

Audition notice

Wigan Little Theatre is proud to present the musical, **Made In Dagenham**. We would like to invite you to audition for an acting role or contact us if you would like to be part of the productions in another area. For a description of each non-acting role, please see pages 4 and 5.

MADE IN DAGENHAM

Playwright: Richard Bean
Music: David Arnold
Lyrics: Richard Thomas

Director: Tracey Dawson, assisted by Louise Steggals
Musical Director: Rick Kershaw
Choreographer: Louise Hawkes

Audition: Sunday 17th February 2019, at 2.00pm
Production dates: 17th to 27th July 2019

Please note we are also holding an **open evening** on the 10th February from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. This is for anyone who wishes to meet the creative team, learn more about the roles, and to listen to and maybe sing a couple of numbers. Everyone who is contemplating auditioning is welcome to come down on this evening.

Synopsis: Based on the real events of the Ford sewing machinists' strike of 1968. This musical focuses on the unlikely leader of the strike, Rita O'Grady. Risking her marriage and friendships, Rita encourages the women of the Ford factory to walk out after they are reclassified as 'unskilled workers'. Her efforts for equality eventually lead to the passing of equal pay within the union. As husband Eddie finally recognises his wife's achievements, the women celebrate their life changing success.

Director's notes: Set in the 60s, Made In Dagenham has a huge heart – it is funny, sad, uplifting and has some belting musical numbers to boot.

Think 'Love Thy Neighbour', 'Till Death Us Do Part' and you won't go far wrong. Politically correct these characters are not!

We are looking for a strong ensemble of around 22 performers, ranging from ages 16yr to 60s. You **must** be able to act / sing / 'move' – apart from the leads, we will be doing lots of multi-roling and everyone will be involved in the musical numbers.

As always we require energy, enthusiasm and a commitment to all rehearsals – please do not waste your time auditioning if you aren't willing to give 100%.

We have a wonderful creative team and I can guarantee personally that if you are cast, this will be an unforgettable experience. We firmly believe you get out exactly what you put in – so come on, what are you waiting for?

Rehearsals: Sunday, Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Cast:

Factory Workers – Essex Accents

Rita O’Grady – acting age late 20s / early 30s. Earnest, hardworking Mum, and the unlikely heroine of the piece. Totally in love with her clutz of a husband.

Eddie O’Grady – acting age 30s. Lovable, forgetful, and lost without the love of his life.

Beryl – acting age 40+. Gobby and uncouth.

Connie Riley – acting age 50+. Shop steward, Mother figure to the girls.

Sandra Beaumont – acting age 20s – 30s. Described as a ‘dolly bird’.

Clare – acting age 30+. Incredibly likeable, ditzy character.

Cass – acting age open. Loud mouth factory worker.

Sid & Bill – acting age 35+. Union shop stewards.

Barry – acting age 18+. Young apprentice, and the butt of many a joke.

Monty – acting age 50+. Union convenor. Loveable old flame of Connie Riley.

Management

Mr Hopkins – acting age 40+. MD of Ford Dagenham. Public school, posh accent.

Mr Tooley – acting age 40+. Ford USA Executive. American accent.

Ron Macer – acting age 40+. Production Manager, Dagenham. Essex accent.

Gregory Hubble – acting age 30+. Personnel Director, Dagenham.

Other characters

Harold Wilson – acting age 50+. Yorkshire accent - must be a believable impression of the Prime Minister. Comedy cameo.

Barbara Castle – acting age 45+. Yorkshire accent – must be a believable impression. Strong willed and supportive of Rita and her cause.

Lisa Hopkins – acting age late 20s / early 30s. Posh accent, wife of the MD of Ford Dagenham.

Graham & Sarah O’Grady – acting age 11 to 13. Children of Rita and Eddie. (NB – Parents, please note that the show contains strong language of the time).

Civil servants / Mr Buckton / Chubby Chuff / Cortina Man / Club Singer / Adams / Press reporter and photographer / factory workers – multi roles to be cast from the ensemble.

Audition songs:-

Rita – Nearly Had It All

Eddie – The Letter

Clare – Wossname

Harold Wilson – Always A Problem

Barbara Castle – Ideal World

Tooley – This is America

Connie – Same Old Story

Cortina Man – Cortina

Female Ensemble – Everybody Out

Male Ensemble – Made In Dagenham

To request an audition piece contact the Director, Tracey Dawson via email at traceydawson67@hotmail.com.

Alternatively please contact any member of the Play Selection & Casting Committee:-

Paul Leffler		07854 086332		Paul_leffler@hotmail.com
Anne Woolley	...	07799 061558	...	akwoolley@blueyonder.co.uk
Tracey Dawson	...	07715 534716	...	traceydawson67@hotmail.com
John Naughton	...	07786 941858	...	john.naughton1@blueyonder.co.uk
Kath O'Leary	...	07863 794431	...	kathleenoleary14@hotmail.com

THE COMPANY

Actors

WLT aims for a very high standard of production and maximum commitment is required to achieve this. Rehearsals can take place for 8 to 12 weeks prior to the performance dates, typically 3 or 4 times a week in the evenings or on Sundays. In the event of not being able to attend the audition date, you should contact the Director or a member of our Play Selection and Casting Committee (PSCC). Please be aware that only one alternative audition will be held and times will be limited due to everyone's availability. If you are interested in auditioning for a part, please contact the Director or any member of PSCC.

