



Presents

Les Misérables School Edition™

Witham
Public Hall
16th - 21st
February
2009



Affiliated to
National
Operatic and
Dramatic
Association



Performed entirely by students

A musical by ALAIN BOUBLIL and CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG
School Edition specially adapted and licensed by JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED
on behalf of
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MACKINTOSH LIMITED

Synopsis

1815 – Digne

Jean Valjean is paroled by Javert after 19 years in prison. He breaks parole by stealing silver from a kindly Bishop and is then surprised when the Bishop lies to save him from being arrested. The bishop presents Valjean with a pair of silver candlesticks and tells him to use them to start a new life.

1823 – Montreuil sur Mer

Valjean has taken on a new identity as Monsieur Madeleine, the Mayor and factory owner. During a spat within Valjean's factory a spiteful girl causes Fantine to be sacked. With an illegitimate daughter fostered by an innkeeper and his wife, Fantine now finds herself out of work, unable to pay for her child's keep and forced in to prostitution. During an incident Fantine is arrested by Javert who is now a Police Inspector. Valjean comes upon the scene and takes pity on Fantine. Valjean begs for her release and later swears on Fantine's deathbed that he will take care of her daughter. Now aware of Valjean's new identity Javert challenges Valjean but he escapes to retrieve young Cosette from her foster parents, the Thénardiens.

1832 – Paris

Students, lead by Enjolras, drum up support for the champion of the poor, General Lamarque. One student, Marius, bumps into the now grown up Cosette and falls deeply in love with her. After getting to know Marius, Cosette find that she is in love with him too. The students set plans for revolution and build a barricade to defend their position while battle commences. Javert arrives at the barricade pretending to be a spy against the government but is found out and is tied up. Valjean joins the students in their fight and proves worthy. By way of thanks he is given Javert to do with as he pleases, but proves to Javert how honourable he is by setting him free.

One by one the students fall and Valjean escapes into the sewers with the near dead Marius in his arms, only to meet Javert. Valjean begs Javert to allow him to get help for Marius. Finally relenting, Javert, now confused as his world is turned upside down commits suicide! With his strength returned Marius and Cosette marry. Valjean believes Marius will now take care of Cosette. Eager to rest in peace he makes his will and dies peacefully.



A message from our President

Welcome to WOW's presentation of Les Misérables School Edition, following on from the highly successful production, last year, of "High School Musical" which broke all our box office records. "Les Misérables" is a vastly different challenge and has been tackled with great enthusiasm and energy under the entire direction of Jill Parkin.

We trust you will enjoy our version of this long standing and popular musical, as the Youth of Witham transport you to a world far from the "credit crunch" of the present day.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

PROLOGUE 1815 - DIGNE

Prologue	Company
Soliloquy	Valjean

1823 – MONTREUIL-SUR-MER

At the end of the day	Unemployed and factory workers
I dreamed a dream	Fantine
Lovely ladies	Sailors, lovely ladies and old woman
Who am I?	Valjean
Come to me	Fantine and Valjean

1823 – MONTFERMEIL

Castle on a cloud	Little Cosette
Master of the house	The Thénardiens and customers
Thénardiens' waltz	The Thénardiens and Valjean

1832 – PARIS

Look down	Gavroche and company
Stars	Javert
ABC café	Enjolras, Marius and students
Do you hear the people sing	Enjolras, students and citizens
A heart full of love	Cosette, Marius and Eponine
One day more	The company

INTERVAL

The barricade	Students
On my own	Eponine
The first attack	Students
A little fall of rain	Eponine and Marius
Drink with me	Student and citizens
Bring him home	Valjean
The sewers	Thénardiens
Javert's suicide	Javert
Turning	Women
Empty chairs at empty tables	Marius
A heart full of love (Reprise)	Cosette and Marius
The wedding	Thénardiens
Epilogue	

About WOW!

WOW was formed in 1995 for young people between the ages of 11-18 (inclusive). If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Steve and Sue Rogers on tel. 01621 890850 or email wow.kids.team@wow.org.uk. From Easter until the Schools' Summer Vacation we will be running regular workshops including the exciting West End "Stomp" workshops on Thursday 28th May at the Public Hall, Witham. In September, rehearsals will start for our February 2010 production of "Hot Mikado".

