

BURTON AND DISTRICT OPERATIC SOCIETY

OKLAHOMA!

Foreword by the Chairman

PATRONS & FRIENDS

WELCOME

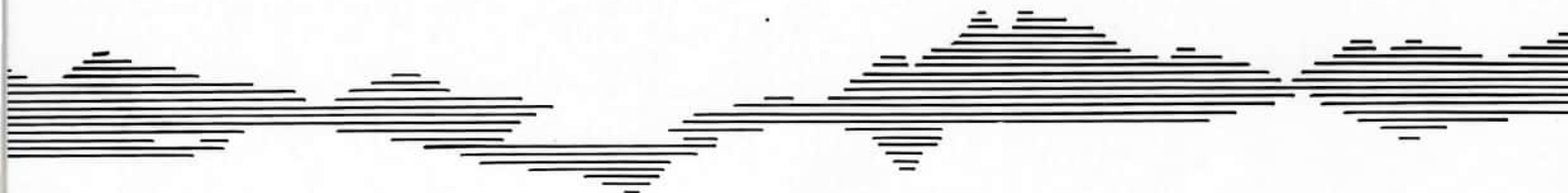
TO OUR PRODUCTION OF OKLAHOMA!

Keen readers of the Previous Production column will see that Oklahoma! was our choice in 1978 and we make no apologies for returning to it in 1990. Such is the appeal of what is arguably the most fruitful collaboration of Rodgers and Hammerstein. You will need no reminder of the top quality musical numbers weaving through a storyline which is strong on romance, humour and drama, these ingredients being fused to make one of the most enjoyable shows of all time.

My thanks to the innumerable folk who freely give time, talent and enthusiasm with the ultimate aim of providing first class entertainment for you, our audiences.

Have an enjoyable evening!

Keith Dadley





Burton and District Operatic Society

Presents

OKLAHOMA!

A Musical Play based on Lynn Riggs' "Green Grow the Lilacs"

Book and Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, 2nd.

Music by
RICHARD RODGERS

Producer
Musical Director

Choreographer **KATRINA BURROWS-SMITH, RAD. IDTA.**

Scenic Design

JAMES GRANT

Lighting Design

FRANCIS BATES

Stage Director

DAVID HUSSEY

Costumes

STAGE WORLD OF WOLVERHAMPTON

(by arrangement with Joseph Weinberger, 12/14 Mortimer Street, London, W1N 7RD., on behalf of the Rodgers & Hammerstein Theatre Library.)

Commencing Monday, 22nd October, 1990, 7.30 p.m. at de Ferrers High School, Harehedge Lane, Horninglow, Burton upon Trent.

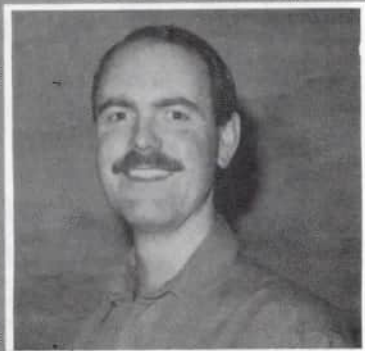
OKLAHOMA!



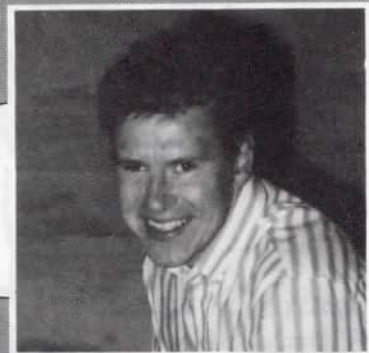
Sally Hambling

The curtain rises on an almost empty stage. Stage left, an elderly woman churning butter. Off-stage, the voice of a lone cowboy singing "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'". From so restrained a beginning sprang not only the most fabulously successful production in theatrical history but an epoch-making musical play that caused a revolution in the progress of the Broadway musical. The opening scene, a complete departure from convention, hardly seemed auspicious for the success of Oklahoma! It opened in 1943 and ran for 2,212 performances in New York, 1,543 in London, thousands more on the road and on world tours and a record breaking screen version.

