


RAMSGATE OPERATIC SOCIETY PRESENTS

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S



Oklahoma!

GRANVILLE THEATRE RAMSGATE
9TH - 12TH NOVEMBER 2016

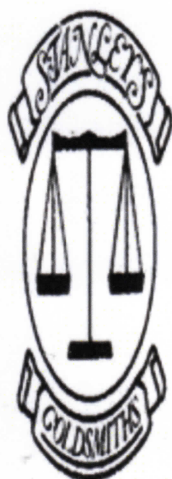


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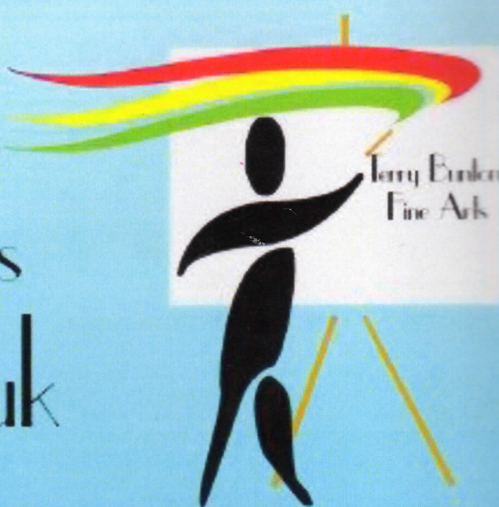
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Oklahoma!

Chairman's Message

Welcome to the Granville Theatre for Ramsgate Operatic Society's production of Oklahoma! This was the first of the many musical successes of Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein II, that whilst it has its dark side, is full of joy, laughter and perhaps more than anything of hope for and in the future. The show contains some of Richard Rodgers' most memorable music and lyrics that really capture the time, place and aspirations of the people as the Oklahoma Territory heads towards becoming the State of Oklahoma in 1907. I hope you will enjoy sharing this performance of Oklahoma! with us today and my personal thanks for your continuing support of Ramsgate Operatic Society. Today's cast includes members for whom this is their first show with us, to whom we extend a warm welcome, members of Rozzers, our Junior section, as well as five members of cast who were part of our last production of Oklahoma! in 1992!

The Society continues to present a wide range of musical productions. Our next show in May of 2017 is Lionel Bart's musical Blitz! set in Second World War London, followed in November 2017 by Gilbert & Sullivan's ever popular The Pirates of Penzance. We rehearse on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 10 o'clock at St Ethelbert's Church Hall, Ramsgate, so if you would like to join us as a performing or non-performing member for these or any future productions, please contact the Hon. Secretary on 01843 862522 or speak to any cast. Finally I wish to take this opportunity to express my own and the whole Society's thanks to the many people who have been involved in bringing the production together with my particular thanks to our Director, Erin Taylor-Gore, our Musical Director, Tony Matthews and our Choreographer, Sarah Matthews.



Sylvia Blogg 1927 - 2016

We remember Sylvia with fondness; she was a dear friend and mentor to many. A founder member of ROS which was formed in 1961, and a member of the committee for many years, Sylvia took many lead roles and was still an active member of the Society taking part in productions until 2009. Even after she decided to give up "treading the boards," she enjoyed joining us to watch rehearsals from the side lines. She was honoured by the Society by being made its second ever President, a position she held until her death.

**MUSIC BY: RICHARD RODGERS BOOK AND LYRICS BY: OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
BASED ON THE PLAY "GREEN GROW THE LILACS" BY AGNES DE MILLE
AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH R&H THEATRICALS EUROPE**



Director – Erin Taylor

Oklahoma is Erin's directorial debut after being with the society for fourteen years. She has taken many lead roles over the years, her favourites being Sarah Brown - *Guys & Dolls*, Reno Sweeny - *Anything Goes*, Marguerite - *Marguerite* and more recently Morticia Addams - *Addams Family the musical*. Erin has enjoyed her time as Director and feels privileged to have worked with such a wonderful but mischievous cast! She hopes you love the show as much as she does.



