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Throughout our normal trading area delivery is, of course, free of charge. Our own team of delivery men will place your furniture where you want it and take care of final preparations.

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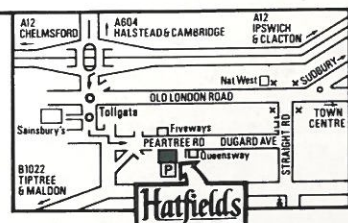
If you have not visited us before - we should advise you that the store is in Stanway on the western outskirts of Colchester. It is not easy to find so please make sure you bring this map with you. Better still, telephone and we will be pleased to send you precise directions and a more detailed map.

Do come and see us soon - we promise you won't be disappointed!

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18th-28th November 1987





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(Secretary)

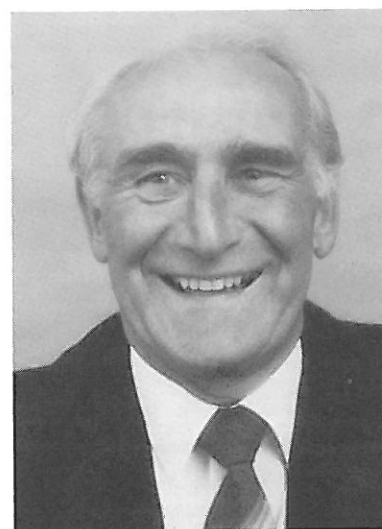
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## THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

May I offer my sincere congratulations to the Mercury Theatre for their part in the Jubilee celebrations for fifty years of theatre in Colchester. The Mercury Theatre today certainly makes an outstanding contribution to the cultural life of Colchester and district.

I am delighted to welcome the President of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association, Mrs. Kay Darbyshire, who will be in the audience on Saturday, 21st November.

My grateful thanks to the Directors of Hatfields for the financial support which they have given to Colchester Operatic Society.

Finally, my thanks to you, the audience, for loyally supporting us year after year. I look forward to seeing you at our future productions.

John Enfield  
Chairman

## THE STORY

"Oliver" is the musical adaptation of Dickens' famous novel "Oliver Twist", the story of a pauper boy and his various misfortunes and adventures in Dickens' London. The first Act opens in the Workhouse, ruled over by the cruel parish Beadle - Mr. Bumble, and the slightly less unpleasant Widow Corney. The starving Oliver enrages Bumble by his plea for more gruel, and it is decided to turn the boy over to the Sowerberry family, who, for the sum of five pounds, agree to apprentice Oliver into the family undertaking business.

Oliver very soon escapes from this unhappy situation, and is still on the run when he is discovered by the Artful Dodger, an impudent young pick-pocket who immediately introduces Oliver to the old Jew Fagin. Fagin runs a "thieves' academy", and is also associated with the brutal Bill Sikes and Sikes' girl Nancy. Fagin soon initiates Oliver into the routine of "picking a pocket or two", but, on his first expedition, Oliver is captured, and after a slight brush with the law, is delivered into the charge of Mr. Brownlow, a kindly gentleman of property, who sees in Oliver a resemblance to his lost daughter, Emily. With him and his housekeeper Oliver finds happiness and security which is shortlived. Sikes and Fagin suspect that Oliver might now expose them, and Sikes frightens Nancy into kidnapping the boy and returning him to the thieves' kitchen. Here Sikes threatens to beat Oliver but is frustrated by Nancy who thus brings his wrath upon herself. She runs to Mr. Brownlow and promises to bring Oliver to him on London Bridge that evening but she will still not betray Bill Sikes. Sikes discovers the plan, and follows Nancy to the Bridge, where he murders her and makes off with Oliver. A hue and cry is raised during which Sikes takes cover in Fagin's kitchen; he is pursued by his dog however, and his discovery leads to his death.

Oliver is rescued and returned to Mr. Brownlow, who now has evidence of Oliver's parentage and who is delighted to ensure a happy future for his grandson.

It is interesting to note that the conductor for the original production of "Oliver" in this country was Marcus Dods, who was also Musical Director of the Colchester Operatic Society for several years.



We invite you to join the

## SUPPORTERS GROUP

which continues to expand. Members of the Group have the right to book up to four seats for our Productions after the Society Members, but before the tickets are offered for sale to the general public.

We believe that our Supporters Group is ensuring that Colchester Operatic Society will enjoy the continued support of those people who have been our mainstay for many years, as well as that of the general public.

