

THE BOY FRIEND

The musical was first performed in London in 1953. It opened at the Players' Theatre Club on April 14, 1953, and reopened in an expanded version on October 13. It transferred for a short season to the Embassy Theatre, Swiss Cottage and then opened at Wyndham's Theatre in the West End on January 14, 1954. The light, tuneful piece proved immensely popular with the British public and ran for more than five years, a total of 2,082 performances.

In 1995, on its 40th anniversary, the musical returned to The Players' Theatre in a new production that was as near a reproduction of the original as possible. It was directed by Maria Charles, who had played the original Dulcie. The choreography was by Geoffrey Webb who was also in the original production. It was originally planned that the choreography would be done by Larry Drew, the original Bobby Van Husen, but he died suddenly during the early planning stages of the production. Set design was by Disley Jones who was responsible for the hat designs in the original production. Among the cast were Gemma Page, Oliver Hickey, Sophie Louise Dann and John Rutland (in his original role as Lord Brockhurst).

Act

The whole musical is set in the Villa Caprice where Polly, Maisie, the girls (Dulcie, Nancy, Fay), Hortense (the maid), and Mme Dubonnet live at Mme Dubonnet's School for Young Ladies. Act I begins when Hortense orders a costume for "a Miss Polly Browne" and the girls sing the ironic "Perfect Young Ladies". Polly arrives and tells everyone about her made-up boy friend who is "motoring down from Paris" to meet her for the upcoming carnival ball, and they all sing about "The Boy Friend". Later, Bobby asks Maisie to dance with him "Won't You Charleston With Me?"

Polly's widowed father, Percy, arrives at the school to discover that the headmistress, Mme Dubonnet, is an old flame of his. They sing "Fancy Forgetting" to rekindle the spark. Polly, although a millionaire's daughter, feels left out because she is the only one of her friends who does not have a boyfriend and she needs a partner for the fancy dress ball. The errand boy, Tony, arrives to deliver her Pierrette costume and they are immediately attracted to each other. "I Could Be Happy With You."

Act II

The curtain opens with the Company singing "Sur la Plage". Polly and Tony meet at the beach and Polly lies about being rich to fit in with Tony's job as an errand boy. They sing about their future lives together in "A Room in Bloomsbury." They are at the verge of kissing when Hortense interrupts them and is shocked to find Polly with a poor messenger boy. Polly begs Hortense to keep her secret and Hortense agrees. After Tony and Polly leave, Hortense sings how everything is "Nicer in Nice" with the ensemble. After that, Lord Brockhurst arrives on the scene, leading to a comical meeting with the rigidly mannered Percival Browne. Lord Brockhurst's domineering wife Lady Brockhurst is also introduced. Percival Browne and Mm Dubonnet then sing "The 'You-Don't-Want-To-Play-With-Me' Blues".

Later, when Polly goes to meet Tony on the promenade, Lord and Lady Brockhurst, who are passing by, recognize him. He sees them and when he runs off, everyone else assumes that he is a thief.

Act I

At the ball everyone has a fun time and dances to "The Riviera". After everyone has left, Tony and Hortense run into each other, she scolds Tony and tells him to meet Polly at the ball because she loves him as much as he loves her. Tony leaves to prepare for the ball. Meanwhile Lord Brockhurst sings "It's Never Too Late To Fall In Love" with the flirty Dulcie but is caught by Lady Brockhurst. At the ball, Polly is sad that Tony is not there and she is thinking about leaving but Mme Dubonnet persuades Polly to stay, "Poor Little Pierrette". Tony later arrives at the ball and takes Polly by surprise. When Tony removes his mask to kiss Polly, Lord and Lady Brockhurst run to him, exclaiming they have found their son at last. Polly and the others discover that Tony is really the son of the rich Lord and Lady Brockhurst, and he had left home to try to make his own way in the world. Polly tells Tony that she is actually rich as well and Percy and Mme Dubonnet announce that they are also getting married. Its wedding bells all around.



Cathy Court - Director

Cathy trained at Arts Educational School Tring and Laine Theatre Arts before embarking on a full time dance teaching career working with both children and professional students at Laine Theatre Arts and the London College of Dance. Over the years she has worked in various schools all over the country teaching dance, drama and performing arts. Returning to her home town of Witham, she joined Witham Amateur Operatic Society and has performed in, choreographed and directed many shows for the society. More recently she directed "Half a Sixpence"

at the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford. Having previously worked with WOW! on "Annie", "Bugsy Malone" and a series of concerts, Cathy is delighted to return to direct this production of "The Boy Friend".

