

Director

James Freeman

James has performed as an actor for several societies across Staffordshire, in venues ranging from Stafford Gatehouse to Little Moreton Hall and The Royal to Trentham Gardens, as well as for Radio Stoke. He regularly performs in productions for Stoke Repertory Theatre Players, most recently as John Merrick in 'The Elephant Man' and Lord Windermere in 'Lady Windermere's Fan'. Favourite previous roles include Raleigh in 'Journey's End', Mozart in 'Amadeus', Oswald in 'Ghosts', Rodrigo in 'Don Carlos' and Donal in 'Days of Wine and Roses'. Previous directing credits include 'The Murder of Maria Marten' (Stoke Rep), 'Separate Tables' (Stoke Rep), 'Cash on Delivery' (Newcastle Players) 'Humble Boy' (Stoke Rep) and Newcastle Operatic Society's recent production of 'Jane Eyre - The Musical' in September 2010.



Musical Director

Richard Morris

As a musical director, vocal coach, pianist and arranger, Richard has established himself as a busy and much sought after musician, uniquely specialising in jazz and the quasi operatic. Based in Stoke, Richard works in and around the Midlands with numerous theatre companies; his long and diverse list of theatre credits ranges from Shakespeare to Pantomime to a vast number of musicals, both mainstream (i.e. West Side Story) and lesser known musicals (Rent, The last 5 years etc.) Recent projects as Assistant Musical Director include Billy Elliot the Musical and Jesus Christ Superstar at the Regent Theatre, Stoke. Richard is currently, also working as Assistant Musical Director for Billy Elliot the Musical at the Regent and at the Stockport Plaza in June 2011.

Little Women

by James Freeman

Meg - the sweet-tempered one.

Jo - the smart one.

Beth - the shy one.

Amy - the sassy one.

Together they're the March sisters.

It's Civil War America, their father is away and times are difficult, but the bond between the sisters is strong. The family may not have much money, but that doesn't stop them from creating their own fun, forging friendships and finding romance. Through sisterly squabbles, happy times and sad, their four lives follow very different paths, and they discover that growing up is sometimes very hard to do...

Touching the hearts and minds of young and old alike - Louisa May Alcott's timeless and beloved novel is brought to life in this glorious, uplifting and exhilarating musical filled with laughter, personal discovery, heartache and hope.

Programme Sponsors

Amanda and Shelley Bosson
Brian and Dereth Hilditch
Mr & Mrs B Machin
Steve Beattie
Jeanette and Mick Barnes
Iain, Jane and Cameron Chalmers
John Hall

Chris and Steve Birks
Gill and Fred Johnson
Sheila Webb
Roy and Maureen Davenport
Mary Beckett
Alison Ratcliffe

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

A Musical

31st October
to
5th November 2011

Directed by:
Greg Walker & Lindsay-Jane Kennerell

Musical Director
Allison Fisher

Mary Shelley's classic novel. Reborn.

FRANKENSTEIN

A NEW MUSICAL

4th-10th November 2012

With James Freeman as Director
and Allison Fisher as Musical Director.

my fair lady

Lerner and Loewe's
smash hit musical

book and lyrics by
Alan J Lerner
music by
Frederick Loewe

Director
Jonathan Fennell
Musical Director
Liz Talbot
Choreographer
Dawn Bailey

Porthill Players

Adapted from the George Bernard Shaw's play and
Gabriel Pascal's motion picture "PYGMALION"

You'll grow accustomed to her face

Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre
Monday 16th to Saturday 21st May 2011
Monday - Saturday 7:30pm
Saturday Matinee 2:30pm

BOX OFFICE 01782 635500

noda

We would like to thank

The Backstage crew - Dressers - Chaperones - Front of House staff - Raffle - Programme sellers - Programme Photographs - Props - Costumes.

