

SOME OF OUR RECENT SHOWS

St Albans Operatic Society presents



Man of la Mancha '07



West Side Story '06



West Side Story '06



Anything Goes '07



Mikado '04



Wizard of Oz '05



Half A Sixpence '06



Anything Goes '07

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# 42nd STREET

Directed and Choreographed by Matt Fowler  
Musical Direction by Philip Joslin

*42nd Street*. Music by Harry Warren. Lyrics by Al Dubin. Book by Michael Stewart & Mark Bramble. Based on the novel by Bradford Ropes. Direction & Dance by Gower Champion. Originally produced on Broadway by David Merrick.  
By arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musicals Ltd of New York.  
This is an amateur production.

St Albans Operatic Society is an Amateur Society Charity Reg. No. 295795  
The Object of the Society is to educate the public in the operatic, dramatic and musical arts.  
Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association.



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Adam Ross Associates Ltd  
Are pleased to support the  
SAOS production of 42nd Street

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*"You're going out there a youngster, but you've got to come back a star"*

In the town of little old New York you'll find a thoroughfare, or more to the point a fantastic all singing, all dancing, all excitement show. All this has been transported to the Alban Arena for your delectation. We are so lucky to have so many new singers and dancers join our company and we all hope they will stay with us for many more shows to come. From what I have seen in rehearsals you, our most welcome audience, are in for a treat.

Our latest production has yet again received an outstanding amount of commitment from all involved – the cast, the behind the scenes directors and many supporters in a wide variety of roles. We couldn't do this without the full team. I have been particularly impressed by the energy of the performers in the big production numbers. The story reflects life's

precarious ups and downs. For example, how many times have you been told in your life, "you're going out there a youngster, but you've got to come back a star"? Oh well, perhaps it's more in my mind than a reality! As always, if you see this and think, yes, that's for me - I want to join this company to entertain the good people of the St. Albans district, or just want to contribute your efforts in any other way, please do let us know. We'd love to have you join us in any capacity in this fun-filled and magical world of musical theatre.



Kindest regards,  
Clive, Chairman

For everyone's enjoyment

We want you to enjoy this evening's performance to the full, so as a courtesy to both audience and cast:

Switch off all mobile phones and pagers.  
Do not use cameras, video cameras or recording equipment of any kind.

Thank you for your co-operation.

# The Story

The curtain rises on auditions for the chorus of a new Broadway show: 'Pretty Lady'. It's 1933, times are hard and there hasn't been a decent show on Broadway for years. While she has been summoning up her courage at the stage door, young Peggy Sawyer has missed the audition. Luckily for her, she has caught the eye of the show's leading man, Billy Lawlor, who promises to get her an audition.

The producer, Julian Marsh has no patience with latecomers and Peggy rushes off the stage. Meanwhile, Bert and Maggie, the show's writers, try to encourage Julian about the show's prospects. He is worried about the leading lady, Dorothy Brock. Her last hit was 5 years earlier, but her sugar daddy, Abner Dillon, is backing the show. When asked to try out one of the songs, Dorothy, playing the role of star up to the hilt, refuses to be auditioned and threatens to walk out, taking Dillon's cash with her. Nevertheless, Marsh will not be pushed around, and Dorothy reluctantly begins to rehearse.

During a break in rehearsals, Dorothy meets Pat Denning, an ex-lover and partner from her vaudeville days. Not wanting to upset Abner, they arrange to meet in his absence.

Meanwhile, Maggie invites Peggy to lunch with the girls, who give Peggy an entertaining account of the Broadway facts of life, which evolves into an impromptu audition for Peggy. Julian is struck by her remarkable talent and she is hired!

As rehearsals continue, Julian is increasingly concerned about Dorothy's liaison with Denning and has a friendly gangster run him out of town. Pat leaves for Philadelphia. However, the out-of-town tryout of 'Pretty Lady' has been rescheduled at the last minute – to Philadelphia!

Dress rehearsals begin at the Arch Street Theatre, PA. A disagreement between Dorothy and Abner is smoothed over by Maggie and the cast, averting one disaster, only to be overtaken by another. During opening night, Peggy knocks Dorothy over. The performance is cancelled and Peggy is fired.

