

Winchester Musicals and Opera Society

HMS PINAFORE

By Gilbert and Sullivan

18th - 22nd July 2023

In the grounds of
Winchester College

*Great British
Silliness*



wmos.org.uk

WMOS are proud to support Winchester Go LD as their 2023 Charity

Winchester

Enabling People with Learning Disabilities



Winchester Go LD enables our members, who are adults with learning disabilities to live life to the full with the choices and independence that they want. We have a range of weekly and monthly activities and we provide advocacy, information, safeguarding and skills workshops. It is important to us that our members are recognised and treated as individuals; we believe that no 'one size fits all'.



We promote self development, friendship, self confidence, creativity and learning. We also like to have fun!

The need for our work is high, we are seeing the added pressures on our members that result from the challenges in Adult Social Care. Winchester Go LD is growing in both number of members and in the services that we offer. We have over 120 members. All our income is received through fundraising.

At Winchester Go LD we support our members to live as independently as possible. This includes helping them to find employment or voluntary work, building confidence in social groups, taking part in activities within the local

winchestergold.org.uk

A Word from our President, Iain Steel

Hot on the heels of our highly successful and NODA award winning open air production of 1950's *The Pirates of Penzance* in 2021, we are delighted to move you, our glorious audience, a whole decade earlier for a unique 1940's inspired *HMS Pinafore*

This much loved Gilbert and Sullivan operetta features all their traditional themes of class, confusion, concealed love and mistaken identity. Suzanne Hall and Katie Hickson have added a distinctly WMOS flair by weaving into the score such classic tunes as *Sentimental Journey* and *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree*. There are 10 in total, how many can you spot?

Amarantha Fennell-Wells, Shannon Cronin and Conner Handstock star in their first principal roles with WMOS, alongside firm favourites Katie Hickson, David Tatnall and Peter Barber.

We thank Winchester College for allowing us to hire their beautiful grounds, and Chesil Theatre who graciously suggested this collaboration 4 years ago and have been instrumental in the success of the project.

Also, a huge thankyou to our hard working and dedicated set building, backstage and front of house teams. We simply couldn't perform without them. If you would like to be involved please find details on the inside back page.

Our chosen charity for the year is Winchester GoLD who do such fantastic work within our community with adults with learning disabilities. Please give generously on departure.

Enjoy the show, join in if you so wish and photographs are very much welcome! If you post on social media, do tag us.

We look forward to seeing you at Theatre Royal, Winchester in November for our brand new production of *Calendar Girls The Musical*.



Iain with Katie Hickson and Steve Glead in *The Pirates of Penzance* 2021

HMS Pinafore—Plot Synopsis

ACT 1: The Pinafore, a beauty of a ship in Her Majesty's navy is anchored in the harbour at Portsmouth. Its sailors are busy preparing for the expected arrival of Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty. "Little Buttercup" comes aboard to sell her stock of luxuries to the sailors.

Common sailor, Ralph, tells his messmates that he is in love with the Captain's daughter, Josephine. Dick Deadeye reminds the starry-eyed seaman that Captain's daughters don't marry foremast hands! The Captain arrives to inspect his crew.

Josephine is sought in marriage by Sir Joseph, but secretly, she is in love with lowly sailor Ralph. It also seems that Little Buttercup has a romantic interest in the Captain and harbours a secret about Ralph....

Sir Joseph arrives attended by his many 'sisters and his cousins and his aunts' to discuss the proposed marriage.

Ralph declares his love for Josephine and his willingness to try to fit in with middle-class society. She rejects him, she cannot forget the disparity in their ranks. But when Ralph threatens to walk the plank, the lady relents and declares her love for him. The lovers plot to elope that very night. Dick Deadeye warns the pair of the impropriety of their plan, but he is forced to retreat.





ACT 2: Captain Corcoran sings to the moon of his troubles. Little Buttercup comes to him and reveals her affection. He tells her that because of his rank he can never be more to her than a friend; but she hints darkly that a change is in store for him.

