

# CURTAIN UP

Winter 2025

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# Welcome



Well, it's nearly Christmas and the panto season is well and truly upon us... oh yes it is! Pantomime is often the first experience young children have of live theatre and it's wonderful that on the amateur circuit, and especially in London, there are some superb productions that take place throughout December and January. Please use our What's On section at the end of this magazine to choose which ones you will support – you know it will be a fun experience.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful festive season and look forward to receiving more news and stories from within the NODA London Region. Please email me at [jacque.stedman@noda.org.uk](mailto:jacque.stedman@noda.org.uk)

**Jacquie Stedman – Editor**



As I look back over 2024 at the productions that I have seen and read about, I can honestly say, hand on heart, that the London Region groups have, once again, excelled in choice and quality of productions. I continue to be amazed at what can be achieved, sometimes in very small venues, and the creativity of those members taking on backstage and technical roles. Theatre really is a collaboration of ideas, expertise and talent and without all three it couldn't happen.

Thank you for the enjoyment you have given audiences and the opportunities you have given your members; may it continue into 2025 with renewed energy and enthusiasm!!

Have a wonderful time over the holiday season, see you in 2025!

**Pam Armstrong**  
**Regional Councillor – NODA London**  
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**Don't forget!**

Deadline for articles for inclusion in the Spring 2025 edition of Curtain Up! is 11th April 2025



**Matt Bentley**  
District 1

Wow, these updates come around quickly. Three months since the last one and District 1 has seen six shows, all within the last 8 weeks. It's been a very busy joy, but what has really been thrilling is the level of risk the societies have been taking to brighten up our autumnal evenings.

Sedos was a front runner in that regard with back-to-back weeks of some excellent plays with heavier subject matter than your usual fare. Neil Labute's *Autobahn* is a classic series of short plays set in the front seat of a car, which made for both a literal and figurative series of journeys. This was followed up by [BLANK] (not a typo), which is

a fascinating dive into women navigating the UK justice and social care system. It takes the form of 100 short plays, and the director can choose the amount and the order of them. Some really excellent stuff.

Next up was *Sherlock Holmes and the Curious Case of Miss Faulkner* from Southside Players. This script is an absolute find – it was based on an initial draft by Arthur Conan Doyle, and is now old enough to be royalty-free. Southside did a great job with it and managed to sell out their entire season as a bonus.

Following along the murder mystery path was *New Stagers* with an excellent production of

*The Real Inspector Hound*. This is one of my favourite scripts and never fails to delight. Speaking of which, Geoids' production of *Into the Woods* took a tried and true classic, and populated it with a fantastic cast. Most recently was Centre Stage's production of *bare* – another riskier choice, but one that absolutely paid off with very full audiences and fantastic reactions.

The year still has plenty to go with *The Colour Purple* yet to open at the time of writing, and plenty of pantos and other Christmas fare on the horizon. Plus some very exciting season announcements have popped up in recent weeks.



**Position Vacant - currently covered by Thomas Lennon**  
District 3

In the absence of a Regional Rep in District 03 I have also been doing some deputising in West London and performances there have included;

HLO Musical Company  
*EVITA*

Zodiac Musicals Society *Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*

TOPS Musical Theatre Company  
*OKLAHOMA!*

Carlton Theatre Group  
*BLUE STOCKINGS*  
BROS Theatre Company  
*SOHO CINDERS*

Wimbledon Light Opera Society  
*THE GRINNING MAN*

St Faith's Players  
*ALADDIN*

Worcester Park Dramatic Society  
*SLEEPING BEAUTY*

I'm sure you will agree, quite a cross section of offerings in this latter half of the year and I trust all had successful runs with their respective productions.



**Robin Kelly**  
District 4

Latest news from Bromley is that the future of the Churchill Theatre has been secured after months of uncertainty. However we wait for final confirmation of signatures on contracts. As expected, WWOS filled the Churchill Theatre for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – just as well given the sky high production costs. Dartford Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society managed to produce a major musical at the Orchard Theatre West with Legally Blonde and are keeping their fingers crossed that the main Orchard Theatre will reopen next year in time for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Bromley Players mounted an imaginative production of The Wedding Singer at the Bob Hope Theatre, again featuring a relaxed performance which

welcomed Pam Armstrong, as well as a signed performance. Eldorado Musical Productions continued their centenary celebrations with Musical Memories, which showcased songs from shows performed over the past 100 years and also welcomed Pam.

As Curtain Up! goes to press, Bob Hope Theatre themselves are about to present It's A Wonderful Life which appears to be selling well. The John Roan Theatre Company once again used BHT facilities for Treasure Island which included some interesting gender-blind casting. The Priory Players gave three well-attended performances of the murder mystery play Curiosity Killed The Caretaker produced with just as much



care as any other production. Erith Playhouse entertained with productions of Blackadder the Third and Hi-De-Hi! which were both well attended. Standards at Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre remain high and I was really disappointed not to be able to see the enormously ambitious Angels in America Parts I & II which received rave reviews.



**Des Wilby**  
District 5

In June I officially took over responsibilities for District 5 and have been fortunate to visit nearly all societies at this time. My initial reaction has been most positive having enjoyed some excellent productions and witnessed much enthusiasm by all groups. My first outing was to Parish Players who staged a very funny production of 'When We Are Married' followed by WODS who delighted with 'The Wizard of Oz'. I was then fortunate enough to enjoy two excellent outdoor

Shakespeare productions with both being on sunny afternoons. Mayhem's 'Much Ado about Nothing' and CODA's 'Twelfth Night' were each of very high standard indeed. A visit with Edge Hill Players followed for their terrific production of 'Kiss Me Kate' followed by a return to WODS for their murder-mystery 'Much Ado about Murder'. In October I visited with Magdelaine Players who, as new members of District 5, truly impressed with a quite outstanding production of

Chekhov's 'The Seagull'. This was followed by a return visit to Mayhem for their superb production of 'Rock of Ages' – a special note here regarding the relaxed performance on Saturday matinee. With pantomime season fast approaching my focus shall be on these in the coming months. Thank you for the warm welcome to District 5 and I look forward to a positive relationship as your NODA representative.



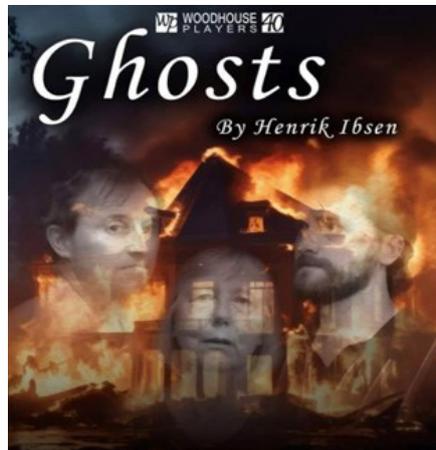
**Paul Daynes**  
District 6

Since the summer, District 6 has seen a range of plays and musicals as well as a Modern Music Hall. Well known standards have mixed with lesser seen productions as works by Ibsen, Alan Bennett, L. Frank Baum have all graced the various stages.

There were mixed emotions as WP Drama staged their very last production, *The Dresser* at the Redbridge Drama Centre. WP Drama/Wanstead Players celebrated their 100-year centenary earlier but decided then to call it a day. This has been a company with a fine tradition of performing outstanding and adventurous plays in and around Redbridge. *The Dresser* was a showpiece to bow out on with extraordinary performances from the cast and especially Phil Clarke and Billy Knowles as Sir and Norman respectively.



Theydon Bois Drama Society performed Alan Bennett's *Habeas Corpus* to much laughter. They cleverly scaled down some of the more dated elements, but still leaving Bennett's brilliant observations to shine through.



The Woodhouse Players gave two productions this autumn, firstly with Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts* and then John Cariani's *Almost, Maine*. Ibsen is a brilliant storyteller, but seldom brought to the amateur stage. Woodhouse Players' exploration of this play's challenging topics was very well portrayed and provided fascinating insights of the issues in the story. *Almost, Maine* was a delightful piece comprising of nine short scenes, each showing a different aspect of love. Most were two handers and provided great characters for the total cast of eighteen.

The final play of the season was Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society's (LADS) *The Suspicions of Mr Whicher* which tells the true story of Victorian child murderer, Constance Kent. The imaginative design captured the story's drama, bringing to the forefront

lighting, sound, set design and wardrobe. A splendid cast held the audience's attention with the why did she do it? rather than the more ordinary, who did it?