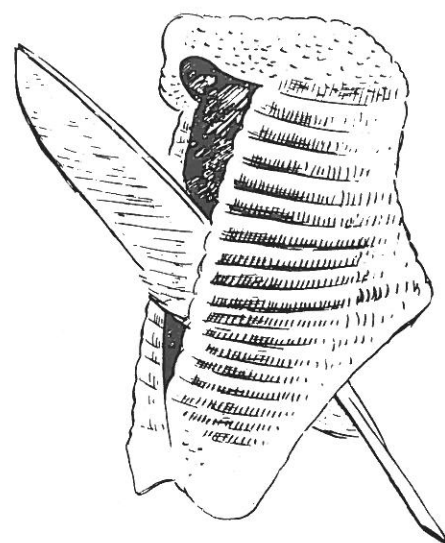
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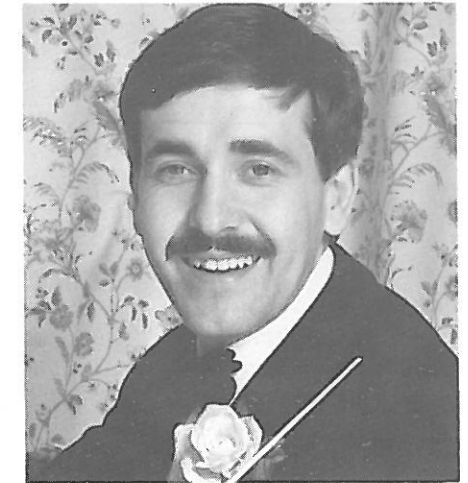


Telephone:  
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# OLIVER



RAY JEFFERY  
*Director*



ANDREW DENYER  
*Musical Director*

## PRODUCTION TEAM

*Entire Production by RAY JEFFERY*

## PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

*Director's Assistants - ANGELA RANKIN  
DEBBIE ANDREWS  
CLARE JOSEPH*

*Dialogue Coach - PHYLLIS DEEBLE  
Chorus Mistress - VAL MASSEY  
Accompanist - PETER HUMPHREY*

## PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

1925	Gondoliers	1950	The Desert Song	1969	Oklahoma
1926	Mikado	1951	The Student Prince	1970	Kiss Me Kate
1927	Princess Ida	1952	Harmony Hill	1971	Die Fledermaus
1929	Iolanthe	1953	Show Boat	1972	Mikado
1930	Yeoman of the Guard	1954	Brigadoon	1973	Robert and Elizabeth
1931	Trial by Jury and Pirates of Penzance Les Cloches de Corneville	1955	Pink Champagne	1974	Orpheus in the Underworld
1932	Quaker Girl	1956	Vagabond King	1975	The Merry Widow
1933	Mikado	1957	White Horse Inn	1976	My Fair Lady
1934	Gondoliers	1958	Summer Song	1977	The Great Waltz
1935	Merrie England	1959	The Merry Widow	1978	Fiddler on the Roof
1936	Duchess of Danzig	1960	Song of Norway	1979	The King & I
1937	Vagabond King	1961	Naughty Marietta	1980	Show Boat
1938	Country Girl	1962	The Dancing Years	1981	Hello Dolly
1946	Beggar's Opera	1963	Kismet	1982	Camelot
1947	Tom Jones	1964	The Most Happy Fella	1983	Half a Sixpence
1947	The Arcadians	1965	They Came to a City	1984	Brigadoon
1948	Waltz Dream	1965	The Student Prince	1985	Guys & Dolls
1949	New Moon	1966	Hay Fever	1985	Carousel
1950	The Wind and Rain	1966	La Belle Helene	1986	Pirates of Penzance
		1967	Carousel	1986	The Sound of Music
		1968	Count of Luxembourg	1987	South Pacific

# OLIVER

## CAST

Oliver Twist	....	....	....	....	....	Gavin Sadler/Richard Morgan
Fagin	....	....	....	....	....	Vic Edwards
The Artful Dodger		....	....	....	....	Chris Hoggarth/Stephen Pascoe
Bill Sikes	....	....	....	....	....	John Davies
Nancy	....	....	....	....	....	Val Massey
Bet	....	....	....	....	....	Sally Ann Grant
Mr. Bumble	....	....	....	....	....	Derek Collins
Mrs. Corney	....	....	....	....	....	Gill Plumtree
Mr. Brownlow	....	....	....	....	....	John Enfield
Mr. Sowerberry	....	....	....	....	....	Roger Dobson
Mrs. Sowerberry	....	....	....	....	....	Janet Collins
Charlotte	....	....	....	....	....	Rachel Frank
Noah Claypole	....	....	....	....	....	Nick Eagleton
Dr. Grimwig	....	....	....	....	....	John Rosewarne
Mrs. Bedwin	....	....	....	....	....	Brenda Green
Old Sally	....	....	....	....	....	Lin Curtis
Charley Bates	....	....	....	....	....	Jonathan Tully/Aaron Lissimore

