



WITHAM OPERATIC WORKSHOP

presents

OLIVER!

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS
By
LIONEL BART

(Based on Charles Dickens' "Oliver Twist")
*An amateur production by arrangement with
Musicscope and Stage Musicals Ltd of New York*

Tuesday 18th - Saturday 22nd February 2003

at

Witham Public Hall

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Programme £1

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LIONEL BART

(Based on Charles Dickens' "Oliver Twist")

*An amateur production by arrangement with
Musicscope and Stage Musicals Ltd of New York*

Producer/Director: Dani Fincham
Musical Director: Geoff Osborne

Bairstow Eves

Countrywide

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Witham Operatic Workshop would like to thank:

Russell Signs, Carousel Costumes Kelvedon, Chelmsford Young Generation Amateur Musical Society, Valerie Loveland, Bairstow Eves, Manifest, Flower Works, Witham Amateur Operatic Society, and the many other organisations and individuals who have contributed in the preparation and production of this show.

FRIENDS OF WOW

For an annual donation of a minimum of £25, you could become a 'Friend' of WOW. Friends of WOW are offered priority booking on 2 complimentary tickets for the evening of their choice, and receive an acknowledgement in the programme. If you would like to become a 'Friend' of WOW, please contact Janet Hawkes on 01376 512628. WOW are very grateful for the financial help provided by the following private and corporate sponsors:

Peter and Elaine Shields
Braintree District Arts Council



Nicholas Clough
Chairman, WOW

Welcome ...

... to WOW's presentation of that ever popular Lionel Bart musical, "Oliver!" In 1995 WAOS performed "Oliver!" and 140 youngsters turned up for auditions. There seemed to be a gap in the market and WOW was formed. I have had the pleasure of being Chairman since its conception and those who appeared in our first production, "Joseph", have long since moved on. It has been very gratifying to observe the progress of the youngsters as they have grown older and have gained experience on the stage. Some have moved on to degree courses in Music, Dance and Drama and others, I hope will find pleasure in performing, as a hobby, for adult societies. This is my last year as Chairman as I feel that it is time to hand over to someone else who will guide The Company during the coming years with, perhaps, a new influx of ideas and in their own style. That person is Anthony Quinlan who, if his energy and enthusiasm since his involvement with WOW are anything to go by, is bound to be of great benefit to The Society. I wish WOW every success in the future and thank all those involved with me on The Committee over the years for their hard work and support.

Nicholas Clough

Previous productions of the Society

- 1996 Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat
- 1997 West Side Story
- 1998 Annie
- 1999 The Boy Friend
- 2000 42nd Street
- 2001 The Wiz
- 2002 Bugsy Malone





Oliver - Thomas Holland
(Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
and Saturday Evening)



Dodger - Luke Marks
(Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
and Saturday Evening)



Oliver - Max Lawless
(Wednesday Matinée
and Saturday Matinée)



Dodger - Melissa Pipe
(Wednesday Matinée
and Saturday Matinée)

Oliver! Production Team

Director & Choreographer

Dani Fincham

Assistant Director

Helen Fox

Musical Director

Geoff Osborne

Rehearsal Pianist

Clare Merrill

Lighting Design / Operation

Nigel Northfield

Lighting suppliers

Braintree District Arts Council

Sound

Paul Galley

Stage Manager

David Hunt

Assistant Stage Manager

Graham Green

Stage Crew

Keith Radley, Mark Tinworth,

Tony Fox, Jonathan Baron

Props Manager

Helen Clark

Assisted by

Natalie Hawkes, Sarah Fletcher,

Janice Hawkes, Natalie Wilson,

Denise Scrivener, Christine Willison

Marea Irving, Liz Watson

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Patsy Page

Hair / Wigs

Pat Briggs

Prompt

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Box Office Manager

Pat Ladd, Carousel Costumes

Wardrobe

Russell Signs

Scenery Design & Construction

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Norman Clarke

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Yvonne Gibbs, Natalie Hawkes,