CADOS concluded a year's celebration of the centenary of their venue Mornington Hall in Chingford, with a Mornington Modern Musical Hall variety show. They brought songs from each of the ten decades and with superb singers, provided a captivating evening's entertainment.

Forest Musical Theatre Company used a new venue to stage *Little Shop of Horrors*. Their usual venue, The Kenneth More Theatre in Ilford, has been discovered to have RAAC concrete in its auditorium and has therefore had to close for the coming months. The move was a great success however with packed houses. The cast, band and back stage crew delivered to a very high quality bringing a performance that blurred the line between professional and amateur theatre.



Loughton Operatic Society celebrated their 130 years with a trip to the land of Oz. This very colourful and creative

production sold out Lopping Hall for five performances and had the audiences clapping along to all the well-known songs. With bags of energy, wonderful choreography and outstanding costumes this was a show of high production values. Dorothy's dog Toto, played by Angus and trained by Kyla Macdonald became the much-loved star of the show, somewhat upstaging the outstanding Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion.

Iford Operatic and Dramatic Society (IODS) brought Soho



Cinders to the Redbridge Drama Centre in November. This gem of a musical, based loosely on the Cinderella story, is about love, both platonic and romantic. It's a surprise that its not more

regularly performed but IODS gave Soho Cinders a great outing. It has fantastic songs and a great script from the writers of Honk, Betty Blue Eyes and Mary Poppins and the IODS cast gave incredible performances which received enthusiastic ovations.

So now we move into Panto season with mainly favourites planned. As for Autumn, well That's behind you!



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# Panto Scripts



Whether you are looking for something traditional like *Jack and the Beanstalk* or *Cinderella*, or something a bit different like *The King's New Clothes* or *Sherlock Holmes* there is something for every group

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**Thomas Lennon**  
District 7

I can't believe we are rapidly approaching Christmas 2024.

The arrival of the dark evenings heralded the start of the second half of the 2024-2025 performance season and boy, what an impressive number of shows!

Performances within our District have included;  
Garden Suburb Theatre's  
WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY?

The Warren  
MURDER AMONGST FRIENDS

ELODS  
SISTER ACT

Mill Hill Musical Theatre  
Company  
CALENDAR GIRLS - The Musical

Garden Suburb Theatre  
HOLDING THE MAN

Orsi Productions  
SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN  
ELVES

To top it all off, I also had the honour of being invited for a second year to deputise in District 02 for my colleague Mike Smith for his own society, British Airways Cabin Crew Entertainment Society at their production of JACK AND THE BEANSTALK.

I would therefore like to express my sincere appreciation to all the individual societies who have hosted me on a visit during the season. It has been my pleasure to network with all your respective memberships at each performance I attended.

Following our recent NODA Rebrand I hope you have all taken an opportunity to explore our new look website and browse the updated platform with the many new features available to you, our NODA affiliated members. If not, please do make some time to do so at your earliest convenience. I would particularly urge you all to familiarise

yourselves with the new NODA introduction for inclusion in your production programmes and the related branding to ensure you are utilising the new rebranded versions ahead of the introduction of the new criteria.

As always, a reminder that if you haven't already requested an attendance for your next society production, please do so at the earliest possible opportunity. The earlier the better! Please be aware that I also welcome invitations to other functions, such as your AGM, general celebratory events or workshops.

Finally, sending the very best of Seasons Greetings to you all for Christmas 2024 and a very Happy New Year for 2025.

In the meantime, if anyone has any concerns or queries, please do contact me at your convenience at the usual e-mail address - [thomas.lennon@noda.org.uk](mailto:thomas.lennon@noda.org.uk).



**Carole Baynes**  
District 8 & 9

Companies in District 8 & 9 are back in business after the Summer break – some in performance, some in rehearsal and some in the preparation stages.

District 8 has been particularly busy. This year Proscenium

has been performing for 100 years – some 350 plays. Their third performance this year was Hugh Whitmore's "Pack of Lies" which went down well with their audiences.

Early in October Ruislip Operatic Society presented a most

enjoyable "Bonnie & Clyde The Musical" and despite its grim storyline – it is in fact a most entertaining show. They will soon be preparing for their Spring production "9 to 5" – another film adaptation.

A few weeks ago Harefield

Dramatic Society (HADS) performed "The Ghost Train" to packed houses. This production had so many wonderful period touches, a superb sound plot and a clever book well presented. Such an enjoyable nostalgic piece that was greatly appreciated by their loyal audience.

Ruislip Dramatic Society (RDS) performed "It Runs in the Family" last week – a very familiar farce with amateur groups that kept the audience laughing all night. Rickmansworth Players (an amalgamation of the adult, youth and juniors) put on an amazing production of the Disney classic "The Little Mermaid – the Musical". This production was outstanding in every way – the calibre of performances, the spectacle, the costumes everything was absolutely fantastic. Amateur theatre just keeps getting better. Rickmansworth Players describe themselves as a vibrant and exciting society, which I must say I agree with. This year they are 80 years in business and they are celebrating this with a special "Christmas Gift 80" Concert" of festive goodies involving the whole team – Rickmansworth Players Operatic, Dramatic, Youth, Juniors, their Choir, Acafellas – Barbershop group, a recorder group – "We will Baroque You". This concert takes place on 6th December at Christ Church Chorleywood.

District 8 has two pantomimes in performance this season, unfortunately playing the same week in January 16 – 18th. Argosy Players will be telling the tale of "Sleeping Beauty at Winston Churchill Theatre and

Arrow Players will delight with "The Woman Who Lives in a Shoe" at St Edmunds Church Hall, Northwood. Hopefully this will not affect their audience numbers – but it will mean they cannot support each other's productions.

District 9 companies have been a little less active perhaps. In September Pump House Theatre Company performed "The Girl on the Train" a play adapted from Paula Hawkins' novel of the same name. Like the book, events are described in a rather random order with many short scenes and therefore very demanding of the stage crew and the director's ingenuity. This is a good story well told here so went down well with the audiences. This busy group was on again in mid November with Alan Bennett's rather elegiac comedy "People". Not one of his most popular plays but most entertaining and thought provoking.

WOS Productions were in performance early in November with a delightful production of the family musical "The Wind in the Willows the Musical" brilliantly costumed with many good musical numbers well performed and enthusiastically received by the audience. They plan to follow this with another Music Hall production as this genre was so well received last year.

Following their successful run of "Allo. 'Allo" in July The Chameleons ADS are in rehearsal for their pantomime which will be performed in December. "Cinderella" is their choice this year. This was the

first show I saw The Chameleons do, several years ago now. I wait with interest to see their new version of this classic panto, which will be on stage on 13-15th December at the Church of the Ascension in Wembley.

Also in December I will be seeing East Lane Theatre Club perform Brian Clemens & Dennis Spooner's "A Sting in the Tale" a mystery spoof at their home – East Lane Theatre. This may possibly be one of the final performances there. The company is hopeful that they can come to some agreement with Brent Council to remain in the theatre. However they have been given notice to quit unless they can find £75,000 pa rent. At present the company are challenging the legality of this enormous, prohibitive rent increase for the property they have occupied for many years, helped by chartered surveyors and their local MPs. We wish them every success in their endeavours.

Finally KLOS Musical Theatre have finally cast and are in rehearsal for "Annie The Musical" which will be on stage next February 11th -15th at Winston Churchill Theatre.



**Iain Fowles**  
District 10

After my recent enforced withdrawal from everything Am Dram, it's great to be back. Health wise, I'm improving every day and hoping that the future is much brighter. I must pass on my thanks to Jacquie and Pam for covering shows in my absence.

I have seen some wonderful productions recently, some highlights include:

**Belmont Theatre**

A funny and well-conceived production of *The 39 Steps* – fast action and some great performances.

**Green Room**

A very well thought out and produced production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. This is not an easy production to stage and Green Room used

very clever staging to transport us around Wonker's factory – the highlights for me were the wonderful *Oompa Loompas!*

**Centralian Players**

A presentation of a in-house written play – *Backstage Murder*. This was a homage to all things am dram and the things that frequently go wrong.

**Radlett Musical Theatre Company**

Radlett continued with their production of *Footloose* – full of lively action and dance sequences, and some great acting.

