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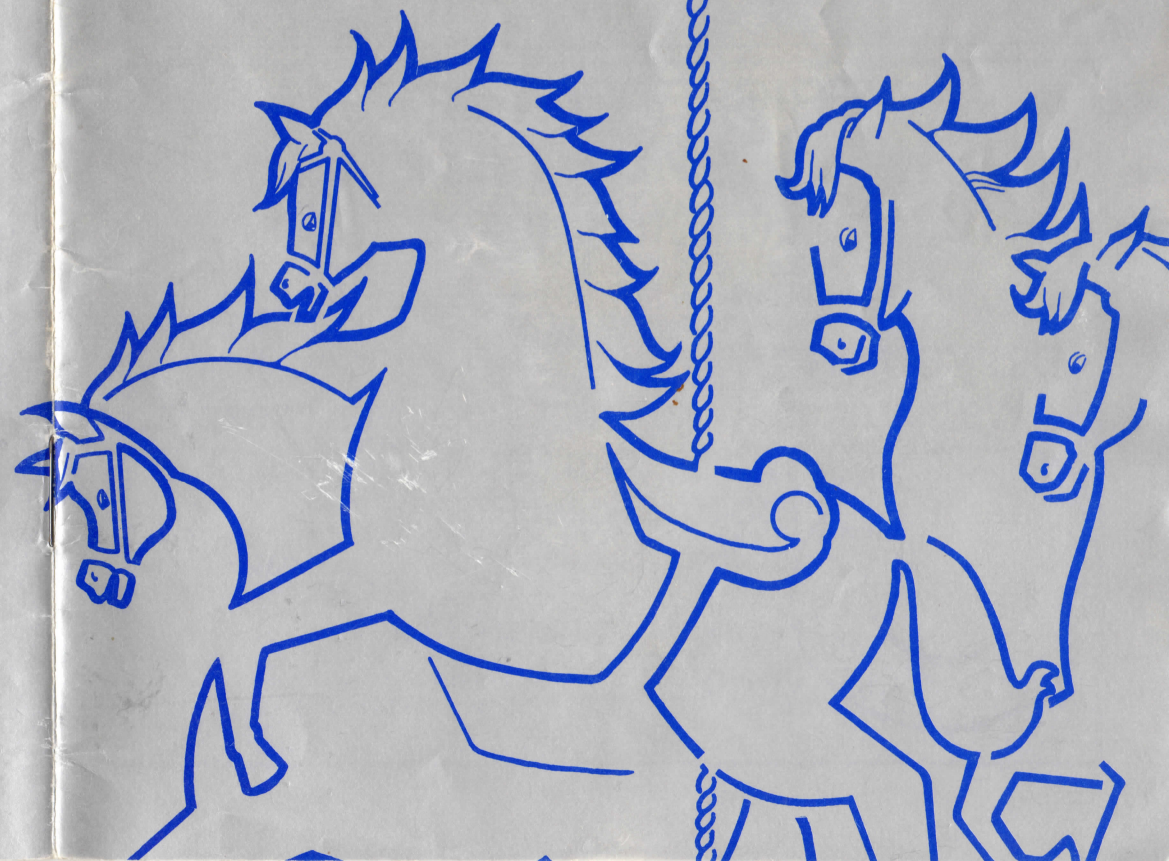
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Music and Lyrics by
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&

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Director : **Don Gregory**

Musical Director : **Robert Weaver**

Choreographer : **Marjorie Corden**

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A Message from the Chairman . . .

Dear Friends,

This is a very special year for the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society as it is our Silver Jubilee and we are proud of the fact that we have survived for so long. This we could not have done without the loyal support of all our Members, Vice Presidents and of course you our audience. Elsewhere in the programme we have given a brief history of the Society from its foundation and our very first G & S production, when we decided to take the plunge and hope we wouldn't be running interminable Jumble Sales to make up crashing losses! happily this did not happen and people took us to their hearts and obviously enjoyed our shows

We hope you approve our choice of Carousel as our celebration production. It has a somewhat sad story line admittedly but the songs are wonderful and the chorus numbers are so joyous and full of fun, a happy mixture of laughter and tears. Our thanks to the entire production team, Stage Director, Musical Director, Chreographer, Chorus Master, Wardrobe Mistress et. al. for making this such a happy week for all of us, we hope you will go home thinking "This was a real nice evening".

