



# Show Report

CODYS Productions

## The SpongeBob Musical Team Chum Bucket

12 September 2025

## PRODUCTION INFORMATION

PRODUCTION	The SpongeBob Musical – Team Chum Bucket
SOCIETY	CODYS Productions
VENUE	The Brindley Theatre
GENRE	Musical
CAST SIZE	32
DIRECTOR	Dan Grimes
MUSICAL DIRECTOR	Emily Woodward
CHOREOGRAPHER	Laura Cupit
PRODUCTION LIAISON	Mikey Jones
TAP CHOREOGRAPHY	Emma Hampson
STAGE MANAGER	Not named
STAGE CREW	Not named
SET DESIGN	Not named
LIGHTING DESIGN / OPERATOR	The Brindley
SOUND DESIGN / OPERATOR	John Ormerod, Connected4Sound
WARDROBE	Reggi Hennessey, Melanie Pollard, Sheelagh Courtney, Shell Taylor, Rachel Hampson, Clare Pratt & Parents
PROPERTIES	Martin Pollard, Melanie Pollard, Connie Pollard, Shell Taylor, Rachel Hampson, Emma Hampson, Reggi Hennessey
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER	Not named
FRONT OF HOUSE	Rachel Hampson, Melanie Pollard and Parent Helpers
MARKETING / PUBLICITY	Melanie Pollard

## CAST LIST

SpongeBob	Amy Littlemore
Patrick	Ollie Shaw
Sandy	Katelyn Pratt
Squidward	Emma Hampson
Plankton	Harry Brown
Mr Krabs	Sam Grimes
Pearl	Elizabeth Usher
Karen	Emma Grigg
Patchy	Laila Rigby
Mayor	Rosie Clare

## ENSEMBLE

Mrs Puff	Lola Farrelly
Solo Sardine	Lily Faith Roberts
Perch Perkins	Aria Taylor
French Narrator	Emily Burns
Old Man Jenkins	William Pennington
Larry The Lobster	Alice Emery
Gary	Emilie Herridge
Blue Fish	Will Malpass
The Electric Skates	Eden Cannon
	Lily Rowen
	Emma Thompson
	Zak Harrison

DATE OF PERFORMANCE	Friday 12th September 2025
DATE REPORT PUBLISHED	Sunday 14th September 2025
ADJUDICATOR ID	NSA0002

NSA LOGO ON POSTER	No - N/A This Production
NSA IN PROGRAMME	Front Cover Logo Only
PROGRAMME CLASS	Best Licenced Design

## THE REVIEW

REVIEW WORD COUNT

1701

STRONGEST ELEMENTS

### Powerful Performances

- **Sam Grimes & Elizabeth Usher**

The performance of 'Money Money' was one of the standout numbers of the evening with. Both Characters owned the stage in their delivery and gave a memorable performance.

- **Katelyn Pratt**

Her powerful and strong portrayal of Sandy remained consistent throughout and was delivered to an extremely high standard.

- **Ensemble** The high energy and level of quality from an ensemble was second to none, the musical numbers a delivery throughout scenes remind strong throughout the whole performance.

### Bold, Intelligent Direction and Structure

#### Harmonies

- Singing across the board was of an extremely high standard and harmonies in key numbers complemented the whole performance. Such strong vocals on stage are rarely seen in youth productions.

### Striking and Cohesive Design Choices

- The lighting throughout completed the production, with the use of LED battens and separating aspects of the stage and scenes excelling the standard of amateur theatre.

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What a great start to the new season of amateur theatre. I arrived with my guest to see SpongeBob the Musical (Team Chum Bucket) at the Brindley Theatre. On arrival we were met with a warm welcome by Jenny the chair of the society, and Nick the founder of CODYS Productions, this was my first time meeting the team and it was a pleasure to meet such a passionate group of people. This was also our first introduction to the cast with Patchy the Pirate played by **Laila Rigby** greeting guests on their arrival, with an energetic and enthusiastic smile.

