

Winchester Musicals and Opera Society

MEMMY and GIRL



11th-14th May 2022

WMOS are proud to support



We believe young carers are children first and should be free to develop emotionally and take full advantage of opportunities for educational achievement and life success.

Our Mission

To improve the lives of children and young people with caring responsibilities by providing safe, quality support to individuals and offering a holistic approach to the whole family.



winchesteryoungcarers.org.uk

WMOS presents **ME AND MY GIRL**
Book and Lyrics by L. ARTHUR ROSE and DOUGLAS FURBER
Music by NOEL GAY
Contributions to revisions by Mike Ockrent
Book revised by Stephen Fry

This amateur production of **ME AND MY GIRL** is presented by
arrangement with **Concord Theatricals Ltd.**
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Originally produced at the Adelphi Theatre, London by Richard Armitage. Subsequently
produced at the Marquis Theatre, New York City by Richard Armitage, Terry Allen Kramer,
James M. Nederlander and Stage Promotions Limited & Co.

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A Welcome from our President

Welcome once again to the Theatre Royal Winchester for our glorious Spring 2022 production of 'Me and My Girl', whisking you back to the toe-tapping, lamppost leaning 1930s.

Opening in the West End in 1937, a matinee performance was broadcast live on BBC Radio after which The Times reported "While dictators rage and statesmen talk, all Europe dances – to the Lambeth Walk".

Revised in 1984 by Stephen Fry, this cockney lad to House of Lords musical has been a vehicle for numerous actors including Robert Lindsay, Emma Thompson, Gary Wilmot, Bonnie Langford, Jim Dale, Lorraine Chase, Matt Lucas and Caroline Quentin and Iain Steel (for WMOS in 2001 when this theatre reopened after its 5 year refit)

We are delighted to welcome Dawn Brown as our Director, and to welcome back John Sparrow and Chrissy Hotton as MD and Choreographer.

We offer huge thanks to all the cast, crew, set-builders and technical team, who have come through this particularly difficult Covid season still smiling, without whom this sun would never have 'got it's hat on'.

So, sit back and relax into this bygone era of fun and frivolity. For 'Once you Lose your Heart' you can't help but 'Take it on the Chin' and enjoy a 'Weekend at Hareford'.

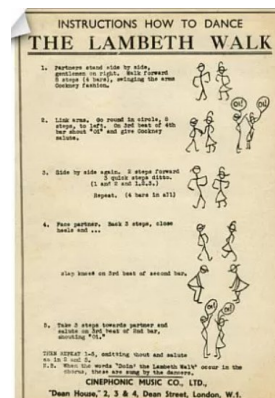
Iain Steel

President

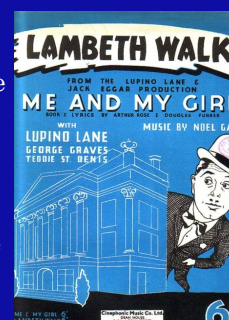
The Lambeth Walk

'The Lambeth Walk' from the show 'Me and My Girl' had people dancing all over the world, even Kings and Queens and infuriated Fuhrers.

The choreography from the musical inspired a popular walking dance, performed in a jaunty strutting style. Lupino Lane explained the origin of the dance as follows: *'I got the idea from my personal experience, having worked among cockneys. I'm a cockney born and bred myself. The Lambeth Walk is just an exaggerated idea of how the cockney struts.'*



When the stage show had been running for a few months, C.L. Heimann, managing director of the Locarno Dance Halls, got one of his dancing instructors, Adele England, to elaborate the walk into a dance. Starting from the Locarno Dance Hall, Streatham, the dance version of the Lambeth Walk swept the country. The craze reached Buckingham Palace, with King George VI and Queen Elizabeth attending a performance and joining in the shouted "Oi!" which ends the chorus.



The fad reached the United States in 1938, popularised by Boston-based orchestra-leader Joe Rines, among others. Rines and his band frequently performed in New York, and the dance became especially popular at the "better" night clubs. As with most dance crazes, other well-known orchestras did versions of the song, including Duke Ellington's band. The dance then spread across America, and to Paris and Prague. Mass Observation devoted a chapter of their book *Britain* (1939) to the craze.

In Germany, big band leader Adalbert Lutter made a German-language adaptation called *Lambert's Nachtlokal* that quickly became popular in swing clubs. A member of the Nazi Party drew attention to it in 1939 by declaring the Lambeth Walk "Jewish mischief and animalistic hopping", as part of a speech on how the "revolution of private life" was one of the next big tasks of National Socialism in Germany. However, the song continued to be popular with the German public and was even played on the radio, particularly during the war, as part of the vital task of maintaining public morale.