**Hemel Hempstead Theatre Company**

My own company have been busy with our presentation of *Much Ado About Nothing* – the traditional Shakespeare

dialogue but updated to take place just after World War 1. We're now in rehearsal for our annual pantomime. We celebrate our centenary next year and have some great productions for this milestone year.

I looking forward to seeing a number of productions in the coming weeks – *Abbotts Langley's 'Last Tango in Whitby'*, *Potters Bar's 'Nativity'* and *Kings Langley's pantomime*.

It just leaves me to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If there is anything that I can help with, please do get in touch [iain.fowles@noda.org.uk](mailto:iain.fowles@noda.org.uk)

Look forward to seeing you all in 2025!



**Judith Watsham**  
District 11 & 11a

First of all I would like to welcome Berkhamsted Youth Theatre to the NODA Family and I will be delighted to visit them soon for their production of *101 Dalmations*.

I have visited several of the groups in Districts 11 and 11A this Autumn, as well as covering for some shows in Districts 10 and 12, and I am constantly delighted by the wide range of shows which are chosen. Apart

from an outstanding modern dress version of *Romeo and Juliet* from Tring Youth Theatre Project I have seen a variety of excellent musicals and dramas with some brilliant and very inventive contributions from the heroes working backstage and on the production team. Their talents, allied with some really brilliant performances from you all, pleased your audiences – I often eavesdrop on comments from the latter! There was also

an evening from Chesham Musical Theatre Company for which a Report was not required as the show was a home-grown miscellany which featured members who did not usually get the parts in full blown productions. All I can say to all of you is that you need to keep auditioning as there was a lot of talent on display.

So it is Panto Season again – oh yes it is – and I have several on

my list. I would like to wish you all the very best of luck and I am looking forward to visiting you. If you haven't yet invited me and would like a report!

I have also visited Beaconsfield to see BMOS's amazing production of Disney's Beauty and the Beast. I can really

recommend this musical to any group looking for a Christmas show which is NOT a pantomime. Too late for this year but London groups might like to consider it for next season.

Finally I would just like to mention that our new National President is always pleased

to receive invitations to visit NODA Members and enjoy their performances. However, Graham Liverton does like to plan his tours of the UK so as much advance notice as you can give him is always appreciated.



**Andrew Walter**  
District 12

You wait for ages for an 80th anniversary event, then two come along in the same year. In the last edition of "Curtain Up" I described the reception held to celebrate 80 years of the Thame Players, and in September it was my pleasure to join the Banbury Cross Players as they marked a similar milestone by showcasing extracts from the plays they plan to stage in the coming season, beginning with a much-delayed production of "Our Country's Good" in November. A lot of effort had gone into this event, as most of the extracts had been cast and rehearsed in isolation – the actors I saw won't necessarily be cast in the actual productions. The event proved to be an excellent showcase of the talent that the Banbury Cross Players are able to call upon, as well as an effective advertisement for new members and future audiences.

The season launch had to be held in a local sports centre as The Mill Arts Centre wasn't quite ready following the flood damage sustained last winter. They weren't the only Banbury-based Society taking their show on the road, as Banbury Operatic Society gave their concert performance of "Kings

and Queens" a brief run at The Wykham Theatre before taking it to their twinned Society in Hennef in Germany. I hope to be able to share more details of this in a future edition of "Curtain Up" or "NODA Today".

Now the Christmas adverts are filling the commercial breaks on the television, a lot of local societies' thoughts are turning to their annual pantomimes. Thame Players start the season with "Treasure Island", playing from 6th to 15th December: I hope you already have your tickets as I am told that it has almost sold out. I've not seen a Thame Players pantomime before, but I hope it will be as good as the traditional offerings from The Sinodun Players in Wallingford and Faringdon Dramatic Society; The Sinodun Players will be staging "Dick Whittington" between 17th January and 1st February, while Faringdon Dramatic Society are putting on "Cinderella" between 24th January and 1st February. The District's newest NODA members, The Uffington Players, have often staged pantomimes in recent years but have yet to publish production details for 2025.

Even societies with no tradition in pantomime are getting into the seasonal spirit this year. Odyssey Theatrical Productions were certainly planning to stage "White Christmas" but it's not yet being widely advertised, Avocet Theatre Company are staging "Nativity The Musical" on 5th-7th December, and Oxford Operatic Society will be returning to the New Theatre to present "Cinderella" on 14th-18th January. But don't be fooled: this is the musical version by Rodgers and Hammerstein, so you probably won't be required to yell "He's behind you!" during the course of the performance.

Any local children who miss out on the local pantomimes may be interested in Abingdon Operatic Society's presentation of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" in April; by way of contrast, the Musical Youth Company of Oxford will be bringing "Everyone's Talking About Jamie" to the Oxford Playhouse in the same month. Meanwhile, fans of plays need to hurry over to Eynsham to catch Alan Ayckbourn's "Absent Friends" at the end of November.



**Cate Naylor**  
District 13

After a quiet start, the autumn season in District 13 has been very busy and I've seen so many good productions with a delightful mix of plays and musicals. It is lovely to get to know the societies in the District and I am always made to feel so welcome. I continue to be impressed by both by the quality of performances and the sheer joy that people feel when they perform together on stage.

I began the season travelling out of District to cover for Andrew Walter (District 12) and had the pleasure of watching 'The Last Five Years' a two-hander performed by Sinodun Players. This one-act play explored a five-year relationship featuring a sung narrative and using a novel form of storytelling which told the wife's story in reverse order and the husband's in true chronological order with them only meeting in the middle at their marriage. This was a powerful production with the actors showing a huge range of emotions.

October brought with it a very busy month with a great mixture of musical and plays. I began the month with 'The Addams Family' performed by NOMADS in Newbury. The cast brought this iconic spooktacular production to life with some excellent singing and strong characterful performances. I followed this with 'Entertaining Angels' an intriguing and bitter-sweet play performed by Twyford

Drama. Full of deception, and complex relationships, this was a challenging play, with recriminations, anger and hurt all brilliantly delivered by a very strong cast. Next, I was in Henley for 'Twelfth Night' one of Shakespeare's best loved comedies performed by Henley Players. Twelfth Night is a complicated, multi-layered play complete with disguise, deception and the madness of love which this talented cast delivered brilliantly. Then with a complete change of genre and style, I then joined Starmaker, one of District 13's youth groups for an exciting and energetic production of 'Fame the Musical'. With lots of musical numbers, the group threw themselves wholeheartedly into the show and were clearly having a lot of fun in the process. What I love about our youth groups is that everyone is given the chance to sing, whether it be a solo or in a small group, giving the young people the confidence to develop their musical theatre skills for the future.

The end of October brought two more plays and a musical. First up was 'Rules for Living' by Wargrave Theatre which saw a very dysfunctional family stagger through their preparations for Christmas and explores the premise that everyone has their own rules for coping with difficult situations. All the cast were brilliant and kept the pace and physicality going for the entire play. This was

followed by the musical 'Rock of Ages' by Reading Operatic Society and it certainly took me back to the era of glam rock with a live band on stage and some great rocking numbers. The following day, I went to a theatre supper by Mortimer Dramatic Society and saw their production of 'Spygame'. In between courses, the talented cast took us through many twists and turns before leading us to a very final and somewhat unexpected twist in the tail right at the end. I also had the honour of presenting the NODA Flame for District 13 to member Jean Chapman for her many years of service to two amateur dramatic societies in Mortimer and Aldermaston.

Into November and I had the enjoyment of watching The Sainsbury Singers' production of Dolly Parton's musical '9 to 5' complete with some riotous musical numbers, delightful ballads and vibrant choreography. It was a great production which certainly showcased the talent within the society. I am looking forward to three more productions in November and to December and the start of panto season. District 13 continues to be very active in theatrical productions and I am really lucky to be able to enjoy so many of them, thank you!



**Nick Humby**  
District 14



### Recent Productions

A relatively quiet few months in District 14 although I will have seen 11 of the district's 14 societies in the seven months to February 2025, only Colnbrook Amateur Stage, Maidenhead Drama Guild and Slough Windsor Maidenhead Theatre Company will not have performed.

The competition for the District musical awards will be strong this year.

Spring Awakening from EBOS at their Pinewood Theatre was a bold choice for an amateur society requiring great care in rehearsal and performance given its exploration of adolescent confusion over, and exploration of, sexuality and identity and the tensions that arise with the authority figures in their lives.