Sir Joseph complains that Josephine does not favour his suit. The Captain suggests that she is dazzled by his lofty station and he should plead his cause on the ground that "love levels all ranks". When Josephine hears this argument, she considers how eloquently Sir Joseph has stated the justification for her to marry Ralph!



Dick Deadeye reveals the planned elopement. He and the Captain lie in wait for the crew. The Captain confronts the elopers and is so exasperated that he actually swears a foul oath, "Damme it!". Sir Joseph Porter orders the Captain to go to his cabin for this "ill-advised asperity."



Sir Joseph finds out that Ralph and Josephine love one another but affairs are interrupted by Little Buttercup, who discloses her long-concealed secret: as their foster mother, she had exchanged the Captain and Ralph while they were both babies.

Sir Joseph immediately sends for Ralph (who is now Captain) and the Captain (who is now a humble seaman). Since it is "out of the question" for Sir Joseph to marry the daughter of a mere sailor, his Lordship nobly consents to the marriage of Ralph and Josephine. The former Captain is now free to marry dear Little Buttercup, and Sir Joseph agrees to marry cousin Hebe. All ends with "joy and rapture unforeseen," for "he is an Englishman!" **Hip, Hip, Hooray!**



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FROM WATERLOO TO
WELLS

Mr Elmsmere: Peter Barber

Wilfred/Sailor: Kiean Jones

Miss Urquhart-Brown/Buttercup: Katie Hickson

Sybil/Josephine: Lisa Atkins

Alice/Hebe: Lyndsay Smith

Gracie/Ralph Rackstraw: Amarantha Fennell-Wells

Boatswain: Shannon Cronin

Dick Deadeye: Alan Morgan

Captain Corcoran: Conner Handstock

Sir Joseph Porter: David Tatnall

Sailors aboard HMS Pinafore:

Jan Baerselman

Emma Colbourne

Ellie Eades

Robert Marcus

Cara Ward

Sisters, Cousins and Aunts:

Funke Akiboye

Charlie Amaro

Jess Eades

Kimberley James

Charlotte Upfold

Isabel Wylde

Nanny: Penny Bullough

Director - Suzanne Hall

Musical Director- Katie Hickson

Production Manager - Katie Hickson

Stage Manger - Angie Barks

Lighting and Sound Design - Tony Lawther

Costumes - Jo Barker with Pam Jones

Props - Shannon Cronin

Set Design - Liz Petley-Jones, David Freemantle, Peter Liddiard

Set Construction - David Freemantle, Liz Petley-Jones, Ian White,

Iain Galley, Tim Stanbrook, Terry Madden, Kim Barry,

Peter Theobald, Sue Larcombe,

Stage Crew - Steven Cartwright

Orchestra Secretary - Anne Croudass

Rehearsal Pianist - Lucinda Pillow, Martin Paterson

Dance Captains - Jess Eades, Ellie Eades

Prompt - Amy Leddy

Publicity - Kimberley James

Poster and Programme - Suzanne Hall

Photographs - Peter Sillick, Olivia Conroy

Front of House - Jan Baerselman

Stewards - Lorraine Morgan, Olivia Conroy, Adrian Hickford

Additional dialogue and lyrics - Suzanne Hall, Lorraine Morgan, Nicky Paterson

The Band

Keyboard/Conductor - Martin Paterson

Reeds: David Anderson, Paul Stiles, Anne Croudass

Bass: Perri Seymour;

Percussion: Marc Whittingham

Orchestral arrangement supplied by Martin Paterson. www.pattersong.co.uk

Thanks to:

Corhampton Lane Farm, West Meon Theatre, Chesil Theatre Committee, David Small, David James, Tony Rogers, Philip Holroyd-Smith at Winchester College, The Watercress Line, Hambledon Village Scout Group and King Edward VI School

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(Stapleton Rd)

London Brighton and South Coast Railway

Hartfield to

Havant

London Brighton and South Coast Railway
From Western Ry
787

Barnstaple Junction

Katie Hickson—Buttercup



Katie is a singing teacher and lives in Andover. She has been a member of WMOS for over 20 years. As a performer, favourite roles include Reno Sweeney *Anything Goes*, Tracey Lord *High Society*, Mrs Lovett *Sweeney Todd* and Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain*. Musical Director for *White Christmas*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Producers*. In her spare time she enjoys baking, volunteering and stone skipping.

