

ENJOY THE SHOW!

When Fairfax's pardon is granted, he reveals to Elsie that he is her husband. They re-unite in joy but Jack Point falls to the ground, and dies of a broken heart.

Wilfred Shadbolt, the jailer, who could benefit from a good bath, wants Phoebe as his bride. His price for silence on discovering the plot, is Phoebe's hand.

come to love and want.

Dame Carruthers, almost past her sell-by date, has eyes for Sergeant Meryll. Strange how marriage in Tudor times was seen to be so important. Kate, niece of Dame Carruthers, reveals that Elsie in her dreams, tells of the marriage to one she has not seen but whom she has

his daughter, Phoebe and son, a Yeoman Warder. the meantime, Sergeant Meryll contrives a scheme with girlfriend of Jack Point, the jester, is the chosen bride. In Chomondeley, to marry before his execution. Elsie, the arranges with the Lieutenant of the Tower, Sir Richard

Colonel Fairfax is imprisoned in the Tower facing execution on trumped-up charges of sorcery. He

THE PLOT IN 2 MINS



ANECDOTES

Gilbert had taken 5 months to write the words and Sullivan found some of the verses very difficult to set to music. However Sullivan was very inventive: listen yourself to "Were I thy bride" and "I've wisdom from the East and from the West" and marvel at the two contrasting musical themes being sung by the singer and played by the orchestra. The Times critic praised Sullivan for the quality of the music with barely a mention of Gilbert's words. This did not help in the constant arguments that went on between them. It was widely known that the close relationship between Richard D'Oyly Carte and Sullivan left Gilbert feeling an unequal third party in the triumvirate. In fact throughout their relationship they always addressed each other by their surnames and they were never knowingly photographed together.

nervous wreck in the process. him physically removed from the stage during the overture as he was nervous on opening night that Jennie Bond, playing Elsie had to have distinct body. Yeomen ran for 423 performances. Gilbert was so although their uniforms are similar to the Tower Warders, they are a the Yeomen of the Guard are the monarch's personal bodyguard and "THE BEEFEATERS". The final title is, in fact, a descriptive error as TOWER OF LONDON", then "THE TOWER WARDERS" and then place and its procedures. The first title was to have been "THE Gilbert visited the Tower frequently to absorb the atmosphere of the pressure to write a Savoy Opera with an historical theme was great. depicting The Tower of London. 1887 was Victoria's Jubilee and the for the plot from seeing an advert for the Tower Furnishing Company Yeomen had its first night on October 3 1888. Gilbert got his inspiration

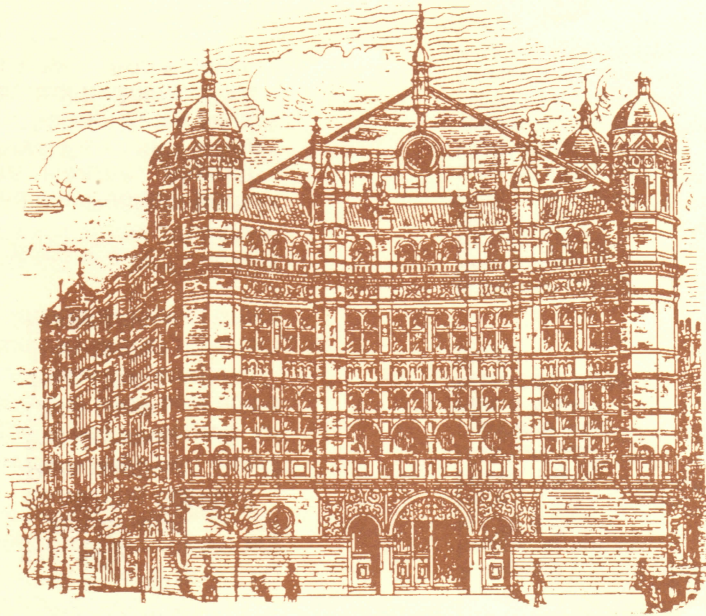


### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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 Mrs. O.M.Tearle  
 Mrs. L. Leake  
 Mrs. S. Williams  
 Mrs. M. Woods

