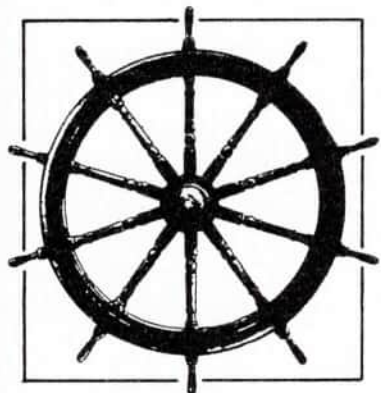


H.M.S. PINAFORE

DE FERRERS HIGH SCHOOL
HAREHEDGE LANE HORNINGLOW

FEBRUARY 20th - 24th 1990



Burton & District
Operatic Society

presents

H.M.S. PINAFORE

or **The Lass That Loved a Sailor**

Written by **W. S. GILBERT** Composed by **ARTHUR SULLIVAN**

Produced by **FRANK DORAN** Music Directed by **PETER VERNON**

Scenic Design **JAMES GRANT** Lighting Design **FRANCIS BATES**

Stage Director **DAVID HUSSEY**

Costumes by Midland Costume (Stoke-on-Trent) Ltd.

The Society is affiliated to the Burton Arts Council and the National Operatic and Dramatic Association. Amateur performances by arrangement with Chappell Music Ltd.



Story of

H.M.S. PINAFORE

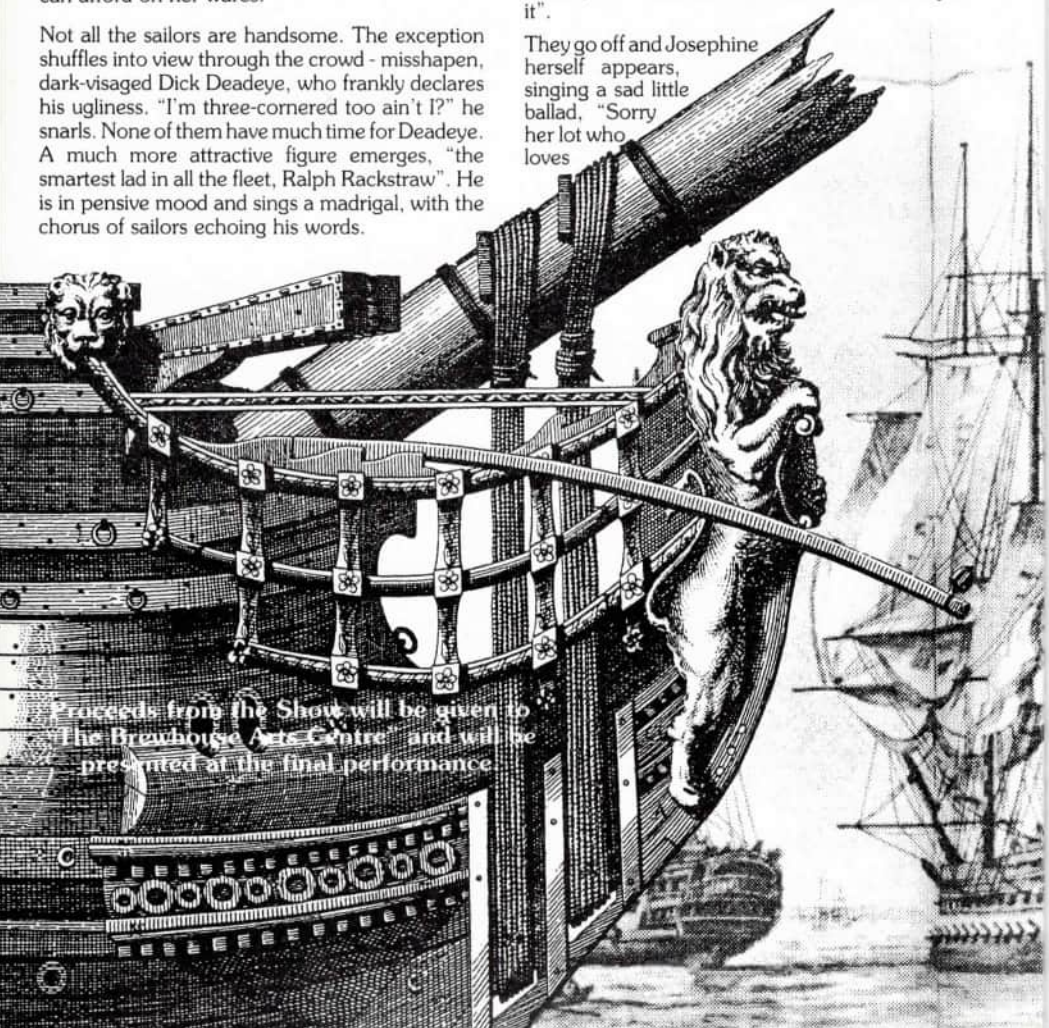
After the overture, we board the quarter-deck of H.M.S. Pinafore. It is a busy scene, with sailors splicing ropes, polishing the brasswork and doing other tasks, happily.