Favourite picnic item: A comfy chair and wasp killer

David Tatnall -Sir Joseph Porter KCB

David is a teacher who lives in Chandlers Ford. He has been involved with WMOS for many years, beginning with playing a maypole in *Merrie England*. Favourite WMOS roles include Major General in *Pirates of Penzance* and Franz in *The Producers*. *David directed Sweeney Todd, Utopia Ltd, Patience*. He is creative director of Pocket Theatre and is playing the dame in their panto for the tenth year running. David enjoys cricket, Shakespeare and cats

Favourite picnic item: Animal crackers



Lisa Atkins – Josephine



Lisa is a teaching assistant and has been involved in many local productions. For WMOS : Princess Zara in *Utopia Ltd* and Emma Carew in *Jekyll and Hyde* and part of the ensemble cast in *Pirates 2021* and *Sweeney Todd*. Lisa is also a performing member of Pocket Theatre and Southampton Operatic Society and has sung many G and S leads. Her hobby is singing!

Favourite picnic item: Cucumber sarnies and cake.

Amarantha Fenell-Wells - Ralph Rackstraw

Amarantha is a dentist and lives in Winchester. She joined WMOS for *Me and My Girl* but Covid kept her off the stage, so her debut was in 2022's *The Producers*. Following a short spell at Bournemouth & Boscombe Light Opera Society, then being too busy working on-call in maxillofacial surgery during the pandemic, she is delighted to have found WMOS. Amarantha is learning West Coast Swing Dance and enjoys a spot of embroidery.

Favourite picnic item: Homemade houmous



Conner Handstock – Captain Corcoran

Connor is a drama teacher and lives in Eastleigh. He joined WMOS last year for their production of *The Producers*. Connor is involved with several local theatre companies and has recently been part of *The Sound of Music*, *Sweeney Todd and Joseph*. He is currently rehearsing *Addams Family*. In his spare time he enjoys Dungeons and Dragons and video games.

Favourite picnic item: The sandwiches of course!



Alan Morgan - Dick Deadeye

Alan lives in Chilcomb and is a retired (sort of) Chartered Accountant. This is his 14th show with WMOS, favourite roles being Harold Wilson in *Made in Dagenham*, Zeke in *White Christmas* and Sergeant in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Alan has always wanted to play Dick Deadeye! He is obsessed with Welsh rugby, spreadsheets and spending time with wife and dog Rafferty walking the Pembrokeshire Coast Path.

Favourite picnic item: A pint of Saxon Bronze and dry roasted peanuts



Lyndsay Smith - Hebe

Lyndsay lives in Andover and is a student veterinary nurse. She made her WMOS debut in *HMS Pinafore* in 2001 aged 9 as a rat, and has since played Betty in *White Christmas* and Louise in *Carousel*. For EOMS, Lyndsay has played Svetlana in *Chess* and Ann in *Kipps*, and for Girl Guiding Winchester, Nancy in *Oliver*. In her spare time, Lyndsay is a keen footballer.

Favourite picnic item: Battenburg



Shannon Cronin - Boatswain

Shannon lives in Hedge End and is a Customer Service Agent. She received a BA(Hons) in Drama from the University of Winchester.

This is Shannon's first principal role with the Society having performed in the ensemble in *Singin in the Rain*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Pirates*, *The Producers* and *A Chorus of Disapproval*. Her hobbies are candle making and giving her cat too much attention.

Favourite picnic item: Cocktail sausages!



Peter Barber - Mr Elmsmere

Peter lives in Farringdon and is retired. For WMOS his favourite roles 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*. In his spare time Peter enjoys travelling, a good bottle of wine and being a Granddad.

