

**7 – 17 December**

at 7.30pm (no Sunday performance)

Matinees 10 & 17 December at 2.30pm

**Loft**  
theatre company



# OLIVER!

by  
**Lionel Bart**

**£1** Free when  
mailed to  
Loft Members

## notes from the **DIRECTOR**

# A Dickens of a musical

*Oliver!* is a stage musical with both music and lyrics by Lionel Bart, and was the first musical adaptation of a famous Charles Dickens work to become a stage hit. It premiered in the West End in 1960, enjoying a long run, and a subsequent successful run on Broadway, followed by numerous tours and revivals both here and the US. It was made into the famous musical film of the same name in 1968, which featured an all-star cast including Ron Moody, Oliver Reed, Shani Wallis and Jack Wild with Mark Lester in the title role, and which went on to win no less than six Academy Awards from 11 nominations!

*Oliver!* has also been performed literally thousands of times in British schools, particularly in the 1970s, when it was by far the most popular school musical. Indeed the director himself appeared in an all-male production in 1970 as a member of Fagin's gang, following on from his performance the previous year in the female chorus of *The Mikado!*

The musical follows the plot of Charles Dickens' second novel *Oliver Twist*, and tells the story of the title character, who starts his life in a workhouse before being sold into apprenticeship with an undertaker and his family. He then escapes from their clutches and travels to London, where he meets the Artful Dodger, a member of a gang of juvenile pickpockets led by the elderly criminal, Fagin. A Christmas treat for the whole family, the show features a



sparkling musical score that includes a host of well-known songs including *Food, Glorious Food, Where is Love, Consider Yourself, Pick a Pocket or Two* and *As Long As He Needs Me*.

As a director, I relish challenges which continue to stretch the skills and imagination. This has included musicals such as the Sondheim classic, *Sweeney Todd, Godspell* and previous Christmas treats like *Scrooge* and *RENT*. *Oliver!* requires a highly skilled and committed team to bring the show to our stage – a stage where you would not normally expect to see a show of this size – and putting the whole thing together has been a huge theatrical challenge for the team.

To bring this wonderful show to life requires a strong cast and I am privileged to have been able to assemble a team of no less than 42 actors including our canine stars, and nine musicians. The cast features many well-known names from the local circuit as well as some new faces making their Loft Theatre debuts, and I am genuinely delighted that after a two-year break we have a production that features child actors – 26 of them to be precise!

*continued on page 4 ...*

# OLIVER!

by Lionel Bart

Based on Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Oliver*                  | Megan Bignall              |
| Mr Brownlow              | Paul Boyle                 |
| Bill Sikes               | Chris Cortopassi           |
| Artful Dodger*           | Aaron Crockford            |
| Mr Bumble                | John Fenner                |
| Widow Corney             | Elaine Freeborn            |
| Oliver**                 | Oscar George               |
| Bet                      | Flo Hatton                 |
| Mrs Sowerberry           | Lucy Maxwell               |
| Mrs Bedwin               | Judy Murdoch               |
| Charlotte Sowerberry     | Laura Simmons              |
| Fagin                    | Steve Smith                |
| Noah Claypole            | Ash Spall                  |
| Mr Sowerberry/Dr Grimwig | Benjamin Wellicome         |
| Old Sally                | Judy Wellicome             |
| Nancy                    | Louise Woodward            |
| Artful Dodger**          | Nathan Woolley             |
| Bulls-Eye                | Henry and Daisy O'Sullivan |

## *Company*

Rosie Aspinall, Lauren Bignall, Katie Burrows, Madeleine Burrows, Lily Butler\*\*, Elle Churchill, Beth Crossley, Annabelle Eden-Humphreys\*\*, Hattie Gatfield, Darcy Harrison, Rosie Jeffs\*, Beth King, Rosie Lawrence\*, Briony Lettington, Ed Murdoch, Ellie Pawsey\*\*, Harmony Renny, Poppy Renny\*, James Seymour-Grant, Kayleigh Sheehan, Judy Wellicome, Henry Whitehurst, Beth Woolley

\* - performing on 8, 10 matinee, 12, 14, 16, 17

\*\* - performing on 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17 matinee

