

Winchester Operatic Society, presents...

THE PAJAMA GAME

GAME



November 2007



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Only American creativity could have produced such a musical as **The Pajama Game**. Love blossoms between Babe and Sid in a pajama factory with its Inevitable Trade Union disputes and labour problems set amidst a background of machines, workers, office staff and, of course, Shop Stewards!

The original Broadway hit opened in May 1954 and won a Tony Award for Best Musical. It ran for over 1,000 performances. Revived in 1973 and again in 2006 the musical is a popular choice for Societies. Many of us will also remember Doris Day in the film version of 1957.

With such popular and ever green numbers such as "Hey there", "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway" it's one of the happiest, most romantic and richly comical musicals and provides a light hearted evening's entertainment for all of us, young and old alike.

Enjoy the Society's performance.

Richard Steel (President)

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SUZANNE HALL DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

This is Suzanne's directing debut with Winchester Operatic Society having choreographed several of their recent shows including **Oklahoma!**, **La Vie Parisienne** and **Kiss Me Kate**. She won 2 Curtain Call awards for her performances of Miss Adelaide, **Guys and Dolls** and **Ado Annie, Oklahoma!** She has performed a variety of roles locally including Sally Bowles, **Cabaret**, Anita, **West Side Story**, Viola **Twelfth Night** and Nurse, **Romeo and Juliet**. She studied drama and education at the then King Alfreds College where she began choreographing large chorus numbers having been studying dance herself since the age of 3.

Her directing credits include **Half A Sixpence**, **Encore Youth Theatre**, **Stepping Out**, **West Meon Players** and as choreographer, **The Boyfriend**, **Half a Sixpence**, and **Hot Mikado** with **Encore**. **The Insect Play**, **The Chesil** and all **West Meon Players** open air Shakespeare productions. Suzanne will next be appearing at the Theatre Royal in January as Helena in **A Midsummer Nights Dream**, **West Meon Players**, reprising her role from a very wet week in the Summer!

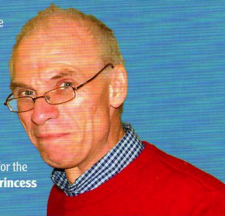


ROBIN PHILLIPS MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Robin first became involved in amateur theatre at the age of sixteen when he played the title role in **Orpheus in the Underworld** at the Theatre Royal, Bath. Since then he has taken leading roles in well over fifty productions ranging from **Danilo in The Merry Widow** to **Pantomime Dame**, his favourite being **Professor Higgins in My Fair Lady**.

Recent productions as Musical Director have included **Me and My Girl**, **Annie**, **Calamity Jane**, and **Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas**. He has also directed for productions of **Oliver**, **The Wizard of Oz**, **Kismet**, **Vagabond King** and of course **G and S**.

As well as indulging his love for musical theatre Robin has conducted **Sarisbury Choral Society** for the last fifteen years. He is pleased to renew his association with **Winchester Operatic Society**, with **Princess Ida**, which dates back to his student days!!



SYNOPSIS

Led by Babe, the workers at the Sleep-Tite pajama factory are seeking a 7½ cents pay rise and a strike seems imminent. "I can tell you per second exactly how many stitches go into a pair of pajamas", so Hines, the popular efficiency expert at the factory tells us "I can time... anything". The setting is the mid west against a background of trade unions, factory workers and shop stewards of the 1950's. Although Babe and Sid, the factory superintendent, are in opposite camps, romance is in the air but when a go-slow is staged by the union and Sid demands 'an honest day's work' and threatens to fire slackers. Babe is enraged by his attitude. She kicks the machinery causing a complete breakdown and is immediately sacked by Sid. Gradually Sid comes to understand the union and Babe's point of view. He pretends to be interested in Gladys, the president's secretary and through her manages to gain access to the company books. He discovers that Hasler, his boss, has been adding to his price the pay increase demanded by the workers and so he forces him to consent to the raise. Peace is restored!

The show is packed with hit tunes like "Hey there", "There Once Was a Man" and "I'm Not at All in Love". Show stoppers such as "Steam Heat" and "Hermendo's Hideaway" will leave you breathless....