What is it all about?

Who will turn out to be the long-lost heir to the Baronetcy of Hareford, it's 17th Baron and 8th Viscount? Lambeth's own Cockney sparrow, Bill Snibson, that's who. He has his own girlfriend, Sally, but that won't stop gold-digger Lady Jacqueline. She ditches her dumbfounded boyfriend, Gerald, when Mr Parchester, the family solicitor, presents Bill to the flabbergasted family as the new son and heir. But Bill has still to win the family's approval to inherit the title - and the money. If he doesn't, he'll be given an annuity and sent away. The formidable Duchess is determined Bill should stay, insisting that all will be well and, with a little grooming, Bill will be suitable to inherit. There will be an official reception to introduce him to the county set. But Sally is not to be invited. Bill faces up to the Duchess - no Sally, no Bill. But Sally doesn't want to come anyway - not to a posh party. The party goes ahead and Sally turns up in full Cockney get-up complete with a posse of pearly kings and queens who perform the 'Lambeth Walk' to prove Bill doesn't belong. But they are all invited to the reception and go in to dinner.

Next day there's croquet on the lawn. In an effort to make him stay and take up his inheritance, the Duchess has persuaded Sally to tell Bill she no longer loves him. Sally does so, and slips out to an unknown destination. Bill, helped by Sir John and Parchester, is determined to find Sally (whom he still loves). He is urged on by a gallery of ghostly portraits of his ancestors.

Back at her landlady's, Sally decides to move on. She's got a telegram from Bill and must escape. However, Sir John arrives and has a cunning plan for her. When Bill arrives, her landlady says she's not there, but Bill waits. He expends all his energy on locating Sally and bringing her back. Sir John makes the Duchess soften her attitude towards Bill's beloved. Bill finally rejects Lady Jacqueline and she returns to Gerald. Bill is making to leave when Sir John enters with a new Eliza Doolittle - it's a posh Sally! The Duchess is delighted and Bill has his girl!



Bill Snibson - *Matt McGrath*
Sally Smith - *Olivia Conroy*
Gerald Bolingbroke - *Daniel Williams*
Jaquie - *Molly Moffitt McGrath*
Sir John Tremayne - *Peter Barber*
The Duchess of Dene - *Annie Tatnall*
Herbert Parchester - *Simon Meanwell-Ralph*
Sir Jasper Tring - *Stephen Glead*
Lord Battersby - *Gerard Overton*
Lady Battersby - *Penny Bullough*
Charles - *Alan Morgan*
Mrs Brown - *Suzanne Hall*

Ensemble of Lords, Ladies, Ancestors, Housemaids and Dream Dancers

Funke Akiboye, Jan Baerselman, Emma Colbourne, Gill Cooper, Shannon Cronin, Jess Eades, Amarantha Fennell-Wells, Lucy Francis, Mathew Grant, Suzanne Hall, Kimberley James, Amy Leddy, Lorraine Morgan, Dale Russell, Juliet Surridge, Charlotte Upfold, Isabel Wylde,

Director - Dawn Brown

Musical Director - John Sparrow

Choreographer - Chrissy Hotton

Rehearsal Pianist - Alison Benton and Katie Hickson

Production Manager - Amy Leddy

Stage Manger - Angie Barks

Lighting and Sound Design - Tony Lawther

Costumes - Jo Barker

Props - Amy Leddy

Set Design - Liz Petley-Jones

Set Construction - David Freemantle, Liz Petley-Jones, Ian White, Peter Theobald, Tim Stanbrook, Terry Madden, Sue Larcombe, Brian Hurst

Stage Crew - Marc Scott, Rae Benning, Collete Hindle, Tony Lawther, Lindsay Smith, Nathaniel Denman

Orchestra Secretary - Anne Croudass

Dance Captains - Juliet Surridge and Jess Eades

Publicity - Kimberley James

Poster and Programme - Suzanne Hall

Website - Simon Meanwell-Ralph

Front of House - Jan Baerselman and Adrian Hickford





Matt McGrath - Bill Snibson

Matt is a Drama and English Teacher who lives in Chineham. He last appeared with WMOS playing the title role in *Jekyll and Hyde* and was also in *The Witches of Eastwick* and *Made in Dagenham*. With MTS Matt has appeared in *Loserville*, *The Addams Family*, *Rent* and most recently *The Drowsy Chaperone*. In his spare time he sings and plays the violin in his band Electric Eden.

Me and My.....? Wife (she made me write this)

Olivia Conroy - Sally Smith

Olivia lives in Stockbridge and is a Primary School Teacher. She joined WMOS to play Dora Bailey in *Singin' in the Rain* and then stole the show as Rita in *Made in Dagenham*. She was last seen wearing lycra in *A Chorus of Disapproval*. In her spare time, Olivia enjoys true crime podcasts, pretending to enjoy the gym and overspending on the latest beauty products.