For one night only at the Wilde Theatre Music of the Night from CMP provided a great tribute to the work of Andrew Lloyd Webber with six children who stole the show with the wonderful versions of "No matter what" from Whistle

down the wind, "Stick it to the man" from School of Rock.

Sister Act from Shinfield Players at their own venue with a large cast of twenty-nine created an impressive Nun's chorus for the show stopping numbers.

The Adams Family from MOS at the Norden Farm in Maidenhead contained performers who fitted so well the physical look and gelled together as a family unit to make the most of the comic opportunities of the situation. EBOS returned to the Wilde with Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour coat for which the Director had a clear idea of how to present this tale. There was a wonderful unity of vision with the staging, lighting and choreography to create a very good looking and exceptionally well sung version of the show.

MMCS staged Annie at The Kenton Theatre with a marvellous Annie in her first leading role, ten wonderful orphans and a cute dog stole every scene they were in.

Witches of Eastwick from MAOS

completed my musical visits. My first experience of what happens when the Devil comes to town. I was delighted to see a play for a change with Safari Party at Shinfield Players Theatre by Tim Firth, the dinner party set in three different homes.

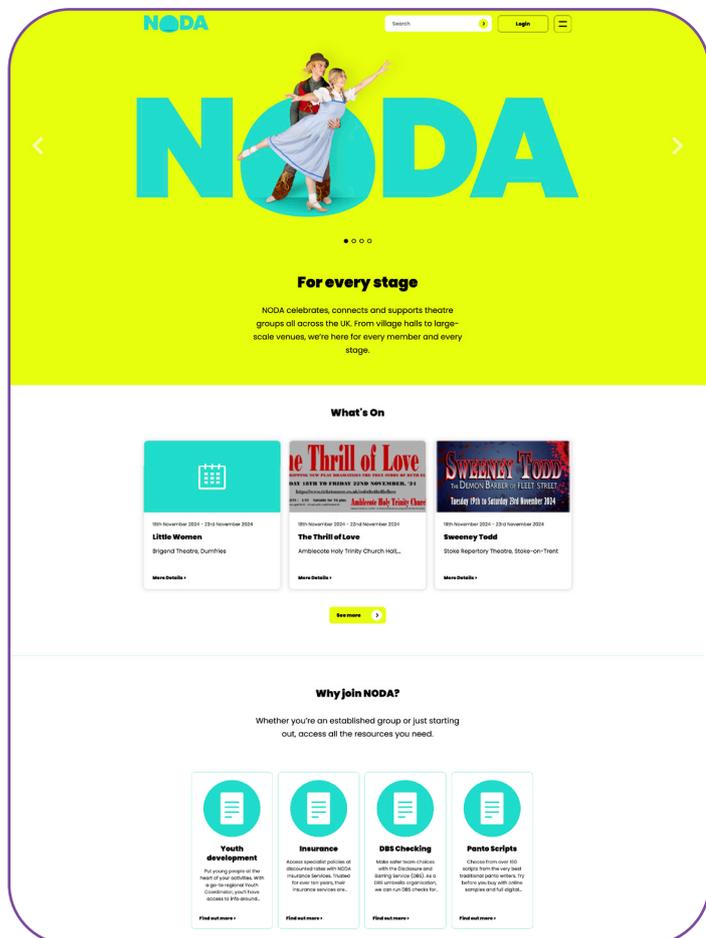
### Coming up

The Pantomime season starts!

A good mix of titles with Cinderella from Crowthorne Amateur Theatre, Beauty and the Beast Riverside Players in Windsor, Goldilocks and the Three Bears from Quince players at Cordes Hall in Sunningdale, Sleeping Beauty from Shinfield Players and Wizard of Oz from Wraysbury Players. A Christmas Story from Spotlight Musical Theatre Group completes the Christmas shows.

As Regional Representative for District 14 I am delighted to welcome Datchet Players to NODA.

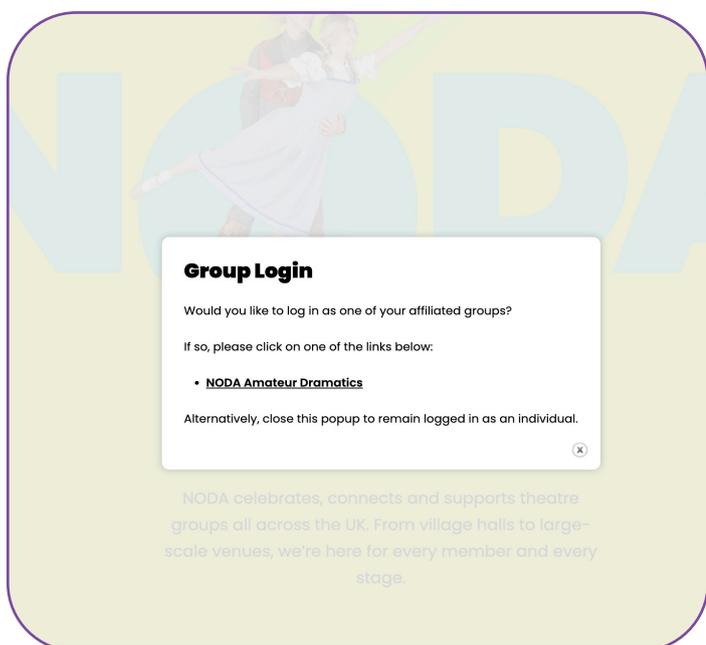
# Getting around the new NODA website



The new NODA website launched in September this year, and we have been listening to feedback and made some tweaks along the way.

The website has been built to allow different types of users to find all the information they need. From current members accessing online resources, to potential new members finding out about NODA membership, to potential audience members to your productions and to potential new recruits to your groups.

You can access the online edition of NODA Today, see all the upcoming shows in your area and read show reports from your latest productions.



By creating an online login (or logging in if you already have an account with us), you will have access to more information.

When you have logged into the NODA website, if you are already linked to your group's account, you will get a prompt onscreen to log in as your group.

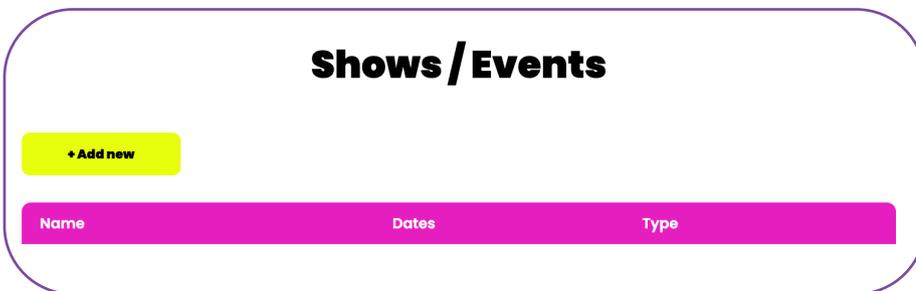
If you are wanting to access any of our member benefits, online resources or membership renewals, then click on your group name.

If you are wanting to update your own details, book onto an event, like the NODA Theatre Summer School or our National Celebration and AGM Weekend, then just click the little **x** in the bottom corner.

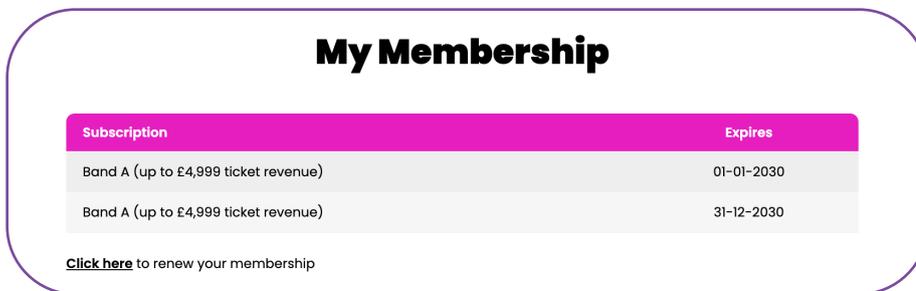


Once logged in as your group, you can click the two lines in the top right hand corner to access **My NODA**. From there you can access all of our online resources (formally known as factsheets), your groups orders, shows and events and membership information.

