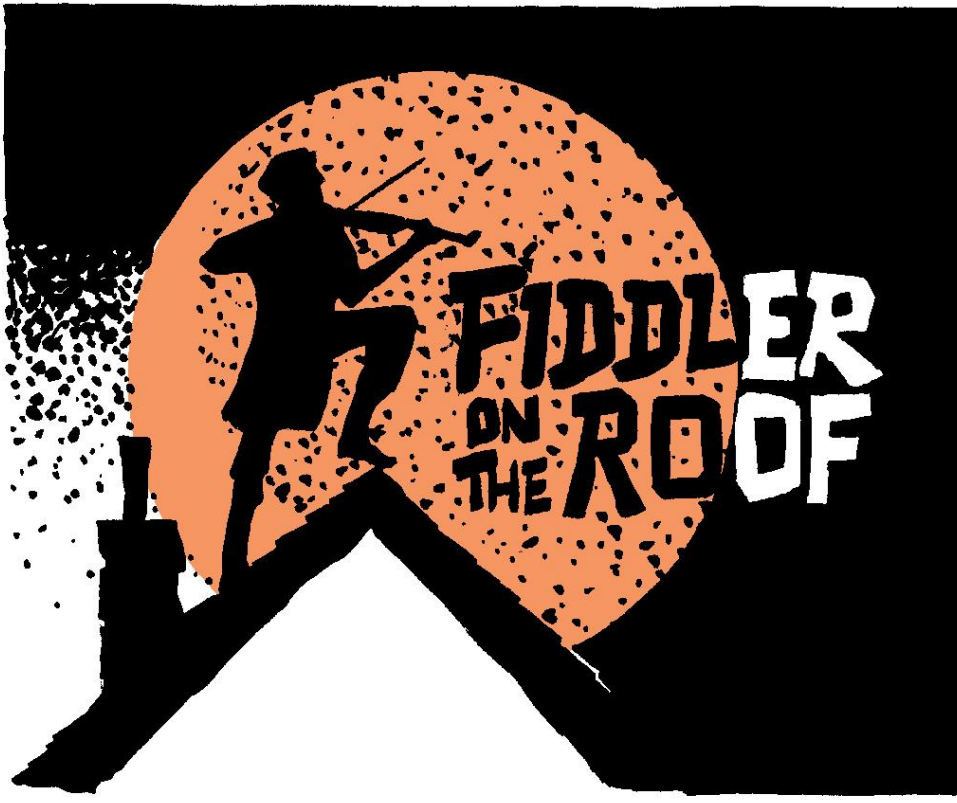
All Souls Amateur Operatic Society



HALIFAX PLAYHOUSE

A few words from the Chairman

Hello and welcome to our 2022 production of 'Fiddler on the Roof', a show we cancelled two years ago just one week before production due to the impact of Covid-19. Since then, I have reflected often on the theme of this simple story and the resonance with so many of our own personal experiences during the Covid pandemic for each represents a story of human courage, of community and of hope in the face of adversity.

This wonderful show, as timeless and relevant today as it was when first produced for stage in 1964 and so memorably on screen in 1971, is based on a series of stories by Sholem Aleichem about 'Tevye, the Dairyman' and Jewish family life in the fictional village of Anatevka in Imperial Russia at the turn of the 20th century. The story tells how Tevye, the local milkman has always stuck to the traditional way of life yet is confronted with a dilemma when his headstrong daughters decide that they want to marry for love rather than follow tradition and accept the choice of the 'Matchmaker'. Can 'Tradition' win in the face of a changing world?

Despite the setting against the historical background of the increasing persecution of Russian Jews and the violent disruption of the villagers' lives which culminates in their forced removal from their homes and land, the underlying essence of the story is not negative; through it all, as Tevye and his fellow villagers persist in hope and prepare to restart their lives in new places, the story reflects crises we see still across our modern world: the global impact of and response to the Covid pandemic; the continuing mass exodus and plight of fleeing refugees; the suppression and oppression of minority groups and views. We are challenged with a message of hope over despair, the recognition, acceptance and tolerance of cultural diversity, and the integration of religious and cultural beliefs, not to adopt but to accept, not to change people but to change attitudes, not to change others but to change ourselves because, in spite of our differences, we are just one people of our one world.

