

SPRING / SUMMER

2025

THE
ROSE
THEATRE

Home of
THE
NONENTITIES
Society



THE ROSE THEATRE | KIDDERMINSTER
BOX OFFICE: 01562 743745 | www.rosetheatre.co.uk

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NONENTITIES SOCIETY

Dear Patrons

Welcome to our spring/summer 2025 brochure giving you all the details of the excellent array of productions we are bringing to you in the first half of the year.

It is always our pleasure to stage a variety of shows, from live music to locally produced musical theatre alongside our own shows. We, the Nonentities Society, have five stunning shows in the offing, beginning in January with an adaptation of Henry James' gothic horror *The Turn of the Screw*, followed swiftly by the *Incident Room*, a dramatisation of the hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper - two plays which should really appeal to those who like something to get their teeth into. Our Studio play, *Educating Rita*, needs no introduction, being a modern day classic. We offer two lighter shows to end the season in *Murder, Margaret and Me*, which imagines the friendship between arch thriller writer Agatha Christie and Margaret Rutherford, the first Miss Marple. We end our resident season with the TV classic *Porridge*, which we expect to be very popular.

These shows are ably backed by KODS who are producing another movie adaptation in *Legally Blonde* and their youth group who bring you *Lionel Bart's Blitz*. Talking Props return with their adaptation of *Les Miserables* and we are delighted that our musical portfolio once more includes *Beatles Complete*, *Sounds of Simon & Talon*. If you add to that our own Youth Theatre productions, *To be A(I) Human & Space Girl*, then there really is something for everyone.

We have already secured the rights for the first show of our Autumn season as we will be one of the first amateur companies to perform Stephen Moffatt's (Scriptwriter for *Sherlock* and *Dr Who*) brilliantly funny play *The Unfriend*. Watch out for more details.

As always, we thank you for your support and look forward to welcoming you through our doors again very soon.

Bob Graham

Chairman of The Nonentities Society

Throughout this booklet

(A) denotes an Amateur production (P) denotes a Professional production

Cover photographs by Colin Hill

Monday 27th January - Saturday 1st February 2025

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

By Ken Whitmore (adapted from a story by Henry James)

The Nonentities Society – Main House (A)

Our first production of the New Year sees a chilling adaptation of Henry James's classic ghost story. It is a subtle exploration of the haunted house of Victorian culture and is the perfect tale for a winter's night.

Shortly after Miss Grey, a governess, arrives at Bly to take charge of Flora and Miles she sees the ghosts of the former valet and governess; it is the children they want. She determines to save the children from destruction and damnation at the hands of these "devils", but are her courageous efforts enough?

We are delighted that our society will be working with young actors from our youth group KRYPT

The Turn of the Screw was first presented at the Coliseum Theatre, Oldham, on 6 November 1982.

🌟 *Curtain up 7:30pm* 📍 *Standard Ticket Prices*

Monday 24th February - Saturday 1st March 2025

THE INCIDENT ROOM

By Olivia Hirst and David Byrne

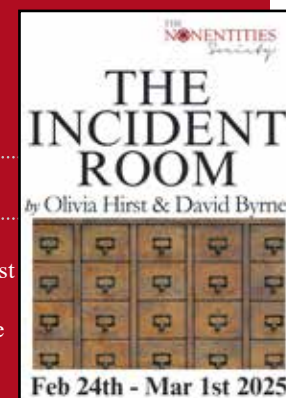
The Nonentities Society – Main House (A)

Olivia Hirst and David Byrne's play, *The Incident Room*, is a behind-the-scenes account of the police investigation into one of the UK's most notorious serial killers: the Yorkshire Ripper. It turns away from the killer and focuses on his would-be captors, exploring character, motive and ego.

The play's action is set in 1975. The Millgarth Incident Room in Leeds is the epicentre of the biggest manhunt in British history. With public and political pressure for the apprehension of the Yorkshire Ripper mounting, hundreds of officers must work around the clock and resort to increasingly audacious attempts to end one man's campaign of terror. The play casts a critical eye on the culture of misogyny in the police force and the wider community as well as the sheer incompetence that hampered progress.

The Incident Room was first performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2019, transferring to New Diorama Theatre, London, in 2020, ahead of an Off-Broadway run.

