

Monday 17th - Saturday 22nd February 2014

Witham Public Hall Collingwood Road

Imaginated 1921

Book, Music and lyrics by JIM JACOBS and WARREN CASEY By arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide



'Grease' takes place in and around the fictitious Rydell High School, class of 59, where Danny Zuko believes he is the coolest of the cool. Every high school had its Zuko - the self-appointed role model - in the late 50s. TU's 'Happy Days', which appeared soon after 'Grease', exploited the same sort of character in The Fonz, the high school drop-out, played by Henry Winkler.

Jim Jacobs, co-writer of 'Grease', based Danny Zuko on someone he'd known at high school in Chicago. "He was a natural leader, good-looking and charismatic, but he peaked at school. It's sad to see kids who have been heroes at school reduced to menial jobs, or worse, unemployed and just hanging out."

Senior high school has its nearest UK equivalent in the sixth form college, but instead of sitting specific exams, American pupils automatically 'graduate' on completing 12th grade by a process of continuous assessment. The average 12th grader is anything up to two years behind the average English sixth former. This is not seen by American educationalists as a particular disadvantage. They believe the social side of school life is as important as the academic.

Prom night, often featured in American movies and TV programmes, is a ball held at the end of the academic year for the class completing either junior or, more usually, senior high school. It is short for promotion (to the next level of study), and not to be confused with London's annually-staged prom (ie promenade) concerts. The song 'Raining on Prom Night' captures the anxiety a lot of girls feel about this all-important social occasion. There is much status attached to your 'date', both for the girls and the boys. The tradition of prom night dating became the subject of national debate in the U.S in 1992 when a young lesbian couple decided openly to flout convention and go to their Prom together.

About The Show

It's 1959 and Rydell High is filled with rebellious, thrill-loving students, cheerleaders and geeks. In the midst of this scene, Sandy Dumbrowski enters as the new girl in school. It turns out that she and the leader of the Burger Palace Boys gang, Danny Zuko, have had a brief romance the summer before. While Sandy stresses to her new classmates the emotional attachment she and Danny had, Danny stresses the physical aspects of the relationship. Sandy is allowed to hang out with the coolest girl cliché the Pink Ladies. As the show goes on, the students at Rydell High have to deal with love, work prospects, teen pregnancy and friendship. In the end, Sandy and Danny resolve their differences and end up happily together.



Nikki Mundell-Poole Director & Choreographer

I am delighted to have been asked to come back again to direct for WOW! with this production of 'Grease'. This is particulary special for me as 'Grease' was my very first show 30 years ago! Since then I have been fortunate to work on West End Shows, National Touring productions and with many other local Amateur Societies.

It has been fabulous to work on this show with my dedicated Production Team of Emma, Joe & Charlotte and I am sure they will agree that working with such a high energy and fun-loving cast on a cult show like this has been very challenging but ultimately highly rewarding.



Emma Firth Musical Director

I studied music at Goldsmiths College London obtaining a Masters in Music and piano performance. Moving back to Essex I deliver instrumental tuition and perform concerti and classical concerts at St Botolph's church in Colchester.

I also enjoy playing for musicals across Essex. As regular rehearsal pianist for WOW! and

WAOS, this will be my fourth show with WOW! and first as Musical Director. I would like to thank Nikki and the WOW! team for their support and Geoff Osborne for his gracious guidance throughout 'Grease'.



Joe Gray Director's Assistant

I am very pleased to have been involved in WOW!'s production of 'Grease', after engrossing myself in a variety of musicals for the last 2 years such as 'Half a Sixpence', 'Kiss me Kate', 'Oklahoma' and not so long ago, 'Oliver'. Nikki has encouraged me off the stage and under her wing I have learnt some of the work involved in putting on a very

exciting and professional production in my role as Director's Assistant. It has been an eye opening experience that I have thoroughly enjoyed! I would like to thank Nikki, and the extremely talented young cast which, I am positive, will give you one hell of a show. I hope that you enjoy it.



