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Dormston, Sedgley**

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ADVENTURE GRAPHICS**

Whats On...

Forthcoming Shows...



Tudor Musical Comedy Society, 23rd to 27th MarchHello Dolly
Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Contact: 0121 308 2431

Tamworth Arts Club, 29th March to 3rd AprilAnnie Get Your Gun
The Assembly Rooms Theatre, Tamworth
Contact: 01827 67297

Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company, 30th March to 3rd April42nd Street
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
Contact: Jean Beard on 01902 882362

West Bromwich Youth Society, 3rd & 4th AprilConcert
The Mill Theatre, Dormston School, Sedgley
Contact Jim on 0121 353 3531

Peterbrook Players, 20th to 24th AprilCopacabana
Solihull Arts Complex, Solihull
Contact: 0121 704 6962

The Arcadians, 20th to 24th AprilThe Merry Widow
Old Rep, Birmingham
Contact: 0121 243 4136

Sutton Arts Theatre, 28th April to 8th MayKey for Two
Sutton Arts Theatre, Sutton Coldfield
Contact: 0121 308 6714

Trinity Players, 10th to 15th MayGuys and Dolls
Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Contact: 0121 308 6714

Willenhall Operatic Society, 11th to 15th MayOklahoma!
Mill Theatre, Dormston School, Sedgley
Contact: 01902 373403

West Bromwich Operatic Society, 25th to 29th MayRagtime
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
Contact: 0121 550 3667



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello everyone, or, as it's an American musical that you will be seeing, perhaps my greeting should be: 'Hi there!'

Welcome to the newly built Lichfield Garrick Theatre, and Walsall Operatic Society's happy return to Lichfield after a two-year absence.

To quote the nationally-acclaimed director, Annie Castledine, on the opening of the Lichfield Garrick last summer: "Great theatre does not begin and end in the West End." Thus the Society has great pleasure in presenting, for your delight, the American musical, 'ANNIE'.

This will be the Society's 60th production, in its 49th year, and the very talented company are confident that you will enjoy their presentation of this story about Annie's overcoming of adversity: "an empty-belly life into a jelly life", from a "Hard-Knock Life" of today into the dream life of "Tomorrow".

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for the continued and much-appreciated support of the Society given by the Lichfield and Walsall Civic Authorities, the Garrick Theatre officials, and N.O.D.A. and its officials. I'd like also to thank the Society's officials, production and presentation personnel, and the Society Members - acting and non-acting. But I especially thank you, our audiences, without whose attendance and financial support there would be no Walsall Operatic Society.

Have a most enjoyable evening, and travel home safely.

Horace James
President, Founder and Life Member

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Welcome to Walsall Operatic Society's interpretation of the ever-popular 'Annie'.

In this, my second term as Chairman, I am delighted to welcome Peter Davis back to the Society, as our Producer for this show. Having produced a number of excellent shows for us over the years and being the resident producer for the locally-based West Bromwich Youth Theatre, he was a natural choice for this production. We are also pleased to welcome back, once again, Michelle Baker as Choreographer, and Phil James as Musical Director.

We have a strong cast, ably supported by a vigorous chorus and a group of fresh-faced youngsters, to bring this classic musical to life.

This is our first performance in the newly-refurbished Lichfield Garrick, and we would like to extend our thanks to the management team here for their help and support in ensuring a successful show.

Thank you for joining us and for your continued support - please sit back and enjoy the show!

Andrew Bird
Chairman
March 2004

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that the society mourns the passing of:

Maurice Wineberg, a stalwart supporter and ardent worker for the society in its early years and a beloved relative of many society members. Our sincere sympathies are extended to all the family

Ted Evans, always a calm steady and conscientious member of the house staff at every show for many years. Ted's was a friendly and welcoming face to many of our patrons. He will be sadly missed by all. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Marion and family.



