

Winchester Operatic Society presents

# ANYTHING GOES



10th - 14th May 2011

Theatre Royal, Winchester



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**Winchester Operatic Society  
presents**

# ANYTHING GOES

**Directed by Shaun Dodimead**

**Musical Direction by John Sparrow**

**Choreography by Louise Hodson**

**Anything Goes (Beaumont) Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter. Original Book by P.G. Wodehouse and Guy Bolton. New book by Timothy Crouse and John Weidman and Howard Lindsey and Russel Crouse. Originally produced by Lincoln Centre Theatre, New York. By arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musicals Limited of New York.**

# President's Message

Welcome to our spring production of *Anything Goes*. This popular Broadway musical with a host of well-known tunes and a definite feel-good factor will, we hope, be a popular choice with you our audience. Since its original Broadway production in 1934, there have been countless revivals and it is pleasing to note that it is currently running at Stephen Sondheim's Theatre in New York.

The story concerns madcap antics aboard the SS American sailing from New York to London in the early 1930s. The well known songs such as *Anything Goes*, *You're the Top* and *I get a Kick Out of You* are just a few that will have you tapping your feet! We welcome Director Shaun Dodimead and Musical Director John Sparrow who have been working hard with the cast and the production team to stage this lavish production. There are a number of innovations which are new to us. For the first time the orchestra will be on the stage as part of the production and the floor of the orchestra pit will be raised to stage level bringing the cast closer to the audience. The set is our take on the original Broadway set with three decks.

We are always pleased to welcome new members who would like to join us in the many aspects of producing live theatre. If you would like further details, contact information is in the programme. Without your support, productions of this kind are not possible and we are fortunate in having so many generous supporters who attend our shows. With rising costs, we do need all the help we can get and we hope that you will tell your friends to come along.

So, as the house lights dim, sit back and sail away on the SS American and we are sure that you will be humming a tune from the show as you leave the theatre!

Brian Hurst

## Honorary Vice Presidents and Life Members

Fred Allgood, Valerie Bell, Margaret Bone, Geoffrey Burnaby, Jo Burnaby, Eileen Evans, Brian Hurst, Bob Jones, Pamela Jones, The Mayor of Winchester, Pamela Peskett, James Sabben-Claire, Richard Steel, Christine Walters, David Weait, Michael Williams.

## Council of Management and Committee (2010-2011)

Brian Hurst (President), Martin Larcombe (Company Secretary), Richard Steel, Vernon Tottle (Chairman), Adrian Hickford (Hon.Treasurer), Stephen Glead, Katie Hickson, Louise Hodson, Anne McDonald, Heather Reid (Hon. Secretary), Gill Russell (Vice-Chairman), Juliet Surridge, Mary Twomey.

## WOS Friends

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# SYNOPSIS

The action takes place on board the cruise ship SS American en route from New York to London in the early 1930s.

Elisha Whitney, a successful Ivy League Wall Street banker, waits impatiently for his assistant, Billy Crocker, to meet him at a New York City bar. Billy is to drop off some items Whitney needs for his vacation, and Whitney has to give Billy instructions to sell some stock for his personal account. It turns out that Billy forgot his boss's passport, so he will have to deliver it to Whitney on the cruise ship the following morning.



Billy's old friend Reno Sweeney, a sexy evangelist turned nightclub singer, plans to travel on the same boat as Whitney. Reno is interested in Billy romantically - *I Get A Kick Out Of You*, but Billy explains to her that he is in love with a girl named Hope. Reno even invites Billy to join her on the trip - but Billy just isn't interested in her that way.

Transatlantic voyages usually draw celebrities and, therefore, photographers. But Charlie Chaplin cancelled his plans on the ship at the last minute. This leaves Hope Harcourt, the American debutante to photograph. She is travelling with her fiancé Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, a wealthy Englishman, and her mother Evangeline Harcourt, a widow.

The photographers are not impressed by the Minister Henry T. Dobson and his two Chinese converts, but they take notice

when Reno Sweeney and her four showgirl Angels board the ship.