CHORUS

Sue Aiken, Jacqui Beekingham, Clare Britton, Stephanie Crockford, Pam Farren, Jill Fitzpatrick, Lizzie Gilbert, Jan Gwynne Howell, Louise Hodson, Grace Honeysett, Mary Jackson, Hannah Laxton, Kerry-Jayne Lilly, Alan Matheson, Ann McDonald, Hamish McDonald, Nicola Moore, Heather Reid, Dave Rowe, Gill Russell, Debbie Sarfas, Claire Smith, Francis Stirrup, Vernon Tottle



PRINCIPALS

Sid Sorokin
Babe
Vernon Hines
Gladys
Prez
Mabel
Myron Hasler
Brenda
Poopsie
Mae
Virginia
Salesman (Max)
Joe
Dick
Pop
Charlie

Matthew Laxton
Catherine Graham-Evans
Adrian Hickford
Rhian McNaughton
James Cooper
Liz Petley-Jones
Tony Blackshaw
Anne Croudass
Helen O'Sullivan
Katie Hickson
Milly Sweetland
Graham Light
Rick Bremner
Alex Bond
Ian Crowe
Colin Paice

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SCENES

Act 1

The Factory Floor
The Office
The Union Picnic
Babe's Kitchen
The Factory Floor

Interval 20 Minutes

Act 2

Eagle Hall
Babe's Kitchen
The Factory Floor
The Office
Hernando's Hideaway



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

The Pajama Game
Racing With The Clock
A New Town Is A Blue Town
I'm Not At All In Love
I'll Never Be Jealous again
Hey There
Her Is
Sleep-Tite
Once a Year Day
Her Is: Reprise
Small Talk
There Once Was a Man
Hey There: Reprise

Hines
Chorus
Sid
Babe & Girls
Hines & Mabel
Sid
Prez & Gladys
Chorus
Sid Babe & Company
Prez & Mae
Sid & Babe
Sid & Babe
Sid

Act 2

Steam Heat
Hey There: Reprise
Think of the Time I Save
Hernando's Hideaway
Seven & One Half Cents
The Pajama Game

Gladys & Chorus
Babe
Hines & Girls
Sid Gladys & Company
Babe Prez & Chorus
Company

CREW

Assistant Director	Penny Bullough	Props Team	Therese Godfrey, with Amanda Crane, Talia Hedstrom, Annette Hilton, Mary Twomey
Stage Manager	Angie Barks	Prompt	Gill Beck
Production Secretary	Jacqui Beckingham	Lighting & Technical	Theatre Royal
Production Manager	Pamela Jones	Tango Tutor	Lisa Stoner
Orchestra Secretary	Gill Beck	Backstage	Adrian Davis, David Fancett, David Islesy, Tony Lawther, Anne Waggott
Set Design & Construction	Sue Aiken with David Anderson, Rick Bremner, David Freemantle, Brian Hurst, Liz Petley-Jones, Helen Reid	Rehearsal Accompanist	Christine Webster
Make Up	Libby Crawford, Helen Guymmer, Christine Harding, Carol Lilly, Helen Rowland, Sian Woodruff	Rehearsal Refreshments	David Rowe
Costumes	Hilary Bradshaw, Pamela Jones with Barbara Chase, Lizzie Gilbert, Katie Hickson, Fiona Honeyman, Ruth Walker	Marketing & Programme	Sue Aiken with Jill Fitzpatrick, Clive Hilton, Gill Russell, Tim Stevens
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ORCHESTRA

Violins	Nuala Land Gideon Baker
Viola	Jane Houghton
Cello	Sam Harris
Double Bass	Julia Casson
Reeds	David Anderson Mandy Mollatt Paul Stiles
Trumpets	Colin Campbell Shaun Moffat
Trombone	Roger Hammond
Percussion	Tom Maley
Keyboard	Pau Lovegrove Christine Webster



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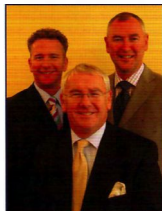
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BIOGRAPHIES

TONY BLACKSHAW

This is Tony's second show with WOS after 18 years with Clacton AOS in Essex, where he last appeared as Horace Vandergelder in **Hello Dolly!** in 2004. Previously he had sung many principal and chorus parts with the Newark Amateur Operatic Society including Jack Point under the direction of his D'Oyly Carte hero Donald Adams in their production of **The Yeomen of The Guard**.