Robert Miles - Musical Director

Robert works as a composer and arranger, musical director and vocal coach. His work as a conductor and a musical director includes the fields of musical theatre and classical oratorio, in addition to cabaret performances. As a vocal coach, he works with clients to improve technical acumen, develop repertoire, audition technique and integration and to maximise their vocal potential. As a composer, he has written original material for Sky Television, BBC Radio and Paramount Comedy and has had work premiered at several leading venues, including Covent Garden Opera House. Robert also lectures and leads masterclasses in Musical Theatre, specialising in Voice Craft, Musical Direction and Contemporary Musical Theatre.



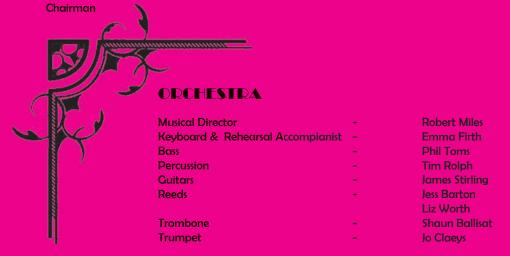


Chairman's Welcome

Inevitably for a youth group, as young people move on to further education, there are years when familiar faces disappear from view. This year at least a dozen folk from past shows have left WOW and have yet to be completely replaced by a new cohort of young people. Hence you will see a smaller cast than in previous years. There are some new faces, of course, and one of the joys of being involved with a group like WOW is watching new young people flourish and grow as they reach their full potential. I am delighted that The Boy Friend

provides the next generation of musical theatre talent with an opportunity to step up and take centre stage. I know they will prove to be as exciting to watch as those who went before them. If you know someone of 11-21 or who is approaching 11 years old why not ask if they would like to get involved. We ran a successful week's Summer School in 2012 and hope to run another event during the Easter holidays. We shall also be running a series of workshops during the summer term before we begin rehearsing for the next WOW show, Grease, which will be performed during February half-term 2014. 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



Nicholas Clough - President

Welcome to WOW's production of The Boy Friend. This is a show of a very different style and content to their last production, Footloose, and gives the group scope to show their undoubted talents and versatility.

I hope you enjoy the performance as much as the company have enjoyed themselves in rehearsals whilst bringing the show to the group's usual high standard.

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.

- Perfect Young Ladies Hortense, Maisie, Dulcie, Fay, Nancy, Ensemble
- The Boy Friend Polly, Dulcie, Maisie, Fay, Nancy, Marcel, Pierre, Alphonse, Ensemble
- Won't You Charleston With Me? Bobby, Maisie
- Fancy Forgetting Mme Dubonnet, Percival
- I Could Be Happy With You Polly, Tony
- Finale Act 1 Ensemble

INTERMISSION OF 15 MINUTES

Act II

The Plage.

The afternoon of the same day.

- Sur La Plage Dulcie, Nancy, Ensemble
- A Room In Bloomsbury Tony, Polly
- Nicer In Nice Hortense Ensemble
- The You-Don't-Want-To-Play-With-Me Blues Mme Dubonnet, Percival
- Safety In Numbers Maisie, Bobby, Marcel, Alphonse, Pierre
- I Could Be Happy With You (Reprise) Polly, Tony
- Finale Act 2 ALL

INTERMISSION OF 15 MINUTES

Act III

The Terrasse of the Cafe Pataplon.

The same night.

- The Riviera Bobby, Maisie, Dulcie, Fay, Nancy, Marcel, Alphonse, Pierre, Ensemble
- Tony's Entrance
- Tony's Dance
- It's Never Too Late To Fall In Love Lord Brockhurst, Dulcie
- Carnival Tango Tango Dancers
- Poor Little Pierrette Mme Dubonnet, Polly
- Finale Act 3 ALL



THE CAST

Hortense	-	Sarah Williams
Madame Dubonnet	-	Charlotte Watling
Percival Browne	-	James Simpson
Polly Browne	-	Rachel Goddard
Tony Brockhurst	-	Mark Ellis
Maisie	-	Rossie Goddadrd
Bobby Van Husen	-	Ed Tunningley
Lord Brockhurst	-	Michael Watling
Lady Brockhurst	-	Libby Johnson
Dulcie	-	Isabella Tull
Alphonse	-	Jack Martyn
Fay	-	Charlotte Tofts
Marcel	-	Max Lenoir
Nancy	-	Amy Seymour
Pierre	-	Andrew Steel
Waiter / Gendarme	-	Callum Hoskin
Tango Dancer	-	Alice Tunningley
Ensemble		Callum Hoskin Thomas Newland Jeska Bayford Emma-Louise Simpson Charlotte Bayley Rachel Maguire