More in depth information can be found here for DBS checks, ordering Long Service Awards and accessing the Theatrical Services Directory.



When you are logged in as your group, from the menu, simply click **Shows/Events** to add your groups next show, event or audition to the NODA website. You can add images, box office links and event information.



In March next year, to renew your group’s membership online, from the menu, simply click **My Membership** and then **Click here to renew**. You will receive an invoice for your records and you can still renew this way if you pay by cheque or BACS!

## Updating group’s contact details

Whether you are new to the role or having a reshuffle, the best way to update your group’s contact details with NODA is:

1. Create an online account on our website. When you complete the form, you will receive an email with a link – click that link. We cannot do anything with the account until you do.
2. Email [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk) – in your email let us know who you are and your group name as well as the role you are taking over. We will then remove the previous person, if there is someone listed, and add you. We currently limit the groups to 4 online logins – chair, secretary, treasurer and a ‘webmaster’ (this is for someone like the safeguarding officer or health and safety to access resources).
3. That is it! After that you will be able to access all of the members’ content on the website.

## From the Abbey Ruins to Reading Gaol

Irony or life goes on? Watching The Importance of Being Earnest in sight of Reading Gaol

Progress Theatre, Reading, 17-27 July 2024

In July of this year, I had the pleasure of watching an open-air production of my favourite Oscar Wilde play 'The Importance of Being Earnest' being performed in the Reading Abbey Ruins. Although written in 1894, and satirising the conventions and manners of Victorian Britain, the humour is timeless and loved by so many. It was a joy to sit in the wonderful Abbey ruins and to absorb myself in Oscar Wilde's clever writing.

Oscar Wilde is mainly remembered for his comical plays and clever wit and in 1894, he was the talk of the town, having two of his plays open in London to critical acclaim. These were 'An Ideal Husband' in January and 'The Importance of Being Earnest' in February. However, by 1895, and after a public 'celebrity' trial he became famous for very different reasons. In Victorian England,

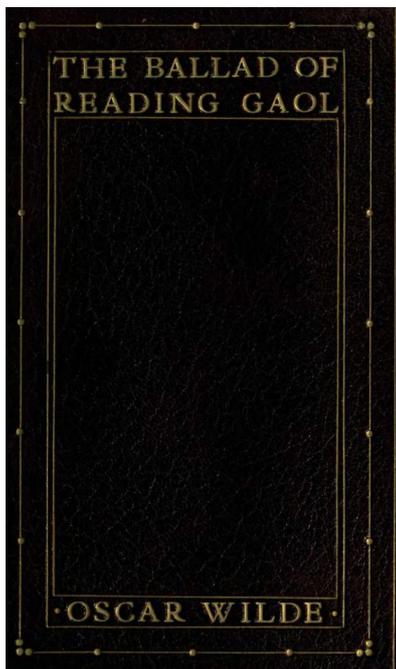
being a gay man was illegal, and carried a prison sentence of two years hard labour. Wilde was imprisoned in Reading Gaol for those two years and following his release wrote 'The Ballad of Reading Gaol'. The ballad is an emotional story of his time spent there and explores the dark nature of the British prison system. Oscar

Wilde never returned to England following his release from prison in 1897 and died three years later.

As the Executive Producer of Progress Theatre's production of

The Importance of Being Earnest mentioned in his welcome: "The history of Oscar Wilde's time in Reading is relentlessly grim, which makes it a little macabre that we as a town commemorate his time spent incarcerated in Reading Prison for 'gross indecency'" Certainly, for me, watching this wonderful play in sight of the place in which he was imprisoned had a certain poignancy.

**Cate Naylor**  
NODA London District 13  
representative



## New Era Players – a new society in District 13

I am excited to welcome New Era Players to District 13. New Era Players who perform in their own theatre in Wash Common in Newbury have just joined NODA and I am looking forward to joining them in November for their production of 'Boeing, Boeing'.

New Era Players is a small, friendly and very successful theatre club established in the Wash Common area on the south edge of Newbury in 1978. Staging four productions a year they offer a wide variety of theatrical styles aiming to produce plays that are a challenge to both themselves, and their audiences, as well as putting on more traditional productions.

New Era Players were formed in 1967 and put on their first two productions in that year, 'The Birthday Party' and 'The Killing of Sister George'. Another company was formed in 1971, the Pelican Players, with the object of restoring the old Pelican Theatre in Pelican Lane, Newbury. Unfortunately, the destruction of the building by fire ended this ambition, and New Era Players was re-formed and re-invigorated putting on productions in the old Newbury Plaza in the marketplace. The company rehearsed in the former St Luke's Church on Andover Road, and then decided to convert this nineteenth century building into a theatre. After a lot of hard work, the stage was set for 'The Heiress' in 1978.

There are currently over 70 members of the New Era Players, ranging in age from 16 to 80+. Several of the original New Era Players from the 1960s still take a very active part in the group, and new members are always joining to add a new dimension to the society.

Welcome New Era Players – Good to have you within the NODA family.

Jacquie Stedman  
Regional Editor

## Programme and Poster Competition

Following the re branding of NODA in September this year, you should all be using the new NODA logo and strap-line on both programmes and posters.

A link to the artwork, together with the "Introduction to NODA", which you need to include in your programmes may be found here:

<https://www.noda.org.uk/programme-and-poster-competition>

Entries that carry the old logo and strap-line will still be accepted for shows up to 30th June 2025.

The competition's purpose is to encourage the highest standards in programme and poster design. All entries are judged against the criteria

set by the NODA Council and the winners in each category are forwarded for entry in the national competition. They are also awarded a trophy at the NODA London regional day in June. Winners and runners up all receive a certificate and every entrant will be sent a form showing how their entry was judged and where it was placed in the competition.

Programmes or posters from any shows that took place between 1 January and 31 December 2024 are eligible for the competition.

To enter, you must send five copies of each programme or poster, together with the correct entry form, to reach me on or before 31 January 2025.

Further details with links to the entry forms are here

<https://www.noda.org.uk/regions/london/noda-london-poster-programme-competition>

You may submit electronic copies of posters. Each file sent must be a maximum of 5MB. Posters submitted electronically will be printed at A4 size for judging.

I look forward to receiving your entries.

Good luck!

**Paul M Holgate**  
Chair of Programme and Poster Judging Panel  
NODA London



We caught up with Christopher Bryan (@christopher.cosplay) after he came second in the Musical Con Cosplay Competition this year!

**How long have you been involved in amateur theatre?**

I have taken part in professional and amateur theatre back in New Zealand as a member of AMT (Auckland Musical Theatre), but before this year my last musical was over 12 years ago. I got involved this year again after quite some time away from the stage in *Seussical* with Bros Theatre Company taking up a role as one of the mischievous Wickersham Brothers and had an absolute blast. It has been fantastic to get involved with the world again and i've been so creatively fulfilled. It is excellent to be a part of a community again especially one so welcoming and friendly.

**What made you first join an amateur theatre group?**

I've been in London almost 9 years now and I was itching to do something creative again with my time. I had started following NODA to see notifications of auditions within the Greater London area, but by chance, I ran into a friend on the tube who was just coming back from auditions for *Seussical*, so when the opportunity came up I jumped at the chance to be a part of a show again. I emailed the producers as soon as I got home and had a couple of days of preparation to hit my audition two days later.

**Which amateur theatre groups have you been a part of?**

In London I've been a member of Bros Theatre Company.

**What is the favourite role you have played and, or what, musical role have you always dreamed of playing?**

**Everything including the kitchen rug!**

Taking to the MusicalCon Cosplay stage

My favourite role I've played has been Melchior in *Spring Awakening* but i've also had a lot of fun as Billy in *Anything Goes*.

**Your journey to MusicalCon, what inspired you to get involved with the competition?**

I've always been a fan of elaborate costumes and I admire the eye for design that goes into each costume. My husband is quite a dab hand with cosplay. I've had to increase my skills to match his intricate costumes each year and was the first year winner! (Red Death - *Phantom of the Opera*). Last year, I created a Technicolour Dreamcoat that I entered in the Cosplay Competition at Musical Con that landed me in the final but I did not place. So this year I was determined to outstrip my effort from last year and building Scar has used so many different skills from photoshop, sewing, moulding, painting, foam modelling and working with bamboo and fishing wire! My husband was not too pleased to find me cutting up our kitchen rug to create my tail...

