



CAROUSEL



A few words from the Chairman:

Hello and welcome to our 2023 production of 'Carousel'!

Richard Rodgers once wrote that of all the musicals he wrote, *Carousel* was his personal favorite. This American classic features some of Rodgers and Hammerstein's most iconic pieces, including "If I Loved You", "Mister Snow", "June Is Bustin Out All Over", and the iconic "You'll Never Walk Alone." *Carousel* was Rodgers and Hammerstein's second collaboration, and was adapted from Ferenc Molnar's 1909 play *Liliom*. They transferred the Budapest setting of *Liliom* to the New England coastline, where *Carousel* takes place. The story tells of roguish carnival barker Billy Bigelow and mill worker Julie Jordan, both loners, who meet and fall in love. Their marriage ends up costing both their jobs, and things go downhill from there. Billy's desperation makes him violent against those he loves most, and drives him to commit crimes in order to provide for his family. When Billy falls in with con-man Jigger Craigin, he ends up getting caught in the midst of an armed robbery and takes his own life. Billy is allowed to return to earth for one day 15 years later, and he encounters the daughter he never knew. Louise is a lonely, friendless teenager, her father's reputation having haunted her throughout her young life. Yet Billy is able to instill in both the child and her mother a sense of hope.

Voted the best musical of the 20th century by Time Magazine, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel* is the classic American musical, spanning heaven and earth in its exploration of human frailty, resilience, and the power of forgiveness.

We are delighted to welcome back as our Producer, Graham Weston, for this, his seventh production with our Society and we extend our thanks as always to our M.D. Colin Akers who also never fails to draw from each of us the very highest musical standards of which we are capable. Also, our huge appreciation for our wonderful accompanists on piano, Philip Sutcliffe and Chris Pulley. Thank you all!

As always, I offer special thanks to all of our 'unseen' members and friends, to those working behind the scenes and front of house, and to those special 'few' who, under the direction of our own stage manager, Jim Cheetham, created and built our sets which form the backdrop to our performances this week. No show could be produced without their dedication and commitment as they accompany us at rehearsals, provide Front of House and back-stage support, create our programmes and contribute in so many ways, often uncredited, but valued nonetheless. So, to each of these too, my thanks.

And finally, I say thank you to each one of you, our families, friends and supporters here to share with us our presentation of this wonderful show. We hope you enjoy the performance!

Amy Ellison

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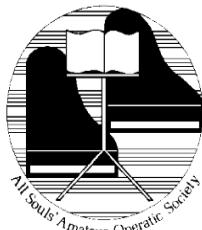
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**ALL SOULS' AMATEUR
OPERATIC SOCIETY**
present their sixtieth production

Carousel

A Musical Play based on FERENC MOLNAR'S "LILION"

**Music by
JERRY BOCK**

**Book and Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

An amateur production by arrangement with R&H Theatricals Europe



www.halifaxplayhouse.org.uk

At The Playhouse, Halifax
28 March – 1 April 2023
Tuesday to Friday @ 7.15 pm
and Saturday Matinee @ 2.15 pm

Producer	Graham Weston
Musical Director	Colin Akers
Accompanists	Philip Sutcliffe & Chris Pulley
Dancers' Choreographer	Janet Fletcher

Programme cover designed by Martin Hoyle



Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association

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Authors

Music by: Richard Charles Rodgers (1902 - 1979)



Rodgers was an American [composer](#) who worked primarily in musical theatre. With 43 Broadway musicals and over 900 songs to his credit, Rodgers was one of the most well-known American composers of the 20th century, and his compositions had a significant influence on popular music. Born into a [Jewish](#) family in Queens, New York, Rodgers was the son of Mamie (Levy) and Dr William Abrahams Rodgers, a prominent physician who had changed the family name from Rogazinsky. Rodgers began playing the piano at the age of six. Rodgers spent his early teenage summers in Camp Wigwam where he composed some of his first songs.

Book and Lyrics: Oscar Greeley Clendenning (1895 - 1960)



Hammerstein II was an American lyricist, librettist, theatrical producer, and (usually uncredited) director in musical theatre for nearly 40 years. He won eight Tony Awards and two Academy Awards for Best Original Song. Many of his songs are standard repertoire for vocalists and jazz musicians - he co-wrote 850 songs. He was born in New York City, the son of Alice Hammerstein and theatrical manager William Hammerstein. His grandfather was the German theatre impresario Oscar Hammerstein. His father was from a Jewish family, and his mother was the daughter of British parents.

