

### FROM THE EDITOR

Hello again.



Here we are on the edge of spring, hoping for good weather to come and starting rehearsals for our next productions. Isn't the amateur theatre calendar wonderful? There were some excellent pantomimes and Christmas shows over the festive season, a lull in activity whilst we recovered from the Christmas excess and now here we go again. I know by looking at the What's On that there are some superb productions coming up so do try and see what other groups are doing – you never know there may be something you haven't heard of before or even considered but wondered how it can be done on your stage. Other groups' shows can be a source of inspiration.

I am very pleased to welcome a new columnist, Ami Onyet, who will be a regular contributor in the future with articles to give us all food for thought. I think his debut article is real corker.....do let me know what you think. (jacquie.stedman@noda.org.uk)

In the meantime I wish you every success with your endeavours – is there an article there??

Jacquie Stedman  
[jacquie.stedman@noda.org.uk](mailto:jacquie.stedman@noda.org.uk)

### CHAIR'S CHAT



The Panto and Drama Season has kept us cheerful during the dismal days of winter, and we are now well into our Spring performances with a plethora of fantastic shows being staged. Our round-up will give you a good feel of what has been going on and what pleasure is to come.

Being passionate about theatre you may wish to become much more involved with NODA. Has it ever crossed your mind you would like to be one of our Regional Reps? I hope so and I would love to welcome you on board – more details are inside!



Plans are well underway for our CELEBRATION DAY which is being held on 14th June (not Father's Day you will be pleased to learn) at the Radlett Centre and I very much look forward to seeing you there.

Pam Armstrong  
[pam.armstrong@noda.org.uk](mailto:pam.armstrong@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L01

The last few months in District 1 have felt less like a pleasant cultural jaunt and more like being trapped in a particularly energetic theatre-themed pinball machine. I've bounced from AIDS-era New York to Motown superstardom, from biblical anguish to Edwardian drawing rooms, via pantomime pirates and talking animals, often without leaving Central London, and rarely with a spare evening. If nothing else, it's been a powerful reminder that amateur theatre in District 1 does not do "quiet".



It all began with Geoids' *Rent*, a show that remains simultaneously devastating, inspiring, and quietly judgmental about your life choices.

This was followed swiftly by SEDOS *Dreamgirls*, which swaggered into the Bridewell with enough vocal power to register on the Richter scale.



Centre Stage rounded out the year with *Jesus Christ Superstar*, delivered as an immersive rock spectacle that made excellent use of space, movement, and human anguish. All three were ambitious, confident productions, and all three sold out, suggesting Central London audiences have developed both excellent taste and very fast reflexes.



January then arrived and chose chaos. Geoids returned



with *Peter Pan: The 48 Hour Panto*, an endeavour which sounds like a dare but somehow resulted in a polished, joyful, laugh-out-loud show created in two days. It featured pirates, crocodiles, bubbles, and more costumes than most companies

manage in a full rehearsal period. That it was not only coherent but genuinely excellent remains one of District 1's great modern miracles – and yes, it also sold out.

If that wasn't enough, the New Stagers offered *The Wind in the Willows*, a production so warm and comforting it should arguably have been prescribed by the NHS. Full of charm, imagination, and genuinely thoughtful storytelling, it reminded everyone why this story endures.



Shortly afterwards, Southside Players took on Noël Coward's *Present Laughter* and firmly disproved the notion that Coward is dated, dusty, or only enjoyable if you've already had a sherry. Sharp, fast, and gloriously funny, it landed every gag and kept the laughs coming at an alarming rate.

Across all six shows, a clear pattern has emerged: District 1 companies are programming boldly, executing confidently, and attracting audiences in numbers that suggest “limited



availability” should now be printed in larger fonts. Musicals, plays, pantos, family shows – everything is being tackled with professionalism, creativity, and enthusiastic audiences to match.

Matt Bentley

[matt.bentley@noda.org.uk](mailto:matt.bentley@noda.org.uk)

REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L04

First the bad news. The saga of the Orchard Theatre rebuild continues, with reopening now apparently pushed back to December 2026 as a result of new fire safety upgrades – which does raise the question as to why these could not have been incorporated in the first place. Sadly, this once again leaves Dartford Operatic & Dramatic Society facing yet another postponement of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.



Last musical of the year was the WWOS production of Sweeney Todd.

The November production at Bob Hope Theatre was the challenging Yerma by Federico Garcia Lorca.





I saw two versions of A Christmas Carol, starting with the Roan Theatre Company production of the Piers Torday version.

Two weeks later, Erith Playhouse presented the very different Patrick Barlow interpretation.



Pantomime Season is now something of a distant memory District 4, with four productions on offer. Bob Hope Theatre presented another original pantomime with Sleeping Beauty – In Your Dreams.



Erith Players had their own take on Red Riding Hood with another original script.

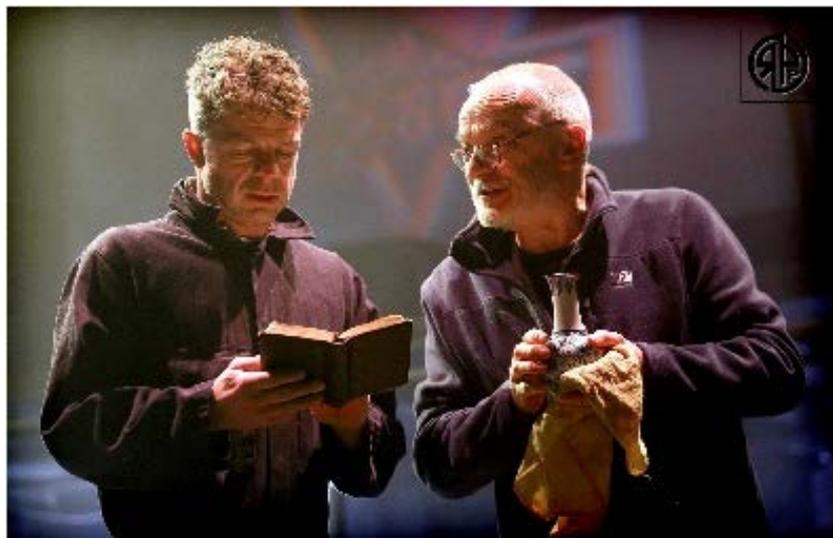


The Priory Players had a Wild West production of Old Mother Hubbard.



In contrast, the Dartford Operatic & Dramatic Society production of Goldilocks and the Three Bears was set in a circus.

Earlier in February, I was also lucky enough to catch an impressive production of 1984 at the Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre . Time to re-read the novel I think, as memories have faded since first experience at secondary school!



**Robin Kelly**

[Robin.kelly@noda.org.uk](mailto:Robin.kelly@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L06 (part 1)

It has been a chocolate box of choices in District L06 with pantos, plays, musicals and cabarets.



Loughton Operatic Society staged one of the first amateur performances of *Come From Away* in December. They wanted a production that involved all the company and those that wanted to be in this theatrical masterpiece. They decided to move away from the original which was written for a cast of twelve to a cast of thirty-two. The entire five show run sold out



five weeks before opening night and was a great success.

Afterwards, the team reflected on the advantages of making this a show for all rather than a select few. It was obviously better for the Society to be able to provide parts for all members however, they also felt the show benefited theatrically by recreating a packed environment as the seven thousand passengers did in *Gander*. The actors played only one of the core characters which helped the audience follow their individual story and allowed the full development of the

characters. It was also wonderful to have a chorus of thirty-two singing those fantastic songs. Many of the audience agreed that this was a better production than the professional version. It is hoped that this success will give encouragement to other societies who want to stage *Come From Away*.

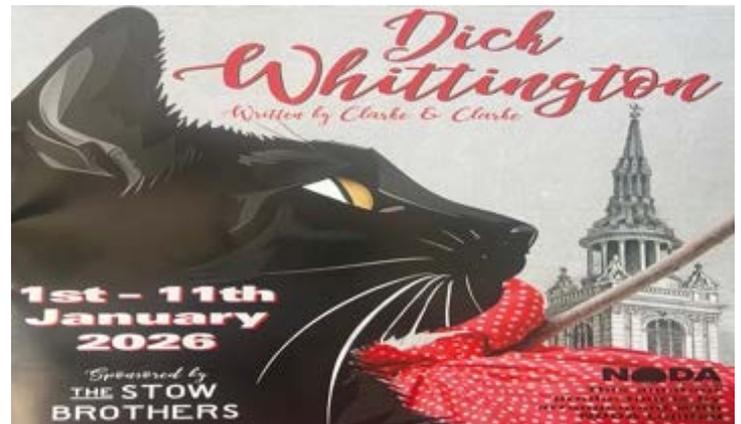
*Glorious*, *The Welkin* and *Blithe Spirit* brought some wonderful dramas to the District.