Coincidence has it that Evangeline and Whitney are old friends. When Billy boards the ship to drop off Whitney's passport, he finds out that his long lost love, Hope, is a passenger, and is to be married. As Billy tries to find Hope before the ship leaves the dock, two pushy F.B.I. agents force Billy to show them where the Minister is.





Billy inadvertently identifies Minister Dobson as Moonface Martin, a gangster and Public Enemy Number 13, to the F.B.I. agents. Dobson is escorted off the ship and his two converts are left to wander the ship without supervision.

Moonface and his friend Erma are indebted to Billy and thank him by giving him their friend's unused ticket and room. The problem is that their friend who didn't make it on board is Snake Eyes Johnson, Public Enemy Number 1, and wanted by the F.B.I. too. Now Billy is mistaken for Snake Eyes (Mr. Murray Hill Flowers on the ticket), and must disguise himself for the rest of the trip in order to stay out of jail. He must also stay out of Whitney's sight, because his boss specifically sent him off the ship and back to work.

Billy thinks all this trouble is worthwhile, since he has the chance to convince Hope to fall in love with him. Billy convinces Reno to help him win Hope's heart - *You're The Top*. After the ship leaves the dock, Billy is able to spend some time alone with Hope because Evelyn is seasick. He sings her *Easy To Love*. Billy goes so far as to disguise himself as a sailor with Erma's help. He convinces Evangeline Harcourt the boat is sinking, and convinces Whitney the whipped cream he throws on his glasses is from a seagull. Moon also helps Billy with his cause, by tricking Whitney and taking his glasses. Not only can Whitney not see Billy, but he can barely see anything during the whole trip. Later Whitney thinks he is proposing marriage to Evangeline and ends up asking the ship's Purser to marry him!

Moon and Reno come up with a plan for Reno to seduce Evelyn, and break up Evelyn and Hope. Reno and Moon sing *Friendship*. Although the plan fails, Reno realizes she really likes Evelyn and is genuinely interested in him romantically.

Billy and Moon try to convince Evangeline that her daughter is about to marry a crazy man, but Billy's true identity is revealed before they are able to convince Evangeline that Evelyn is crazy.

Billy's next disguise is as an old lady in a wheelchair, and he sings *It's De-Lovely* with Hope. The Purser finally catches Billy, who he thinks is Snake Eyes Johnson. But instead of being afraid of Snake Eyes, the passengers welcome him aboard and celebrate the criminal - *Anything Goes*.

To get some attention himself, Moon confesses his true identity - *Public Enemy Number One*. Reno encourages Billy to pursue Hope. Moon uses his new-found notoriety to marry Reno's Angel, Virtue, in a fake ceremony.



During Reno's sermon/nightclub act, many passengers confess to immoral behaviour in the past. Evelyn is among the confessors, with the admission of an affair with a Chinese girl named Plum Blossom many years ago.

Reno encourages more confessions with *Blow, Gabriel, Blow*, and Billy is next when he admits he is not really Snake Eyes and that he is on the ship to chase Hope. Billy and Moon are finally sent to the ship's brig, and Hope sadly sings *Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye*.

In jail Moon tries to cheer Billy up with *Be Like The Bluebird*. Hope sends Billy a note, and they sing *All Through The Night*. Later that night Evelyn realizes and professes his love to Reno. He plans to carry out his obligation to Hope and marry her, though - *The Gypsy In Me*.



The two Chinese converts run wild on the ship without Reverend Dobson's supervision, and finally get themselves thrown in the brig with Billy and Moon. Reno visits the men in jail, and tells them that she and Evelyn are in love with each other. Billy and Moon trick the two converts in a game of strip poker, and change clothes with them. Instead of the converts being released from jail, Billy and Moon are set free just in time to try to stop Hope's wedding to Evelyn. Erma opens the final scene with *Buddie Beware*. Reno joins Billy and Moon in their effort to break off the wedding. Reno pretends to be Plum Blossom, the Chinese girl Evelyn confessed to a liaison with during Reno's sermon. Evelyn is flustered by Plum Blossom's appearance, and almost lets Whitney pay her off to disappear.

