

**SPOTLIGHT PRODUCTIONS**

*present*



# FAME

Music by  
STEVEN MARGOSHES

Lyrics by  
JACQUES LEVY

Book by  
JOSE FERNÁNDEZ

Based on a concept by  
DAVID DESILVA

T H E M U S I C A L

12th - 16th April 2011

HINCHINGBROOKE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

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# DIRECTORS MESSAGE

I cannot believe that 12 months have passed since I wrote my last message, and here we are with another Spotlight spectacular. It was always going to be difficult to find a show to follow Hairspray and we were determined to deliver something that was both iconic and demanding.



Paul, my Assistant Director, had been a Fame fanatic since its first arrival in the West End and so we decided to "bite the bullet" and not only deliver the show but bring it into the 21st Century. As always we auditioned and selected a large cast of 70, of whom 60 are brand new members, with an average age of just over 14.

Rehearsals have been tough, stretching their dance, singing and acting abilities. We have demanded from them four part harmonies and a huge variety of dance genres, through ballet, street, Latin American and traditional theatrical.

I cannot praise the casts efforts enough and would also like to express my gratitude to the Production Team who have worked tirelessly over the weeks alongside their full time jobs. In addition, my Sponsor, Nippy Industries continue to provide invaluable expert advice and has helped us with the brilliant set you will see this evening.

The ongoing challenge in running such a successful group is to keep our standards high and look to deliver a range of musical theatre productions which appeal to all. This can only be done through willing volunteers and exploring new ways to fund our productions which presently cost on average £15,000.

So, welcome to the New York School for Performing Arts, and enjoy the "Hard Work" of the cast and crew in this musical extravaganza.

Graham Wilkinson  
Artistic Director

# PRESS PHOTO NIGHT





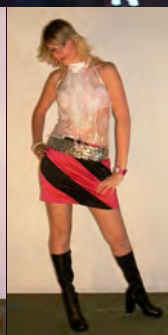
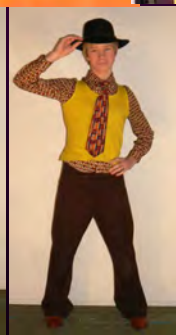
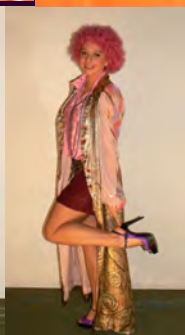
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# SYNOPSIS

## Act I

A group of vibrant, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, energetic young people gather to audition to study at New York City's High School of Performing Arts. Miss Sherman the homeroom teacher, warns the freshman class that it takes a lot more than dreams to succeed at "P.A." The students acknowledge that it takes ("Hard Work"). In drama class, Nick and Serena rehearse a scene and discuss their life experiences. Nick, an ex-child actor with serious ambition, wants to move people emotionally ("I Want to Make Magic"). Mr. Myers, the drama teacher asks them to think about how a physical sensation can trigger an emotional response. Joe discusses the physical reactions that happen whenever he thinks of a beautiful girl (Carmen) in dance class ("Can't Keep it Down" ). Meanwhile, in dance class, Tyrone, is partnered with Iris, a ballerina. Iris mocks Tyrone's lack of classical dance experience. Tyrone, enraged at her comments, begins a rap expressing his anger ("Tyrone's Rap"). Iris apologizes and kisses him.

At lunch, Carmen and the other students daydream of seeing their names in lights ("There She Goes/Fame"). Nick and Serena are rehearsing another scene and Serena confesses that she wants to try something romantic and passionate. Serena is in love with Nick. Nick is mainly focused on acting. Serena blunderingly drops a photo of Nick which she has been carrying around since school began. Nick calls her an adolescent and Serena laments her unrequited love ("Let's Play a Love Scene"). Later, Carmen interrupts Schlomo while he practices his piano, giving him lyrics that she wrote for the melody he always plays. Schlomo tries them out, and changes some of the lyrics with Carmen, which results in Carmen joining the band. Carmen kisses Schlomo and leaves. Goody (also in the band, along with Lambchops) makes fun of Schlomo afterwards. During his dance rehearsal, Miss Sherman talks to Tyrone about his care-free attitude towards education. She threatens to keep him out of the Junior Festival if his grades don't improve. Miss Bell overhears and argues that Tyrone's artistic endeavours are more important than his academic performance ("The Teachers' Argument"). Tyrone threatens to drop out of school.

