

# Winchester Amateur Operatic Society

(25TH SESSION)



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THE  
GUILDHALL  
WINCHESTER

MAY 9th, 10th, 13th  
and 14th, 1949

Matinee  
Saturday, May 14th

MAY 6TH : SECONDARY AND  
PRIMARY SCHOOLS

MAY 11TH : WINCHESTER  
COLLEGE AND  
ST. SWITHUN'S SCHOOL

## Silver Jubilee

This Souvenir Programme is presented to you as a Member or Patron  
of the Winchester Amateur Operatic Society to commemorate the  
Twenty-fifth Production of the Society.

## Foreword

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ONCE more the members of the Operatic Society are delighted to entertain their many patrons and friends with Gilbert and Sullivan Opera, this time with the attractive and mirth-provoking masterpiece "The Gondoliers," one of the most lively and vivacious works in the inimitable series of Savoy Operas presented to the public from 1875 to 1896. This is the third appearance of this Opera on the Guildhall stage, first in 1922 and next in 1930, and to illustrate the inevitable changes that are inherent in the life of Amateur Societies it is an interesting fact that only three members of the present Company were acting in the 1930 production, these being Miss Q. Bird, Miss C. Portsmouth and Mrs. J. Pearson. The Winchester Society takes special pride in this present production, seeing that it marks the TWENTY - FIFTH Session of its public performances, a very worthy achievement and one to be pardonably proud of.

Following the long gap caused by the war, it was not until 1947 that activities could be resumed by the newly-formed Company, starting with the Concert version of "Merrie England" and a full production of "Iolanthe" in 1948.

The preparation of "The Gondoliers" has necessitated an immense amount of hard work by all concerned, long and arduous rehearsals being carried out under the direction of Mr. Lawson Mackay, the Producer, and Mr. John Sealey, the Musical Director. Mrs. Saunders has rendered very valuable aid as accompanist throughout, while the loyalty and hard work of the principals and chorus have been beyond reproach. Difficulties, mainly due to illness, were eventually ironed out, particular attention being devoted to the important question of emergency understudies, a theatrical insurance against possible happenings in any stage production which it is both wise and sensible to carry out. In regard to the very humorous story of "The Gondoliers," the present time is not altogether inappropriate to see it presented, as in 1889, the date of its first appearance, the dreams of democracy were being genially flouted by Gilbert with the unanswerableness of

"When everyone is somebody  
Then no one's anybody."

In a few moments the curtain will rise on this delightful Opera and the Society members express the hope that all present will thoroughly enjoy the performance.

A. C.

# The Winchester Amateur Operatic Society

President - THE LORD ASHBURTON  
 Vice-Presidents - MUIR MATHIESON, ARCHIE CLEMENTS

Executive Committee :  
 NORMAN PEARSON (*Chairman*)

QUEENIE BIRD  
 JOHN CAVE  
 LIONEL CHEW

DOROTHY CROSBY  
 MARGARET ELTON  
 MERVYN HAYNE  
 HORACE TAYLOR

JOAN PEARSON  
 ROY PORTSMOUTH  
 VERA PORTSMOUTH

Stage Manager	-	-	-	-	-	-	NORMAN PEARSON
Treasurer	-	-	-	-	-	-	WILLIAM STANFORTH
Assistant Treasurer	-	-	-	-	-	-	LESLIE FREEMAN
Auditor	-	-	-	-	-	-	HORACE W. POOLE
Lighting by	-	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES OFFORD
Prompter	-	-	-	-	-	-	IDA JERRAM
							L. FREEMAN
							D. HAWES
							B. HANCOCK
Stage Assistants	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. KING
							R. SAINT
							S. SIMMONS
							F. R. SIMPKINS
Make-up Assistants	-	-	-	-	-	-	N. ELTON
							A. MEDLEY
							F. NEWMAN
Wardrobe Mistresses	-	-	-	-	-	-	MARY HANCOCK
							HILDA SAUNDERS
Accompanist	-	-	-	-	-	-	HILDA SAUNDERS
Joint Secretaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	BARBARA HARDING
							GERALD HARDING

Costumes, Perruquier and make-up, B. J. SIMMONS & CO. LTD., London

Scenery by "CAPE OF CHISWICK"

Chief Steward: AUBREY J. HARDING

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C. A. BATH  
 L. S. BLAKE  
 W. F. COOPER  
 R. G. COSGROVE  
 R. G. CROFT  
 F. H. ELTON  
 G. EMMENCE  
 H. R. EVANS  
 C. R. HOPKINS  
 D. H. HUTCHINGS  
 L. E. HUTCHINGS