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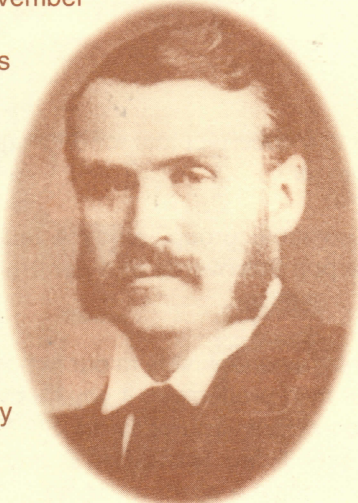
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A CONTEMPORARY SKETCH OF THE ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE OPENED BY RICHARD D'OYLY CARTE IN 1891 TO STAGE ENGLISH GRAND OPERA. YOU WILL PROBABLY RECOGNISE IT AS THE PALACE THEATRE NOW OWNED BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER AND STAGING LES MISERABLES

### WILLIAM SCHWENCK GILBERT

born 18 November 1836 into a middle class family. Parents divorced when he was nineteen. Early French education. Became a great literary figure



### RICHARD D'OYLY CARTE

born 3 May 1844, into a cultured family, became an impresario who launched not only the careers of Sullivan and Gilbert but also his own. The power behind the partnership and the "Cameron Mackintosh" of his era.



### ARTHUR SEYMOUR SULLIVAN

born 13 May 1841, into a working class family. His parents encouraged his musical abilities. Studied in Leipzig. Was organist at St. Peters, Cranley Gardens. Had great affinity for proper music as opposed to his "operas".



### ORCHESTRA.

|             |              |             |                    |          |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|--------------|
| Leader      | Ivor Crocker | Trumpet     | Tony Watson        | Oboe     | Keith Sharpe |
| Violin 1    | Denise Coe   | Percussion  | Bob Spooe          | Horn     | Mandy Cook   |
| Violin 2    | Chris Brown  | Double Bass | Harry Cook         | Trombone | Owen James   |
| Viola       | Bob Gill     | Flute       | Christine Chappell | Piano    | Mary Patten  |
| Violincello | Nancy White  | Clarinet    | Mary Macleod       |          |              |

WELCOME TO OUR PRODUCTION OF

## THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

or The Merryman and his Maid

PRODUCER: BILL BENNETT

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: BOB DRYWOOD

set, with words by W.S.Gilbert, in His Majesty's Palace and Fortress

(THE TOWER OF LONDON)

music by Arthur Sullivan



## CREDITS

We are grateful to the Theatre Royal for allowing us to use their marvellous venue

The Theatre Royal Management Trust  
(Charity Reg. No. 279015/R)

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Theatre Director   | Michael Wheatley-Ward |
| Co-Licensee/FOH    | Veronica Cox          |
| Co-Licensee        | Mike Vickers          |
| Technical Director | Richard Thomas        |
| Technical SM       | Justin Thomas         |
| Box Office         | Yvonne Araffa         |
| Maintenance        | Brian Wallis          |

Plus their small but loyal band of volunteers, who give up their free time to help you enjoy yourselves

Our own band of helpers and providers

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Stage Manager      | Mike Smith   |
| Props              | June Redford                                       |
| Costumes           | Crescendo Costumes                                 |
| Wardrobe           | Pam Hayfield                                       |
| Scenery            | Patti Bowling<br>Ken Pickett                       |
| Make Up            | Marjorie Corden, Eve Hall and Jane Gore            |
| Publicity          | Mike Kendrick, Polly and James Smith               |
| Prompt             | Jean Tilley  |
| Programme          | Bob Drywood and David King<br>Truprint Ltd Margate |
| Ticket Sales       | John Relfe   |
| Rehearsal Pianists | George Martin and Mary Patten                      |
| Father Guss        | For use of rehearsal rooms                         |

## THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF RAMSGATE OPERATIC SOCIETY

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>        | George Martin  |
| <b>CHAIRMAN</b>         | Dudley Gore  |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>        | Bob Drywood  |
| <b>TREASURER</b>        | Trevor Smith   |
| <b>COMMITTEE</b>        | Sylvia Blogg<br>Patti Bowling<br>Pam Hayfield<br>Mike Kendrick<br>James Smith<br>Polly Smith<br>Betty Reid |
| <b>SOCIAL COMMITTEE</b> | Betty Reid<br>Eve Frampton<br>Linda Humphrys-Parsons<br>Pam Martin<br>Sarah Miles                          |