## Act II

The students begin their junior year with the P.A. Junior Festival.

Nick congratulates Serena for getting the lead female role of Juliet in their junior show, *Romeo and Juliet*. Serena gets excited and assumes that Nick got the role of Romeo. However, she is surprised to learn that Joe Vegas has the role of Romeo and Nick got the part of Mercutio. Lambchops suggests to Serena the reason that Nick is not interested in her is because he is gay. Serena confronts Nick, who storms off leaving her to try to channel her emotions in to her acting ("Think of Meryl Streep").

At a dance rehearsal, Mabel, an overweight dancer, complains about retaining water, and other problems she faces with the size of her body. She confesses that, although she tries many weight-loss schemes and diets, she always goes back to the "Seafood Diet: I see food, and then I eat it!" She prays aloud for God's help in keeping her from becoming "the world's fattest dancer" ("Mabel's Prayer"), eventually having an epiphany and deciding to switch her major to acting. Carmen tells Schlomo of her plan to leave school and go to Los Angeles. She has met a Hollywood agent, who is sending her a plane ticket. Schlomo begs her not to go, tells Carmen he loves her, but is left alone with Carmen's empty locker.

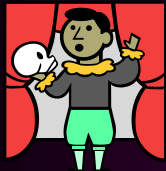
In English class, Tyrone is reading a Superman comic book. Miss Sherman catches him, and forces him to stand up in front of the class and read from the comic book. He accuses her of trying to make him look stupid. He then accuses her of racism, Miss Sherman stops herself from slapping him in the face and appalled at her actions walks off. Tyrone says to his classmates he doesn't need her help, or the ability to read or write - he is a dancer, and that's all he needs ("Dancin' on the Sidewalk"). Miss Sherman enters, apologises for her actions and urges Tyrone not to give up. ("These Are My Children.")

The students rehearse Romeo and Juliet. Joe, insecure playing Romeo, has been ad-libbing. Serena pleads with him to be serious in the part. Nick, while trying to explain to Joe how to play the part, hints that he and Serena are like Romeo and Juliet. They stage kiss and Serena is no longer mad at Nick - if now a bit confused. Tyrone asks Iris why she has been avoiding him all year. She says she doesn't want to be tied to a loser. To show her that he is serious, he begins reading *Leaves of Grass* to her and they dance a Pas de Deux.

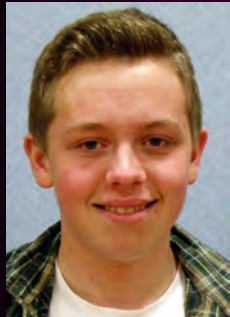
Carmen is standing in front of the school looking physically wasted and disoriented. She spots Schlomo and tells him the truth about her experiences in Hollywood ("In L.A."). Carmen promises him that she will quit the drugs and get her GED. He gives her a couple of dollars and sadly departs.

It is end of term and Joe invites Nick and Serena to a party at his house. Nick finally confesses his feelings to Serena and they decided to try to date although they are heading to different colleges (Let's Play a Love Scene (Reprise)). On the day of the graduation ceremony, Schlomo tells everyone that Carmen has died a short while ago from a drug overdose, and they sing "Bring On Tomorrow" in her memory.

# THE PRINCIPAL CAST



## ACTORS



### CHARLIE LAKE

Nick Piazza

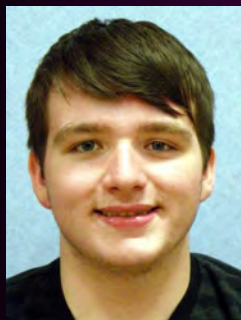
This is my first show with Spotlight and I was lucky enough to land the lead male of Nick! I am studying drama at A 'Level at Hinchbrook School amongst three other (less important!) subjects. Being a part of Fame is giving me endless experience for my hopeful further studies in Musical Theatre.