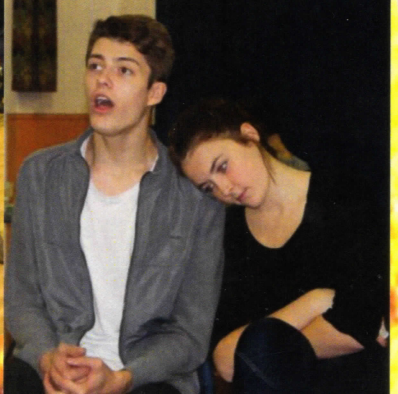
Musical Director – Tony Matthews

Tony studied music at the University of Worcester and London University Goldsmiths' College before continuing his vocal training with Dennis Wicks at ENO. As an instrumentalist he has played with a wide range of musical ensembles and currently plays saxophone with the Beverley Big Band. Tony has been singing with ROS for many years, taking roles such as Barinkay (*Gipsy Baron*), Orpheus (*Orpheus in the Underworld*), the Major General (*The Pirates of Penzance*) and Ko Ko (*The Mikado*). This is his tenth production as musical director for shows that have included *Me and My Girl*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Calamity Jane*, *Iolanthe*, *South Pacific*, *Marguerite* and *The Addams Family*. He has very much enjoyed working with the talented cast of *Oklahoma!* and wishes them all a very successful show week.



Choreographer – Sarah Matthews

Sarah started dancing at the age of 3. This is Sarah's 13th year with ROS having joined as part of the chorus in *Me & My Girl*. Her passion is dancing having played a Hot Box Girl in *Guys & Dolls* and one of Reno's Angels in *Anything Goes*. As well as being a dancer in the majority of the ROS shows, she has also had small roles such as Suky Tawdry in *Beggars Opera*, Kate in *Pirates of Penzance* and Peep Bo in *the Mikado*. As well as shows with ROS she has also been involved with other local dramatic societies, playing Lyn in *Stepping Out* for Minster Playhouse, a dancer in *Into the Woods* and *One Singular Sensation* and more recently singing in Peter Barnett's *Diva* show. This is Sarah's third time taking on the role of choreographer for ROS having choreographed *HMS Pinafore* and *Pirates of Penzance* before. Sarah really hopes you enjoy *Oklahoma!* with its many memorable and fun numbers performed by a fab cast!





Toby Cordes – Curly McLain

Toby is 17 and studying a musical theatre diploma at Canterbury Institute of Performing Arts. He has started to work professionally in TV and film including as a cyclist in Eurosports' TV commercial and in ITV's Autopsy, The Final Hours. Toby played the Rabbi's son with ROS last year in Fiddler on the Roof and has played principal parts in many shows locally including West Side Story and The Little Mermaid with Dover Operatic. Toby feels a real sense of community with ROS and has found the society really welcoming to newcomers like him. Toby says "The show is entertaining from start to finish and I guarantee the audience will go on a rollercoaster of emotions."



Megan Philpott – Laurey Williams

Ever since Megan can remember she has always wanted to be on stage; she started dancing from a young age and has danced ever since. She has taken part in many shows over the years including Bugsy Malone, Oliver! Romeo and Juliet, and Hoodlum, and has also performed in the Ramsgate Panto for the last 10 years. Megan is currently in her first year studying at CPA Canterbury Academy on the musical theatre course. She hopes you enjoy watching OKLAHOMA! as much as she has done so rehearsing it!



Louise Cottage – Aunt Eller

Louise began performing whilst at school more years ago than she cares to remember and went on to study for a degree in English and Drama. She has performed in shows including Aladdin, Lady Windermere's Fan, Jekyll and Hyde, Hiss the Villain, Annie Bessant in Matchgirls and Antonia in Much Ado About Nothing. Working as a Drama teacher means that Louise is more often found in the role of the director these days and her first show with ROS was as director of Marguerite, so returning to the stage in the role of Aunt Ella has been an exciting experience. She says "Eller is such a fantastic role to play, she's a feisty, strong willed lady who can hold her own with any of the men, however her tough exterior hides a heart of gold."