**Dan Grimes** who directed this production clearly had a vision he wanted to achieve, and by the sounds of things and from what I have seen, had a great production team in place to support him with this. The production team consisted of **Laura Cupit** as choreographer, **Emily Woodward** as Musical Director and **Mikey Jones** as production Liaison.

Upon entering the auditorium, the ambience was clearly laid out from the beginning, the sounds of Bikini Bottom welcomed you to your seats with a multitude of lighting effects over the auditorium including a gobo of SpongeBob the Musical filling the front scrim cloth. Either side of the stage, aspects of the under-sea world complimented this bringing you from these initial visuals of the poster design to the live world of Bikini Bottom. Lighting throughout the production was strong and clearly had a good amount of time spent perfecting it to get the right timings and effects required during the show. Exploring further position moves for songs with the lighting could have enhanced the production even further.

As the lighting dimmed, we were reintroduced back to Patchy the Pirate, **Laila** delivered a strong performance, with great stage presence from the start. The execution of her character framed the show and set standards for the performance. She sang beautifully during the 'poor pirates' number at the start of act two along with the supporting ensemble.

**Emily Burns** as the French Narrator delivered a compelling performance marked with articulate diction and great vocal projection. Even during extended periods positioned downstage front, she maintained unwavering consistency and remained fully immersed in character throughout the entirety of the performance.

At the heart of bikini bottom is the lovable and bubbly SpongeBob played by **Amy Littlemore**. Amy's personification of the role shone through, gripping the audience from the moment she entered the stage. Her performance was powerful throughout, providing a constant energy to the stage. Working alongside the rest of the cast, her charismatic personality for the character illuminated the stage with great timing and engagement with the audience. Her vocal delivery during numbers was a joy to listen to and complimented the whole production.

Gary the sea snail, SpongeBob's sidekick played by **Emilie Herridge**, had the challenge of creating character without the use of words. Her laconic performance supported the story as SpongeBob progressed his journey to save Bikini bottom. **Ollie Shaw** played the loveable Patrick; he delivered a strong performance which developed more as the show progressed. His lethargic tone was a great addition to the vocality of the character and I thoroughly enjoyed the 'BFF' number delivered by Ollie and Amy. At times vocals were slightly hindered on Ollie's mic with too much lower level coming through which improved into act two. However, this did not hinder Ollie in his overall performance.

Although there were the occasional gremlins with the microphones, such as issues with balancing and late activations, it was commendable that these challenges had no discernible effect on the cast's performance. The cast responded with professionalism, continuing to project confidently and maintaining a full commitment to their character throughout. Their resilience ensured the storytelling remained strong and engaging.

It was clear from the introduction of each character how much effort had gone into each costume, the mixture of eras throughout the costumes from the eighties to modern day outfits with a clever play on colours, enhanced the overall production and its creativity across the sea floor.

Sandy, played by **Katelyn Pratt**, delivered a strong and consistent role throughout. Her maintained Texas accent along with her stern intellectual portrayal of the character, was delivered with conviction and charisma and her infectious energy stood out within the production. I was also extremely surprised to discover this was also her debut on a big stage.

Another debut to the stage was **Emma Hampson** who played the lovingly comical Squidward, her comic timing was on point along with the squelch sound effects that contributed to her characterisation. She performed clearly with confidence, strong projection and great tonality to her accent. It was great to discover she also supported Laura with the choreography of the tap with the song 'I'm not a loser' which was portrayed to the audience as the top hat and tails style performance the song demanded.

The Evil Plankton performed by **Harry Brown** along with his sidekick Karen performed by **Emma Grigg**, kept the doomsday plot ticking. Harry's performance of 'When the going gets tough' was delivered well, and his diction throughout such a challenging song was performed to a high standard. Emma's support to Harry was good and as an evil team they performed well together. Further direction of these individuals could lift their performances to new highs for future productions.

Owner of the Krusty Krab, Mr Krabs, was played by **Sam Grimes** and his daughter Pearl portrayed by **Elizabeth Usher**, both gave a collaborative performance, Sam's presence on stage and delivery of character remained consistent throughout. Elizabeth's innocence and beauty within her role shone through as she delivered high quality vocals along with a rich performance. One shining moment on stage was the performance of 'Money Money' between these two characters; they oozed musical theatre at its best delivering a magnetic and memorable piece of theatre.