🌟 *Curtain up 7:30pm* 📍 *Standard Ticket Prices*



Saturday 8th March - Sunday 9th March 2025

SPACE GIRL

By Helen Stanley

KRYPT Junior Company Main House (A)

Mary Moon is nine years old and dreams of travelling across the galaxy, just like her brave and brilliant astronaut father. But Mary hasn't seen her dad since last week, and nobody will tell her where he is...

Follow Mary on her journey through the solar system, as she faces meteors, monsters and the Sea of Sorrow in her mission to bring her dad back home. An action-packed play bursting with songs and imagination, celebrating curiosity, resilience and exploration.

Helen Stanley's play Space Girl was first staged at the Broadway Theatre, London, performed by Lewisham Youth Theatre.

★ Curtain up: Saturday 7:30pm Sunday 2:30pm

£ Adult £10 Children £8

Monday 17th March - Saturday 22nd March 2025

LEGALLY BLONDE

Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin Book by Heather Hach. Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Society
Main House (A)

"Legally Blonde: The Musical" is a vibrant and empowering adaptation of the beloved film that follows the journey of Elle Woods, a fashionable sorority girl who defies stereotypes to pursue her dreams. When her boyfriend, Warner, unexpectedly dumps her for someone more 'serious,' Elle decides to enrol at Harvard Law School to win him back. Armed with her signature pink style and an unwavering determination, she discovers her true potential and challenges the norms of the legal world.

With catchy songs, dynamic choreography, and a message of self-empowerment, "Legally Blonde: The Musical" celebrates the power of believing in oneself and the importance of staying true to who you are. Join Elle as she proves that you can be both fabulous and smart in this delightful and inspiring tale!

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

★ Curtain up 7:30pm £ Monday Evening & Saturday Matinee £17
Matinee 2:30pm Tuesday - Saturday Evening £18



Friday 28th March 2025

SOUNDS OF SIMON

The Music of Paul Simon and Simon and Garfunkel

Main House (P)

The Rose is very pleased to welcome back The Sounds of Simon - a tribute to the wonderful music of Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, through the years as Simon and Garfunkel, to the successes of both their solo careers.

Explore the friendship that led to songs such as Mrs Robinson, The Sounds of Silence and of course, Bridge Over Troubled Water. The full band will also take you through the pair's solo careers, with songs such as You Can Call Me Al, Graceland, and Art's smash hit, Bright Eyes.

Paul and Art are played to perfection, bringing in elements of their famously fractious relationship, as well as replicating the beautiful harmonies flawlessly.

With video clips, stories, and memories from the last 50+ years, this is a wonderful show filled with excellent music, nostalgia, and a genuine love for some great musicians.

This is the UK's longest running tribute to Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel. Come and see why!

"Ben is something of an expert on Paul Simon." – BBC The One Show

★ Curtain up 7:30pm £ Full £20 (Concessions £18)



Monday 7th April - Saturday 12th April 2025

EDUCATING RITA

By Willy Russell

The Nonentities Society - Studio (A)

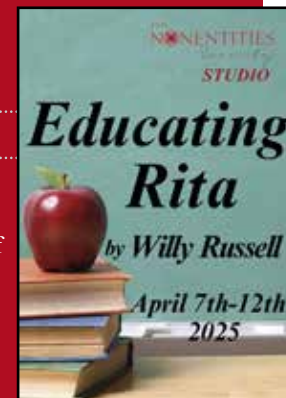
Frank is a tutor of English in his fifties whose disillusioned outlook on life drives him to drink and bury himself in his books. Enter Rita, a forthright 26-year-old hairdresser who is eager to learn. After weeks of cajoling, Rita slowly wins over the very hesitant Frank with her innate insight and refusal to accept no for an answer. Their relationship as teacher and student blossoms, ultimately giving Frank a new sense of self and Rita the knowledge she so craves. The play became a hit film with Michael Caine and Julie Walters.

Willy Russell is one of our most treasured playwrights whose work includes Shirley Valentine, Blood Brothers and Our Day Out.

Join us for our final Studio production of the season.

Caution: Minor adult themes

★ Curtain up 7:30pm £ Standard Ticket Prices



Monday 12th May - Saturday 17th May 2025

MURDER, MARGARET & ME

By Philip Meeks

The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

Queen of Crime, Agatha Christie didn't want Margaret Rutherford to bring her fabled spinster to life. And Margaret Rutherford was mortified at the prospects of sullyng her reputation with something as sordid as murder...