We are delighted to welcome back as our Producer, Graham Weston, for this, his sixth 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 Sian Hughes, and to our fiddler of the week, Michele Northam. Thank you all.

As always, I offer special thanks to all of our ordinary 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 the 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. Thank you for coming and may each of you find within our performance a little something to raise a smile as we too pass through our own crisis, together and always with hope, with love, with faith and with each other.

Brian Harrison

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AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

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ALL SOULS' AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

present their fifty-ninth production

Fiddler on the Roof

Based on Sholem Aleichem stories by special permission of **Arnold Perl**

Book by	*Music by*	*Lyrics by*
JOSEPH STEIN	***JERRY BOCK***	***SHELDON HARNICK***

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Original New York Stage Production Directed and Choreographed by
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At The Playhouse, Halifax
29 March – 2 April 2022
Tuesday to Friday @ 7.15 pm
and Saturday Matinee @ 2.15 pm

Producer	Graham Weston
Musical Director	Colin Akers
Accompanists	Philip Sutcliffe & Sian Hughes
Violinist	Michele Northam
Dancers' Choreographer	Janet Fletcher

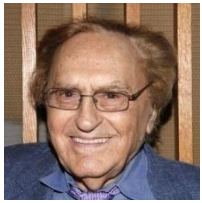
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This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe). The authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe

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Authors



Book by: **Joseph Stein** (1912 - 2010)

Born in New York Stein grew up in the Bronx. After graduating from City College of New York he began his career as a psychiatric social worker while writing comedy on the side and a chance encounter led him to start writing for radio personalities. He later started working in television for Sid Caesar when he joined the legendary writing team of 'Your Show of Shows'.

His greatest success came from writing the book for the 1965 musical play 'Fiddler on the Roof' for which he won three major awards, including two Tonys. He later wrote the screenplay for the film adaptation.

In 2007 the York Theatre presented Stein with its Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement in Musical Theatre and in 2008 he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame and also honoured by The Dramatists Guild of America with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Stein died in October 2010.



Music by: **Jerry Bock** (1928 – 2010)

Born in New Haven, Connecticut and raised in Flushing, New York, Bock studied the piano as a child. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he wrote the musical 'Big as Life', which toured the state and enjoyed a run in Chicago. Bock made his Broadway debut in 1955 when he, and lyricist Lawrence Holofcener, contributed songs to 'Catch a Star'.

Bock then forged a successful partnership with Sheldon Harnick. Although their first joint venture 'The Body Beautiful' failed to charm the critics, its score caught the attention of director George Abbott and producer Hal Prince who hired the team to compose their musical biography of former New York City Mayor La Guardia 'Fiorello!' which went on to win them both the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Bock died in November 2010.



Lyrics by: **Sheldon Harnick** (born 1924)

Born and raised in Chicago, Harnick began studying the violin while in grammar school. After serving in the US Army for three years he enrolled in the Northwestern University School of Music, earned a Bachelor of Music degree in 1949 and worked with various orchestras around Chicago. Harnick also developed skills as a writer of comedy sketches, songs and parody lyrics, and eventually decided to try his luck as a theatrical lyricist in New York City.

A few years were spent working with other writers' trouble-plagued Broadway-bound musicals before Harnick joined up with composer Jerry Bock to write their own musicals.

Harnick is a member of the Dramatists Guild and Songwriters Guild of America and has won numerous 'Tonys', 'Pulitzers' and 'Grammys'. In 2016 he won the Drama League Award for Distinguished Achievement in Musical Theatre, as well as the Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre.

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HALIFAX PLAYHOUSE

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HALIFAX PLAYHOUSE

THE PLAYHOUSE
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Apr 16	**The Straits UK** - The music of Dire Straits at 7:30pm
Apr 23	**Sleeping With Beauty** Adult Panto 7:30pm
May 3-7	Halifax Thespians **FRANKENSTEIN** adapted Nick Dear 7:30pm & 2:30pm Saturday matinee
May 20	**Chuckl.** present **Halifax Comedy Night** at 7:30pm
May 21	**The Greatest Hits Of 10CC And ELO** at 7:30pm
May 28	N. B. P. present **Live Professional Wrestling** at 6:30pm
Jun 7-11	Halifax Thespians **Curtain Up On Murder** a comedy whodunnit 7:30pm & 2:30pm Sat. matinee
Jun 18	**Simply Tina** - Tina Turner tribute at 7:30pm

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The Story

The Place: Anatevka, a small village in Russia.
The Time: 1905, on the eve of the Russian Revolutionary Period.

