

SPRING / SUMMER
2026

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 the Spring/Summer season at the Rose Theatre. We have a wonderful variety of shows on offer for you. The Nonentities' Society's artistic director, Richard Taylor, has chosen an excellent selection of plays for your delight starting with a classic Willy Russell play "One For The Road" in January, quickly followed by the murder mystery, "The Ballad of Maria Marten", a re-telling of what is more popularly known as the Red Barn Murder, which will certainly set one or two spines chilling. We are particularly delighted to have performance rights to tackle "Cabin Pressure" (a Radio 4 comedy) in the Studio. The original series starred such luminaries as Benedict Cumberbatch, Roger Allam, and Stephanie Cole and is an irreverent look at life in a small independent airline company. It was based on the real-life experiences of author and performer, John Finnemore's brother, who is a pilot. It is real laugh-out-loud stuff and very much one not to miss. We also bring you, Dario Fo's "Accidental Death of an Anarchist", another play that has its roots in true crime and the death of the Italian anarchist, Giuseppe Pinelli. We round up

with Alan Ayckbourn's adaptation of the brilliant comedy "Tons of Money". We are privileged once again to be showcasing the talents of our Youth Theatre (KRYPT) with shows involving both the Junior and Senior sections. Those of you who watched The Unfriend and/or Turn of the Screw during 2025, will have seen just a small selection of the talent that is being nurtured by this company, and I know how much they appreciate your support. Returning regular visitors include KODS who are performing Sondheim's brilliant "Into the Woods", and their youth section, KODYS, will perform "Grease" at the end of June, before we close with Talking Props and "Crazy For You". Professional visitors include Talon, To be loved - Adele and Jay Adkins - a local illusionist who will thrill and baffle you with his talents.

There's so much to look forward to and, as always, we look forward to offering a warm welcome when you visit The Rose.

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 26th January - Saturday 31st January 2026

ONE FOR THE ROAD

By Willy Russell

The Nonentities Society – Main House (A)

Looking for something to lighten the dark January nights? Look no further than our opening play of 2026.

This wickedly observant comedy by the author of Educating Rita explores the quiet desperation and simmering tensions beneath suburban respectability. Set in a seemingly ordinary English neighbourhood, the story follows Dennis as he grapples with a looming midlife crisis, nousey neighbours, and the relentless monotony of routine.

Reaching the breaking point on his landmark birthday party he packs a rucksack to make his escape, but everyone wants to accompany him, and he sinks down in front of the television, defeated. But there's always next year ... and the year after.

With biting wit and a keen eye for the absurdities of modern life, Russell explores how far people will go to preserve appearances- even as their personal lives unravel.

WARNING: This play contains adult language throughout and some sexual references

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ⌚ Standard Ticket Prices

Monday 23rd February - Saturday 28th February 2026

THE BALLAD OF MARIA MARTEN

By Beth Flintoff

The Nonentities Society – Main House (A)

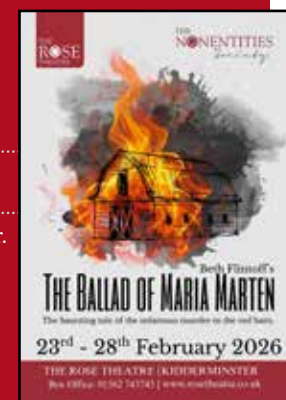
Summer, 1827. In a red barn in Suffolk, Maria Marten awaits her lover. A year later, hidden in a grain sack under the floor of the barn, Maria's body is found, barely identifiable - and the manhunt begins.

The Red Barn Murder had all the hallmarks of a classic crime drama: a missing body, a country location, a disreputable squire and a village stuck in its age-old traditions. But whilst sending shockwaves throughout the country, Maria's own story was lost.

The Ballad of Maria Marten rediscovers her story, bringing it back to vivid, urgent life. Beth Flintoff's thrilling play was first performed by an all-female cast in a production by Eastern Angles in July 2018. The Nonentities will also be staging this play with an all-female cast who are set to tell Maria's story from her perspective, focusing on the resilience of women. This will be a thrilling and dramatic exploration of class, prejudice, and female friendship.

WARNING: This play contains adult themes

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ⌚ Standard Ticket Prices



Saturday 7th March - Sunday 8th March 2026

ELEANOR THE EXPLORER

By Tim Primrose

KRYPT Junior Company Main House (A)

Madness! Mystery! Mild peril!