Me and My...? 'Me time' because I never have any. Here's to 4 weeks of relaxation , until the next auditions!

Molly Moffitt-McGrath - Jaquie

Molly is a Primary School Teacher and lives with her real life husband Matt in Chineham. She last appeared for WMOS playing Lucy in *Jekyll and Hyde* having choreographed *Made in Dagenham* in the same year. She also played Jennifer in *The Witches of Eastwick*. She met her husband while playing in *La Cage Aux Folles* and in her youth performed at The Mayflower in *Joseph* and *Scrooge*.

In her spare time she enjoys dancing, sewing and baking.

Me and My...? New Husband of course!



Daniel Williams - Gerald

Daniel lives in Southampton and works in a Sixth Form College. He made his debut with WMOS last summer in the acclaimed *The Pirates of Penzance* and we are delighted that he has joined us again. He performs Gilbert and Sullivan shows with University of Southampton Light Opera Society and has recently directed their production of *Carousel*. In his spare time, Daniel enjoys knitting, historic buildings, country walks and local history.

Me and My.....? Masters in Chemistry, why? Because I've not used it yet!

Annie Tatnall - The Duchess of Dene

Annie Lives in East Dean and is a Singing Teacher. She last appeared with WMOS singing lead soprano Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* in the Bishop's Palace. Annie has also played The Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd*, Adelaide Adams in *Calamity Jane* and Hannah in last year's *A Chorus of Disapproval*. With Pocket Theatre she has played most of the G and S heroines and Eliza Doolittle and Mrs Lovett. Annie's hobbies include singing, running and baking.

Me and My...? Two beautiful daughters, Polly and Elsie.

Peter Barber - Sir John Tremayne

Peter lives in Farringdon and is retired. He has played most leading roles in musical theatre and for WMOS his favourites have been Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Julian Marsh in *Anything Goes* and a magnificent Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He is also a member of West Meon Theatre with whom he played the role of Falstaff last Summer. In his spare time Peter enjoys travelling, a good bottle of wine and being a Grandad .

Me and My...? Script crib sheets in my pocket!



Simon Meanwell-Ralph - Parchester

Simon is a Millinery Designer and lives in Winchester. For WMOS he specialises in playing quirky, funny characters. Favourites include Ted Washbrook in *A Chorus of Disapproval*, Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Roscoe Dexter in *Singin' in the Rain* and Cortina Man in *Made in Dagenham*. In his spare time he is the WMOS webmaster and enjoys walking his dogs.

Me and My...? Hats! A different one for every week of the year!

Alan Morgan - Charles the Butler

Alan is a retired accountant who is the Society's Treasurer and lives in Chilcomb. Alan is often seen on stage with a broom or in a policeman's uniform—which will this be?! Favourite roles include Harold Wilson in *Made in Dagenham*, Prince Andrew in *Utopia Ltd* and the Sergeant of Police in *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Alan enjoys rugby, walking and spreadsheets.

Me and My...? Family! Cheesy but true.



Steve Gleed - Sir Jasper Tring

Steve is a retired teacher and lives in Harestock. Favourite roles for WMOS include Monty in *Made in Dagenham*, Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Avram in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Steve has recently qualified as a cathedral guide and enjoys tennis and hiking.

Me and My...? Love of History!

Penny Bullough - Lady Battersby

Penny is a retired Head Teacher and lives in Colden Common. Favourite WMOS roles include Yum Yum and Katisha in *The Mikado*, Julie in *Carousel*, and Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She has had the pleasure of performing with her father, husband and daughter.

In her spare time Penny is a volunteer therapeutic practitioner in primary schools.

Me and My...? Grandson, revisiting the fun of riding bikes, throwing stones into the sea and being chased by tigers.



Gerard Overton - Lord Battersby

Gerry is making his WMOS debut and has been thrown into the deep end playing several roles. He has appeared at The Point in *When the Saints Come Marching In* and before that had not been on stage since school. In his spare time, Gerry enjoys playing piano and guitar and anything outdoors.

Me and My...? Liquorice Allsorts, because I don't mind if I do..!

Dawn Brown - Director

Dawn lives in Woolston, Southampton and works in container ship operations. This is her WMOS debut but has over 50 years experience in directing, choreographing and acting with almost every other local society including Southampton Musical Society, RAODS and Musical Theatre South. In her spare time away from the theatre she enjoys reading and art.



Me and My...? VOLUME!! Size, shape, mouth, clothes, singing, personality...all the different meanings of the word!