ACT I

The year is 1905 and a Jewish community in Tsarist Russia is trying to eke out a living in its shtetl in the village of Anatevka. Tevye is a Dairyman who has a personal relationship with God, in whom he confides all. He strives very hard to keep up the traditions of his faith, race and culture. He has five daughters, itself a problem, but what is more pressing is trying to find husbands for the eldest three. Yente, the Matchmaker, does her best but, with no money and no dowry to offer, she finds that her work is very difficult.

Tzeitel rejects the Butcher Lazar Wolf, to whom Tevye has promised her. She has her heart set on the young impecunious Tailor, Motel. The 'new way' is that children shall decide partners for themselves but will Golde, Tevye's wife, accept this change in traditional values? Tevye conjures up a dream in which he attempts to persuade Golde that Lazar Wolf is not a good match, and that her grandmother would much prefer Tzeitel to marry the Tailor.

Golde is persuaded, and that is the first chink in the break down of traditional values. At the wedding ceremony between Motel and Tzeitel there is a Progrom, an anti-Jewish demonstration, orchestrated by the Chief of Police, which casts into doubt the stability of Jewish life in 'Tsarist Russia'. It is certainly a portent for things to come.

Tevye's second daughter, Hodel, has fallen in love with Perchik, a political student, an activist against the repressive regime. Tevye refuses to give his permission for Hodel and Perchik to marry, but they inform Tevye that they do not wish to seek his permission to marry, but merely his blessing. Traditions are obviously changing. Later, Perchik is arrested and is to be sent to Siberia. Hodel intends to join him. She promises her father they will be married, under a canopy, in the traditional Jewish way. Her father accompanies her to the railway station to bid her farewell.

ACT II

Chava, Tevye's third daughter, has fallen for Fyedka, a Russian Soldier. Not only is he Russian, he is not a Jew and the bending of tradition this far is something that Tevye cannot reconcile himself to. From this point on, Chava ceases to be his daughter, and is shunned.

Meanwhile, Anatevka itself is under threat. The Jews are being forced to leave their homes, and many of them decide to go and live in America where they have friends and relations. That is where Tevye and Golde and the two youngest children are to go. Motel and Tzeitel will join them whilst Chava and Fyedka, wanted by neither Jew nor Russian, go to live in Poland.

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Synopsis of Scenes & Musical Numbers

Prologue

"Tradition"	Tevye & Villagers

Act I

Scene 1: Interior of Tevye's House

"Matchmaker, Matchmaker"	Tzeitel, Hodel & Chava

Scene 2: Exterior of Tevye's House

"If I were a Rich Man"	Tevye

Scene 3: Interior of Tevye's House

"Sabbath Prayer"	Tevye, Golde & Villagers

Scene 4: The Inn

"To Life"	Tevye, Lazar Wolf & Men

Scene 5: Street outside the Inn

Scene 6: On a bench outside Tevye's Barn

"Tevye's Monologue"	Tevye
"Miracles of Miracles"	Motel

Scene 7: Tevye's Bedroom

"The Dream"	Tevye, Golde, Grandma Tzeitel Fruma-Sarah & Villagers

Scene 8: Village Street & Motel's Tailor Shop

Scene 9: Tevye's Yard

"Sunrise, Sunset"	Tevye, Golde & Villagers
"Bottle Dance"	The Dancers
"Wedding Dance"	The Villagers

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Synopsis of Scenes & Musical Numbers

Act II

Scene 1: Tevye's Yard

"Now I have everything"	Perchick & Hodel
"Tevye's rebuttal"	Tevye
"Do You Love Me?"	Tevye & Golde