On to the scene comes Little Buttercup, a woman of uncertain age, who is to play an important part in the plot of the opera. She has a large basket on her arm and, as she points out, the sailors have just been paid, now is their chance to spend all they can afford on her wares.

Not all the sailors are handsome. The exception shuffles into view through the crowd - misshapen, dark-visaged Dick Deadeye, who frankly declares his ugliness. "I'm three-cornered too ain't I?" he snarls. None of them have much time for Deadeye. A much more attractive figure emerges, "the smartest lad in all the fleet, Ralph Rackstraw". He is in pensive mood and sings a madrigal, with the chorus of sailors echoing his words.

With the appearance of the commanding officer, Captain Corcoran, we soon realize why this is, in the main, a happy ship. Excessive politeness rather than tough discipline is clearly the order of things. After enquiring after the health of his crew and exchanging courtesies with them, the captain explains himself in song, "My Gallant Crew, Good-morning". But he confesses he is a little sad about the attitude of his daughter Josephine, who is sought in marriage by none less than Sir Joseph Porter, and "she does not seem to tackle kindly to it".

They go off and Josephine herself appears, singing a sad little ballad, "Sorry her lot who loves



Proceeds from the Show will be given to "The Brewhouse Arts Centre" and will be presented at the final performance.

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

Scene – Quarter-Deck of H.M.S. Pinafore, off Portsmouth

ACT ONE - Noon

Overture	Mr. Peter Vernon and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Orchestra
Opening – “We Sail the Ocean Blue”	Chorus
“Hail! Men-O'-War's Men”	Mrs. Cripps
But Tell Me Who's the Youth	Mrs. Cripps and Boatswain's Mate
The Nightingale Sighed for the Moon's Bright Ray	Ralph and Chorus
A Maiden Fair to See	Ralph
My Gallant Crew, Good-morning	Captain Corcoran
Sir, You are Sad	Mrs. Cripps and Captain Corcoran
Sorry her Lot Who Loves Too Well	Josephine
Over the Bright Blue Sea	Chorus
Sir Joseph's Barge is Seen	Chorus
Now Give Three Cheers	Sir Joseph Porter, Captain Corcoran, Cousin Hebe and Chorus
When I Was a Lad	Sir Joseph Porter and Chorus
For I Hold That on the Seas	Sir Joseph Porter, Cousin Hebe and Chorus
A British Tar is A	Ralph, Carpenter's Mate, and Boatswain's Mate
Refrain, Audacious Tar	Josephine and Ralph
Can I Survive this Overbearing	Ralph, Deadeye, Cousin Hebe, Josephine and Chorus
Entr'acte	

ACT TWO - Night

Fair Moon, to Thee I Sing	Captain Corcoran
Things are Seldom What They Seem	Mrs. Cripps and Captain Corcoran
The Hours Creep on Apace	Josephine
Never Mind the Why and Wherefore	Josephine, Captain Corcoran and Sir Joseph Porter
Kind Captain, I've Important Information	Captain Corcoran and Deadeye
Carefully on Tip-toe Stealing	Soli and Chorus
Farewell, my Own	Octet and Chorus
A Many Years Ago	Mrs. Cripps and Chorus
Finale - Oh Joy! Oh Rapture Unforeseen	Cast

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Act 1 and Act 2, during which coffee and wine will be served.