Our thanks also go to:-

The Sentinel - St. Johns Ambulance - Mel and Ellis, Orme Street Newcastle - The Stoke Repertory Theatre and all its Staff and Volunteers. ✓

Little Women

The Musical

By
Newcastle Operatic Society

The Broadway Musical Book by Allan Knee
Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott
This amateur production is presented by arrangement
with Josef Weinberger Limited
on behalf of Music Theatre International of New York

29th March 2011 - 2nd April 2011

at
Stoke Repertory Theatre

Director
James Freeman

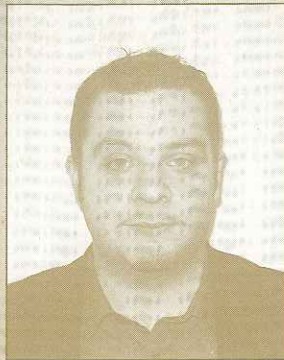
Musical Director
Richard Morris



Charity Number 501464



Chairmans Message



Chairman
Steve Beattie

Good evening and welcome to Newcastle Operatic Societies first 2011 production of 'Little Women'. With an excellent score, book and a very talented cast, 'Little Women' looks set to be a fantastic show.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back James Freeman as director and am very pleased to introduce Richard Morris as Musical Director and Sarah Capewell as choreographer all of whom have extreme talent in their fields and Newcastle is very honoured to have them.

As I have already mentioned, this is Newcastle's first production of 2011 with our next being a musical

adaptation of 'The Railway Children'.

This show will bring back the directing talents of Greg Walker and Lindsay-Jane Kennerell with musical direction by Allison Fisher.

I would also like to take the opportunity to mention our 2012 production; Broadway's hit musical adaptation of Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein'. Another fantastic show to add to Newcastle's repertoire of new and exciting shows.

So as you can see we have a busy schedule for the next two years and that has been made possible by your continued support. For which I am extremely grateful.

So on behalf of myself, the committee and the cast, please sit back and enjoy 'Little Women' and thank you again for all your support.

Management Committee

President	Elsie Ashley Stretton O.B.E.
Vice President	Fred Johnson
Chairman	Steve Beattie
Honorary Secretary & Tickets	Gill Johnson
Vice Chair & Publicity	Amanda Bosson
Treasurer	Brian Hilditch
Registrar	John Hall
Social	Steve Birks
Wardrobe	Georgine Machin
Props	Jeanette Barnes
Rehearsal refreshments	Sheila Webb
Show Researcher	Shelley Bosson
Assistant Wardrobe	Alison Ratcliffe

Acknowledgements

Ladies and Gentlemen of the orchestra	
Set conceived, designed and painted by	Brian Hadley and his team
Stage Manager	Richard Masters
Sound	Hilton Studio
Lighting	Stoke Repertory Theatre
Props	Jeanette Barnes & John Hall
Wigs	John Cumberlidge
Auditor	Steve Jones
Matt Grindley	Magic World
Oliver Wakefield and Emma Speers	Keele Fencing Club
The Flint Mill	Photography
Newcastle under Lyme High School	
Radio Stoke	

Scenes and Musical Numbers...

ACT 1

- Scene 1 Mrs. Kirk's New York City Boarding House: June 1865.
'An Operatic Tragedy' - Jo, 'Clarissa', 'Braxton' & 'Rodrigo'
'Better' - Jo
The March Attic. Concord, Massachusetts: Christmas Eve 1863.
'Our Finest Dreams' - Jo, Meg, Beth & Amy
The March Parlor.
'Here Alone' - Marmee
- Scene 2 Aunt March's Stately House: January 1864.
'Could You' - Aunt March & Jo
- Scene 3 The March Parlor: February 14th 1864.
'Delighted' - Marmee, Meg, Jo & Beth
Choreography by Sarah Capewell
The Atrium in Annie Moffat's House.
'Take A Chance On Me' - Laurie
The March Parlor.
'Better Reprise' - Jo
- Scene 4 The March Parlor: A few weeks later.
'Off To Massachusetts' - Mr. Laurence & Beth
'Five Forever' - Jo, Laurie, Meg, Beth & Amy
Choreography by Sarah Capewell
- Scene 5 The Sun Porch outside the March House: Spring 1865.
'More Than I Am' - Mr. Brooke & Meg
- Scene 6 The March Attic: May 1865.
'Take A Chance Reprise' - Laurie
'Astonishing' - Jo