Theydon Bois Drama Society staged *Glorious* which focused on the American, Florence Foster Jenkins and her determination to entertain with her less than tuneful singing voice. Gill Newlyn was superb as Florence and used her talents to sympathetically portray Florence and sing convincingly out of tune.

*The Welkin* is a play for twenty women and two men and LADS gave an atmospheric feel to this absorbing tale set in rural 18<sup>th</sup> Century. There were many fine performances and terrific period costumes all made especially for this production.

The normally musical Havering Music Makers presented Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, and this talented group did a great job playing the characters with some appropriately indulgent acting. It was very funny and the ghostly goings-on were a real hit.

Panto time brought the annual lavish Woodford Pantomime production, this year with Dick Whittington. This was a show that looked and sounded great and pleased the audience as well as any professional offering.



Paul Daynes

[paul.daynes@noda.org.uk](mailto:paul.daynes@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L06 (part 2)

Welcome to my first report as the Regional Representative for District L06 and the beginning of the new 2026 / 2027 season. I'm looking forward to the challenge of the increased number of groups following the recent District change.



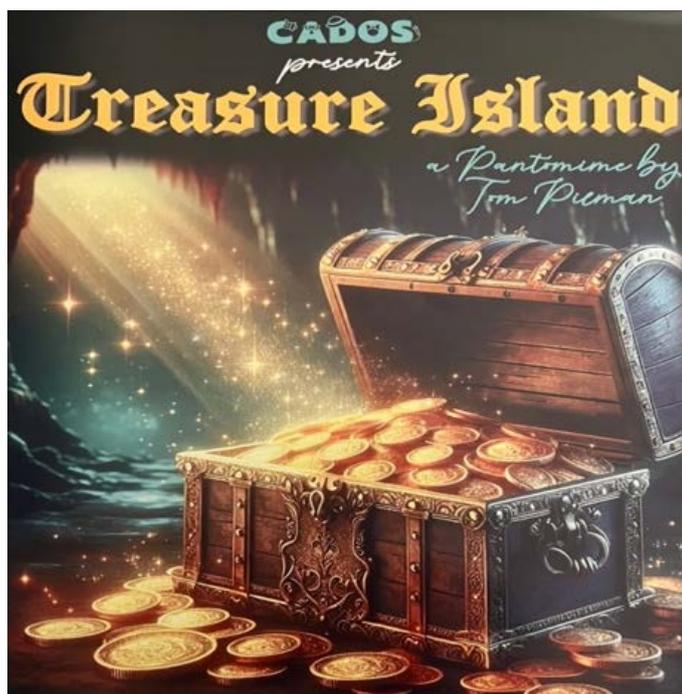
Prior to the change, I was invited to attend Woodford Pantomime's production of **DICK WHITTINGTON** in company with Paul, who introduced me to several individuals on the night. I look forward to seeing them all again at their next production later in the season.

To kick start my reporting year, I had the pleasure of attendances with two of my new groups in February.



My initial visit was to Brentwood Theatre for Havering Music Makers production of **THE BAND – The TAKE THAT Musical**.

My second was an attendance at the CADOS production of **TREASURE ISLAND – a pantomime** at Mornington Hall.



Moving deftly into March and there were a trio of scheduled productions to tantalise the senses – a Cole Porter musical sandwiched neatly between a duet of plays by Terry Pratchett and Rory Kinnear. They are as follows:

- Theydon Bois Drama Group – **WYRD SISTERS** – Theydon Bois Village Hall
- Forest Musical Theatre Company – **ANYTHING GOES** – Brentwood Theatre
- Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society – **THE HERD** – Lopping Hall

While I am still settling in, I would like to express my appreciation to all the societies for the hospitality afforded me during my production attendances in February and March. It has been very enlightening networking with you all during my visits.

Looking ahead to April, May and June, we have a very broad selection of productions for me to get to grips with. They include the following:

- IODS Productions – **ANNIE** – Lovegrove Theatre
- Woodhouse Players – **FAMOUS LAST WORDS / MINGULAY / VINTAGE** – Welsh Church Hall
- CADOS – **MSND FEST 2000** – Mornington Hall
- Loughton Operatic Society – **OKLAHOMA!** – Lopping Hall
- Theydon Bois Drama Group – **THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN** – Theydon Bois Village Hall
- Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society – **AFTER LIFE** – Lopping Hall
- Barking Music and Drama – **DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS** – The Ripple Centre

A busier schedule than previous for me and I look forward to networking with more of you at future attendances within the district and across the Region. More detailed information on each of the above productions can be found on the respective company platforms.

Before we know it, we will be celebrating our District and Regional Winners at our NODA London AGM & Celebration Day 2026.

Thomas Lennon

[thomas.lennon@noda.org.uk](mailto:thomas.lennon@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L07

I am delighted to have taken over as regional representative for District 7 and would like to thank all the societies and members for a warm welcome.



Since the beginning of February, The Garden Suburb Theatre (GST) have produced a delightful version of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* at the enchanting Upstairs at the Gatehouse in Highgate Village. The cast captured the Coward style of the 1940s superbly as the sharp witticisms and snappy delivery pinged between them. There were many fine performances of these extravagant characters, and the audiences enjoyed this excellent comedy.



I look forward to attending GST's next production of *The Long Road* by Shelaugh Stephenson in April.

Paul Daynes

[paul.daynes@noda.org.uk](mailto:paul.daynes@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L08/L09

Panto season is finally over, and we can look forward to many exciting spring productions in Districts 8 & 9.



Reflecting back on the autumn & winter shows, there were many delightful offerings. In November ROS Musical Theatre presented a highly entertaining “Beauty & the Beast” (Disney version) heralding the Christmas pantomime season. They are now putting the finishing touches to their exciting spring production “Come from Away” which will be playing in April.

Unfortunately, Harefield Amateur Dramatic Society were forced to cancel their November production but are now thoroughly enjoying rehearsals for their April production “Glorious” a biopic play about Florence Foster Jenkins.

Argosy Players recently performed the pantomime “Mother Goose” to a delighted audience and are now working on their next play ..... Agatha Christie’s “Murder on the Nile” to go to the stage sometime in May.

Similarly Arrow Players worked diligently over the past few months on their lovely panto “Hickory Dickory Dock” – which proved very popular with everyone. Their next production however has yet to be announced.



Rickmansworth Players have been busy as always and having presented their full company musical “Treasure Island” in November, to much acclaim, many of their members helped out with the putting together of the Youth & Juniors’ most enjoyable production “Shrek, The Musical Jnr” This is such a busy, lively, active and talented company that many of the adults will now be in rehearsal for their

production of “Cluedo” at the beginning of May, which will make interesting viewing and which, I am sure, will be great fun.

Finally in District 8 Proscenium are nearing their production of “Height of the Storm” by Florian Zeller – another production I am unfamiliar with. This is following their popular classic “An Ideal Husband” last November.

District 9 has not been quite as busy. The Chameleons ADS performed a delightfully novel version of “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” in December and in the next few days will be performing a “Radio Times – 60 years of Radio” – “stacked high with iconic tunes, stunning stories and favourite moments from the past six decades.” This is to celebrate the start of their 60-year anniversary – long may they continue to entertain.

Harrow Opera performed their latest offering – after a year’s gap – at The Pump House Theatre at the beginning of March..... “The Consul” by Menotti.

East Lane Theatre Club has been busy as always with a production of “Neville’s Island” in December and last week completed their performance of another popular comedy “Vicar of Dibley”. This company manage to present five plays a year and so they are already in rehearsal for their April production – “Going Straight” by Richard Harris.

March will see KLOS Musical Theatre on stage again after a year’s break with a performance of “Half a Sixpence” which is always well received. After their successful production of “Calendar Girls” last October WOS Productions are rehearsing for their compilation show celebrating musical films which will

be on stage in May.