Jackie Holland, Cherry Lenox, Lin Ould,

Sue Pavelin, Julie Pipe, Anne Quinlan,

Tracy Stokley, Sue Vine, Sue White,

Freda Willingham

Front of House Manager

Colin Turner

Front of House Rota

Anne Wilson

Foyer and Publicity Photos

Tony Quinlan, Freda Willingham

Raffle Co-ordinator

Tim Clarke

The Band

Musical Director/Piano	Geoff Osborne
Flute/Piccolo	Mary Blanchard
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet	Carol Taylor
Oboe/Cor Anglais	Janet Brook
Bassoon	Robert Johnstone
Horn	Janet Young/Georgie Hartwell
Euphonium	Roy Warrington
Double Bass	Andrew Wild
Percussion	Andy Croft

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

In accordance with the Law of Copyright, 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.

Patrons are warned that there will be a gun shot in Act 2.

Dani Fincham (Director & Choreographer)

This is Dani's first show with WOW. She brings with her a long experience of working with other local societies : it is her 13th show since she began directing in 1995! In recent years she has directed and choreographed *Guys & Dolls*, *Crazy For You* and *Oklahoma!* for Braintree Musical Society, *Sweet Charity* for Colchester Operatic and *Little Shop of Horrors*, *West Side Story* and *The Wiz* for CO2. We have enjoyed working with Dani on *Oliver!* and hope we'll have the chance to work with her again.



Helen Fox (Assistant Director)



Helen has been involved with WOW for the last two years, as Musical Director for two concerts and pianist for *Bugsy Malone*. She has been a member of Witham Amateur Operatic Society since 1985 and has played many principal parts. She was also a member of South Anglia Savoy Players for many years, with whom she won "Best Comedienne" in the *Waterford International Festival of Light Opera* and "Best Supporting Actress" in the *Buxton International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival*. Helen is also assisting Dani with Braintree Musical Society's production of *The Boy Friend*. She has enjoyed her debut as Assistant Direct to Dani and looks forward to working with WOW as their Director and Musical Director for their next concert in August.

Geoff Osborne (Musical Director)

Geoff is Head of Music at St Helena School in Colchester, where he has been for over 25 years. He received much of his musical training at the Colchester Institute where he studied piano, brass, composition and percussion. Geoff, who is married with four children, has devoted his life to music education, and is a former Principal of the Colchester Area Music School. Geoff has also been involved with the Essex County Advisory team for Music, and continues to lead courses across the county. He is a Musical Director of the Braintree Musical Society where he has conducted performances of *Crazy for You*, *Oliver*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Annie*, *42nd Street*, and *Carousel*. Geoff is working with WOW for the first time and we hope to see a lot more of him in the future!





Bill Sykes
Ian Willingham

Fagin
Jack Lenox

Nancy
Sarah Willingham

Bet
Sophie Brown



Widow Corney
Lucy Quinlan

Mr Bumble
Matt Ashworth



Mr Sowerberry
Toby Holland

Mrs Sowerberry
Leanne Field

OLIVER!

Some time in the 1830's Oliver was born and promptly orphaned in a workhouse presided over by Mr Bumble, the parish beadle. One day, the orphans are all still very hungry after their one cup of gruel, so young Oliver, asks for more. Mr Bumble decides Oliver is a trouble maker and decides to sell him to work for the local undertaker. Oliver is taunted by Noah Claypole, an apprentice, and takes off for London, a journey of some 75 miles. On the road he meets the Artful Dodger who takes him in and introduces him to Fagin and his boys who teach him to pick pockets. During a day of pick pocketing Oliver is arrested on suspicion of picking the pocket of a Mr Brownlow. Oliver is proved innocent and Mr Brownlow takes him home with him to live. Bill Sykes, an associate of Fagin, worried that Oliver may say something that may bring about his downfall, asks Nancy, his girlfriend, to kidnap Oliver. Nancy succeeds but feels that Oliver's life is in danger as long as he stays with the thieves and she contacts Mr. Brownlow, who in the meantime has found out that Oliver is the son of his late daughter. Nancy promises she'll return Oliver to him, and she almost succeeds, but Sykes is angry when he finds out what's going on and ensures that Nancy does not complete her mission. In desperation he takes Oliver, and tries to escape over the roofs, but is stopped by police. Fagin and Dodger review the situation once again and decide that together they might be able to retire respectable. Oliver finally finds his real family.



