



Programme £1

# WITHAM OPERATIC WORKSHOP

*Presents*

*Sandy Wilson's Musical Comedy*

# *The Boy Friend*

An amateur production  
by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd

WITHAM PUBLIC HALL  
16th – 20th February 1999

*Supported by*

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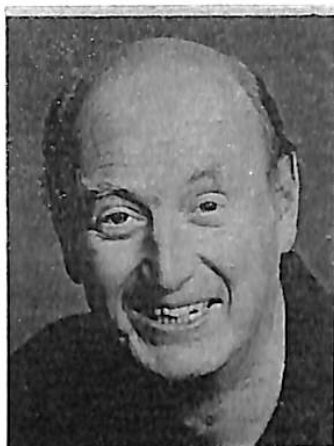
BRAINTREE  
DISTRICT ARTS  
COUNCIL



## Welcome!

Welcome to *The Boy Friend*, Ladies and Gentlemen. I hope you pass an enjoyable evening watching our latest presentation.

Last year was both eventful and successful, encompassing our participation in *The Buxton International Festival of Musical Theatre* where WOW won The Adjudicator's Special Award and received nominations for Best Supporting Actress (Emma Sewell) and Best Stage Management (David Hunt and his crew).



**Nicholas Clough**  
**Chairman, WOW**

The set of *The Boy Friend* has been constructed by Witham VIth Form Centre as a sixth form project under the guidance of Mr David Spiller and to them we owe many thanks.

Also we have received generous Sponsorship from Companies mentioned on the front cover of the programme enabling us to provide the facilities for this production which are worthy of the talent on stage.

**WOW would like to thank the following for their generous donations to the raffle**

***COMET of Braintree***

for their donation of a portable colour TV



for their donation of six bottles of wine

***Planters Florists***

for their donation of six baskets of flowers

## WITHAM OPERATIC WORKSHOP

Patron: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Newton of Braintree

### WOW Committee

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Chairman             | Nicholas Clough                                 |
| Business Manager     | Adrian Neale                                    |
| Production Secretary | Angie Crimmins                                  |
| Secretary            | Judy Henderson                                  |
| Treasurer            | Julia Reed                                      |
| Assistant Treasurer  | Helen Clark                                     |
| Social Committee     | Jackie Baker, Freda Willingham                  |
| Additional Member    | Andrew Ould                                     |
| WOW Representative   | Ian Willingham                                  |
| Publicity            | Jonathan Baron, Natalie Hawkes,<br>Darren White |
| Printing             | Freda Willingham                                |

#### BRAINTREE

#### DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL

WOW would like to thank Braintree District Arts Council for their donation towards this production.



Sedgwick

WOW are grateful for the financial help provided by the Witham office of international risk consultants and financial services group, Sedgwick, as part of its support for the community.

#### ***Witham Operatic Workshop would like to thank:***

Witham Vllth Form Centre, KempCo, Witham Amateur Operatic Society and the many other organisations and individuals who have contributed to the preparation and production of this show.

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## The Boy Friend

Maisie, Polly, Nancy, Fay and Dulcie are some of the overprivileged English girls at Madame Dubonnet's finishing school in France, who share the goals of becoming "young ladies" and finding suitable husbands. The French boys are very taken by these "perfect young ladies" who like to play hard to get. Maisie, the most flamboyant and flirtatious of the girls, tries to win the love of the good-looking American boy, Bobby. Polly Browne does not have a boyfriend, for she fears her millionaire father will not allow it, but leads her friends to believe that she does. Polly stops pretending when she meets and falls in love with Tony, who is not actually the delivery boy he appears to be. However the adolescent girls are not the only characters chasing love.....



## The Cast

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Hortense        | Sarah Burkin                       |
| Maisie          | Claire Shilling                    |
| Dulcie          | Gemma Smallpage                    |
| Fay             | Victoria Adkins                    |
| Nancy           | Laura Clark                        |
| Polly Browne    | Kathryn Neale                      |
| Marcel          | David Shields                      |
| Pierre          | Chris Bellehewe                    |
| Alphonse        | Joe Baker                          |
| Madame Dubonnet | Natalie Cudlip                     |
| Bobby Van Husen | Simon Palmer                       |
| Percival Browne | John Dagleish                      |
| Tony            | Ian Willingham                     |
| Lord Brockhurst | Jason Scott                        |
| Lady Brockhurst | Jacqui Bignell                     |
| Gendarme        | Darren White                       |
| Waiter          | Andrew Ould                        |
| Pépé            | Richard Adkins (Wed, Thu, Sat Eve) |
|                 | Jason Stone (Tue, Fri, Sat Mat)    |
| Lolita          | Lianne Smallpage                   |