Act 2 opens with Julian announcing the closure of the show. The company won't give up though, suggesting that Peggy step into the role. Julian finally agrees, but can he get to Peggy in time before she leaves on the train? Will she be able to learn 25 pages, 6 songs and 10 dance numbers in 36 hours?

If the Broadway curtain ever rises on 'Pretty Lady', will it be an overnight success? Well, you know show business...





## Note From The Director

I've discovered why you will usually find a separate Director and Choreographer for a musical. Doing both can be hazardous to your health, both physically and mentally. I'm told with experience

and a little organisation it's easier. However, anyone who knows me will tell you I'm seriously lacking in the second of these. Which is why I'm going to use the majority of this note to thank my 3 'Angels'. Jean Day, Rachel Manser, and the incredible Lesley Duggan have got me through this show. They have nagged me, chased me, run around for me, taken jobs off my hands, even bought drinks and given the odd hug. The fact it's taken three of them, shows how dis-organised and demanding I am. So Lesley, Jean and Rachel, on behalf of the cast, my friends and family, in fact anyone who's had any contact with me over the last few months, a huge thank you for all your support, hard work and for keeping me both alive and sane. If I ever get invited back, I'll try not to be such hard work. Speaking of hard work, a big thank you to all of the unseen backstage heros too.

I would also like to thank Philip Joslin, for putting up with the numerous cuts and changes I have thrown at him at a moment's notice. I think I've caused him a few headaches but I'd hope he'd work with me again.

A huge thank you to my best friend, who I can always turn to, has come in to help me out when I was convinced I was getting it all wrong and has been on the end of the phone after every rehearsal. Love you to pieces.

Of course, finally, I want to thank my wonderful cast. The majority of what you see on stage tonight is a result of their own thought and hard work, rather than my own. A very wise (and beautiful) lady once told me that directing is 75% casting. This show has proved that. I might even push it to 80%. I think we have cast this show perfectly, and if I've done my job as well as they have done theirs, you're in for quite a night. My fingers are crossed.



## Join us...

If you've enjoyed watching tonight's performance, think how much more fun it can be to take part. It takes all sorts of talents, whether on stage or behind the scenes, to produce such a show and there is an infectious team spirit throughout the society as rehearsals build towards this week.

In addition to Full Active Members, there is a growing number of Junior Members. Associate membership is also available at reduced cost to give members access to priority booking and attendance at SAOS meetings and social functions.

Anyone who feels that he or she has something to offer can be sure of a great welcome with SAOS! Pick up the phone and call Jeanne Cavill on 01727 860986.





## Matt Fowler

Director and Choreographer

Matt choreographed *West Side Story* for SAOS in 2006 and is delighted to have been asked to return for *42nd Street*. His other choreographic credits include, *Kiss Me Kate* at the Watford Palace Theatre, *Sweet Charity* at the Wycombe Swan and *Snoopy: The Musical* at the Elgiva Theatre in Chesham. His performing credits include, *Tony West Side Story*, *Tobias Sweeney Todd*, *Bill Me and My Girl*,

*Snoopy Snoopy: The Musical*, *Zangara Assassins*, *Daddy Bruebeck Sweet Charity*, *Stephen/Tony Copacabana*, *Gideon Seven Brides*, *Puck A Midsummer Nights Dream* and *Tulsa Gypsy*.

Matt made his Directorial debut with Cassio Operatic last year, directing their production of *Elegies for Angels*, *Punks and Raging Queens* at the Pump House Theatre in Watford. His next venture will be directing the Jason Robert Brown musical *The Last Five Years* at the Pump House Theatre in Watford later this year.



