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RAMSGATE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

HMS PINAFORE

OR THE LASS WHO LOVED A SAILOR
by W.S GILBERT AND A.SULLIVAN

Directed & Choreographed by
Duncan McCrae

Musical Director
Violet Graham

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE
17th - 21st MARCH 1992



RAMSGATE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Affiliated to Thanet Arts Council
Associate Member of the D'Oyley Carte Opera Trust Ltd.
Affiliated to NODA

Present

H.M.S. PINAFORE

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Chairman: Mrs Margaret Woods

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Duncan McCrae
Musical Director	Violet Graham
Dancers Choreographed by	Marjorie Corden
Rehearsal Pianist	Mary Patten
Production Assistant	Margaret Woods
Wardrobe	June Redford
Properties	June Redford & Norman Kite
Prompt	Jean Tilley
Call Boy	Joe Blake
Make up	Marjorie Corden, June Dixon
Publicity	Bob Drywood, Mike Corden, John Dixon
Programme	Mike Corden,
Front of House	Teddy Bevan, Margaret Woods, John Dixon
Stage Manager	June Redford



CLARENCE HOUSE
S.W. 1

As Patron of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association I welcome the restoration of the Theatre Royal, Margate and congratulate the Castle Trust on rescuing this historic theatre from the sad state into which it had fallen.

There is nothing to compare with the entertainment given by the live theatre and I feel sure that the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society's production of HMS PINAFORE will prove the point.

Elizabeth R
Lord Warden

March 1992

This is a very special occasion for the Ramsgate Amateur Operatic Society because as many of you will know this is the first time that the Society has performed at the Theatre Royal and indeed it is the first time that an amateur Society has ever performed at the Theatre Royal. For this honour we are indebted to the Castle Trust who in their work of furthering the arts in this area have given us so much help and support in enabling us to stage this production.

The Castle Trust is a registered charity and joint owner, with the Margate Theatre Royal Trust, of this lovely old theatre and have taken on the tremendous task of refurbishing it. Already much has been done but more remains to be done and we hope you will support the trust in its efforts to make the theatre come alive and flourish once again. We thank them for the opportunity to be here and we thank you for coming along and hope that you have an enjoyable evening

May 28th 1878, the launching of HMS Pinafore created a sensation. W.H.Smith, the publisher who had recently been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty by the Prime Minister, Disraeli, was quite blatantly ridiculed and satirised. Within three days in the USA the show was a great success - hundreds were turned away from the box office and in three weeks, five New York theatres were staging the opera simultaneously.

Act I opens with a lively chorus on the quarter deck. Little Buttercup (Mrs Cripps) appears selling her wares and although she seems 'round and rosy', she does hide 'a dark secret'. Dick Deadeye comes forward, ugly, deformed, and exactly the opposite of Ralph Rackstraw - 'the smartest lad in all the fleet'. Ralph harbours a secret, his hopeless love for Josephine the Captains daughter. Captain Corcoran in spite of being 'loved' by all his crew, is sad because his daughter is reluctant to marry Sir Joseph Porter KCB, First Lord of the Admiralty. She swears that she will never disclose her love for a common sailor. Sir Joseph comes aboard, accompanied as always by admiring Sisters, Cousins and Aunts. He sings of his rise from Office Boy to his present exalted position and tells Captain Corcoran to be polite to his crew, since 'a British sailor is any man's equal'. Whilst he and the Captain withdraw to discuss their plans for Josephine, Ralph declares his love to Josephine who rejects him. But as Ralph threatens suicide, she cannot restrain her true feelings and an elopement is planned.

Act II Night has fallen - Captain Corcoran sings sadly of his daughters reluctance to marry Sir Joseph. Buttercup sympathises, the Captain, grateful, maintains that any relationship between them is impossible because of the discrepancy in their stations in life. Yet Buttercup claims knowledge which would change the situation. Sir Joseph complains of Josephine's attitude, and the Captain suggests that she is dazzled by his rank. Sir Joseph assures her that "Love levels all ranks". She immediately seizes on the statement and decides to marry Ralph secretly. Deadeye however reveals their plans to the Captain who intercepts them but is dismissed by Sir Joseph for swearing. Ralph is taken to the dungeons but when Buttercup reveals her secret all is resolved.