Pump House Theatre Company in rehearsal  
(photo supplied by Wendy Moir)

Finally Pump House Theatre Company performed the psychological thriller ‘Rope’ by Patrick Hamilton very effectively last November and are now rehearsing another old classic “A View From the Bridge” to be staged in April.

As you see Amateur Theatre is alive and well in Districts 8 & 9 despite all the obstacles that beset us all.

Carole Baynes

[carole.baynes@noda.org.uk](mailto:carole.baynes@noda.org.uk)

REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT LII/LIIA

Firstly, I want to welcome Hemel Hempstead Theatre Company and Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company to District IIA and I am looking forward to visiting you this year.



As it has been panto season, I will also mention that Robin Hood proved a popular choice this year with three out of the five pantomimes I saw featuring the hero of Sherwood Forest! All very different with some excellent, not to mention clever, ways of staging an archery contest.



I was delighted to attend the world premiere of a new musical written by Vale Musical Society's Patron, Gary Wilmot (pictured centre with Kay Rowan and the cast). This was an innovative and very different family Christmas show (definitely NOT a panto) – entitled Vote for Father Christmas. I was with our

NODA National President, Kay Rowan and Pam Armstrong, our NODA London Councillor and we all received a very warm and hospitable welcome on Vale's Gala Night. Meeting the author and composer alongside the cast and crew



Judith Watsham

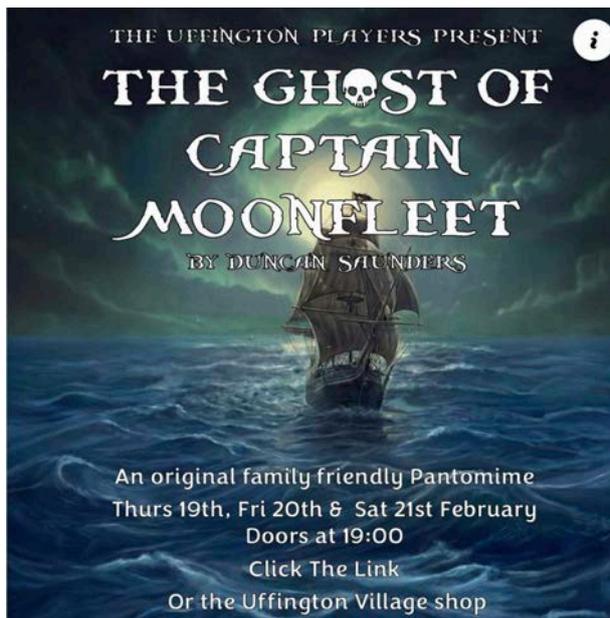
[Judith.watsham@noda.org.uk](mailto:Judith.watsham@noda.org.uk)

REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT 12

We're a couple of months into the new year, and if the breadth of work being presented by groups in District 12 is anything to go by, amateur theatre is thriving. I've been privileged to see two musicals (one of which was presented by a Youth Company), a play, a concert, and three highly entertaining pantomimes. Two of these shows were produced by groups who have only recently joined NODA: Uffington Players presented "The Ghost of Captain Moonfleet", a revival of an original pantomime, while Garsington Players staged Ian Hislop and Nick Newman's popular comic play, "A Bunch of Amateurs".



District 12 covers a wide area, and it's always a particular pleasure to visit unfamiliar venues in far-flung corners of Oxfordshire, and to meet the enthusiastic and talented people



who sustain musical and dramatic groups. The Uffington Players restaged a pantomime they had first performed twenty years ago, and the work was notable for restoring slapstick to its proper place at the heart of the genre. I was only sorry to miss the fish and chip supper served on the

Friday and Saturday evening!

The Garsington Players cleverly adapted their modern but quite narrow Village Hall to the demands of staging a multi-setting comedy, with the company giving very natural, measured performances in keeping with the intimacy of the venue. I am looking forward to visiting Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group for the first time in April, to see Steven Moffat's "The Unfriend".

The established member groups in the District continue to amaze me with their innovative ideas and polished productions. Banbury Operatic Society's staged concert, "The Show That Time Wrote", showcased the breadth and depth of the talent in the Society. A lot of thought had gone into the structure of the concert, drawing on works in chronological order of their historical settings; as a result the show wasn't simply a collection of popular numbers, but had a clear narrative thread. Odyssey Theatrical Productions' Youth Section presented "The Wizard of Oz" after just a week's rehearsal; as well as the talent of the young performers, the show was notable for the technologically advanced staging. While projections are not new, I had never previously seen them feature so much animation, precisely timed to the soundtrack.

The annual pantomimes presented by the Sinodun Players and Faringdon Dramatic Society are annual highlights and didn't disappoint. Meanwhile, Oxford Operatic Society took a mid-January slot in the cavernous New Theatre to present that perennial family favourite, "The Sound of Music", and sold out the two matinee performances – which was no less than this wonderfully accomplished production deserved. Musicals

season kicks off in earnest in April, when I am looking forward to seeing Musical Youth Company of Oxford perform “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang”, Abingdon Operatic Society perform “Beauty and



the Beast”,  
and Avocet  
Theatre  
Company  
perform  
“Shrek –  
The  
Musical” in  
the space  
of just a few  
days.

Conversely, March is dominated by plays, with Banbury Cross Players staging “Jack Absolute Flies Again”, Thame Players staging “Prescription for Murder”, and the Sinodun Players staging “The Unfriend”.

Finally, I am optimistic that the work of a couple of the groups in District 12 will be showcased at this year’s NODA London Celebration Day at the Radlett Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> June. I am looking forward to cheering them on and hope that you may be able to join us there.

Andrew Walter

[andrew.walter@noda.org.uk](mailto:andrew.walter@noda.org.uk)

### REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L13

Since my last report District 13 has been fairly busy and I have had the pleasure of visiting ten of my groups as well as two in district 14 and reviewing twelve shows. As always, I have seen a mixture of plays, musicals and youth productions with some seasonal pantomimes added into the mix.



In November, I saw the first production in my district of the musical 'We Will Rock You' performed by Henley Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. As a long-time fan of Queen, this was an absolute delight, and I found myself rocking along with the rest of the audience. The production was full of great vocal performances and some amazing choreography. My second show was 'Annie Jr' from the youth section of Wargrave Theatre. This was their first ever full-length musical, and the group did a great job of bringing the show to the stage. There were some strong performances, and bags of enjoyment. In complete contrast, I then saw 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' at Progress Theatre. This was a modern adaptation of Hardy's dark play, but with the addition of physical theatre, dancing and music which added lighter moments to the unrelenting misery of the story giving it a different feel.

December was quite quiet in the lead up to Christmas, but I enjoyed visiting Woodley Light Operatic Society to see 'HMS Pinafore'. WLOS are my only society to do a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta this year, and I enjoyed joining the jolly tars, the sisters and the cousins and the aunts for a riotous romp aboard ship. I ended the year with two pantomimes in District 14, Riverside Players' production of 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' in Old Windsor

and 'Beauty and the Beast' from Crowthorne Amateur Theatre. Both brought fun and frolics in true pantomime style. It is always good to venture outside my district and to meet new societies. Thank you to both for welcoming me.

January brought two more pantomimes, this time in my own district, 'Aladdin' from Twyford Drama and 'Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood' from Wargrave Theatre. Aladdin is a favourite of mine and Twyford's version didn't disappoint with the wonderful scene in Widow Twankey's laundry and Abanazer's cave of delights.



Wargrave's pantomime this year combined two stories and brought two comedy duos which added to the fun. Both societies build their own sets, and I am always so impressed with the imagination and creativity of the set build teams.

February has been a month of contrasts. My final two pantomimes were 'Alice in Wonderland' from Kintbury St Mary's Drama and 'Cinderella 2, After the Ball' from Kennet Amateur Theatre. Both were home written and very creative. Kintbury is a society made up mostly of youth group members and the pantomime was written by the director to add in more parts so that everyone had a role, and it was wonderful to see the youngsters learning their craft and gaining in confidence. KATS production was a sequel to Cinderella a year after she married Prince Charming and saw the kingdom being terrorised by two wicked witches. It was full of fun and what you would expect when you have two dames who are also baddies! Another half term production was 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' from The Community of Hungerford Theatre Company. Performed in a school without the expensive hired in sets and costumes this was a good example of what creative ideas and a great team can achieve. I finished the month with 'The Thirty-Nine Steps' performed by Aldermaston Players. In a change from the usual format this was done with eight actors playing the very many clown roles which gave more of the group the opportunity to be involved.

