018

25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Witney Methodist Church

High Street, Witney - 7.30pm



A donation will be made to The Royal British Legion from the sale of programmes at the performances

Programme price: £1

Programme No:

# Good evening and welcome!



**Witney Dramatic Society** is the longest running dramatic society in Witney and have been entertaining the people of West Oxfordshire for over 65 years.

We perform a variety of different plays from musicals to comedies and next year sees our return to Pantomime.

Look at our past shows page to find out more. We also stage one act plays and take part in local drama festivals. We have social events throughout the year including play readings and theatre trips.

We always rehearse locally. It depends on the size of the production, venue availability and the preferences of the director. If you would like to find out more about where we are currently rehearsing, please contact us either via e-mail, our website or Facebook page.

WDS has a very friendly family atmosphere. New members are always made to feel very welcome and they quickly become part of the family. Our aim is to produce the best possible theatre whilst having a huge amount of fun.

A performance is always a very busy project involving a diverse amount of jobs and skills. We always appreciate more help and warmly welcome new members to our group. Interested? Please contact Margaret Hamm, our Membership and Publicity Secretary, on (Home) 01993 704032 (Mobile) 07853 262107 or just turn up to one of our rehearsals. You will be made more than welcome!

*Enjoy the evening!*



## A word from our Director....



When I first suggested to the committee of WDS that we should recognise the centenary of the Armistice in 2018, I never expected it to be the show we are performing this evening. I started off looking for a play about WW1 but couldn't find quite the right one that suited both us a society and our small stage. I kept searching and eventually found a WW1 Musical Revue being



performed by the Carrollwood Players Theatre in Tampa, Florida. I contacted them and asked about their script and the writer kindly sent me a copy. It was very much an American view of the war and American songs but it gave me an idea. I started researching the British songs of WW1 and the link to the Music Hall soon became apparent so I went back to the committee with a basic script and a list of songs declaring that I was going to write a musical show, something I have never done before, how difficult could it be?

I have to thank the committee for having faith in me and for their support as that initial idea grew into the show you are seeing tonight. I must also thank my fantastic cast for their hard work, not just learning so many songs, but songs a lot of them had never heard of before let alone sung. Directing them has been a pleasure and I have appreciated their input as the show has developed. My special thanks goes to Grace Wells whose experience of directing and her understanding of how to use the stage has been invaluable and Emily Hemming who has co directed and kindly taken control of the singing rehearsals when I have been committed at work. Finally, a thank you to Peter Fisher for his assistance with setting the stage and Les Allen, who has given his time to light the show and whose guidance I have gladly accepted. In fact, my thanks goes to all involved in the production, it has been a real team effort.

Finally thanks to you, our audience, for coming to see our show and for supporting us. I hope you enjoy the performance and please feel free to sing along with us.

Wendy





# Tonight, you are entertained by....

Emcee - Andrew Whitehead

## Act 1

Opening Medley – Witney Dramatic Society Chorus

I'll Make a Man of You - Wendy Lodge with Anthony Beechey as 'The Tenderfoot' & Martin Grant as 'the Raw Recruit'.

Your King and Country Want you – Wendy Hurp and Marge Scholes

When Belgium put the Kibosh on the Kaiser - Peter Fisher, Andrew Whitehead, Jonathan Fisher

Here we are, Here we are Again - Angela de-Vaal



Sister Susie's Sewing Shirts for Soldiers – Wendy Hurp featuring Grace Wells as 'brother Gussie'

Keep the Home Fires Burning– Grace Wells

Long, Long Trail a Winding – Emily Hemming

Long way to Tipperary – Lead by Emily Hemming

Pack up Your Troubles – Lead by Wendy Lodge

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- Interval and refreshments
  - Raffle draw
  - Lucky programme draw
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## Act 2

Take me Back to Dear Old Blighty – Grace Wells and Wendy Lodge

Roses of Picardy – Jonathan Fisher

Jolly Good Luck to the Girl that Loves a Soldier - Wendy Lodge  
as Miss Vesta Tilley

If You Were the Only Girl in the World - Jonathan Fisher

Over There – Wendy Hurp

Oh it's a Lovely War - Peter Fisher, Jonathan Fisher and Sharon Buck

Goodbye – Marge Scholes

For Me and My Gal - Jonathan Fisher

Mademoiselle from Armentieres - Witney Dramatic Society  
Chorus

K-K-Katy – Jonathan Fisher & Witney Dramatic Society Chorus

How you Going to Keep Them Down on the Farm? – Sharon Buck, Rosemary Beckett-Thompson, Margaret Hamm and Marge Scholes

The Rose of no Man's Land – Rosemary Beckett-Thompson

In Flanders Fields – read by Anthony Beechey

Finale Medley - Witney Dramatic Society Chorus

End of the Road - Witney Dramatic Society Chorus





## Meet the crew....

Director – Wendy Lodge

Set Design and Backstage Manager – Peter Fisher

Lighting – Les Allen and Emma Coombes

Sound – Laura Magawly

Costumes and Props – Wendy lodge and members of the cast

Poster Design - Wendy Lodge

Poster printing and Programme Design – Angela de-Vaal

Ticket Printing – Wendy Hurp

Front of House - Members of Witney Dramatic Society



## Competition

Winner of the best-dressed lady and gentleman will be decided during the interval!

Good luck!



# Witney Dramatic Society would like to thank...



Rapture Entertainment, Witney – The  
Woolgate Centre, 12, Market Square,  
Witney OX28 6AP -  
[www.rapturewitney.co.uk](http://www.rapturewitney.co.uk)

Oxfordshire's longest established  
independent record store!

For selling of tickets for this performance



The Fleece, – 1 Church Green, Witney  
OX28 4AZ - [www.fleecewitney.co.uk](http://www.fleecewitney.co.uk)

Bar/restaurant overlooking Church Green

For the use of their meeting room for  
rehearsals.



Sainsbury's Witney – Witan Way, Witney  
OX28 4FF - [www.sainsburys.co.uk](http://www.sainsburys.co.uk)

For the use of their facilities for rehearsals.



A donation from the sales of our  
programmes at each performance will be  
given to the Royal British Legion.





For our next performance...



# Jack and the Beanstalk

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019

If you are interested in taking part in this performance, either on stage or in one of our many supporting roles, please come along to the first reading of the script on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at the Witney Methodist Church, Wesley Centre in the Mary and Martha room upstairs.

Please see our website/Facebook page for more details.

We look forward to seeing you then!

The poster features a background of red curtains and a yellow starburst pattern. In the top left corner is the Witney Dramatic Society logo, which includes a stylized building and the text 'Witney Dramatic Society'. The main text is as follows:

**Witney Dramatic Society**  
Come join us at our  
**Open Night**  
Como Lounge, 34 Market Square, Witney  
Wednesday 7th November - 7.30pm  
Come and find out more about us!