

Welcome to the April 2019 edition of your newsletter - keeping you up to date with society news. Plans for our next production, "Oliver" are progressing well, and it's great to see the interest it's generating. Looking ahead, beyond performances in September / October, our subsequent show, a Concert called 'Dare to be Different', is also coming together, with the show scheduled for February. Lots to look forward to!

"Oliver" update

We're excited to be able to update you on the opportunity to get involved in 'Oliver' – a unique collaboration between COS, CO2 and The Mercury Theatre. You can find details on how to audition for principal and chorus roles for both adults and under 16s, together with timings and other information on [our website](#) and [facebook page](#). Got any queries? Then check out our new [FAQs](#), also on our website.

And here's a quick summary of key dates:

- **Monday 8th April** (don't delay!): deadline for video auditions (required for anyone wanting to be considered for a role as a Workhouse Kid, a member of Fagin's Gang, Oliver, the Artful Dodger, Bet, or Nancy).
- Wed 1st or Thu 2nd May: pre-audition rehearsals for under 16s
 - Sunday 5th May: under 16s auditions
- Wed 8th or Thu 9th May: adult pre-audition rehearsals

- Adult auditions: Sun 12th May
- 21st May – 13th September: rehearsal period (Principals on Tuesdays; Juniors and Fagin on Wednesdays; adult company on Thursdays; some Sunday rehearsals; no rehearsals during summer school holidays)
- Full company rehearsals, Tech and performance period: Friday 20th September to Saturday 12th October (no performances on Mondays or Tuesdays).

This will be a great opportunity to work with **new** professionals and perform in an 800 seater venue, and we're looking forward to seeing lots of new and familiar faces involved!

And, of course, don't forget to [book your tickets!](#)



Can't make 'Oliver'? Join us for our next Concert in February 2020

Plans are already taking shape for our next concert, to be directed by our own Katie Cutmore, with musical direction by Geoff Osborne. The

concert is called '**Dare to be Different**':

In a culture that aspires for everyone to be "normal" and "perfect", Katie plans to celebrate the fact that most of us are different and brilliant in our own ways. There will be a mixture of songs from musicals to pop that follow the theme of being different – for example about wishing to break the mould, do something different or be accepted for individuality or difference.

The concert will be performed at the Headgate in early Feb - exact date and rehearsal details to be confirmed. Watch this space for our next update!

Member news

Lots of positive news to share this month, with congratulations going to:

- Stefanie Wyatt, and husband, Ross, who are expecting a baby girl in August!
- Hyoie O'Grady, who is playing Curly in [Oklahoma](#) in Chichester!
- Molly Osborne who has her West End debut playing Tzeitel in [Fiddler on the Roof](#) at the Meunier Chocolate Factory!

Keeping in touch

www.colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Follow Colchester operatic society on [facebook](#), Twitter [@ColchesterOpSoc](#) and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/colchesteroperatic/>

Executive committee contacts

Chair: chair@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk



Mark Fincham

Vice-chair and Chair of CO2



Ann Taylor

Secretary



Natasha Palmer
natashalingwood@gmail.com



Business Manager



Membership secretary



Cos1theatre@hotmail.com

Treasurer & Music liaison/orchestra fixer



Website & Marketing and Events Chair



marketing@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Marketing & Events
Barbara Pears

Production co-ordinator



Minutes and Newsletter



Social media



Please feel free to contact the Executive Committee (via Natasha, the Secretary - natashalingwood@gmail.com) with any ideas / issues you may have so we can be more informed on an ongoing basis.

CO2 can be contacted at co2theatre@hotmail.co.uk

Marketing and events committee contacts

colchesteroperaticsociety@gmail.com or
marketing@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Chair, Social Account Treasurer, Mercury Contact & Website



Katie Cutmore

Secretary



Shannon Hannah

External Events co-ordinator



Sarah White

Secretary, Social media (Facebook & Instagram) & Advertising (COS)



Becky Clemens

Member Liaison



Barbara Scully

CO2 committee liaison, programme (CO2) and Internal events co-ordinator



Charlotte Butcher

Personal Liaison & Promotional Material Distribution Coordinator
Barbara Pears

Internal events, media contact and correspondence



Maeve Borgas



Social media (Instagram), COS membership liaison, merchandise, media contract, correspondence
Sally Cutchie

Social media (Twitter)
Sarah Miles

COS programme
Gabby Skinner

