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MARCH

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Sunday 1st - Easter Sunday - Eggciting!
Saturday 14th - Live Music with Mike Dobie Friday 27th - Disco with King Jerry

MAY

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Sunday 6th - St Bank Holiday Sunday - Open Mic Night with Joe Dellow

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BARNSTORMERS


Patcham Methodist Church
Proudly Presents

Sister Act

A DIVINE MUSICAL COMEDY

2018

Music by
**ALAN
MENKEN**

Lyrics by
**GLENN
SLATER**

Book by
**CHERI & BILL
STEINKELLNER**

Additional Book Material
by

DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

Based on the Touchstone Pictures Motion Picture "Sister Act" written by Joseph Howard



22, 23 and 24 February 2018
www.barnstormers.org.uk



Director: Gary Robertson



Musical Director: Russell Taylor



Choreographer: Margaret Taylor



Producer: Keith Fox

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LTD.
on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of NEW YORK

From the Director

Well Hi Everyone!

I first saw *Sister Act* with a number of our current cast on a "day out" when it first opened in London with Sheila Hancock as the Mother Superior in 2009. Whilst the songs are not the ones we all love and know from the film, they certainly have become some of my favourites, from the first time I saw the show, right through rehearsals and into the performances and I must say Barnstormers have certainly learned to do them justice. As soon as we managed to get the



licence we jumped at the opportunity of bringing it to Patcham Methodist Church. This show has been a long time coming, I hope you will all agree, as the cast and I do – It is well worth the wait.

The story is "pretty well" the same as the film by the same name; Deloris is a wanna-be "show girl" and girlfriend of a gangster club owner (Curtis). She sees Curtis and his thugs commit a murder. She then runs (with them chasing her until the end of the show) to the Police, where she finds an old school buddy (Eddie) is now a policeman. Eddie then hides her in a convent

Musical Director's notes 🎵 🎵 🎵

Back in 2009, Barnstormers took the opportunity to see *Sister Act* in the West End, soon after it opened. Since then we've been bursting out of our habits waiting for it to be available for us to perform. After trying, and failing, to get the rights in 2014, we were finally lucky enough to secure the rights on our 2nd application. As it happens, we are extremely honoured to be one of the last groups in the UK to have been selected to perform *Sister Act* while the show is still on a restricted amateur licence - it goes onto general amateur release in late spring 2018.

Set in the 1970s, the show's score is full of disco grooves and is liberally sprinkled with gratuitous, light-hearted flashbacks to the disco genre including well-known riffs from Kool and The Gang, Barry White, and The Weather Girls. But

that doesn't stop *Sister Act* being a musical theatre gem at the same time. Alan Menken's challenging score keeps the harmonies rich and multi-layered throughout -

many of the songs have at least 4-part harmony, and you'll hear the cast go into 8-part harmony on several occasions (hopefully!). And for those of you who fancy a challenge, listen out for the musical references to two of Menken's other classic shows *Beauty And The Beast* and *The Little Mermaid* hidden within *Sister Act*...

Rehearsing the show has been a musical, heavenly joy, and all those involved have thrown themselves into the chal-



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“full of nuns” till she can go to court. The story then unfolds and shows how Deloris changes a few things with the Mother Superior and the nuns, makes friends and shows how they change her. It is a lovely story, full of wonderful songs, and chases. We have added our own dances and interpretation to bring it to life.

Being a director you would think was a simple task – sit in one of those comfy chairs with “Director” on the back with a silly hat – shout “action” and “cut” perhaps along the way explain what someone’s “motivation” is for this scene. Maybe yell at your assistant, demand coffee and have everyone running around at your “beck and call”! “Oh my” I think that is about as far away from the truth as it could possibly be! But I will say there is a lot of pleasure that comes from the cast “getting it right” and performing as you envisage it and it all coming together on the stage in front of you. The biggest advantage of being a director, as I have now directed six shows, was that there was really no problem to slip myself in a “cameo” role for this show. Makes me feel a bit like Quentin Tarantino, Stan Lee or Alfred Hitchcock.!

I hope you all enjoy the show ...

Gary Robertson, Director

Choreographer



So this is it. The big one. The show we have all been waiting for, for so long. And what a show it has turned out to be! Working with a cast that has remained as enthusiastic as day one all the way through rehearsals has been a great pleasure, and I am sure that you will see the results of that enthusiasm today. Unusually for a major show, there are very few actual dance breaks, so most of the action is accompanied to the amazing singing, which is an extra di-



mension for the cast, who have coped magnificently. Add on to that the difficulty for the nuns in movement with long heavy costumes, and you will appreciate

that rehearsals have been quite challenging. My thanks as always go to all of the cast for their tolerance, patience and suggestions when my ideas prove to be unworkable.