## *Orchestra*

Keyboard – Matt Flint, Violin – Maddy Evans, Cello – Issy Worrall,  
Bass – Sunim Koria, Reed I – Mike Read, Reed II – Rebecca Eldridge,  
Trumpet – Frank Stubbs, Horn – Helen Pugh, Percussion – Ashley Ward

The action is set in various locations in London during Dickensian times

Running time approximately 2 hours 25 minutes including interval

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Director                             | Tim Willis  |
| Musical director                     | Matt Flint  |
| Choreographer and assistant director | Francesca Smith   |
| Lighting design                      | Michael Wheeldon  |
| Sound design                         | Josh Smith  |
| Technical team                       | Technical team led by Dave Barclay  |
| Company stage manager                | Viki Betts  |
| Deputy stage manager                 | Emily Morgan  |
| Assistant stage managers             | Kim Green, Cath Lyon  |
| Set design                           | Richard Moore   |
| Set built, painted and crewed by     | Richard Moore, Ian Asbury, Amy Rodger,<br>Wendy Morris, Adina Burca, Alwin McGibbon,<br>Andrea Opatovska, Monika Surinya,<br>Lynda Fletcher, Danielle Robinson,<br>Davine Spiers, Dawn Spencer, Yas Shilton,<br>Amy Barrett, Becky Howell, Chris Moss |
| Wardrobe                             | Wardrobe team led by Helen Brady  |
| Props                                | Props team led by Elspeth Dales   |
| Press and publicity                  | Anna Laycock  |
| Photography                          | Richard Smith   |
| Theatre technician                   | Kimberlee Green   |

With special thanks to Brenda Leedham, Christopher Ward, Charles Withall, Brenda Finn, Sandra Hay, Mike and Ali, Amy Cox and Bertie, and last but not least, our team of chaperones

## Notes from the Director

(... continued from page 2)

The onstage team is of course matched by the expertise and commitment of the artistic, backstage, technical and production teams – too many people to mention individually, but you know who you are, and without you, it simply would not have been possible to produce this show. The cast and I owe you all a huge debt of gratitude!

Further to the stunning set he created two years ago for *Scrooge*, I am privileged once again to have Richard Moore as our set designer. Richard's clever set has captured

the right feel for Dickens' Victorian London; however, transferring numerous locations to the stage is always demanding, and it is no coincidence that many of us have worked together before, both on and off stage. Hopefully this shines through as I genuinely believe we need all this and more if we are to meet the demands and challenges of this magical family musical.

Merry Christmas to you all!

**Tim Willis**

# Company profiles



## PAUL BOYLE – MR BROWNLOW

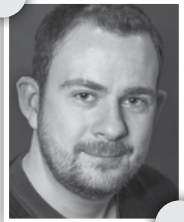
**At the Loft:** Hugo Harty/Fezziwig, *Scrooge: The Musical*; Glad Hand, *West Side Story*.

**Elsewhere:** J. B Biggley, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Priory Theatre); Francis Nurse, *The Crucible*; Bert, *Keep Smiling Through* (Rugby Theatre); Lt Ward, *Annie* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society); Mr Scheinkopf, *Fame* (Spa Theatre Company).

## CHRIS CORTOPASSI – BILL SIKES

**At the Loft:** Husband, *Hitchcock Blonde*.

**Elsewhere:** Company, *Blood Brothers* (Priory Theatre); Company, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; Company, *Barnum*; Company, *The Full Monty* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society); Chuck, *Footloose*; The Devil/Duke, *Disco Inferno*; A-rab, *West Side Story*; Bert Barry, *42nd Street* (Spa Theatre Company); David, *Company* (Stratford Musical Theatre Company).



## JOHN FENNER – MR BUMBLE

**At the Loft:** Mr Mushnik, *Little Shop of Horrors*; Company, *The Hollow Crown*; George Aaranow, *Glengarry Glen Ross*; St Clair, *Glorious!*

**Elsewhere:** Willie Clark, *The Sunshine Boys*; Jack, *Dancing at Lughnasa*; Norman Thayer Jr, *On Golden Pond* (Talisman Theatre); John Frick, *The Last Yankee*; Jack Gale, *The Thrill of Love*; Gaston Lemare, *My Three Angels*; Andrew Crocker-Harris, *The Browning Version* (Criterion Theatre).