F. H. JUPE  
 K. LEONARD  
 C. J. H. MANN  
 S. Le MARCHANT  
 J. C. MORETON  
 P. C. MORETON  
 L. A. NAYLOR  
 R. N. PARSONS  
 W. W. POWELL  
 H. G. REED

A. BARRON-RENTON  
 A. V. SMALL  
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 F. T. SMITH  
 H. W. SMITH  
 C. SPIKINS  
 H. G. STAINER  
 W. D. R. WELLER  
 J. M. WILSON  
 F. B. HEATHCOTE W'RIE

## Programme Sellers :

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 MRS. M. CLEMENTS  
 MRS. M. R. COOPER  
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 MISS W. EDWARDS  
 MRS. M. ELKINS  
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 MISS M. FURMIDGE  
 MISS A. GARD  
 MISS K. GOATER  
 MISS V. W. GREEN  
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 MISS C. F. MEDLEY  
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 MRS. G. V. E. NAYLOR  
 MRS. E. E. PARSONS  
 MISS M. PEPLOE  
 MRS. C. M. POWELL  
 MISS J. R. PRITCHARD  
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MISS L. L. RICHARDS  
 MRS. P. RICHARDSON  
 MISS V. M. RUSSELL  
 MRS. E. SEALEY  
 MRS. M. J. SEALEY  
 MRS. D. SMITH  
 MRS. G. M. SMITH  
 MISS J. L. SPIKINS  
 MRS. A. E. STRANGE  
 MRS. O. M. WHITEHEAD  
 MRS. A. D. WICKENS  
 MRS. D. WILD  
 MISS B. WRIGHT  
 MRS. M. E. WRIGHT

# Story of the Opera

THE lively and entertaining story of "The Gondoliers" centres round the strange and romantic fortunes of two sturdy and exceedingly handsome brothers in Venice, Marco and Giuseppe Palmieri, who follow the humble calling of Venetian gondoliers. Both are Republicans of strong socialist convictions, holding that "all men are equal," who to their amazement are suddenly called upon to assume the trials and responsibilities of a dual monarchy—a strange freak of fortune for which they are quite unprepared. Carrying their convictions into practice amongst their subjects, it is perhaps not surprising to find that with their rise to such a high degree of social importance the quaint Court of Baratania is soon filled with functionaries basking in the splendour of such titles as the Lord High Vagabond and the Lord High Cook.

Owing to their good looks, there is keen competition amongst the lovely girls of Venice to secure the two brothers as husbands, which is finally amicably settled by a game of blind man's buff. The girls they catch they agree to marry, and happily enough the two lucky ones, Tessa and Gianetta, prove to be "*just the very girls we wanted*," and duly celebrated in hilarious song and dance.

The unexpected arrival of a Spanish grandee, the Duke of Plaza-Toro, with his family and suite, turns out to be a visit of more than ordinary State importance, a veritable "spanner thrown into the works," to use a modern colloquialism. Being extremely impoverished, the wily old Duke announces with unctuous pride that his beautiful daughter, Casilda, was married by proxy when *six months old* to the infant heir to the Baratarian Throne, whose whereabouts is unknown for he had alas! been stolen by the Inquisition. The pompous and pugnacious Grand Inquisitor, Don Alhambra, schemes in more or less masterly fashion to clarify the situation, claiming that the lost heir must be one of the two handsome gondoliers engaging the attention of so many fair Venetian ladies. His ruling is that until the mystery is solved both must jointly rule as King. This they reluctantly agree to do, the dual role providing much of the fun and frolic of the Opera. Unhappily for the Grand Inquisitor's well-laid plans, he learns that both have hastened to marry their respective brides, while Casilda is highly indignant at being wedded in childhood without being consulted at the time. During all this excitement the Duke and his stately Duchess have been busily engaged in inventing schemes to replenish the family exchequer by fair means or foul, the most arresting being the formation of a new Company, "The Duke of Plaza-Toro Limited," a flotation which, owing to his prestige, brings in the cash with surprising ease. Things look very rosy for a time and all goes well for the coming wedding. Luckily the tangled plot is swiftly and happily solved by Inez, the aged foster-mother of the missing Prince, for she is the only one who is able to reveal his identity.

All ends merrily, and we leave the audience to make their own surmises in regard to the surprising solution of this extremely complicated affair.