## LONDONERS

Debbie Andrews	Mark Fincham	Richard Lear	Sue Ray
Chris Austin	Suki Fusi	Mark Leggett	John Russell
Chris Barrell	Debbie Gifford	Georgina Lingard	Amanda Rosoman
Liana Bridges	Sally Hammond	Derek Massey	Barbara Ryan
Sally Bristow	Beverley Humphreys	Nicola Massey	Nigel Smith
Tim Church	Gillian Humphreys	Sandra Moorhouse	Colin Thorne
Sharon Cook	Joanna Humphreys	Claire Nicholson	Caroline Wakelin
Andy Edwards	Adrian Johnson	Andrew Parker	Ian Waller
Caroline Edwards	Brian Keeble	Sarah Pawsey	Maureen Yeats

## WORKHOUSE BOYS & FAGIN'S GANG

Daniel Bailey	Jacob Curtis	Neil Jones	Simon Robinson
Ian Blanchette	Richard Curtis	Aaron Lissimore	James Snowling
Robert Bryan	Edward Daly	Paul Meehan	James Stack
Kevin Burchell	Jolyon Everitt	James Melvin	Spencer Stott
David Cornabé	Jonathan Fletcher	Paul Moreton	John Tagg
Steven Covington	Stephen Houghton	Oliver Pretty	Jonathan Tully
David Creswell	Frank Jennings	William Purkis	James Wall
Chris Curtis	Mark Jones	Mark Raynes	Matthew Woodhouse

## STAGE MANAGEMENT

For the Mercury Theatre:	Chris Snow, Jim Bowman (Chief Electrician), Richard Gwyn Williams (Lighting Design), Andy Shaw, Jonathan Barden, Wendy Fitt, Lucy Nightingale, Simon Wood.
For Colchester Operatic Society:	David Sage, John Andrews, Bob Bristow, David King, Bernard Polley, Mike Spurgeon, Graham Thompson.
Prompt:	Marion Spurgeon, Emma Spurgeon.
Props:	Beryl Balls, Karen Balls, June Harris, Sue Joyce.
Make-up Team:	Peter Smith, Ann Dye, Penny Dye, Hilary Eagleton, Sue Nicholson, Margaret Norfolk, Sue Ray.
Wardrobe:	Mary Fletcher, Margaret Pedder, B. Sewell, Audrey Shardlow.
Costumes:	Theatrical House, Westcliff-on-Sea.
Scenery:	Chelmsford Operatic Society.

Please Note: Taking photographs during the performance is not permitted.

## ACT ONE

Period – About 1850

- Scene 1 – The Workhouse – early evening  
Scene 2 – Widow Corney's Parlour  
Scene 3 – The Streets of London  
Scene 4 – At the Undertakers  
Scene 5 – The Undertakers – next morning  
Scene 6 – Paddington Green, morning a week later  
Scene 7 – The Thieves' Kitchen – later  
Scene 8 – The "Three Cripples" at Clerkenwell  
Scene 9 – Back in the Thieves' Kitchen as dawn breaks  
Scene 10 – Outside the Bookshop

## ACT TWO

- Scene 1 – The "Three Cripples" – the following evening  
Scene 2 – The Brownlow's – two weeks later  
Scene 3 – A street nearby  
Scene 4 – The Thieves' Kitchen – later  
Scene 5 – The Workhouse – a few days later  
Scene 6 – The Street again  
Scene 7 – The Brownlow's house  
Scene 8 – London Bridge, at midnight

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society expresses grateful thanks to all who have contributed, and in particular:—

The Society's Non-Playing Members for their loyal support in Publicity, Programme Sales and essential duties.  
Mick Hemstedt for programme cover  
The Arena Sports and Leisure Club for rehearsal facilities  
Stephen Goody for props.  
Staff and Management of the Mercury Theatre  
Gill Edwards for care of the children  
Peter Nason and Douglas Studios for Photography  
Sir Antony Buck, Q.C., M.P., for photo location