Committee

President	Nicholas Clough
Chairman	Graham Green
Secretary	Angela Briley
Treasurer	Helen Temperley
Production Manager	Kathryn Adkins
Pastoral Team	Steve Rogers
	Sue Rogers
Members	Janice Hawkes
	Jennifer Papworth
	Cynthia Stead

Dear Patron

It has been my privilege as Chairman to work with this talented group on our production of "Les Misérables School Edition". From the very start of auditions last September it was obvious that we were in for a treat and a very special show, I hope that you will agree.

Since WOW's inception in 1995, we have been fortunate to have had many talented young people from within Witham and the surrounding area in our shows; this year is no exception.

I am grateful to have had a dedicated and hard working team behind me and we all feel a sense of pride in our group of youngsters.

Joining WOW gives youngsters between 11 and 18 years of age the opportunity to develop and mature as young adults whilst gaining valuable experience in the performing arts.

We are always looking for adult help with our productions; anyone interested should contact our team by visiting our website at www.wow.org.uk, alternatively give me a ring on 07799557543 or 01376 511574 for further details.

Graham Green
Chairman



Jill Parkin – Artistic and Musical Director

Jill is no stranger to WOW! having been its first musical director back in 1996 for “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”. Since then she has been involved with “The Boyfriend” and “West Side Story” as well as most recently being MD for the adult group’s production of “Follies”. Jill is passionate about bringing musical theatre to young people. Now that she is Head of Music at Elm Green Prep school she is able to nurture the talents of the very young. Whilst Jill was at Chelmer Valley she directed “Les Misérables School Edition” in 2005 and was delighted to be asked to take the reins for this production. ““Les Misérables’ is like no other show. It takes the people involved on a roller-coaster ride of emotion and it has been a great privilege to work on it with such a committed and wonderful group of young people”.



David Slater – Assistant to the Director

David was a professional actor for 25 years after training at the Guildhall. He has played leading roles in many musicals including Judas in the West End production of “Jesus Christ Superstar” and Jesus on the UK tour of “Godspell”. He worked in several productions at the National Theatre and in Rep for many companies in the UK. Cabaret on cruise ships took him all over the world and professional work locally includes Colchester, Ipswich and Chelmsford Civic for whom he wrote pantos. He has lived in Witham for 30 years and acted and directed for Witham Dramatic Club since 2000. More recently he has been involved with W.A.O.S. playing Professor Higgins in “My Fair Lady”, The Pirate King in “Pirates of Penzance” and Ben Stone in “Follies” in which he first worked with Jill Parkin.

Behind the scenes

Crew & Production Team

Artistic & Musical Director	-	Jill Parkin
Assistant to the Director	-	David Slater
Ballroom Scene Tuition by	-	Steve and Sue Rogers
Stage Manager	-	Graham Green
Stage Crew	-	Ben Herman, Keith Radley, Gary Bruce, David Hunt, Craig Watson and Steve Hill
Scenery Design	-	Graham Green
Lighting	-	Nigel Northfield
Lighting Assistants	-	Quintin Brazier, Anne Dyster and Graeme Parrett
Sound	-	Paul Galley Event Sound & Light
Properties Manager	-	Angela Briley
Properties Team	-	Janice Hawkes, Lesley Wilson, Judy Fishwick, Christine Wilson, Gemma Grey and Nicolette Jeans
Wardrobe Mistress	-	Sue Rogers
Wardrobe Assistants	-	Alison Carlyle, Lori Trigg
Make-up	-	Liz Watson
Make-up Assistants	-	Marea Irving and Samantha Wild
Wigs	-	Patsy Page
Box Office Manager	-	Janice Hawkes
Front of House Manager	-	Anne Wilson
Publicity Manager	-	Kathryn Adkins
Programme	-	Michael Mundell-Poole
Publicity Photos	-	Graham Batt
Foyer and Publicity Displays	-	Elisabeth Batt
Bar Manager	-	Ron Howe