## PAST PRODUCTIONS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>The Mikado</b><br>(1961, 1970, 1979, 1988, 1994)        | <b>White Horse Inn</b><br>(1981, 1997) |
| <b>The Pirates of Penzance</b><br>(1963, 1974, 1983, 1993) | <b>Cowardy Custard</b><br>(1981)       |
| <b>Iolanthe</b><br>(1964, 1975, 1998)                      | <b>The Mountebanks</b><br>(1982)       |
| <b>HMS Pinafore</b><br>(1965, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1999)      | <b>Oklahoma!</b><br>(1983, 1992)       |
| <b>Trial by Jury</b><br>(1965, 1978, 1989, 1999)           | <b>Guys and Dolls</b><br>(1984)        |
| <b>Ruddigore</b><br>(1966, 1982, 1996)                     | <b>Sound of Music</b><br>(1984)        |
| <b>Yeomen of the Guard</b><br>(1967, 1976, 1986,)          | <b>Fiddler on the Roof</b><br>(1985)   |
| <b>Princess Ida</b><br>(1968)                              | <b>Vienna, City of Song</b><br>(1986)  |
| <b>Merrie England</b><br>(1969,)                           | <b>Calamity Jane</b><br>(1987)         |
| <b>The Gondoliers</b><br>(1971, 1991, 2000)                | <b>Chu Chin Chow</b><br>(1988)         |
| <b>La Vie Parisienne</b><br>(1972, )                       | <b>The Pajama Game</b><br>(1989)       |
| <b>The Merry Widow</b><br>(1973, 1995)                     | <b>Oh! What a lovely War</b><br>(1990) |
| <b>Patience</b><br>(1973)                                  | <b>Half a Sixpence</b><br>(1990)       |
| <b>Desert Song</b><br>(1974)                               | <b>Brigadoon</b><br>(1991)             |
| <b>Die Fledermaus</b><br>(1975)                            | <b>A Century of Song</b><br>(1993)     |
| <b>My Fair Lady</b><br>(1976, 1996)                        | <b>Showboat</b><br>(1994)              |
| <b>Song of Norway</b><br>(1977)                            | <b>Kiss Me Kate</b><br>(1995)          |
| <b>Bless the Bride</b><br>(1978)                           | <b>Anything Goes</b><br>(1997)         |
| <b>The Sorcerer</b><br>(1978, 1989)                        | <b>Gipsy Baron</b><br>(1998)           |
| <b>Orpheus in the Underworld</b><br>(1979, 2001)           | <b>Annie Get Your Gun</b><br>(1999)    |
| <b>No, No Nanette</b><br>(1980)                            | <b>Blitz!</b><br>(2000)                |

COME AND SEE OUR FIDDLER ON THE ROOF  
IN THIS THEATRE 7TH. TO 11TH. MAY 2002

## HIS MAJESTY'S PALACE AND FORTRESS THE TOWER OF LONDON

Some useless information!

The halberds or pikes carried by the Warders are actually called partisans. They are issued to the Yeomen Warders with their ceremonial state dress which is the only occasion when they are carried. Each warder keeps his partisan at home for use when he is in state dress. State dress is worn upwards of 20 times per year. The partisans carry the monarch's coat of arms and insignia.

Sir Richard Cholmondeley was the Lieutenant of the Tower during the time that Gilbert set Yeomen.

The office of Chief Yeoman Warder only came into being in the 1700's- before then the "Chief" was the Yeoman Gaoler. Therefore Sergeant Meryll would have carried the title of Yeoman Gaoler. He would have carried the ceremonial axe not a partisan. He would accompany the prisoners to their trial and on their return, if the axe was pointing towards them they were for the "chop"- if it was pointing away from them then they were relieved.

## THAT ADDITIONAL SONG SUNG BY SERGEANT MERYLL IN ACT 1 (PERHAPS WE SHOULD REFER TO SERGEANT MERYLL AS YEOMAN GAOLER MERYLL)

Richard Temple played Sergeant Meryll and on opening night Gilbert, suffering from nerves and gout, wanted Sullivan to cut Temple's song "A laughing boy but yesterday". It remained for that night but was soon deleted to help make a rather lighter sequence of songs.

We think the song is worth bringing to your ears.  
What is your verdict?  
Was Gilbert right to insist on its removal?



## GO ON DO IT NOW!

Alternatively you could contact Bob Drywood on 01843 862522 for more information.

Carpentry, painting, sewing, computer skills, financial management, secretarial skills, marketing, publicity, make-up, general assistance, arranging social events and making tea.

Here is a little list of some of the possibilities:

You may not be aware that as well as people who want to be on stage, there are many other ways in which you could help.

There is, of course, a serious side to our hobby and that is to rehearse our next production. If you fancy having a go just come along any Thursday to St. Ethelbert's Church Hall, Hereson Road, RAMSGATE, any time after 7.30 pm. You will receive a warm welcome.