Scene 2: Village Street

"The Rumour"	Yente & Villagers

Scene 3: Exterior of Railway Halt

"Far From the Home I Love"	Hodel

Scene 4: Village Street & Motel's Tailor Shop

Scene 5: Somewhere on the outskirts of the village

"Chava Sequence"	Tevye

Scene 6: Tevye's Yard

"Anatevka"	Ensemble

==========

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

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The Cast

Tevye	*The dairyman*	Mark Hutchinson
Golde	*Tevye's wife*	Penny McGoverin
Their daughters:		
Tzeitel		Amy Ellison
Hodel		Helen Burton
Chava		Heather Watson
Shprintze		Aurelia Grundy
Bielke		Molly Akers
Motel	*The tailor*	Chris Pilgrim
Perchik	*The student*	Jai Jai Ekins
Fyedka	*A Russian soldier*	Mike Padden
Yente	*The matchmaker*	Christine Roberts
Lazar Wolf	*The butcher*	Richard Farrar
Constable	*Russian military official*	John Fisher
Russian	*Fyedka's Russian friend*	Paul Holroyd
Grandma	*Grandma Tzeitel, ghost figure*	Rachel Prosser
Fruma-Sarah	*Lazar Wolf's departed wife, ghost figure*	Jessica Butterfield
Mendel	*The Rabbi's son*	Jonathan Campbell
Rabbi	*Anatevka's Jewish spiritual leader*	Trevor Roberts
Avram	*The bookseller*	John Morgan
Shandel	*Mother of Motel*	Fiona Fox
Mordecha	*The innkeeper*	Peter Skelton
Nachum	*The town beggar*	Martin Hoyle
Rifka		Doreen Oakley
Fiddler		William Heavyside

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The Cast cont'd

Villagers

Stephanie Bolton	Kate Chamberlain	Christine Marsh
Michael Madden	Jean Murphy	Sharon Pearson
Fionna Pilgrim		

Dancers

Shannon Aspin	Elenya Watson	Martin Hoyle

VIOLINIST

MICHELE NORTHAM: Michele comes from Worcestershire and trained at Leeds College of Music. After freelancing in the Midlands she joined the Orchestra State Theatre RSA playing opera and ballet. Whilst there she performed with the visiting Berne Ballet and Dance Theatre of Harlem. Michele then moved to the National Symphony Orchestra, Johannesburg playing concerts with the Three Tenors, Kiri Te Kanawa and a combined concert with the Warsaw Chamber Orchestra conducted by Yehudi Menuhin. She also enjoyed doing studio recordings. Michele now works as a freelance violinist in Yorkshire, where she led the Slaithwaite Philharmonic for 10 years. She formed the Serenade String Quartet which plays for weddings, enjoys concerts with Square Chapel Orchestra and St Cecelia Orchestra, Ripon. In her spare time Michele loves gardening, working out at the gym and spending time with her family.

This page kindly sponsored in memory of Michael & Jackie Sutcliffe

Production Officials

Producer	Graham Weston
Musical Director	Colin Akers
Accompanists	Philip Sutcliffe & Sian Hughes
Rehearsal Accompanist	Philip Sutcliffe
Violinist	Michele Northam
Stage Manager	Jim Cheetham
Joint House Managers	Cathy & Tony Sutcliffe
Set Designer	Jim Cheetham
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Make Up	Sophie Warrilow & Helen Woodcock
Stage Crew	William Heavyside, Adam Hollos David Howard, Alec Jackson & Chris Murphy
Lighting	Jeanette Kendall

FOR THE PLAYHOUSE

Duty Stage Manager	Ian Henderson

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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 The Pirates of Penzance, The Gondoliers and an Old Time Music Hall Variety Show. Graham is delighted to be working on his sixth production with this talented and friendly 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.

ACCOMPANISTS

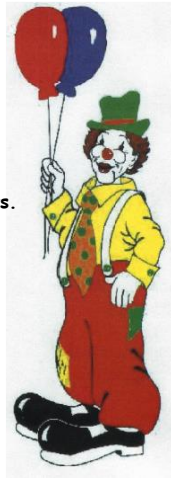
PHILIP SUTCLIFFE: Philip got his first piano at the tender age of five. Although it stood just three inches off the ground, had only nine keys and was made of purple plastic he made swift progress and eventually managed to gain entrance into Huddersfield University where he studied big piano. Having 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 'Fiddler on the Roof'.