**How was your experience being a featured part of the weekend?**

It was a fantastic weekend and everyone was so welcoming and lovely. It was great to be around like-minded people who have such a fierce love for musical theatre. The reception to my Scar costume in particular has been overwhelming. I was ecstatic to hit runner-up in the Cosplay Competition and have the opportunity to speak about the process of making my outfit.

**Last question, did you visit the NODA stand - what did you think?**

Yes, the NODA stand was incredible, a great opportunity to see costumes from other productions and speak to people heavily involved in the wider community. Having a wonderfully lit photo stand was also a bonus.



Credit - Musical Con



Seussical - BROS Theatre Company. Credit - Louise Ellard-Turnbull

**Unleash your  
creativity into  
the spotlight  
with the 2025  
NODA Theatre  
Summer  
School**

**NODA**  
For every stage  
Theatre  
Summer School

# 2025 Courses

*"If you've ever been intrigued by doing a NODA theatre summer school it truly is the most amazingly rewarding bubble of love, support and gorgeous soul food. Give it a go. You may surprise yourself" CE 2024*

**NODA Theatre Summer School offers a transformative week of professional training led by top industry experts. Whether you're a performer, director, or technician, you'll gain valuable skills that make a lasting impact on your craft.**

**Immerse yourself in a fully residential programme designed to maximise learning and creativity.**

**Connect with fellow theatre enthusiasts who share your passion, and create unforgettable memories both in and out of the classroom. This is your chance to learn, grow and bond with like-minded individuals, all while deepening your love for theatre.**



## Unlocking Schwartz

A course for singers, dancers and actors who want to develop their performance skills by practically exploring the work of inspiring composer and lyricist Stephen Schwartz.



## Becoming an Actor Musician

A course for performers who play an instrument and are seeking an opportunity to explore where acting, singing and musicianship collide and create wonderful musical theatre.

A specific standard of playing an instrument will be required.



## Actors' Toolbox

An essential course for actors of every level of experience who want to spend a week going back to basics, creating the foundations on which to build inspiring performances.



## Revelling in Restoration Comedy

A course for actors and directors who relish the idea of spending a week revelling in classical theatre that is witty, rebellious and occasionally lewd.



## (How to) Direct Plays

This is a must attend course for anyone wanting to build skills and confidence in creating plays on stage. It will include exploration of how to get the best out of actors and how to translate a script into something that will engage your audience.



## Singing for Performance - West End Revivals

This course is for singers who want to become better at their craft – using the music of popular West End revivals as inspiration.



### **Make a New Musical**

This course is for actors, singers and writers of song and script. In the space of a week, ideas will be taken from initial concept to performance using inspiration from existing musicals. Students will also get chance to build their performance skills in the process.



### **Voice and Text**

This course is for actors of all levels of experience who want to dive deep into vocal technique and how to apply it in rehearsals and performance. Students will have the chance to go back to fundamentals to discover/rediscover the way to a fully supported voice.



### **Ensemble Excellence**

A course where both performers and directors can develop their skills in this essential element of theatre. Students will practically play with a host of staging techniques and performance skills.



### **Playwright's Retreat**

An opportunity for aspiring writers to work on their dream script project with input and guidance from an experienced tutor and the support and critique of their peers. This course will create valuable space to write in a supportively challenging environment.



### **Making for Actors/Acting for Makers**

A unique course for actors who want to learn how to make expressive masks and puppets or makers who want to learn how to bring their creations to life on stage.



### **Choreography**

A course for choreographers – established or just starting out – to develop skills in this vital aspect of musical theatre production or pantomime. Students will develop a toolbox of techniques and approaches to enhance their next theatrical adventure.



### **Stage Management**

A course for students who want to learn essential skills for effective Stage Management – an element of theatre that revolutionises production values and quality.



### **Costume - Aesthetics and Accessories Short Course**

A course for students who want to gain practical insight into how to enhance shop bought costume to look old or different and how to accessorise them to fit the need of the production.



### **Make Up For Theatre Short Course**

A course where students can learn the basics of make up for theatre and begin to explore some specific techniques to enhance the aesthetic of any production.

# What do I need to know?

## Who can book?

Students must be at least 18 years old and be a member of NODA – this can be a member of a NODA affiliated group or as an individual/joint member.

## When and where?

The school is held at Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffordshire. The dates for the 2025 school are 26th July to 2nd August.

## How much does it cost?

The full week will cost £750 (including a £150 deposit). The short courses will be £450 (including a £150 deposit)

## What is included?

- A full week of training
- Evening events and courses
- Accommodation and food

## Is there financial help available?

Yes there is. You can apply separately for financial assistance once your booking has been accepted. The bursary application has to be submitted no later than mid January.

## When can I book!

Now! Booking opened on 1st December 2024. Courses do tend to fill up quickly, so don't leave it too long to book!

## The small print

Course places are subject to availability. For more information, please see our terms and conditions on our website.



**Ready to book or want  
more information?  
Scan the QR code to go  
to our website**

**[noda.org.uk/summerschool](https://noda.org.uk/summerschool)**

# What's On In The London Region

## You may submit show listings for inclusion at any time

There is always a lot going on in the London region. Make sure that your next show is listed. You may send your show listing as long in advance as you like. It will be listed on the London section of the NODA website immediately, and in the next issue of Curtain Up. Listings also appear on the NODA London Facebook page, between 6 and 8 weeks before show date.

Please include:

- Venue, including postcode
- Dates
- Society Name
- Box Office Number (if applicable)
- Website

Please give an indication of the type of show eg. Musical, play, panto etc. Your society must be a paid up member of NODA in the London region. Send submissions to [paul.holgate@noda.org.uk](mailto:paul.holgate@noda.org.uk)

### **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (pantomime)**

06 Dec 24 - 14 Dec 24  
Riverside Players  
Old Windsor Memorial Hall SL4  
2RN  
[www.riversideplayers.com/  
current.shtml](http://www.riversideplayers.com/current.shtml)

### **THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME**

adapted by Simon Stephens  
07 Dec 24 - 14 Dec 24  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

### **HUMPTY DUMPTY**

11 Dec 24 - 14 Dec 24  
The Quay Players  
Greenwood Theatre SE1 3RA  
<https://quayplayers.org.uk/>

### **CINDERELLA**

05 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
Hemel Hempstead Theatre  
Company  
Boxmoor Playhouse HP1 1NP  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
[www.hhtheatreco.com/whats-  
on](http://www.hhtheatreco.com/whats-on)

### **TREASURE ISLAND**

06 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
Thame Players Theatre  
Company  
Players Theatre OX9 2DP  
Box Office: 01844 212833  
<https://shorturl.at/adrlg>

### **CINDERELLA**

13 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
The Chameleons Amateur  
Dramatic Society  
Church of the Ascension Hall HA9  
9QL  
[www.thechameleons.co.uk/  
tickets/](http://www.thechameleons.co.uk/tickets/)

### **THE QUEST**

14 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
London Youth Opera  
Shaw Theatre NW1 2AJ  
<https://rb.gy/p0inee>

### **A CANDY CANE CHRISTMAS Christmas entertainment**

14 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
Crowthorne Musical Players  
Crowthorne Parish Hall RG45  
7BW  
<https://shorturl.at/u1U5o>

### **ROBIN HOOD**

14 Dec 24 - 15 Dec 24  
Risborough Youth Theatre  
Princes Risborough School HP27  
0DR  
Box Office: 01844 345496  
<https://shorturl.at/cShfh>

### **CHRISTMAS CRACKERS an evening of festive readings and poetry**

17 Dec 24 - 19 Dec 24  
New Era Players  
New Era Theatre RG14 6NU  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/new-  
era-players](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/new-<br/>era-players)

### **SCREWED: A MIDLIFE CRISIS CHRISTMAS**

by Lara Collins  
18 Dec 24 - 21 Dec 24  
Progress Theatre  
Progress Theatre RG1 5HL  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
progresstheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/progresstheatre)

### **WONDERFUL CHRISTMASTIME**

20 Dec 24 - 21 Dec 24  
Zodiac Musical Society  
Riverside Arts Centre TW16 5QF  
<https://shorturl.at/UzATV>

### **SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN ELVES**

14 Dec 24 - 23 Dec 24  
Orsi Productions  
Halo Theatre NI4 5PP  
<https://rb.gy/c8iz2d>

### **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (pantomime)**

29 Dec 24 - 30 Dec 24  
HEOS Musical Theatre  
Greenford Hall UB6 9QN  
Box Office: 07727 448760  
[www.heos.org.uk](http://www.heos.org.uk)

