



The Manifest Theatre

# NEWSLETTER

June 2018

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## Our Next Production

# THE MATCHGIRLS

By Bill Owen and Tony Russell

The Matchgirls musical is a political story of women's empowerment and is quite relevant this year as it is 100 years since the suffragette movement made a difference for women.

It focuses on the lifestyle of the women match cutters at the Bryant and May factory in Bow, London who went out on strike in July 1888 to protest about the poor working conditions and severe health threats in the match factory.

Essentially it's a musical designed, like all musicals, to tug at the heart strings.

This will be a musical that will be fun to be involved in and entertaining to watch.

**AUDITIONS Monday 23rd July and Wednesday 25th July at the Manifest Theatre from 7.30pm.**

**CHARACTERS – Ages range from 18 - 60+ years**

**Kate** – Feisty tenement girl who seeks improvement in the working conditions for the Matchgirls.

**Polly** – Tenement girl and factory worker.

**Mrs. Purkiss** – Middle aged Factory worker.

**Old Min** – Mature Factory Worker.

**Maggie** – Factory Worker – any age.

**Jessie** – Youngish Factory Worker.

**Winnie** – Daughter of Mrs Purkiss, heavily pregnant.

**Dot & Beattie** – fewer lines than others but involved in all the main scenes and songs.

**Annie Besant** – A 'do-gooder' social reformer who encourages Kate to take on the fight.

**Bernard Shaw** – Works with Annie at the Fabian Society writing articles. Irish: Middle - older age.

**Joe** – A docker and main love interest for Kate. Main male singer of the piece and has some lovely duets with Kate.

**Perce** – Dock Worker and best friend of Joe.

**Bert** – Dock Worker, Husband of Winnie.

**Tom** – Docker.

**Mynel & Mr Potter** – Factory Management who also sing with the ensemble Dockers.

**Paula Westerby** – Worker.

**Scots Girl** – Worker.

## MANIFEST THEATRE GROUP AGM

All members are cordially invited to attend The Manifest Theatre Group Annual General Meeting on Thursday 19th July 2018 at 7.30pm in the theatre. Anyone wishing to nominate a member for election to the Committee should contact the secretary, Jude Hussey, by July 5th giving name of the candidate willing to stand, the name of a member who seconds the nomination and the position the candidate will stand for. Requests to include motions on the agenda may be submitted by the same date.

## ROS PETTETT

It is with the greatest regret we have to inform you that Rosamund Pettett or Ros as we all new her, passed away on June the 8th in Colchester General Hospital after a short illness.

Ros will be sadly missed at the Manifest. She enjoyed performing and directing, both of which she did with skill and panache.

She was also one of our leading lights and will surely live long in the memory of all who had the pleasure of working with her or enjoying one or more of her many performances.

Ros's funeral will take place at noon on the 4th July at Lawford Church.



Our next movie night will be Friday, 20th July, when we will be screening

# THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

Hugh Jackman leads an all-star cast in this bold and original musical filled with infectious showstopping performances.

Inspired by the story of P.T. Barnum, the film follows the visionary who rose from nothing to create a mesmerizing spectacle.

Doors and bar open at 7pm on film nights. Films begin at 7.30pm. Tickets are just £5 for Manifest Theatre members and £2 for non-members which includes annual theatre membership. Pay on the door.