Synopsis of scenes and musical numbers

Act I

Rydell High School Renuion - 1970

- Alma Mater

School Yard 1959

- Alma Mater Parody

Summer Nights

School Corridor

- Those Magic Changes

Marty's Bedroom

- Freddy My Love

Street Corner & Garage

- Greased Lightning

School Yard

- Rydell Fight Song

The Park

Mooning

- Look at Me I'm Sandra Dee

We Go Together

Miss Lynch & past school students

The Greasers

- Sandy. Danny and students

Doody & students

Marty & the Pink Ladies

Kenickie & the boys

- Patty, Sandy & the Cheerleaders

- Roger & Jan

Rizzo

- Rydell High Students



Act II

The Students Bedrooms

- Shakin at the High School Hop - Rydell High Students

Radio Station. Sandy's Bedroom & outside the School Prom

- Raining on Prom Night - Radio Singer & Sandy

The School Gym

- Born to Hand Jive - Johnny Casino

Outside the Burger Palace

- Beauty School Dropout - Teen Angel

The Drive in Movie

- Alone at a Drive-in Movie - Danny

Jan's Basement

- Rock 'n'Roll Party Queen - Roger & Doody

- There are Worse Things I could Do - Rizzo

Sandy's Bedroom

- Look at Me I'm Sandra Dee Reprise - Sandy

At the Burger Palace

- You're the One that I Want - Danny, Sandy & Rydell High Students

- We Go Together Reprise - Rydell High Students

Finale

- Megamix - Full Cast

The Orchestra

Musical Director, Keyboard & Saxaphone - Emma Firth
Keyboard & Rehearsal Accompianist - Geoff Osborne
Electric Guitar - James Stirling
Bass Guitar - Susan Long
Percussion - Paul Codling

Nicholas Clough - President

Welcome to WOW!'s production of 'Grease', the musical of The Baby Boomers of the fifties. First performed in 1972, at The Eden Theatre, in New York, it has since been a constant favourite, and in 1978, the film, starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton John was released.

Thank you for coming to see our interpretation of this much enjoyed classic. We trust that you will enjoy the evening.

Miss Lynch **Kate Farrell** Johnny Callum Hoskin Danny Ben Huish Sandy **Ashton Reed Ed Tunningley** Kenickie Sarah Williams Rizzo Mark Ellis Roger Rhianna Howard Jan Frenchy Bella Tull Doody Jack Martyn Hatty Gribben Marty **Chris Tierney** Sonny Alice Tunningley **Patty** Dan Carr Eugene Cha Cha Charlotte Watling Teen Angel Tim Rolph Radio Singer Katie Galley

Girls Chorus

Vince

Alice Tunningley, Amy Seymour, Bethany Sharpe, Charlotte Bayley, Charlotte Tofts, Charlotte Watling, Gemma Dover, Jennifer Hunt, Jodie Sainsbury, Katie Galley, Libby Johnson, Olivia Bentley, Rachel Maguire, Rosie Goddard and Victoria Sharpe.



Boys Chorus

Ben Rolph, Callum Hoskin, Charlie Smith, Dan Carr, Thomas Newland, Tom Nicoll and Tim Rolph.

David Nash

Director & Choreographer Nikki Mundell-Poole **Musical Director** Emma Firth Director's Assistant Joe Gray Dance Captain **Charlotte Watling** Stage Manager **Graham Green** Assistant Stage Manager Keith Radley Dean Hirst. David Hunt. Stage Crew Joe Gray. Ken Hawkes. Michael Anderson Scenery Graham Green. Paul Galley Lighting Nigel Northfield Quintin Brazier. Anne Dyster. Lighting Assistants Kris Knox-Crichton Paul Galley. Jason Fenn Sound Event Sound & Light Properties Managers Annette Maguire, Michael Mundell-Poole **Properties Team** Robyn Harrington, Jessica Salmon, Oliver Souraya, Rachel Goddard, Gemma Gray, Lydia Clough. Thomas Maguire. Patricia Clegg Anne Howe, Alison Carlyle Wardrobe Mistress Debbie Stirling. Phoebe Nicoll. Wardrobe Assistant Sam Carlyle. Gemma Gray The Dressing-up Box. Costumes The Copmpany Make up Liz Watson Make-up Assistants Shelley Moore, Lucy Galley Wigs Patsy Page Pamela Adams **Prompt Box Office Manager** Janice Hawkes Front of House Manager Debbie Rolph **Publicity Team** Kathryn Adkins. Sue Rogers. Cynthia Stead. Gemma Gray. Gary Rolph, Matilda Bourne **Publicity & Dress** Steve Harris Photography Rehearsal Photos Programme Michael Mundell-Poole

Ron Howe

Bar Manager



Danny - Ben Huish
I love performing and have enjoyed playing parts such as
Pearce in 'Half a Sixpence', Paul in 'Kiss me Kate', Lewis in
'Our House', Javert in 'Les Miserables', Babby Bobby in 'The
Cripple of Inishmaan', Treplev in 'The Seagull' and Truffaldino
in 'A Servant to Two Masters'. I have really enjoyed rehearsing with such a fantastic cast and hope you all enjoy the show!

