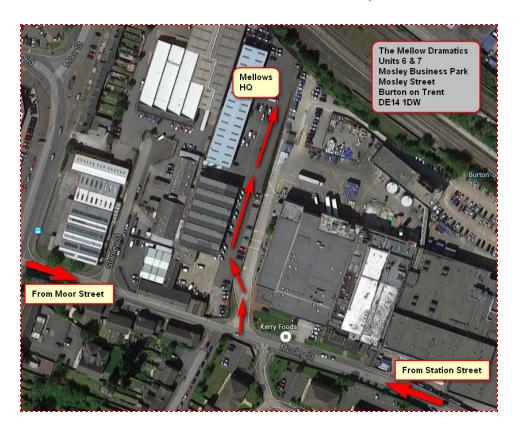


## General Information about The Mellows

We produce 3 musical shows per year which are performed at the Brewhouse Arts Centre in Union Street, Burton upon Trent, in January, May and September.

We rehearse at our HQ which is on Mosley Business Park, Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1DW.

The HQ can be found on the industrial estate to the left of the entrance to the Creative Foods factory.



We have around 120 members who range in age from 7 to 80 years. The majority of our members like to appear on stage with us, but we have others who prefer to help with set design and construction, making props and also creating our costumes for each show.



Our rehearsals are on Thursday and Sunday evenings from 7.30pm to 10pm. Not everyone is needed at every rehearsal, although you should expect to be needed for the majority of the Sunday rehearsals and Thursdays where required.

At the Presentation for each show, the show Director will give more information on the rehearsal requirements for that particular show.

Our aim is always to create and perform a professional, high quality show, at the same time as having lots of fun and lots of laughs!

We are always happy to welcome new members to either help in one of our off-stage areas, or to perform with us on stage.

If you are interested in helping with any of our off-stage areas, please contact us (contact info is at the end of this booklet) and we will arrange for you to come and meet the team.

If you are interested in performing with us on stage, please read on...

#### How do I join as an On-Stage Member?

Very shortly after our current show is performed at The Brewhouse, we will have a presentation evening for the next show.

These are held on a Thursday or Sunday evening during the last 2 weeks of January, May and September.

The presentation is an informal gathering where we all learn all about the next show, listen to some of the music from it and the production team will explain the fun they have planned for us.

As a potential new member, we would like to invite you to join us at the presentation evening so that you can hear more about the next show as well as meet some of our members and have a tour of our HQ.

As we already have your contact details, we will be in touch with you to give you the date for the presentation evening as soon as we have it.

# Do I need to audition to join the society?

Once you've been to the show presentation, if you decide you'd like to join us, then yes, you will be asked to audition to join the society during the week following the presentation.

At the audition, you will be asked to...

- Sing a song of your own choosing.
   This should preferably be from a musical and you should bring a backing track along with you. We will have a bluetooth speaker available if you want to connect and play the track from your phone. If you prefer a different method of playing your track though, please bring the correct equipment with you as we'd hate to not be able to play your track for you.
- Read some dialogue.
  This will be sent to you in advance so you can familiarise yourself with it. You do not have to learn the piece though.
- Perform some simple dance steps which will be shown to you at your audition

We realise that some people are quite nervous at the thought of auditioning but we always do our best to make you feel at home and make it an enjoyable experience rather than a scary one.

If you have any questions about the audition, your selection of audition song, or anything else, then please let us know.

### What if I can't attend every show rehearsal?

Because we only have around 15 weeks to rehearse each show, we do need everyone to attend as many rehearsals as possible. We do realise though, that members have holidays and other reasons why you occasionally need to miss a rehearsal and that is not a problem.

We do ask though, that you don't miss any more than three Sunday rehearsals for any one show and that you let us know in advance, for any rehearsals that you need to miss.

Also, when we get close to a show week, we always have an all day rehearsal at The Brewhouse, which is on a Sunday, the week before the show. This is usually 10.00am – 7.00pm and as you'll guess, this is a very important rehearsal for us, so all cast members have to commit to being at this rehearsal.

We also have a Technical Rehearsal at The Brewhouse on the Sunday immediately prior to the show and this is usually between 10.00am and 7.00pm.

# How much does it cost to be an On-Stage Member?

For adult members, there are 2 options..

Option A is the easiest and preferred option and this is just £10 per month, paid by Direct Debit.

Option B is to pay a £30 Annual Membership fee (renewable 1st February each year), plus a £50 On-Stage Fee for each show that you take part in. With this option, you'll need to pay the £30 when you first join us and then the £50 is payable within one month of the start of rehearsals for the next show.

You are welcome to choose whichever option you prefer and can change your option yearly at the start of February should you so wish.

For student members, the options are...

Option A is the easiest and preferred option and this is just £6 per month, paid by Direct Debit.

Option B is to pay a £30 Annual Membership fee (renewable 1st February each year), plus a £25 On-Stage Fee for each show that you take part in. With this option, you'll need to pay the £30 when you first join us and then the £25 is payable within one month of the start of rehearsals for the next show.

You are welcome to choose whichever option you prefer and can change your option yearly at the start of February should you so wish. For junior members, there is £20 Annual Membership fee (renewable 1st February each year), plus a £20 On-Stage Fee for each show that you take part in. With this option, you'll need to pay the £20 when you first join us and then the £20 on-stage fee is payable within one month of the start of rehearsals for the next show.

### What if I have more questions?

If you have any further questions about becoming a Mellows member, then please get in touch with us by...

- 1. Emailing our Membership Secretary, Jean Mason
- 2. Contacting us via our Facebook page
- or 3. Completing the Contact Form on our website