Danniela Surrage – Ado Annie

Danniela began dancing when she was just 2 years old. She trained at Tivoli school of performing arts, taking exams in ballet, tap, modern and jazz. When she was 17 years of age she played her first lead role of Nancy ' Oliver' since then her repertoire includes Maureen 'Rent', Ariel 'Footloose', Lucy 'Jekyll and Hyde', Sarah ' Our House', Miss Hannigan 'Annie', Carmen ' FAME', Florinda 'In to the woods', as well as numerous variety shows. Danniela has high hopes and ambitions and is extremely excited about playing the role of Ado-Annie. Danniela would like to say a big thank you to her cast. "You've been amazing to work with!"



Luc Humphries – Will Parker

Luc has acted with the Society since he was 16, following in the footsteps of his grandmother, who has been a member for over 50 years. Luc has taken principal and supporting roles such as Pierrot in Marguerite and Pierre in Half a Sixpence and most recently as Motel in Fiddler on the Roof and the lead role in Honk! as Ugly. He is looking forward to challenging himself more than ever before as Will; where he has had to learn how to dance AND kiss girls (ew!).



Terry Bunton – Ali Hakim

Playing Ali Hakim joined Southend Operatic Society in the 1980s. In the 1990s he realised a dream to join the circus world touring Europe and became Britain's most televised trapeze artist as Red Indian chief "Cloudswing Comanche". TV appearances include Pebble Mill from Blackpool Towers' famous ballroom. Terry is delighted to have become part of a very talented welcoming community in his first ROS show, and his second Oklahoma, a show he loves because of its great story line and popular memorable songs.



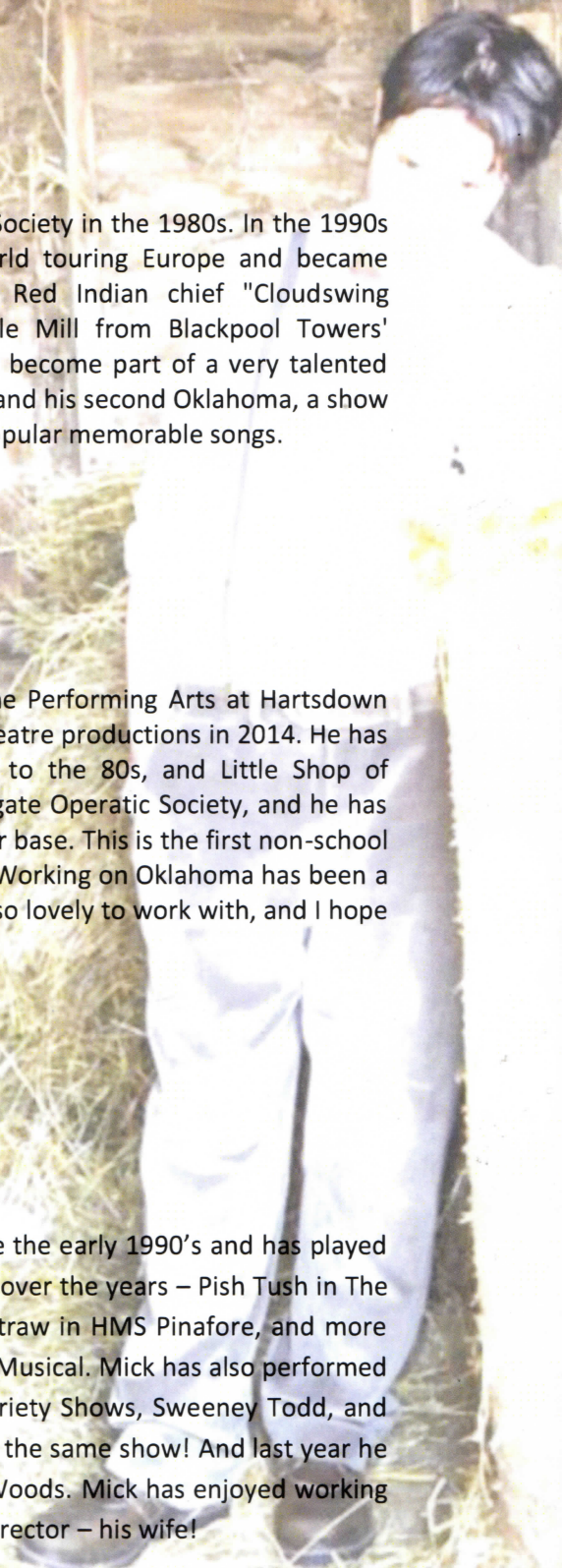
Noah White – Jud Fry

Noah is currently a student of Music and the Performing Arts at Hartsdown Academy. He started performing in school theatre productions in 2014. He has performed in shows such as Grease, Back to the 80s, and Little Shop of Horrors. This is Noah's first show with Ramsgate Operatic Society, and he has made many good friends amongst its member base. This is the first non-school production he has performed in. Noah says "Working on Oklahoma has been a fantastic journey. Everyone at ROS has been so lovely to work with, and I hope to return for more of their shows."