Margaret Woods — Chairman

Sadly, during the early rehearsals for tonight's show, our Chorus Master **FRED LIGHTFOOT** died after a short illness. Fred had been a member of the Society for only a short time but his cheerfulness and dedication will never be forgotten by all the members. Since joining our Society Fred appeared in "Guys & Dolls", "Oklahoma", "Vienna", and "Fiddler on the Roof". He had outstanding ability in being able to bring out the best in people in his role of Chorus Master, we hope that tonight's show will be a fitting memory to that talent.

Fred leaves a widow, Dorothy our Wardrobe Mistress and two daughters, to them the Society offers its deepest sympathy.

Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society

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**HON LIFE
MEMBER**
MRS V Hawes



CLARENCE HOUSE
S.W. 1

I write at the bidding of Queen Elizabeth
The Queen Mother.

Queen Elizabeth was most interested to learn
of the forthcoming presentation of "Carousel"
and "Yeomen of the Guard" which will mark the
Silver Jubilee of the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic
Society.

As Patron of the National Operatic and
Dramatic Association, The Queen Mother sends her
sincere good wishes for the success of these
productions.

*Your sincerely,
Maurice Gilliat.*

Private Secretary to
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The Story

The play is set in New England between the years 1873 and 1888 and opens in an Amusement Park. Mullins' Carousel is one of the attractions, not least on account of the handsome Barker, Billy Bigelow. Mrs Mullins, owner of the Carousel notices Billy is attracted to Julie Jordan, one of the girls from Mr. Bascombe's mill and is furious about this. A row ensues and Billy is sacked; Julie also loses her job at the mill by staying to talk to Billy. Her friend, Carrie Pipperidge, is encouraged to see that the shy, retiring Julie is at last interested in a man, and feels that she can now confide her love for Enoch Snow, a fisherman with big ideas for expanding his business.

Billy and Julie marry and settle down with Julie's cousin, Nettie Fowler, who has a Spa on the waterfront. Out of work and restless Billy makes friends with the disreputable Jigger Craigin, who is out to get money by whatever means are necessary. He formulates a plan to rob Mr. Bascombe when he comes down to the deserted quay to pay the Captain of one of his ships — all this under cover of darkness during the clambake which is held every year on the island.

Julie tells Billy that she is to have a child. In his soliloquy on the forthcoming child Billy realises that if he falls in with Jigger's plans he may indeed, have enough money to look after Julie and the child properly.

At the Clambake, Jigger makes overtures to the naive Carrie. They are caught by Enoch Snow and this leads to a break in their combined happiness.

The robbery misfires and in attempting to get away Billy slips and falls onto his knife, the party returns from the Clambake, and Billy dies in Julie's arms. While Julie and Nettie kneel by the body, the Heavenly Friend comes and takes Billy to the backyard of Heaven. He has not done enough good in his life to be allowed to enter Heaven other than by the back door, and the Starkeeper tells Billy that if he left anything unfinished he can return to earth for one day, and perhaps in this way redeem himself.

Julie catches a glimpse of Billy when he returns to earth and talks to Louise, now 15, who refuses the star he has brought her. At the Graduation Day ceremony Billy manages at last to whisper words of encouragement to Louise which makes her feel one with her fellows, and gives her a new understanding of her Mother. Billy crosses to Julie and says “know that I loved you”, the Heavenly Friend beckons him away, and Julie is happy at last in the knowledge of Billy's love.



John Bremner — Billy



Jill Baxter — Julie



Doug Wells & Carla Dedman
Mr Snow & Carrie

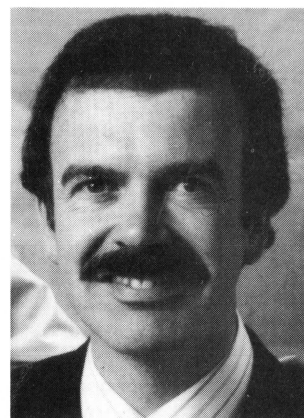


Bill Bennett — Jigger Craigin



Determination and hard work have been the key factors in **DON GREGORY's** success over 25 years in the theatre, during which he has gained experience in Revue, Cabaret, Plays, Pantomime and Musicals in both acting and directing. 'Treading the boards' has provided him with a long list of credits to his name, playing roles such as Emile de Becque in 'South Pacific', Professor Higgins in 'My Fair Lady', Tevye in 'Fiddler on the Roof' and the King in 'King and I'. He is at present devoting more time to directing and is particularly delighted to return to the talented and friendly Ramsgate Operatic Society with the ever popular Rodgers and Hammerstein hit 'Carousel'.