He began his amateur stage career as a student in York with **The Pirate King** in **The Pirates of Penzance**. In 2006 he sang Lord Mountararat in Iolanthe with EOMS at Eastleigh.

His favourite appearances have been **Tevye, Fiddler on the Roof**, **Leopold, The White Horse Inn** and Count Danilo **The Merry Widow**. An avid Sullivan devotee Tony enjoys singing Victorian and Edwardian Parlour Songs.



JAMES COOPER

Although this is his first show at WOS, since being cast in the role of Prez, James has got to know everybody in the society really well - especially the ladies! James tells us that apart from being similar in looks, he and Prez have little in common - particularly when it come to attracting females!

Previous roles include: Will **Oklahoma!**, Ambrose Kemper **Hello Dolly**, Geoffrey **Somethings Afoot** and Buttons **Cinderella**. Offstage James plays the part of a primary school teacher.

ANNE CROUDASS

Anne first appeared on stage at the tender age of four, and it has proved impossible to keep her off it since. She has previously performed with The Island Savoyards, The University of Southampton Light Opera Society and the City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus. When not performing on the stage, Anne can be found playing a selection of wind instruments in the orchestra pit for other local society productions.

This is her thirteenth performance with WOS - she hopes it won't be unlucky!

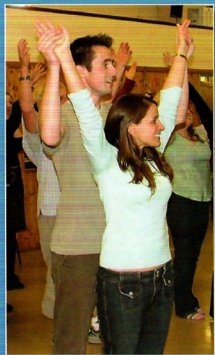
CATHERINE GRAHAM-EVANS

Catherine is a relative newcomer to WOS, having moved from Sussex where her previous roles have ranged from a wisecracking nun, Sister Robert-Anne - **Nonsense** to Texan call girl, Ginger Best **Little Whorehouse In Texas**. She is mostly just pleased not to be in her underwear on stage again and has put the gold basque back in mothballs. Catherine's acting skills have been pushed to the limits as a suspiciously over-age Dorothy in **The Wizard of Oz** and attempting to fake a convincing tap routine as Sally Smith in **Me and My Girl**. She suspects that she only landed the role of Babe in order to keep her out of the big dance numbers in 'Steam Heat' and 'Hernando's Hideaway'.



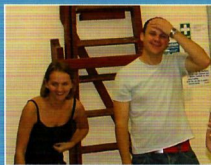
ADRIAN HICKFORD

In his 8th show with WOS, Adrian is playing the part of Vernon Hines, one of the few stage roles that requires the ability to perform knife-throwing. Luckily, Hinesie has had years of training (unlike Adrian's few days!) This jealously-ridden time-obsessive is a far cry from his most recent role in a musical, that of the egotistic and arrogant Fred Graham in **Kiss Me Kate**. At least Adrian doesn't have to wear tights for **The Pajama Game**. Pajamas – yes. But no tights. Other highlights of his time with the Society include Florian in **Princess Ida** (wearing tights), Giuseppe in **The Gondoliers** (wearing shorts) and the Earl of Essex in the Society's semi-staged version of **Merrie England** (you guessed it – in tights!)



KATIE HICKSON

Katie has been with WOS since 2002 and has had numerous principle parts since including Rose Maybud in **Ruddigore**, Gianetta in **The Gondoliers**, Laurey in **Oklahoma!** and Bianca in **Kiss Me Kate**. In **The Pajama Game** she finds herself playing another loud mouthed man-eater and is slightly concerned that someone may be trying to tell her something!



MATTHEW LAXTON

This is Matt's first return to the stage since taking on his most difficult role yet as a father. Having so much to do as Sid Sorokin is a baptism of fire, and he'd like to thank his wife – who can also be seen on stage every night despite being hard at work on their next production – for her support, and for not throwing anything at him during the romantic scenes. He would also like to apologise to his work colleagues who have now heard all of Sid's songs far more times than they'd have liked. Matt hopes that 18 years on this role will finally be enough to help him break away from the type-casting of his first major musical role as a vonTrapp.



GRAHAM LIGHT

Graham is in his 18th year with WOS and this is his 27th show. Max is 'Mr Sleep Tite'. A man dedicated to the company, and his boss, to whom he refers to as "MH". He has no truck with the agitators who are pressing for the 7 & 1/2 cent raise.