### JENNY BINGHAM

Serena Katz

This is my first show with Spotlight and I am enjoying every minute of it. Somehow, I managed to get a lead role and its an amazing experience working with the lovely people here at Spotlight. Thanks so much for this opportunity guys!



### JAMIE O'DONNELL

Joe Vegas

Hi, I'm Jamie, I'm 15 and I've been part of Spotlight for four years now. I have strangely gone from being a "sleazy" TV show host in Hairspray, to a "pervy Spanic" in Fame. I hope there isn't any type casting going on!!!!!!  
Enjoy the show.



## DANCERS



### DOMINIC SIBANDA

Tyrone Jackson

This is my second show with Spotlight and I am absolutely loving it. After last years performance of Hairspray I was inspired to go for a principal role and delighted when I got it! I have been dancing at Stageworks Studios for five years now and this has certainly helped me to take on the role of Tyrone.



### AMY HAMILTON

Carmen Diaz

I'm back for my 4th show with Spotlight. I am currently at Stageworks foundation course studying performing arts full time.

I have loved playing the part of Carmen, its hard work being a bitch. I hope you enjoy the show as much as I have, so sit back and enjoy and don't forget to remember my name!



### JENNI MITCHELL

Iris Kelly

This is my 4<sup>th</sup> Spotlight show - my first as a principal character- and what a fantastic role to play! I've been performing since the age of 6 and am hoping to dance full-time after my A-levels. I've loved every minute of acting the snobby 'French' ballerina and dancing my heart out. Enjoy the show!"



### KATH WYATT

Mabel Washington

Hello! I am a year 13 student at Hinchbrook School and this is my second year with Spotlight. I am currently studying A 'Level Drama, Music and English Literature and have just been offered a place at Central School of Speech and Drama in 2012. I have really enjoyed doing Fame this year and have loved the challenge of playing a comedic character. Enjoy the show!



## MUSICIANS



**DANIEL HILL**

**Schlomo Metzenbaum**

This is my third show with Spotlight and I'm really excited to be taking on a principal role! I'm 16 and currently studying for my GCSE's. It's been a great experience and I feel honoured to work with such a talented and friendly group of people!



**PATRICK FARRALL-DANIEL**

**Goodman King**

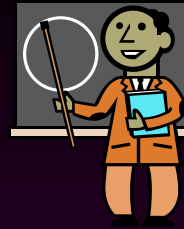
As a principal I have played a sixteen year old American teenager in "Back to the 80s" and a fifty year old married man in "Hairspray". It is great to play so many different parts. In Fame I play a musician, I do play the French Horn so that helps!



**POPPY MILLAR**

**Grace 'Lambchop' Lamb**

Hello, I'm Poppy and this is my second year of performing with Spotlight! Last year, while performing Hairspray, I was only part of the chorus whereas this year, I got given the part of Lambchop and I am really pleased! It's been so much fun learning lines and trying on all the costumes (some of them are especially wild!) I hope you enjoy the show!



## THE TEACHERS



**CHARLOTTE PERGANDE**

**Miss Esther Sherman**

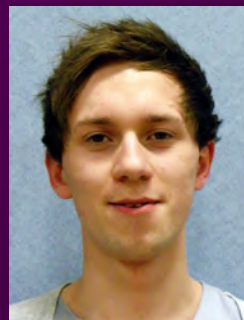
Back again and as one of the oldest in the cast, I'm really getting into my teacher role. I'm also enjoying being back on the stage after being in the band for Hairspray. Some say I remind them of a really stuffy, bossy teacher they had at school. I don't know what they are talking about. Enjoy the show.



**HANNAH BUTSON**

**Ms Greta Bell**

This is my third performance with Spotlight. I'm thrilled to be part of it again. I'm currently studying for my A 'Levels at Kings School, Peterborough. I've loved learning to stand and act like a dance teacher, which has been a challenge considering I have two left feet. Enjoy the show!



