

# Oliver! glorious Oliver!

## Arts

with MARY REDMAN

USUALLY when writing about productions of Oliver! the press concentrates on the youngest members of the cast.

So here we present the four young men who will share the roles of Oliver and The Artful Dodger in Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society's forthcoming production at the Civic Theatre.

Elliott Elder and Ben Wimsett play the hapless orphan taken under the dubious wing of William Haswell and Sam Toland's Artful Dodger.

But there's even more of interest to local musical theatre fans with the appearance of Peter Smith, CAODS' Grand Old Man, as the evil Fagin in a role he must relish.

Plus the return to his musical theatre roots of professional voice coach, cabaret performer and variety agency boss James Hearne in the role he first played as a teenager with Young Generation.

After 10 years in showbiz, Hearne's Bill Sykes will benefit not only from his strong physical build but his equally powerful voice and professional skills in this role as the murderous associate of Fagin.

He says he is delighted to be back with CAODS.

So not only are there the famous Lionel Bart songs to look forward to but plenty of good performances.

Like most CAODS' shows it is guaranteed to sell out.

Oliver! runs from Monday September 25 to 30 at 7.30pm with a matinee at 3pm Saturday.

Book now for tickets priced from £8.50 to £12.50 on 01245 606505.



DOUBLE ACT: The Artful Dodger and Oliver.