Hope stops this from happening by coming up with a plan to pay the debt of honour: to even the score Evelyn must offer Hope to Plum Blossom's relative, who is of course Billy! Now Hope and Billy, and Reno and Evelyn are together. Evangeline Harcourt is irate about this arrangement, because this means her daughter is not marrying a rich man. Whitney saves Evangeline's day by proposing, but she may end up like her daughter - in love but poor - because Billy never sold Whitney's stock for him. In the nick of time, Whitney gets lucky and his stock goes through the roof.

All three happy couples marry!



# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT ONE

### Overture

I Get a Kick Out of You	<i>Reno</i>
There's No Cure Like Travel	<i>Girl, Sailor, Captain &amp; Men</i>
Bon Voyage	<i>Chorus</i>
You're The Top	<i>Reno &amp; Billy</i>
Easy To Love	<i>Billy</i>
Reprise - Easy To Love	<i>Hope</i>
The Crew Song	<i>Elisha Whitney</i>
There'll Always Be A Lady Fair	<i>Sailors' Quartet</i>
Friendship	<i>Reno &amp; Moonface Martin</i>
It's De-lovely	<i>Billy &amp; Hope</i>
Anything Goes	<i>Reno &amp; Chorus</i>

### INTERVAL

## ACT TWO

### Entr'acte

Public Enemy Number One	<i>Captain, Purser &amp; Chorus</i>
Blow, Gabriel, Blow	<i>Reno &amp; Chorus</i>
Goodbye, Little Dream	<i>Hope</i>
Be Like The Blue Bird	<i>Moonface Martin</i>
All Through The Night	<i>Billy, Hope &amp; Sailors' Quartet</i>
The Gypsy In Me	<i>Evelyn Oakleigh</i>
Buddie, Beware	<i>Erma &amp; Sailors' Quartet</i>
I Get a Kick out of You	<i>Reno, Evelyn, Billy, Hope, Chorus</i>
Anything Goes	<i>Company</i>

# CAST

Reno Sweeney  
Billy Crocker  
Hope Harcourt  
Moonface Martin  
Lord Evelyn Oakleigh  
Erma  
Elisha Whitney  
Evangeline Harcourt  
Captain  
Purser

### Sailors' Quartet

Luke  
John  
Henry T. Dobson  
Purity  
Chastity  
Charity  
Virtue  
Barman  
Sailor  
Girl  
FBI Agents

### Reporters

Photographer  
Lady

Katie Hickson  
Chris Horn  
Georgina Bottriell  
Peter Barber  
Iain Steel  
Suzanne Hall  
Tom Williams  
Vara Williams  
David Anderson  
Dan Hickson

Adrian Hickford  
Dan Hickson  
Hamish McDonald  
Vernon Tottle

Bob Jones  
Dave Rowe  
Graham Light  
Claire Crowther  
Juliet Surridge  
Anne Croudass  
Louise Hodson  
Dave Rowe  
Graham Light  
Rachel Parkins  
Colin Crimp  
Alan Matheson  
Stephanie Rosewarne  
Lyndsay Smith  
Claire Smith  
Jacqui Beckingham

### Ship's Passengers

Sue Aiken, Cressida Bullough, Penny Bullough,  
Deborah Cleary, Stephanie Crockford, Jill Fitzpatrick, Pam Jones,  
Anne McDonald, Nicky Moore, Gill Russell, Emily Wilson.

# ORCHESTRA

Piano/Keyboard  
Percussion I - Kit  
Percussion II  
Bass  
Violin  
Reed I  
Reed II  
Reed III

Richard Scott Copeland  
Greg Felton  
Alex Pope  
Myk Hough  
Nuala Land  
Paul Styles  
Ian Peters  
Jane Denley (Tues - Fri)  
Anton Crout (Sat only)  
Alison Hughes  
Sue Williams  
Roger Hammond  
G. Huw Llewellyn  
Dave Thomas

Reed IV  
Trumpet I  
Trumpet II  
Trombone I  
Trombone II

# CREW

Stage Manager  
Production Team  
Orchestra Secretary  
Set Design  
Set Construction