This is the story of the real reason why the acting legend and "the funniest woman alive" didn't want to take on the role that made her celebrated across the world. Margaret and Agatha form an unlikely friendship filled with high tea, brandy snaps and gossip. Meanwhile Agatha turns detective herself and she's on a mission. She's determined to unearth Rutherford's tragic and shocking secret.

We know our audiences love an Agatha Christie – come and enjoy this wonderful story about the renowned author herself and one of our best loved actresses.

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Standard Ticket Prices



Friday 23rd May - Saturday 24th May 2025

BEATLES COMPLETE

Beatles Complete - Main House (P)

The Cavern Club have hailed them as one of the most exciting Beatles tributes around.

We are delighted to welcome back Beatles Complete offering us two nights of Beatlemania packed with massive hits from the most influential band of all time.

This Liverpool based 'beat combo' are the youngest ever Beatles band to gain a residency at the Cavern Club in Liverpool where they still perform every Thursday and Saturday. All four members are accomplished multi-instrumentalists allowing them to span right across The Beatles' recording history, from Please Please Me right through to Let It Be.

These are nights not to be missed for all Beatles fans performed by a band who are quickly making a name for themselves due to their musical prowess, boundless energy and easy Liverpool wit. The Beatles were a phenomenon in musical history, Beatles Complete remind you why.

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Full £22.50 (Concessions £20)



Tuesday 20th May - Wednesday 21st May 2025

TALON - THE ACOUSTIC COLLECTION

Talon Music Ltd – Main House (P)

We can't keep them away from The Rose and every concert leaves the audience on their feet clamouring for more! Here they are back in Kidderminster as part of the HANDLE WITH CARE 2025 tour.

Sitting on bar stools and armed with no more than their trademark four-part vocal harmony, acoustic instruments and laid-back banter, Talon will leave you simply spellbound.

"Essential listening if you appreciate great musicianship, major label production standards and the tightest harmonies you will hear this side of Crosby Stills and Nash"
'Maverick'

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Full £27.50 (Concessions £25)



Monday 16th June - Saturday 21st June 2025

PORRIDGE

by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais

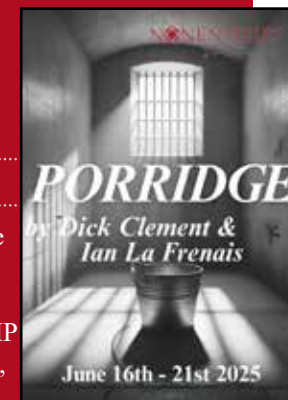
The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

Bringing the season to a close, Porridge (the play) as with the original TV sitcom, focuses on two prison inmates, Norman Fletcher, originally played by Ronnie Barker and Lennie Godber, Richard Beckinsale, serving time at the fictional HMP Slade in Cumberland. Featuring many of the other characters, both inmates and Prison Staff, that we grew to love, this will be an evening of laughter and nostalgia.

Don't miss the final production of the Nonentities season in this hilarious finale!

Porridge (the play) is produced by special arrangement with Very Serious Comedy Ltd.

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Standard Ticket Prices



Thursday 26th June - Saturday 28th June 2025

BLITZ

Music and lyrics by LIONEL BART

Book by LIONEL BART and JOAN MAITLAND

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Youth Section
Main House (A)

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War 2, KODYS are bringing Lionel Bart's Blitz to The Rose Theatre.

In 1940 the East End of London is taking a terrible pounding from Hitler's bombs. Life, however, goes on, centring around the matriarchal Mrs. Blitzstein and her large family, especially her petty-criminal son Harry and her beautiful daughter Carol. They all fight their own particular battles with neighbours and authorities alike, through many situations, many humorous, some tragic, and eventually find their own individual peace. Featuring many hit songs, including "The Day After Tomorrow", "Who's This Geezer Hitler?", and "Mums and Dads".

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

★ *Curtain up: Evenings 7:30pm | Saturday Matinee 2:30pm*

£ *Evenings £15 | Matinee £14*

Saturday 12th July - Sunday 13th July 2025

TO BE A(I) HUMAN

Devised by KRYPT Senior Company

KRYPT Senior Company Main House (A)

What does it mean to be human in a world where technology blurs the boundaries of identity, emotion and existence? To Be A(I) Human is a bold and thought-provoking exploration of humanity's evolving relationship with artificial intelligence. Devised by the talented members of KRYPT Senior Company, this original production dives deep into the interplay between human and machine, questioning the essence of our humanity and envisioning a future shaped by AI.