We are a very sociable group, enjoy a laugh and a joke, meet in the pub afterwards and generally have a good time

Why not stop being a couch-potato for one night a week and come and join us

## FED UP WITH WATCHING SKY EVERY NIGHT?

If you belong to a group who are not members why not find out more!

NODA's structure is based on local contact with a governing body of Area Councilors, our secretary is the elected Councilor for Kent and East Sussex. The local contact is maintained through a network of regional representatives. Sylvia Blogg, a member of our company, is the Representative for Region 5, Thanet, Canterbury, Folkestone and the Herne Bay/Whitstable area.

Until recently we used the term "amateur" instead of "non-professional". The General Public associate the word "amateur" with second rate. Now we all know that many, so-called, amateur groups stage better productions than the so-called professionals. Most amateur groups have a well organised marketing structure which helps local theatres survive, they provide business opportunities to local and national traders viz. costume hire, scenery, music, musicians and so on. One must also remember that most "professionals" started their careers as amateurs.

What is NODA? In the same way that the professional theatre on the Performing side has its interests looked after by Equity and by the Theatre Managers Association for the theatre side, NODA represents the totality of aspects of theatre as they affect the non-professional professional and they tend to be the same as that for the professionals. We need to lobby at a political level, there are areas of legal questions that need our attention, concerns on the health and safety and disabled access side etc that we need to address and to concern ourselves with. In addition we are a self-help organisation which offers support for exchange of props, scenery costumes and most importantly, a replacement performer from another group should we have the misfortune to have a problem.

Not only do we have the local hospital named after the Queen Mother but we are also proud of the Royal patronage that NODA enjoys. NODA is the representative body for Non-Professional Theatre in UK and Scotland. Many groups in the country are members. At present there are more than 2700 groups in membership and an equal number of individual members.

(Patron: Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother)

## THE NATIONAL OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION

We are affiliated to



## THE PLAYERS

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Sir Richard Cholmondeley | Dudley Gore       |
| Sergeant Meryll          | Mike Kendrick     |
| Colonel Fairfax          | Jeremy Lawrence   |
| Leonard Meryll           | Tony Matthews     |
| Jack Point               | James Smith       |
| Wilfred Shadbolt         | Iain Kilty        |
| Elsie Maynard            | Jodie Danton      |
| Phoebe Meryll            | Samantha Gambrell |
| Dame Carruthers          | Pam Hayfield      |
| Kate                     | Pat Drywood       |
| Headman                  | Chris Clark       |
| 1st Yeoman               | John Dixon        |
| 2nd. Yeoman              | John Relfe        |
| 1st. Citizen             | Roger Lee         |

## CITIZENS AND YEOMEN

Jill Baxter, Sylvia Blogg, Pauline Booker, Eddie Draper, David Evans, Tina Hearne, Aldwyth Humphries, Linda Humphrys-Parsons, Anne Jones, Melanie Little, Sarah Miles, Betty Reid, Bob Scarlett, Frances Shaw, Edith Smith, Polly Smith, Trevor Smith, Robyn Lewis, Anna Lewis, Linda Saunders

## THE SONGS

### OVERTURE

#### ACT I

|                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| When maiden loves            | Phoebe                  |
| Tower Warders                | Company                 |
| Norman Foes                  | Carruthers and Warders  |
| A laughing boy but yesterday | Meryll                  |
| I waver to and fro'          | Phoebe, Leonard, Meryll |
| Is Life a Boon?              | Fairfax                 |
| Here's a man of jollity      | Company                 |
| I have a song                | Elsie and Point         |
| How say you                  | Elsie, Point and Lieut  |
| I jibe and Joke              | Point                   |
| I am a bride                 | Elsie                   |
| Were I thy bride             | Phoebe                  |
| Finale                       | Company                 |

#### ACT II

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Night has spread   | Company                           |
| Warders are ye?    | Carruthers and Warders            |
| Private Buffoon    | Point                             |
| Both Agreed        | Point and Wilfred                 |
| Free from fetters  | Fairfax                           |
| Strange Adventure  | Carruthers, Kate, Meryll, Fairfax |
| Hark what is that  | Company                           |
| Woo a fair maid    | Elsie, Fairfax and Wilfred        |
| Wooer goes awooing | Elsie, Point, Fairfax, Phoebe     |
| Rapture, rapture   | Carruthers and Meryll             |
| Finale             | Company                           |