Angie Barks  
Louise Hodson, Juliet Surridge  
Gill Beck  
Sue Aiken  
Brian Hurst with Sue Aiken, David Anderson,  
Brian Bush, David Freemantle, Warner Hall,  
Pamela Jones, Colin Paice, Ian White  
Liz Petley-Jones with Gill Parry, Juliet Surridge  
Eclectia Theatre Costumes, Christchurch  
(Anne Ponting)  
Louise Hodson  
Trish Feltham with John Feltham, Sylvia Jobling  
Adrian Davis  
Theatre Royal  
Steve Gedge, David Illsley, Kath Moody,  
Phil Moody, Anne Waggott  
Christine Webster  
Anne and Hamish McDonald  
Georgina Bottriell  
Georgina Bottriell, Gill Russell  
Gill Russell, Vernon Tottle  
Robert Parsons, Iain and Richard Steel

Make-up  
Costumes

Costume Coordination  
Props  
Lighting Design  
Lighting and Technical  
Backstage

Rehearsal Accompanist  
Rehearsal Refreshments  
Programme / Poster Design  
Programme content  
Sales and Marketing  
Front of House

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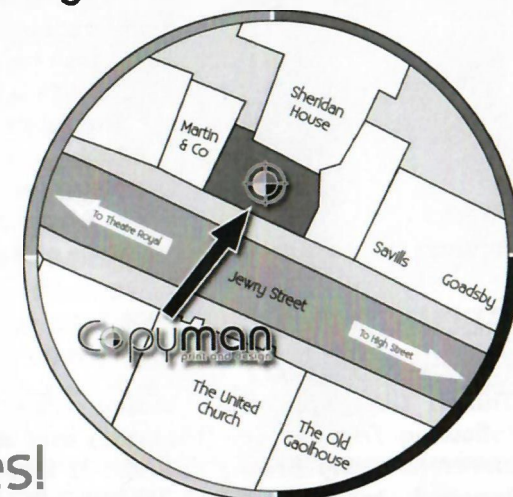
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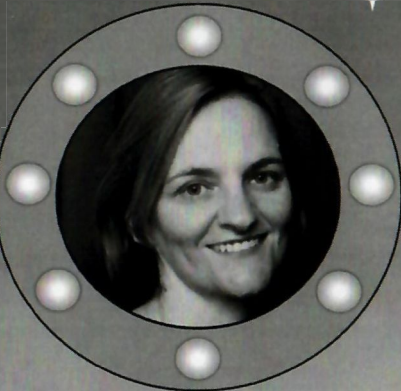
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# CAST BIOGRAPHIES

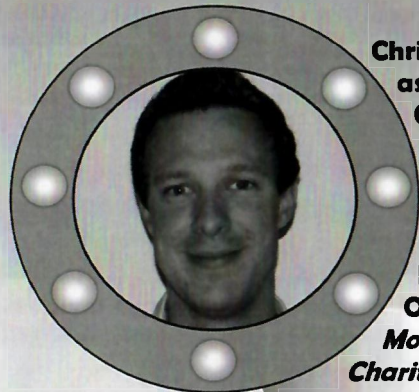
## KATIE HICKSON (*Reno Sweeney*)

This is Katie's 12th show with WOS. She feels very fortunate to have landed the part of Reno. Who could ask for more when you get to sing such fabulous songs with the added bonus of not having too many lines to learn!



## CHRIS HORN (*Billy Crocker*)

Chris is a farmer's son from Droxford and works as a surveyor for BCM in Sutton Scotney. This is Chris's first show with WOS after moving back to Hampshire a year ago after a five-year stint "up north" where he performed with Darlington Operatic Society. Chris's previous roles include Frederick *The Pirates of Penzance*, Evelyn Oakleigh *Anything Goes*, Ethan *The Full Monty*, Curly *Oklahoma!* and Vittorio *Sweet Charity* as well as roles in *Barnum*, *Oliver!*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Chris is very much looking forward to performing on the stage of the Theatre Royal for the first time.