**ALEX STEVENS**

**Mr Myers**

This is my third show with Spotlight and after usually being cast as one of the younger characters it is my first time having some sort of 'authority', as a teacher! I feel this might be my last show before I head off to University, so I've made sure it's a 'goodbye'! I hope you think so too.



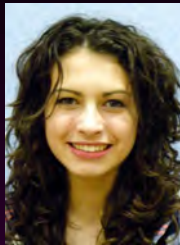
**OLIVER WALDOCK**

**Mr Sheinkopf**

Hi, I'm Oli Waldock. some of you may remember me playing the dashing Julian Marsh in "42nd Street". Well, I'm very pleased to be back, in a supporting role with all these talented young people. It promises to be a fantastic show, so sit back and enjoy the delights of "Fame!"



## DANCERS



Abby Dodd



Alice Corby



Becca Hollick



Bella Katz



Chrissy Maple



Daniela Wright



Davina Toofan



Ella Pengelly



Emma Hill



Grace Anderson



Grace Van Der Syden



Hannah Perry



Kayleigh Barnes



Kerrie Smith



Lauren Woods



Megan Dean



Megan Pulford



Michelle Morgan



Natalie Murray



Nicola Morgan



Nina Lusha



Robyn Goldsmith



Sabrina Thomas



Sarah Bunting



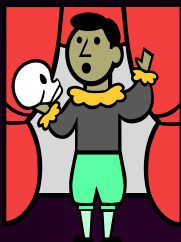
Sophia Wright



Stephanie Morgan



Zoe Sadler



## ACTORS



Beth Lloyd-Braiden



Bronte Beckett



Cynthia Kakani



Danielle Harding



Freya Shepherd



Kisu Luwaya



Laura Holliday



Paige Patterson



Shauna Holland



Zoe Carter



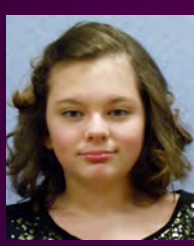
Zoe Newman



## MUSICIANS



Abby Wright



Amy Wadsworth



Charlotte Leydon



Felicity Burton



Greg Clarke



Harriet Haymes



Holly Homewood



Joy Gingell



Karri Sadler



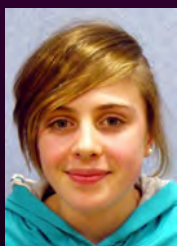
Matilda Haymes



Neve Richards



Peter Maylor



Poppy Hall



Rebecca Stradling



Rosie Rothwell

# ACT 1

Audition  
COMPANY

Hard Work  
COMPANY

I Want to Make Magic  
NICK

Can't Keep It Down  
JOE & STUDENTS

Dance Class  
MISS BELL & STUDENTS

Tyrone's RAP  
TYRONE & STUDENTS

There She Goes / Fame  
CARMEN & COMPANY

Let's Play a Love Scene  
SERENA

Bring on Tomorrow  
SCHLOMO & CARMEN

The Teacher's Argument  
MISS BELL & MISS SHERMAN

Hard Work (Reprise)  
COMPANY





# ACT 2

**The Junior Festival  
COMPANY**

**Think of Meryl Streep  
SERENA**

**Mabel's Prayer  
MABEL & STUDENTS**

**Dancin' on the Sidewalk  
TYRONE & COMPANY**

**These Are My Children  
MISS SHERMAN**

**The Pas De Deux (Dance)  
TYRONE & IRIS**

**In LA  
CARMEN**

**Bring On Tomorrow  
COMPANY**

**There will be an  
Interval of 20 minutes  
between  
Act 1 & Act 2**



# THE ORCHESTRA



Musical Director	Joy Farrall
Keyboard 1	Colin Hazel
Lead Guitar/Keyboard 2	Bill Harbottle
Bass Guitar	Nick Waldock
Drums	Chris Abington
Trumpet	Henry Spencer
Reeds	Hannah Lawrance
Trombone	Alan Crosthwaite
Backing Singers	Alastair Farrall-Daniel Ellie Smith Ebony Hensler



## OUR RAFFLE

Each year we donate money raised from our raffle to a local charity.

