

Welcome to the August 2019 edition of your newsletter - keeping you up to date with society news. The cast of our next production, "Oliver", is taking a well-earned summer break, although it seems that many cast members are keen to get back to rehearsals! It was great to see so many of you at the AGM in June, and we're looking forward to the next opportunity for everyone to get together at our Ball in the autumn. Not forgetting, of course, our early 2020 concert, 'Dare to be Different'!

The latest on "Oliver!"

After a steady couple of months of rehearsals (check out our rehearsal photos opposite), the cast of "Oliver!" is having a little rest before everything gets quite intense in the run-up to the first show in late September. Our 13 performances are selling fast, so if you haven't got your tickets, [book them now](#) (Performance dates 27th September – 12th October 2019)!

We've got a couple of exciting promotional events coming up for "Oliver!", and it would be great to see you there:

First: Invasion Colchester – Saturday 7th September

Second: [Colchester Carnival](#) – Saturday 14th September





If you'd like more information on either of these, please get in touch:

Cos1theatre@hotmail.com

News from the AGM

Thanks to everyone who came along to the AGM in June. The big news was the confirmation of Katie Cutmore as the new Chair, following Mark Fincham's resignation after several years in the role. Katie is already 'getting her teeth' into the role, reviewing and updating lots of paperwork!

The meeting also provided the opportunity for members to share perspectives on the novel collaboration with The Mercury – and highlighted some useful lessons for the future. You can read more in the minutes – now available in the members' area of the website.

And in post-AGM news, we're also delighted to welcome Amanda Powell to the Committee, where she will be taking on the role of Secretary.

Quick update on the February 2020 Concert

'Dare to be Different'

Headgate Theatre, Colchester

12th – 15th February 2020

Directed by Katie Cutmore

We're excited to share the artwork for the concert:



12th - 15th February 2020

7.45pm (Saturday Matinee 2.30pm)

Headgate Theatre, Colchester

Tickets: 01206 366000 | www.headgatetheatre.co.uk
www.colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk



Doesn't this just capture the aim of the concert to celebrate being different and brilliant in our own ways? Such a great premise, with a mixture of songs from musicals to pop that reflect the theme. We're looking forward to hearing more about what's planned!

In other concert news, unfortunately, Geoff can no longer be our Musical Director; we have enlisted the lovely Richard Harrison in his place. He is the Head of Music at Stanway Secondary School and you will know him from playing in our Orchestra in our most recent shows!

Pre-audition rehearsal - Monday 21st October 2019, 7.30-10pm at Langenhoe Community Primary School & Preschool (LCPS), CO5 7PG

Auditions - Thursday 24th October 2019, 7.30-10pm at Langenhoe Community Primary School & Preschool (LCPS), CO5 7PG.

COS Ball: have you got the date in your diary?

Don't forget to save the date for the COS Ball - celebrating our 95th birthday, and being held on **Saturday 9th November** at the JobServe Community Stadium. Look out for more news!

Member news

Huge congratulations to:

- Steph and Ross Wyatt: on the arrival of Ivy Rose on 9th August – totally gorgeous!

- Gabby and Nick Skinner: on the news of their forthcoming arrival, due next year – will no doubt be equally gorgeous!

Get Involved!

We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to get involved in the Society, in whatever capacity. This could range from director and musical director, through to other aspects of production and backstage help. If you're interested in any of these roles, please get in touch at any time, with details of your area of interest and any credentials. It's not always possible to advertise roles, and previous speculative contacts have gone on the Choreograph shows for the Society. You can contact us via our secretary, Amanda.

Keeping in touch

www.colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Follow Colchester operatic society on [facebook](#), Twitter

[@ColchesterOpSoc](#) and Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/colchesteroperatic/>

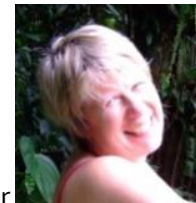
Executive committee contacts

Chair: chair@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk



Katie Cutmore

Vice-chair and Chair of CO2



Ann Taylor

Secretary



Amanda Powell

secretary@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk



Laura Hicks

Business Manager



Sarah White

Membership secretary



Paul Kusel-Baum

Cos1theatre@hotmail.com

Treasurer & Music liaison / orchestra fixer



Neil Somerville

Marketing and Events Chair



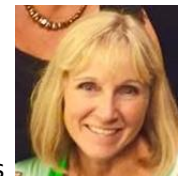
Sally Cutchie

marketing@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Marketing & Events

Barbara Pears

Minutes and Newsletter



Celia Greaves

Social media



Becky Clemens

Please feel free to contact the Executive Committee (via cos1theatre@hotmail.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

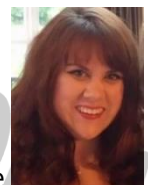
colchesteroperaticsociety@gmail.com or
marketing@colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk

Chair, Social Account Treasurer & Mercury Contact



Sally Cutchie

External Events co-ordinator



Sarah White

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



Becky Clemens

CO2 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 Borges

Social media (Twitter)
Sarah Miles

COS programme
Gabby Skinner