## Ladies of the Chorus

Suzanne Bellet, Jacqui Bignell, Rosie Clarke,  
Pamela Groom, Gemma Herring, Kirsty Oxlade,  
Lianne Smallpage, Sarah Tunbridge, Sarah Willingham

## Gentlemen of the Chorus

Richard Adkins, Gavin Baldry, Craig Digby,  
Thomas Fletcher, Billy Herring, Jonathan Kent,  
Jacob Marks, Andrew Ould, Jason Stone, Darren White

## The Band

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Musical Director | Jill Parkin                                      |
| Reeds            | Melanie Williams<br>David Hall<br>Jacquie Scaife |
| Trumpet          | Peter Goldsmith                                  |
| Trombone         | Marc Scaife                                      |
| Piano            | Peter Dollimore                                  |
| Bass & Keyboards | Phillip Toms                                     |
| Percussion       | Mike Kitts                                       |



We hope that you will enjoy tonight's production of ***The Boy Friend*** and that you will book early for our next show, ***42nd Street***, which will take place in February 2000. If you are interested in joining WOW or supporting us in any way, please contact our Secretary:

**Judy Henderson**  
(01376) 516706.

### Previous productions of the Society:

1996 Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat  
1997 West Side Story  
1998 Annie

### Elisabeth Ladd

(Director and Choreographer).

Liz started dance training with Iris Muirhead at the age of 4 and has performed many times at the Public Hall. She has been involved with WAOS since 1986 as Louisa in *The Sound of Music* and has taken part in many shows since, often as a dancer. From 1991 to 1994 Liz attended University College, London where she read English and became heavily involved in the Drama and Dance Society, becoming President in 1992. Working in the Bloomsbury Theatre she directed, choreographed and acted in many shows including *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cabaret*, *The Bald Soprano*, *Dr Faustus* and *The Rover*, where she took a leading role. She directed WOW's second show, *West Side Story* in 1997.



**Jill Parkin (Musical Director).** Jill has been associated with WAOS since 1988 and is very pleased to be in the Public Hall once more. She is no stranger to youth productions, having staged *The Boyfriend*, *Grease* and *The Sound of Music* at Chelmer Valley High School, and *Oliver!*, *Joseph*, and *West Side Story* here in Witham.



### Sponsors

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## Production Team

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Director &amp; Choreographer</b>    | Elisabeth Ladd  |
| <b>Musical Director</b>                | Jill Parkin   |
| <b>Lighting design &amp; operation</b> | Rhuddian Davies   |
| <b>Sound</b>                           | Paul Galley   |
| <b>Stage Manager</b>                   | David Hunt  |
| <b>Assistant Stage Manager</b>         | Graeme Green  |
| <b>Stage Crew</b>                      | Jonathan Baron, Jim Crimmins,<br>Keith Radley, Mark Tinworth<br>Marea Irving, Angie Crimmins,<br>Jackie Baker |
| <b>Make-up</b>                         | Bobbie Tyler  |
| <b>French Language Coach</b>           | Patsy Page  |
| <b>Hair / Wigs</b>                     | Angie Crimmins, Julie Cockell,<br>Bobbie Tyler  |
| <b>Prompt</b>                          | Natalie Hawkes  |
| <b>Box Office</b>                      | Helen Clark   |
| <b>Props Manager</b>                   | Helen Clark, Judy Henderson,<br>Angie Crimmins, Julie Cockell,<br>Matthew Crimmins                            |
| <b>Props Team</b>                      | Pat Ladd, Jane Furnival,<br>Sue Martin  |
| <b>Wardrobe</b>                        | Witham Vlth Form Centre   |
| <b>Scenery</b>                         | Jackie Baker, Helene Jones  |
| <b>Refreshments</b>                    | Freda Willingham  |
| <b>Programmes</b>                      | Jonathan Baron, Darren White  |
| <b>Programme Advertising</b>           | Paul Chittleborough   |
| <b>Bar Manager</b>                     | Freda Willingham  |
| <b>Chaperone Co-ordinator</b>          | Angie Crimmins, Lin Ould,<br>Carol Shilling, Freda  |
| <b>Chaperones</b>                      | Willingham, Terry Willingham<br>Lydia Clough  |
| <b>Front of House</b>                  | Peter Dollimore   |
| <b>Rehearsal Accompanist</b>           | Tony Tunbridge  |
| <b>Cast Photographs</b>                |   |

