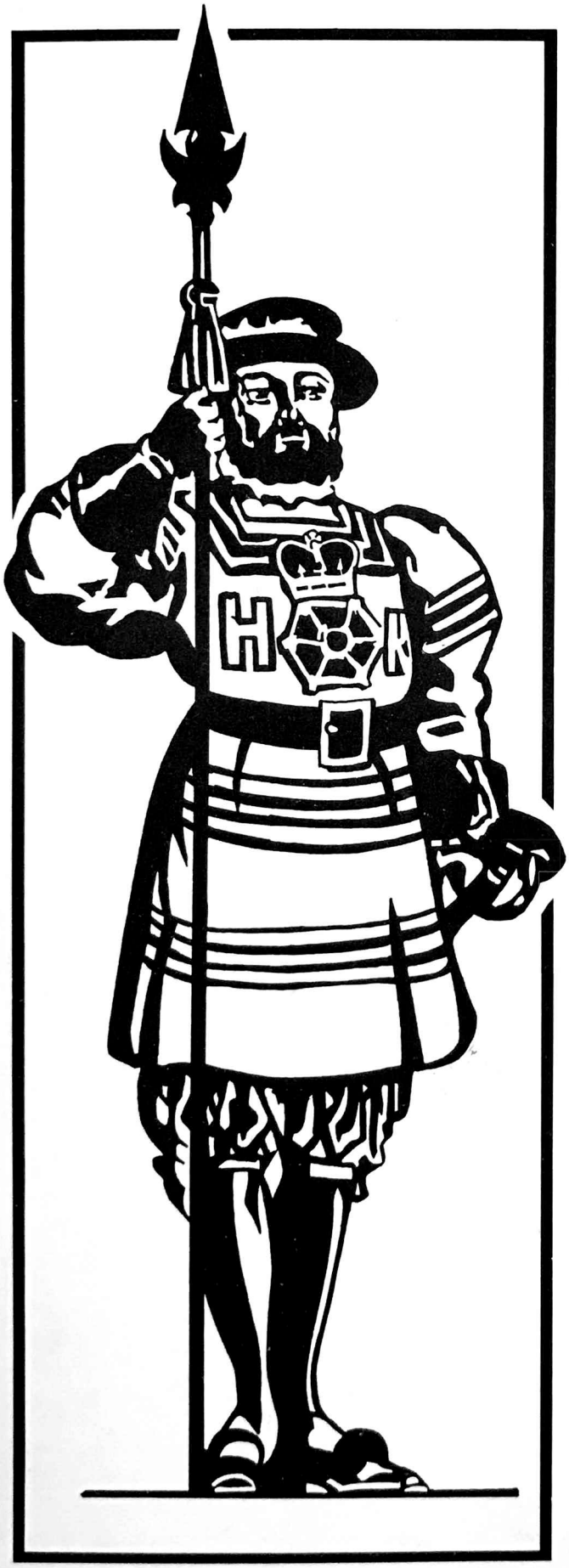
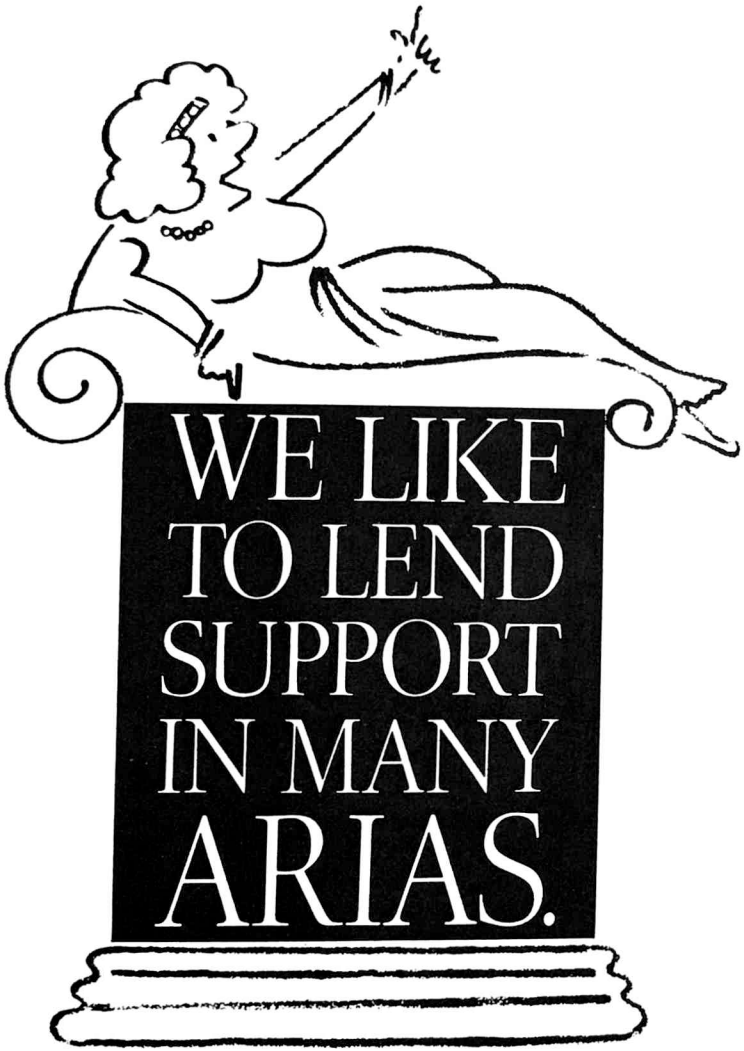