Kenickie - Ed Tunningley
Performing has always been a small passion of mine and I
have been on the stage now for over ten years. This is my
3rd show with WOW! and it is certainly the most challenging.
My other substantial roles have included Enjolras, in 'Les
Miserables' with The Essex Group and Bobby, in 'The Boy
Friend' with WOW!





Roger - Mark Ellis
I am currently studying my A levels at KEGS Sixth Form but have been performing since I was a week old, most recently as part of a new play for the National Theatre Connections scheme. This is my sixth show with WOW! and it has arguably been both the most fun and most gruelling to put together!

Doody -Jack Martyn
I am 14 years old and this is my third show with WOW!. I have been in a number of other productions such as 'Our House', 'Troy', 'RENT', 'Footloose', 'Miss Saigon', 'The Boy Friend' but most recently 'Oliver!' with WAOS. I have really enjoyed every part of this production, especially working with Nikki who is a great director! Doody is a great character to play so I hope you enjoy the show.





Sonny - Chris Tierney
Hi, I've been performing for the last 5 years with another
local theatre group but 'Grease' is my first show with WOW!,
I am delighted to be playing Sonny in this production. It's been
great fun coming to the rehearsals and making so many new
friends.

Sandy - Ashton Reed

This is my first production with WOW! and I have thoroughly enjoyed the rehearsal process. I am currently in my second year of A-Levels at The Boswells College studying Performing Arts, Drama and Law. As well as 'Grease', my many other amateur dramatic works include; 'RENT', 'Les Misérables', 'Our House' and 'Chicago'. I'd like to thank you for attending our production of 'Grease' and hope you enjoy the show!





Rizzo - Sarah Williams
I'm 18 years old and currently finishing my A levels at
Colchester Sixth Form College. This is my seventh show with
WOW! having most recently played Hortense in 'The Boy
Friend'. I 'm excited about playing Rizzo in 'Grease' and look
forward to performing for the last time before I go to uni!
Enjoy the show!

Jan - Rhianna Howard

I graduated from Nottingham Trent University last year with a Bsc Hons in Psychology. I have played a variety of roles such as Sharpay in 'High School Musical', Mimi in 'Rent' and Scaramouche in 'We Will Rock You'. I am very much enjoying performing with WOW! again and hope you will enjoy tonight's performance.





Frenchy - Bella Tull
My name is Isabella Tull and 'Grease' will be my fifth show
with WOW! after playing the part of Dulcie last year in our
production of 'The Boy Friend'. This year I am performing
the role of Frenchy which I have really enjoyed and I hope
that you all love the show as much as much as we have loved
rehearsing it!

Marty - Hatty Gribben

I love acting, singing and dancing and am studying GCSEs in Drama and Dance. Apart from many school productions and a spell with 'Act Up' I have also been in 'Hard Times' with the Colchester Mercury Youth Theatre. Marty is my first major role and 'Grease' is my first show with WOW!





Eugene - Dan Carr
'Grease' will be my 3rd show with WOW! and being asked to come and audition was a great feeling. Eugene has been an interesting new challenge and one that I hope I have risen to. Now let us take you back to the 50s, sit back and enjoy.

Teen Angel - Tim Rolph

I am 18 years old and this will be my 6th show with WOW!. My last performance was not as a member of the cast but playing the drums as part of the orchestra. I'm really enjoying being back with the group, and pleased to be performing the role of Teen Angel, which is very different from my usual role as the drummer for 'Mary Do You Wanna', a local band which is going extremely well and has big things coming up in 2014.





Johnny Casino - Callum Hoskin
I am 12 years old and this is my second WOW! show. I played
Joseph in 'Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat' in the
WOW! summer school. I am in Year 7 at Maltings Academy.
My favourite subjects are Music and Art. I love playing the
piano. I am looking forward to playing Johnny Casino. I hope
you enjoy the show!

Vince Fontaine - David Nash

I studied Drama in London and now teach in a local secondary school. I am also a lead singer in a covers band. I always dreamed of playing a character from 'Grease' but due to mother nature, there was only one role left for me to play; ageing DJ Uince Fontaine!