## ELAINE FREEBORN – WIDOW CORNEY

**At the Loft:** Mrs Rogers, *And Then There Were None*; Marya Voynitskaya, *Uncle Vanya*; Moira Patterson/Princess Jill, *Pravda*; Linda Fawcett, *Jerusalem*; Mam, *The Lady in the Van*; Granny, *Into the Woods*; Venticello 1, *Amadeus*; Mrs Verrinder-Gedge, *Glorious!*

**Elsewhere:** Ida, *The Cemetery Club*; Duchess of York, *Richard III*; Fräulein Schneider, *Cabaret* (Talisman Theatre).



# Company profiles (continued)



LUCY MAXWELL – MRS SOWERBERRY

**At the Loft:** *Beadle, Sweeney Todd; Anybody's, West Side Story; Company, Rent.*

**Elsewhere:** Miss Feletti, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* (Talisman Theatre); Carol, *Shakers* (Attic Theatre); Shirley Markowitz, *The Producers* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society); Sadie, *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* (Rugby Theatre); Charlotte Sowerberry, *Oliver!* (Spa Opera).

JUDY MURDOCH – MRS BEDWIN

**At the Loft:** *Company, A Streetcar Named Desire; Delia, Bedroom Farce; Lady Lancaster, Mr Cinders; Mrs Danvers, Rebecca; Susan Hodge, Nasty Neighbours; Pauline, The Seagull; Mildred Peake, Spider's Web; Harriet Stanley, The Man Who Came to Dinner; Olympe, A Flea in Her Ear; Woman, Veronica's Room; Abby Brewster, Arsenic and Old Lace.*

Judy has also appeared in many productions at the Talisman Theatre.



LAURA SIMMONS – CHARLOTTE SOWERBERRY

**At the Loft:** *Company, Sweeney Todd; Company, Little Shop of Horrors; Lola, Godspell; Sarah/Beggarwoman, Scrooge: The Musical.*

**Elsewhere:** *Company, Singin' in the Rain; Virginia/Factory Girl, The Pajama Game* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society); *Company, Jesus Christ Superstar* (Spa Opera Group).

STEVE SMITH – FAGIN

**At the Loft:** *Billy Rice, The Entertainer; Ebenezer Scrooge, Scrooge: The Musical; Director, Privates on Parade; Director, The History Boys; Sweeney Todd, Sweeney Todd; Fredrik Egerman, A Little Night Music.*

**Elsewhere:** Christopher Belling, *Curtains; Director, The God of Carnage; Herr Schultz, Cabaret* (Talisman Theatre); Roger De Bris, *The Producers; Tevye, Fiddler on the Roof* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society).





### ASH SPALL – NOAH CLAYPOLE

**At the Loft:** Crowther, *The History Boys*; Frank Whitworth/Luke Parsons, *Jerusalem*.

**Elsewhere:** Bobby Pepper, *Curtains* (Talisman Theatre); Naryshkin, *A Winter's Tale* (Rogues and Vagabonds/RSC Open Stages); Principal dancer, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; Fyedka, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society).

### BENJAMIN WELLICOME – MR SOWERBERRY/DR GRIMWIG

**At the Loft:** Tobias Ragg, *Sweeney Todd*; Company, *Little Shop of Horrors*; Leading Aircraftman Eric Young-Love, *Privates on Parade*; Baby John, *West Side Story*; Scripps, *The History Boys*; Harry Tallentire, *The Hired Man*.

**Elsewhere:** Bill/Lucentio, *Kiss Me, Kate*; Annas, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Spa Opera); Geoffrey, Duke of Brittany, *The Lion in Winter* (Priory Theatre); Clown, *The 39 Steps* (Talisman Theatre); Rooster Hannigan, *Annie* (LWMS).



### JUDY WELLICOME – OLD SALLY

**At the Loft:** Fogg, *Sweeney Todd*; Company, *Little Shop of Horrors*; Dee, *Godspell*; Bakerwoman/Phantom/Ethel Cratchit, *Scrooge: The Musical*.