Mick Gore – Andrew Carnes

Mick has been a member of the Society since the early 1990's and has played a number of roles from chorus to main parts over the years – Pish Tush in The Mikado, both Lords in Iolanthe, Ralph Rackstraw in HMS Pinafore, and more recently, Mal Beineke in Addams Family, the Musical. Mick has also performed with Regency Productions taking parts in Variety Shows, Sweeney Todd, and Our House in which he played 5 characters in the same show! And last year he played the part of The Narrator in Into The Woods. Mick has enjoyed working and rehearsing with a great cast and a new Director – his wife!





Tim Baker - Fred

Musical Theatre has always been part of Tim's life that started with productions of Gilbert & Sullivan at school. Tim has sung with the Jamaica Operatic Society and a number of Societies before joining Ramsgate Operatic Society in HMS Pinafore in 1999. Roles include, Captain Warrington (Little Mary Sunshine), Professor Higgins (My Fair Lady), Giuseppe (The Gondoliers), Ko-Ko (The Mikado), Jigger (Carousel), and John Wellington Wells (The Sorcerer)



Peter Barnett – Ike Skidmore

Peter studied under the direction of Peter Roberts (Guildford School of Acting) and attended the Jackie Clarke School of Dancing in his home town of Twickenham. He has appeared as Mike in 'A Chorus Line' at the Lyric and Seymour in 'Little Shop of Horrors' at The Westminster. He has also sailed the world as a production singer for P&O and sung in cabaret at The Barbican and Cafe Royal. For television, he has appeared in Eastenders, Casualty and commercials for The Co-Op, Littlewoods Pools and most recently KFC. His work for ROS includes directing and choreographing 'Addams Family - The Musical' which went on to win Best Musical in the local Drama Awards in 2014. Peter has stepped in at the last minute to play Ike Skidmore and apparently expects a large bottle of wine from the Director.....



Amy Bevan – Gertie Cummins

Amy has always wanted to be an actress since she was a child. She studied performing Arts at school and college and is currently studying at the University of Kent. She has been a member of Ramsgate Operatic Society since 2011 taking part in "Half a sixpence" "Marguerite" "Magic of the Musicals" "Pure Imagination" and "Patience" She also wrote her own play as a fund raiser for the Society. Amy has also worked with Herne Bay Musical Society and Stargazers and taken part in plays such as "Billy Liar" and "Separate Tables" Amy says "I love performing, it is my absolute passion! I cannot wait to get Oklahoma on the stage! A word of warning... Cover your ears when you see me come on stage as Gertie.!"



Michelle Cairns - Kate

Michelle's love for musical theatre began at a young age when she was cast as Gretl in The Sound of Music aged 5. Since then she has performed the principal role of Annie aged 12 and as orphan Pepper on the UK tour. Other roles also include Maria in Westside Story, Bet at the Marlowe Theatre and the lead role of Nancy in Oliver at the theatre royal. She has also performed in many other local productions and variety shows including being a featured soloist at Her Majesty's Theatre London in aid of Roy Castle. This is Michelle's first production with Ramsgate Operatic and she is look forward to taking part in more in the future.



Gary Cordes – Cord Elam

Gary has taken many lead parts in shows over the years including Curly in Oklahoma 25 years ago and is very proud that he will be sharing the stage with his son Toby who is following in his footsteps and playing Curly in this production. Gary is a singer, entertaining throughout East Kent combining this with work as a lawyer.

This is Gary's second show with ROS and finds it by far the most welcoming and fun society with everyone working to high standards. Gary says "the audience is guaranteed to have a great night out with the strong cast sharing so much energy, enthusiasm and their sense of fun on stage".