Libby Johnson

Alice Tunningley

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director & Choreographer - Cathy Court

Musical Director - Robert Miles

Stage Manager - Graham Green

Assistant Stage Manager - Keith Radley,

Stage Crew - Dean Hirst, Stewart Adkins
Scenery - Graham Green, Paul Galley &
Paul Lazell

hting - Nigel Northfield

Lighting Assistants - Quintin Brazier, Anne Dyster, Graeme Parrett
Kris Knox-Crichton, Lauren Northfield

Sound - Paul Galley, Jason Fenn

Event Sound & Light

Properties Manager - Gemma Gray

Properties Team - Sam Carlyle, Alex Berriman

Wardrobe Mistress - Anne Howe
Wardrobe Assistant - Debbie Stirling

Costumes - Dressing Up Box, Sprigers & Manifest Theatre Group

Make up - Liz Watson

Make-up Assistant - Olivia Bentley, Marea Irving

Prompt - Pamela Adams
Dance Captain - Charlotte Watling
French Language Coach - Sarah Williams
Box Office Manager - Janice Hawkes
Front of House Manager - Debbie Rolph
Publicty Manager - Kathryn Adkins

Publicity Team - Sue Rogers, Cynthia Stead, Gary Rolph &

Matilda Bourne

Publicity Photos - Tony Court

Programme - Michael Mundell-Poole

Bar Manager - Ron Howe



Hortense - Sarah Louise Williams

I am 16 years old and currently studying 5 AS levels at Colchester Sixth Form College. I have been involved in musical theatre for a long time, this being my 6th show with WOW! and I am really looking forward to playing the part of Hortense in "The Boy Friend".

Madame Dubonnet - Charlotte Watling

I am 16 years old and I go to Thurstable Six Form College where I am taking dance and drama as two of my five A levels. This is my seventh show with WOW! and I know this show will be as high a standard as all the previous ones. I am also currently rehearsing my sixth show with WAOS which will be performed in April.





Percival Browne - James Simpson
This is my fourth show with WOW! and my first main lead, having previously performed in "Les Miserables", "Footloose" and "West Side Story". I'm 19 years old now and should soon be heading off to University. I hope you enjoy the fruits of our labour.



I am 18 years old and I go to Thurstable Sixth Form College. This is my seventh show with WOW! and I am looking forward to the shows performance. I play the part of Lord Hubert Brockhurst and I have found it a part that I can really get my teeth into. I hope that everyone enjoys the show.



Polly Browne - Rachel Goddard

I am a year 12 student at Colchester County High School for Girls studying Biology, Maths, English Literature and Geography. This is my fifth show with WOW! after previously appearing in roles such as Urleen in "Footloose", the 'Somewhere' soloist in "West Side Story" and Scaramouche in a school performance of "We Will Rock You".

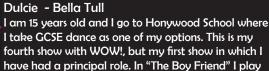


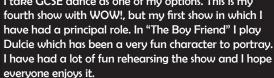
Lady Brockhurst & Ensemble Girl - Libby Johnson I am 14 and this is my third consecutive show with WOW! I have performed in several other local shows, such as "Guys and Dolls" and "Babes in Arms" with Witham Music Theatre, as well as "My Fair Lady" in the Leatherhead Theatre. I am currently studying, amongst other things, BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Performing Arts and BTEC Music in Year 10. This is my first supporting role with WOW!, and I have enjoyed every moment of it!



Tony Brockhurst- Mark Ellis

This is my fifth show with WOW!, having also done two with WAOS, but my first stab at a main lead role. I am 16, currently doing my GCSEs at KEGS in Chelmsford, and last year I was part of a group that got down to the final 24 in BBC One's talent search, 'Sport Relief Does Glee Club' and am looking forward to hopefully getting even further this year. The Boy Friend has been 'ripping' fun to put together and I really hope you enjoy it!







Maisie - Rosie Goddard

I am a year 9 student at the Sandon School. This is my third year performing with WOW! With previous chorus parts, I am thrilled to have a named role! I hope you enjoy the show.



Alphonse -Jack Martyn

I am 13 years old and this is my second show with WOW! I am currently in year 9 at New Hall School. I have been in a number of other productions such as "RENT", "Our House" and "Troy" and I have also performed at The Globe Theatre in "The Merry Wives of Windsor". I am very much looking forward to playing Alphonse and I hope you enjoy the show.