This evening, for a short while, we hope you will come with us to Oklahoma on a radiant summer morning, the kind of morning which envelops the shape of cattle in the meadow, blades of young corn, streams - makes them seem to exist now for the first time, their images giving off a golden haze that is partly true and partly a trick of the imagination. Come with us as the story unfolds with Curly doing his best to persuade Laurey to go with him to the "Box Social".



Mike Morley



Andrew Last



Kate Gibbs

However, she would like to go "in style" and Curly tempts her, offering the dream of "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top". Will she go with him?

You'll meet Aunt Eller, churning her butter, Ike Skidmore and Slim, Will Parker, just back from the Kansas City Fair where he won 50 dollars steer ropin' but spent it all on presents. Ado Annie, who Will hopes to marry. Jud Fry, also hoping to take Laurey to the Social. Ali Hakim, a Persian purveyor of fancy goods! Gertie Cummings, having her fortune told. Ellen, Kate, Sylvie and Armina. Andrew Carnes, Ado Annie's father, a financial realist. Cord Elam and all the boys and girls. The dancers in the "Dream Ballet". The story develops - we hope it keeps you in suspense and that you go away after a memorable evening, humming your favourite tune.

CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Aunt Eller

KATE GIBBS

Curly

MIKE MORLEY

Laurey

SALLY HAMBLING

Ike Skidmore

RICHARD DEAN

Slim

TONY RAMSEY

Will Parker

STEVEN FOSTER

Jud Fry

ANDREW LAST

Ado Annie Carnes

JANE HAYWOOD

Ali Hakim

MIKE MEAR

Gertie Cummings

BARBARA ROBERTS

Ellen

ANGELA WYNN

Kate

LINDSEY BIDDLE

Sylvie

LINDA KEMP

Armina

BETTY BOOTH

Andrew Carnes

MARK JONES

Cord Elam

ALAN SWIFT

Dancers

In the dream ballet

Curly Nigel Haywood
Laurey Helen Coxon
Jud Andrew Last



Joanne Thompson Catherine John:
Jane Marsh Helen Parker
Melanie Stevenson Eileen Winson
Steven Foster



Junior Dancers

Angela Thompson Louisa Walsh

Boys and Girls

Bernard Anderson	Joyce Burton
Adrian Bader	Mary Collingwood
John Biddle	Sarah Cottle
Melvyn Edwards	Alison Crane
Maurice Goodhead	Louise Evanson
Andrew Handsaker	Stella Hambleton
Nigel Haywood	Anne Holmes
Robert Hughes	Jane Marsh
Colin Lee	Sue May
Kevin Storr	Ann Oakley
Mike Storr	Helen Parker
Tim Thornton	Jean Rogers

Lindsey Biddle
Joan Burman Melanie Stevenson
Eileen Winson



Jane Haywood



Steven Foster

Orchestra

VIOLIN

Judy Gandy (Leader).
Clair Booth (Leader) Saturday only.
Josephine Forrest.
Richard Hadwen. Mary Jessop.
Karen Smith

VIOLA

Ann Boulby

CELLO

Naomi Turner

DOUBLE BASS

Tony Mortimer

FLUTE

Julie Shipley

OBOE

Tony Reynolds

CLARINET

Ron Lawson

TRUMPET

Alan Booth. Kevin Dye

FRENCH HORN

Lynne Bottomley

TROMBONE

Peter Lacey

PERCUSSION

David Shipley

PIANO

Vic Benson

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN



*Richard Rodgers and
Oscar Hammerstein 2nd
in a mid-1950s pose.*

The story of OKLAHOMA!, written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, must necessarily begin with the heartbreaking end of the partnership of Rodgers and Hart. Rodgers, born 28th June 1902 in New York had collaborated with Lorenz Hart, who wrote with sophistication and wit, from 1920 to 1942, they had many 'hit' stage musicals together from Poor Little Ritz Girl in 1920 to Pal Joey in 1940 and By Jupiter in 1942. It was after Hart's death that Oscar Hammerstein, 2nd, born 12th July 1895 in New York, teamed up with Richard Rodgers for one of the most successful collaborations of the musical stage. It was war time and people wanted to be reminded of who they were and the roots from which they sprung, the mood of the country was to rally together to preserve a way of life that suddenly was seen clearly and deeply as precious as existence itself.