Favourite picnic item: Wine and cheese



Director—Suzanne Hall

Suzanne is a drama teacher and lives at Corhampton. She joined WMOS 20 years ago for their production of *Guys and Dolls*, playing Miss Adelaide. Since then she has taken on several roles within the Society and is currently Chair. As director for WMOS: *Billy*, *The Pajama Game*, *Oh What a Lovely War*, *Singin' in the Rain*, (winner NODA SE Best Traditional Musical), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Pirates of Penzance* (Winner NODA SE Best G & S) and *A Chorus of Disapproval*. Suzanne also directs and performs with West Meon Theatre. In her spare time she enjoys

going to the theatre, swimming and veg gardening.

Favourite picnic item: Homemade cheese & onion quiche and a punnet of fresh cherries



Included in this show is music from the early part of the 20th century:

The Sunny Side of the Street by Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Fields 1930

When you Wish Upon a Star by Leigh Harline and Ned Washington 1940

Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree by Lew Brown and Charles Tobias 1942

Ac-Cen-Tchu-Ate the Positive by Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer 1944

Teddy Bears Picnic by John Walter Bratton 1907

Blue Moon by Rodgers and Hart 1934

Let's Face the Music and Dance by Irving Berlin 1936

Tea for Two by Vincent Youmans and Irving Caesar 1924

When I'm Cleaning Windows by George Formby, Harry Gifford, Fred E. Cliffe 1936

Sentimental Journey by Les Brown and Ben Homer 1944

Wish Me Luck as You Wave me Goodbye by Phil Park and Harry Parr-Davies 1939


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WMOS sets sail on another voyage aboard the Pinafore.

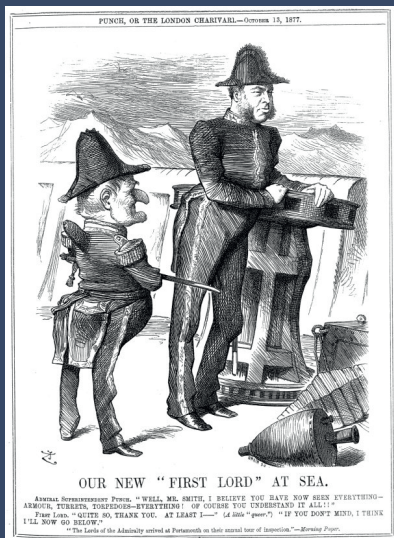
By Cara Ward



First performed by WMOS at the Winchester Guildhall in 1925, *H.M.S. Pinafore* (or *The Lass That Loved a Sailor*) is Gilbert and Sullivan's fourth collaboration, which arrived hot on the heels of *Thespis*, *Trial by Jury* and *The Sorcerer*. The story of the lowly sailor, Ralph, and his love for the lofty Captain's daughter, Josephine, *H.M.S. Pinafore* was a commercial success both in London (running for 571 performances at the Opera Comique in 1878, making it, at the time, the second-longest theatrical run in history), and also internationally, with hundreds of unlicensed performances which played all over America. The initial run was not without its hurdles. When the show first opened, ticket sales were poor due to a heat wave (let's hope we don't suffer the same fate!). But, as the weather cooled, and several promenade concerts in Covent Garden were organised to generate publicity, by September, the show was playing to sell-out audiences.

Like most G&S operettas, *Pinafore* holds a mirror to society, with themes of social class, snobbery, and politics. The pair were also not shy of mocking real-life people – one well-known example can be found in the character of Sir Joseph Porter, the First Lord of the Admiralty, who was said to have been modelled on William Henry Smith, a Conservative politician, and bookseller and newsagent for his family's business, WH Smith, whom, without any naval experience, was made First Lord of the Admiralty. As a result, William would be known for the rest of his career as 'Pinafore Smith' – even by former Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli, who had given Smith the naval title in the year before *Pinafore* opened.

According to the journalist Gary Dexter, writing for *The Telegraph* in 2008, not only did William Henry Smith become an unwitting muse for the character of Sir Joseph, but the name of the operetta itself. Originally titled *H.M.S. Semaphore*, a name Gilbert admitted in 1880 that was 'suggested entirely by rhyme ... something had to rhyme with three cheers more', but due to *Semaphore* not being very funny, it was Sullivan's suggestion to change the name to *Pinafore* – another dig at the nautical novice, Smith, 'tied by his apron-strings' to dry land.