Bobby van Husen - Ed Tunningley

I have been acting since the age of 6 and have been in various shows from: "Les Miserable" to "West Side Story"; "Seussical" to "Half a Sixpence"; and "Oliver!" to "Footloose". I also enjoy playing the guitar and the piano. This is my 2nd show with WOW! and I am enjoying every minute of it!!

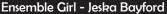


This will be my 3rd show with WOW! after performing in "West Side Story" & "Footloose". I have been in many shows and love being on stage! I am really looking forward to playing the part of Fay in "The Boy Friend" and hope you have a great time.





Marcel - Max Lenoir
This is my third show with WOW!, the other two being "West Side
Story "and "Footloose". I am really enjoying the run up to the show as
always and can't wait until the opening night!



I am 12 years old and go to New Rickstones Academy. I have been singing for just over 2 years and have performed several times within the Tara Bennett vocal school concerts bi-annually and also in A Night for Each West End Gala Concert in September 2012. This is my first performance with WOW! and I hope that everyone enjoys the show.



Nancy - Amy Seymour

I am 14 years old and this is my first show with WOW! I have really enjoyed the rehearsals and this show has been really great to be a part of. I've found acting has given me more confidence and I hope to do lots more shows with WOW! I have had a great time working with the cast and crew and I hope you enjoy the show!



Ensemble Girl - Emma-Louise Simpson
This is my third consecutive show with WOW! "The Boy Friend" is very different from the shows I have done before and I am enjoying trying to behave like a "perfect young lady".



Pierre - Andrew Steel
Having left education back in July, I am currently in the
process of reapplying to drama school. I have spent the past
7 years with 'The Essex Group', and have experienced many
wonderful parts in a wide variety of shows. Even though I
have only been with WOW! for a short time, I have found the
inexhaustible energy of the cast a wonder to work with.

Ensemble Girl - Charlotte Bayley
This is my first show with WOW! I am very excited to be with such a great group and doing such a fantastic show. I hope everyone enjoys it as much as we do.



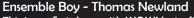
Waiter, Gendarme & Ensemble Boy - Callum Hoskin I am 11 years old and in Year 6. This is my first WOW! show. I have attended Stagecoach Braintree since the age of 5. I am very excited to be part of WOW!



Ensemble Girl - Rachel Maguire
This is my first performance with WOW! I have performed in dance shows before, but not acting. I am really enjoying it so far, however I am quite nervous as well.



Tango Dancer & Ensemble Girl - Alice Tunningley
I am 13 and I have been acting and dancing since the age of 3. I have
been in a range of shows including "Les Miserables", "Cinderella",
"Footloose", "Seussical", "Half A Sixpence" and too many dance
shows to keep count of. This is my 2nd show with WOW! and I am
looking forward to performing it!!



This is my first show with WOW! but after taking part in the summer school in August, where I had an amazing time, I really wanted to be part of a full production. I have really enjoyed the experience and look forward to performing in the show.



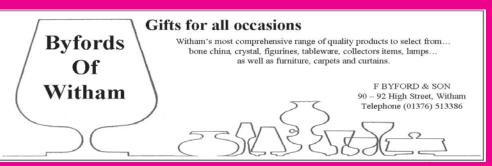


The Helen Temperley Memorial Award

In May 2012, WOW! sadly lost one of its most keen and valued committee members to cancer. In her memory and with the permission of her family, we have acquired a silver cup which is to be called The Helen Temperley Memorial Award. This will be awarded each year to 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 in everything she did. We hope this award will

be both a fitting and lasting tribute to Helen, as well as an inspiration to the young people of WOW! whom Helen supported from the group's inception.





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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 and the Public Hall for the use of their rehearsal facilities
- All those who helped in the supply of Props
- Springers and Manifest Theatre Group for their help with the supply of costumes
- Morrisons, Essex County Council and Witham Visitor Information 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

1996 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	2005	Little Shop of Horrors	
	Technicolor Dreamcoat	2006	Fame
1997	West Side Story	2007	A Knight to Remember
1998	Annie	2008	High School Musical
1999	The Boyfriend	2009	Les Miserables School Edition
2000	42nd Street	2010	Hot Mikado
2001	The Wiz	2011	West Side Story
2002	Bugsy Malone	2012	Footloose
2003	Oliver!		
2004	Crazy For You		

WOW Committee

President	Nicholas Clough
Chairman	Stewart Adkins
Business Manager	Graham Green
Production Manager	Kathryn Adkins
Secretary	Debbie Rolph
Treasurer	Keith Radley
Pastoral Team	Hilary Graham & Donna Goddard
Members	Janice Hawkes, Gary Rolph,
	Cynthia Stead, Gemma Gray,
	Sue Rogers















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