# The Boy Friend

## Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers

**Act I – The Drawing Room of the Villa Caprice,  
Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School, near Nice.  
A morning in the year 1926.**

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Chorus of Girls (with solo – Hortense)                   | <i>Perfect Young Ladies</i>      |
| Ensemble (Polly, Dulcie, Fay,<br>Maisie, Girls and Boys) | <i>The Boy Friend</i>            |
| Madame Dubonnet's Entrance                               |                                  |
| Duet (Bobby and Maisie)                                  | <i>Won't You Charleston?</i>     |
| Reprise (Bobby and Maisie)                               | <i>Won't You Charleston?</i>     |
| Duet (Madame Dubonnet and Percival)                      | <i>Fancy Forgetting</i>          |
| Duet (Tony and Polly)                                    | <i>I Could Be Happy With You</i> |
| Finale – Act I – Reprise (Ensemble)                      | <i>The Boy Friend</i>            |

### FIRST INTERMISSION

**Act II – The Plage. The afternoon of the same day.**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Ensemble                               | <i>Sur Le Plage</i>                                    |
| Duet (Tony and Polly)                  | <i>A Room In Bloomsbury</i>                            |
| Song (Hortense with Ensemble)          | <i>It's Nicer In Nice</i>                              |
| Song (Madame Dubonnet<br>and Percival) | <i>The "You-don't-want-to-<br/>play-with-me" Blues</i> |
| Song (Maisie and Boys)                 | <i>Safety In Numbers</i>                               |
| Finale – Act II                        | <i>I Could Be Happy With You</i>                       |

### SECOND INTERMISSION

**Act III – The Terrasse of the Café Pataplon.  
The same night**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Duet<br>(Bobby and Maisie with Chorus)  | <i>The Riviera</i>                         |
| Encore (The Company)                    | <i>The Riviera</i>                         |
| Tony's Entrance                         |  |
| Tony's Dance                            |  |
| Duet<br>(Lord Brockhurst and Dulcie)    | <i>It's Never Too Late To Fall In Love</i> |
| Reprise<br>(Lord Brockhurst and Dulcie) | <i>It's Never Too Late To Fall In Love</i> |
| Carnival Tango                          |  |
| Duet<br>(Madame Dubonnet and Polly)     | <i>Poor Little Pierrette</i>               |
| Pierrot's Entrance                      |  |
| Finale – Act III (Ensemble)             |  |

*There will be a short interval between Acts I and II  
and a 20 minute interval between Acts II and III*

### PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

**Please note that the taking of photographs and / or the  
recording of this performance on film, video tape,  
audio tape or any other medium is strictly prohibited.**