From the wonders of innovation to the shadows of ethical dilemmas, this performance challenges us to consider the implications of AI technology and dares to predict how it might redefine our lives. Join us for a captivating journey into a world where the lines between human and artificial blur, and the future feels closer than ever. Will you leave the theatre with answers—or more questions?

★ *Curtain up: Saturday 7:30pm | Sunday 2:30pm*

£ *Adult £10 | Children £8*



Tuesday 15th July - Saturday 19th July 2025

LES MISERABLES - School Edition

by Alain Boublil and Claude Michel Schönberg

Talking Props Theatre Arts Main House (A)

The Rose is proud to be hosting this wonderful production of Les Misérables performed entirely by students – it will be a magnificent final production of our summer season. Winner of over 100 international awards and seen by over 65 million people worldwide, Les Misérables is an epic and uplifting story about the survival of the human spirit. Now adapted for youth performers, Les Misérables School Edition features one of the most memorable scores of all time and some of the most memorable characters to ever grace your stage.

In 19th century France, Jean Valjean is released from years of unjust imprisonment but finds nothing in store for him but mistrust and mistreatment. He breaks his parole in hopes of starting a new life, initiating a life-long struggle for redemption as he is relentlessly pursued by Police Inspector Javert, who refuses to believe Valjean can change his ways. Finally, during the Paris student uprising of 1832, Javert must confront his ideals after Valjean spares his life and saves that of the student revolutionary who has captured the heart of Valjean's adopted daughter.

School Edition special adaptation licensed by MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MACKINTOSH (OVERSEAS) LIMITED

Please note the matinee start time of 2pm

★ *Curtain up: Evenings 7:30pm | Matinee 2:00pm*

£ *All Tickets £19.00*



KRYPTfest
A theatrical Summer School for ages 8-18
2025 Theme: KRYPTic Case Files!
Join us for a fun-filled week of mystery and intrigue! Hone your theatrical skills through the magnifying lens of the detective! Make new friends, build your confidence, and investigate the inner workings of a real working theatre.
Culminating in a celebratory showcase, this is a week not to be missed!
10am - 4pm 21st - 25th July
Applications opening soon at rosetheatre.co.uk/kryptfest

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT AT THE ROSE

ROSE THEATRE STAFF

We now have a part-time venue manager, Sharon Tandy. However, all other roles continue to be staffed by volunteer members - this includes all Office roles, Box Office, Bar and Front of House staff. If you would like to join us and be involved in any of our supporting roles, please have a look at the Get Involved section on our website. Ask for an application form at the Box Office. Alternatively, e-mail your details to admin@rosetheatre.co.uk and we will get back to you.

ARRIVAL TIMES

Please don't arrive at the Theatre before 6.30 our volunteers need time to get ready for you! Our Refreshment area selling drinks, sweets and ice cream and our well-stocked Bar will be open from 6.45pm. Enjoy drinks before and during the interval. Most nights our Bar is open after the show.

PARKING

Do allow sufficient time for parking in the Free Car Park on Broadwaters Drive – latecomers cannot be admitted until a suitable break in the performance. Please respect our neighbours and park considerately, allowing access to driveways, particularly on Broadwaters Drive. Do not park in the spaces directly outside the theatre as these are reserved for staff and cast members.

DISABLED PARKING

There are four parking spaces reserved for Disabled Badge holders. These MUST be reserved in advance. Disabled Badge details will be asked for together with a name and car registration number. The space will then be allocated and marked with these details. Please DO NOT park in a bay unless it has been reserved for you. There are an additional two disabled bays in the Broadwaters Car Park.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS SEATS

The theatre has wheelchair access to the Main Auditorium only and limited seats are reserved for wheelchairs and their carers. These cannot be booked online – please contact the Box Office.

HEARING LOOP

An induction loop is available for our hard of hearing patrons. Please turn your hearing aid to the T Position.