MARJORIE CORDEN, our choreographer is no stranger to the Ramsgate Stage. Under her maiden name Marjorie Hall, she and her team of dancers appeared regularly in Summer Season Shows at the Pavillion, The West Cliff Theatre and here at the Granville. As a teenager, then a pupil at St Georges School, Ramsgate she won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dancing where she studied Classical Ballet. Marjorie has appeared in numerous musicals playing such roles as Nellie Forbush in 'South Pacific', Carrie in 'Carousel', Lucille in 'No No Nannette' and Hodel in 'Fiddler' to name but a few. Since joining the R.A.O.S she has played Ado Annie in 'Oklahoma' and Sarah in 'Guys and Dolls'. Although a choreographer with many years experience this is the first show she has choreographed for our Society.



Although he now lives fifty miles away **ROBERT WEAVER** needed no persuading to link up once again with Ramsgate Operatic Society. "They are such a friendly, responsive group that I just can't stay away", says Rob, "and I love performing in the Granville Theatre". Through previous productions for us in 'Guys and Dolls', 'The Sound of his Music — An evening with Richard Rodgers', and 'Fiddler on the Roof', Rob has developed a reputation of controlling a quality Orchestra which principal singers don't need to fight against to be heard. Since moving to Kent from Stoke-on-Trent in 1978, Rob has played principal roles with us in 'Orpheus in the Underworld', 'The Mikado', 'The Gondoliers', 'Cowardy Custard' and Oklahoma before 'retiring' to take up the baton.

Cast (in order of appearance)

Carrie Pippetridge	Carla Dedman
Julie Jordan	Jill Baxter
Mrs. Mullin	Betty Cleminson
Billy Bigelow	John Bremner
1st Policeman	Simon Wragg
Mr. Bascombe	David Cruddas
Nettie Fowler	Delia Butterworth
Enoch Snow	Doug Wells
Jigger Craigin	Bill Bennett
Arminy	Michelle Farr
2nd Policeman	Mike Corden
Captain	Richard Buegg
Heavenly Friend (Brother Joshua)	Bob Scarlett
Starkeeper	John Dixon
Louise Bigelow	Lisa Johannsen
Boy like Billy	Stephen Woodward
Miss Snow	Rebecca Wimsett
Enoch Snow Jnr.	Simon Murphy
School Principal	Hugh Blogg
Doctor Seldon	John Dixon

Ladies Chorus

June Redford, Margaret Bowden, Jean Ramsbottom, Marjorie Butler, Aldwyth Humphries, Ann Jones, Maureen Brown, Sylvia Blogg, Betty Dale, Betty Perry, Pauline Booker, Margaret Wisdom, Michelle Farr, Beverly Smith.

Mens Chorus

Mike Corden, Simon Murphy, Tony Gummer, Simon Wragg, Richard Buegg, Dennis Howdle, Harry Winsdale, Bob Aird, Bob Scarlett, John Dixon, David Cruddas, Steve Wilmshurst, Glen Adams, Stephen Woodward, Hugh Blogg.

Children

Lindsay Uburgs, Rebecca Wimsett, Claire James, Adele Leeming, Beth Dark, Rebecca Dark, Lyndsey Dick, Joanna Dick, Jodene Went, Katishe Went, Stacey Chapman, Alex Buegg.

Urchins

Scott Wimsett, Alison Arnold, Karen Clark.

Dancers

Amanda Simmons, Ruth Moody, Lisa Johannsen, Teri Taylor, Jackie Corden, Vicki Buegg, Jo Gates, Claire West, Simon Murphy, Tony Gummer, Simon Wragg, Stephen Woodward, Richard Buegg, Steve Wilmshurst, Glenn Adams.