## Philip Joslin

Musical Director

This is Philip's second production with SAOS, having MD'd '*Oliver!*' in 2003. Philip works with many local societies as MD; shows have included *Carousel*, *Pirates of Penzance\** and *Fiddler on the Roof* (RLOS), *Oliver!* (Rickmansworth Players), *The Melody Lingers On* (PHEOS), *Jack the Ripper*, *Pippin* (Panda Players), *The Zoo*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The Sorcerer*, *Yeomen of the Guard\**, *Iolanthe* and *Gondoliers\** (ALGSS - the last

three at Buxton International G&S Festival where Philip was nominated for the best MD award). Philip re-orchestrated four of the G&S operettas (asterisked), for smaller forces. These versions have also been used worldwide from New Zealand to the USA. Philip is equally at home in the concert hall having conducted the Abbots Langley Singers for seven years; works included Bach's '*Magnificat*', Mozart and Faure '*Requiems*', and Beethoven's '*9th Symphony*'. Philip's recent 'on-stage' roles include *Eisenstein*, *Fairfax* and *Nanki-Poo* with PHEOS and most recently *Ferrando* with Chambermade Opera. Future shows include *Me and My Girl* (Cassio), *Mikado\** (ALGSS) and *My Fair Lady* (RLOS).

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14th - 18th October 2008  
at The Alban Arena

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

# ACT 1

# ACT 2

- Scene 1 Stage of the Forty-Second Street Theatre, New York  
*Young and Healthy* - Billy & Peggy  
*Shadow Waltz* - Maggie, Dorothy & Girls
- Scene 2 The Gypsy Tea Kettle, restaurant  
*Go Into Your Dance* – Maggie, Peggy, Annie, Phyllis & Lorraine
- Scene 3 Stage of the Forty-Second Street Theatre  
*You're Getting to be a Habit with Me* - Dorothy, Billy & Girls
- Scene 4 Dorothy's Dressing Room
- Scene 5 Stage of the Forty-Second Street Theatre  
*Getting Out of Town* - Maggie, Bert, Pat & Company
- Scene 6 Stage of the Arch Street Theatre, Philadelphia  
*Dames* - Billy & Girls
- Scene 7 The Regency Hotel, Philadelphia  
*I Know Now* - Dorothy, Billy & Company
- Scene 8 PRETTY LADY Opening Night, Philadelphia  
*We're In The Money* – Cast of Pretty Lady  
*Forty-Second Street* – Dorothy & Cast of Pretty Lady



- Scene 1 Stage of the Arch Street Theatre, Philadelphia  
*There's a Sunny Side To Ev'ry Situation* - Company
- Scene 2 Broad Street Station, Philadelphia  
*Lullaby of Broadway* - Julian & Company
- Scene 3 Stage of the Forty-Second Street Theatre, New York  
*Montage* - Company  
*About A Quarter To Nine* - Dorothy & Peggy
- Scene 4 *Pretty Lady* - Opening Night, New York  
- Onstage *Shuffle Off To Buffalo* - Bert, Annie, Maggie & Girls  
*Forty - Second Street* - Peggy & Cast of *Pretty Lady*
- Scene 5 Stage of the Forty-Second Street Theatre, New York  
Onstage, after the performance  
*Forty - Second Street* - Julian

Finale

PLEASE NOTE – THERE WILL BE A GUN SHOT DURING THE SECOND ACT

# The Cast

Peggy Sawyer.....Emma Harrold  
Julian Marsh.....John Dell  
Dorothy Brock.....Gina Abbatt  
Billy Lawlor.....Patrick Rufey  
Maggie Jones.....Emma Southorn  
Ann Reilly.....Alana Asher  
Lorraine Fleming .....Rosie Fletcher  
Phyllis Dale.....Holly Martin-Smith  
Abner Dillon.....Mike Smith  
Oscar .....Clive Ogden  
Pat Denning .....Paul Egan  
Mac .....Hugh Westrop  
Bert Barry .....David Rosen  
Gangster .....Michael Batten  
Gangster's Moll .....Laura McCullagh

## Dancers

Abbey Cox, Theresa Doughty, Becky Duffy, Chester Hayes,  
Bethan Hopkins, Hannah Lambden, Emily Romain, Esther Shiells,  
Colette Wells (dance captain)

## Ensemble

Andrea Adlam, Sue Akroyd, Ian Anderson, Michael Batten,  
Graham Blundell, Ellie Clark\*, Jo Coleman\*, Samantha Cross,  
Kerry Lee\*, Fran Lewis, Laura McCullagh, Andy McLennon,  
Kathy Pilkinton\*, Julia Smith

*\*Opening dancers*



The Dancers



The Cast





**Emma Harrold: Peggy Sawyer**

Emma is in her final year at St. Albans Girls' School. She has been dancing since the age of three with the Marguerita Hoare School. She made her debut with SAOS as Maria in *West Side Story* and since played Purity in *Anything Goes*. Other roles include Helene in *Sweet Charity*. She is looking forward to playing the part of Peggy and has enjoyed working with such a fun and talented cast, MD and director!