Patty Simcox - Alice Tunningley
This is my 3rd show with WOW! As I do a lot of dancing
'Grease' is definitely the show for me although, having
previously played a lot of dancing characters, Patty is a very
different part. I have been in many more shows including
playing little Cosette in 'Les Miserables' three times with
The Essex Group.





Cha Cha - Charlotte Watling
I am in my last year at Thurstable 6th form college, studying
Dance, Drama and ICT. This is my 8th show with WOW! and,
as always, it will be terrific. I have thoroughly enjoyed working
with Nikki, Joe and Emma as they have been a wonderful team.
I am playing the role of Cha Cha and can not wait for show
week.

Radio Singer - Katie Galley
I am 15 years old and studying Performing Arts and Dance at N.R.A. This is my second production with WOW!, previously in 'Footloose'. I recently played joint lead role of Luisa in The 'Fantasticks' with Witham Music Theatre, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I've had a brilliant time rehearsing for 'Grease' and hope you really enjoy the show.





Miss Lynch - Kate Farrell
I'm 17 years old and this is my first show with WOW! I'm
currently studying Drama, Media and BTEC Performing Arts
at Chelmer Valley High School. I've been in a number of other
productions including 'Taming of the Shrew' and 'Guys and
Dolls'. I have loved playing Miss Lynch in 'Grease' and I hope
you enjoy the performance!







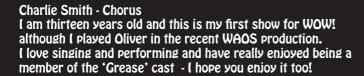
Amy Seymour - Chorus
This is my 2nd show with WOW!, the first being 'The Boy
Friend'. I am 15 years old and I am currently taking GCSE
Drama as one of my options at Moulsham High School.
'Grease' has been great fun to be a part of and I hope you
enjoy the show!

Ben Rolph - Chorus I am 11 years old and

I am 11 years old and this is my first show with WOW! I recently performed in the workhouse scene for WAOS's 'Oliver' and had such a great time I decided to join WOW! following in my older brother's footsteps. 'Grease' came out before I was born and I haven't even watched the movie but I really love the music and the story. My favourite dance routine is to Greased Lightning but my favourite song is Shakin' at the High School Hop. I hope you enjoy the show



Bethany Sharpe - Chorus
I am almost seventeen years old and have just joined WOW!.
I was a member of Class Act Theatre School from age 5 until age 10 and was in four shows with them. I have also been involved in several performances at my old secondary school both on stage and backstage.







Charlotte Bayley - Chorus
This is my second show with WOW!, but third show altogether, having also been a part of 'Oliver!' last year with WAOS.
'Grease' has definitely been a challenging show, but still great to be a part of. I hope everyone enjoys it as much as we will.

Charlotte Tofts - Chorus

I am fifteen years old and this is my fourth show with WOW! I was also in 'Oliver' with WAOS. I enjoy acting, singing and dancing and have thoroughly enjoyed the rehearsals leading up to the show. This is one of the most fun and energetic shows I have done and I hope you enjoy watching it.





Gemma Dover - Chorus
I am 14 years old and I am currently in year 10 studying
Dance and Drama at Plume School. This is my first show with
WOW! and I have enjoyed all the rehearsals and I am really
excited to perform the show.

Jennifer Hunt - Chorus

I am 11 years old and this is my first show with WOW! I have been dancing since the age of five but not in a big show like 'Grease'. I have enjoyed the rehearsals and hope you enjoy the show!





Jodie Sainsbury - Chorus

This is my fourth show with WOW!, the last one was 'Les Miserables' In 2009, I had forgotten how energetic WOW! shows are! I am also rehearsing for my third show with WAOS. Thank you to my daughter Grace - who has had to tag along to a lot of rehearsals - for remembering the routines for me.







Libby Johnson - Chorus
I am a year 11 student, and this will be my fourth consecutive show with WOW! I have been in several other local shows, including 'The Fantasticks', as well as 'My Fair Lady' in the Leatherhead Theatre. I love this show, and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do!

Olivia Bentley - Chorus
This is my 6th show with WOW! having previously performed
'High School Musical', 'Les Miserables' and 'Footloose', to
name a few of my favourites. I have been involved with WAOS
for the past 2 years in 'Kiss me Kate' and recently 'Oliver!',
but I couldn't miss the opportunity to perform in 'Grease'. I
have enjoyed being part of another show with WOW!, especially with Nikki directing, and I can't wait for show week.





