

POLICE THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS

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Price One Penny.



THE SEVENTH HORRIBLE MURDER BY THE MONSTER OF THE EAST END.



Programme

WELWYN THALIANS AMATEUR OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

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Committee: Amanda Maxwell, Alison Mills, Kate Muir, Gillian Shaw
Tammy Wall

Membership Secretary: Jackie Radford

Welwyn Thaliens Present:

**By arrangement
with:
Samual French**

**Produced by:
Amanda Maxwell**

Jack the Ripper **The musical**

**Book and Lyrics by:
Ron Pember &
Denise De Marne**

Music by: Ron Pember

**A lively musical
portrayal
surrounding.....**



**.....the events
and people of
Whitechapel in
1888**

**Set partly in a Music Hall and partly in the surrounding streets of
Whitechapel in the year 1888.**

**It is a musical reconstruction of the incidents relating to what became
known as the Ripper Murders. A solution to the ripper's identity is hinted
at, but it is an atmospheric commentary rather than an historic
re-enactment, shifting between reality and artificiality with characters
representing "real" people and players in the music hall and audience.**



Tammy Wall - Mary Kelly

Tammy has been a regular with the Thaliens since appearing as Bet in "Oliver." Her powerful stage presence and singing talent made her an ideal choice to play principle roles as the precocious Ado Annie in "Oklahoma" and Gladys in "The Pajama Game"

Tammy has previously appeared with the St Albans Operatic society and was a finalist in last years McMullens sponsored Star Search Talent Competition

Terry Cull - Montague Druitt

Terry Joined the Thaliens in 1996 and has appeared in all but one of our productions since. His principal roles have included Fagin in "Oliver" and Will Parker in "Oklahoma" Hines in "The Pajama Game." and the wheeling dealing Nathan Detroit in "Guys and Dolls"

Terry is a member of the Thaliens Music Hall group and a regular in the Scout and Guide Gang Shows



Samantha Mcrae - Lizzie Stride

Although Sam has been a regular in most of the recent Thalian shows much of her time has been devoted to dance and many of our best routines such as the ballet in "Oklahoma" and Luck Be a Lady in "Guys and Dolls" are thanks to her accomplished choreography. Her talents are many however and as well as assisting the producer and choreographing this show she has managed to fit in her first principle role since appearing as Betty in "No No Nanette"

Hannah Britten - Polly Ann Nichols

Hannah is one of our newest members- having answered the call for chorus members in "Guys and Dolls." Her confidence is such however that she did not flinch from playing the Rippers first victim and open the show with the first song. Hannah has previously appeared in Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Gondoliers" with the Stanton Theatre Group



Gillian Shaw - Annie Chapman

Gill has been with the Thaliens since 1987 and as well as performing she has been a long standing committee member and editor of the Society newsletter. An accomplished singer and actor she has appeared in all the recent Thalian Shows and gave a memorable performance as the long suffering secretary Mabel in the "Pajama Game"

Gill's previous principle roles include Sue Smith in "No No Nanette"



Peter Sayers - The Chairman
 Peter first appeared in the Thaliens production of "*Oh What a Lovely War*" With his fine tenor voice however he was a natural choice to play "*Curly*" in the Thaliens production of "*Oklahoma.*" He followed that with his second lead role as Sid Sorokin in "*The Pajama Game.*" and more recently Sky Masterson in "*Guys and Dolls*" Peter also sings tenor with the Police choir as well as appearing in the Thaliens Music Hall.

Matthew Greenbank - Daniel Mendoza
 Although one of our younger members Matthew has gained considerable experience on stage both with the Thaliens and the Barn Theatre. His natural talents made him an ideal choice as The Dodger in *Oliver!* Other principle roles for the Thaliens include Prez in "*The Pajama Game*" and more recently Nicely Nicely Johnson in "*Guys and Dolls*".



Jack The Ripper was one of the very last musical plays to originate at the Players Theatre - the organisation that gave the world *The Boy Friend*, *Twenty Minutes South*, *The Crooked Mile* and *Johnny the Priest* among others - opened at the Ambassadors Theatre in September 1974. With book and lyrics by Ron Pember and Denis De Marne and music by Pember, this game little show drew largely negative reviews.
 It was nevertheless a score that had many good things in it, and two songs at least that linger in the memory - 'Goodbye Day' and 'Step Across the River'. The score was professionally recorded by the original cast, but the recording has never been published.