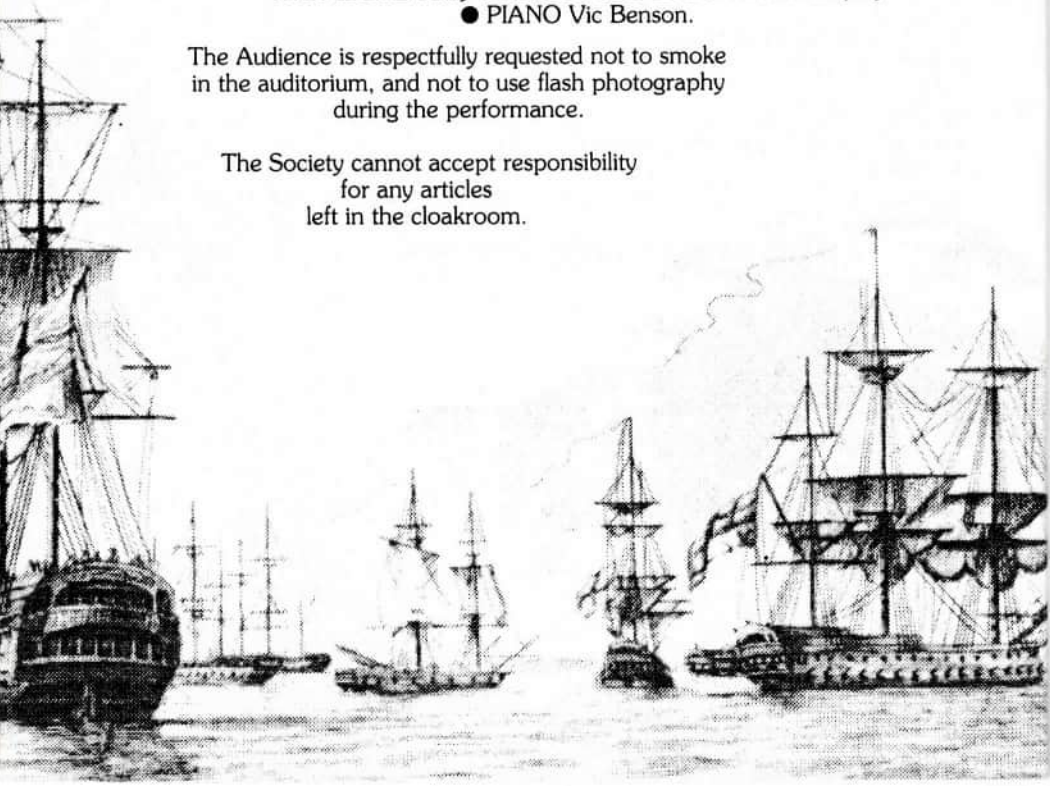
First performed at the Opera Comique, London on the 25th May 1878, conducted by Sullivan. Initial run of 571 performances.

ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN James Salter (Leader) ● VIOLIN Clair Booth, Nicholas Hadwen, Karen Smith, Mary Jessop ● VIOLA Ann Boulby ● CELLO Naomi Hubbard ● DOUBLE BASS Trudi Jackson ● FLUTE Julie Shipley, Kerrie Fletcher ● OBOE Tony Reynolds ● CLARINET Ron Lawson ● BASSOON Joanne Rose ● FRENCH HORN Richard Nadin ● TRUMPET Charlie Pendry ● TROMBONE Terry Tricker ● PERCUSSION David Shipley ● PIANO Vic Benson.

The Audience is respectfully requested not to smoke in the auditorium, and not to use flash photography during the performance.

The Society cannot accept responsibility for any articles left in the cloakroom.