District 13 remains vibrant and busy, producing very many wonderful shows. I look forward to celebrating with the groups later in the year when the district 13 awards are announced.

Cate Naylor

[Cate.naylor@noda.org.uk](mailto:Cate.naylor@noda.org.uk)

REGIONAL REPORT – DISTRICT L14

From November through to the turn of the year, District 14 treated audiences to a lively run of shows, packed with family favourites, festive flair and plenty of good old-fashioned theatrical fun.



**East Berkshire Operatic Society (EBOS)** got the season off to a cracking start with *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Full of colour, energy and imagination, it made the most of its larger-than-life world and was clearly enjoyed by cast and audience alike.





**Shinfield Players**

**Theatre** offered something a little different with *It's a Wonderful Life*, a warm and thoughtful production that landed nicely and reminded us why this story still resonates. They then went in a completely different direction with *Agatha Twisty and the Murder in Pantoland*, a gloriously silly

whodunnit that fully embraced panto chaos and audience participation. The cast clearly relished every moment.

**Maidenhead Drama Guild** brought real heart to the stage with *Robin Hood*. From the warm welcome at Norden Farm to the pride in a cast that included several first-time performers, the sense of inclusivity was clear. Strong choreography and some well-judged comic turns ensured this was an enjoyable, good-hearted piece of community theatre.



**Colnbrook Amateur Stage Theatre (CAST)** brought legend and adventure to the stage with *The Sword in the Stone*. A strong showcase for their young performers, it was full of enthusiasm, clear storytelling and plenty of heart.

**Riverside Players** presented *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, a classic tale told with clarity and atmosphere, using the ensemble well to bring the story to life.

**Quince Players** kicked off the new year with *Cinderella*, delivering warmth, humour and all the moments audiences hope for. Proof, if it's ever needed, that a traditional panto done well never goes out of style.



**Crowthorne Amateur Theatrical Society** delivered a festive favourite with *Beauty and the Beast*, full of colour, charm and confident character work, and pitched perfectly for a family audience.



And finally, **Wraysbury Players** invited us down the rabbit hole with *Alice in Wonderland*. Playful, imaginative and full of character, it was a production that enjoyed its own sense of nonsense and encouraged the audience to do the same.

From festive favourites to fairy tales and thoughtful storytelling, it's been a season that once again highlights the strength and spirit of community theatre across District 14. As spring productions take shape and rehearsal rooms buzz on, I'll be right there in the audience, notebook in hand, wondering where the time keeps going. 🎭

### SITUATIONS VACANT

**District 1 (City and Central London)** (From Matt Bentley) I really do enjoy being a NODA rep: I get to see an extraordinary range of shows and work with some genuinely brilliant, committed people. However, the simple reality is that growing work pressures mean I no longer have the capacity to give District 1 the time it deserves, a fact underscored by this article having been drafted with the help of Copilot. District 1 needs another rep, or a small team willing to share the workload. If you enjoy theatre, can spare a handful of evenings across the year, and would like a front-row seat to some of the best amateur work in Central London, this is your moment.



**District 2 (Part of West London)** Due to the ongoing commitments of the current Regional Rep (Tom Rainbow) there is now a vacancy in District 2. You will be pleased to know that all the things that Matt has said about District 1 applies to all the districts. Under the leadership of the Regional Councillor, Pam Armstrong, we have a thriving Regional Committee and a strong supportive 'family' feel.

**District 3 (West London)** Unfortunately, Jane Gough has had to tender her resignation, again, due to increased commitments and also personal demands.

Being a part of the Regional Committee involves attending three in person meetings per year plus attendance at the Celebration Day in June. The opportunity to visit productions and be a 'critical friend' to your groups is one of the main NODA benefits for members and helps to raise the standard and professionalism of amateur theatre. Whilst these are not paid positions (done for love always) reasonable expenses are paid and you have the opportunity to encourage and help shape the direction of amateur theatre within your district.

If you would like to discuss any of these positions in the first instance, please contact Pam at [pam.armstrong@noda.org.uk](mailto:pam.armstrong@noda.org.uk) . She will be delighted to hear from you.

### THE LITTLE JEWEL AMONGST OXFORDSHIRE'S THEATRICAL VENUES

The range of work staged by musical and drama groups affiliated to NODA is deeply impressive: musicals and operettas, plays and comedies, concerts and pantomimes. No less impressive is the range of venues in which this work is staged: school halls and village halls, community centres and professional theatres. In Oxfordshire (London District 12) we are fortunate enough to have one of the largest and one of the smallest venues used by NODA groups anywhere in the country.

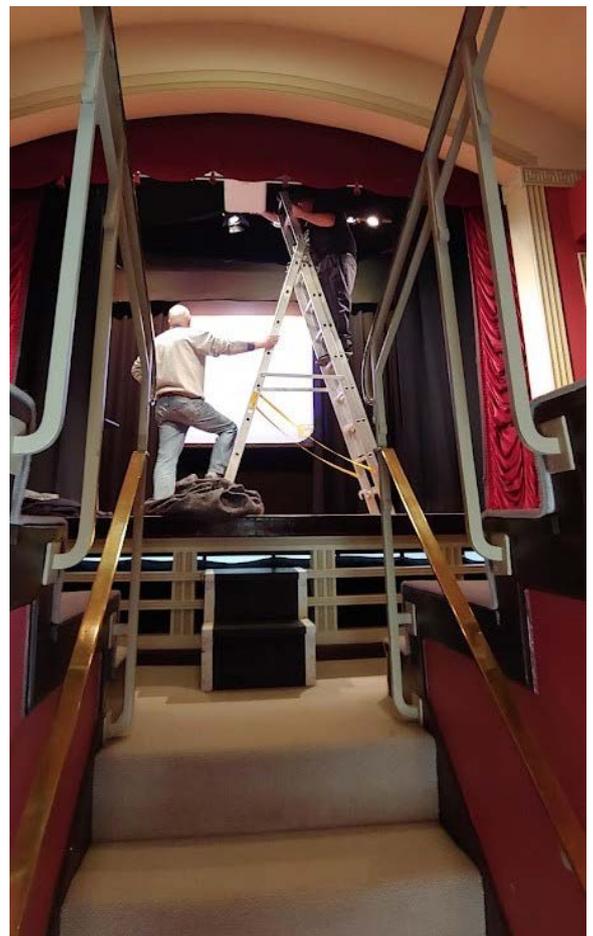


The New Theatre in Oxford is an important provincial theatre which will be familiar to many people. The first “New Theatre” on the site opened in 1836, presenting music hall entertainment, and The City of Oxford Amateur Dramatic Club staged their first ever production, “Merrie England”, there in 1907. This group reformed after WWII as Oxford Operatic Society, and for many

years they have regularly staged musicals in the current building, which has been in use since 1934. It seats 1,785 people, but in the last three years OxOps has managed to sell out the venue for a couple of performances each of “Oliver!” and “The Sound of Music”; memorable experiences for everyone involved.

Rather less well known, and seating 1,721 fewer people, is a gem of a theatre on the Buscot Park estate just outside Faringdon. Buscot Park Theatre is set in the East Pavilion of Buscot House and was constructed in 1936; it has recently been restored and its facilities upgraded. In the last few years, it has hosted summer productions by Faringdon Dramatic Society – so what’s it like to stage plays in such a compact and historical space?

Carolyn Taylor has been a member of Faringdon Dramatic Society for 40 years, and she describes the Theatre as “a little jewel in the most delightful setting”. She recognises that there are “challenges, both as an actor and as a director, working in such a small space. Choosing the right play, and blocking particularly, need a lot of care, but it is such a lovely experience for us and our audiences”.



Debbie Lock has acted in fifty-nine plays for Faringdon Dramatic Society and directed another twelve. “Buscot House Theatre is one of the smallest theatres in the country but has everything you need to put on a show.” “When directing you have to accept that there is no wing space and you have to either fit a piano [which cannot be moved from the stage] into the scene or hide it to one side. We try and rehearse in a small space but realise when we move into the theatre how much smaller the space is that we have to perform in. There is no need to project your voices as the audience is so close and the acoustics are excellent.”