Rodgers & Hammerstein

Their first musical, the groundbreaking hit *Oklahoma* (1943), is a notable example of a “book musical”, a musical play in which the songs and dances are fully integrated into the plot. The team went on to create four more hits that are among the most popular in musical history. Each was made into a successful film: *Carousel* (1945), *South Pacific* (1949, winner of the 1950 Pulitzer Prize for Drama), *The King and I* (1951), and *The Sound of Music* (1959). Other shows include the minor hit *Flower Drum Song* (1958), as well as relative failures *Allegro* (1947), *Me and Juliet* (1953), and *Pipe Dream* (1955). They also wrote the score to the film *State Fair* (1945) (which was remade in 1962 with Pat Boone) and a special TV musical of *Cinderella* (1957).



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BUXTON OPERA HOUSE PROGRAMME 29 July - 12 August

Saturday 29 July

7.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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Sunday 30 July

2.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Yeomen of the Guard	National G&S Opera Co
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Monday 31 July

7.30 pm	The Sorcerer	NewLOG
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Tuesday 1 August

7.30 pm	The Gondoliers	Peak Opera
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Wednesday 2 August

2.30 pm	The Pirates of Penzance	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Pirates of Penzance	National G&S Opera Co
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Thursday 3 August

7.30 pm	Cox & Box, Trial by Jury and The Zoo	Northwest Productions
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Friday 4 August

7.30 pm	The Best of G&S	National G&S Opera Co
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Saturday 5 August

2.30 pm	The Yeomen of the Guard	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Yeomen of the Guard	National G&S Opera Co
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Sunday 6 August

2.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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Monday 7 August

7.30 pm	HMS Pinafore	Bus Pass
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Tuesday 8 August

7.30 pm	Iolanthe	Brussels Light Opera Co
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Wednesday 9 August

2.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Yeomen of the Guard	National G&S Opera Co
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Thursday 10 August

7.30 pm	Ruddigore	SavoyNet Performing Group
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Friday 11 August

2.30 pm	The Pirates of Penzance	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Mikado	National G&S Opera Co
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Saturday 12 August

2.30 pm	The Yeomen of the Guard	National G&S Opera Co
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7.30 pm	The Pirates of Penzance	National G&S Opera Co
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THE PLAYHOUSE
King Cross Street
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FORTHCOMING SHOWS AT THE PLAYHOUSE

April

- 2 **An Evening with Dolly Parton** BTE Productions 7:30pm
- 5 **Forbidden Nights Sexy Circus** Forbidden Events Ltd. 7:30pm
- 11 - 15 **Home, I'm Darling** Halifax Thespians 7:30pm & 2:30pm Sat mat.
- 17 **An Evening of Mediumship with Grant Harris** 7:30pm
- 22 **RIOGOLD** (Spandau Ballet/ Duran Duran) at **7:00pm**

May

- 16 - 20 **MINDGAME** Halifax Thespians 7:30pm & 2:30pm Sat matinees

June

- 6 - 10 **Terry Pratchett's MORT** Halifax Thespians
7:30pm & 2:30pm Sat matinees
- 11 **SIMPLY TINA** - An Evening with Tina Turner at 7:30pm
- 17 **Don't Stop Queen Now** - Queen Tribute at 8:00pm

Rooms at the Halifax Playhouse and at our Carlton Rehearsal building are available for hire. Contact our Business Manager Julie Johnston for details - email: business@halifaxplayhouse.org.uk

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Thespian Events



Hirer Events

The Story

Act 1

Two young female millworkers in 1873 Maine visit the town's carousel after work. One of them, Julie Jordan, attracts the attention of the barker, Billy Bigelow. When Julie lets Billy put his arm around her during the ride, Mrs. Mullin, the widowed owner of the carousel, tells Julie never to return. Julie and her friend, Carrie Pipperidge, argue with Mrs Mullin. Billy arrives and, seeing that Mrs Mullin is jealous, mocks her; he is fired from his job. Billy, unconcerned, invites Julie to join him for a drink. As he goes to get his belongings, Carrie presses Julie about her feelings toward him, but Julie is evasive. Carrie has a beau too, fisherman Enoch Snow to whom she is newly engaged. Billy returns for Julie as the departing Carrie warns that staying out late means the loss of Julie's job. Mr. Bascombe, owner of the mill, happens by along with a policeman, and offers to escort Julie to her home, but she refuses and is fired. Left alone, she and Billy talk about what life might be like if they were in love, but neither quite confesses to the growing attraction they feel for each other.