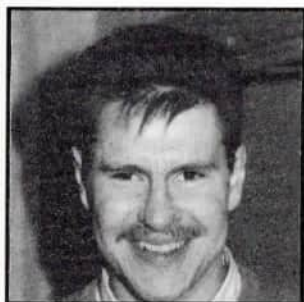
The Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph
Porter K.C.B.
(First Lord of the Admiralty)
MARK JONES



Captain Corcoran
(Commanding H.M.S. Pinafore)
ALAN SWIFT



Ralph Rackstraw
(Able Seaman)
ADRIAN BADER



Dick Deadeye
(Able Seaman)
ANDREW LAST



Bill Bobstay
(Boatswain's Mate)
STEVEN FOSTER



Bob Becket
(Carpenter's Mate)
MIKE STORR



Josephine
(The Captain's Daughter)
SARAH COTTLE



Hebe
(Sir Joseph's First Cousin)
LINDA KEMP



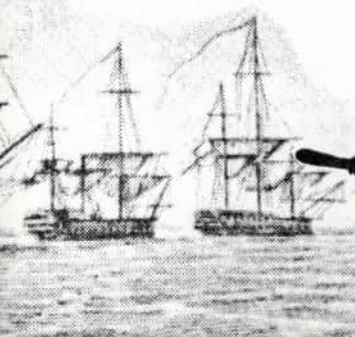
Mrs. Cripps (Little Buttercup)
(a Portsmouth Bumboat Woman)
SALLY McINNES

Would you like to become a Patron or Member of this Society? -

If interested please contact the respective secretary.

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Burton upon Trent (Burton 43240).

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Burton upon Trent (Burton 812552)
who will be pleased to give you
further information.



too well". The captain's worst fears are realized when he re-enters and hears from Josephine that her heart is already given to a humble sailor on board his own ship.

Sir Joseph Porter enters, preceded by a flurry of attractive young women - his sisters and his cousins and his aunts - for wherever he goes he takes them with him. (A curious procedure perhaps, but one which provides Gilbert with an unusual way of bringing his female chorus to the stage!) Sir Joseph expounds in song "Now give three cheers" - and then obliges with an account of the unusual manner in which he reached the high office in which he finds himself. He next treats Captain Corcoran to a brief homily on the proper attitude to his crew. "That you are their Captain is an accident of birth" he says. He insists that any request to them must be accompanied by an "if you please". He hands Ralph a copy of a song he has composed for the use of the Royal Navy. "It is" he explains, "designed to encourage independence of thought and action in the lower branches of the Service, and to teach the principle that a British Sailor is any man's equal excepting mine!"

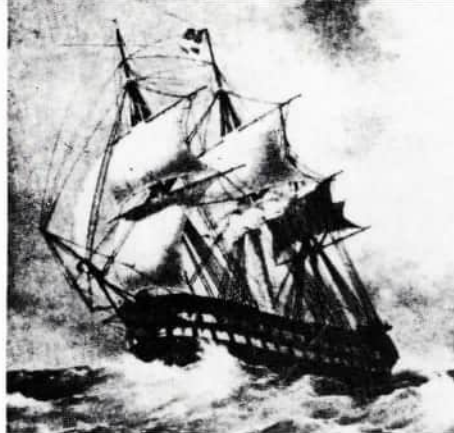
Ralph is left on stage alone - to be met by Josephine. He pours out his love for her, but Josephine remains true to the dictates of class distinction. They sing a duet, revealing their true feelings in asides.

The finale to the first act opens with the despairing Ralph announcing that the only thing left for him to do is to blow his brains out. There are sympathetic sounds from the chorus, interrupted by the "I told you so, I told you so" of Dick Deadeye, but nobody does anything to avert the tragedy. Indeed the Boatswain loads a pistol and hands it to Ralph, who puts it to his head while his messmates stop their ears!

But, instead of a loud report, there is the hurried entry of Josephine, crying "Ah! Stay your hand! I love you!" followed by a rapturous ensemble from all except Dick Deadeye, and there is general jollification and the planning for Josephine and Ralph to steal ashore that night to be married.

When the curtain rises on the second act, H.M.S. Pinafore is bathed in moonlight, and Captain Corcoran sings "Fair moon, to thee I sing". Little Buttercup joins him, tells him she has gipsy blood in her veins and can read destinies. She embarks on a series of strange mixed-up proverbs.