Gary Field, who has been a member of Faringdon Dramatic Society for over 20 years, feels similarly about the venue. “Acting at Buscot House Theatre is like performing to a group of close friends! The audience is so close that you immediately feel that you know everybody. I believe that our audience feels privileged to be there and they exude such warmth to the actors. I believe that this feeling passes to the actors who perform to the best of their abilities.”



He also recognises the technical constraints of the theatre. "Set design is a challenge. We can't screw anything into the floor, so the set has to be predominantly free-standing. Access to back stage is by one spiral staircase to stage right so exits for actors have to be very carefully planned."



The New Theatre in Oxford and Buscot Park Theatre are each special places in their own ways, and we are indeed fortunate to have such diverse but wonderful venues in the same District.

Andrew Walter

*The photos in this article, with the exception of Andrew Walter on the stage of the New Theatre, are from the Faringdon Dramatic Society archive*

### JACK THE RIPPER COMES TO LIFE

### IN KINGS LANGLEY

Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company (KLMTTC) is a relatively small, community-based theatre company. A few years ago, the group was a little jaded and then COVID came along which could have signalled 'the end' for the members.



However, having broken the boundaries the year before lockdown with an 'in the round' production of *Red Hot and Cole*, our then recently appointment director and choreographer, was determined to keep things afloat if possible. As lockdown eased KLMTTC joined with another local revue company and staged another 'in the round' show - this time it was *Stepping Out*. Rehearsals took place with small, separate, groups at the director's house and, much to everyone's surprise and delight, the show sold out in August 2021.



Back on track, KLMTTC returned stronger and more 'together' and attracted new members for their production of *The Addams Family* in 2022.

That was followed by *Hot Mikado*, another bold change for many of the members, but it was a challenging success and in 2024 *Hot Mikado* won the NODA London best male and best female awards in a G&S show.



Never wanting to stand still, the director then suggested staging *The Matchgirls*. This seldom performed show was a virtual sell out, and was enhanced by having relatives of matchgirls, as well as the show's writers in the audience.

Next came a risky step of staging a second show in a year, a cabaret style presentation called *Show People*. This was a total sell

out and KLMTTC is now planning *Show People III*! In 2025 the main show was *Curtains....* a fun show which is not often performed.

And now KLMTTC is in rehearsal for '*Jack the Ripper – The Musical*'. While the title may sound chilling, this is not a blood-and-gore production. Instead, it captures the atmosphere, intrigue and humanity of 1888 London, blending mystery with the lively spirit of Victorian music



hall. Audiences can expect rousing songs, colourful characters,



dramatic storytelling and moments of warmth and humour alongside the tension of one of history's most famous unsolved

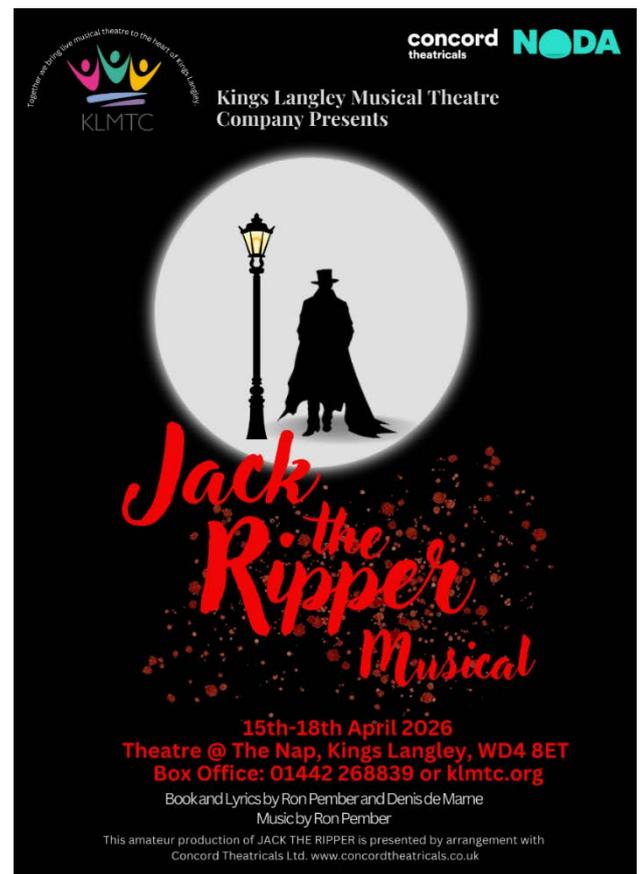
mysteries. At its heart, the show explores the lives of ordinary men and women of the East End whose lives are caught up in extraordinary times. Their stories are brought vividly to life by a talented local cast and creative team. The company has already had a day out in London visiting the Jack the Ripper museum and taking a guided tour of the streets of Whitechapel when the actual murders took place.



Adding to local interest, the [Jack the Ripper](#) suspect [Aaron Kosminski](#) was admitted to Leavesden Asylum on 19 April 1894 – a fascinating connection close to home!

Ambitious, atmospheric and thoroughly entertaining, this promises to be a memorable evening of theatre right here in Kings Langley. Tickets are sure to be popular – book early and join us under the glow of the Victorian gaslights. Tickets from [klmtc.org](http://klmtc.org) or Tel: 01442 268839

Ann Martin (Hertler-Smith)



### OFF BOOK:

### WHY STANDING OVATIONS?



When did standing ovations become the norm? Why, after witnessing the most mediocre of shows, do a proportion of the audience rise jubilantly to their feet, cheer at the top of their voices and celebrate as if their team had just won the FA cup final?

I know, I know, I sound like a grump but if a standing ovation is the highest honour an audience can give a performance, why is it now being used for the nothing specials?



Last week I saw a tolerable musical in which a couple of the cast could sing and the rest sounded as if they had come straight off the terraces. The chemistry between the principals was as stodgy as school dinner puddings and the costumes looked as if they had been passed down since they were used when G&S were boys. Despite this, at the walk down, up on their feet stood Rows C, D and E. Up went their hands and out came their hollers. Then, of course, the rows behind had to stand so they could see the smiles of the cast and so on until the auditorium became a forest of applauding automatons.

Now, I totally get the convention of an audience showing their appreciation and gratitude for the players at the end of their offering and I'm the first to clap sufficiently, indeed even enthusiastically, when the show has been really good. But the only times I've been compelled to enhance this appreciation and rise upon my limbs in awe was once when seeing

Colm Wilkinson in Les Misérables and another time for Mark Rylance at The Globe.

My grumpy point is that if you give a standing ovation for mediocrity what's left for excellence? A Mexican Wave? High Fives? Kneeling in Exaltation?

Anyway, I know these things are likely here to stay and my opinions won't alter anything, but I feel better having got it off my chest. Perhaps now I'll give myself a lap of honour or sing the national anthem but I'm not standing on ceremony.

Ami Onyet

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### PROGRAMME AND POSTER COMPETITION

Thank you to all societies who submitted their programmes and posters for this year's competition. All entries have now been examined by the judges, and the short-listed entries will be announced on 17 April, together with district winners and other NODA London Awards.



Of over sixty entries received, I had to reject three which did not carry the current "introduction to NODA" wording. The inclusion of this paragraph is a condition of entry, and you must copy the text exactly in order to qualify. See the example below.

Whether you are staging a musical, an opera, a play, a concert or a pantomime, as the UK's leading amateur theatre membership organisation, NODA is here for every show, every rehearsal, every curtain call – here for our members every step of the way.

From just starting out to centre stage; village halls to professional venues; NODA exists to celebrate, connect, support and amplify amateur theatre and theatre groups across the UK.

We provide invaluable services, expertise and resources – that help thousands of our member groups create and produce theatre, that enhances lives and benefits communities everywhere.

Whatever your passion, level of experience or stage of life, we are here to help everyone enjoy the unique benefits, opportunities and sense of community that live performance can bring.

**NODA**  
For every stage

**NODA**  
For every stage  
[noda.org.uk](http://noda.org.uk)

Entries are already beginning to arrive for next year's competition. If you have never entered before then, now is a good time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Details of how to enter can be found by following the link.

[www.noda.org.uk/regions/london/noda-london-poster-programme-competition](http://www.noda.org.uk/regions/london/noda-london-poster-programme-competition)

Paul M Holgate

[paul.holgate@noda.org.uk](mailto:paul.holgate@noda.org.uk)

### WHAT'S ON IN THE LONDON REGION

YOU MAY SUBMIT SHOW LISTINGS 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 e.g. 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)

When submitting a show listing, why not send a photo for the Facebook page?

