



Welcome to Dural Musical Society

...and our May Production for 2017

Oliver!

Here in this Information Pack, you will find information on:

- *What DMS is about*
- *Audition Information*
- *Casting Information*
- *Production Information*
- *Important Dates*
- *Audition Form/Publicity Agreement*

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PACK BEFORE REQUESTING AN AUDITION TIME.

WHAT WE ARE ABOUT....

We have a very simple perspective on the work we do at Dural Musical Society. We want to:

- ensure we deliver a quality performance that all of us are proud to be associated with.
- give members of the cast the opportunity to learn and grow as performers.
- encourage our performers to feel that the society is a home away from home and that they are part of the DMS family.
- maintain DMS as a financially viable organisation so that we can continue to present quality community theatre.
- enjoy ourselves through rehearsals and performances as we share our love of theatre

WHO IS WHO AT DMS?

We're continually trying to work that out, but we're having a lot of fun doing exactly that. Unlike some musical societies, all committee members are actively involved in just about every aspect of the production. So you can expect to see them around all the time. Committee meetings are open, so come along and see what goes on.

AUDITION INFORMATION

We all know auditions are one of the hardest parts of a musical. **Before you begin you will meet the friendly audition panel and be looked after by the lovely helpers.**

Synopsis: *Bringing Charles Dickens' beloved novel to life, Lionel Bart's Oliver! takes audiences on a wild adventure through Victorian England. Young, orphaned Oliver Twist navigates the London's underworld of theft and violence, searching for a home, a family, and - most importantly - for love. When Oliver is picked up on the street by a boy named the Artful Dodger, he is welcomed into a gang of child pickpockets led by the conniving, but charismatic, Fagin. When Oliver is falsely accused of a theft he didn't commit, he is rescued by a kind and wealthy gentleman, to the dismay of Fagin's violent sidekick, Bill Sykes. Caught in the middle is the warm-hearted Nancy, who is trapped under Bill's thumb, but desperate to help Oliver, with tragic results.*

AUDITIONS

- Auditions will be held at Dural Memorial Hall, 604 Old Northern Road, Dural. On the following dates:
 - Monday 21st November and Wednesday 23rd November
 - **Children arrive at 6:45pm for a 7pm start.**
 - **Adults please arrive at 8:15pm for a 8:30pm start.**
 - Call backs on Monday 28th & Wednesday 30th November.
- You will be placed in a small group learning some simple choreography as well as a reading and singing audition.
 - For the singing audition – please prepare a 1-2 minute song that best reflects the character you wish to audition for. Feel free to bring a backing track to help you. Due to time restraints **you may not be required to finish the whole song.**
 - You do not need to prepare anything for the dance or reading audition, we will help you on the night.
- **Please complete the audition/publicity form at the back of this pack and bring to the audition.**
- To book an audition please go to:
 - Children: <https://dmsoliverchildren.youcanbook.me/>
 - Adults: <https://dmsoliveradults.youcanbook.me/>

CASTING INFORMATION

Below is a breakdown and recommended ages of the main characters. There are plenty of ensemble roles with lines and singing solos.

OLIVER TWIST: the protagonist of the story. He is a lonely orphan boy born in the workhouse. **Age 8-13. Soprano.** Oliver will be double cast due to the large volume of shows.

FAGIN: a conniving career criminal, takes in homeless boys and teaches them to pick pockets for him. **Age 50-65. Baritone.**

THE ARTFUL DODGER: the cleverest of Fagin's pickpockets, he introduces Fagin to Oliver. **Age 13-16. Soprano.**

BILL SIKES: Nancy's brutal and abusive lover, a burglar and eventual murderer. **Age 30-45. Baritone.**

NANCY: Bill Sikes's lover. She takes a liking to Oliver and treats him like her own child. **21-32. Alto.**

BET: Nancy's friend, one of Fagin's former pickpockets. **Age 16-28. Alto.**

MR. BUMBLE: the pompous beadle of the workhouse in which Oliver was born. **Age 45-65. Baritone.**

MRS. CORNEY: the matron of the workhouse where Oliver was born, later marries Mr. Bumble. **Age 45-55. Soprano.**

MR. BROWNLOW: Oliver's grandfather, a man of wealth and breeding. **Age 50-75.**

MR. SOWERBERRY: he and Mrs Sowerberry take Oliver in and use him in their funeral business. **Age 40-60. Baritone.**

MRS. SOWERBERRY: she and Mr Sowerberry take in Oliver and use him in their funeral business. **Age 40-60. Soprano.**

CHARLOTTE SOWERBERRY: the rude but also flirtatious daughter of the Sowerberrys. **Age 14-19.**

NOAH CLAYPOLE: The Sowerberrys' apprentice, he bullies Oliver about his mother and enjoys a flirty relationship with Charlotte. **Age 13-20.**

MRS. BEDWIN: house-servant to Mr. Brownlow and caretaker of Oliver. **Age 45-65. Soprano.**

CHARLEY BATES: one of Fagin's pickpockets. He is Dodger's sidekick.