THE PLAYERS

Mary Kelly	Tammy Wall
Lizzie Stride	Sam Mcrae
Annie Chapman	Gill Shaw
Polly Ann Nicholls	Hannah Britten
Liza Pearl	Jackie Radford
Martha Tabram	Eleanor Alexander
Catherine Eddowes	Kate Muir
Montague Druitt	Terry Cull
Chairman	Peter Sayers
Daniel Mendoza	Matthew Greenbank
Dinky Nine Eights	Harry Lockyear
Bluenose Stack	David Jackson
Slop Wallace	Mark Morton
Lord Overcoat	Brian King
Brother Paul	Alex Dugdale
Police Sergeant Coles	Peter Dunham
Paper Vendor	Alison Lilly

Assistant Producer & Choreographer Samantha Mcrae

The Long and Short Arm Lemsford Village

**Book Your Party Here. Wedding, Christenings,
Birthdays, & Anniversaries. Details call Liz on
01707 322401**

The Welwyn Thalias would like to gratefully acknowledge the assistance given by the proprietors of the above establishment in fund raising events for the society

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Saturday Night	<i>Polly and Company</i>
Sing Sing	<i>The Company</i>
Generally Nice	<i>Mary</i>
God Bless Us	<i>The Company</i>
Good-bye Day	<i>Mary, Lizzie and Annie</i>
What a Life	<i>Dan and Company</i>
Love	<i>Mary</i>
Rippers going to get you	<i>Annie and the Gang</i>

ACT 2

God Bless (reprise)	<i>The Company</i>
Charlie & Queenie	<i>Lizzie and the Chairman</i>
Half a Dozen Pints	<i>Mary</i>
There's a Boat Coming In	<i>The Company</i>
There Ain't Any Work Today	<i>The Chairman</i>
Look at Them	<i>The Company</i>
Suspects	<i>The Company</i>
Women's Clothes	<i>Sergeant Coles & Constables</i>
Step Across The River	<i>Mary and Lizzie</i>
Montage	<i>The Company</i>
Saturday Night (reprise)	<i>The Company</i>

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Piano	Peter Farrell
Percussion	Brian Booth
Bass Guitar	John Smith



Producer - Amanda Maxwell

Mandy is getting used to jumping from lead roles to the producers chair this being her fourth consecutive spring production for the Thaliens. Previous recent successes have been "No No Nanette" "Oh What a Lovely War" and "The Pajama Game". Mandy says the Ripper has been her most challenging production to date. I hope you will agree it the final result proves that the challenge has been surpassed with yet another enjoyable production.

Musical Director - Peter Farrell

Graduated from the The Royal Academy of Music in 1975 and has enjoyed a professional career in music both performing and teaching from jazz to Beethoven. Peter is an extremely talented performer who became our MD in 1985 and has continued his very successful relationship with us ever since.



Production Crew

Production Manager	Peter Dunham
Production Secretary	Amanda Maxwell
Costumes	Harlequin Costumes
Props	Vanessa Baker
Props	Katherine Brassett
Stage Manager	Jon Marsh MBE.
Ass. Stage Manager	Frances Green
Stage Crew	Kathleen Mathers
Stage Crew	Christian Baker, Lee Hague
Lighting Design	Mike Try
Lighting Operator	Jon Lloyd
Front of House	Dot Lutkin
Programme Design	Terry Cull
Scenery	Welwyn Thaliens

For Campus West Theatre

Manager	Mark Woolman
Stage Director	John Lloyd



★ Thalians in Rehearsals ★

Jack the Ripper

There is no other serial killer in history that chills the blood or heightens the imagination as much as Jack the Ripper. Over 100 years after the events in Whitechapel the murders are still surrounded in mystery. Over eighty books have been written on the subject and there are thousands of professional and amateur Ripperologists who will enthusiastically expound their own theories. Yet the identity of the killer remains as elusive today as it was in 1888.

Anything between four and eleven crimes at different times have been attributed to Jack the Ripper but most experts now agree with Sir Melville McNaughton who joined Scotland Yard as Assistant Chief Constable in 1889 the year following the crimes. He took an intense interest in the case and in his private notes he wrote "The Whitechapel Murderer had five victims and five victims only"

Of those five victims the first was Mary (Polly) Nichols who was found murdered in Bucks Row on 31st August 1888 the second was Annie Chapman who was discovered in the rear yard of 29 Hanbury Street in the early hours of 8th September 1888. There then followed a three week lull before the Ripper struck again with a double murder on the night of 30th September 1888. The unfortunate victims three and four were (Long) Liz Stride who was found in the entrance to Dutfield's Yard Berner Street at approx 1.00 am and Catherine Eddowes who was discovered in Mitre Square at 1.45 am. All the women had died from a slash to the throat and all except for Liz Stride had been disembowelled. The Ripper, a name given to the killer by the newspapers as the result of a letter received, had struck sheer terror into the heart of the east end. On at least two occasions the beast had been within minutes or even seconds of being discovered and yet each time appeared to melt into the misty shadows of Victorian London.

The Ripper saved his most gruesome crime however for his last victim. On the 9th November 1888 Mary Jane Kelly was murdered around 3.30am in her lodgings at 13 Millers Court, off Dorset Street, Whitechapel. She had been mutilated beyond recognition. The outcry that followed resulted in the then Commissioner for Police Sir Charles Warren's immediate resignation.

Many theories have been put forward as to the identity of the killer and whether or not the murders were linked by some conspiracy. It has even been suggested that Queen Victoria's grandson Prince Albert Victor was involved, which many say, is the reason why the Queen took such an interest in the case. More recently Sir Edward Gull the queens surgeon, Dr Francis Tumblety an American quack doctor and James Maybrick a Liverpool cotton merchant have all been named.