**AD FOR SUTTON MUSICAL
COMEDY SOCIETY TO GO HERE
PRINTER TO ORGANISE !**

This page is sponsored by David Hingley

Good luck to Christie (Molly) from the Bird Family

Walsall Operatic Society welcomes the following parties to 'Annie'

TUESDAY

Gorway Probus Club
Homebell House, Aldridge

WEDNESDAY

Wesley Chapel, West Bromwich
HSBC Sutton Coldfield
Mrs K Mills & Friends

THURSDAY

Wednesbury Central Methodist Church
Gorway Probus Club
Civic Dignitaries of Walsall and Lichfield

FRIDAY

Friends of Mr & Mrs Docherty
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SATURDAY MATINEE

Ebenezer Wesleyan Reform -
Church, Langley
Oaklands Academy of Dance -
and Drama, Hammerwich
Burcot Court

SATURDAY EVENING

Friends of Mrs J Parr
Friends of Mrs A FLint
Mrs C Austin & Friends

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

1956 Gypsy Princess	1964 Iolanthe	1975 Oklahoma!	1991 Hello Dolly
1957 Pink Champagne	1965 Maritza	1976 La Vie Parisienne	1992 Fiddler on the Roof
1958 Maid of the Mountains	1965 The Yeomen of the Guard	1977 Summer Song	1993 Guys & Dolls
1959 The Gypsy Baron	1966 The Arcadians	1978 The Gypsy Baron	1994 Pirates of Penzance (Broadway Version)
1959 The Quaker Girl	1967 Goodnight Vienna	1979 Annie Get Your Gun	1995 Carousel
1960 Waltz Time	1967 The Gondoliers	1980 The Bird Seller	1996 My Fair Lady
1960 The Mikado (Concert Version)	1968 The Count of Luxembourg	1981 The Desert Song	1997 The Music Man
1961 Night in Venice	1968 The Pirates of Penzance & Trial by Jury	1982 Waltzes from Vienna	1998 Kiss Me Kate
1961 Iolanthe (Concert Version)	1969 The Vagabond King	1983 La Belle Hélène	1999 Singin' in the Rain
1962 The Desert Song	1970 Gypsy Love	1984 Naughty Marietta	2000 Oliver!
1962 The Gondoliers (Concert Version)	1970 Ruddigore	1985 White Horse Inn	2001 Oklahoma
1963 Land of Smiles	1971 The Merry Widow	1986 Show Boat	2002 At The Hop (50's & 60's Cabaret)
1963 The Mikado	1972 Orpheus in the Underworld	1987 Kiss Me Kate	2003 Calamity Jane
1964 White Horse Inn	1973 Carousal	1987 The Merry Widow	
	1973 Princess Ida	1988 Oklahoma!	
	1974 The New Moon	1989 Finian's Rainbow	
		1990 The Pajama Game	

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Walsall Operatic Society always
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Please contact Catherine Docherty, Secretary, on 01543 252268 for further information.

FUTURE PRODUCTIONS:

For advance information please complete your details below and either hand to a member of our Front of House Staff or post to the address below.

**W.O.S. Next Production, 18 Manor Rise, Lichfield, WS14 9SL
Or email your name and address to mail@walsalloperatic.co.uk**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please note: The information provided will not be passed on to any other parties or used for any other purpose except to keep you informed of Walsall Operatic Society's activities.

LIFE MEMBERS

Marion Evans	Grace McClymont	Andrew Shelley
Dawn Foster	José Parr	Eileen Shorthouse
Adrian Jackson	George Perks	Rob Yates
Horace James	Jean Harris	Maureen Woodcock
	John Harris	

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Joyce RichardsPeter	Helena Flint	Louise Woodcock
Toulouse	Vicky Hardy	Vin Woodcock
Ann Toulouse	John Ison	Peter Worrall
Jean Wright	Kathryn James	
Ron Wright	Jim Jones	