**Elsewhere:** Company, *The Pajama Game*; Mrs Pugh, *Annie* (LWMS); Grandma, *The Addams Family*; Rose, *Stepping Out*; Kit Kat Girl, *Cabaret* (Talisman Theatre); Cousin Hebe, *HMS Pinafore* (Spa Opera); Maureen, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (Priory Theatre).

### LOUISE WOODWARD – NANCY

**At the Loft:** Rosalia, *West Side Story*.

**Elsewhere:** Lorraine, *Boogie Nights*; Kathy, *Disco Inferno*; Velma, *West Side Story* (Spa Theatre Company); Carol Melkett, *Black Comedy* (Pilot Light Bristol); Company, *Oliver!* (Guildhall Operatic Society); Cagelle, *La Cage aux Folles* (Three Spires Musical Society).



# Children and ensemble



Rosie Aspinall



Lauren Bignall



Megan Bignall



Katie Burrows



Madeleine Burrows



Lily Butler



Elle Churchill



Aaron Crockford



Beth Crossley



Annabelle Eden-Humphreys



Hattie Gatfield



Oscar George



Darcy Harrison



Flo Hatton



Rosie Jeffs



Bethan King





Rosie Lawrence



Briony Lettington



Ed Murdoch



Ellie Pawsey



Harmony Renny



Poppy Renny



James Seymour-Grant



Kayleigh Sheehan



Francesca Smith  
(Choreographer)



Henry Whitehurst



Beth Woolley



Nathan Woolley



Henry



Daisy

# Company profiles (continued)



## MATT FLINT – MUSICAL DIRECTOR

**At the Loft:** Musical director for: *Sweeney Todd*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Godspell*; *Scrooge*; *West Side Story*; *The Last Five Years*; *Rent*.

**Elsewhere:** Musical director for: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Leamington and Warwick Musical Society); *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *The Wiz*; *Return to the Forbidden Planet*; *Singin' in the Rain* (Faith, hope & gaffertape).

Matt studied Music Technology at the London College of Music.



## TIM WILLIS – DIRECTOR

**At the Loft:** Director, *Sweeney Todd*; Director/David O. Selznick, *Moonlight and Magnolias*; Director, *Little Shop of Horrors*; Director, *Godspell*; Director, *Scrooge: The Musical*; Philip, *Relatively Speaking*; Director, *Under Milk Wood*; Ivan Voynitski, *Uncle Vanya*; Director, *Entertaining Mr Sloane*; Director, *West Side Story*; Eddie Carbone, *A View From the Bridge*; Director, *Rent*; Director, *Glengarry Glen Ross*.

**Elsewhere:** Director, *The 39 Steps*; Mr Lockhart, *The Seafarer*; Barnabus Goche, *The Herbal Bed*; David O. Selznick, *Moonlight and Magnolias*; Jack Manningham, *Gaslight* (Criterion Theatre); Director, *Rent*; Sgt Mellors, *A Murder is Announced*; Director, *Playhouse Creatures*; Director, *The Graduate* (Talisman Theatre); Sidney Bruhl, *Deathtrap* (Rugby Theatre).

Tim trained as an actor at Mountview Theatre School.

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off throughout the performance, and remember that the taking of photographs is strictly prohibited.

Thank you.



Our Artistic Director's regular round-up of what's happening in and around the theatre



# 'Tis the season

October saw our first Loft Theatre Main House show of the season, William Wilkinson's production of John Osborne's *The Entertainer*, which featured some stunning central performances. The play has lost none of its potency, and is as relevant today as it was when it was first presented in the late 50s; it is no surprise that legendary theatre critic Michael Billington chose to include it in his book, *The 101 Greatest Plays*.