Over a month passes, and preparations for the summer clambake are under way. Julie and Billy, now married, live at Julie's cousin Nettie's spa. Julie confides in Carrie that Billy, frustrated over being unemployed, hit her. Carrie has happier news—she is engaged to Enoch, who enters as she discusses him. Billy arrives with his ne'er-do-well whaler friend, Jigger. The former barker is openly rude to Enoch and Julie, then leaves with Jigger, followed by a distraught Julie. Enoch tells Carrie that he expects to become rich selling herring and to have a large family, larger perhaps than Carrie is comfortable having.

Jigger and his shipmates, joined by Billy, then sing about life on the sea. The whaler tries to recruit Billy to help with a robbery, but Billy declines, as the victim—Julie's former boss, Mr. Bascombe—might have to be killed. Mrs. Mullin enters and tries to tempt Billy back to the carousel (and to her). He would have to abandon Julie; a married barker cannot evoke the same sexual tension as one who is single. Billy reluctantly mulls it over as Julie arrives and the others leave. She tells him that she is pregnant, and Billy is overwhelmed with happiness, ending all thoughts of returning to the carousel. Once alone, Billy imagines the fun he will have with Bill Jr - until he realizes that his child might be a girl, and reflects soberly that "you've got to be a father to a girl". Determined to provide financially for his future child, whatever the means, Billy decides to be Jigger's accomplice.

The whole town leaves for the clambake. Billy, who had earlier refused to go, agrees to join in, to Julie's delight, as he realizes that being seen at the clambake is integral to his and Jigger's alibi.

Act 2

Everyone reminisces about the huge meal and much fun. Jigger tries to seduce Carrie; Enoch walks in at the wrong moment, and declares that he is finished with her. The girls try to comfort Carrie, but for Julie all that matters is that "he's your feller and you love him". Julie sees Billy trying to sneak away with Jigger and, trying to stop him, feels the knife hidden in his shirt. She begs him to give it to her, but he refuses and leaves to commit the robbery. As they wait, Jigger and Billy gamble with cards. They stake their shares of the anticipated robbery spoils. Billy loses: his participation is now pointless. Unknown to Billy and Jigger, Mr. Bascombe, the intended victim, has already deposited the mill's money. The robbery fails: Bascombe pulls a gun on Billy while Jigger escapes. Billy stabs himself with his knife; Julie arrives just in time for him to say his last words to her and die. Julie strokes his hair, finally able to tell him that she loved him. Carrie and Enoch, reunited by the crisis, attempt to console Julie; Nettie arrives and gives Julie the resolve to keep going despite her despair.

Billy's defiant spirit is taken Up There to see the Starkeeper, a heavenly official. The Starkeeper tells Billy that the good he did in life was not enough to get into heaven, but so long as there is a person alive who remembers him, he can return for a day to try to do good to redeem himself. He informs Billy that fifteen years have passed on Earth since the former barker's suicide, and suggests that Billy can get himself into heaven if he helps his daughter, Louise. He helps Billy look down from heaven to see her. Louise has grown up to be lonely and bitter. The local children ostracize her because her father was a thief and a wife-beater. In the dance, a young ruffian, much like her father at that age, flirts with her and abandons her as too young. The dance concludes, and Billy is anxious to return to Earth and help his daughter. He steals a star to take with him, as the Starkeeper pretends not to notice.

Outside Julie's cottage, Carrie describes her visit to New York with the now-wealthy Enoch. Carrie's husband and their many children enter to fetch her—the family must get ready for the high school graduation later that day. Enoch Jr., the oldest son, remains behind to talk with Louise, as Billy and the Heavenly Friend escorting him enter, invisible to the other characters. Louise confides in Enoch Jr. that she plans to run away from home with an acting troupe. He says that he will stop her by marrying her, but that his father will think her an unsuitable match. Louise is outraged: each insults the other's father, and Louise orders Enoch Jr. to go away. Billy, able to make himself visible at will, reveals himself to the sobbing Louise, pretending to be a friend of her father. He offers her a gift—the star he stole from heaven. She refuses it and, frustrated, he slaps her hand. He makes himself invisible, and Louise tells Julie what happened, stating that the slap miraculously felt like a kiss, not a blow—and Julie understands her perfectly. Louise retreats to the house, as Julie notices the star that Billy dropped; she picks it up and seems to feel Billy's presence.