Last year we were proud to donate £550.00 to the Woodlands Trust at Hinchbrook Hospital. The Woodlands Centre, offers care, support and outpatient treatment for cancer patients and others with a terminal illness.



This year we are supporting the East Anglian Air Ambulance. This is a 365 day a year, life saving service across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk. The charity is independent of government and National Lottery funding and is entirely dependent on fundraising and contributions. To keep its 2 air ambulances flying and to provide the advanced medical equipment they carry, over £4 million per year has to be raised.

Cineworld and a large number of the major film producers have generously supported our raffle with some wonderful prizes for you to win. For all of you that have bought tickets this evening, I would like to say a big thank you for helping Spotlight Productions to support the East Anglian Air Ambulance Service.



# BEHIND THE SCENES



## Stage Carpentry & Construction

Philip Tyte  
Mick Brightwell

## Scenic Artwork

Dibs Fletcher

## Set Rigging & Backstage Personnel



Nippy Industries  
Elena Carpenter  
Philip Tyte  
Cat James  
Mick Brightwell  
Steve Smith  
Kevin Williams  
Emily Moore  
Gemma Nicholas  
James Mace  
Simon Maylor  
Nan Wolfenden



## Costume Design

Judith Ekblom  
Sue Smith  
Sarah Wilkinson



## Costume Construction

Sarah Stammer  
Judith Ekblom  
Lisa Wills

## Wardrobe Team



Sue Smith  
Judith Ekblom  
Sarah Stammer  
Marion Pergande  
Freda Wilkinson

Lorraine Morgan  
Charlotte Smith  
Stephanie Smith  
Maggie Wadsworth  
Sally Valetta

## Hair & Make-up



Jessica Pilkington  
Nicola Morgan  
Rebecca Stradling  
Felicity Burton  
Harriet Main  
Hannah Motteshead

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Scott Andrews  
Sarah Wilkinson



## Lighting

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Paul Seed  
Graham Wilkinson

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Colin Hazel



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Andy/Richard

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## THE TEAM

Spotlight is a non-profit organisation, committed to working with young people to produce outstanding musical theatre in the Huntingdon area.

Our key aims are to:

- ❖ Encourage and nurture singing, dancing and acting talent, amongst 13 -25 year olds
- ❖ Perform the much-loved "crowd pullers" and showcase brand new musicals.
- ❖ Show our audiences that a "West End theatre experience", can be had locally here in Huntingdon!

### Graham & Sarah Wilkinson — Director & Choreographer

Sarah and I have both been involved in theatre for the past 27 years and whilst I predominantly 'trod the boards' Sarah, as a qualified dance teacher, specialised in ballroom, modern and theatrical dance, teaching in a number of local schools.

In the 17 years we have been married, we have combined our talents, working with a number of theatrical groups, directing and choreographing many shows. In September 2004 we decided to form our own Performing Arts Group, Spotlight Productions. Since conception we have performed seven large scale musicals to sell-out audiences, *Grease* (April 2005), *A Whitechapel Tale* (January 2006), *Bugsy Malone* (October 2006), *Disco Inferno* (April 2007), *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* (February 2008), *Back to the 80's* (April 2009) and *Hairspray* (April 2010) receiving fantastic feedback.

We continue to believe in our initial ethos that young people from any background should have the right to audition for one of our productions and hence our subs remain at only £3 per week which covers our room hire, costumes and make-up. The rest of our funding is raised through ticket sales and costume hire (we now have over 14,000 theatrical costumes available for hire at our costume storage unit in Abbots Ripton ) and this allows the group to continue to operate. Like many other non-profit making groups, we have to operate on a very tight budget and our financial constraints continue to be our biggest burden.

If you believe you know a way to help we would very much like to talk to you. Alternatively if you are interested in joining the group, whether backstage, on-stage, scenery construction, painting or just making the tea we would love to speak to you further.

We will continue to bring the 'West End' experience to Huntingdon and are already planning our future productions.



