

# Oliver!

## The Musical

Director: Gladys Hope  
Musical Director: Bridget Telfer  
Choreographer: Robyn Sinclair

**Auditions**  
**12th - 14th Feb 2010**

To be staged 8 July - 17 July 2010

For an audition time contact Tania  
027 602 0117 or 488 1205

**Taieri Musical Society** is proud to announce that its show for 2010 is Oliver!

We thank you for showing interest and are delighted to be able to bring this show to our audiences and you, our performers.

Oliver was last performed by Taieri Musical 15 years ago, being a show that offers good roles for a wide age group and we look forward to staging this show once again.

Our production of Olivier runs from Thursday 8 July to Saturday 17 July at the Coronation Hall in Mosgiel.

We have compiled this audition pack so you have as much information as possible to ensure you are well informed about the requirements not only for the audition but also throughout the rehearsal process and season.

To audition well you must ask questions and be well informed... we have tried to answer as many of these as possible in this pack but we encourage you to contact Tania Graham about anything regarding the audition process, rehearsals or season if you require additional information.

We look forward to meeting you at the auditions in February and remember to prepare well... it is your only chance to secure your place in Taieri Musical's production of Oliver!

Break a Leg!

**Taieri Musical Society**



## Key Dates & Information

### Auditions

Venue	Date	Time	Auditioning
Coronation Hall	12 Feb 2010	6.30pm -	All Roles
	13 Feb 2010	1.30 – 5.00pm	All Roles
	13 Feb 2010	5:00pm	Kids Dance Recall
	14 Feb 2010	10.00 -	All Roles / Recalls

### Audition Registration

All auditionees must register and receive confirmation of an audition time. Please phone or email Tania Graham on 488 1205 or 027 602 0117 or [tgraham@webbfarry.co.nz](mailto:tgraham@webbfarry.co.nz)

### IMPORTANT - Directors Audition Information

Below is important information about what is expected from your audition. Please read carefully to ensure an enjoyable and successful audition:

- Artists are required to prepare 1 song. This must demonstrate their musical and vocal range and the type of character they are auditioning for.
- Artists must bring with them legible sheet music in the correct key or you may bring your own backing track(s) on CD.
- You may be asked to sing for one of the additional roles immediately following your main audition or sent away with material to learn for the recalls.
- Be on time...
- Bring water...
- Wear suitable clothing that shows your body line to its best advantage and allows for freedom of movement.

### IMPORTANT - Rehearsal Information

You **must** be available for **ALL** rehearsals listed below. If there are some dates that are difficult for you to attend please advise us of this on your audition form.

Rehearsal	Commence	Reqd
Music Rehearsals (With Musical Director)	20 April 2010	Full Company
Show Rehearsals (With Director – Gladys Hope)	4 May 2010	Full Company
Show Rehearsals (With Choreographer – Robyn Sinclair)	8 May 2010	Full Company
Season Dates	Thursday 8 July – Saturday 17 July 2010	Full Company



# Character Breakdown

Principal Roles	Character Description	Age	Ability Required
<b>Oliver Twist</b>	Sweet and innocent workhouse boy	8 - 13	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Soprano <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Fagin</b>	A con man who trains children to be pickpockets.		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Baritone <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Artful Dodger</b>	A troubled youth in Fagin's gang	12 - 20	<b>Vocal requirements:</b> Soprano-Alto <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Nancy</b>	A cockney girl with a warm heart		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Alto <b>Vocal range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Bill Sykes</b>	A villain		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Baritone <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Stage Movement
<b>Mr Bumble</b>	The stout man who runs the workhouse.		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Tenor to Baritone <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Widow Corney</b>	The sharp-tongued, domineering workhouse mistress		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Soprano - Alto <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Mr Sowerberry</b>	The Undertaker		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Baritone <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Mrs Sowerberry</b>	Mr Sowerberry's wife		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Soprano <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Mr Brownlow</b>	A kind and wealthy older gentleman		Non-singing Non-dancing
<b>Bet</b>	Nancy's loyal friend		<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Alto <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Charlotte</b>	Mr Sowerberry's daughter	Teen	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Non Singing <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Noah Claypole</b>	A tall bully who is Mr Sowerberry's apprentice	Teen	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Non singing <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Charley Bates</b>	Member of Fagin's gang	Teen	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Chorus <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Workhouse Children (Act 1 Scene 1)</b>	Chorus of 10 – 20 children	8 -14	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Chorus <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Yes
<b>Fagin's Gang</b>	Young thieves Chorus of 10 – 20 pre-teens & teens	10 - 18	<b>Vocal Requirements:</b> Chorus <b>Vocal Range:</b> <b>Dance:</b> Comical Movement
<b>Company</b>	Oom pah-pah dancers, pub patrons, Bow Street Runners, Street people, workhouse assistants	All Ages including mature	All levels of dance skill and comical movement





# SYNOPSIS

In a Victorian West Midlands charity workhouse, orphan boys march towards their places at the dinner tables. They dream about the meal they are looking forward to. But although they anticipate the pleasures of hot sausage and mustard, cold jelly and custard, in fact all they ever get is gruel. After eating their miserable daily ration, one boy called Oliver dares to ask Mr Bumble, who runs the Workhouse with Widow Corney, 'Please sir, I want some more'. Mr Bumble is enraged and Oliver tries to run away. When he is caught, Mr Bumble takes him into the cold snowy streets to be sold for the price of a mere seven guineas. He is bought by Mr Sowerberry, an undertaker, and is ill-treated by him and bullied by their older hired hand, Noah Claypole. Oliver is very miserable and daydreams of the mother he never knew. When he is teased about his feelings, he hits out and is put into a coffin as punishment, but he escapes and runs out into the streets and after days and days of walking, finds himself in the streets of London.