Billy invisibly attends Louise's graduation, hoping for one last chance to help his daughter and redeem himself. The beloved town physician, Dr. Seldon who resembles the Starkeeper advises the graduating class not to rely on their parents' success or be held back by their failure; words directed at Louise. Seldon prompts everyone to sing an old song, "You'll Never Walk Alone". Billy, still invisible, whispers to Louise, telling her to believe Seldon's words, and when she tentatively reaches out to another girl, she learns she does not have to be an outcast. Billy goes to Julie, telling her at last that he loved her. As his widow and daughter join in the singing, Billy is taken to his heavenly reward.

Synopsis of Scenes & Musical Numbers

Prelude

An Amusement park on the New England Coast. May.

The Carousel Waltz

Act I

Scene 1: A tree-lined path along the shore. A few minutes later.

“Mister Snow”- Julie and Carrie

“If I Loved You” - Billy and Julie

Scene 2: Nettie Fowler’s Spa on the ocean front. June.

“June is Bustin out all over” - Nettie and Ensemble

“Mister Snow Reprise” - Carrie, Girls and Mr Snow

“When the Children are asleep” - Mr Snow and Carrie

“Blow High, Blow Low” - Billy, Jigger and Men

“Hornpipe”

“Soliloquy” - Billy

Act II

Scene 1: On the Island across the bay. That night.

“A Real Nice Clambake” - Ensemble

“Geraniums In The Winder and (Stonecutters Cut it on Stone)” - Snow, Jigger and Chorus

“What’s the use of Wond’rin” - Julie

Scene 2: Mainland waterfront. An hour later.

“You’ll Never Walk Alone” - Nettie and Julie

“The Highest Judge of All” - Billy

Scene 3: Up there.

Scene 4: Down here. On a beach. Fifteen years later.

“Ballet”

“My Little Girl”

Scene 5: Outside Julie’s cottage.

Scene 6: Outside a schoolhouse. Same day.

The Cast

Billy Bigelow	Mark Hutchinson
Julie Jordan	Amy Ellison
Jigger Craigin	Jonathan Campbell
Carrie Pipperidge	Helen Burton
Nettie Fowler	Anna Trent
Starkeeper/Dr Seldon	Richard Farrar
Mrs Mullin	Christine Roberts
Enoch Snow	Jai Jai Ekins
Mr Bascombe	Gareth Treece
Louise Bigelow	Lauren Taylor
Heavenly Friend	Chris Pilgrim
Arminy	Aurelia Grundy
Hannah	Kate Chamberlain
Enoch Snow Jr	Zac Swift
1st Policeman	Liam Rowbotham
2nd Policeman	Mike Padden
Captain	Paul Holroyd
Snow Children	Molly Akers
	Millicent Burton
	Aurelia Grundy
	Faith Rooney
	Dominic Rooney

The Cast cont'd

Villagers

Stephanie Bolton	Alyssia Holroyd	Stephanie Honey
Rachel Prosser	Jean Murphy	Debbie Townsend
Fionna Pilgrim	Martin Hoyle	Mike Padden

Dancers

Shannon Aspin	Elenya Watson	Emma Kershaw
Emily Ryan		

Raffle prizes can be collected after the show, in the foyer

Diary Dates:



13th – 15th October 2023
Accent on Song

Tue 7th - Sat 13th April 2024
Show yet to be confirmed



Production Officials

Producer	Graham Weston
Musical Director	Colin Akers
Accompanists	Philip Sutcliffe & Chris Pullen
Rehearsal Accompanist	Philip Sutcliffe
Dancers' Choreographer	Janet Fletcher
Stage Manager	Jim Cheetham
Joint House Managers	Cathy & Tony Sutcliffe
Set Designer	Jim Cheetham
Costumes	Ian Stead arranged by Stephanie Bolton with thanks to Stage Door Studios & The Heckmondwike Players for their support with costumes & props
Properties	Julia Taylor
Publicity	ASAOS Committee
Ticket Secretary	Susan Hutchinson
Prompter	Kathryn Buxton
Librarian	Richard Farrar
Scenery Building & Painting	Jim Cheetham, William Heavyside David Howard, Chris Murphy & Jean Murphy
Make Up	Sarah Jones, Sophie Warrilow & Helen Woodcock
Stage Crew	William Heavyside, David Howard, Chris Murphy Richard Goswell, Anthony Goswell & James Goswell
Lighting	Jeanette Kendall
FOR THE PLAYHOUSE	
Duty Stage Manager	Ian Henderson