Drawing on inspiration from both his father's career as a naval surgeon, and a collection of poems titled 'Bab Ballad' that he had written earlier in his career, most of which had a nautical theme, W.S. Gilbert, the show's librettist, was interested by the idea of a nautical theme for the opera. Some of the characters in his poems also found iterations of themselves in *Pinafore* – Dick Deadeye is based on a character that can be found lurking in 'Woman's Gratitude' (1869), Little Buttercup appears (almost identically) in 'The Bumboat Woman's Story' (1870), and even a version of our lovesick Ralph Rackstraw can be found in the words of 'Joe Go-Lightly' (1867). In late 1877, whilst Sullivan was away on holiday, Gilbert sent his collaborating partner a plot outline for *Pinafore*, along with the accompanying note:

I have very little doubt whatever but that you will be pleased with it. ... there is a good deal of fun in it which I haven't set down on paper.

Among other things a song (a kind of 'Judge's Song') for the First Lord – tracing his career as office-boy ... clerk, traveller, junior partner and First Lord of Britain's Navy. ... Of course there will be no personality in this – the fact that the First Lord in the Opera is a Radical of the most pronounced type will do away with any suspicion that W. H. Smith is intended.

The music from *Pinafore* has also made its way into popular culture, from films including *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, to TV shows like *The West Wing*, *Family Guy* and *The Simpsons*, with the iconic scene where Bart asks Sideshow Bob to perform the entire show as a last request to delay Sideshow Bob killing him ... it worked.

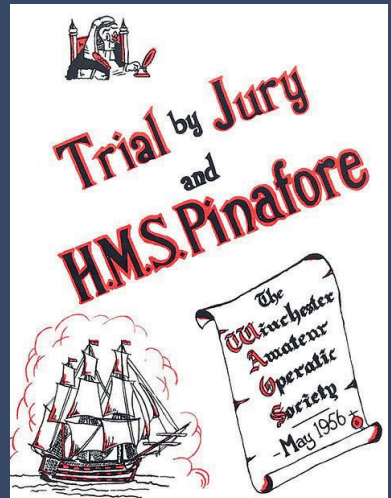
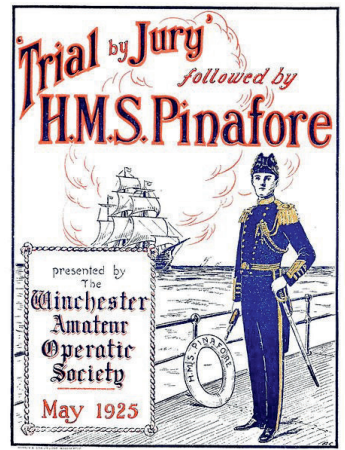
As well as being a commercial success, *H.M.S Pinafore* has helped influence and shape the shows that we continue to watch and love to this day, and after 145 years, and at least 17 recordings from all over the world, *Pinafore*'s impact on theatre and culture doesn't show any signs of slowing.



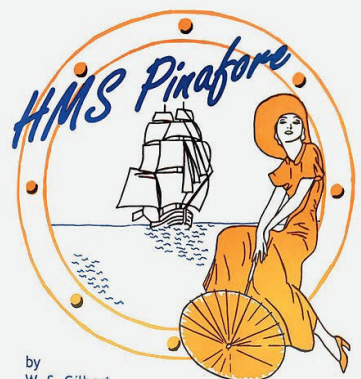
WMOS bravely set the show on a space ship in 2002!

To Access the whole WMOS archive, please visit

www.wmos.org.uk



Winchester Amateur Operatic Society
presents



at New Hall, Winchester College
30th May to 2nd June, 2001 at 7:45 p.m.

JOIN US!

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...

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive news about upcoming shows, auditions and events please scan the QR code or find details at our website:

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