In 1888 however rumours abounded. A leather apron found near the body of Annie Chapman lead to the arrest, and subsequent release, of a Jewish butcher. Many thought it was a foreign sailor from one of the ships in the London Docks. There was even a rumour at one time that the killer was a women

Let us leave the last word however with Sir Melvin McNaughton who wrote in his memoranda that he believed the killer to be Montague John Druitt, said to be a failed London Barrister, who disappeared and committed suicide shortly after the last murder and was pulled from the Thames at Chiswick a month later.

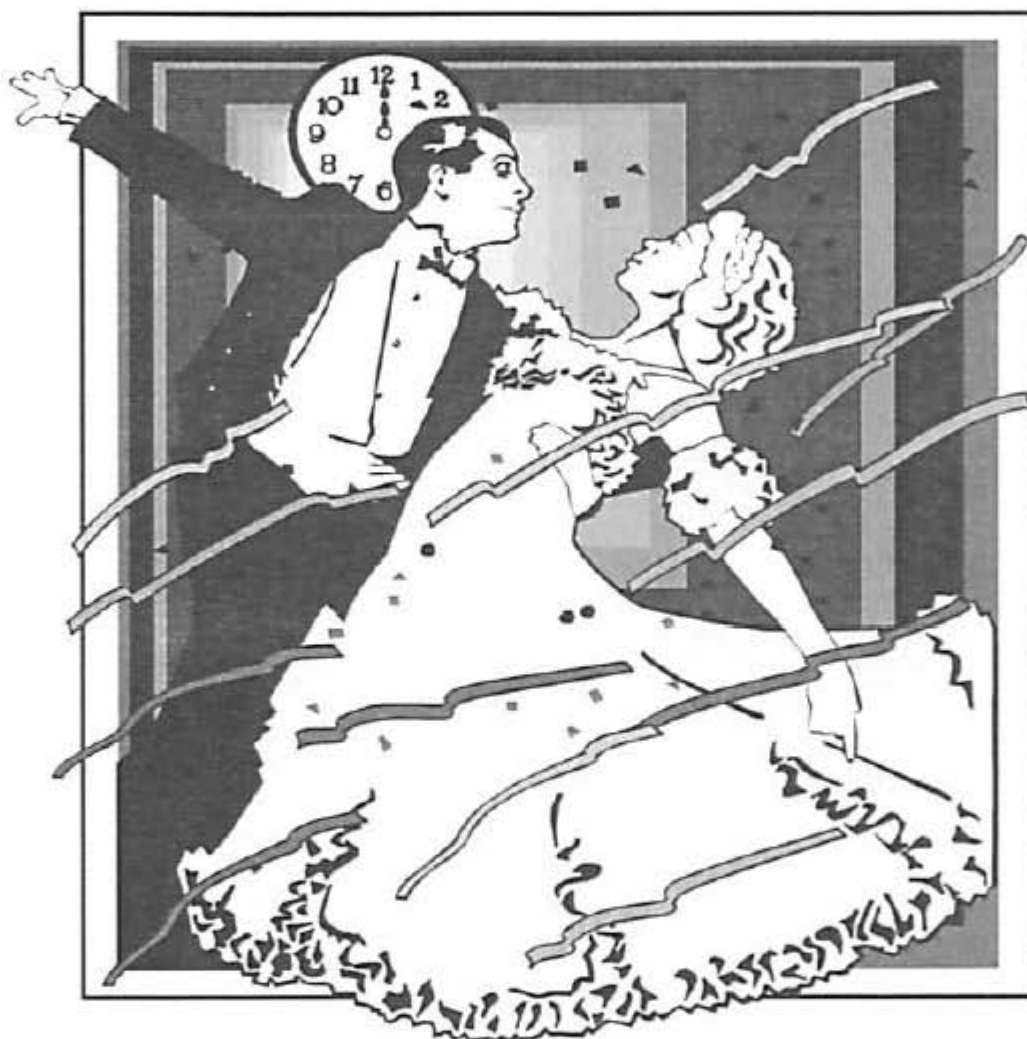
Whatever the myths and theories that surround the events of that dreadful autumn of 1888 however, one inescapable fact is that five women, who were already suffering a life of incredible hardship were brutally murdered. I ask you therefore to spare a moments thought for the memories of Polly Nichols, Annie Chapman, Lizzie Stride, Catherine Eddowes and Mary Jane Kelly five unfortunates of Whitechapel.

COMING SOON
WELWYN THALIANS PRESENT:



NOVEMBER 2002

If this show has encouraged you to sing and dance then why not join us? We meet Mondays and Thursdays at Lawrence Hall, Applecroft Road, WGC. Please apply for more details to the membership secretary, Jackie Radford, 71 Stockbreach Close, Hatfield. Tel: 01707 260171



The Welwyn Thalias Old Time Music Hall group is available for fund raising functions. Please contact our chairman, Mr Peter Dunham, on 01707 333318

The Society wishes to express its thanks to the Welwyn Hatfield District Council and to Campus West, for the support given to this production.

We have been helped by a
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GRANT**

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