Production or rehearsal photographs are welcome at any time. We use a new photo every week.

### **THE UNFRIEND**

*by Steve Moffat*

17 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Sinodun Players

Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG

<https://shorturl.at/IRkyg>

### **LEGALLY BLONDE**

17 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Crowthorne Musical Players

Wilde Theatre RG12 7PA

Box Office: 01344 484123

<https://shorturl.at/92rNB>

### **SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL**

18 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Eldorado Musical Productions

Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG

Box Office: 02088 503702

[www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/](http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/)

### **THE HEIGHT OF THE STORM**

*by Florian Zeller*

18 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Proscenium

Compass Theatre UB10 8PD

Box Office: 01895 250 615

<https://shorturl.at/EELBb>

### **CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG**

18 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Panda Players

Elgiva Theatre HP5 1HR

Box Office: 01494 582900

<https://shorturl.at/bRjNX>

### **JANE AUSTEN'S PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**

*adapted by John Goodman*

18 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Henley Players (Oxfordshire)

Kenton Theatre RG9 2BS

Box Office: 01491 525050

<https://henleyplayers.com/>

### **THE 19TH ANNUAL WRITEFEST**

*six short plays*

18 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Progress Theatre

Progress Theatre RG1 5HL

<https://progresstheatre.co.uk/whats-on>

### **ABIGAIL'S PARTY**

*by Mike Leigh*

19 Mar 26 - 21 Mar 26

Beaufort Players

Hanger Hill Church of the Ascension Hall W5 3EB

[www.beaufortplayers.org.uk/boxoffice/](http://www.beaufortplayers.org.uk/boxoffice/)

### **THE OAKLEY CABARET**

21 Mar 26

Oakley Players

Oakley Village Hall HP18 9RD

[www.trybooking.com/uk/fyno](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/fyno)

### **ANNIE & FAME**

*MT Showcase 2026*

21 Mar 26

Step on Stage Productions

Queen Charlotte Theatre TW9 2RE

<https://shorturl.at/tiMbn>

### **DAY AND NIGHT**

*a concert of G&S and other songs*

23 Mar 26 - 24 Mar 26

Julian Light Operatic Society

Questors Studio W5 5BQ

<https://shorturl.at/FjBki>

### **NEXT TO NORMAL**

24 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

SEDOS

Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ

<https://shorturl.at/LduPF>

### CALENDAR GIRLS

*by Tim Firth*

25 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Hemel Hempstead Theatre Company

Boxmoor Playhouse HP1 1NP

Box Office: 0333 666 3366

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/hhtheatreco](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hhtheatreco)

### ANYTHING GOES

25 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Forest Musical Theatre Company

Brentwood Theatre CM15 8AG

Box Office: 01277 200305

<https://shorturl.at/FKYtx>

### LIGHTS, CAMERA, CABARET

25 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

East Berkshire Operatic Society (EBOS)

Pinewood Theatre RG40 3AQ

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/ebos](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ebos)

### THE UNFRIEND

*by Steve Moffat*

25 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Wargrave Theatre

Woodclyffe Hall RG10 8BY

[www.wargravetheatre.co.uk/buy-tickets/](http://www.wargravetheatre.co.uk/buy-tickets/)

### ALICE IN WONDERLAND

*adapted by Brainerd Duffield*

26 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Abbots Langley Players

Henderson HUB WD5 0AR

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/alp](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/alp)

### THE HERD

*by Rory Kinnear*

26 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS)

Lopping Hall IG10 4LF

<https://lads.org.uk/tickets/>

### PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE ARTWORK

*four artsy comedies*

26 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Masque Players of West Wycombe

West Wycombe Village Hall HP14 3AB

Box Office: 07810 838327

<https://shorturl.at/Wm5JS>

### A NIGHT AT THE AWARDS

*(cabaret)*

27 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Rickmansworth Players

Pump House Theatre WD17 2JP

<https://www.rickyplayers.co.uk/>

### 2 ONE ACT COMEDY PLAYS

*What's For Pudding?/Mary Mary*

27 Mar 26 - 28 Mar 26

Marlow Amateur Operatic Society (MAOS)

Village Hall HP13 5GD

<https://maosmarlow.com/box-office/>

### CAB-HOORAY!

*An Evening of Musical Theatre*

28 Mar 26

Beaconsfield Musical and Operatic Society (BMOS)

St Thomas Hotspur Hall HP9 1UF

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmos](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmos)

### SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL

01 Apr 26 - 04 Apr 26

Reading Operatic Society

Kenton Theatre RG9 2BS

<https://shorturl.at/1hpv>

### CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

01 Apr 26 - 04 Apr 26

Musical Youth Company of Oxford (MYCO)

Oxford Playhouse OX1 2LW

Box Office: 01865 305305

<https://shorturl.at/i0Hzj>

### **WINNIE THE POOH**

03 Apr 26 - 05 Apr 26  
Erith Playhouse  
Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://shorturl.at/xF2fk>

### **DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

07 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Abingdon Operatic Society  
Amey Theatre OX14 1DE  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/abingdonoperatic](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/abingdonoperatic)

### **SISTER ACT**

07 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Centre Stage London  
London Oratory School Theatre SW6 1RX  
[www.centrestage.london/sister-act](http://www.centrestage.london/sister-act)

### **A MONSTER CALLS**

*by Patrick Ness*  
08 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre  
Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1 4NP  
[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

### **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**

*by Arthur Miller*  
08 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Pump House Theatre Company  
Pump House Theatre WD17 2JP  
<https://shorturl.at/oqZGX>

### **THE VICAR OF DIBLEY**

*by Ian Gower & Paul Carpenter*  
08 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Putney Light Operatic Society  
St Pauls Community Centre SW19 6ED  
[www.plos.co.uk/the-vicar-of-dibley/](http://www.plos.co.uk/the-vicar-of-dibley/)

### **SHREK THE MUSICAL**

08 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Avocet Theatre Company  
Wykham Theatre OX16 9HY  
[www.avocettheatre.co.uk/shrek](http://www.avocettheatre.co.uk/shrek)

### **ARE YOU BEING SERVED?**

*by Jeremy Lloyd & David Croft*  
09 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Crowthorne Amateur Theatrical Society  
Edgbarrow School Hall RG45 7HZ  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/crowthornecats](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/crowthornecats)

### **GLORIOUS!**

*by Peter Quilter*  
09 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Harefield Amateur Dramatic Society  
St Marys Harefield Church Hall UB9 6BX  
Box Office: 01895 253346  
[www.harefieldamdram.org/](http://www.harefieldamdram.org/)

### **FOOTLOOSE**

10 Apr 26 - 11 Apr 26  
Beck Youth Theatre  
Beck Theatre UB3 2UE  
Box Office: 0343 310 0044  
<https://shorturl.at/j54US>

### **POPSTARS**

*the 90's musical*  
15 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
Starmaker Theatre Company  
Alan Cornish Theatre RG5 4JZ  
[www.starmaker.org.uk/boxoffice](http://www.starmaker.org.uk/boxoffice)

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

15 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
Bromley Players  
Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG  
Box Office: 02088 503702  
<https://shorturl.at/RVhJW>

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

15 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
Dartford Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society (DAODS)  
Orchard West DA1 1BX  
[www.daods.co.uk/our-shows](http://www.daods.co.uk/our-shows)

### **SISTER ACT**

15 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
HEOS Musical Theatre  
Questors Theatre W5 5BQ  
Box Office: 020 856 75184  
[www.heos.org.uk/](http://www.heos.org.uk/)

### **JACK THE RIPPER**

*the musical*  
15 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company  
Theatre @ The Nap WD4 8ET  
Box Office: 01442 268839  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/klmtc](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/klmtc)

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU - YOUNG @PART**

17 Apr 26 - 18 Apr 26  
Newbury Youngstars  
Arlington Arts Centre RG14 3BQ  
Box Office: 01635 244 246  
<https://shorturl.at/FverX>

### **ANNIE**

16 Apr 26 - 19 Apr 26  
IODS Productions  
Redbridge Drama Centre E18 2RB  
[www.iodsproductions.co.uk/](http://www.iodsproductions.co.uk/)

