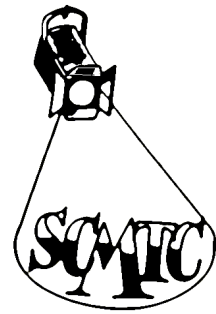


NOTES



Chairman's Notes...

Here's the last copy of NOTES for 2001. Once again, I have to apologise for being too busy to issue a copy since August.

TTNYI I was a success in October, see Page 2 for opinions from members, Production Team and Board at our post-performance review.

We're now heading towards the Christmas Concert and finishing the year with our traditional cabaret at Whittington Golf Club.

Attached to this copy of NOTES is the Member Survey. Keith Dovey and Pam Somers have done an excellent job in preparing this for all our members. This is a unique opportunity for you to let the Board know what you think about all aspects of the Company. After Xmas, we shall be meeting to review the feedback and agreeing plans for 2002. We already have some exciting prospects we're thinking about, for instance, we would really like to get a Youth Group started after Oliver!

The Board has lost another member following Mark Symonds' resignation in November. This is a great concern to us, and we shall

have to find ways of getting involvement from more members in the New Year. The Member Survey contains space for you to offer your support.

Rehearsals for Oliver! begin in January, and Helen Gilfoyle, Sheila Pearson and Jenny Jesson are already planning. There are different challenges with this show—you know the old adage about working with children and animals? Well this has lots of boys and a dog to contend with! And some lucky person will get the opportunity to take the part of Fagin, which must be one of the most challenging roles an actor faces. I can still remember Will (John) Shakespeare's brilliant performance in 1982 (he's still reading NOTES for those that remember him by the way). Well may I wish everybody a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.



Dave Bardell, Chairman

**Sutton Coldfield
Musical Theatre
Company
Limited**

**Volume 5, Issue 4
December 2001**

**SUTTON COLDFIELD
MUSICAL**
—Theatre Co. Ltd—

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TTNY II...

As usual after a show, the Board conducted a post-production review with the Production Team.

I'd like to share some of the feedback with you, both positive and constructive criticism.

In general, everybody felt the show had gone well, and it was clear that all involved had worked hard to put the show on.

The new Venue caused some problems, in particular, the quality of the sound (through no fault of Ian's) and the seating. The gap between the raked seating and the stage made it difficult on those performances where the seats weren't filled. We hope to counter this in future by introducing a lower priced seat for the flat area. This will start with Oliver! Ian is still trying to work out how to improve the sound in what is a very difficult auditorium.

We also felt the lighting could have been better. Dave Ashton will be back with us in Oliver!, and thanks to him for stepping in to the Matinee and saving the day!

Thanks to the backstage crew for building the set, and to John Howkins & Steve Shah who took the Stage Manager & Corner roles for the first time.

Tickets were once again a concern. We sold about 60% of capacity and missed the opportunity to maximise our profit. A Ticket Committee will be set up in the New Year to look into improving things. Please use the Member Survey to register your comments.

Promotions were also very disappointing. Sam Green has taken over responsibility for Oliver! And will be setting up a Promotions Committee to address the problems.

Ray & Iris Cooksey took over props for the first time, and many thanks to Ray who continued to turn up despite the death of his father during the week of the show. Ray & Iris have agreed to continue for Oliver!. This is the kind of commitment we need from our members.

Dave Hill raised a serious issue in questioning the commitment of our members to shows. Sheila & Sarah confirmed that they'd also suffered from cast turning up to rehearsals late, or not at all, and often without an apology. We do need everybody to understand that committing to a Show means adjusting other priorities. Incidentally, Oliver! will clash with the World Cup so please take this into consideration.

Congratulations to the children that appeared in the Show (and their parents). Their behaviour was exemplary.

We held a member review at the next rehearsal and all points raised were noted.

In summary, there's a lot more to putting on a show than simply appearing on stage. It takes a lot of effort behind the scenes, and I hope that more people will consider raising their efforts to support us in 2002.



Oliver!...

Director: Helen Gilfoyle

Musical Director: Sheila Pearson

Choreographer: Jenny Jesson

Rehearsals commence on Friday, 4th January 2002 at Britwell Hall.

Helen has decided that Fagin's gang will be all boys, assuming we can find them. We shall advertise after Xmas. A Children's Preview will be held on Tuesday, 15th January at St. Edmund Campion where we will whittle them down as in Popstars!

Children's auditions will then be held on Tuesday, 22nd January and Adult auditions on Tuesday, 29th January, all at St. Edmund Campion.

We're expecting to select about 20 boys for the gang.

The last time we performed, Shona Lindsay appeared as Bet, so maybe another future star is waiting in the wings.

Helen can be contacted on *0121 605 7293* for further details.

Mark Symonds...

It is with sincere regret that I have to report that Mark Symonds has resigned from the Board.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank him for his efforts, in particular, his contribution to the printing of programmes and other publications.

Mark will continue as a member of the Company and has kindly offered to support us where he can.

Welcome to new members...

Many congratulations to those new members who have joined us since the last copy of NOTES. They were all successful in completing their auditions and are now full members of the Company:

Malcolm Harris

New Board Member...

Regrettably, the Board have received no offers to join us since the last issue of NOTES.

The last show, TTNYS I, showed how much work there is to running the Company. I can honestly say that my workload has risen considerably over the past 12 months, which is one of the reasons that I have fallen behind with NOTES.