Orchestra

Louise Leask	Leader	Roy Walker	Oboe
Roy Hunt	Violin	Suzanne Coggin	Clarinet
Don Jennings	Viola	Nicholas Pye	Trumpet
Brenda Warren	Cello	Martin Rawbone	Trombone
Arthur Richardson	Bass	Bob Spooore	Percussion
Jane Craddock	Flute	Mollie Tearle	Piano

ACT I

Scene 1	An Amusement Park on the New England Coast — May	
Scene 2	A tree-lined path along the shore. A few minutes later	
	Mister Snow	Carrie & Julie
	If I loved you	Billy & Julie
Scene 3	Nettie Fowler's Spa on the ocean front — June	
	June is bustin' out all over	Nettie, Carrie, Chorus and Dancers
	When the children are asleep	Carrie & Mr Snow
	Blow high, Blow low	Billy, Jigger, Sailors & Dancers
	Soliloquy	Billy

ACT II

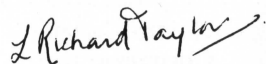
Scene 1	On an island across the bay — that night	
	A real nice Clambake	Nettie, Julie, Carrie, Mr Snow and Chorus
	Geraniums in the Winder and Stone-cutters	Mr Snow, Jigger & Chorus
	What's the use in wond'rin'	Julie and Ladies Chorus
Scene 2	Mainland waterfront — an hour later	
	You'll never walk alone	Nettie
Scene 3	Up there and Down here. On the Beach. 15 years later	
Scene 4	Ballet	Louise, the Carousel Folk, Urchins and the Snow Family
Scene 5	Outside Julie's Cottage	
	I'm a Tom Boy	Carrie
	Longing to tell you	Billy
Scene 6	Outside the Schoolhouse — the same day	
	You'll never walk alone	The Company
Scene 7	Finale	The Company
Scene 8	Carousel Finale	The Company

TOWN OF RAMSGATE

"I would like to congratulate the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society on reaching their 25th Anniversary .

In my opinion the Society has held a place in the Town's heart for all of these years. Good luck to you all for the future and may you reach and enjoy your 50th Anniversary"

Yours sincerely



TOWN MAYOR OF RAMSGATE

From: JONATHAN AITKEN, M.P.



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Congratulations to the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society on reaching your 25th Anniversary. You have given great musical pleasure to thousands in your many years of excellent opera productions.

Long may you continue to flourish!



Jonathan Aitken

Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society
1961-1986

SILVER JUBILEE YEAR



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Sylvia Blogg

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society would like to thank the following for their help with the production of 'CAROUSEL'.

Hogg Robinson for Box Office facilities. Our Advertisers and Sponsors for their continued support of our programme. The Staff of the Granville Theatre for their help and co-operation. Stage Sets for Scenery. And finally, we thank our Vice Presidents and YOU our audience.

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Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society 1961 - 1986

Twenty five years ago a group of local Schoolteachers formed a Society with the object of performing the works of Gilbert and Sullivan.

The first ever production by the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society was 'The Mikado' performed in May 1961 here at the Granville Theatre. This was followed with productions of 'The Gondoliers', 'Pirates of Penzance', 'Iolanthe', 'Trial by Jury', 'HMS Pinafore' plus many more of the G & S favourites.

Under the guidance of John Hawes, our first chairman, the society expanded and branched out to perform the works of other composers such as Edward Germain's 'Merrie England', Offenbach's 'La Vie-Parisienne' and 'The Merry Widow' by Franz Lehar.

In 1974 the Society had increased in numbers and newer members were keen to try Musical Comedy and so 'The Desert Song' was performed with the producer of tonight's show — Don Gregory cast as the Red Shadow. This was followed by 'My Fair Lady', 'Bless the Bride', 'Orpheus in the Underworld' to name but a few.

Many people have given much of their time and effort into the success of this Society — Producers, Musical Directors, Choreographers, Committee members — it is impossible to mention everyone, however one story should be told to show the dedication of one member — James Gillespie, a dedicated student of Gilbert & Sullivan. It was decided that the Society should stage 'The Mountebanks'. However the music for this operetta was unobtainable, James spent four years tracking down a score to Australia. At his own expense, James flew out there and returned with 700 pages of score for this little known work.

In recent years the RAOS has become very much a family affair — one big happy family, members come from all walks of life, Schoolchildren, Students, Teachers, Bricklayers, Solicitors, Estate Agents all brought together with one aim — to bring to the stage Musicals and Operettas for you the audience to enjoy with them.

This year, our Silver Jubilee Year, we present, perhaps with a little self-indulgence, two shows which we have found extremely popular with Society members and the Public. 'Carousel', which is probably Rodgers and Hammerstein's finest musical and later this year Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Yeoman of the Guard'. We hope you enjoy tonight's performance. You can be assured that the cast, having lived and slept 'Carousel' for the past weeks will be doing their utmost to make you laugh, bring a lump to your throat but most of all, make you enjoy yourselves. If you feel like singing along with the cast — please do.

Linda Christian
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