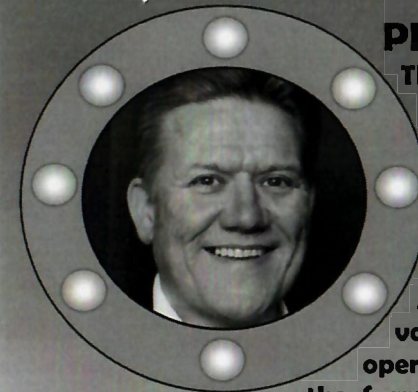


## GEORGINA BOTTRIELL (*Hope Harcourt*)

This is Georgina's third outing with WOS following *Trial by Jury* (Plaintiff) and *42nd Street* (Dorothy Brock) and she is looking forward to making a splash, here's "hoping"! Georgina has performed locally with many societies including Winterbourne Opera, Salisbury Amateur Operatic Society and now with WOS. Whilst with these companies she played Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance*, Galatea in Handel's *Acis and Galatea* and Iris in Handel's Opera *Semele*.



## PETER BARBER (*Moonface Martin*)



The part of Moonface probably sees Peter exhausting his range of truly dire (in his opinion!) character accents for WOS shows, having previously whined as Wilfred Shadbolt in *The Yeomen of the Guard*, growled as Julian Marsh in *42nd Street*, and bellowed as Alfio the Carter in *Cavalleria Rusticana*. However he still enjoys such variety, having sung a wide repertoire in opera, oratorio, musicals and pantomime across the Surrey-Hants region, ranging from the title role in Wagner's *Flying Dutchman* to an Ugly Sister in *Cinderella*! These have included roles in several of Southampton Operatic Society's shows such as *La Traviata*, *Iolanthe*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Guys & Dolls* and *Sweeney Todd*. Peter lives in Alton and works near Southampton (as a partner in the law firm Blake Laphorn), and knows Theatre Royal Winchester well as he is Vice Chair of the theatre's Board.

## IAIN STEEL (*Lord Evelyn Oakleigh*)

This is Iain's third sailing aboard the SS American! Having previously played a Quartet Sailor nearly 20 years ago and Billy Crocker 6 years ago for SMS - this time he is delighted WOS have given him a character role to match his accent! Tirelessly supported by Lisa, Katie and his family, Iain has played many varied roles over the years including: Curly *Oklahoma!* (twice); Billy *Carousel* (also twice); Action *West Side Story*; Pirate King *Pirates of Penzance*; Bill *Me & My Girl*; Joe/Josephine *Some Like it Hot!*; Danilo & Camille (both *Merry Widow* - but not at the same time); and King Herod (in his Junior School Nativity Play!) plus many more ...



### WHY NOT BECOME A FRIEND OF THE SOCIETY ?

For further information contact: Mr David Rowe, Friends' Secretary  
5 Western Road, Winchester SO21 5AH

OR JOIN US ?

Contact WOS Secretary:

Heather Reid e: [secretary@winchester-operatic.org.uk](mailto:secretary@winchester-operatic.org.uk)

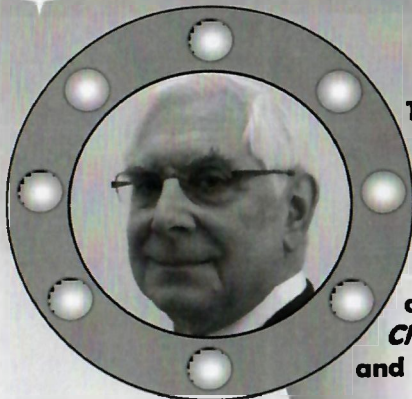
## SUZANNE HALL (*Erma*)

Suzanne has choreographed many shows for WOS, including *Oklahoma!*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Pajama Game* so is really enjoying just being in the show! For WOS she has played Miss Adelaide *Guys and Dolls*, Ado Annie *Oklahoma!* and Maggie Jones *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* and directed *The Pajama Game*. Suzanne is also a member of West Meon Theatre where roles have included Landlady in *Two*, Helena in *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, Ensemble in *Cider With Rosie* and she recently directed *The Pirates of Penzance*. She will next be seen in *Twelfth Night* at the Privett Centre in July: [www.westmeontheatre.co.uk](http://www.westmeontheatre.co.uk)