However, we have discussed the situation at the past few Board Meetings and realised that the few of us who remain have no choice but to continue to soldier on. I'm pleased to report that Keith Dovey has withdrawn his resignation and is now committed to continue as Treasurer for the foreseeable future.

We are convinced that we can continue to administer the Company with our current number, but we shall undoubtedly be looking for member support in running sub-committees such as the Promotions Committee, Ticket Committee (first meeting planned for January) etc.

Our main concern is succession—the more senior members of the Board will not always be around in the future, and the Company's future is threatened without cover for key roles on the Board. You have been warned...

Christmas Concert...

The Christmas Concert will be held at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall on Sunday, 16th December.

Tickets are £5 (Adults), £2 (Students) & £1 (Children) at 4pm, and £8 (Adults), £4 (Students) & £1 (Children) at 7.30pm. Tickets from Helen King, 0121 357 8023 or at the door.

Cast should remember to bring shop-bought mince pies, which will be provided with refreshments in the break. Also, Margaret Mallett is collecting for the Hamper raffle prizes.

October 2002 Show...

As we are still sorting out details of the October 2002 show, I hope to be able to announce it in January.

The Show Committee have come up with an idea that I hope will meet with everyone's approval.

Don't forget to fill in and return your Member Survey, which contains questions around Show selection.

100 Club—Latest Winners...

Please contact Marian Whitbread on 01283 791573 if you'd like to participate. It only costs £11 per year to join. 3 Prizes every month, with special £50 star prize in November & May.

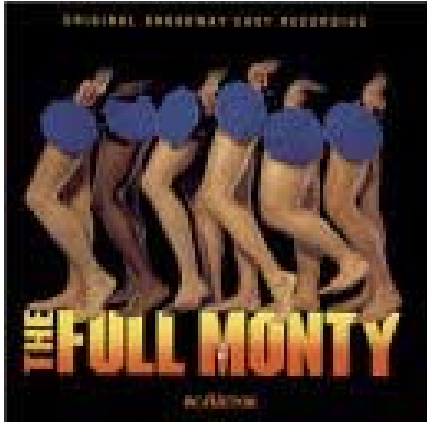
Thanks for your support!!

	<i>Aug 2001</i>	<i>Sep 2001</i>
<i>£25</i>	Nicky Dowd	Keith Davis
<i>£15</i>	Mrs. J. Pryer	Mr. & Mrs. R. Beddoe
<i>£10</i>	Chris Small	Julie Callaghan
	<i>Oct 2001</i>	<i>Nov 2001</i>
<i>£25</i>	Rachel Gibbon	Helen King
<i>£15</i>	Margaret Baynes	Mike Turner
<i>£10</i>	Sally Baxter	Mrs. J. Pryer

Apologies for delays in the 100 Club due to changing responsibilities. We hope to be back to normal now, and will hold the December draw as the Star £50 Draw this year.

And thanks to Sally Baxter for her past efforts.

Katie Pinell...



Katie Pinell is to appear in The Full Monty which opens in March 2002.

Congratulations to Katie on her latest achievement.

Katie was seen in the Royal Variety Performance in November, by the way. She was one of the three ladies offstage, and not impersonating one of the blokes without any clothes onstage.

Wwwere on the web...

There will be a re-designed website available in the New Year.

If you have any ideas on what can be added then let me know and I'll try to incorporate in the new design.

Still need help, if anyone's a budding webbie...

The Tuckwell Wedding...

Lindsey and Mark are getting married on June 15th, 2002. They would like everyone to reserve the date in order that the Company can sing at their wedding (...you only sing at your wedding..., sorry the football job took over!). There's an evening do as well. We shall not be rehearsing as usual on the Saturday before the show starts to ensure they have the perfect wedding.

Daniel Turner...

I'm pleased to report that Daniel was able to start his course at Italia Conti.

He received a cheque from a Charity, which enabled him to take up his place. The cheque has by no means covered what he needs, and he continues to search for a benefactor.

I guess this will be a difficult time for Daniel to get through, but I sincerely hope his talent will shine through and that he manages to make it in what is a notoriously difficult, but rewarding career.

Note to Patrons...

List of patrons continues to grow thanks to the efforts of Sheila Dykes.

Late Xmas gift for someone you love? Remember the gift card that we have available. Only £10, or £15 per couple per annum.

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Dykes or Sam Green (gift card).

Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company Limited

Dave Bardell, Chairman
4, Herringshaw Croft
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands
B76 1HT

Phone: 0121 241 8658 / 07813 822725
Email: dpb@scmtc.co.uk
Web: www.scmtc.co.uk



SUTTON COLDFIELD
MUSICAL
—Theatre Co. Ltd—

The Board of Directors

Chairman:	Dave Bardell
Vice-Chairman:	Not filled
Hon. Treasurer:	Keith Dovey
Hon. Secretary:	Roger Dykes
Member:	Marian Whitbread
Member:	Pam Somers
Member:	Sam Green
Member:	Not filled

Minutes Secretary: Julie Callaghan

STOP PRESS

Internet readers

Adobe Acrobat Reader has now been upgraded to v5. Make sure you download the latest update, v5.0.5, as the original update caused me problems in Windows XP.

Go to www.adobe.com

Calendar of Events

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Sutton Town Hall
16th December 2001

CHRISTMAS CABARET
Whittington Golf Club
19th December 2001

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE
Fairlawns Hotel
5th January 2002

OLIVER!
Sutton Town Hall
18th—22nd June 2002

Autumn Show 2002
Sutton Town Hall
29th October—2nd November
2002