### Joy Farrall — Musical Director

Once I used to help serve drinks and a snack at play group. Then I was on the Parent Teacher Association at school. Now I help at Spotlight Productions. A natural progression of support for my children's educational development I hear you say. Perhaps so, but who gets the most fun out of this one I wonder!!!!



### Paul Sweeney — Assistant Director

I have been acting and directing in the Huntingdon area for over 13 years now, through various productions ranging from Oscar Wilde to Pantomime. This will be my fifth show with Spotlight and I am still amazed by the level of talent we find each year. I'm very excited to be working with our fantastic team on *Fame* as the show holds some very happy memories for me. Having seen it performed up and down the country by professionals in the West End to a Summer School in Birmingham I've enjoyed each and every performance. As ever the cast have worked tirelessly to perfect each aspect of the show, in much the same way as the kids of fame school!



### Kelly Fawkes — Choreographer

I have been assistant Choreographer for Spotlight since 2006. I enjoy choreographing for the shows and encouraging the kids to learn and understand the skills needed for Musical Theatre. I also own Kelly Marie's Dancewear and teach at a local Dance School, AJ's Dance Academy. My involvement with Spotlight has presented many challenges but has given me the opportunity to work within a great team choreographing for some truly great shows.



### Tracy Shorter — Choreographer

I have been on stage since the age of five, involved in music, dance or acting in various shows and groups. I joined Spotlight in 2006 when I moved down here from Cheshire. After playing Peggy Sawyer in *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* and a teacher in *Back to the 80's*, I turned my hand to the Music for *Hairspray*, working alongside Joy. This year I have choreographed for *Fame*, which I have thoroughly enjoyed!

The cast have worked very hard on our dances and I can't wait to see the finished product. "Break a leg everyone!"



### **Elena Carpenter — Stage Manager & Directors Assistant**

I have been involved with Spotlight since the beginning and have enjoyed working on this show with the rest of the team and our amazing cast of young people. During rehearsals I support the directors and keep the master script. During show week I manage the back stage crew, the set, the props, and generally keep order! Enjoy the show.....do you want to live forever?!



### **Philip Tyte — Head of Carpentry & Scenic Construction**

I have been involved with Spotlight since it's inception in 2004. Each show brings with it the challenge of realising Graham's creative vision, and delivering something both visually appealing and durable enough to withstand the abuse of the back stage crew! Couldn't have done it without all the tea and biscuits! Thanks Graham and Sarah!



### **Dibs Fletcher — Scenic Artist**

This is my 4th show now with Spotlight and I have to say, as much as it is freezing at the barn, there's nothing I like more than painting. I did my theatre design degree at University and then started doing youth work which has been my full time job now for 9 years.



### **Sue Smith — Wardrobe Mistress**

This all happened by accident during one of those casual conversation moments! It was when my daughter was studying for her art foundation course that Sarah and Graham invited her to support them; which led to us both getting involved in Spotlight's production of Hairspray. This was a thoroughly enjoyable experience which ended up involving the whole family. It was very rewarding to see the cast all in their costumes on the actual show nights and to work with a team of incredibly talented and persuasive people - who have twisted my arm to be wardrobe mistress for Fame - still if you can't beat them, you might as well join them!!!!



### **Sarah Stammler — Costumier**

I graduated in 1999 from the London College of Fashion with a degree in Costume for the Performing Arts. Since then I have worked on Film, Television and Theatre, credits have included Harry Potter, A Mighty Heart starring Angelina Jolie; many shows at The Royal Opera House, Shakespeare's Globe, ENO, Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the National Theatre; TV series The Band of Brothers, to name but a few.



### **Colin Hazel — Rehearsal Pianist**

I graduated from Nottingham University in 2001 with a Music BA. Since then I have worked as a pianist, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist in big bands, cabaret shows, musical theatre and a travelling circus! As well as holding numerous residencies in and around Cambridge. I currently work as a ballet pianist at Body Work and teach piano and violin with Young Arbury Music Makers. I'm also very active on the Cambridge Lindy Hop Scene!