SIAN HUGHES: Sian's first piano lesson was at the age of six, and ever since then has loved music. As a teenager Sian was a member of a local drama group and she studied dance to a high level. Taking up the flute at the age of ten gave her access to more opportunities and she met her husband through their local youth band. At Huddersfield University Sian gained a BA (Hons) in Music studying piano and flute and specialising in composition and British music written since 1945. After settling in Bradford, she built a career as a self-employed musician, teaching across a range of schools, music centres and privately. Sian accompanies instrumentalists and singers for exams, concerts and festivals and has performed in a number of shows including the 'Wizard of Oz' and 'Grease'. Sian built up a teaching career, progressing to Deputy Head and Acting Head in a local primary school before deciding, last year, to return to her roots as a musician. Sian now works for two local Music hubs and as a private teacher and accompanist whilst keeping her hand in with the teaching via supply and tutoring. Sian is very excited to be performing 'Fiddler on the Roof' this week and is sure you will enjoy the show!

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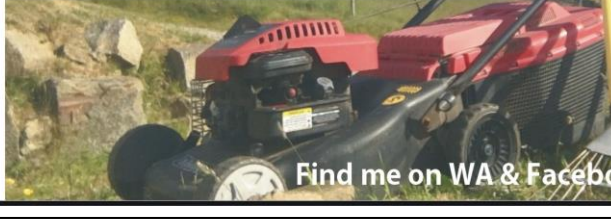
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ABOUT ALL SOULS' AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

ASAOS was founded in 1962 and members look forward to celebrating its 60th Anniversary. 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

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1963	The Pirates of Penzance
1964	Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore
1965	The Gondoliers
1966	The Yeomen of the Guard
1967	The Mikado
1968	Iolanthe
1969	La Vie Parisienne
1970	Princess Ida
1971	Die Fledermaus
1972	Trial by Jury & The Pirates of Penzance
1973	The Gypsy Baron & Accent on Song
1974	Ruddigore
1975	The Grand Duchess
1976	Patience & Accent on Song
1977	The Merry Widow
1978	The Yeomen of the Guard
1979	The Count of Luxembourg
1980	The Gondoliers
1981	La Belle Hélène
1982	Die Fledermaus & Accent on Song
1983	Fiddler on the Roof
1984	La Vie Parisienne
1985	My Fair Lady
1986	Ruddigore
1987	La Perichole & Accent on Song
1988	The Student Prince
1989	Orpheus in the Underworld
1990	The Grand Duchess
1991	The Beggar Student & Accent on Song
1992	The Mikado
1993	The Merry Widow
1994	Princess Ida
1995	La Belle Hélène
1996	Fiddler on the Roof
1997	Die Fledermaus
1998	The Yeomen of the Guard
1999	The Count of Luxembourg
2000	Bluebeard
2001	Orpheus in the Underworld
2002	La Vie Parisienne
2003	The Merry Widow
2004	The Beggar Student
2005	The Gypsy Baron
2006	La Perichole
2007	Die Fledermaus
2008	La Belle Hélène
2009	Fiddler on the Roof
2010	Kismet
2011	The Merry Widow
2012	My Fair Lady
2013	The Sorcerer
2014	Die Fledermaus
2015	Brigadoon
2016	Kiss Me Kate
2017	Hello Dolly!
2018	La Belle Hélène
2019	Calamity Jane
2020	----
2021	----

DEDICATIONS

This week, we dedicate our show performances to the memory of Arthur Talbot, one of our Society's founder members in 1960, our longest serving Chairman and a previous President. Arthur is well remembered for his many starring and supportive appearances on stage across the years, his considerable contributions behind the scenes and for his steadfast faith, kindness and humour. We have missed him.

We also remember our friend and Society member, Tony Crabtree who died in November 2019. Tony was a popular and loved performing member of a number of local societies over many years. Rather poignantly his first performance with All Souls' was in 2009 when he took the role of 'Motel, the Tailor' in our previous production of 'Fiddler on the Roof'. In our hearts and prayers always.

May we extend our condolences to all those who have endured the loss of a beloved family member or friend during the last two years of the Covid pandemic.

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 HO 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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