Upon entering the town, we were welcomed to a Playground upon the sea bed. The cleverly created set was designed with a multitude of levels, a slide and different areas that were creatively painted to create a coral reef effect, this included aspects of pool noodles creatively framed on stage and old tyres that had now become part of the sea floor over time. The colours used were cleverly enhanced during the UV scenes especially during Simple Sponge, where the use of sponges and UV lights were used by the ensemble to create images of fish and other items during the song. The only suggestion for future UV scenes where possible would be to either enhance people's faces for UV effect or morph them entirely, however I know this can be difficult sometimes with young performers.

Overseeing the town folk was the Mayor of Bikini Bottom played by **Rosie Clare**, she delivered with great focus and clear diction throughout her dialogue. Towns folk included Mrs Puff played by **Lola Farrelly**, Larry the Lobster played by **Alice Emery**, Old Man Jenkins played by **William Pennington** and Blue Fish played by **Will Malpass**. Lola delivered a good performance and remained consistently in character throughout her time on stage. Alice's portrayal of Larry had great confidence and attitude to the role with good projection and characterisation. William executed his role with confidence, giving us the comedic timings in the delivery of his character along with his depiction of Old Man Jenkins, whilst it was also a joy to see Will's energy on stage shine through as the blue fish during the production. Each of these have clear potential at progressing to become strong principal characters as they develop in their stagecraft in future productions.

Our resident news reporter Perch Perkins was played by the confident **Aria Taylor**, she delivered her lines well and kept her character animated throughout the show. Her timing on her dialogue was superb, and kept us on the edge of our seats. She was strong in projection and diction and the brevity of her dialogue was supported with her facial expressions throughout.

The Electric Skates included **Eden Cannon, Lily Rowen, Emma Thompson** and **Zak Harrison**, these gave us a glimpse into the pop world lifestyle with their creative presentation of characters and wild costumes. Stand out energy from the group came from Eden in the delivery of her role.

In most productions I see on stage the ensemble doesn't get the same level of support from the creative team as principal roles, with principal characters requiring more intricacy and direction for their role. However, this couldn't be any further away from the truth with the ensemble for Team Chum Bucket. This ecstatic group of individuals were the glue that kept this whole production together, ensuring irrelevant of where you were looking on stage, every cast member had a purpose. The sheer energy during dance numbers was amazing, with Laura's choreography brought to life by the team as a whole. Singing across the board was of an extremely high level, and understanding how difficult harmonies can be, I was blown away by the arrangements Emily had achieved with such a young group of people.

As part of the ensemble and not specifically mentioned in the programme, I must address those individuals who played the role of the Sardines. These at times stole the scene, with audiences' laughter echoing throughout the auditorium. **Lily Faith Roberts** who played the Solo Sardine, started us off with great character, following this as more Sardines joined the mirroring of the sardine characterisation, though all cast were extraordinary and had the audience loving every moment as they entered the stage.

Throughout the performance we had a multitude of effects including visuals created by the Browns family of the doomsday clock and aspects of Bikini bottom that added to the performance and blended well throughout the production. The effect of the eruption with the effective use of haze and lighting, added to the urgency of the situation without the need for extravagant props and pyrotechnics. Bubbles used through the auditorium brought the

audience into the production through the fourth wall, allowing us the omniscient view throughout the whole performance.

Overall, a huge well done to all involved, we thoroughly enjoyed the performance and wish CODYS productions all the best with their future ventures.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



## PROGRAMME

**NODA**

**CODYS**  
PRODUCTIONS  
STARS OF THE FUTURE!

**Northern Stage AWARDS**

**nickelodeon**  
**THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL**

**Based on the series by Stephen Hillenburg**  
**Book by Kyle Jarrow**

**10-13 September 2025**  
**The Brindley Theatre**  
**Runcorn**

This amateur production of The SpongeBob Musical  
is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals  
[www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)