This page is sponsored by Ann Flint & José Parr

ANNIE - THE STORY

In the depths of the 1930's, Annie is a fiery young orphan girl who must live in a miserable orphanage run by the tyrannical Miss Hannigan. Her seemingly hopeless situation changes dramatically when she is selected to spend a short time at the residence of the wealthy munitions industrialist, Oliver Warbucks. Quickly, she charms the hearts of the household staff, and even the seemingly cold-hearted Warbucks cannot help but learn to love this wonderful girl. He decides to help Annie find her long-lost parents by offering a reward if they would come to him and prove their identity. However, Miss Hannigan, her evil relative, Rooster, and a female accomplice plan to impersonate those people to get the reward for themselves, which puts Annie in great danger.



PETER DAVIS - PRODUCER / DIRECTOR

It was at school that Peter became interested in the theatre, the world of the musical in particular. Over the years he has played many leading roles on stage, including Prof. Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, Fagin in *Oliver!*, Horace Vandergelder in *Hello Dolly* and the title role of *The Music Man*. It was for this role that Peter was awarded the "Evening Mail Entertainer of the Year" Award.

He then moved the other side of the footlights to take up his career in direction. He has worked with many companies in the Midlands, directing such shows as *Oliver!*, *West Side Story*, *My Fair Lady*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Me and My Girl*, *Scrooge*, *Carousel*, *The King & I*, *Wizard of Oz*, *The Music Man*, and *Camelot*, to name but a few !!

PHIL JAMES - MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Never work with children or animals, they say - and this time we're doing both!

Phil has very much enjoyed working with both the adults and children of the cast for Annie this year. Phil first trod the boards in 1987 and has performed with several local musical companies, including Walsall Operatic Society. Since taking up the baton as Musical Director, Phil's work has included *Calamity Jane*, *Oklahoma!*, *Aladdin* and numerous concert productions as arranger and conductor. Other credits include musical arrangements for the prestigious City Concert Orchestra, with performances at Symphony Hall in Birmingham and Bridgewater Hall in Manchester.

Phil and his wife, Kathryn, another stalwart of the musical stage, have two children, Charlotte and William



MICHELLE BAKER - CHOREOGRAPHER

Michelle is currently working full time as a qualified accountant. However, amazingly she still finds enthusiasm and dedication in her spare time for her love for dancing.

As a qualified teacher at Oaklands Academy of Dance and Drama in Hammerwich, she frequently teaches ballet, tap, modern jazz, gymnastics and theatre craft to pupils of all ages!

Michelle has been performing in dancing shows since the age of 5, together with performances for festivals, carnivals, pantomimes and cabarets. During the last 10 years, Michelle has been actively involved with the choreography for the Oaklands shows.

She was delighted to be asked to choreograph this production of *Annie* and would like to thank everyone for their continued support.



This page is sponsored by Jayne & John Ison and Jackie Bird



Annie - Stefanie Austin

Stefanie is ten years old and currently in year 6 at Temple Meadow Primary School. She has studied ballet, tap, theatre craft and modern with the Marelli School of Dance since she was three years old. In addition she has also studied disco with the Debonair Dance Academy. She really enjoys performing and has appeared in numerous shows with these dance schools.

For the last 3 years she has undertaken singing lessons with Lucy Jones (Grace Farrell in this production) and intends to take her Grade 3 examination in the summer. She loves singing and has performed twice with the Lucy Jones' singers to help raise money for Cancer Research UK.

Stefanie would like to thank Walsall Operatic Society for giving her the opportunity to play the role of Annie and hopes that you all enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed performing it!!

Annie - Philippa Mills



Philippa is in her final year at Mayfield Preparatory School in Walsall. This is her first performance with Walsall Operatic Society, but she is no stranger to the stage. She has competed from an early age in music festivals across the Midlands, singing and playing the piano and violin, and also in dance festivals and shows with Oaklands Academy of Dance and Drama. She leads her school choir and is an enthusiastic member of the orchestra. Her other interests include swimming, playing netball and rounders. Philippa is really excited to be playing the part of Annie in this production.



Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks - Chris Ingley

Chris has been performing since the age of thirteen with several societies in the Midlands. His favourite roles include Bill in *Me & My Girl* for Tamworth Arts Club, and the Lion in *Wizard of Oz* for West Bromwich Operatic Society. Chris feels honoured to be playing the part of Daddy Warbucks for Walsall Operatic Society as it has been an ambition of his from an early age to play this role.

Miss Hannigan - Jayne Ison



Jayne has been a loyal member of Walsall Operatic Society for over 23 years. During this time she has played many roles and her favourites include Lina Lamont in *Singin' In The Rain*, Adelaide in *Guys 'n' Dolls*, Carrie in *Carousel* and Widow Corney in *Oliver!*. Jayne also played Charity Barnum in *Barnum* at the Alexander Theatre, Birmingham and in July 2002 the character of Beryl in *Wallop Mrs Cox* at the Birmingham Rep with Malcolm Boyden.

Last year Jayne played the title role in *Calamity Jane* and is looking forward immensely to the challenging role of *Miss Hannigan* having hung up her guns in exchange for a bottle of gin and loud whistle.

Jayne's ambition is to play Dolly Levi in *Hello Dolly*.

**WALSALL OPERATIC SOCIETY
2003 - 2004
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W.O.S. FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGERMiss Helena Flint
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Grace Farrell - Lucy Jones



Lucy has been involved in theatre from an early age and has performed in various musical productions. She was a member of West Bromwich Youth Theatre, playing roles such as Widow Corney in *Oliver!* and Mrs Conner in *Charlie Girl*. Lucy went on to study music at the University of Liverpool achieving a 2:1 honours degree. Whilst attending university she was a member of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and was also the lead singer of her own 60's Soul Band.

Lucy currently works for the NHS, training nurse cadets in I.T., Numeracy and Literacy and in her spare time she continues to be involved in music, teaching singing and piano to a number of pupils, including Stefanie Austin - 'Annie' and Emily Baker - 'July'. She recently produced and staged a concert with her pupils, successfully raising money for Cancer Research UK.

This is Lucy's first principal part with Walsall Operatic Society and she hopes that you enjoy the performance.

Rooster - Andrew Bird

Andrew has been treading the boards since the age of 7 when he first appeared as a Snow Child in *Carousel*. Since then he has gone on to perform a variety of roles, his favourites including Mike in *A Chorus Line*, Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Billy Crocker in *Anything Goes*, Cosmo Brown in *Singin' in the Rain*, Will Parker in *Oklahoma*, Captain Tempest in *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, Jesus in *Godspell* and his last outing as the fantastically outrageous Herod in *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Andrew is delighted to be returning to the stage with Walsall for the first time since being appointed Chairman and taking a deliberate break following the birth of his son James, last year.



Lily - Lynsey Handley



Lynsey's love for the arts began at the young age of two when she started taking dancing lessons.

As a qualified teacher, she teaches ballet, tap, modern jazz and theatre craft to children of all ages at Oaklands Academy of Dance and Drama.

Lynsey has been a member of Walsall Operatic Society for six years performing in many concerts and shows; her favourite so far being *Singin' In The Rain*. Lynsey is looking forward to her first principal role of Lily and hopes it will be the first of many.