Bar

Members of this team should be over the age of 18. They are responsible for working behind the bar, which is open from 7.00pm until 11.00 pm during each production. Members often do one or two nights during any production. If you're interested in bar work please contact

Box Office

We need friendly and helpful people who have good interpersonal skills both face to face and over the phone. Experience of working with IT will be an advantage but training will be given on the box office computer and administrative systems. Box Office opening hours are 7 - 9 p.m. If you're interested in joining this team please contact.

Catering

The Catering Department sells is responsible for the Supper Nights for audience group bookings. If you're interested in helping to display a buffet and meeting and greeting our patrons, please contact

Coffee

Coffee is sold during the interval. Most helpers arrive prior to the opening of the show on one or two separate occasions to make and serve the coffee, and once the washing up is done they are free to go! If you're interested in making and serving coffee please contact Muriel on 01942 741583

Front of House

The Front of House (FOH) team welcome the public to a show, hand them their tickets where appropriate, escort them to their seats if necessary and remain on hand until the end of the show when the FOH representative will wait until the last patron has left before locking the main doors. The usual commitment is for one or two nights during the run of a show from 7 – 10 approximately. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Tracey on 07715 534716

Lighting and Sound

The Technical Support Group is responsible for the design and operation of the lighting and sound for each production. Setting up a new show normally takes place on two or three separate evenings before the Technical Rehearsal, and then two or three members are at the Theatre each night of the production to operate the lighting and sound desks and provide any additional services required by the show. Training will be given and you won't be left to work alone until you feel completely confident. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Neil on 07429 141102

Programme Sales

This job is as simple as it sounds! All you need is your smile and the ability to handle cash - and then all you have to do is wait for patrons to come to you to buy a programme! Programme sellers usually arrive at around 6.45 and stay on duty until the start of the show at 7.30 p.m. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Hilary on 07882 276837

Prompts

Members of the prompt team are never seen – and hopefully never heard – during the run of a production! Prompts work on a rota basis and attend rehearsals for approximately three weeks prior to the opening of the show and for one or two nights during a show, sitting in the wings with a copy of the script, ready to whisper a helpful reminder if required! If you're interested in prompting please contact the Director of the production.

Properties

Attention to detail when setting the scene can certainly bring life to a production. This is the aim of our props team. New members are welcome to join us with maybe a view to becoming a props leader. To fulfil this we are looking for volunteers who are organised, creative and who can deal with situations in a sensible and realistic manner. Commitment to shows and their rehearsal time is necessary. Working together we can create innovative and exciting productions. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Elaine on 07772 833544

Set Building

For this any DIY or trade experience would be useful, but definitely not necessary! A lot of the work involves carrying/moving theatre flats, steps, doors etc. and holding them while they are fixed in place. We have a workshop at the side of the stage with the materials and equipment that we need. There is always someone around so you won't be asked to do any job or use any tools that you don't feel comfortable with. Generally, we build the sets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and Thursday evenings from 7 until 9 p.m. All times are approximate and, of course, you can come and go at whatever time suits you within those time periods. So, if you could spare any time at all (even just the odd hour) we would appreciate it. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Brian on 07811 530293.

Set Painting

Set painters bring the set to life with their paintbrushes, whether it's a Victorian Drawing Room or a street of terraced houses! You don't have to be Monet - anybody who can use a paintbrush is welcome and the ability to climb a step ladder is also useful! Set painters work during the day, usually the week before a play opens, generally between 10 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. Guidance will be provided along with frequent coffees and a lunch break – and you can stay for as long or as short as you like If you're interested please contact Christine on 07716 318886

Stage Management

The role of the stage manager is to ensure the smooth running of a performance. You will enjoy this role if you are interested in all things theatrical; tactful when dealing with directors, actors and other members of the theatre; able to remain calm under pressure; able to organise a team; be a good communicator; are mature and sensible in attitude – ideally over 18 years of age. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Paul on 07718 063516

Sweet Sales

Sweets are sold prior to the start of the show and the interval, along with ice creams, during each performance. Sweet sellers are expected to be on duty from around 6.45 until after the interval, the time for which obviously varies. If you would like to help us by selling sweets please contact Muriel on 01942 741583

Wardrobe

The Wardrobe Department supplies and constructs suitable costumes for every production. In addition, the Department is responsible for cleaning, repairing and maintaining the existing costumes. Some heavy lifting can be required, however any help is a benefit to support the department. Ability to sew is a bonus. If you're interested in joining this team please contact Stacey on 07913 972441.

Please note that you will be required to become a member of Wigan Little Theatre to take part in any production, in any capacity.