



Welcome to our Introductory Evening!

Tonight you'll find out about our ideas for the show; you'll also get to meet the Director and other members of the production team and find out about the auditions, which will be held for everyone wanting to join the cast.

The production team this year consists of:

John Dowell
Amy Hansford
Juliet Lennox
Steve Young
Kevin Amies

Co-Director
Co-Director
Choreographer
Stage Manager
Producer

The team will be delighted to chat with you after the main presentation and answer any questions you may have. We hope the evening whets your appetite!

The Story

Dick Whittington arrives in London Town seeking fame and fortune. There he meets a magical cat, with a talent for catching the rats that overrun the streets. These talents soon earn Dick a job working in Alderman Fitzwarren's shop and when he falls in love with Alice, the boss's daughter, things are really looking up!

With a steady job and his cat ridding London of rats, it looks like his dreams are coming true. But King Rat – with his army of rascally rodents – has other ideas. He hatches a plot that will soon have Dick fighting to save his good name, win back the heart of his true love and save the world from rat domination!

The Dates

The show will be performed at **The Venue MK, Walton High, Walnut Tree, Milton Keynes**, on the following dates. Please note that all cast must attend the Dress Rehearsal and Technical Rehearsal and all 16 public performances. The dates are:-

Day	Date	Time	Notes
Monday	17 th December 2019	All day	Get in (Crew Only)
Tuesday	18 th December 2018	All day	Get in (Crew Only)
Wednesday	19 th December 2018	All day	Get in & Tech (6pm)
Thursday	20 th December 2018	7.00pm	Dress 1
Friday	21 st December 2018	7.00pm	Dress 2
Saturday	22 nd December 2018	1.15pm & 6.15pm	2 shows
Sunday	23 rd December 2018	1.15pm & 6.15pm	2 shows
Thursday	27 th December 2018	7.15pm	1 show
Friday	28 th December 2018	7.15pm	1 show
Saturday	29 th December 2018	1.15pm & 6.15pm	2 shows
Sunday	30 th December 2018	1.15pm & 6.15pm	2 shows
Monday	31 st December 2018	3.15pm (Provisional)	1 show (Provisional)
Tuesday	1 st January 2019	3.15pm	1 show
Wednesday	2 nd January 2019	7.15pm	1 show
Thursday	3 rd January 2019	7.15pm	1 show
Friday	4 th January 2019	7.15pm	1 show
Saturday	5 th January 2019	1.15pm 6.15pm	2 shows
Total	16 performances (10 evenings & 6 matinees).		

The Rehearsals

- ★ Main Rehearsals for the show will start with the entire cast on **Wednesday 5th September 2018**. A full schedule will be issued at that time.
- ★ Rehearsals will normally be held on **Thursday evenings for the entire company (Principals and Chorus)** and there will be **an additional rehearsal evening for Principals and Ensemble as required on Wednesdays**. There may be a few Sunday rehearsals but these will be kept to a minimum and only at the end when we are running the show. All rehearsals will take place at the **Giles Brook School, Holborn Cres, Tattenhoe, Milton Keynes MK4 3GB** (unless told otherwise) and will begin **promptly** at 7.30pm, finishing at 10.00pm.
- ★ To ensure that this show is of the high standard expected of MKAOS, cast members are expected to attend all rehearsals as required. If you do not regularly attend rehearsals, you may be asked to leave the cast.

The Auditions

- ★ The audition panel will include John Dowell [Co-Director], Amy Hansford [Co-Director], Juliet Lennox [Choreographer], Kevin Amies [Producer], Martin Putman [Society President] and an Independent Person [TBA].
- ★ Auditions will be held on **Sunday 15th July 2018** at **Giles Brook School, Holborn Cres, Tattenhoe, Milton Keynes MK4 3GB**. There will be a group movement audition for everyone who wants to be in the show plus singing auditions for the chorus and principal auditions for individual roles.
- ★ If you cannot attend on the day of the auditions, please speak to the Director. You will be asked to submit a recorded audition (on Video/DVD) and we may be able to make arrangements for this if you do not have facilities available yourself.
- ★ **EVERYONE must** complete and return an audition form to the advertised address by the end of (midnight) on **Friday 6th July**. You will then be notified of the time for your audition(s) by phone or email. You can download an audition form from our website.

- ★ YOUTH MEMBERS must also submit an additional 'Parental Permission' form. Youth Members include anyone still in full time education (up to Year 11) at the time of the final performance. This must be attached to your Audition Form.
- ★ **Audition pieces:** Audition pieces, including principal dialogue, song lyrics and song backing tracks can be downloaded from our websites: www.mkaos.co.uk or www.dreamsnwishes.co.uk.
- ★ Remember; the auditions are your one chance to show the audition panel what you are capable of, so please learn your song and script so that you make the best possible impression!
- ★ **The cast list:** this will be posted on our website www.mkaos.co.uk or www.dreamsnwishes.co.uk. Let us know if you don't have access to a computer and we'll make alternative arrangements.

The Show Subscription

- ★ You don't have to pay anything to audition. The Show Subscription will include Membership to the Society for the period of the Show. The Subscription is £20.00 for Youth Membership and £25.00 for Adults.
- ★ All fees must be paid by the end of September at the very latest.
- ★ Scripts will be available to buy. Copies will cost £5.00 each. All principals will require a script.

The Other Stuff

If you would prefer not to be on stage but would like to be involved in the production in some other way then there are plenty of areas where we need your help.

★ **Marketing and Publicity**

With over 5000 tickets to sell, we need to be noticed around Milton Keynes! If you would like to get involved with helping to get our voices heard through MK then please speak to the Show Producer.

★ **Backstage**

No show can go ahead without a host of people to help behind the scenes with costumes, set construction, painting and working backstage at the performances. If you would like to help in any of these capacities, please contact Kevin Amies - **Tel:** 01604 861985 or **Email:** kevin@dreamsnwishes.co.uk

★ **Front of House**

If you don't want to appear on stage but still fancy dressing up and helping out then we'd love to hear from you. We need plenty of people in costume to sell sweets, programmes and merchandise and to show the audience to their seats. If you are interested in helping front of house please contact Kevin Amies - **Tel:** 01604 861985 or **Email:** kevin@dreamsnwishes.co.uk

★ **Chaperones**

All cast members still at school (including Year 11 students) will need to be chaperoned. We can only accommodate young performers if we have the support of their parents and/or other licensed adults who are willing to take on chaperoning duties during the run of the show. If you are a licensed chaperone and can help us in this way, please contact Juliet Ratnage on 07780 715837. We are also prepared to license new chaperones (subject to CRB clearance) however, as the process takes a while, potential new chaperones will need to complete the necessary paperwork as soon as possible... so speak to Juliet as soon as you can!

★ **Safeguarding Policy**

Our Safeguarding Policy is available for download from our website. Safeguarding is aimed at the Under 16s but is important to us all, regardless of age, gender, race etc. Do please read it; it will give you a good understanding of how we work, what our expectations are – and the standards we set to create a safe and happy environment for everyone.