Production Officials

PRODUCER

GRAHAM WESTON: Graham's involvement in the theatre began at an early age and his love of musicals has led him to play many principal roles, specialising mainly in comic leads. He won 'Best Supporting Actor' at the International Festival of Musical Theatre, and has now developed a successful career as both performer and stage director. Graham has performed with or directed for many societies in the Yorkshire area. He has directed the G&S Operas, Musicals, Operetta and Pantomimes. Also performed in professional pantomime and worked in York for Mark Mark Productions. This Autumn he will once again be touring with the West Yorkshire Savoyards whilst future directing work includes H.M.S. Pinafore, Ruddigore and The Gondoliers. Graham is delighted to be working on his seventh production with this friendly and talented society and would like to thank everybody for the work they have put into the show.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

COLIN AKERS: Colin started his musical life quite late at the age of 11 and at 16 went to Chethams School of Music with joint first study instruments of piano and flute. He attended Huddersfield University studying primarily music performance. He joined Halifax G&S in 1988, initially as accompanist, then promoted to Musical Director in 2000. He became the Musical Director for Batley G&S in 2005 and joined All Souls' in the same capacity in 2009. Since starting with All Souls' he has striven to continue the high performance standards expected and has championed new and varied composers in the Accent On Song concerts, with works ranging from the 15th Century to the present day, enabling the Society to showcase its abilities and talents. As well as being an accompanist, Colin is also a member of an orchestra that supports several societies throughout West and North Yorkshire.

Production Officials cont'd

ACCOMPANISTS

PHILIP SUTCLIFFE: Philip got his first piano at the tender age of five. Although it stood just three inches off the ground, had only nine keys and was made of purple plastic he made swift progress and eventually managed to gain entrance into Huddersfield University where he studied big piano. Having spent several years studying music he ran away to join a touring theatre company. As an actor he has toured most of England, the bottom bit of Germany and bits of Scotland, including taking shows to the Edinburgh Festival. He has performed Beckett in Minsk and Shakespeare in Kiev, but that was all a very long time ago. Philip has played for ASAOS on numerous occasions, and we welcome him back for Carousel!

CHRISTOPHER PULLEYN: Christopher enjoys a busy and varied career as a collaborative pianist, *répétiteur* and conductor, working regularly with a number of large arts organisations, predominantly around the North of England. Since 2013 he has worked with Opera North on their many outreach programmes and Opera productions. Other organisations include BBC Proms, Glyndebourne, the Hallé, Huddersfield Choral Society, Leeds Lieder and Sage Gateshead. He is pianist-in-residence for Greenhead College, Assistant Musical Director for Bradford Festival Choral Society, accompanist for Colne Valley Male Voice Choir and accompanies regularly at Leeds Conservatoire and University of Huddersfield. In 2018, he launched the & Piano Music Festival in Huddersfield, an annual series of relaxed classical music concerts, to help people discover and enjoy classical music and showcase top musicians with a connection to the region. You can find out more about the festival by visiting www.andpiano.co.uk. (<http://www.andpiano.co.uk>), or follow Chris on Twitter @kurusup. Having worked with ASAOS since 2010 (Kismet) he is delighted to be joining All Souls' once again for Carousel!

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ABOUT ALL SOULS' AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

ASAOS was founded in 1962. Originally based and performed at All Souls' Church. From 1985 to 1987 we performed at The Malborough Hall, and since then at the Halifax Playhouse. We are a group of around forty people, of whom thirty or so are performing members.

Although the Society is non-denominational, we still retain a Christian ethos and continue to support many local charities. We strive to fill as many roles as possible from our own membership, but also hold open auditions for our shows, which continue to attract new members, singers, actors and helpers. We also aim to design and manufacture our own sets which we take great pride in, and our own wardrobe is also used to furnish as many costumes as possible.