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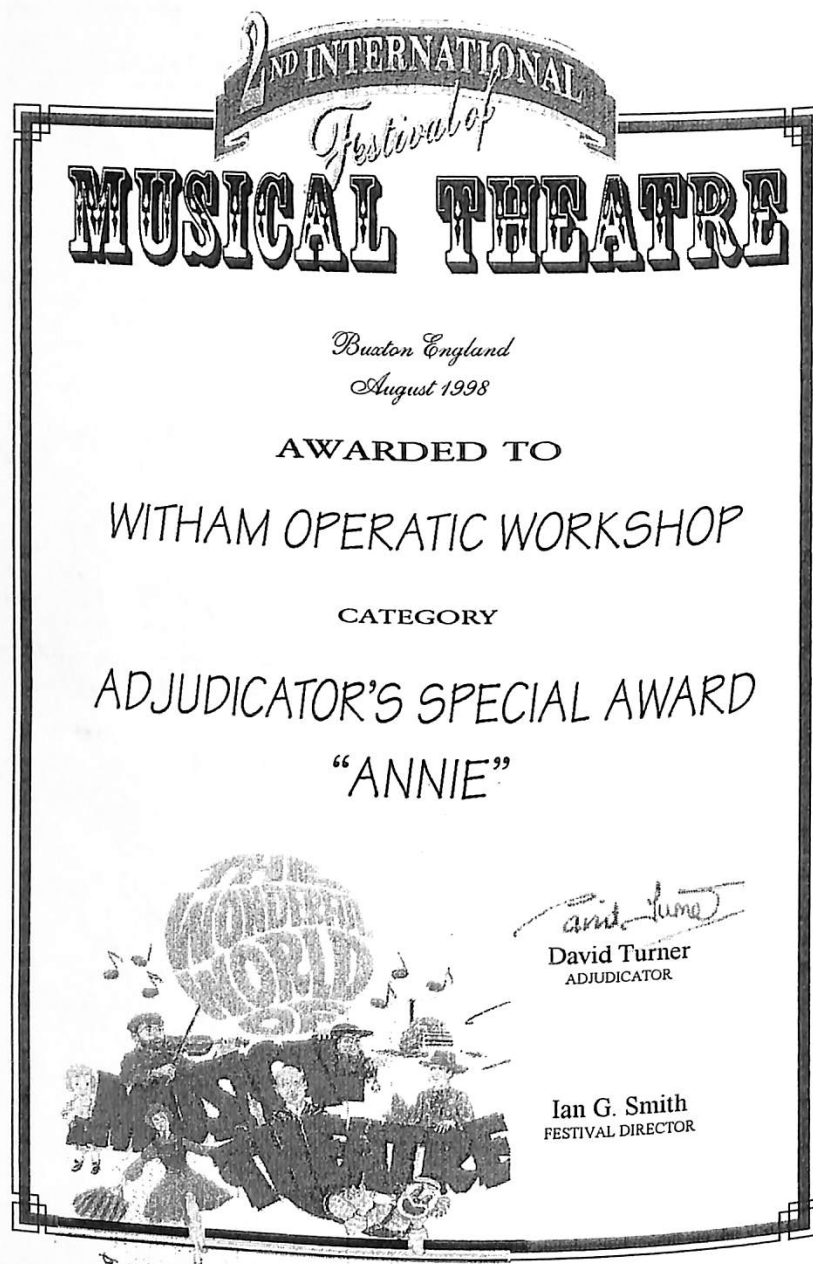
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### WOW in Buxton, August 1998

Although only four years old, Witham Operatic Workshop came of age in August at the *Buxton International Festival of Musical Theatre* when they performed *Annie* which was originally staged in Witham in February 1998 as WOW's third production. The trip took the form of a Summer School with five days of rehearsals, a dress rehearsal and departure the following morning for the Festival. The Company was thirty seven strong (average age fifteen), and was accompanied by a back-up team of twenty five adults. WOW arrived in Buxton on Saturday 22nd August (p.m.), took over the local Youth Hostel, explored the town and reconnoitred the Opera House. On Sunday the stage crew set off for the theatre to receive the scenery, which was due in at nine o'clock. Unfortunately, the van transporting it had broken down on the motorway and arrived at eleven. This severely restricted the preparation and rehearsal time, and the stage crew worked frantically alongside the resident stage staff through the rest of the morning and their lunch hour, and the dress rehearsal started at 3.15 p.m. Of course, the musicians' time was cast in stone so that our dress rehearsal was fragmented and incomplete. I sat in the audience that night and witnessed a vital, polished and enthusiastic performance. The cast surpassed themselves, and I was very proud of them all.

The stage crew were nominated for an award, as was Emma Sewell for her splendid portrayal of Miss Hannigan. The Company were awarded the Adjudicator's Special Award. A very suitable tribute for an extremely creditable team effort. The journey home the next day was muted and sleep was at a premium. An exhausted but happy group of children arrived back in Witham at 4.00 p.m. In short, it was an enjoyable, worthwhile experience for both young and old.

**Nicholas Clough, Chairman**

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 7am – 6pm



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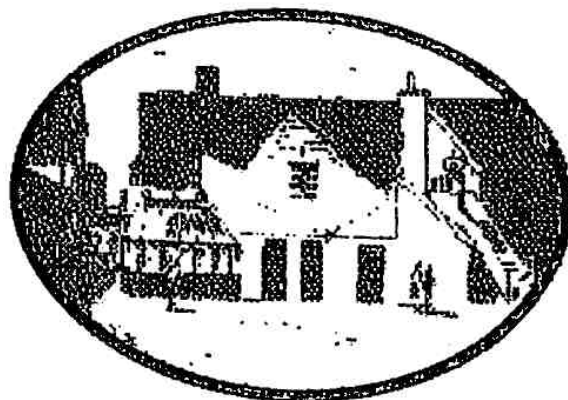


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