WINCHESTER AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

The Yeomen of the Guard

by W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan

NOVEMBER 1990



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Winchester Amateur Operatic Society

presents

The Yeomen of the Guard

or The Merryman and his Maid

by W.S. Gilbert
and Arthur Sullivan

Tuesday 13th – Saturday 17th November 1990

Theatre Royal, Winchester

Producer	Richard Trower
Musical Director	David Howells

THEATRE Royal WINCHESTER

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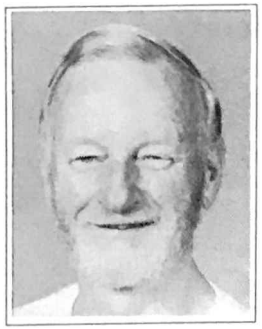
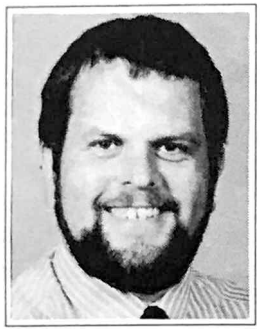
Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association



RICHARD TROWER
Producer

Richard joined the society in 1957 and has been in every production and concert since that date. As the National Operatic and Dramatic Association's Southern Area Councillor, he has made over 350 visits in the past 12 years to shows performed by other societies. He has attended the producers' course at the NODA Summer School and has produced three shows for the WAOS Junior Section.



DAVID HOWELLS
Musical Director

David started conducting while studying in Winchester for his B.Ed. degree in Music. He formed the Yately Choral Society in 1979 and has conducted the Savoy Singers in Camberley. He has also directed music for Thames Television. During the last ten years David has been Musical Director for the following WAOS shows: *The Gondoliers, The Merry Widow, Princess Ida, Oklahoma!, My Fair Lady, Ruddigore, Patience* and *Calamity Jane.*

– FUTURE PRODUCTIONS –

***"Kiss Me Kate"* by Cole Porter**
Tuesday 30th April – Saturday 4th May, 1991

If you would like to be involved, why not come to our record evening on November 30th at Western School, Browning Drive at 7.30 pm. For further details please ring Christine Walters on Winchester 852464

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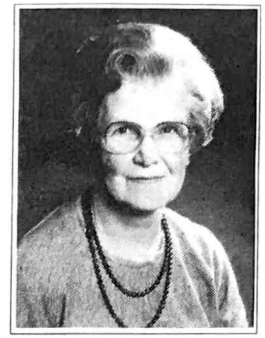

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all on behalf of the members of the Winchester Amateur Operatic Society to our sixth production of *"The Yeomen of the Guard"*.

Richard Trower, our producer, is introducing children into the production this year, thus giving them a little experience of stage work – I'm sure they will love it.

I hope you will all give a thought to the many backstage members who play an important part in the presentation of each production. We are indeed fortunate in having such a splendid team.

When the curtain rises, I hope you will enjoy your evening with us and will encourage your friends to come and see the show, thus giving us their support.

Barbara Harding

SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

Colonel Fairfax is being held prisoner in the Tower under sentence of death. Sergeant Meryll and his family believe that he is there under false charges and so plan to effect his escape. Before the plan is put into operation, however, Fairfax secretly marries the blind-folded Elsie Maynard, a strolling player betrothed to Jack Point the Jester. This marriage will allow her, rather than Fairfax's accuser, to inherit Fairfax's estates. All is prepared for the execution, but when the escape is discovered the Tower becomes a scene of confusion.

ACT 2

The distressed Elsie takes up residence with the Merylls. She is looked after by Dame Carruthers who finds out about her marriage. Elsie has in the meantime fallen for Fairfax, believing him to be Meryll's son Leonard. Jack Point and Wilfred Shadbolt, the head jailer, claim to have shot Fairfax while he was escaping. Point then attempts to win Elsie back but is out-manoeuvred by Fairfax. Phoebe Meryll had hoped to marry Fairfax and, in a state of distress, blurts out the escape plan to Wilfred. His silence is bought by her betrothal to him. Sergeant Meryll is trapped in the same way by Dame Carruthers. A reprieve for Fairfax arrives and so he abandons his disguise and claims Elsie as his wife. She is overcome with joy until the heartbroken Point collapses at her feet.

"The Yeomen of the Guard" was first produced at
the Savoy Theatre on 3rd October, 1888.