Next up we have one of the biggest shows the Loft Theatre has ever tackled with our Christmas offering of *Oliver!*, which features both animals and children in abundance and has completely dispelled the urban myth of who you should never work with! With over 1,100 tickets already sold at the time of writing – more than two weeks before opening night – booking looks to be essential to guarantee seats. This production features one of the largest onstage teams ever assembled here at the Loft with a company that boasts no fewer than nine musicians and 42 actors (including dogs!). What is particularly pleasing is that the show marks the return of young performers in numbers to our main stage after a two-year

break, with 26 of our actors aged between eight and 15 years old, as well as the return of (two) Saturday afternoon matinee performances! Don't forget you can also catch our latest one-nighter, *A Brief History of Christmas*, on the middle Sunday of the run.

*Oliver!* will be followed in early January by the returning Tell Tale team who present *The Austerity Games* for two nights. In April we will also see a visiting production in the Douglas Studio directed by Greg Cole. Full details will shortly be posted on the website.

Work on the end of the current season and the first half of our 2017/18 season is now well under way and I am delighted to announce further additions to our programme. First, Nathan Dowling will be directing the modern cult musical *Dogfight* in early June; and our 2017/18 season opener in a newly refurbished theatre will be the long-planned William Wilkinson production of Anton Chekhov's classic play *The Cherry Orchard*. I can also reveal that our closing production of 2017 will be one of the great American musicals, *Gypsy*, which features music and lyrics by Jule Styne and Stephen Sondheim respectively. Audition

details for both *Dogfight* and *The Cherry Orchard* can be found elsewhere in this programme and on the website.

2016 has been another challenging and exciting year of change here at the Loft, and I am looking forward to more of the same next year, although on a personal level I am planning on being just a little less busy after directing three shows this year. I am hugely appreciative of the support I have received from the Artistic team, particularly Sue Moore (who has been a 'rock' in her new role of Associate Artistic Director), the Board of Trustees, and our 'engine room', the members of our technical and front of house teams who work tirelessly behind the scenes to complement what is happening on stage. They all clearly remain committed to the delivery of a viable, balanced and varied programme of quality theatre in line with our available resources.

In closing, may I wish you all a happy festive period and a healthy and prosperous 2017.

Please do get in touch if you wish to discuss your ideas, raise any suggestions or just comment on what is happening at the theatre. You can call me on **07818 032752**, or email [ad@loft-theatre.co.uk](mailto:ad@loft-theatre.co.uk).

**Tim Willis**

Sunday, 22 January

# Auditions

...for a classic of world theatre.  
The session begins promptly  
at 2.30pm; registration and  
coffee from 2pm.

## *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov

Director: William Wilkinson • Playing dates: 20–30 Sept 2017 (Main House)

This classic of classics needs little introduction: it is the finest ensemble piece that I know; it has the greatest acting opportunities that I know; it is full of the richest characterisations of any play that I know. It is a comedy. It makes great demands and offers the greatest rewards. It is, in short, a joy, both to rehearse and perform. Its impact on writing for the theatre was seismic.

### Characters

- **Madame Ranyevskaya** – 50s; lives a sad, romantic life, clinging on to past glories, and unable to understand the need for change. She will die with her illusions intact.
- **Anya** – 17, her daughter; sees the old order of genteel privilege as normal and is at a loss to understand the changes that are being forced on her mama.
- **Varya** – late 20s, her adopted daughter; runs the estate, understands the realities of life, yearns for love but incapable of taking any initiative.
- **Gaev** – her elder brother; lives in a dream world where billiards is more important than avoiding ruin. He has many illusions, but no qualifications for anything.
- **Lopakhin** – 40s; was a servant on the estate but is now a successful entrepreneur. Would like a wife but has no idea how to set about it.
- **Trofimov** – indefinite age, possibly 30s; the perpetual student, mostly in everyone's way and does rather a lot of philosophising – and searching for galoshes.

- **Semyonov-Pishchick** – 30s–50s; a landowner, over his head in debt but does not worry, a solution will drop in his lap: the happiest optimist in the world.
- **Charlotta** – 40s–60s; a governess, a mystery woman who does conjuring tricks incessantly. Probably favours dogs to people.
- **Epihodov** – a clerk in his 30s; never gets anything right but blissfully tries again.
- **Dunyasha** – a maid in her 20s; full of life and strangely fancies Epihodov.
- **Yasha** – a 20-odd-year-old valet with attitude. A danger to women.
- **Firs** – difficult to put an age on him though there is a hint he may be 87; a wonderfully out-of-place relic who could never stop functioning as the faithful retainer, even when the roof has fallen in.