RHIAN MCNAUGHTON

Rhian is thrilled to be playing her first principal role for WOS in one of her favourite musicals. This is her second on-stage show with the society **Kiss me Kate**, 2006 after relocating to Winchester from her homeland, Wales in 2005. She is no stranger to treading the boards, however, and has appeared in various musicals at school and with other amateur groups including **Bugsy Malone**, **Blousey Brown**, **Annie**, **South Pacific**, **Scrooge** and **Bye Bye Birdie**. Fingers crossed her performance as Gladys will match the drama and hysterics created in the run-up to her wedding to Graham in June of this year!

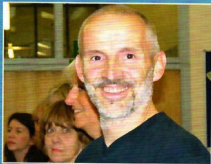


HELEN O'SULLIVAN

Helen has now lost count of the number of WOS shows she has been in, although she has enjoyed every one of them. She has played Sarah in **Guys and Dolls** and more recently Lady Psyche in **Princess Ida**. Helen is looking forward to playing Poopsie whose main motivation seems to be organising the company picnic and completely ignoring what anyone else says.

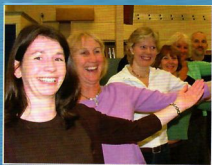
LIZ PETLEY-JONES

From the ball gown of Eliza, the buckskins of Calamity Jane and the glitz and bling of Dolly, to a passion-killer winceyette nightie...What next? I wonder!



AMELIA SWEETLAND

This is Amelia's second show with WOS and she is still thoroughly enjoying herself. Leap-frogging on stage, dancing to the funky number 'Steam Heat' and doing a photo-shoot in bed with pyjamas on have been just a few of her highlights from taking part in **The Pajama Game** this season. Amelia plays Virginia, a smart but cheeky, fun-loving character who longs to be accepted and whom everyone likes. Amelia therefore only had to master the American accent!

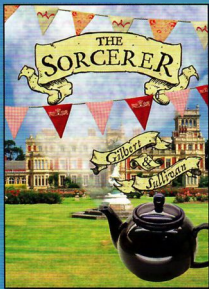


FUTURE PRODUCTIONS

The Sorcerer

April 29th - May 3rd 2008
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Information Evening for The Sorcerer Monday November 26th 2007.
Western School 7.30pm



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Win two tickets to Winchester Operatic's next show!

If you enjoyed *The Pajama Game*, you're going to love **The Sorcerer**, being produced here at the Theatre Royal, Winchester next spring. This operetta by our old favourites Gilbert and Sullivan is not one of their better-known collaborations. Nevertheless it is a minor masterpiece that revolves around love, ambition and, you've guessed it, a magic love potion.

Directed by Max Bulough and conducted by Martin Paterson, **The Sorcerer** promises to be one of the most talked-about WOS G&S productions for many years. Set in a Retirement Home staffed by the Society's best singers and occupied by the youngest pensioners you've ever seen, this will be the must-see musical for 2008.

And the competition? For a chance to win two tickets for **The Sorcerer** (show dates from 29 April to 3 May 2008), answer this question. "Which character in **The Sorcerer** has a song in Iolanthe?" Send your answer, name and address to Vernon Tottle, WOS Business Manager, Hazeldene, Itchen Abbas, Winchester SO21 1BE by 31 December 2007. Thank you!

Your business could be up there in lights!

You will have noticed the publicity for *Habels*, *The Sleep Shop* in this programme, spread around the theatre foyer and on the posters and flyers sent out for weeks prior to this show. WOS is very grateful to them for being our sponsor for **The Pajama Game** and we know that the relationship has been enormously mutually beneficial.

Our next show is Gilbert and Sullivan's **The Sorcerer**. Set in a retirement home and involving magic love potions, magnificent banquets and ambiguous legal dealings, the musical offers several avenues for successful sponsorship. You've been to **The Pajama Game**, you've liked what you've seen, you'd love to get involved but don't really fancy being up there onstage under the spotlight. As an alternative, put your business in the spotlight by becoming one of our corporate sponsors.

Please contact me, Vernon Tottle (WOS Business Manager) on 01962 779611 or vemontottle@btinternet.com for more details of how your business could be up there in lights!

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