Orchestra

Reed 1	-	Stuart McLeod
Reed 2	-	Margaret Harrod
Trumpet	-	Phil Davis
Horn	-	Chris Street
Trombone	-	Martyn Bowden
Bass	-	Michael McGibney
Percussion	-	Tim Reyland
Keyboard 1	-	Bryan Cass
Keyboard 2	-	Claire Merrill
Keyboard 3	-	Adrian Ure

Cast

In order of appearance

Jean Valjean.....	Thomas Holland
Javert.....	Thomas Clarke
The Bishop of Digne.....	Tom Ashbey
Fantine.....	Faith Rogers
Factory Foreman.....	Callum MacKenzie
Factory Girl.....	Rhianna Howard
Bamatabois.....	Clark J. Edwards
Little Cosette.....	Olivia Herbert
Thénardier.....	Samuel Marks
Madame Thénardier.....	Amy Trigg
Young Eponine.....	Rachel Goddard
Gavroche.....	Elliott Elder
Eponine.....	Sam Carlyle
Cosette.....	Zoe Rogers

Thenardier's Gang

Montparnasse.....	Mark Ellis
Babet.....	Martha Lawless
Brujon.....	Laura Broadway
Claqueous.....	Rhianna Howard

Students

Enjolras.....	Callum MacKenzie
Marius.....	Jake Davis
Combeferre.....	Tom Ashbey
Feuilly.....	Tim Rolph
Courfeyrac.....	Michael Watling
Joly.....	James Simpson
Grantaire.....	Sam Hoad
Lesgles.....	Luke Merriman
Prouvaire.....	Clark J. Edwards

The Chain Gang, Factory Workers, Farmers, Constables, The Poor, Sailors, Whores,
Pimps, Drinkers and Wedding Guests

Olivia Bentley • Bethan Bishop • Erica Blandford • Kayleigh Charge
Max Clements • Rachel Ellis • Max Holland • Shelley Moore
Jodie Sainsbury • Charlotte Watling • Joe Wild • Sarah Williams



Amy Trigg (Madame Thénardier)

I am 16 years old, this is my second show with WOW after playing Kelsi in “High School Musical”. I’ve been involved in a range of shows at school and will be playing Killer Queen in “We Will Rock You” at college next month. My favourite musical is “Rent” and my dream role is Maureen.

Bethan Bishop (Ensemble)

I am 15 years old and doing my GCSEs at The Maltings Academy. I have been in school shows but “Les Misérables” is my second show with WOW, my first being “High School Musical” last year.



Callum Mackenzie (Factory Foreman/Enjolras)

I am a Year 11 student at Maltings Academy and I have been involved in musical theatre for about a year and a half. My previous productions include “High School Musical” with WOW and “Back to the 80s” in which I played Corey. I have been an active member of Witham Music Theatre since 2008 but this is my favourite role by far.

Charlotte Watling (Ensemble)

This is my third show with WOW. I was also in “A Knight To Remember” and “High School Musical”. My acting juices started flowing in the WAOS production “Carousel”. I go to Complete Dance School and will be doing my grade 4 ballet exams soon. I have fallen in love with this show and hope to do the next show with WOW.



Clark J Edwards (Bamatabois/Prouvaire)

I am 16 years of age and this is the first show that I have done with WOW and I have to say that I am enjoying it to its full extent. I am also playing Britney in “We Will Rock You” and that should be exciting.

Elliott Elder (Gavroche)

I joined Chelmsford’s Theatretrain when I was six after deciding getting cold, wet and muddy on a football pitch wasn’t for me. I have had some great roles, playing Michael Darling in “Peter Pan” and Oliver in “Oliver!” This is my first WOW production and I am very excited to be playing Gavroche.





Erica Blandford (Ensemble)

This is my first show with WOW but I started dancing when a little girl and graduated to musical theatre at school and Witham Music Theatre. I am studying Theatre Studies at Maltings Academy and currently rehearsing for “We Will Rock You”.

Faith Rogers (Fantine)

I am 16 and performing arts has always been an important part of my life. This is my third show with WOW. I am grateful for this amazing opportunity and look forward to many more shows. I would like to thank my family and singing teacher for their support and dedicate my performance to the memory of my cousin, Joshua.