The Dancers

Daisy (Dance Capt.)

Jess

Rob

Justine

Lucy



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Synopsis

Set in Oklahoma Territory outside the town of Claremore in 1906, this musical tells the story of a pair of lovers. Curly is a cowboy who has trouble admitting his feelings to Laurey, as she does to him, because of their stubbornness. Jud, the hired hand at Laurey's farm, tries to come between them. Woven into this plot is the life of Ado Annie, one of Laurey's friends. Her boyfriend has just gotten back from an exciting trip to Kansas City. While he was away, she has fallen for a peddler who is a ladies' man and doesn't really want to marry her. Does she give Will, her boyfriend, "all or nuthin'", or does she run away with the peddler? Set against the backdrop of ranching Oklahoma, this musical is full of fun, music, and romance for everyone.

Oklahoma! was the first musical written by the team of composer Richard Rodgers and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II. The musical is based on Lynn Riggs' 1931 play, *Green Grow the Lilacs*.

The original Broadway production opened on March 31, 1943. It was a box-office smash and ran for an unprecedented 2,212 performances, later enjoying award-winning revivals, national tours, foreign productions and an Academy Award-winning 1955 film adaptation. It has long been a popular choice for school and community productions. In 1944 Rodgers & Hammerstein II won a special Pulitzer Prize for Oklahoma!

This musical, building on the innovations of the earlier *Show Boat*, for which Oscar Hammerstein II wrote the lyrics, epitomized the development of the "book musical", a musical play where the songs and dances are fully integrated into a well-made story with serious dramatic goals that are able to evoke genuine emotions other than laughter. In addition, Oklahoma! features a "dream ballet" that reflects Laurey's struggle with her feelings about two men, Curly and Jud.



Musical Numbers

Act 1

Overture

Oh What A Beautiful Morning Curly

The Surrey With The Fringe On Top Curley, Laurey, Aunt Eller

Kansas City Will, Aunt Eller and The Boys

The Surrey With The Fringe On Top reprise Curly

I Cain't Say No! Ado Annie

I Cain't Say No! encore Ado Annie

Many A New Day Laurey and The Girls

Many A New Day - dance Laurey and The Girls

It's A Scandal! It's An Outrage! Ali Hakim, Boys, Girls

People Will Say We're In Love Curly and Laurey

Pore Jud Is Daid Curly and Jud

Lonely Room Jud

Out Of My Dreams Kate, Laurey, and Girls

Dream Ballet Laurey, Girls, Dream Figures

Act 2

The Farmer And The Cowman Carnes, Aunt Eller, and Company

All Er Nuthin' Ado Annie and Will

People Will Say We're In Love reprise Curly and Laurey

Oklahoma Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller, Carnes, and Company

Oklahoma encore Company

Finale Ultimo Company



Ramsgate Operatic Society Presents

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S

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Women

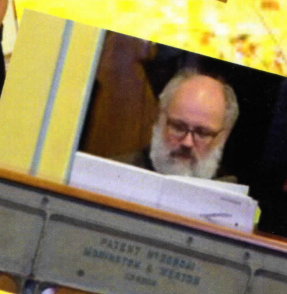
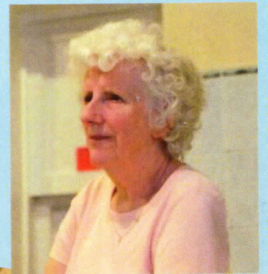
Jill Baker, Pauline Booker, Beth Carey, Pat Drywood,
Pam Hayfield, Donna Hinks, Adrianna Paniak, Fiona Pearse,
Mary Pickett, Linda Sanford, Christina Savva