ACT 2

- Scene 1 Mrs. Kirk's New York City Boarding House: June 1865.
'The Weekly Volcano Press' - Jo & Company
- Scene 2 The March Parlor: Summer 1865.
'Off To Massachusetts Reprise' - Mr. Laurence, Beth, Marmee, Mr. Brooke & Meg
Mrs. Kirk's New York City Boarding House.
'How I Am' - Professor Bhaer
- Scene 3 A Beach and Pavilion in Falmouth on Cape Cod: September 1865.
'Some Things Are Meant To Be' - Beth & Jo
- Scene 4 The March Parlour: Winter 1865.
'The Most Amazing Thing' - Amy & Laurie
The March Attic.
'Days Of Plenty' - Marmee
'The Fire Within Me' - Jo
- Scene 5 The Sun Porch outside the March House: Spring 1866
'Small Umbrella In The Rain' - Professor Bhaer & Jo
'Volcano Reprise' - Jo

Members

Honorary Members

Dr. Ahuja - James Freeman - Richard Morris
Lindsay-Jane Kennerell Greg Walker
Allison Fisher

Life Members

Elsie Ashley Stretton - O.B.E. - Mary Blaise - Mary Beckett - Albert Whittaker - Dennis Oliver - Fred Johnson - Gill Johnson - Roy Davenport.

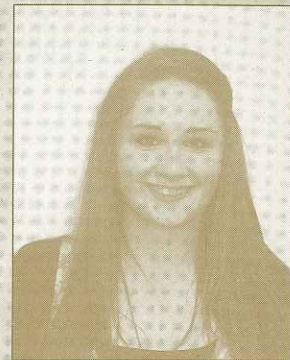
The Cast



Jo
Shelley Anne Rivers



Meg
Charlotte Williamson



Beth
Siobhann Webb



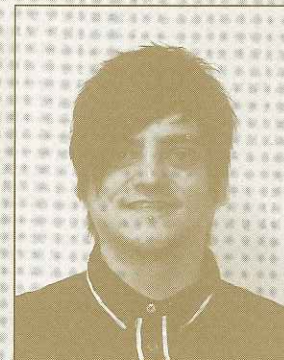
Amy
Lydia Hall



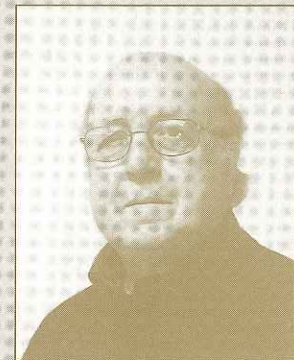
Marmee
Rosemary Gresty



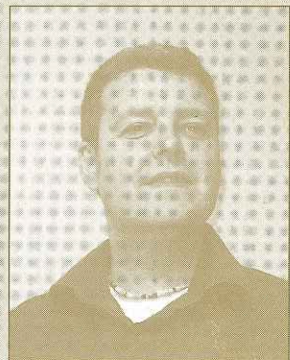
Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk
Amanda Bosson



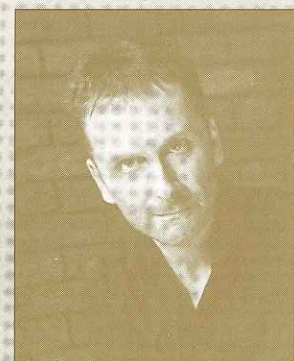
Laurie
Dean Lockett



Mr. Laurence
John Sillitoe



Mr. Brooke
Adrian Yearsley



Professor Bhaer
Geoff Legan