Jake Davis (Marius)

This will be my fourth show with WOW, I am really looking forward to “Les Misérables” and I am currently playing Galileo in the Maltings Academy production of “We Will Rock You”.

James Simpson (Joly)

I have just turned 15 years old and absolutely love performing arts. This is my first year with WOW but I did appear in “Pirates of Penzance” last year with WAOS. I am also going to be playing Kashoggi in “We Will Rock You” at Maltings Academy.



Jodie Sainsbury (Ensemble)

This is my third show with WOW. I am in the Imagination School of Dance and currently rehearsing “We Will Rock You” at Rickstones Academy.

Joe Wild (Ensemble)

I used to watch my big sister in WOW shows, such as “Little Shop of Horrors” and decided to join as soon as I was old enough. This is my second show with WOW and I am really enjoying it.





Kayleigh Charge (Ensemble)

This is my second show with WOW, the first being “High School Musical”. As well as WOW I took drama as one of my options for GCSE. When not at WOW I also attend Centre Stage Academy, playing roles such as the title role in “Annie” and Willy Wonka in “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”.

Laura Broadway (Brujon)

I am twelve years old and have been performing since the age of six. I love all aspects of performance but have a passion for musical theatre. I have had the opportunity to appear in various stage productions and I am extremely excited to be taking part in my first WOW show where I have made some friends for life.



Luke Merriman (Lesgles)

I came to watch “A Knight to Remember” with my family. A friend inspired me to come and join. This is my second show and I am really enjoying rehearsals, making new friends and learning about new shows I didn’t know.

Mark Ellis (Montparnasse)

I moved to Witham in the summer of 2008 and decided to join a society that would allow me to continue my interest in drama. In Devon I played Gavroche in a NODA award-winning production by Paignton Operatic and Dramatic Society. I have enjoyed “Les Misérables” for the second time but look forward to doing something different next year.



Martha Lawless (Babet)

I am thirteen and “Les Misérables” will be my second production with W.O.W. I have really enjoyed working on “Les Misérables” and hope all the hard work has paid off.

Max Clements (Ensemble)

I am twelve years old and this is my first production with WOW. I am thoroughly enjoying it and can’t wait until February!





Max Holland (Ensemble)

I just turned 12 and this my second year of WOW. Last year I featured in “High School Musical” and this year is “Les Misérables”. I have thoroughly enjoyed it and am looking forward to next year’s production.

Michael Watling (Courfeyrac)

I started my acting career working with WAOS in “Carousel” and have been in a series of shows with WOW, including “A Knight to Remember” and “High School Musical”. I am currently studying for my GCSEs but expect to be back for the next show.



Olivia Bentley (Ensemble)

I am in Year 9 and study at the Maltings Academy. I have been in one previous show with WOW, “High School Musical”, playing the role of a cheerleader. I have been in two school shows, “Disco Inferno” and “Back to the 80s”. I enjoy coming to WOW and have been very excited about doing “Les Misérables”.

Olivia Herbert (Young Cosette)

I started dancing at White Court Unlimited and discovered I enjoyed performing on stage. This is my first show with WOW but I have been in several other shows with Young Gen and CAODS in Chelmsford. I am enjoying playing my first lead role and hope to play more.



Rachel Ellis (Ensemble)

Born in Torbay I played my first amateur role of Molly in “Annie” aged 7. I went on to appear in “Oliver!”, “Annie Get Your Gun”, “The King & I” and “Annie”. I am studying AS Levels, including dance, at The Maltings Academy. In August 2008 I moved to Witham and am delighted to be a part of “Les Misérables” with WOW.



Rachel Goddard (Young Eponine)

This is my first year working with WOW and I am very much enjoying the challenge. My previous stage experience includes Ayesha in “Africa Rocks”, Sir Henry Murray in “Sherlock Holmes and the Limehouse Horror” and recently the Slave of the Ring in “Aladdin”. I enjoy music and play the piano and the drums.