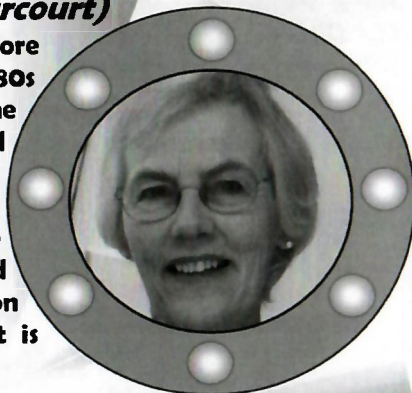
## TOM WILLIAMS (*Elisha Whitney*)

Tom last appeared with WOS as the Inquisitor in *The Gondoliers* in 1994, having previously played Professor Higgins in *My Fair Lady* and John Wellington Wells in *The Sorcerer*. Tom is currently the President of the Chesil Theatre, where he has acted in or directed more than 50 plays including *Charley's Aunt*, *Humble Boy*, *My Three Angels* and *Arcadia*.



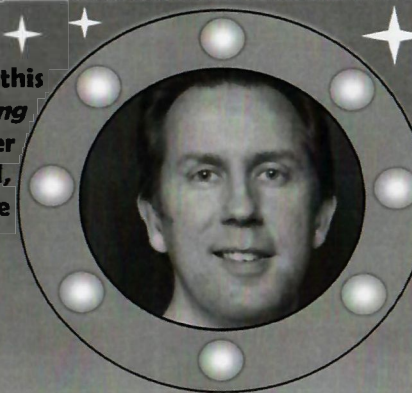
## VARA WILLIAMS (*Evangeline Harcourt*)

Vara is very pleased to be performing once more with WOS. She was in several shows in the 1980s and 90s but then turned to directing for the society, staging *Ruddigore*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *42<sup>nd</sup> Street*. She is also a long-standing member of the Chesil Theatre, directing many shows of which *Stepping Out* was the most recent, and last autumn she performed in *Bedroom Farce*. She is very happy to be on stage with her husband in this show, as it is some time since they performed together.



## DAN HICKSON (*Purser*)

This is Dan's 12th year and 21st show. On this occasion, he seems to have confused *Anything Goes* with *Carry on Cruising* and after realising that the Purser doesn't get the girl, has decided to throw his sailor's hat into the other ring. 'Ooh Matron.....!!'



## DAVID ANDERSON (*Captain*)

Can't dance, terrible American accent, good beard – perfect for the Captain! David has been a member of WOS since 1994, and although normally skulking in the back row of the chorus – as a good bass should – he has sometimes taken minor principal roles. He has also appeared with Havant Light Opera, EOMS, RAODS and Fareham Musicals.



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## SHAUN DODIMEAD – Director

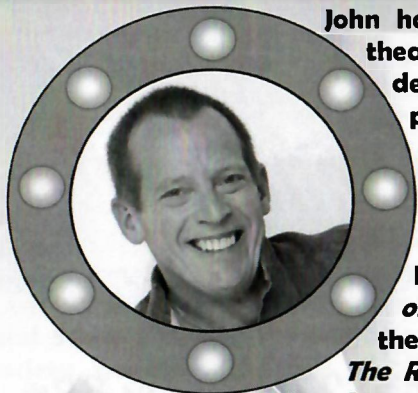
Shaun has been involved in theatrical exploits with many local companies for years, performing, directing and running many a lighting rig. He's honoured to be working with WOS for the first time, and hopes you enjoy the collected fruits of many peoples' very hard work. As an actor/singer he has performed with Southampton Operatic Society: Florian *Princess Ida*, Strephon *Iolanthe*, Grand Duke *Grand Duke*, Frosch *Die Fledermaus*, and Benny *Guys and Dolls*; with Eastleigh Operatic and Musical Society: Njegus *The Merry Widow*; Mr Sowerberry *Oliver!*; with Music Theatre South: Adult Man *Spring Awakening*; and with RAODS: Donald Duck *Blue Remembered Hills*, Tybalt *Romeo and Juliet*, and Jake *Breakfast with Johnny Wilkinson*. Directorial credits are: *HMS Pinafore* for EOMS, *The Pirates of Penzance* for both EOMS and RAODS, *Nunsense II* for RAODS as well as *Snoopy!!!* (when he also played Linus!). Shaun's most recent outing as Director was with the SOS *Carmen* in January.