### **THE LONG ROAD**

*by Shelagh Stephenson*  
16 Apr 26 - 19 Apr 26  
Garden Suburb Theatre  
Upstairs at the Gatehouse N6 4BD  
<https://shorturl.at/iysCT>

### **THE END OR THE BEGINNING?**

*A triple bill of One Act Plays*  
17 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Woodhouse Players  
Welsh Church Hall E11 1HR  
[www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk/tickets](http://www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk/tickets)

### **SHEILA'S ISLAND**

*by Tim Firth*  
17 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Lane End Players  
Lane End Village Hall HP14 3JE  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/laneendplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/laneendplayers)

### **THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY**

*adapted by Ali & Liz Carroll*  
20 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Progress Theatre  
Progress Theatre RG1 5HL  
<https://progresstheatre.co.uk/whats-on>

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

21 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Potters Bar Theatre Company  
Wylllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN  
<https://shorturl.at/A0kxb>

### **SWEET CHARITY**

22 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Maidenhead Musical Comedy Society  
Kenton Theatre RG9 2BS  
Box Office: 01491 525050  
<https://shorturl.at/R8EyD>

### **WE ARE FAMILY**

*the best of pop, stage and screen*  
22 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Zodiac Musical Society  
Riverside Arts Centre TW16 5QF  
Box Office: 01932 660619  
<https://shorturl.at/l4Lx0>

### **THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF MUSICAL**

22 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
Shinfield Players Theatre  
Shinfield Players Theatre RG2 9DF  
<https://shorturl.at/wzRtJ>

### **HOME, I'M DARLING**

*by Laura Wade*  
22 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
New Stagers Theatre Company  
Studio at New Wimbledon Theatre SW19 1QG  
[www.newstagers.co.uk/tickets](http://www.newstagers.co.uk/tickets)

### **COME FROM AWAY**

22 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26  
ROS Musical Theatre  
Winston Churchill Theatre HA4 7QL  
[www.rosmusicaltheatre.co.uk/](http://www.rosmusicaltheatre.co.uk/)

### **THE UNFRIEND**

*by Steve Moffat*

23 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26

Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group

Southmoor Village Hall OX13 5BY

Box Office: 0333 666 3366

<https://shorturl.at/OqdWd>

### **JANE AUSTEN'S PERSUASION**

*a new adaptation by Sarah Rose Kearns*

23 Apr 26 - 25 Apr 26

Barnes Community Players

National Archives TW9 4DU

<https://shorturl.at/jAUzc>

### **CHESHIRE CATS**

*by Gail Young*

24 Apr 26 - 26 Apr 26

Worcester Park Dramatic Society

Elmcroft Community Centre SM3 9AB

[www.wpds.co.uk/productions/#currentshow](http://www.wpds.co.uk/productions/#currentshow)

### **THE CYGNET PROMS**

*a night at the musicals*

28 Apr 26 - 02 May 26

Cygnets Players

St Barnabas Church Southfields SW18 5EP

<https://cygnetplayers.com/tickets/>

### **THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE**

30 Apr 26 - 02 May 26

Berkhamsted Youth Theatre

DEMBE Theatre HP23 5QY

<https://shorturl.at/3KYUJ>

### **TRAITOR AT THE BEECHES**

*by Kathy Reid*

30 Apr 26 - 02 May 26

Twyford Drama

Loddon Hall RG10 9JA

Box Office: 0118 328 2825

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/twyforddrama](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/twyforddrama)

### **THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL**

29 Apr 26 - 03 May 26

St Albans Musical Theatre Company

Alban Arena AL1 3LD

Box Office: 01727 844488

[www.samtc.org.uk/](http://www.samtc.org.uk/)

### **GOING STRAIGHT**

*by Richard Harris*

29 Apr 26 - 03 May 26

East Lane Theatre Club

East Lane Theatre HA0 3HG

Box Office: 07762 622215

[www.eastlanetheatre.co.uk/booking.html](http://www.eastlanetheatre.co.uk/booking.html)

### **BOOK CLUB**

*a new comedy play by Kate Bromage*

01 May 26 - 03 May 26

New Stagers Theatre Company

Bread & Roses Theatre SW4 6DZ

[www.newstagers.co.uk/tickets](http://www.newstagers.co.uk/tickets)

### **THE BALLAD OF MARIA MARTEN**

*by Beth Flintoff*

02 May 26 - 09 May 26

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1 4NP

[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

### **THE WIZARD OF OZ**

05 May 26 - 09 May 26

Vale Musical Society

DEMBE Theatre HP23 5QY

<https://shorturl.at/OdSO0>

### **CLUEDO**

*by Sandy Rustin*

05 May 26 - 09 May 26

Rickmansworth Players

Pump House Theatre WD17 2JP

[www.cluedo2026.co.uk](http://www.cluedo2026.co.uk)

### **LADIES IN LAVENDER**

*by Shaun McKenna*

05 May 26 - 09 May 26

Thame Players

Thame Players Theatre OX9 2DP

Box Office: 01844 212833

<https://shorturl.at/wGAAr>

### **SISTER ACT**

05 May 26 - 09 May 26

East Berkshire Operatic Society (EBOS)

Wilde Theatre RG12 7PA

Box Office: 01344 484123

<https://shorturl.at/xv91z>

### **DISNEY'S FROZEN**

05 May 26 - 09 May 26

Green Room Productions

Wylllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN

Box Office: 01707 645005

<https://shorturl.at/8Qr5z>

### **THE WEDDING SINGER**

07 May 26 - 09 May 26

Beaconsfield Musical and Operatic Society  
(BMOS)

Curzon Centre HP9 1RG

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmos](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmos)

### **COMPANY**

07 May 26 - 16 May 26

SEDOS

Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ

<https://shorturl.at/LduPF>

### **SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM**

*by Guy Unsworth*

07 May 26 - 16 May 26

Quince Players

Cordes Hall SL5 9NE

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/quinceplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/quinceplayers)

### **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT**

11 May 26 - 16 May 26

Erith Operatic Society

Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/eos](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eos)

### **GUYS AND DOLLS**

12 May 26 - 16 May 26

TOPS Musical Theatre Company

Hampton Hill Theatre TW12 1NZ

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/tops](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tops)

### **PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT**

12 May 26 - 16 May 26

Cassio Productions

Watford Palace Theatre WD17 1JZ

<https://shorturl.at/8kMrW>

### **THE WEDDING SINGER**

12 May 26 - 16 May 26

ELODS

Wylllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN

Box Office: 01707 645005

[www.elods.org.uk/](http://www.elods.org.uk/)

### **PLAYHOUSE CREATURES**

*by April de Angelis*

13 May 26 - 16 May 26

Bob Hope Theatre

Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG

Box Office: 02088 503702

[www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/](http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/)

### **LIVING TOGETHER**

*by Alan Ayckbourn*

13 May 26 - 16 May 26

Ruislip Dramatic Society

Compass Theatre UB10 8PD

<https://shorturl.at/jnkYJ>

### **42ND STREET**

13 May 26 - 16 May 26

Chesham Musical Theatre Company

Elgiva Theatre HP5 1HR

Box Office: 01494 582900

<https://elgiva.com/book-a-show/>

### **A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED**

*by Agatha Christie*

13 May 26 - 16 May 26

Bartholomew Players

Eynsham Village Hall OX29 4QW

Box Office: 07721 744020

<https://shorturl.at/bhGZW>

### **LEGALLY BLONDE**

13 May 26 - 16 May 26  
Sainsbury Singers  
Hexagon Theatre RG1 7QF  
<https://shorturl.at/7oRiN>

### **OKLAHOMA!**

13 May 26 - 16 May 26  
Loughton Operatic Society  
Lopping Hall IG10 4LF  
Box Office: 07907 028155  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/los](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/los)

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

13 May 26 - 16 May 26  
GLOC Musical Theatre  
Questors Theatre W5 5BQ  
Box Office: 02085 670011  
[www.questors.org.uk/event.aspx?id=1518](http://www.questors.org.uk/event.aspx?id=1518)

### **LARK RISE**

*by Keith Dewhurst*  
14 May 26 - 16 May 26  
Faringdon Dramatic Society  
Poultry Yard SN6 7PT  
[www.faringdondramatic.org.uk/box-office/](http://www.faringdondramatic.org.uk/box-office/)