Dancers

Robin Dryden, Jesse Mary Edmondson, Daisy Foster, Lucy Gore, Justine Horne

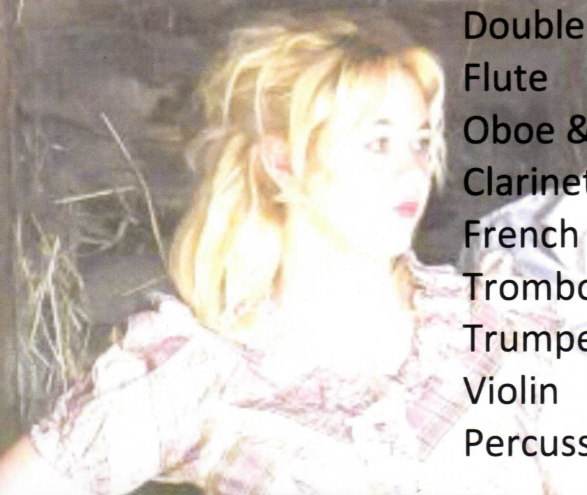
Men

Peter Berry, Nick Chapman, Bob Drywood, Joe Eddington, Mike Kendrick
David Paine, Ken Pickett, Pav Stone



Orchestra

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Piano | Ben Jones |
| Double Bass | Michael Philpott |
| Flute | Christine Chappell |
| Oboe & Cor Anglais | Jane Walker |
| Clarinet | John Chappell |
| French Horn | Sally Hannan |
| Trombone | Jacko Jackson |
| Trumpet | Steve Misson |
| Violin | Janet Evans |
| Percussion | Bob Spooore |



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(Miss I. E. Palmer)