Rhianna Howard (Factory Girl/Claquesous)

I starred in WOW’s last production, High School Musical, as Sharpay Evans and I am currently playing Scaramouche in “We Will Rock You” at Maltings Academy. I am also a member of Witham Music Theatre.



Sam Carlyle (Eponine)

I am currently in my last year of compulsory education and taking GCSEs in performing arts. I have been in four previous WOW productions as well as a series of dance and school shows. I have thoroughly enjoyed playing the part of Eponine and hope you all enjoy the production as much as we enjoyed performing it!

Sam Hoad (Grantaire)

This is my first show with WOW but I have been involved with musicals for many years with school and Witham Music Theatre. I have not performed any lead roles yet but I am currently working on Pop for “We Will Rock You” at New Rickstones Academy.



Samuel Marks (Thénardier)

This is my third show with WOW, the others being “Little Shop of Horrors” and “Fame”. I am 15 years old and am taking my GCSE exams at Anglo European School. I have really enjoyed working on the role of Thénardier and I am looking forward to performing for you.

Sarah Williams (Ensemble)

I am a year 8 student at St. Mary’s School for girls in Colchester, currently on grade one of the LAMDA course and hope to study at LAMDA in the future. This is my third production with WOW; I was a Snow child in WAOS’ production of “Carousel”, a Braniac in “High School Musical” and now a part of the chorus in “Les Misérables”.





Shelley Moore (Ensemble)

In the last WOW production I played a cheerleader. I am currently a member of Witham Music Theatre and I also attend Imagination School of Dance in Witham.

Tom Ashbey (Bishop of Digne/Combeferre)

This is my first and possibly last show with WOW as I will be finishing my A Levels this year and be moving onto higher education. Whilst I don't find that performing comes naturally to me, I have nevertheless thoroughly enjoyed working with all the cast. I fully believe that we will come together to put on a fantastic show.



Thomas Clarke (Javert)

I have been in WOW for many years including having a main part in "High School Musical" as Jack Scott. I have enjoyed every second of every show I have ever performed in, but "Les Misérables" tops all of them by far.

Thomas Holland (Jean Valjean)

I am 16 and this will be my 7th WOW show having been in all of them since "Bugsy Malone" (except "A Knight To Remember") Still enjoying it and I can't wait until February.



Tim Rolph (Feuilly)

This is my first WOW show but I have done musicals at school, encouraged by my teacher Miss Ladd (former director of WAOS). I have been playing drums since I was five and recently recorded the percussion track for "We Will Rock You Schools Edition". I can play everything from rock, jazz, big band and latin to funk.

Zoe Rogers (Cosette)

I am 13 years old and this is my third year with WOW. My previous roles include Gabriella in "High School Musical". I am looking forward to performing "Les Misérables", however I am very nervous! I dedicate my performance to the memory of my cousin, Joshua Panell.



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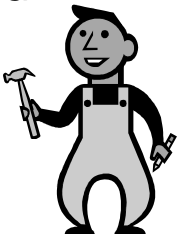
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REASONABLE RATES

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
- John Mann and David Sawyer at the Public Hall
- Spring Lodge and Wickham Bishops Church Hall for the use of their rehearsal facilities
- Morrisons and Management of Newland Street Precinct for permission to display photographs
- Those who have freely donated window space for the display of our posters
- Kerry Green for storage of scenery and props
- The Media
- Young Gen for their assistance with props
- Young Gen, Wickham Bishops Drama Club, Nicola MacKenzie and Patsy Page for the loan of costumes
- Chelmer Valley School for items of scenery

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

Previous WOW Productions

1996	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat	2002	Bugsy Malone
1997	West Side Story	2003	Oliver!
1998	Annie	2004	Crazy For You
1999	The Boyfriend	2005	Little Shop of Horrors
2000	42 nd Street	2006	Fame
2001	The Wiz	2007	A Knight to Remember
		2008	High School Musical



Our next WAOS Production is
"Broadway Nights", a musical
concert extravaganza
running 22nd - 25th April 2009

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And don't forget to put our
next WOW show in your diary
"HOT MAKADO"

Mon 15th - Sat 20th February 2010

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