## FUTURE PRODUCTIONS

### THE DESERT SONG

at the MERCURY THEATRE, 19th - 30th May, 1988

and

### WEST SIDE STORY

by 

in September, 1988

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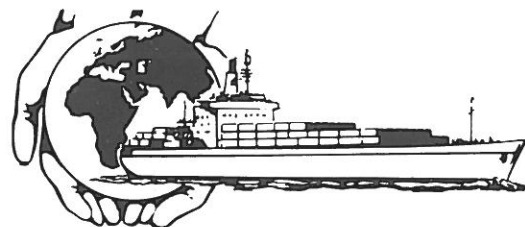
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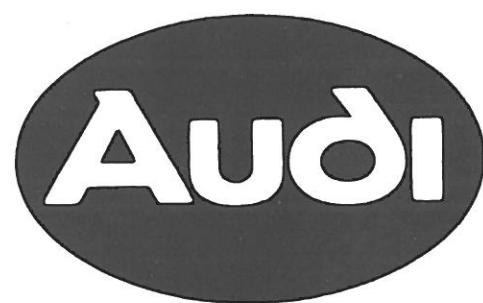


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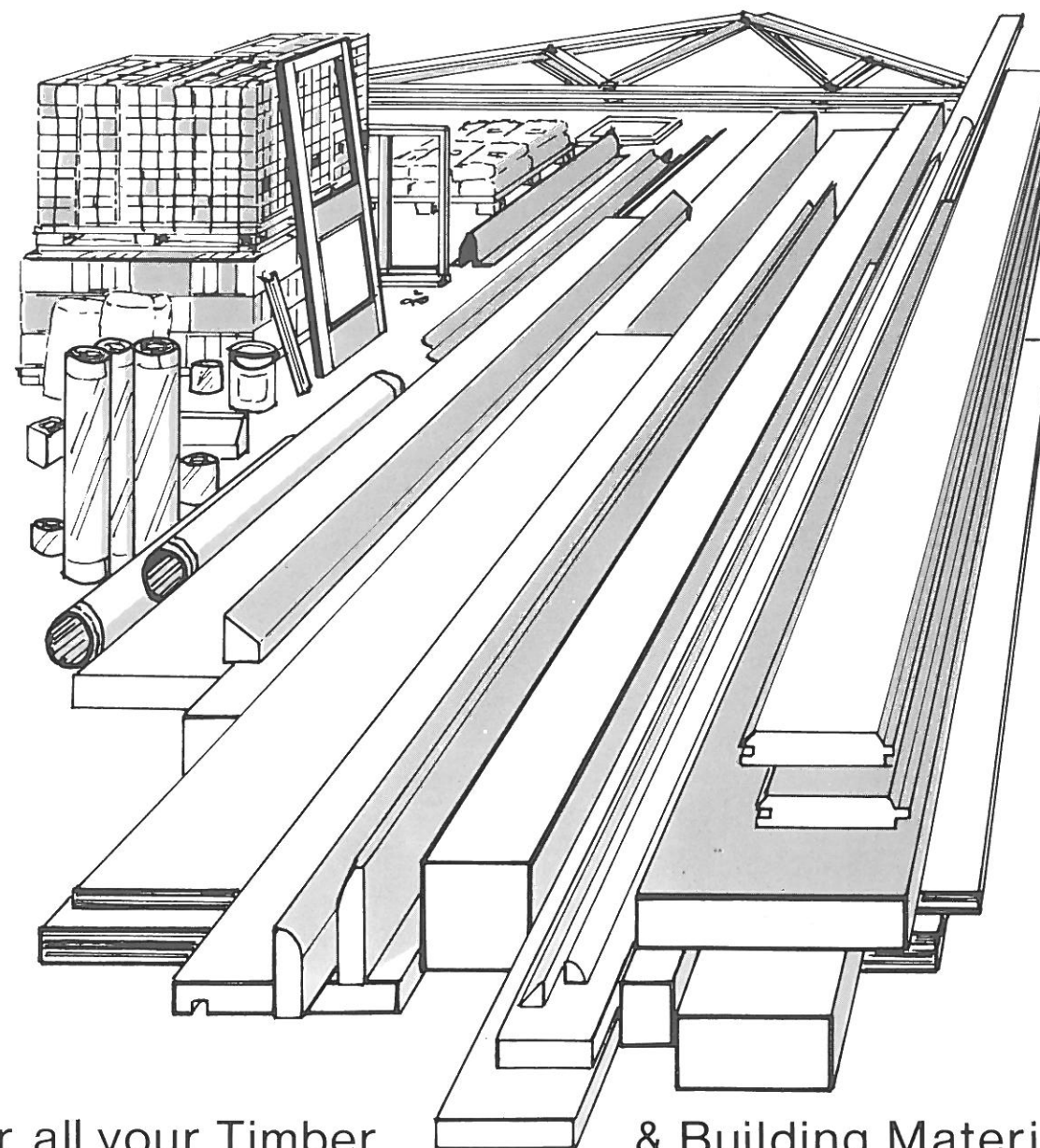
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