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Previous Productions

2006 Guys and Dolls

Iolanthe

2007 HMS Pinafore

2008 Anything Goes

Carmen the Musical

2009 The Sorcerer / Trial by Jury

Calamity Jane

2010 The Pirates of Penzance (21st Century)

South Pacific

2011 The Mikado

Half a Sixpence

2012 Marguerite

Patience

2013 Magic of the Musicals

Jekyll & Hyde

2014 Pure Imagination

The Addams Family

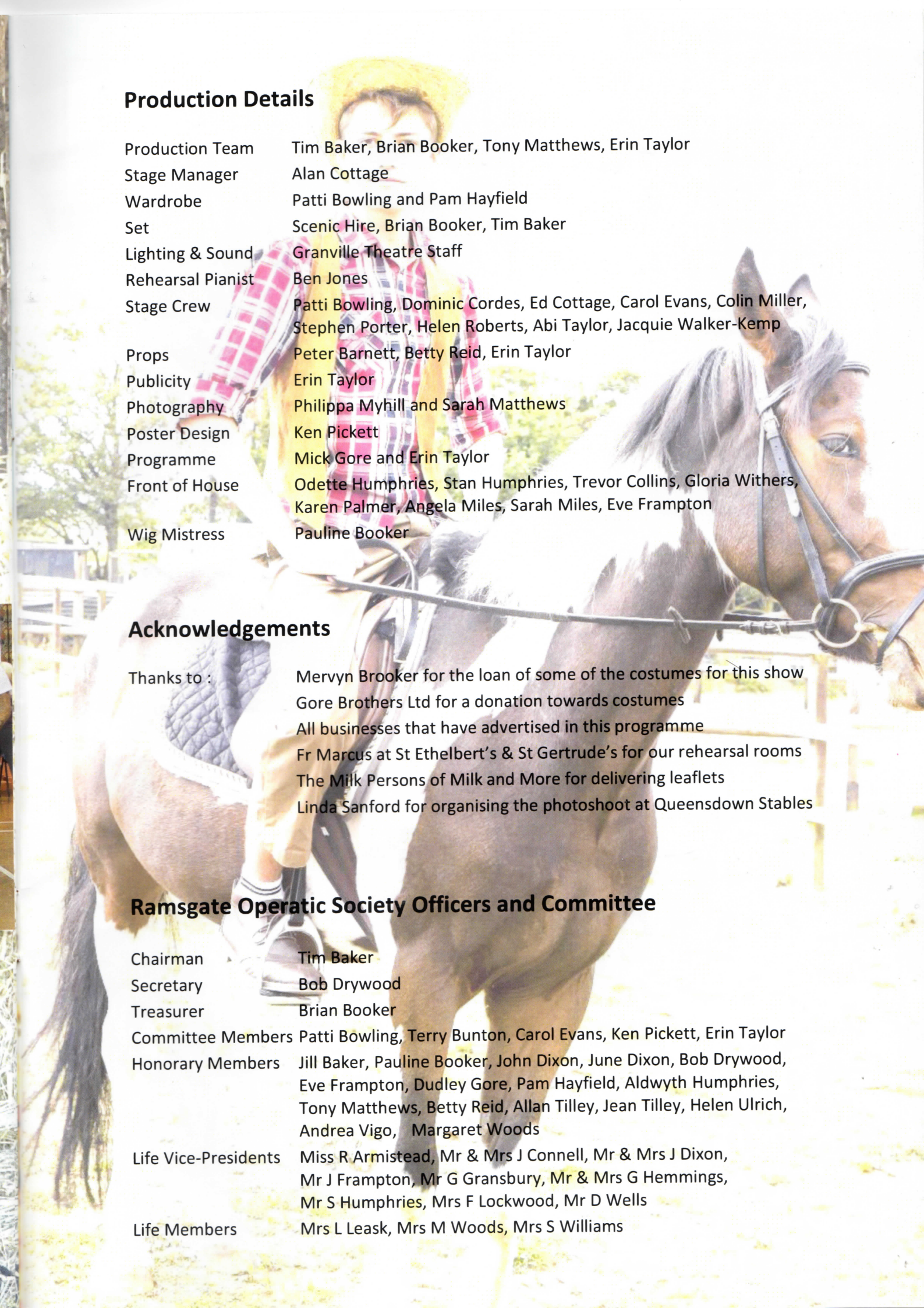
2015 HMS Pinafore

Fiddler on the Roof

2016 Honk!



Production Details



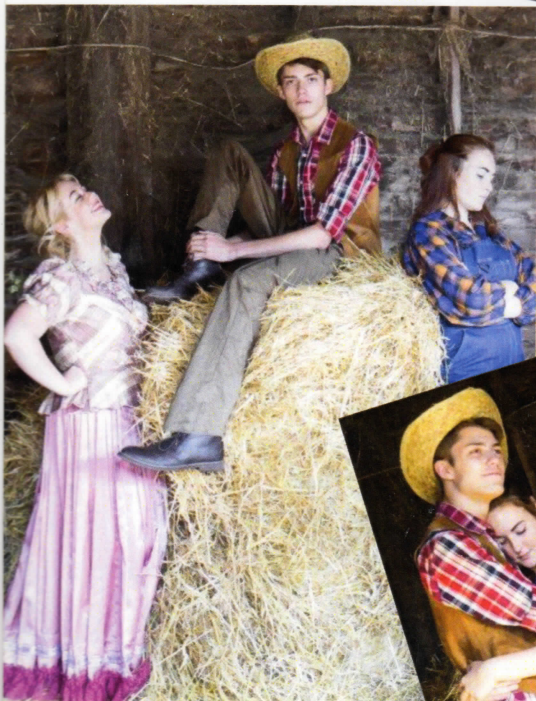
Production Team	Tim Baker, Brian Booker, Tony Matthews, Erin Taylor
Stage Manager	Alan Cottage
Wardrobe	Patti Bowling and Pam Hayfield
Set	Scenic Hire, Brian Booker, Tim Baker
Lighting & Sound	Granville Theatre Staff
Rehearsal Pianist	Ben Jones
Stage Crew	Patti Bowling, Dominic Cordes, Ed Cottage, Carol Evans, Colin Miller, Stephen Porter, Helen Roberts, Abi Taylor, Jacquie Walker-Kemp
Props	Peter Barnett, Betty Reid, Erin Taylor
Publicity	Erin Taylor
Photography	Philippa Myhill and Sarah Matthews
Poster Design	Ken Pickett
Programme	Mick Gore and Erin Taylor
Front of House	Odette Humphries, Stan Humphries, Trevor Collins, Gloria Withers, Karen Palmer, Angela Miles, Sarah Miles, Eve Frampton
Wig Mistress	Pauline Booker

Acknowledgements

Thanks to :	Mervyn Brooker for the loan of some of the costumes for this show
	Gore Brothers Ltd for a donation towards costumes
	All businesses that have advertised in this programme
	Fr Marcus at St Ethelbert's & St Gertrude's for our rehearsal rooms
	The Milk Persons of Milk and More for delivering leaflets
	Linda Sanford for organising the photoshoot at Queensdown Stables

Ramsgate Operatic Society Officers and Committee

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Secretary	Bob Drywood
Treasurer	Brian Booker
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