



Affiliated to the
National Operatic and Dramatic Association

The Burton-on-Trent and District Operatic Society

presents

“The Yeomen of the Guard”

Written by W. S. Gilbert

Composed by Arthur Sullivan

at

HILLSIDE SCHOOL
BURTON-ON-TRENT

Tuesday, October 22nd to Saturday, October 26th, 1957

(An Amateur Performance by permission of Bridget D'Oyly Carte)

"The Yeomen

OR "THE MERRYMA

BURTON-ON-TRENT AND DISTRICT OPERATIC SOCIETY

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Honorary Officials

Stage Manager	Ray A. Welton
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The settings designed, painted and constructed by Gladys M. Harvey, Deidre McHugh, Joan Biddulph, Ray A. Welton, Peter Appleby, Alfred V. Peace, Jack Last, John Woodcock

THE OVERTURE—The audience is respectfully requested to be silent during the playing of the Overture

NO SMOKING—The audience is requested to refrain from smoking during the performance

of the Guard"

AND HIS MAID"

CAST

Sir Richard Cholmondeley (<i>Lieutenant of the Tower</i>)	Jim Thornley
Colonel Fairfax (<i>under sentence of death</i>)	Reginald Brunning
Sergeant Meryll (<i>of the Yeomen of the Guard</i>)	Bernard Emery
Leonard Meryll (<i>his son</i>)	Harry Scattergood
Jack Point (<i>a Strolling Jester</i>)	Alan Thompson
Wilfred Shadbolt (<i>Head Jailer and Assistant Tormentor</i>)	Jack Heys
The Headsman	Alan Smith
First Yeoman	Herbert Macey
Second Yeoman	Edgar Williams
First Citizen	Richard Thomas
Second Citizen	Robert Smith
Elsie Maynard (<i>a Strolling Singer</i>)	Joy Appleby
Phœbe Meryll (<i>Sergeant Meryll's Daughter</i>)	Mollie Kidger
Dame Carruthers (<i>Housekeeper to the Tower</i>)	Effie Cottrell
Kate (<i>her niece</i>)	Pamela Pegg

Chorus of Yeomen of the Guard, Gentlemen, Citizens, etc.

Jean Atkin	Rhoda Heys	Joseph Buckley
Glenise Blant	Helga Hughes	Terence Bassett
Doreen Bridges	Gertrude Kirkland	Michael Bates
Margaret Bradley	Barbara Pantall	John Clemes
Margaret Brambley	Dorothy Sillita	Leonard Farley
Lily Brunning	Ivy Smith	Raymond Gilbert
Joan Burman	Monica Welton	Norman Hasshill
Molly Charlton	Mabel Whiteland	Clifford Howse
Jean Hendry		Eric Jacks

Scene—Tower Green. Date—16th century

The Music Directed by
Arthur Ormerod, L.R.A.M., A.Mus.T.C.L.

The Opera Produced by
Charles Pole

The audience is asked not to break the continuity by insisting on encores when the action and dialogue is being carried straight on by the artistes

The Orchestra

Leader	.....	Fred Stratton	Flute	.....	L. Reid
First Violin	.....	Paul Buxton	Oboe	.....	Doreen Webster
Second Violins	.....	Louis Tanti	Clarinets	.....	Michael Bourne
		Ralph Palin			James Thompson
Viola	.....	Lucy Eades	Bassoon	.....	Peter Bilson
Violoncellos	.....	Honor Upham	Trumpet	.....	Frank Ford
		Keith Harrison	Trombone	.....	Bill Orme
Double Bass	.....	Charles Eades	Percussion	.....	Edward Prince
			Piano		Evelyn Woodhouse, L.R.A.M.

"THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD"

The 3rd October, 1888 brought the first performance of the "Yeomen of the Guard." It represented a radical change in the Gilbert and Sullivan series of productions, inasmuch as for the first time, the partnership departed from the truly comic opera, to present a tragi-comedy in a distinctly more serious vein. Gilbert himself had an affinity for the Tudor period, in which the opera is set, and he reveals in his libretto the serious and poetic side of his work. Sullivan too, delighted with the opportunity to compose something less frivolous and topsy-turvy, caught the Tudor spirit in his music, with its mingled beauty and brutality. To many, the music of the Yeomen represents the best of Sullivan's work, presenting a strange combination of opposite sensitivities, and giving him the chance to exploit the human element for which he had craved for so long. Gilbert, for the first time not tilting against any British Institution, was infinitely painstaking, and the opera, originally called the "Tower Warden" has lived through nearly 80 years of undiminishing success.

Acknowledgments

Our grateful thanks are extended to the following—
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Previous productions

"The Gondoliers"	February, 1952
"The Mikado"	November, 1952
"Patience"	.....	October, 1953
"H.M.S. Pinafore"	.....	May, 1954
"Pirates of Penzance"	.....	October, 1955
"Iolanthe"	.....	October, 1956