Join one brave explorer and her pluckiest of sidekicks as they attempt to prevent all-out-war in a strange and distant land. Can you smell that? That, my friend, is the smell of adventure!

A brilliant and bizarre youth theatre romp presented by the Junior Company of Kidderminster Rose Young People's Theatre.

First commissioned and performed by Strange Town.



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



Full/Concessions £8 Children £6



Monday 16th March - Saturday 21st March 2026

INTO THE WOODS

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by JAMES LAPINE

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Society
Main House (A)

Venture Into the Woods with this Tony Award-winning musical that intertwines the tales of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel — along with a Baker and his Wife desperate to break a witch's curse. What begins as a magical journey to make their wishes come true soon reveals the dark consequences of getting exactly what you want.

Filled with Sondheim's brilliant wit, unforgettable songs, and a poignant message about community, responsibility, and the stories we tell, Into the Woods is a spellbinding journey for audiences of all ages.

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

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 £18*
Matinee 2:30pm *Tuesday - Saturday Evening £19*



Tuesday 24th March - Wednesday 25th March 2026

TALON

THE ACOUSTIC COLLECTION

HANDLE WITH CARE

Talon Music Ltd – Main House (P)

Back by popular demand – firm favourites at The Rose!

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 NASH"

'MAVERICK'

(The UK's Leading Country Music Magazine)



Curtain up 7:30pm *Full £27.50 Concessions £25*



Friday 27th March 2026

JAY ADKINS: MIND MAGICIAN

Main House (P)

Clever. Intriguing. Humorous & Brilliant!

We welcome something different to the Rose Theatre! Award winning Mentalist and Illusionist Jay Adkins will leave his audience mesmerised, engaged and amused with his naturally charming and entertaining style of Stage Mentalism, close up mind reading and delightful deception.

Combining psychological mind-manipulation together with magic and comedy, Jay brings a fresh vitality to the genre of Mentalism. His inimitable style combined with memory feats that stun and amaze, Jay uses Psychology, Showmanship, Hypnosis, Suggestion, and Cold Reading to captivate and engage his audience.

The show is all about the audience, what they are thinking, what they experience, involving them every step of the way. Based around audience participation it'll leave you thinking one thing if anything... "How did he do it?" With over 20 years of performance experience under his belt, Jay Adkins brings to you a powerhouse performance of entertainment and mind-blowing psychological illusions, Details of the material are a closely guarded secret, but promise to be both surprising and enthralling for all who come to the show.



Curtain up 7:30pm *Full £14 Concessions £12*

Saturday 28th March 2026

'TO BE LOVED' ADELE

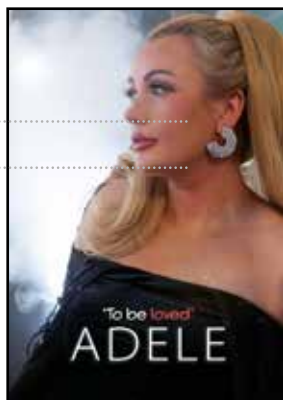
Main House (P)

Come and enjoy an evening of dazzling hits from all four of Adele's record-breaking albums, performed by the sensational Chloe Barry.

With her bubbly personality and soulful vocals, Chloe delivers an authentic and unforgettable performance. Featuring hits like "Someone Like You," "Rolling in the Deep," "Hello," and "Easy on Me," Chloe also covers songs by Adele's idols, creating a truly unique experience.

Adele fans will adore this show and be left wanting more! Celebrate the music of one of the most influential singer-songwriters of our time. Don't miss it!

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Full £24 Concessions £22



Monday 13th April - Saturday 18th May 2026

CABIN PRESSURE

By John Finnemore

The Nonentities Society - Studio (A)

We are delighted to present our version of Cabin Pressure originally a radio comedy series for BBC Radio 4 written and created by John Finnemore and directed and produced by David Tyler.

It follows the exploits of the eccentric crew of the single aeroplane owned by "MJN Air" as they are chartered to take all manner of items, people or animals across the world. Staffed by two pilots, one on his way down and one who was never up to start with, no job is too small, but many, many jobs are too difficult!