A. C.

# Gilbert and Sullivan's Opera

## “The Gondoliers”

OR THE KING OF BARATARIA  
(By permission of the executors of R. D'Oyly Carte)

### *Dramatis personæ :*

The Duke of Plaza-Toro ( <i>a grandee of Spain</i> )	-	-	-	STANLEY RICHARDSON
Luiz ( <i>bis Attendant</i> )	-	-	-	ERNEST FULFORD
Don Alhambra Del Bolero ( <i>the Grand Inquisitor</i> )	-	-	-	JOHN MILLER
Marco Palmieri	}	<i>(Venetian Gondoliers)</i>	-	MERVYN HAYNE
Giuseppe Palmieri				HORACE TAYLOR
Antonio				LIONEL CHEW
Francesco				JACK DOUGLAS
Giorgio				ALFRED ANDERSON
Annibale	-	-	-	ROY PORTSMOUTH
The Duchess of Plaza-Toro	-	-	-	DOROTHY CROSBY
Casilda ( <i>her Daughter</i> )	-	-	-	VERA PORTSMOUTH
Gianetta	}	<i>(Contadine)</i>	-	SHIRLEY WRIE
Tessa				MURIEL WILSON
Fiametta				ELMA CHEW
Vittoria				HAZEL ROUSE
Giula				MARION WATTS
Inez ( <i>the King's foster-mother</i> )	-	-	-	EILEEN MORGAN

CHORUS of Gondoliers and Contadine, Men-at-Arms, Heralds and Pages

ACT I—THE PIAZZETTA, VENICE

ACT II—PAVILION IN THE PALACE OF BARATARIA

(An interval of three months is supposed to elapse between Acts I and II)

Date—1750

### *Chorus of Contadine :*

BIRD, Q. F.	HAYNE, I. M.	PEARSON, J.
BISHOP, K. A.	JOYCE, W. E.	PORTSMOUTH, C. L. V.
COOKE, S. M.	MCDONALD, E. H.	ROBERTS, S. K.
ELTON, M.	O'GRADY, I.	SMITH, K. M.
FISHER, M. E.	OWTON, M.	SMITHERS, E. C.
GOSLING, W.	OWTON, R.	STONE, J. V.
		SYMONDS, A.

### *Chorus of Gondoliers, etc. :*

BAVERSTOCK, R. A.	HOOKE, A. M.	SAUNDERS, D. G.
BELCHER, R. E.	HUTCHINS, R. C.	SAVAGE, G. W.
CAVE, J. W.	JONES, H. C. W.	SMITH, G. G.
HARDING, G. V.	JOSEY, S. J.	STRUTHERS, M. H.
HEAL, A. V.	O'GRADY, J.	WATTERSON, F.
		WITCHER, R. J. O.

Pages : { DANCY, A.  
BONE, M.

Drummer Boy :  
MICHAEL OLIVER

Producer and Stage Director :  
LAWSON MACKAY

Musical Director :  
JOHN SEALEY, B.MUS., F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### OVERTURE

### ACT I

1. CHORUS OF CONTADINE (with Solos)
2. ENTRANCE OF *Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, and Duke* "From the sunny Spanish shore"
3. SONG (*Duke of Plaza-Toro*) - - - "In enterprise of martial kind"
4. RECIT. (*Casilda and Luiz*) - - - "O rapture, when alone together"
5. DUET (*Casilda and Luiz*) - - - "There was a time"
6. SONG (*Don Alhambra, with Casilda, Luiz, Duke, and Duchess*) - - - "No possible doubt whatever"
7. RECIT. (*Casilda and Don Alhambra*) - - - "But, bless my heart"
8. QUINTET (*Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, Duke, and Grand Inquisitor*) - - - "Try we life long"
9. CHORUS, "Bridegroom and Bride"  
with Solo (*Tessa*) - - - "When a merry maiden marries"
10. FINALE—SONG (*Gianetta*) - - - "Kind sir, you cannot have the heart"  
QUARTET (*Tessa, Gianetta, Marco, and Giuseppe*) - - - "A regular Royal Queen"

### ACT II

1. CHORUS OF MEN (with *Marco and Giuseppe*)
2. SONG (*Giuseppe*) (with Chorus) - - - "Rising early in the morning"
3. SONG (*Marco*) - - - "Take a pair of sparkling eyes"
4. SCENA (Chorus of Girls, Quartet, Duet, and Chorus)
5. CHORUS AND DANCE - - - "Dance a Cachucha"
6. SONG (*Don Alhambra, with Marco and Giuseppe*) "There lived a king"
7. QUARTET (*Gianetta, Tessa, Marco, and Giuseppe*) "In a contemplative fashion"
8. CHORUS OF MEN (with *Duke and Duchess*) - - - "With ducal pomp"
9. SONG (*Duchess*) - - - "On the day when I was wedded"
10. RECIT. AND DUET (*Duke and Duchess*) - - - "Small titles and orders"
11. GAVOTTE (*Casilda, Duchess, Marco, Giuseppe, and Duke*) - - - "I am a courtier grave and serious"
12. QUINTET AND FINALE (*Casilda, Gianetta, Tessa, Marco, Giuseppe, and Chorus*)