Ensemble: Dr Grimwig, Old Sally, Orphans/Fagin's Gang, Street Vendors/Crowd.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Director	Julian Floriano
Assistant Director	Laura Murdocca
Musical Director	Hugh Humphries
Choreographer	Chrissy O'Neill
Dance Captain	Millie Reid-Alvarez
Costumes	Judy Clarke & Julie Scargill

Note: The production team all have Working With Children Check's and/or Volunteer Declaration.

FEES

Each cast member needs to become a member of Dural Musical Society to ensure they covered by our insurance during rehearsals, working bees and performances. Membership can range from 1 year to 5 years and the cost is outlined below:

	1 year	3 years	5 years
Adult	\$30	\$80	\$120
Child/Conc.	\$15	\$40	\$60

The cast are also required to pay a **show fee of \$30** that goes towards the production (including script) as well as insurance costs.

There is a **Costume deposit of \$35 per family** for each show which will be refunded on return of your script and all costumes. In addition, we will seek the support of the cast with assistance in undertaking some sewing work and obtaining footwear etc... we will let you know.

Fees are payable in cash to David Schoefield our Treasurer, or, Karen Smyth our Membership Officer, and be paid **by Wednesday March 8**. You can also pay online through electronic transfer to the bank account below:

Account Name: Dural Musical Society

BSB: 082-240 (NAB)

Account No.: 02-947-5771

Please include your name in the reference/description of the transfer

You can also pay by Credit Card (via Paypal). Follow the links on our website: <http://www.duralmusicalsociety.org/membership-payments/>. **Please note** a Credit Card surcharge applies.

As a bonus you also receive 2 tickets to the opening weekend of our October 2017 production.

WORKING BEES

As a performer, you are a member of the DMS team, and all cast members **must attend at least TWO working bees** – preferably more. By all means bring along your partner, parents or friends - particularly the skilled ones.

The following dates are set for working bees and run from 10am to approximately 5pm:

Sunday 12th March
Sunday 9th April
Sunday 7th May

Sunday 26th March
Sunday 23rd April

Sunday 2nd April
Sunday 30th April

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will commence Wednesday 1st February 2017 and will be held at Dural Memorial Hall on Monday and Wednesday nights. There will be rehearsal schedules handed out and emailed during the production.

- Children will begin rehearsing from 7pm and finish by 9pm (**except for the final week of rehearsals.**)
 - ‘Oliver’ will more than likely be required beyond 9pm to work with the adult cast.
- Adults will commence from 7:30pm and finish by 10pm (except for the final week of rehearsals.)
- Please ensure that the Assistant Director knows of any future unavoidable absences as soon as you know about it.
- Parents, we ask you to respect the production team in their decision to have closed rehearsals and that you kindly wait in the foyer or outside for your child to finish.

DRESS REHEARSALS

There will be three **compulsory** dress rehearsals:

Sunday 6th May 10am – 5pm

Monday 8th May 7pm – 10:30pm

Wednesday 10th May 7pm – 10:30pm

The Monday and Wednesday dress rehearsals may run later as there will be a full run of the show and notes from the production team. We will try to finish the kids ASAP.

PERFORMANCES

Oliver! is going to be a busy production with 10 shows in its season. Due to the large volume of shows, Oliver will be double cast and perform 5 shows each. The rest of the cast will be required to perform all shows as outlined below:

Friday 12th May

Saturday 13th May

Sunday 14th May (Mat)

Friday 19th May

Saturday 20th May (Mat)

Saturday 20th May

Sunday 21st May (Mat)

Friday 26th May

Saturday 27th May (Mat)

Saturday 27th May

Evening performances will have a call time of 6:30pm for the show to begin at 8pm.

Matinee performances will have a call time of 12:30pm for the show to begin at 2pm.

AUDITION FORM: Oliver!

By completing the audition form and attending auditions, the Production Team assumes that you have read the 'DMS Oliver! Information Pack' and you agree to the requirements and dates outlined. If there are any changes to the information/dates, the Production Team will inform you in writing.

Name:

Address:

Phone No: (H) _____ (M) _____

Email:

Male / Female: (Please circle)

D.O.B: ____ / ____ / ____

Age:

Please indicate what roles you are interested in: _____

Audition Song: _____

Where did you hear about these auditions? _____

Please list any previous experience (musicals, plays, choirs, dancing etc...):

Publicity Release

Throughout the course of the production, Dural Musical Society (DMS) has enlisted some members to take photographs and video for the sole purpose of publicity, records and mementos for the cast and crew. Some of the photos may be used for promotional material such as flyers, programmes, newspaper publicity, website, Facebook and mementos such as CD slideshows and DVD material. Aside from the programmes, none of the above items or digital images are for sale.

I grant DMS permission to take and use photos and video for the sole purpose as stated above. I also agree not to publish photos and video images of rehearsals, publicity shoots or during the season of the show without DMS Committee approval.

Name (PLEASE PRINT): _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (for under 18s): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____