### **THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (pantomime)**

09 Jan 25 - 11 Jan 25  
Parish Players  
St Marys Parish Hall SW19 3HJ  
[www.parishplayers.net/wizard-  
of-oz](http://www.parishplayers.net/wizard-<br/>of-oz)

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

01 Jan 25 – 12 Jan 25  
Woodford Pantomime  
Sir James Hawkey Hall IG8 0BG  
Box Office: 01992 524371  
[www.woodfordpantomime.co.uk/](http://www.woodfordpantomime.co.uk/)

**GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS**

09 Jan 25 – 17 Jan 25  
Quince Players  
Cordes Hall SL5 9NE  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/quinceplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/quinceplayers)

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

04 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://rb.gy/d5o53q>

**THE WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A SHOE**

11 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Arrow Players  
St Edmunds Hall HA6 1QS  
[www.arrowplayers.org.uk/tickets](http://www.arrowplayers.org.uk/tickets)

**ROBIN HOOD**

11 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Sanderstead Dramatic Club  
All Saints Parish Hall CR2 9AB  
[www.sdclub.org.uk/box-office/](http://www.sdclub.org.uk/box-office/)

**ON BEAR RIDGE**

by Ed Thomas  
11 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1 4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA**

14 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Oxford Operatic Society (OXOPS)  
New Theatre Oxford OX1 2AG  
<https://shorturl.at/1L2Ts>

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

16 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Argosy Players  
Winston Churchill Theatre HA4 7QL  
<https://shorturl.at/N14UM>

**THE LAST OF THE PELICAN DAUGHTERS**

by The Wardrobe Ensemble  
16 Jan 25 – 18 Jan 25  
Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS)  
Lopping Hall IG10 4LF  
Box Office: 07752 736110  
[www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm](http://www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm)

**IMAGINE**

**a musical review**  
18 Jan 25  
Radlett Musical Theatre Company (RMTTC)  
Radlett Centre WD7 8HL  
[www.rmttc.org.uk/tickets](http://www.rmttc.org.uk/tickets)

**PUSS IN BOOTS**

16 Jan 25 – 19 Jan 25  
The Warren  
Wyllotts Theatre Studio EN6 2HN  
Box Office: 01707 645005  
<https://rb.gy/i3dqef>

**BUTTONS' DREAM**

a new pantomime  
17 Jan 25 – 19 Jan 25  
Twyford Drama  
Loddon Hall RG10 9JA  
Box Office: 01183 282825  
[www.twyforddrama.co.uk/current-show](http://www.twyforddrama.co.uk/current-show)

**BUTTONS!....THE UNTOLD STORY**

01 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Bob Hope Theatre  
Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG  
Box Office: 020 88503702  
<https://shorturl.at/4wzmx>

**ALADDIN**

16 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Dartford Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society (DAODS)  
Heathfields Hall DA1 2QH  
<https://rb.gy/2ndw2h>

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

17 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Shinfield Players Theatre  
Shinfield Players Theatre RG2 9DF  
[www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets](http://www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets)

**LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD**

17 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Woodhouse Players  
Welsh Church Hall E11 1HR  
[www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk/tickets](http://www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk/tickets)

**RAPUNZEL**

18 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Pavilion Players  
Joydens Wood Community Centre DA2 7NE  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/pavilionplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pavilionplayers)

**PETER PAN (pantomime)**

22 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Buckingham Community Pantomime  
Buckingham Community Centre MK18 1RP  
<https://buckinghampanto.co.uk/>

**THE WIZARD OF OZ (pantomime)**

23 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
Wraysbury Players  
Wraysbury Village Hall TW19 5NA  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wraysburyplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wraysburyplayers)

**SNOW WHITE & THE SEVEN DWARFS**

24 Jan 25 – 25 Jan 25  
St James Music & Drama Society  
Bushey & Oxhey Methodist Church WD19 4DA  
Box Office: 07930 185573  
<https://rb.gy/p77nz2>

**BABES IN THE WOOD**

23 Jan 25 – 26 Jan 25  
The Priory Players Amateur Theatre Company  
Progress Hall SE9 1SL  
[www.theprioryplayers.com/](http://www.theprioryplayers.com/)

**DICK WHITTINGTON**

17 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
Sinodun Players  
Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG  
[sinodunplayers.org.uk/future-shows/](http://sinodunplayers.org.uk/future-shows/)

**DICK WHITTINGTON**

17 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
Lane End Players  
Lane End Village Hall HP14 3JE  
[www.laneendplayers.com/](http://www.laneendplayers.com/)

**CINDERELLA**

24 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
Faringdon Dramatic Society  
Elms Primary School SN7 7HY  
[www.faringdondramatic.org.uk/](http://www.faringdondramatic.org.uk/)

**ROBIN HOOD**

29 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
The Pantoloons  
Purley United Reformed Church  
Hall CR8 2LN  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-pantoloons](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-pantoloons)

**A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS**

by Robert Bolt  
29 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
Southside Players  
South London Theatre SE27 9NS  
<https://shorturl.at/oaRER>

**GODSPELL**

30 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
St Albans Musical Theatre  
Company  
St Albans Cathedral AL1 1BY  
[www.stalbanscathedral.org/Event/godspell](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org/Event/godspell)

**THE WIZARD OF OZ  
(pantomime)**

30 Jan 25 – 01 Feb 25  
Shiplake & Dunsden Dramatic  
Organisation  
Shiplake Memorial Hall RG9 4DW  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/shaddo](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/shaddo)

**ALADDIN**

01 Feb 25 – 04 Feb 25  
Wootton Players  
Wootton & Dry Sandford  
Community Centre OX13 6DA  
Box Office: 01865 739039  
<https://wadsc.co.uk/events-wadsc/>

**INTO THE WOODS**

02 Feb 25 – 08 Feb 25  
Tring Youth Theatre Project  
DEMBE Theatre HP23 5QY  
<https://shorturl.at/oYiRL>

**DICK WHITTINGTON**

06 Feb 25 – 09 Feb 25  
Magdalene Players  
St Mary Magdalene Church SW17  
7HP  
Box Office: 07376 085078  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/magdaleneplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/magdaleneplayers)

**IOLANTHE**

08 Feb 25 – 09 Feb 25  
Kennet Opera  
Shaw House Great Hall RG14 2DR  
<https://shorturl.at/xPFLG>

**TERRY PRATCHETT'S NIGHT  
WATCH**

adapted by Stephen Briggs  
06 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Progress Theatre  
Progress Theatre RG1 5HL  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/progresstheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/progresstheatre)

**AMADEUS**

by Peter Shaffer  
08 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**EURYDICE**

by Sarah Ruhl  
10 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://rb.gy/d5o53q>

**THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**

12 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Havering Music Makers  
Brentwood Theatre CM15 8AG  
<https://shorturl.at/eS0Lt>

**MY OLD LADY**

by Israel Horowitz  
12 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Belmont Theatre Company  
Pump House Theatre WD17 2JP  
Box Office: 07917 324179  
<https://shorturl.at/dFf7w>

**ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD**

13 Feb 25 – 15 Feb 25  
Abbots Langley G & S Society  
Watford Palace Theatre WD17 1JZ  
Box Office: 01923 225 671  
<https://shorturl.at/MxJm9>

**THE KIDS LEFT. THE DOG DIED.  
NOW WHAT?**

13 Feb 25 – 16 Feb 25  
BROS Theatre Company  
OSO Arts Centre SW13 0LF  
Box Office: 02088 769885  
<https://shorturl.at/sv0s1>

**SHREK**

**the musical**  
19 Feb 25 – 22 Feb 25  
The Community of Hungerford  
Theatre Company  
John O'Gaunt School RG17 0AN  
<https://shorturl.at/KHzIA>

**SWEENEY TODD**

**the demon barber of Fleet Street**  
19 Feb 25 – 22 Feb 25  
Cygnet Players  
London Oratory School Theatre  
SW6 1RX  
<https://cygnetplayers.com/tickets/>