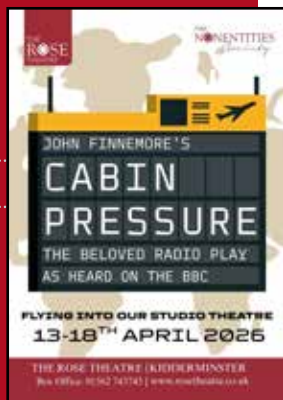
Run by the forbidding divorcee Carolyn Knapp-Shappey (an unfortunate marriage, namewise, but in Carolyn's opinion, marginally better than Carolyn Shappey-Knapp), her two pilots are the smooth, experienced and almost-certainly-fired-by-a-big-airline-for-all-round naughtiness Douglas, and struggling almost-competent pilot Martin. All-round help is provided by Carolyn's near-idiot son, Arthur...

'Unexpectedly brilliant' - Time Out.

Join us for our final Studio production of the season.

PLEASE NOTE THAT LATECOMERS WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO THE STUDIO

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Standard Studio Ticket Prices



Monday 18th May - Saturday 23rd May 2026

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST

By Dario Fo and Franca Rame Adapted by Tom Basden

The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

Our season continues apace with a modern adaptation of a classic biting farce.

An impressive fraudster known only as the Maniac is brought into Police Headquarters just as the officers are preparing for a judicial review of the recent "accidental" death of a suspect in custody. Outwitting his captors, the Maniac dupes them into performing a farcical re-creation of the incident, exposing the absurd corruption and terrifying idiocy at the heart of the system.

The original play premiered in 1970 and is based on the 1969 Piazza Fontana bombing and on the death of Giuseppe Pinelli, an Italian anarchist, during a police interrogation. This adaptation premiered at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield in 2022 before transferring to the West End in June 2023 and has been described as "A dazzling feat of wit, winking word-play and political provocation." Tom Basden relocated the play to London, and it is set in 2023 exploring themes including mental illness, suicide, police corruption and violence.

WARNING: This play contains some adult language

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Standard Ticket Prices

Monday 15th June - Saturday 20th June 2026

TONS OF MONEY

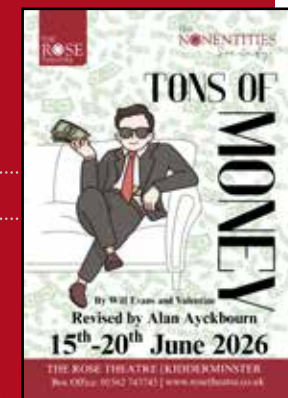
By Will Evans and Valentine Revised by Alan Ayckbourn

The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

What better way to end our season than with the talented Ayckbourn's adaptation of a famed Aldwych farce. It is the story of an unsuccessful inventor who inherits the life interest in a fortune which is to revert on his death to his cousin George Maitland. As Cousin George is thought to have died abroad, the inventor has the brilliant idea of "dying" so that he can resurrect himself as his cousin and avoid paying his enormous debts.

Complications arise in the form of George's wife, another Maitland imposter (the butler's brother) and finally the real George Maitland himself! Hilarity ensues and if the audience cannot follow the intricate plot – no matter – it won't spoil the enjoyment of the night!

★ Curtain up 7:30pm ₤ Standard Ticket Prices



Thursday 25th June – Saturday 27th June 2026

GREASE - School Edition

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Youth Section
Main House (A)

Get ready to hand-jive! Grease bursts onto the stage with all the fun, friendship, and rock 'n' roll energy of Rydell High. Join Sandy, Danny, the Pink Ladies, and the T-Birds as they navigate teenage dreams, growing up, and the unforgettable sounds of the '50s in this high-energy musical.

Since its electrifying Broadway and West End debut in the early 1970s, Grease has remained one of the world's most beloved and enduring musicals, captivating audiences across generations.

"GREASE" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrights.co.uk

**"HOPELESSLY DEVOTED TO YOU", YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT",
"SANDY" AND "GREASE", USED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ROBERT
STIGWOOD.**

★ *Evenings 7:30pm* £ *Evenings £17 Matinee £16*
Saturday Matinee 2:30pm

Saturday 4th July - Sunday 5th July 2026

SECOND PERSON NARRATIVE

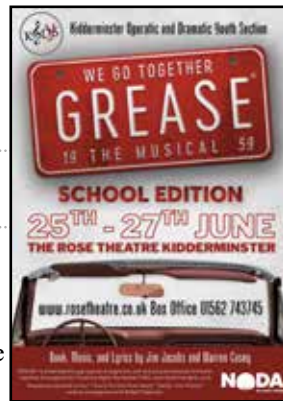
By Jemma Kennedy

KRYPT Senior Company - Studio

You're born a girl. You grow up. You grow old. You die. But along the way can you really forge your own identity? Can you choose your own destiny? And who is genuinely in control of your story?