The Orphans -

- Duffy Charlotte Mills
- Pepper Jessica Boland
- July Emily Baker
- Kate Hannah Jones
- Molly Christie Saunders
- Tessie Charlotte Bacon



Book by THOMAS MEEHAN
 Music by CHARLES STROUSE
 Lyrics by MARTIN CHARNIN

Original Production Directed by MARTIN CHARNIN



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CAST

AnnieStefanie Austin
 AnniePhilippa Mills
 Daddy Warbucks.....Chris Ingley
 Miss HanniganJayne Ison
 Grace FarrellLucy Jones
 RoosterAndrew Bird
 LilyLynsey Handley
 President RooseveltLes Middleton

The Orphans:

DuffyCharlotte Mills
 PepperJessica Boland
 JulyEmily Baker
 KateHannah Jones
 MollyChristie Saunders
 TessieCharlotte Bacon

Other Orphans:

.....Eleanor Burnand
Kaitlin Wray
Abigail Knott
Hannah Bird
Alison Davies Highfield
Ellie Smith
Lauren Key
Lauretta McKeever
Alyx Bayley
Kayleigh Bayley

Featuring Jodie as
 Annie's Dog



ORCHESTRA

Phil James - Musical Director
 With Members of the PJ Connections Orchestra

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE - December 11-19, 1933

Overture

Scene 1: The New York Municipal Orphanage (Girls' Annex)

'Maybe' - Annie
 'It's The Hard-Knock Life' - Annie and The Orphans
 'It's The Hard-Knock Life' (Reprise) - The Orphans

Scene 2: St. Mark's Place

'Tomorrow' - Annie

Scene 3: A Hooverville Under The 59th Street Bridge

'Hooverville' - Chorus

Scene 4: The Orphanage

'Little Girls' - Miss Hannigan
 'Little Girls' (Reprise) - Miss Hannigan

Scene 5: The Warbucks Mansion at Fifth Avenue and 82nd Street

'I Think I'm Gonna Like It Here' - Grace, Annie, Drake, Cecille, Annette, Mrs Greer, Other Servants

Scene 6: New York City

'N.Y.C.' - Warbucks, Grace, Annie and New Yorkers

Scene 7: The Orphanage

'Easy Street' - Miss Hannigan, Rooster and Lily

Scene 8: Warbuck's Study

'You Won't Be an Orphan for Long' - Grace, Drake, Cecille, Annette, Servants and Warbucks

INTERVAL (20 minutes)

ACT TWO - December 21-25, 1933

Entr'acte

Scene 1: The NBC Radio Studio at 30 Rockefeller Center

'You're Never Fully Dressed Without A Smile' - Bert Healy and the Boylan Sisters

Scene 2: The Orphanage

'You're Never Fully Dressed Without A Smile' (Reprise) - The Orphans
 'Easy Street' (Reprise) - Miss Hannigan, Rooster and Lily

Scene 3: Washington: The White House

'Tomorrow' (Reprise) - Annie, F.D.R., Warbucks, Howe and the Cabinet

SCENE 4: The East Ballroom of the Warbucks Mansion

'Something Was Missing' - Warbucks
 'Together At Last' - Warbucks and Annie
 'Annie' - Grace, Drake and the Staff
 'I Don't Need Anything But You' - Warbucks, Annie, Grace, Drake and the Staff
 Maybe (Reprise) - Annie
 A New Deal for Christmas - Annie, Warbucks, Grace, F.D.R., The Orphans and the Staff

Finale

CAST

BundlesAshley Morris
 Ickes / Lt WardSimon Docherty
 HullMike Jones
 PerkinsTrish Humphries
 HoweCraig Smith
 Morgenthau / 2nd PolicemanNick Hardy
 DrakeGeoff Bird
 Mrs PughAnn Flint
 Mrs GreerHeather Fishwick
 Bert HealyMartin Milnes
 The Boylan Sisters:
 BonnieSophie Middleton-Flint
 ConnieEmma Jones
 RonnieRebecca Lomax
 McCracken / WackyRobert Leek
 CecilleSheena Bird
 AnnetteHelen Thrower
 FredNigel Flint
 SophieJos Speller
 IraJonathon McGee
 PeggyCarole Share

CHORUS

Josephine Anslow
 Carolyn Jones
 Dawn Roy
 Margaret Russell
 José Parr

OTHER PARTICIPATING MEMBERS



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