John Sparrow - Musical Director



John is retired and lives in Old Bursledon in Southampton. We are thrilled to welcome him back after John previously was MD for *Anything Goes* and *Calamity Jane*. He has over 40 years' experience of performing or being stage crew or assistant stage manager, pianist and MD. John's hobbies include theatre, music, travel, keeping fit and NOT working.

Me and My...? New Retired life! A new chapter with my gorgeous partner.

Christina Hotton - Choreographer

Chrissy lives in Andover and is a Dance Teacher for Integr8 Dance. She has choreographed *Calamity Jane* and *Sweeney Todd* for WMOS and played the role of Judy Haynes in *White Christmas*. Chrissy played Alice for Pocket Theatre in *Alice in Wonderland* and choreographed for SJ productions in the Theatre Royal. In her spare time she enjoys cooking.



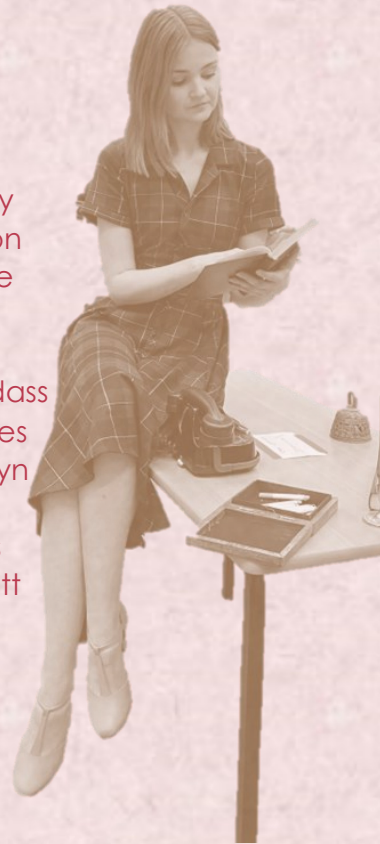
Me and My...? Baby Girl. Last summer I became a mum and she has certainly enjoyed listening to the music on repeat and watching me dance around the living room.



The Band

Bass
Keyboard 1
Keyboard 2
Drums/Percussion
Flute, Alto Sax, Bb Clarinet,
Flute, Bb Clarinet, Tenor Sax
Bb Clarinet, Alto Sax, Baritone Sax
Trombone
Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
Violin

Pete Gosney
Alison Benton
Ian Partridge
Alex Pope
Paul Stiles
Anne Croudass
Alison Hughes
Huw Llewellyn
Alan Flood
Sue Williams
Emily Corbett



The Government Inspector

By Nicolai Gogol
Translated and adapted by Alistair Beaton
Directed by Marcus Whitfield

"It's no good blaming the mirror if the mug's cracked"

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theatre



16-23 July 2022

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'...culminating in one of the most spectacular, funny and entertaining evening's entertainment I have seen in that setting – or elsewhere, for that matter.'

Winchester Today

The WMOS production of *The Pirates of Penzance* (Summer 21) has been awarded a **NODA Accolade of Excellence for Best Musical** in our region.

We have also been nominated for best Gilbert and Sullivan Production in the whole of the South East. This will be announced in June.

Fingers crossed!

noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

Did you know?

NODA was founded in 1899.

Has a membership of over 2000 amateur groups and 1000 individual members.

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Supports the needs of youth and adult theatre, on and off stage.

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 Secretary: Jess Eades
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 Props: Amy Leddy
 Audience: Jan Baerselman
 Social Media: Molly Moffitt-McGrath

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 Geoffrey & Jo Burnaby
 Suzanne Hall
 Brian Hurst
 Bob & Pam Jones
 The Mayor of Winchester
 Pamela Peskett
 Richard Steel
 Christine Walters
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 Liz Petley-Jones

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 Irene Johnston
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 Tony Reid

Carole Steel

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Join our Award Winning Society



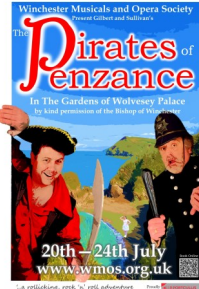
Chorus of Disapproval 2021

We are a friendly group who welcome new members every year. We perform our main shows at the Theatre Royal but also engage with many other events, performing in village halls, the high street, gardens and at the Christmas Market. We have opportunities for performers, musicians, set builders, costume makers, prop makers, marketing, tea and coffee makers...



SCAN ME

www.wmos.org.uk



Our Next Show will be

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PRODUCERS**
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9th - 12th November 2022

Theatre Royal Winchester

Do you want to be involved?
Come to our Information Evening

Monday 6th June - 7.30pm

United Church Hall, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ

Contact the production manager for more information:

producers@wmos.org.uk