CHILDREN AT THE THEATRE

Children under the age of three are not permitted to any evening performances, and there must be no unaccompanied children under 14. All children must have a valid ticket. Please check with our programme details that the show you are booking is suitable for young people. Our Box Office staff are happy to assist

BOOKING INFORMATION

Standard Ticket Prices – Concession prices in brackets

	Monday	Tuesday – Saturday
Main House	£13	£14 (£13)
Studio	£12	£13 (£12)

BOOKINGS

- ◆ PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR CURRENT BOX OFFICE OPENING TIMES FOR BOOKINGS IN PERSON OR BY PHONE ARE: Monday – Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm
- ◆ Book online at www.rosetheatre.co.uk (processing fee of 80p per ticket).
- ◆ We now have the option of an e-ticket or tickets can be collected from the venue.
- ◆ If you require tickets to be posted, a charge of £1.50 is made.
- ◆ With the exception of group bookings, we do not accept reservations.

CONCESSIONS

These are available as listed for Senior Citizens, Students and Children under 16.

GROUP BOOKINGS

For every ten tickets purchased for the same Nonentities show, one free ticket given. Please contact the Box Office to arrange these bookings.

GIFT VOUCHERS

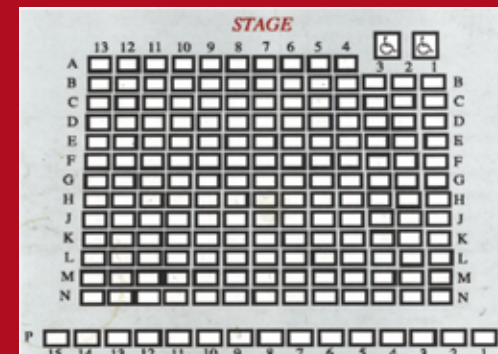
Why not treat someone with a Rose Theatre gift voucher? Available from the Box Office – They can be redeemed against any of our forthcoming shows.

STUDIO TICKETS

Please note that you will not be given an allocated seat for Studio performances and so arrival before 7.15pm is advisable. There is no wheelchair access to the Studio which is on the First Floor.

REFUNDS AND EXCHANGES

It is general practice that no refunds or exchanges will be made. We will endeavour to exchange tickets for another night of the same NONENTITIES production. Please contact the Box Office with queries. We reserve the right to make a transaction charge.



AUDITORIUM

MAIN HOUSE

Seats 183
inc disabled seats

STUDIO

Seats 60 Maximum

Both areas now fully air-conditioned for your comfort

Hire The Rose for Plays,
Concerts, Meetings and Lectures
– please ask at the Box Office for details.

JANUARY 2025

Monday 27th January - Saturday 1st February

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

By Ken Whitmore

(adapted from the novel by Henry James)

The Nonentities Society (A)

FEBRUARY 2025

Monday 24th February - Saturday 1st March

THE INCIDENT ROOM

By Olivia Hirst and David Bryne

The Nonentities Society (A)

MARCH 2025

Saturday 8th March - Sunday 9th March

SPACE GIRL

By Helen Stanley

KRYPT Junior Group (A)

Monday 17th March - Saturday 22nd March

LEGALLY BLONDE

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Society

(A)

Friday 28th March

SOUNDS OF SIMON

Main House (P)

APRIL 2025

Monday 7th April - Saturday 12th April

EDUCATING RITA (A)

By Willy Russell

The Nonentities Society (A)

MAY 2025

Monday 12th May - Saturday 17th May

MURDER, MARGARET AND ME

By Philip Meeks

The Nonentities Society (A)

Tuesday 20th May - Wednesday 21st May

TALON

Talon Music Ltd - Main House (P)

Friday 23rd May - Saturday 24th May

BEATLES COMPLETE

Beatles Complete - Main House (P)

JUNE 2025

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PORRIDGE

The Nonentities Society (A)

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Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Youth Section(A)

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LES MISERABLES - School Edition

Talking Props Theatre Arts (A)

SEPTEMBER 2025

THE UNFRIEND

By Stephen Moffatt

BOOKING NOW OPEN –
CONTACT THE BOX OFFICE
FOR YOUR TICKETS

01562 743745

www.rosetheatre.co.uk

admin@rosetheatre.co.uk

Registered Charity no 202008



LOCATION

The Rose Theatre, Chester Road North
Broadwaters, Kidderminster
Worcestershire, DY10 2RX