Meanwhile Sir Joseph is becoming more and more irritated at Josephine's lack of response to his eloquent pleadings and Captain Corcoran



points out to him that it is probable that his exalted rank has dazzled her. Perhaps Sir Joseph could reason with her and assure her that it is a standing rule at the Admiralty that love levels all ranks?

Josephine, for her part, is pondering upon the choice that lies before her. "The hours creep on a pace". Sir Joseph arrives with the Captain and proceeds to assure Josephine 'officially' that love is a platform upon which all ranks meet, little realizing that he is effectively pleading the case for Ralph and herself. Sir Joseph, the Captain and Josephine - all delighted but for different reasons - then embark on the liveliest ensemble in the opera "Never mind the why and wherefore".

It is now that Dick Deadeye plays his hand. Shuffling up to the Captain he reveals the plan for the elopement of Ralph and Josephine that night.

Captain Corcoran wraps himself in a cloak and lurks in the shadows as the crew tiptoe in, while Ralph and Josephine prepare to depart. Throwing off his cloak, the Captain suddenly reveals himself and demands where his daughter is going with the crew. To the Captain's horror, Ralph declares his love for Josephine, completely justifying his actions by the simple fact that he is an Englishman. Not surprisingly, the Captain bursts out with "Damme, it's too bad!", as Sir Joseph emerges, hears this terrible language and, without waiting for an explanation, banishes Corcoran to his cabin. But when, immediately afterwards, he learns the truth, he has Ralph handcuffed and thrown into the dungeon.

Little Buttercup, however, throws dramatic light on the situation with her confession in "A many years ago."

At Sir Joseph's summons, Ralph appears dressed as a Captain and Corcoran as an ordinary seaman. Even Dick Deadeye joins Josephine, Hebe and Ralph in a quartet of "Oh joy! Oh rapture unforeseen". Ralph embraces his Josephine, Corcoran turns to Little Buttercup, and Sir Joseph settles for Hebe.

THE CAST

THE RT. HON. SIR JOSEPH PORTER, K.C.B. (First Lord of the Admiralty)	Mark Jones
CAPTAIN CORCORAN (Commanding H.M.S. Pinafore)	Alan Swift
RALPH RACKSTRAW (Able Seaman)	Adrian Bader
DICK DEADEYE (Able Seaman)	Andrew Last
BILL BOBSTAY (Boatswain's Mate)	Steven Foster
BOB BECKET (Carpenter's Mate)	Mike Storr
JOSEPHINE (The Captain's Daughter)	Sarah Cottle
HEBE (Sir Joseph's First Cousin)	Linda Kemp
MRS. CRIPPS (LITTLE BUTTERCUP) (a Portsmouth Bumboat Woman)	Sally McInnes

First Lord's Sisters, his Cousins, his Aunts, Sailors etc.

Lindsey Biddle, Betty Booth, Mary Collingwood, Alison Crane, Louise Evanson, Kate Gibbs, Stella Hambleton, Sally Hambling, Sue May, Ann Oakley, Helen Parker, Barbara Roberts, Jean Rogers, Caroline Salt, Melanie Stevenson, Eileen Winson, Angela Wynne, Bernard Anderson, John Biddle, Richard Dean, Maurice Goodhead, Andrew Handsaker, Robert Hughes, Tony Ramsay, Kevin Storr, Alan Thompson, Tim Thornton.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee, on behalf of the Society, wishes to express its grateful thanks to -
de Ferrer's High School
Dean and Smedley, Chemists
Ind Coope Burton Brewery
Marstons Brewery
The Staffordshire Education Committee
Tony Gaskin - The Beacon Hotel
and to anyone else who helped to make "H.M.S. Pinafore" a success - Thank you.

We extend our sincere thanks to you, our audience,
for your continued support of our productions.

PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES

- from MONDAY, OCTOBER 22nd to SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th, 1990,
Burton Operatic Society will bring you the haunting melodies
of Rodgers and Hammerstein's

OKLAHOMA!

Remember, "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," "The Surrey With the Fringe on
Top", "People Will Say We're in Love" ? Then join us and reminisce - our
Booking Plan opens on SEPTEMBER 12th. Telephone Burton 40781.