There is a multiple role opportunity covering vagrant, postmaster, stationmaster and anything else we can dream up. There are no small parts!

A split rehearsal period to allow for holidays in August may be necessary.

Books are available at the stage door in the letter rack. They are numbered and you may borrow one but put your name and contact on the list provided against the number of the copy you take. All must be returned before or at the audition.

Enquiries to William Wilkinson on **01386 700372** or email [WilliamWilkinson@loft-theatre.co.uk](mailto:WilliamWilkinson@loft-theatre.co.uk).

Sunday, 29 January

# Auditions

...for a much-loved new musical.  
The session begins promptly  
at 2.30pm; registration and  
coffee from 2pm.

## ***Dogfight*** Music and lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

(Based on the 1991 film)

Director: Nathan Dowling

Playing dates: 3–10 June 2017 (Main House)

Musical director: Matt Flint • Choreographer: Aaron Gibson

*Dogfight* is a fresh new musical first presented off-Broadway in 2012. It has been nominated for a number of awards including Drama Desk, Drama League and Outer Critics Circle Association Awards.

It's 21 November 1963, the eve of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. We follow a group of Marines as they prepare to spend their last night in San Francisco before being deployed to the escalating conflict in Vietnam. They set out for one final night of debauchery, chaos and partying to make the most of the time they have.

Corporal Eddie Birdlace meets Rose, an awkward, sheltered and idealistic waitress and enlists her to win a cruel bet with his fellow squadron. Their encounter challenges their beliefs, educates them to rewrite the rules and world they thought they knew, and how much there is to do and see 'before it's over'.

The cast comprises five leads plus an ensemble that feature throughout as well as in their assigned roles.

### **Lead roles**

- **Eddie Birdlace** – Marine, male lead, 18-25
- **Rose Fenny** – diner waitress and musician, female lead, 18-25
- **Bernstein** – Marine, male lead, 18-25

- **Boland** – Marine, male lead, 18+
- **Marcy** – prostitute, female lead, 18-35

### **Ensemble roles**

- **Mama** – Rose's mother, female, 40+
- **Fector** – Marine, male, 18+
- **Stevens** – Marine, male, 18+
- **Gibbs** – Marine, male, 18+
- **Ruth Two Bears** – female, 18+
- **Peggy** – female, 18+
- **Librarian** – female 18+
- **Lounge Singer** – male, 18+
- **Male and female ensemble**, including other lined parts (chorus/ensemble) – 18+

The audition process will consist of individual singing slots followed by group song and dance and acting workshops. (Please be prepared to stay all afternoon if required.)

For the individual auditions please prepare two short, contrasting pieces of your choice. You may not necessarily be asked to perform both, but ideally should be prepared to do so if required. Please ensure you bring sheet music, or advise if you wish to use backing tracks.

Please contact Nathan Dowling on **07973 672115** or email **n8dowling@msn.com** for further details.



**NEW TO THE LOFT THEATRE?**

**OR REGULAR VISITOR?**

**HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?**

Be part of your community theatre. We have a range of roles to be involved with: join us on stage, spend time with our props and wardrobe team, or get experience behind the bar. These are just a few ways to meet like-minded people, learn something new or give your time.

For more information and to apply email [volunteering@loft-theatre.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@loft-theatre.org.uk)

# Loft

theatre company

## MANAGEMENT

### BOARD OF TRUSTEE DIRECTORS

**Chair** William Wilkinson  
**Treasurer** Graham Hubbard  
**Secretary** Dawn Spencer-Morris  
**Members** Louise Adams, Bryan Ferriman, David Fletcher, Sue Hamilton, Gus MacDonald, Richard Moore, Sue Moore, David Yule

### DIRECTION

**Artistic director** Tim Willis  
**Associate artistic director** Sue Moore  
**General manager** Chris O'Brien

### ARTISTIC

**Dramaturge** Gordon Vallins  
**Casting** Phil Reynolds  
**Artistic administration** Espeth Dales

### MARKETING

**Head of marketing** Emily Morgan  
**Press officer** Fran Hubbard  
**Programme** Phil Reynolds  
**Photography** TBA  
**Webmaster** TBA  
**Box office** Sue Hamilton