**John Dell: Julian Marsh**

John's roles for SAOS have included Bill Snibson *Me & My Girl*, Cornelius Hackl *Hello Dolly* and Charlie Gordon *Charlie & Algernon*, while elsewhere they've ranged from Kipps *Half A Sixpence* to Harold Hill *The Music Man*. A former Butlins Redcoat (and married to another ex-Redcoat), he's also written and produced music documentaries for BBC Radio 2, including "A Portrait of Danny Kaye" which was nominated for a New York Radio Award.



**Gina Abbott: Dorothy Brock**

Gina joined SAOS in 2001, for the November production of Chess. Since then, her appearances for the society have included Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Nancy in *Oliver*, and most recently as the Somewhere Singer in *West Side Story*. With twenty years' stage experience, Gina's many roles include Pitti-Sing in *The Mikado*, Dorothy Brown in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Vicki Nichols in *The Full Monty*, Julie Jordan in *Carousel*, Bianca in *Kiss Me Kate*, Mary Magdalene in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Chesty in *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*, and Bricktop in *Red Hot and Cole*. Gina is thrilled to be playing the diva Dorothy Brock!



**Patrick Rufey: Billy Lawlor**

Trained in singing at Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Patrick is currently Head of Musical Theatre at Amersham & Wycombe College. Previous roles include; Jean Valjean *Les Miserables*, Mike Costas *A Chorus Line*, Bobby Child *Crazy for You*, Joseph Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Fredrick *Pirates of Penzance*. Patrick is also a Musical Director/Pianist; productions include: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Secret Garden*, *Godspell*, *Oliver*, *Iolanthe*, *Copacabana*, *Company*, *Follies*, and *The Full Monty*. This is Patrick's first show with SAOS.



**Emma Southern: Maggie Jones**

A teacher by day, Emma has performed and choreographed for many societies. A graduate of Mountview Academy, she has been in over 50 amateur and professional productions nationwide. With many awards to her credit, favourite roles include: Sally *Cabaret*, Eve/Mama Noah *Children Of Eden*, Mama Rose *Gypsy*, Lucy *Snoopy*, Nancy *Oliver* *Andy Stepping Out*, Mary *Merrily*, Emily *Hired Man*, Tessa *Gondoliers*, Phoebe *Yeomen*, Mad Margaret *Ruddigore* and *Iolanthe*. For St Albans - Anita *West Side* and Reno *Anything Goes*. She's delighted to be directed by Matt, who was Billy to her Peggy back in 2001!



**Alana Asher: Ann Reilly**

Alana is represented by the Jackie Palmer Agency. Theatre credits include: Little Cosette, *Les Miserables* (Palace Theatre, London), Viv's Daughter, *Spend Spend Spend* (Piccadilly Theatre, London), Annie and Tessie in *Annie*, Shy *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, Audrey *Little Shop of Horrors*, Peggy Sawyer *42nd Street*, Elsa Shraeder *Sound of Music*, Carmen *Fame*, Eponine *Les Miserables* (Willyots Theatre, Potters Bar) and most recently Bebe in *A Chorus Line*. Alana also appeared in the film *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* and in TV's *Family Affairs*. She is currently taking a gap year, prior to studying Musical Theatre at Mountview this coming September.



**Rosie Fletcher: Lorraine Flemming**

Rosie is 16 and currently studying for her GCSEs at Loreto College, St Albans. She is looking forward to 6th form at Tring Arts Educational School, where she will continue her dance and drama studies. She has been dancing since the age of 2 at Boxmoor Dance Academy. Rosie has appeared in such other shows as *Calamity Jane*, *Oliver*, and *My Fair Lady*. She is excited about going into her dance with SAOS!