We hope that you will enjoy tonight's production of **Oliver!** and that you will book early for our next show **Crazy For You** in February 2004.

If you are interested in joining WOW or supporting us in any way, please contact:

Janet Hawkes (01376) 512628

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

Time ~ about 1850

ACT I

- Scene 1 The Workhouse Dining Hall, early evening
'Food, Glorious Food' ~ Orphans
'Oliver' ~ Mr Bumble, Widow Corney & Orphans
- Scene 2 The Workhouse Parlour, later (into street)
'I Shall Scream' ~ Mr Bumble, Widow Corney
'Boy For Sale' ~ Mr Bumble
- Scene 3 The Undertaker's Parlour
'That's Your Funeral' ~ Mr & Mrs Sowerberry
 & Mr Bumble
'Where Is Love?' ~ Oliver
- Scene 4 The Undertaker's Shop, next morning
- Scene 5 Paddington Green, London, morning, a week later
'Consider Yourself' ~ Artful Dodger, Oliver & Chorus
- Scene 6 The Thieves' Kitchen, later (into street)
'Pick A Pocket or Two' ~ Fagin & Fagin's Gang
'It's A Fine Life' ~ Nancy, Bet & Fagin's Gang
'I'd Do Anything' ~ Nancy, Artful Dodger, Bet, Oliver, Fagin & Fagin's Gang
'Be Back Soon' ~ Fagin, Artful Dodger & Fagin's Gang

~ Interval ~

ACT II

- Scene 1 The 'Three Cripples', a public house
 in Clerkenwell, that evening
'Oom-Pah-Pah' ~ Nancy & Chorus
'My Name' ~ Bill Sykes
'As Long As He Needs Me' ~ Nancy
- Scene 2 The Brownlows', two weeks later (into street)
'Where Is Love?' (reprise) ~ Mrs Bedwin
'Who Will Buy?' ~ Oliver, Street Criers
 & Chorus
- Scene 3 The Thieves' Kitchen, later
'Reviewing The Situation' ~ Fagin
- Scene 4 The Workhouse, a few days later (into street)
'Oliver' (reprise) ~ Mr Bumble & Widow Corney
- Scene 5 The Brownlows', a few days later (into street)
'As Long As He Needs Me' (reprise) ~ Nancy
- Scene 6 London Bridge at night
'Reviewing the Situation' (reprise) ~ Fagin
- Finale London Bridge
'Food, Glorious Food' (reprise) ~ Company
'Consider Yourself' (reprise) ~ Company
'I'd Do Anything' (reprise) ~ Oliver & Company

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**Charlotte
Laura LeBlanc**

**Noah Claypole
Chris Lawrance**



**Mr Brownlow
Jacob Marks**

**Dr Grimwig
Philip Shields**

**If you are interested in becoming a member
of WOW please contact
our Secretary on 01376 512628
or email us:**

thewowteam@wowwitham.co.uk

Visit our website: www.wowwitham.co.uk

THE CAST

Oliver

Thomas Holland
Max Lawless
(Wednesday matinée & Saturday matinée)

Artful Dodger

Luke Marks
Melissa Pipe
(Wednesday matinée & Saturday matinée)