CAST

Sir Richard Cholmondeley (Lieutenant of the Tower) ..... *Clive Hilton*
Colonel Fairfax (under sentence of death) ..... *Max Bullough*
Sergeant Meryll (of the Yeomen of the Guard) ..... *Jock Killick*
Leonard Meryll (his son) ..... *Chris Read*
Jack Point (a Strolling Jester) ..... *Martin Larcombe*
Wilfred Shadbolt (Head Jailer and Assistant Tormenter) ..... *Tom Williams*
Headsman ..... *John S. Robinson*
Priest ..... *Fred Corton*
First Yeoman ..... *Brian Hurst*
Second Yeoman ..... *Robin Cork*
First Citizen ..... *Peter Stanbrook*
Second Citizen ..... *John Jackson*
Elsie Maynard (a Strolling Singer) ..... *Margaret Baits*
Phoebe Meryll (Sergeant Meryll's daughter) ..... *Alison Stanbrook*
Dame Carruthers (Housekeeper of the Tower) ..... *Kathleen Frogley*
Kate (her neice) ..... *Debbie Blunn*

UNDERSTUDIES

Jayne Dunton
Kate Freemantle
Jan Gwynne-Howell
Bob Jones
Reginald Reed

CHORUS OF YEOMEN

Mark Blaikie
Nigel Coleman
Robin Cork
Brian Hurst
Bob Jones
Mike McMahon
Chris Read
Reginald Reed
Phil Remington
Ron Stainer
Ben Wright

CHORUS OF CITIZENS

Margaret Bone
Richard Chamberlain
Sue Chamberlain
Melanie Church
Pamela Davis
Mary Dickinson
Jayne Dunton
Kate Freemantle
Robert Gorman
Jan Gwynne-Howell
Catherine Halliwell
Christine Harding
John Jackson
Mary Jackson
Coralie Ovenden
Alexis Reed
Peter Stanbrook
Carole Steel
Gemma Steel
Bridgette Stocks
Natasha Tanter
Mike Vokes
Sandra Von De Vril
Pauline Wilson
Noël Wright

CHILDREN

Emma Blunn
Andrew Hartley
Amy Hermitage
Charlotte Howard
Julian Howard
Gemma Lunney
Michelle Lunney
Olivia West

MUSICAL NUMBERS

OVERTURE

ACT 1 – Tower Green. Date: 16th Century

1. Introduction and Song (Phoebe) ..... *When maiden loves she sits and sighs*
2. Double Chorus (People and Yeomen) ..... *Tower warders under orders*
   Duet (1st and 2nd Yeomen) ..... *This the autumn*
3. Song with Chorus (Dame Carruthers and Yeomen) . *When our gallant Norman foes*
4. Song (Sergeant Meryll) ..... *A laughing boy but yesterday*
5. Trio (Phoebe, Leonard and Meryll) ..... *Alas! I waver to and fro*
6. Ballad (Fairfax) ..... *Is life a boon?*
7. Chorus (Crowd, Elsie and Point) ..... *Here's a man of jollity*
8. Duet (Elsie and Point) ..... *I have a song to sing, O*
9. Trio (Elsie, Point and Lieutenant) ..... *How say you maiden, will you wed?*
10. Recit. and Song (Point) ..... *I've jibe and joke and quip and crank*
11. Recit. and Song (Elsie) ..... *'Tis done! I am a bride*
12. Song (Phoebe) ..... *Were I thy bride*
13. Finale ..... *Oh, Sergeant Meryll, is it true?*

Interval

ACT 2 – The same – Moonlight

1. Chorus ..... *Night has spread her pall once more*
   Solo (Dame Carruthers) ..... *Warders are ye?*
2. Song (Point) ..... *Oh! A private buffoon is a light-hearted loon*
3. Duet (Point and Wilfred) ..... *Hereupon we're both agreed*
4. Ballad (Fairfax) ..... *Free from his fetters grim*
5. Quartet (Kate, Dame Carruthers Fairfax and Sergeant Meryll) ..... *Strange adventure!*
6. Scene (Elsie, Phoebe, Dame Carruthers, Wilfred, Point, Fairfax, Lieutenant, Sergeant Meryll and Chorus) ..... *Hark! What was that sir?*
7. Trio (Elsie, Phoebe and Fairfax) ..... *A man who would woo a fair maid*
8. Quartet (Elsie, Phoebe, Fairfax and Point) ..... *When a wooer goes a-wooing*
9. Duet (Dame Carruthers and Sergeant Meryll) ..... *Rapture! Rapture!*
10. Finale ..... *Comes the pretty young bride*

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THE ORCHESTRA

Leader	*Ann Garlick*	Oboe	*Irene Pragnell*
1st Violin	*Alan Mansell*	Clarinet	*Paul Layland*
2nd Violin	*Paul Jeffery*	Horn	*Paul Banks*
Viola	*Deborah Sprott*	Trumpet	*Susan Williams*
Cello	*Peter Torrent*	Percussion	*Brenda Haynes*
Double Bass	*Len Pacey*	Trombone	*Mike Whittall*
Flute	*Simon Francis*	Bassoon	*Richard Morcom*

Rehearsal Accompanist *Eileen Evans*

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Stage Manager ..... *Harry Halliwell*
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Properties ..... *Esther Golledge, Sandra Webb*
Prompt ..... *Ann Cobbold*
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Deputy Musical Director ..... *Reginald Reed*

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