We have all enjoyed getting involved with this amazing show with the bright, lively numbers and underlying message of understanding and acceptance. I hope you enjoy the show as much as we have.

Margaret Taylor, Choreographer

allenge with enthusiasm and good humour, the two essentials for any amateur production. In a show such as *Sister Act* there are no small roles - every cast member is vital - and that is no truer than in delivering the complex vocal arrangements. Thank you to the whole Company for making *Sister Act* come alive in such a nuntastic way. Bless you.

Russell Taylor, Musical Director

CAST:

**DELORIS VAN CARTIER/
 SISTER MARY CLARENCE
 MOTHER SUPERIOR
 SISTER MARY ROBERT
 SISTER MARY PATRICK
 SISTER MARY LAZARUS
 MONSIGNOR O'HARA
 CURTIS
 EDDIE
 TJ
 JOEY
 PABLO
 ERNIE/CAB DRIVER/ALTAR BOY
 MICHELLE
 TINA
 SISTER MARY MARTIN-OF-TOURS
 SISTER MARY THERESA
 SISTER MARY LAIRY
 SISTER MARY GO-ROUND
 SISTER MARY FAIRY
 SISTER MARY GRANGER
 SISTER MARY MALFOY/WAITRESS
 SISTER MARY MARY QUITE CONTRARY/
 BAR PATRON
 SISTER MARY WARY/BAR PATRON
 SISTER MARY TWINKLE TOES
 SISTER MARY BERRY
 SISTER MARY CHRISTMAS
 SISTER MARY MARVELLOUS
 SISTER MARY STROPPY
 SISTER MARY SMILIE
 COP/Drag Queen/NEWSCASTER
 BAR TENDER/ALTAR BOY
 ALTAR BOY
 POPE
 ACOLYTE**



**Louisa Taylor
 Sheila Carey
 Claire Fowler
 Natalie Steel
 Paula Gerard
 Bob Hinton
 Keith Fox
 James Smith
 Seb Harrington
 Paul Bridgland
 Matt Lott
 Gary Robertson
 Charlotte Gerard
 Milly Clarke
 Jean Porter
 Ann Barrows
 Natasha Knight
 Charlotte Gerard
 Jasmine O'Reilly
 Holly O'Reilly
 Gina O'Reilly

 Paula Bates
 Emma Collard
 Laura Carey
 Imogen Fox
 Milly Clarke
 Ellen Mulvenna
 Amber Harrington
 Hannah Lowrie
 Philip Davis
 Gordon Mitchell
 Karen Ashby
 Dermott Thornberry
 Charlene Thornberry**

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www.barnstormers.org.uk





BAND:

**Keyboards
Trumpet
Reeds
Guitar
Bass
Drums**



**Russell Taylor, Hannah Pool
Steve Morris
Chris Cheetham
Simon Underwood
Peter Webb
Alex Harrington**

CREW:



BACK STAGE/PROPS/SCENERY

**Karen Ashby, John Carey, Jill Mitchell, Gordon Mitchell
COSTUMES**

**Christine Ashby, Philip Davis,
Angie Webb**

**PROMPT
MAKE UP
LIGHTING**



**Hyder Khalil
Astrid Fox, Imogen Fox
Alex Harrington, Josh Henry,
Danielle Stacey**

**SOUND
FRONT OF HOUSE
TICKETS**

**Joe Gerard, Craig Flint
Ian Batchelor, Astrid Fox and team
Seb Harrington**

**PHOTOGRAPHER
VIDEO**

**Paul Harrington
Adam Clacher, George Khalil**

**DIRECTOR
CHOREOGRAPHER
MUSICAL DIRECTOR**

**Gary Robertson
Margaret Taylor
Russell Taylor**



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**Keith Fox
Sue Harrington
Keith Fox**

Barnstormers' previous productions include:

**2017:
Barnstormers' Big
Night Out**

**2016: Kiss me Kate
& Aladdin: Three
weddings and a lamp**

**2015: The Pajama
Game & Sleeping
Beauty**

**2014: Godspell &
Barnstormers does
Broadway**

**2013:
Crazy for You &
A Christmas Carol**

**2012: Joseph and the
Amazing Technicolor
Dreamcoat & Titanic**