Rachel Maguire - Chorus
Hi, I am 13 years old and this is my second show with WOW!,
however, I have also performed in a show with WAOS. I am
really enjoying 'Grease'. This is my favourite show so far....

Rosie Goddard - Chorus I am a year ten student at The Sandon School studying Music. This is my fourth show performing with WOW!, previously playing Maisie in the production 'The Boy Friend' last year.





Thomas Newland - Chorus
This is my second show with WOW! and recently was cast in Fagin's Gang in the recent WAOS production of 'Oliver!' I am 12 years old and attend Holmwood House School. I am really enjoying the rehearsals and have a great time working with everyone - it's great fun! I can't wait for the next one!!!

Tom Nicoll - Chorus

Hi, I am 12 years old and a pupil at Thurstable School.

This is my first production with WOW! although I was part of Fagin's Gang in 'Oliver!' that WAOS produced last year.

I really enjoyed being part of the cast of 'Oliver' and can't wait to be in 'Grease'.





Victoria Sharpe - Chorus
Hi, I'm 13 and this is my first show with WOW!. I have always
enjoyed performing, especially singing and acting. Before this
I did two shows with C.A.T.S and ever since I have loved being
on stage. I think being with WOW! will be even better!





The Helen Temperley Memorial Award

After the Saturday night performance we shall be awarding one of our cast members The Helen Temperley Memorial Award. This was awarded for the first time last year after creating the award in memory of Helen Temperley. The winner will be the member of WOW! who most embodies the positive qualities that Helen exhibited, namely loyalty, hard work and selfless commitment, while maintaining a great sense of fun and enjoyment.



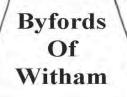
Chairman's Welcome

What a difference a year makes! From the genteel finishing school of 1920s France we move to the raunchy high school of 1950s USA via Victorian England for a stop off in Dickensian London. The small cast of "The Boy Friend" has been augmented this year by some new faces aftracted to WAOS's production of 'Oliver!" and who stayed on to join yet more new faces who were keen to perform 'Grease'. We are delighted to welcome at

least ten new members to WOW! this year. Can you spot who they are?

If you are 11-21 or approaching 11 years old and interested in Musical Theatre, why not get involved. We ran two successful Summer Schools in 2013, one for 8-13 year olds and one for 13-18 year olds and we hope to repeat those this year. We shall also be running a series of workshops during the summer term before we begin rehearsing for the next WOW! show, 'Our House' which will be performed February half-term 2015. To find out more why not call me on 01621 891143/07775672547 or email wow.chairman@wow.org.uk Parents can also get involved since there is plenty to do backstage, Front of House, helping with the bar or in administration/publicity.

Stewart Adkins



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The Society's grateful thanks are extended to:

- Those involved with box office, stewarding, programme and raffle ticket selling
- Those involved with the bar
- Those involved in chaperoning
- Those involved backstage and with transportation
- Those who have helped with publicity banners and boards
- Witham Dramatic Club for the use of the raised seating
- Derek Elliott at the Public Hall
- Spring Lodge, Parkside Youth Centre and the Public Hall for the use of their rehearsal facilities
- All those who helped in the supply of Props
- David John Pennington-Mellor-Von Munth'e for the use of his American Cadillac for the publicity photographs
- Steve Harris for taking the publicity and dress rehersal photographs
- Elliot Harrison for supplying the car used on stage
- Joe Gray, Paul Hobbs and Sam Hobbs for the car preparation
- Morrisons, Essex County Council, Witham Visitor Information Centre and the Grove Centre for permission to display photographs
- Kerry Green for storage of scenery and props
- Those who have freely donated window space for the display of our posters
- The Media

Anyone else who has contributed in any way to the preparation and production of this show.

Previous Productions

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	2005	Little Shop of Horrors
West Side Story	2006	Fame
Annie	2007	A Knight to Remember
The Boyfriend	2008	High School Musical
42nd Street	2009	Les Miserables School Edition
The Wiz	2010	Hot Mikado
Bugsy Malone	2011	West Side Story
Oliver!	2012	Footloose
Crazy For You	2013	The Boy Friend
	Technicolor Dreamcoat West Side Story Annie The Boyfriend 42nd Street The Wiz Bugsy Malone Oliver!	Technicolor Dreamcoat 2005 West Side Story 2006 Annie 2007 The Boyfriend 2008 42nd Street 2009 The Wiz 2010 Bugsy Malone 2011 Oliver! 2012

WOW Committee

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