The opera is brought to a happy ending by the wit and humour of Gilbert's libretto coupled with the inventive and melodic genius of Sullivan's score. The curtain, we hope, will fall on a smiling company and a smiling audience.

H.M.S. PINAFORE

or

THE LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR

by W.S.Gilbert and A. Sullivan

Cast

The Rt.Hon. Sir Joseph Porter KCB (*First Lord of the Admiralty*) .. DUDLEY GORE
 Captain Corcoran (*Commanding Officer HMS Pinafore*) BILL BENNETT
 Ralph Rackstraw (*Able Seaman*) PHILIP CARTER
 Dick Deadeye (*Able Seaman*) MIKE KENDRICK
 Bill Bobstay (*Boatswains Mate*) DERRY MARTIN
 Bob Beckett (*Carpenters Mate*) NICK WILLIAMSON
 Josephine (*The Captain's daughter*) JILL BAXTER
 Hebe (*Sir Joseph's first cousin*) CAROLE DAVIES
 Little Buttercup (*Mrs Cripps, a Portsmouth Bumboat woman*) .. MARGARET BOWDEN
 Marine Drummer Boy PAUL HOSTEAD

The gallant crew of HMS Pinafore

Bob Aird, Dennis Howdle, Mike Corden, Nick Blake, Richard Bowden, Mick Gore, Bob Drywood, Craig Gill, Peter Shaw, Steve Tottman

Sisters, Cousins and Aunts

Delia Butterworth, Eve Frampton, Betty Dale, Pauline Booker, Anne Jones, Pat Drywood, Sylvia Blogg, Frances Shaw, Betty Reid, Marjorie Butler, Bettina Hearne.

Dancers (*Choreographed by Marjorie Corden*)

Carol Derbyshire, Katie Beugg, Sally Gore, Julie Payne, Christine Turner.

Orchestra: Musical Director - Violet Graham

First Violin	Louise Leask	Oboe	I. Crowther
Second	Violin J.Pring	Trumpet	K.Davies
Cello	Nancy White	Trombone	S.Young
Flute	Christine Chappell	Percussion	R.Spoore
Clarinet.....	Mary Mcleod	Piano	Mary Patten

Musical Synopsis

Scene - The Quarter Deck of HMS Pinafore, anchored off Portsmouth.

Act I - Noon

We sail the ocean blue Chorus
 Hail! men o' wars men Mrs Cripps
 But tell me who's the youth Mrs Cripps & Boatswain
 The nightingale sighed for a moon's bright ray Ralph & Chorus
 A maiden fair to see Ralph
 My gallant crew, good-morning Captain Corcoran
 Sir, you are sad Mrs Cripps & Captain Corcoran
 Sorry her lot who loves too well Josephine
 Over the bright blue sea Ladies Chorus
 Sir Joseph's barge is seen Sailors
 Now give three cheers Sir Joseph Porter, Hebe
 Boatswain and Chorus
 When I was a lad Sir Joseph Porter and Chorus
 For I hold that on the seas Sir Joseph Porter and Chorus
 A British Tar Ralph, Boatswain and Carpenter's Mate
 Refrain, audacious tar Josephine and Ralph
 Can I survive this overbearing? Ralph and Chorus

Act II - Night

Oh, is there not one maiden's breast Ladies Chorus
 Fair moon, to thee I sing Captain Corcoran
 Things are seldom what they seem. Mrs Cripps and Captain Corcoran
 The hours creep on apace Josephine
 Never mind the why and wherefore Josephine, Captain Corcoran and
 Sir Joseph Porter
 Kind Captain, I've important information Dick Deadeye
 and Captain Corcoran
 Carefully on tiptoe stealing Cast
 Farewell my own Cast
 A many years ago Mrs Cripps and Chorus
 Hornpipe Sally Gore, Carol Derbyshire
 Richard Bowden, Derry Martin
 Oh joy! Oh rapture unforeseen Cast
 Finale Cast

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