This exciting play, presented by Kidderminster Rose Young People's Theatre Senior Company, explores the full life of an ordinary, extraordinary character: YOU.

★ *Saturday 7:30pm*
Sunday 2:30pm £ *Full/Concessions £10*
Children £8



Wednesday 8th July – Saturday 11th July 2026

CRAZY FOR YOU: The Gershwins Musical Comedy

Music and Lyrics by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin

Book by Ken Ludwig

Co Conception by Ken Ludwig and Mike Occurrent

Directed by Michael Neri

Choreography by Zailee Beer

Musical Direction by Russell Painter

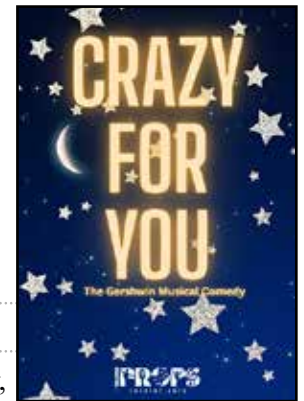
Talking Props Theatre Arts Main House (A)

A zany rich-boy-meets-hometown-girl romantic comedy, Crazy For You® tells the story of young New York banker Bobby Child, who is sent to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose on a rundown theatre. In Deadrock, Bobby falls for spunky Polly Baker, the theatre owner's daughter. But Polly takes an instant dislike to the city slicker, so Bobby vows – through cunning, razzmatazz, and a hilarious case of mistaken identity – to win Polly's heart and save the theatre. Memorable Gershwin tunes from the score include "I Got Rhythm," "Naughty Baby," "They Can't Take That Away from Me," "Embraceable You," "But Not for Me," "Nice Work If You Can Get It" and "Someone to Watch Over Me."

Inspired by Material by Guy Bolton and John McGowan

This amateur production of
CRAZY FOR YOU® is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.
on
behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

★ *Curtain up: Evenings 7:30pm | Saturday Matinee 2:30pm*
£ *All Tickets £19.00*



FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT AT THE ROSE

ROSE THEATRE STAFF

We operate with a part-time venue manager - Sharon Tandy. However, all other roles continue to be staffed by volunteer members: 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 membership@rosetheatre.co.uk and we will get back to you

ARRIVAL TIMES

Please don't arrive at the Theatre before 6.30pm - 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, or the interval for Studio play. 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	£14	£15 (£14)
Studio	£13	£14 (£13)

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.

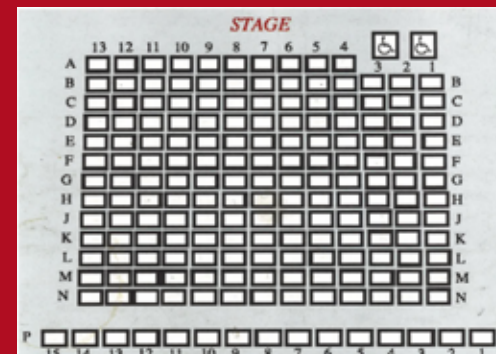
STUDIO TICKETS

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. Please note that latecomers will not be admitted to the Studio.

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 2026

Monday 26th January - Saturday 31st January

ONE FOR THE ROAD

By Willy Russell

The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

FEBRUARY 2026

Monday 23rd February – Saturday 28th February

THE BALLAD OF MARIA MARTEN

By Beth Flintoff

The Nonentities Society - Main House (A)

MARCH 2026

Saturday 7th March – Sunday 8th March

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By Willy Russell

KRYPT Junior Company - Main House (A)

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JAY ADKINS - MIND MAGICIAN

Main House (P)

Saturday 28th March

'TO BE LOVED' ADELE

Main House (P)

APRIL 2026

Monday 13th April – Saturday 18th April

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By John Finnemore

The Nonentities - Studio (A)

MAY 2026

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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
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Worcestershire, DY10 2RX