## JOHN SPARROW - Musical Director

John has been involved with local musical theatre for over 30 years, performing on stage, dealing with technical work as ASM, playing piano and as a Musical Director. He led a 60 strong choir for five years in Southampton. He has directed music for many shows, including:- *The Biograph Girl* (Hamble), *Something's Afoot* (twice – Hamble and RAODS), Kander & Ebb's *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (nominated as MD for the Evening Echo's Curtain Call Awards) and *The Rink* (both for Theatre 2000), *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens* and *Pageant* (both

Music Theatre South), *Summer Holiday* (Southern Theatre Productions), and also (for Southampton Musical Society) *Crazy For You* and *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers* (nominated again – always the bridesmaid, but never the bride!) It has been a huge pleasure to work with Winchester Operatic on *Anything Goes* and it is going to be a special experience to be on stage (not out of sight in the pit!), driving the show with such a superb orchestra. John says that they and the cast are responsible for making this MD look good!



## LOUISE HODSON

### Choreographer and Assistant Director

Louise has been dancing virtually all her life and now works as a dance teacher. She has choreographed locally for the last 10 years with several local societies. Shows for WOS are *La Vie Parisienne*, *The Gondoliers*, *42<sup>nd</sup> Street*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Carousel* – as well as running tap classes for the society. She is resident choreographer with Footlights Youth Theatre, where her credits include: *Beauty and the Beast*, *42nd Street*, *The Boyfriend*, *The Wiz*, *Anything Goes*, *Honk!*, *Les Miserables* (schools edition), *My Fair Lady*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. She is currently working on *Oklahoma!* For Eastleigh Operatic and Musical Society she has worked on *The Merry Widow* and for Southampton Operatic Society *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Ruddigore* – all this as well as dance shows. Louise is continually impressed with the performers at WOS and says the dancing is going from strength to strength! She is very grateful to everyone for their patience and hard work.



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# Alzheimer's Society

Leading the fight against dementia

The Alzheimer's Society Winchester Office would like to thank The Winchester Operatic Society for choosing us as the beneficiary of the collection at the end of this performance.

The Winchester Office is one of over 200 across the country which forms the local network of the National Alzheimer's Society. The Society itself was established 30 years ago to provide support for people with dementia and their carers and is now the leading charity in this field.

The Winchester Office provides a range of face-to-face practical support for people and their families who are affected by dementia. We have a home-visiting service; run several monthly lunch clubs, a weekly activity club and a monthly information drop-in service.

Costs for all our services need to be met from locally generated funds so we rely heavily on fundraising and donations. With the forecast of an increase in the number of cases of dementia in Winchester, we are seeking to raise our current level of fundraising to enable us to expand the services we provide.

The money raised from the performances of 'Anything Goes' will be put towards the establishment of a new service - Singing for the Brain. Singing for the Brain uses singing to bring people together and it can also provide a way for people with dementia, along with their carers, to express themselves and socialise with others in a fun and supportive group.

Every penny raised by the collection after the show is so important and for which we - and more important, the people we help - are so grateful.

OUR NEXT SHOW: 8th - 12th November 2011

## Fiddler on the Roof

Information Evening:  
7:45pm,  
Wednesday  
25th May  
at St Faith's Hall,  
Back Street, Winchester.

Further details from:  
Louise Hodson,  
Production Manager:  
louise\_hodson549@hotmail.com

### Acknowledgements

- ◆ Theatre Royal
- ◆ St Faiths Parish Hall for regular rehearsal space
- ◆ Wessex Conference Centre, Sparsholt, for Sunday rehearsal space
- ◆ Hampshire Record Office and Discovery Yachts for photo shoot locations
- ◆ Peter Sillick for publicity and show photographs
- ◆ Neil Kelso for playing cards

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