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST  
(pantomime)**

19 Feb 25 – 22 Feb 25  
Launton Village Players  
Cooper School OX26 4RS  
[www.launtonvillageplayers.org.uk/](http://www.launtonvillageplayers.org.uk/)

**TREASURE ISLAND**

20 Feb 25 – 22 Feb 25  
Kennet Amateur Theatrical  
Society  
Kennet School RG19 4LL  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/katsorguk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/katsorguk)

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

20 Feb 25 – 22 Feb 25  
Kintbury St Marys Drama Group  
Coronation Hall RG17 9TX  
<https://shorturl.at/oAwZB>

**EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT  
JAMIE**

25 Feb 25 – 01 Mar 25  
Green Room Productions  
Wyllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN  
Box Office: 01707 645005  
<https://shorturl.at/xVPXP>

**ME AND MY GIRL**

04 Mar 25 – 08 Mar 25  
Radlett Musical Theatre  
Company (RMTC)  
Radlett Centre WD7 8HL  
<https://shorturl.at/dMn43>

**LILIES ON THE LAND**

by the Lions part  
05 Mar 25 – 08 Mar 25  
Shinfield Players Theatre  
Shinfield Players Theatre RG2 9DF  
[www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets](http://www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets)

**MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN**

by Rona Munro  
06 Mar 25 – 08 Mar 25  
Kings Langley Players  
Theatre @ The Nap WD4 8ET  
<https://klp.org.uk/>

**THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL**

05 Mar 25 – 09 Mar 25  
Crowthorne Musical Players  
Wilde Theatre RG12 7PA  
Box Office: 01344 484123  
<https://shorturl.at/E3b6z>

**THE HOLLOW**

by Agatha Christie  
10 Mar 25 – 13 Mar 25  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://rb.gy/d5o53q>

**BOUDICA**

by Tristan Bernays  
08 Mar 25 – 15 Mar 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**ANNIE**

12 Mar 25 – 15 Mar 25  
Panda Players  
Hyde Heath Village Hall HP6 5SN  
[www.pandaplayers.co.uk/productions](http://www.pandaplayers.co.uk/productions)

**ALYS, ALWAYS**

by Lucinda Coxon  
12 Mar 25 – 15 Mar 25  
Bob Hope Theatre  
Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG  
Box Office: 020 88503702  
<https://shorturl.at/c9tTG>

**THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO**

13 Mar 25 – 15 Mar 25  
Harrow Opera  
Compass Theatre UB10 8PD  
Box Office: 01895 250615  
[Hillingdontheatres.uk](http://Hillingdontheatres.uk)

**DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

19 Mar 25 – 22 Mar 25  
Eldorado Musical Productions  
Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG  
Box Office: 020 88503702  
<https://shorturl.at/PQAZI>

**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**

by Arthur Miller  
19 Mar 25 – 22 Mar 25  
Proscenium  
Compass Theatre UB10 8PD  
<https://proscenium.org.uk/>

**INSPECTOR DRAKE AND THE PERFECT CRIME**

by David Tristram  
20 Mar 25 – 22 Mar 25  
Banbury Cross Players  
Mill Arts Centre OX16 5QE  
<https://banburycrossplayers.org.uk/>

**VIOLET**

25 Mar 25 – 29 Mar 25  
Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society (SEDOS)  
Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ  
<https://shorturl.at/vm3ir>

**THE LADYKILLERS**

by Graham Linehan  
27 Mar 25 – 29 Mar 25  
Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS)  
Lopping Hall IG10 4LF  
Box Office: 07752 736110  
[www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm](http://www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm)

**OUR HOUSE**

27 Mar 25 – 29 Mar 25  
Starmaker Theatre Company  
Alan Cornish Theatre RG5 4JZ  
[www.starmaker.org.uk/boxoffice](http://www.starmaker.org.uk/boxoffice)

**CURTAINS**

02 Apr 25 – 05 Apr 25  
Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company  
Theatre @ The Nap WD4 8ET  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/klmtc](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/klmtc)

**BOUNCERS**

by John Godber  
08 Apr 25 – 12 Apr 25  
Pump House Theatre Company  
Pump House Theatre WD17 2JP  
<https://shorturl.at/jxRlc>

**EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT JAMIE**

09 Apr 25 – 12 Apr 25  
Musical Youth Company of Oxford (MYCO)  
Oxford Playhouse OX1 2LW  
<https://shorturl.at/00lfn>

**ANNABELLE BROOM THE UNHAPPY WITCH**

by Eleanor & Ray Harder  
18 Apr 25 – 20 Apr 25  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://rb.gy/d5o53q>

**JUST SO**

18 Apr 25 – 28 Apr 25  
Shinfield Players Theatre  
Shinfield Players Theatre RG2 9DF  
[www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets](http://www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets)

**A CHORUS LINE**

29 Apr 25 – 03 May 25  
St Albans Musical Theatre Company  
Alban Arena AL1 3LD  
Box Office: 01727 844488  
<https://shorturl.at/Dxe3D>

**PACK OF LIES**

by Hugh Whitmore  
03 May 25 – 10 May 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**CAROUSEL**

06 May 25 – 10 May 25  
Green Room Productions  
Wyllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN  
Box Office: 01707 645005  
<https://shorturl.at/jhdVo>

**MOSQUITOES**

by Lucy Kirkwood  
07 May 25 – 10 May 25  
Bob Hope Theatre  
Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG  
Box Office: 020 88503702  
<https://shorturl.at/9GhW9>

**HAIRSPRAY**

07 May 25 – 17 May 25  
Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society (SEDOS)  
Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ  
<https://shorturl.at/gFaQi>

**ROCK OF AGES**

13 May 25 – 17 May 25  
East Berkshire Operatic Society (EBOS)  
Wilde Theatre RG12 7PA  
Box Office: 01344 484123  
<https://shorturl.at/pGgri>

**9 TO 5**

14 May 25 – 17 May 25  
ROS Musical Theatre  
Winston Churchill Theatre HA4  
7QL  
[www.rosmusicaltheatre.co.uk/9to5](http://www.rosmusicaltheatre.co.uk/9to5)

**SHREK**

14 May 25 – 17 May 25  
Sainsbury Singers  
Hexagon Theatre RG1 7QF  
<https://rb.gy/lia291>

**DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID**

13 May 25 – 18 May 25  
Erith Operatic Society  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/eos](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eos)

**COMPANY**

15 May 25 – 18 May 25  
IODS Productions  
Redbridge Drama Centre E18 2RB  
[www.iodsproductions.co.uk/](http://www.iodsproductions.co.uk/)

**DIXON AND DAUGHTERS**

by Deborah Bruce  
31 May 25 – 07 Jun 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**AND THEN THERE WERE NONE**

by Agatha Christie  
04 Jun 25 – 07 Jun 25  
Shinfield Players Theatre  
Shinfield Players Theatre RG2 9DF  
[www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/  
booktickets](http://www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk/booktickets)

**PLAZA SUITE**

by Neil Simon  
09 Jun 25 – 14 Jun 25  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://rb.gy/d5o53q>

**LADIES' DAY**

by Amanda Whittington  
12 Jun 25 – 14 Jun 25  
Loughton Amateur Dramatic  
Society (LADS)  
Lopping Hall IG10 4LF  
Box Office: 07752 736110  
[www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm](http://www.lads.org.uk/tickets.htm)

**ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS**

by Richard Bean  
28 Jun 25 – 05 Jul 25  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1  
4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

**THE CRUCIBLE**

by Arthur Miller  
16 Sep 25 – 20 Sep 25  
Stock Exchange Dramatic and  
Operatic Society (SEDOS)  
Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ  
<https://shorturl.at/LvsRR>

**ASSASSINS**

23 Sep 25 – 27 Sep 25  
Stock Exchange Dramatic and  
Operatic Society (SEDOS)  
Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ  
<https://shorturl.at/mhrva>

**AVENUE Q**

30 Oct 25 – 01 Nov 25  
Chiltern Musical Theatre  
Players Theatre OX9 2DP  
[www.chilternmusicaltheatre.  
com/](http://www.chilternmusicaltheatre.com/)

**DREAMGIRLS**

19 Nov 25 – 29 Nov 25  
Stock Exchange Dramatic and  
Operatic Society (SEDOS)  
Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ  
<https://shorturl.at/frduU>

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Send them to [paul.holgate@noda.org.uk](mailto:paul.holgate@noda.org.uk)**

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