## ORCHESTRA

<i>1st Violins :</i>	<i>'Cellos :</i>	<i>Bassoons :</i>
MR. E. TRIGG	MR. WALTON	*MR. KINLOCK
MRS. HARTNELL	MISS O. ORME	MR. F. BURGESS
MRS. WARWICK		<i>Horns :</i>
MISS K. COLECLOUGH	<i>Double Bass :</i>	MR. MORRIS
	MRS. E. BROOKS	*MR. JONES
<i>2nd Violins :</i>	<i>Flutes :</i>	<i>Trumpets :</i>
MISS N. FULCHER	MRS. KING	MR. S. V. PAYNE
MISS G. FIELDER	*MR. PRICHARD	*MR. FROGLEY
MR. S. Z. ALMA		<i>Trombones :</i>
MRS. PAYNE	<i>Oboe :</i>	MR. COXON
	MR. ORTON	MR. HASKELL
<i>Violas :</i>	<i>Clarinets :</i>	MR. E. C. BENTON
MISS A. HARRIS	MR. W. T. JACKSON	<i>Timpani :</i>
MRS. A. C. FORTLAGE	*MR. FERNLEY	*MR. SILVER

\* Members of The King's Royal Rifle Corps Band, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer,  
Colonel C. T. Mitford-Slade.

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The Winchester Amateur Operatic Society welcomes all visiting Societies and wishes to thank  
them for their interest and support.

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## PAST PRODUCTIONS

"The Pirates of Penzance"	-	1913	"The Gondoliers"-	-	-	1930
"The Mikado"	-	-	"Utopia"	-	-	1931
"Iolanthe"	-	-	"The Yeoman of the Guard"	-	-	1932
"The Yeoman of the Guard"	-	1921	"The Pirates of Penzance"	-	-	1933
"The Gondoliers"	-	-	"Ruddigore"	-	-	1934
"Patience"	-	-	"Princess Ida"	-	-	1935
"Ruddigore"	-	-	"The Mikado"	-	-	1936
"Trial by Jury" and			"Iolanthe"	-	-	1937
"H.M.S. Pinafore"	-	-	"Tom Jones"	-	-	1938
"Princess Ida"	-	-	"Monsieur Beaucaire"	-	-	1939
"The Mikado"	-	-	"Merrie England," Concert Version			1947
"Iolanthe"	-	-	"Iolanthe"	-	-	1948
"Merrie England"	-	-				

# PATRONS

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF WINCHESTER  
(COUNCILLOR MRS. CROMPTON, M.B.E., J.P.)

ASHBURTON, The LORD

BATHER, Miss E. C.  
BROWNE, Miss M. P.  
BULL, THE MISSES

CARSE, Mrs. M. F.  
CARTER, Mr. G.  
CHARLES, Mrs. A. V.  
COOMBES, Mr. W. N.  
CRAWFORD, Mrs. C. N.

DENNIS, Mr. A. K.

EDMONDS, Mr. A. T.

FIELDER, Mrs. A.  
FIELDER, Miss E.

GIBSON, Dr. R.  
GODDARD, Mr. L. G.

HARDING, Mr. AND Mrs. G. V.  
HAYNE, Mr. A. E.  
HAYNE, Miss D.  
HUTCHINGS, Mrs. G. E.  
HUTCHINS, Mr. R.

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TAYLOR, Mr. H.  
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WELLS, Miss M. W.  
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WIGLEY, Mrs. E. L.  
WRIGHT, Mr. R. M.

The Society wishes to thank the above Patrons for their continued support, and request all those who are interested in its work and who wish to become Patrons, non-Acting or Acting Members to complete the form set forth below.

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## WINCHESTER AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

I wish to become—

- (a) Patron (Annual Subscription 10s. 6d.).
- (b) non-Acting Member (Annual Subscription 10s. 6d.).
- (c) Acting Member (Annual Subscription £1. 1s. 0d.). Voice Trial held annually.

*Kindly delete lines not applicable.*

*Signed.....*

Please tear out and hand to a Steward on leaving the Hall.



## ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

The Society is holding its Dinner and Dance at the Guildhall on Monday, May 16th, and a cordial welcome is extended to all friends who would like to be present.

Tickets for same (price 12*s.* 6*d.*) may be obtained from any member of the Committee or from the Chief Steward.