### STAGE

**Stage technology** David Barclay  
**Lighting** TBA  
**Sound** TBA  
**Stage management** Viki Betts  
**Properties** TBA  
**Wardrobe** TBA  
**Stage carpenter/technician** Kimberlee Green<sup>1</sup>

### HOUSE

**Theatre manager** Richard Pemberton  
**Front of House** Dawn Spencer-Morris  
**Licensee** Margie Bosworth  
**Bar manager** TBA  
**Coffee** Anne Wood  
**Exhibitions** TBA  
**Archivist** Richard Moore  
**Cleaner** Jennifer Davidson<sup>2</sup>

### VOLUNTEERING SUPPORT

TBA

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Chairman** David Fletcher  
**Members** William Wilkinson, Sue Wilkinson

### PATRON

Andrew Davies

### HONOURED MEMBERS

Those who have given notable and outstanding service

Cicely Berry  
Stanley Birch  
Vanessa Comer  
Mike Crisswell  
Dorothy Fenner  
David Fletcher  
Janet Goldson  
Ron Grey  
Sophie Hamilton  
Sue Hamilton  
Charles Mulraine  
Martin O'Connell  
James Plaskitt  
Michael Rayns  
Anne Scrimshaw  
Gordon Vallins  
William Wilkinson

<sup>1</sup> Salaried <sup>2</sup> Contractor

# Upcoming shows

## GreenMatthews: **A Brief History of Christmas**



11 DEC 8PM

Acclaimed musicians Chris Green and Sophie Matthews (with special guest Jude Rees) present a festive romp through 600 years of Christmas music, songs and stories. A whistle-stop tour of the origins of our midwinter festivities, featuring long-forgotten songs and tales as well as some familiar and well-loved carols, is followed by a thrilling retelling of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* using spoken word, drama and music to bring this classic story to life in a riot of sound and colour.

The perfect show for anyone looking to recapture the simple Yuletide delights of fellowship, laughter and good cheer.

## Tell Tale: **The Austerity Games** by E.S. Cooper



13-14 JAN 7.30PM

Beleaguered Britain is recovering from the Blitz, austerity measures are in full force across the country and a heat wave is on the way. But old Martha Britt wants to bake a cake and there are no eggs to be found. To make matters worse it is the eve of the 1948 Olympic Games and she cannot abide sport. Can a visit from her late husband and the ghosts of games past, present and yet to come convince her to save the Olympic spirit and herself?

An Olympic comedy drama about love, loss and egg and spoon races set in 1940s Britain, combining physical storytelling, British wit and sporting history with a dash of Dickens.

## Loft Theatre Company: **All My Sons** by Arthur Miller



8-18 FEB 7.30PM

Arthur Miller's award-winning classic 20th-century drama is a thrilling and dramatic tale of corporate responsibility set against personal gain. Set just after the Second World War, it tells how Joe Keller puts money and profit above the lives of others, a course of action which has tragic consequences for him and his family.

This is a play of extraordinary power and emotional depth and, at times, is profoundly moving. Just as importantly, given the current political hiatus, it is as relevant today as it was in the late forties when it was written.

## From winter to spring...

7-17 December (a Loft Theatre Company production in the main house)

**Oliver!** by Lionel Bart  
The classic family musical

11 December (presented by GreenMatthews in the main house)

**A Brief History of Christmas**  
A festive romp through 600 years of Christmas music, songs and stories

13-14 January (presented by Tell Tale Productions in the main house)

**The Austerity Games**  
An uplifting story of post-war UK



8-18 February (a Loft Theatre Company production in the main house)

**All My Sons** by Arthur Miller  
A thrilling tale of corporate responsibility versus personal gain

11-18 March (a Loft Theatre Company production in the main house)

**Temple** by Steve Waters  
A riveting drama about the role of the church in the modern world

Book online [www.loft-theatre.co.uk](http://www.loft-theatre.co.uk)  
Book by phone 01926 800360

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