### **FROM STAGE TO SCREEN**

*Celebrating 100 years of musical films*  
16 May 26  
WOS Productions  
Ickenham Village Hall UB10 8DG  
<https://shorturl.at/0xr3T>

### **MURDER, MARGARET AND ME**

*by Philip Meeks*  
19 May 26 - 23 May 26  
Sinodun Players  
Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG  
<https://shorturl.at/u0oLk>

### **ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST**

*by Dario Fo*  
20 May 26 - 23 May 26  
Tring Theatre Company  
DEMBE Theatre HP23 5QY  
<https://shorturl.at/o83xS>

### **FOOTLOOSE**

20 May 26 - 23 May 26  
Henley Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society  
(HAODS)  
Kenton Theatre RG9 2BS  
Box Office: 01491 525050  
<https://shorturl.at/XuyR5>

### **THE PRODUCERS**

20 May 26 - 23 May 26  
Maidenhead Operatic Society  
Norden Farm Centre for the Arts SL6 4PF  
<https://norden.farm/events/the-producers>

### **THE TURN OF THE SCREW**

*by Ken Whitmore*  
21 May 26 - 23 May 26  
Kings Langley Players  
Theatre @ The Nap WD4 8ET  
Box Office: 0333 666 3366  
<https://klp.org.uk/box-office-2/>

### **ANNIE JR.**

24 May 26  
First Impressions Theatre  
Harriet Walter Theatre RG41 5BG  
<https://shorturl.at/eaw4q>

### **HOME, I'M DARLING**

*by Laura Wade*  
25 May 26 - 30 May 26  
Progress Theatre  
Progress Theatre RG1 5HL  
<https://progresstheatre.co.uk/whats-on>

### **MOJO**

*by Jez Butterworth*  
26 May 26 - 30 May 26  
Southside Players  
Studio at New Wimbledon Theatre SW19 1QG  
<https://shorturl.at/YBd3L>

### **ON THE TOWN**

26 May 26 - 30 May 26  
Wimbledon Light Opera Society  
John McIntosh Arts Centre SW6 1RX  
[www.wlos.org.uk/tickets](http://www.wlos.org.uk/tickets)

### **THINGS I KNOW TO BE TRUE**

*by Andrew Bovell*

30 May 26 - 06 Jun 26

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1 4NP

[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

### **THAT'S LIFE – AN EXTRA SLICE**

*a Rat Pack musical*

05 Jun 26 - 06 Jun 26

The Warren

Wylllyotts Theatre EN6 2HN

<https://shorturl.at/VNc0x>

### **ENTERTAINING ANGELS**

*by Richard Everett*

08 Jun 26 - 13 Jun 26

Erith Playhouse

Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY

Box Office: 0333 666 3366

<https://shorturl.at/xF2fk>

### **DEALING WITH CLAIR**

*by Martin Crimp*

10 Jun 26 - 13 Jun 26

Bob Hope Theatre

Bob Hope Theatre SE9 5TG

Box Office: 02088 503702

[www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/](http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/)

### **TIME OF MY LIFE**

*by Alan Ayckbourn*

10 Jun 26 - 13 Jun 26

Proscenium

Compass Theatre UB10 8PD

<https://proscenium.org.uk/>

### **AFTER LIFE**

*by Jack Thorne*

12 Jun 26 - 14 Jun 26

Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS)

Lopping Hall IG10 4LF

<https://lads.org.uk/tickets/>

### **UNDERDOG: THE OTHER OTHER BRONTË**

*by Sarah Gordon*

18 Jun 26 - 20 Jun 26

Banbury Cross Players

Mill Arts Centre OX16 5QE

<https://shorturl.at/vBnFQ>

### **KINKY BOOTS**

25 Jun 26 - 04 Jul 26

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre

Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre DA1 4NP

[www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.thegwt.org.uk/whats-on/)

### **COME FROM AWAY**

30 Jun 26 - 04 Jul 26

Hemel Hempstead Theatre Company

Boxmoor Playhouse HP1 1NP

Box Office: 0333 666 3366

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/hhtheatreco](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hhtheatreco)

### **THE RHYTHM OF LIFE**

*A Celebration of Musical Theatre*

03 Jul 26 - 04 Jul 26

Oxford Operatic Society (OXOPS)

Oxford Playhouse OX1 2LW

<https://shorturl.at/cujkT>

### **ENCORE!**

*a musical celebration of 1000 shows*

07 Jul 26 - 11 Jul 26

Erith Playhouse

Erith Playhouse DA8 1QY

Box Office: 0333 666 3366

<https://shorturl.at/xF2fk>

### **PACK OF LIES**

*by Hugh Whitmore*

07 Jul 26 - 11 Jul 26

Thame Players

Thame Players Theatre OX9 2DP

Box Office: 01844 212833

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/thametheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thametheatre)

### **ROCK OF AGES**

09 Jul 26 - 11 Jul 26

Marlow Amateur Operatic Society (MAOS)

Lancaster Arts Centre HP11 1PE

<https://maosmarlow.com/box-office/>

### **DISNEY'S FROZEN**

10 Jul 26 - 12 Jul 26

Launton Village Players

Big Shed Theatre OX26 5AB

Box Office: 07864 715708

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lvp>

### **UNDERDOG: THE OTHER OTHER BRONTË**

*by Sarah Gordon*

13 Jul 26 - 18 Jul 26

Sinodun Players

Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG

<https://shorturl.at/PlwbM>

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

*adapted by Simon Stephens*

14 Jul 26 - 18 Jul 26

SEDOS

Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ

<https://shorturl.at/LduPF>

### **OKLAHOMA!**

16 Jul 26 - 18 Jul 26

Havering Music Makers

Queens Theatre RM11 1QT

Box Office: 01708 443333

<https://shorturl.at/QM15p>

### **COME FROM AWAY**

21 Jul 26 - 25 Jul 26

Dartford Amateur Operatic & Dramatic  
Society (DAODS)

Dartford Open Air Theatre - Central Park DA1  
1DJ

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/daods-online](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/daods-online)

### **THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR**

*by William Shakespeare*

22 Jul 26 - 25 Jul 26

Greek Theatre Players

Open Air Greek Theatre E17 9RZ

Box Office: 07930 603308

[www.greektheatreplayers.co.uk/](http://www.greektheatreplayers.co.uk/)

### **ANYTHING GOES**

03 Aug 26 - 07 Aug 26

BROS Theatre Company

Minack Theatre TR19 6JU

<https://brostheatrecompany.org/>

### **HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION**

14 Aug 26 - 15 Aug 26

Youth of Banbury Operatic Society (YOBOS)

Wykham Theatre OX16 9HY

[www.yobos.co.uk/tickets](http://www.yobos.co.uk/tickets)

### **DESIGN FOR LIVING**

*by Noël Coward*

08 Sep 26 - 12 Sep 26

Thame Players

Thame Players Theatre OX9 2DP

Box Office: 01844 212833

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/thametheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thametheatre)

### **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST**

*a new musical*

15 Sep 26 - 19 Sep 26

SEDOS

Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ

<https://shorturl.at/LduPF>

### **THE SEWING GROUP**

*by E V Crowe*

22 Sep 26 - 26 Sep 26

Sinodun Players

Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG

<https://shorturl.at/8Yhly>

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

29 Sep 26 - 03 Oct 26

Zodiac Musical Society

Hampton Hill Theatre TW12 1NZ

[www.zodiacmusicalsociety.org/upcoming-events.html](http://www.zodiacmusicalsociety.org/upcoming-events.html)

### **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

30 Sep 26 - 03 Oct 26

Nomads Musical Theatre

Newbury Corn Exchange RG14 5BD

<https://www.nomadsmusicaltheatre.co.uk/>

### **BE MORE CHILL**

20 Oct 26 - 24 Oct 26

SEDOS

Bridewell Theatre EC4Y 8EQ

<https://shorturl.at/LduPF>

### **IMMACULATE**

*by Oliver Lansley*

27 Oct 26 - 31 Oct 26

Sinodun Players

Wallingford Corn Exchange OX10 0EG

<https://shorturl.at/JUEjy>

### **THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF MUSICAL**

04 Nov 26 - 07 Nov 26

Chesham Musical Theatre Company

Elgiva Theatre HP5 1HR

Box Office: 01494 974274

<https://elgiva.com/book-a-show/>