Each year, in addition to our musical stage production, we perform our annual 'Accent on Song' concert offering a variety of music to suit all tastes. The overall performance and musicianship of the Society has been widely acclaimed and we strive to maintain high standards of performance and musicianship.

Our rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings at The Studio Rooms, St James Street, Halifax. They are very enjoyable and everybody is welcome!! Like all Societies we are reliant on our performing members and audience to survive, so if **you** would like to sing, act, help with scenery or costumes, assist backstage, front of house, or simply join a group of friendly people, why not become a member yourself? Interested? **Please see our website – www.asaos.org.uk** or contact Mrs Jean Murphy, Secretary, on 01484 717934.

The Society wishes to thank all advertisers, programme sponsors and anyone who helped in any way with the compilation of this programme. Last, but no means least, thanks to you, our audience, without whom we would have no reason to perform. We hope you enjoy the show!

All Souls' Amateur Operatic Society is a Registered Charity, No: 700670

Previous Productions

1962.	The Mikado	1994	Princess Ida
1963.	The Pirates of Penzance	1995	La Belle Hélène
1964.	Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore	1996	Fiddler on the Roof
1965.	The Gondoliers	1997	Die Fledermaus
1966.	The Yeomen of the Guard	1998	The Yeomen of the Guard
1967.	The Mikado	1999	The Count of Luxembourg
1968.	Iolanthe	2000.	Bluebeard
1969.	La Vie Parisienne	2001.	Orpheus in the Underworld
1970.	Princess Ida	2002.	La Vie Parisienne
1971.	Die Fledermaus	2003.	The Merry Widow
1972.	Trial by Jury & The Pirates of Penzance	2004.	The Beggar Student
1973.	The Gypsy Baron & Accent on Song	2005.	The Gypsy Baron
1974.	Ruddigore	2006.	La Perichole
1975.	The Grand Duchess	2007.	Die Fledermaus
1976.	Patience & Accent on Song	2008.	La Belle Hélène
1977.	The Merry Widow	2009	Fiddler on the Roof
1978.	The Yeomen of the Guard	2010.	Kismet
1979.	The Count of Luxembourg	2011.	The Merry Widow
1980.	The Gondoliers	2012.	My Fair Lady
1981.	La Belle Hélène	2013.	The Sorcerer
1982.	Die Fledermaus & Accent on Song	2014.	Die Fledermaus
1983.	Fiddler on the Roof	2015.	Brigadoon
1984.	La Vie Parisienne	2016.	Kiss Me Kate
1985.	My Fair Lady	2017.	Hello Dolly!
1986.	Ruddigore	2018	La Belle Hélène
1987.	La Perichole & Accent on Song	2019	Calamity Jane
1988.	The Student Prince	2020	----
1989.	Orpheus in the Underworld	2021.	----
1990.	The Grand Duchess	2022.	Fiddler on the Roof
1991.	The Beggar Student & Accent on Song		

1992 The Mikado

1993 The Merry Widow



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NATIONAL OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION

The National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA), is the national body that represents amateur theatre. Any amateur theatre society can become a member of NODA. NODA was founded in 1899, “to protect and advance the interests of operatic and dramatic art, and of societies engaged therein”. Membership continues with over 2,000 society members and over 1,000 individual enthusiasts staging musicals, operas, plays, concerts and pantomimes in venues ranging from the country’s leading professional theatres to village halls.



NODA supports and inspires amateur theatre. Its vision is that amateur theatre is successful and sustainable, providing a range of opportunities for people to develop their skills, and enjoy taking part, at all levels. NODA’s mission is to support the education and information needs of individuals and organisations with high quality services and products that contribute to the success of amateur theatre, as well as encouraging appreciation of the sector by participants and audiences alike.

NODA aims:

- To give a shared voice to the amateur theatre.
- To help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance.
- To provide leadership and advice to enable the amateur theatre sector to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

NODA has an elected council, comprising 11 councillors, the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the President. Each councillor represents a region, and each region has a committee which works to sustain and promote amateur theatre in their part of the country. Our local representative is Mrs Jane Marescaux. There are four staff members at HQ based in Peterborough.

Further information about membership can be obtained from: NODA, 15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough PE2 7UH (Tel: 01733 374790; Email: info@noda.org.uk)

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