London is an overwhelming world of thriving commerce and bustling crowds. Another older boy soon takes Oliver under his wing: he is the Artful Dodger, the ringleader of a gang of boy thieves run by a wizard of pickpocketry, Fagin. Dodger sees Oliver as a possible new recruit and invites him home with him. In the thieves' kitchen, Oliver is introduced to the other boys and to Fagin, who explains what Oliver has to do if he wants to stay there: learn how to pick a pocket or two. The boys then demonstrate how it's done. Nancy, a good-hearted, good-time girl whose boyfriend is the ominous, menacing thief Bill Sykes, leads the boys in a celebration of what a fine life it is. Nancy makes an instant friend of Oliver and tells him that a life of crime is fine as long as you look after yourself and your friends.

The next morning, Fagin sends his criminal brood off to work instructing them to be back soon, and Oliver is initiated into his life of crime by the Artful Dodger, who relieves Mr Brownlow of his wallet. But it is the nearby Oliver who is promptly apprehended for the crime and taken away by the police.

Nancy is entertaining the locals at the Three Cripples pub with a popular music hall turn. She suddenly stops when Sykes arrives and is told by the other boys of Oliver's capture. Sykes fears that Oliver will tell the police about the gang, and orders Nancy to get him back. Because Nancy loves Sykes, despite everything, and will do anything he asks, she reluctantly agrees to find Oliver.

Meanwhile, Mr Brownlow has had Oliver released and taken him home to Bloomsbury. The next morning Oliver awakens to a new life of unexpected luxury. Outside, the street vendors are selling their wares. But this touch of paradise does not last. Oliver is sent out on an errand and is captured by Nancy and Sykes, who take him back to Fagin's den.

Sykes takes the money from Oliver that Mr Brownlow had given him for an errand. Oliver taunts Sykes that Mr Brownlow and the police will soon be out looking for him, and when Sykes threatens Oliver, Nancy steps in to protect him. Sykes and Nancy have a huge argument which Fagin attempts to placate, but they storm out. Fagin sends the boys out to work and is left alone to ponder whether it is time to renounce his criminal life.



Meanwhile, Widow Corney, now married to Mr Bumble, has discovered from the deathbed confession of an old woman that Oliver is the child of a wealthy woman who died in childbirth. A locket taken from the mother reveals that she was Brownlow's daughter, who left home to bear her illegitimate child. Bumble and Widow Corney decide to visit Mr Brownlow to try and claim the reward that had been promised for information about Oliver. On hearing their story Mr Brownlow realises it is they who have treated both his daughter and Oliver so cruelly in the workhouse. He is furious at their audacity and greed and throws them out, swearing that he will see to it neither of them will ever hold a position of responsibility again.

Nancy is determined to help Oliver somehow without betraying Sikes. She visits Mr Brownlow at his house and they agree to rendezvous on London Bridge. Nancy steals Oliver away to bring him there at midnight, but before she can hand the boy over, Sykes, who mistakenly believes she has betrayed him, kills her in retaliation. He takes Oliver hostage and, pursued to Fagin's den, Sykes is killed in the chase and Oliver is finally and happily reunited with his grandfather. Fagin escapes and we are left wondering if he will repent or continue a life of crime.

## Songs

### Act 1

<b>Food Glorious Food</b>	Kids, Oliver
<b>Oliver</b>	Kids, Mr Bumble, Widow Corney
<b>I Shall Scream</b>	Widow Corney, Mr Bumble
<b>Boy For Sale</b>	Mr Bumble
<b>That's Your Funeral</b>	Mr & Mrs Sowerberry & Mr Bumble
<b>Where Is Love</b>	Oliver
<b>Consider Yourself</b>	The Artful Dodger, Oliver, Chorus
<b>Pick A Pocket or Two</b>	Fagin, Boys
<b>It's A Fine Life</b>	Nancy, Bet & Kids
<b>I'd Do Anything</b>	The Artful Dodger, Nancy, Oliver, Bet, Fagin & Kids
<b>Be Back Soon</b>	Fagin, The Artful Dodger, Oliver, Kids

### Act 2

<b>Oom-Pah-Pah</b>	Nancy, Bet, Chorus
<b>My Name</b>	Bill Sikes
<b>As Long As He Needs Me</b>	Nancy
<b>Where is Love? (Reprise)</b>	Mrs Bedwin
<b>Who Will Buy?</b>	Oliver & Chorus
<b>It's A Fine Life (Reprise)</b>	Nancy, Bill Sikes, Fagin, The Artful Dodger
<b>Reviewing The Situation</b>	Fagin
<b>As Long As He Needs Me (Reprise)</b>	Nancy
<b>Reviewing The Situation (Reprise)</b>	Fagin
<b>Finale</b>	Company