### **Judith Ekblom — Costume design & Construction**

I joined Spotlight last year in the middle of Hairspray, helping with the final alterations for the costumes and I loved it. This year I have taken a much more active role in the production. I am currently studying a National Diploma in Art and Design in Peterborough and I have applied for a Costume Construction course at University starting in 2012, and plan to fill my gap year up by working alongside Spotlight and other theatre companies.



### **Cat James — Props & Assistant Stage Manager**

Well this is my 6th show with Spotlight. I started as part of the backstage crew, then progressed on to the stage and now I have done a full circle and I'm backstage again. At rehearsals, I generally look after the register and am also a useful 'First Aider' being a trainee nurse at Hinchingbrooke Hospital. Once you become a member of the Spotlight Team, you can never leave!!!!



# With Thanks to.....

Like many non-profit making organisations, budgets are a constant issue for us. Putting on a show like this one is a very expensive affair. So we are always looking for sponsors and organisations who will assist us by providing goods, services or just plain hard cash!!!

Without the help of the following organisations and people, this show would not have been possible, and so the cast, crew, and everyone in the Spotlight team would like to say a

**Great Big Thank You To All Of Them !!!!**

Youth Opportunity Fund Cambridgeshire	We would like to say a huge thank you for awarding us a grant, allowing us to purchase lighting and props for this show. This is a fund for young people awarded by young people, which makes it even more special. The fund is managed by Young Lives who have continuously supported Spotlight Productions since it was formed in 2004.
Huntingdon Town Council	For their continuous support
Nippy Industries	For their invaluable support as our sponsor.
Jewsons	For ongoing supplies of building materials & a lorry to help transport our scenery
Huntingdonshire District Council Document Centre	For the professional printing of this programme & our posters, often at short notice!
Kelly Marie's Dancewear	For supplying discounted dancewear to the cast and acting as our Box Office.
Steve Lake	For creating a unique prop for the show!
Cineworld Cinemas, Twentieth Century Fox, Walt Disney, Universal Pictures, Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures, Momentum, Lionsgate, Optimum Releasing and Entertainment One	For their financial support and supplying a spectacular number of wonderful raffle prizes for you to win.
To the parents of our cast	For providing "taxi services" to and from rehearsals.





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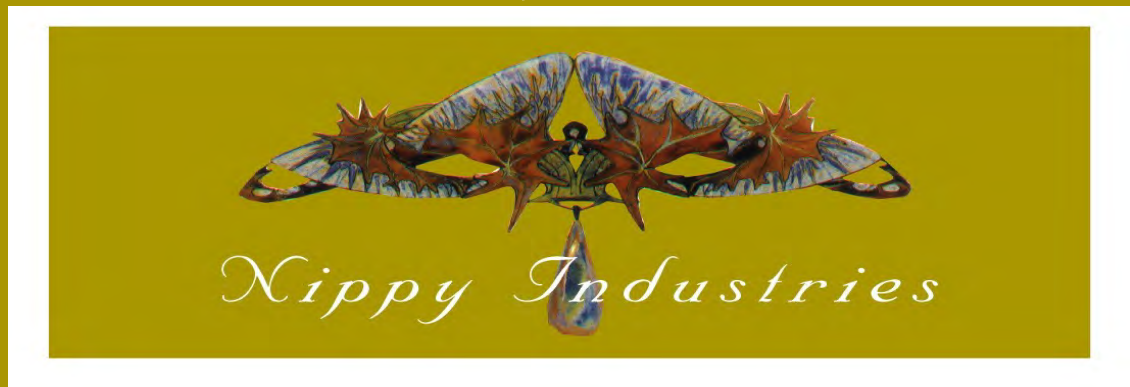
Is it time for a change of style?

Would some alterations help you feel more comfortable in your clothes?

For help with these and more, the creator of tonight's costumes can help. No job too large or too small.

Contact Judith on 07717 019316 or  
[judith@theekbloms.com](mailto:judith@theekbloms.com)

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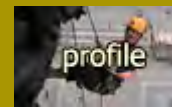
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**Nippy Industries are proud to sponsor Spotlight Productions in their efforts to bring outstanding musical theatre to Huntingdon.**

**We wish the cast and crew every success with this production.**

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