Mr Bumble

Matthew Ashworth

Widow Corney

Lucy Quinlan

Mr Sowerberry

Toby Holland

Mrs Sowerberry

Leanne Field

Charlotte

Laura Le Blanc

Noah Claypole

Christopher Lawrance

Fagin

Jack Lenox

Nancy

Sarah Willingham

Bet

Sophie Brown

Bill Sykes

Ian Willingham

Mrs Bedwin

Jade Stokley

Mr Brownlow

Jacob Marks

Dr Grimwig

Philip Shields

Sally

Emma-Louise Bright

Old Lady

Becky Newson

Rose Seller

Emma-Louise Bright

Strawberry Seller

Gemma Punter

Milk Maid

Kirstie Lawrance

Long Song Seller

Thomas Clarke

Knife Grinder

Toby Holland

Paupers

Jacob Marks

Philip Shields

Jacob Marks

Philip Shields

Thomas Clarke

Bow Street Runners

The Orphans

Hannah Brown
Kathryn Brown
Becky Clarke
Emily Clarke
Thomas Clarke
Edward Court
Fern Dixon

Christopher Fox

Rachel Hellier
Claire Hopkin
Rosie Lawless
Rosie Lenox
Bethan Mackenzie
Philippa Madle
Keziah Pooley

Craig Stewart

Emily Stirling
Danielle Stokley
Jade Stokley
Jessica Thompson
Nicky Vine
Sarah Wilson
Claire Wilson

Fagin's Gang

Hannah Brown
Becky Clarke
Emily Clarke
Edward Court
Fern Dixon
Christopher Fox
Rachel Hellier

Thomas Holland

Claire Hopkin
Rosie Lawless
Max Lawless
Christopher Lawrance
Rosie Lenox
Bethan Mackenzie
Melissa Pipe

Craig Stewart

Emily Stirling
Danielle Stokley
Jade Stokley
Jessica Thompson
Nicky Vine
Claire Wilson
Sarah Wilson

The Chorus

Natalie Anderson
Emma-Louise
Bright
Kathryn Brown
Sophie Brown
Thomas Clarke

Leanne Field

Toby Holland
Kirstie Lawrance
Laura Le Blanc
Philippa Madle
Jacob Marks
Becky Newson

Keziah Pooley

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Autumn Production

"SHOW BOAT" 27th October ~ 1st November 2003

*For this production we are seeking new members actively and
applications from ethnic minority backgrounds are encouraged.*



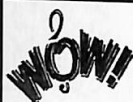
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scenery, WOW would like to thank



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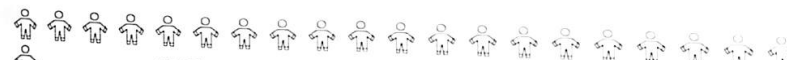
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*Our thanks to
Valerie Loveland
for sponsoring the tickets
for this production of Oliver!*



WITHAM OPERATIC WORKSHOP

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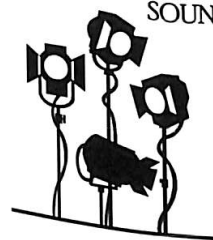
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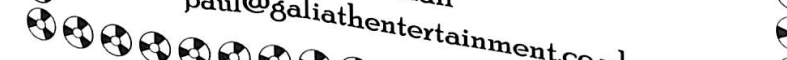
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Witham Operatic Workshop was formed in 1996 especially to cater for young people from the age of 11 to 18, and as a feeder group for the Witham Amateur Operatic Society.

We stage musical shows at the Witham Public Hall in Collingwood Road, in February each year.

If you would like to audition to take part in the next WOW production, *Crazy For You* in February 2004, come along to our pre-audition to learn more!

For more details about the pre-audition day for *Crazy For You* on Sunday 7th September 2003, please telephone 01376 512628

Or email us:

thewowteam@wowwitham.co.uk

Visit our website:
www.wowwitham.co.uk



WOW would like to thank all those who have supported us by advertising in this programme.

If you would like to advertise in the programme for our next production, please contact us on (01376) 328342.

RAFFLE PRIZES

In addition to our nightly raffle of wine, donated by *Unwins* and flowers, donated by *Flowerworks*, we are grateful to many others for the following prizes for the Saturday raffle.

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A Steam Iron

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'Crazy For You' in February 2004**

**2 tickets for the WAOS production of
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To The Forum' in April 2003**

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Witham Operatic Workshop

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