**Holly Martin-Smith: Phyllis Dale**

As a tap enthusiast, Holly is delighted to be back for her second show with the society having danced her way through "Anything Goes" as Angel last year. Currently studying for AS levels at St Albans Girls' School and is a pupil of the Marguerita Hoare School where she has danced since the age of four. She wishes everybody good luck with the show!



**Mike Smith: Abner Dillon**

Although this is only Mike's 2nd show with SAOS, he's been treading the boards for over 30 years and has had lead roles in *Alfie*, *Cabaret*, *Sweet Charity*, *Hair* and *Chicago*. Mike has also appeared in many productions with other societies and at the Barn Theatre in Welwyn Garden City.



**Clive Odgen: Oscar**

This is Clive's third show for SAOS, after having played a sailor in *Anything Goes* and a prisoner/muleteer in *Man of La Mancha*. Clive has been the musical director for over 35 shows for societies in Berkhamsted and Tring - his favourites being those of Stephen Sondheim. As you'll see, the piano playing should be OK - but don't watch the dancing too closely!



**Paul Egan: Pat Denning**

Paul has been performing on stage since a very early age for several different societies. His favourite roles include Pish Tush in *Hot Mikado*, John Hinkley in *Assassins*, Tom Thumb in *Barnum*, Bill Calhoun in *Kiss Me Kate* and many more. He is pleased to be back with St Albans Operatic after playing Bernardo in *West Side Story* last year.



**Hugh Westrop: Mac**

Hugh was 12 when he first appeared in a SAOS production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. His next venture was auditioning for *Oliver* but his voice broke the day of the auditions. However he has persevered and was a guard in *The Mikado* and thoroughly enjoyed himself as the tallest Chinese brother in *Anything Goes*. Now with a leading role and allowed to shout, he has reached the pinnacle of success! Watch this space.



**David Rosen: Bert Barry**

David has performed with numerous theatre companies and some of his favourite roles include Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*, Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls* and Sam Buck in Stephen Sondheim's *Assasins*.

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**ST ALBANS CHAMBER CHOIR**

## Band

Ian Killoran	Reeds	Chris Clark	Trumpet
Lucy Benwell	Reeds	James Lawrence	Trumpet
Rachel Craggs	Reeds	Dave Steptoe	Trombone
Andy Hooley	Reeds	Nasser Pervez	Trombone
Kathryn Stagg	Reeds	Paul Craggs	Percussion
Vivian Davies	Horn	Helen Boyea	Bass
Geoffrey Lawrence	Trumpet	Karen Stocker	Piano

## Production

Assistant to Director	Rachel Manser
Stage Manager	Mark Wiggins
A.S.M.	Nigel Rive
Production Manager	Lesley Duggan
Production Secretary	Jean Day
Business Managers	Matthew Gregory, Jon Harris-Bass
Sound	Phil Stannard
Lighting Design	Paul Davidson
Lighting	Mick Dolan, Mark Shaw
Stage Crew	Clive Cavill, Tamsin Evers, Gillian Farrar, Anne Fowler, John Hope, Barry Sawyer, Lawrence Schooledge, Paul Sugden
Wardrobe Team	Jane Forster; Margaret Baker, Helen Davies, Dorothy Whittuck, Alison Wright
Costumes	The Costume Workshop, Isle of Wight
Props Team	Liz Waller, Rosalind Edwards, Doreen Gray, Jennifer Hale, Caroline Smith
Makeup Team	Margaret Dolamore, Patricia Hill, Pam Homa, Emma Sweetman
Publicity Co-ordinator	Jane Watkinson
Assisted By	John Hope, Rachel Manser, Julia Smith, Yioda Panayiotou, Kathy Pilkinton, Elspeth Jackman, Ellie Clark
Ticket Secretary	Ross MacInnes
Rehearsal Accompanists	Clive Ogden, Malcolm Scott
Scenery	SLX (Stage Electrics)
FoH Manager & Display	Stan Owen
Assisted by	Friends and members of the Society
Photography	Ralph Rapley / <a href="http://www.xmo4.com">www.xmo4.com</a>
Librarian	David Berridge
Transport	Mike Waller

Thanks to: St. John Fisher School for the rehearsal space, Piano Tuning by Abbey Craft and Graham Blundell of Art Direction.

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