Writing of the past is intrinsically lyrical and so Rodgers and Hammerstein fell into step with this time and found exactly the right subject in which all the theatrical arts could merge into what became known as lyric theatre. With OKLAHOMA! the musical theatre began its momentous successes which lasted for 25 years. OKLAHOMA! was followed by Carousel, South Pacific, The King and I, Flower Drum Song, The Sound of Music and many others. Oscar Hammerstein 2nd died on the 23rd August 1960 - what a legacy these two left to the "Musical" world.

ACT

Time: Just after the turn of the century.
Place: Indian Territory (Now Oklahoma!).

The Overture

Mr. Peter Vernon and the Ladies and Gentlemen
of the Orchestra.

SCENE 1 The Front of Laurey's Farmhouse

Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'	Curly
The Surrey with the Fringe on Top	Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller
Kansas City	Will, Aunt Eller, and the Boys
I Cain't Say No	Ado Annie
Many a New Day	Laurey and the Girls
It's a Scandal! It's an Outrage!	All Hakim and the Boys and Girls
People Will Say We're in Love	Curly and Laurey

SCENE 2 The Smoke House

Poor Jud	Curly and Jud
Lonely Room	Jud

SCENE 3 A Grove on Laurey's Farm

Out of My Dreams	Laurey and the Girls
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There will be an interval of
20 minutes between
and 2 during which
and Coffee will be
the Dining Room.

ACT

OKLAHOMA! was first produced by the Theatre Guild on April 1st, 1943, at the St. James Theatre, New York City, and in London it was first produced at The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on April 30th, 1947.

SCENE 1 The Skidmore Ranch

The Farmer and the Cowman

All er Nothin'

Carnes, Aunt Eller, Curly, Will, Ado Annie,
Slim and Ensemble

Ado Annie, Will and Two Dancing Girls

SCENE 2 Skidmore's Kitchen Porch

Reprise:

People Will Say We're in Love

Curly and Laurey

SCENE 3 The Back of Laurey's Farmhouse

Oklahoma

Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'

Finale

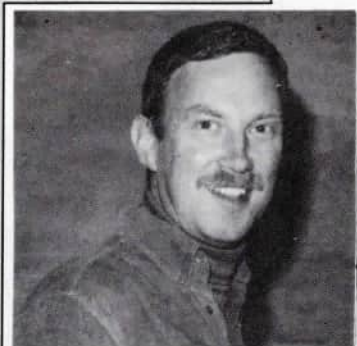
Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller, Ike, Fred and Ensemble

Laurey, Curly and Ensemble

Entire Company

Interval of
Acts 1
in Wine
served in

BACK OVER THE YEARS BACK OVER THE YEARS



Mike Mear



Mark Jones

1952 (February) The Gondoliers, (November) The Mikado. **1953** (October) Patience. **1954** H.M.S. Pinafore. **1955** Pirates of Penzance. **1956** Iolanthe. **1957** Yeoman of the Guard. **1958** Princess Ida. **1959** The Vagabond King. **1960** Merrie England. **1961** The Gondoliers. **1962** The Rebel Maid. **1963** The Song of Norway. **1964** Pirates of Penzance. **1965** The Merry Widow. **1966** Yeoman of the Guard. **1967** White Horse Inn. **1968** The Mikado. **1969** The New Moon. **1970** Orpheus in the Underworld. **1971** The Gipsy Baron. **1972** Princess Ida. **1973** Pink Champagne. **1974** The Land of Smiles. **1975** (February) Iolanthe, (October) La Belle Helene. **1976** (February) Patience, (October) Summer Song. **1977** The Merry Widow. **1978** Oklahoma! **1979** Kismet. **1980** (February) H.M.S. Pinafore, (October) Carousel. **1981** (February) Ruddigore, (October) The Vagabond King. **1982** (February) The Sorcerer (October), My Fair Lady. **1983** The Music Man. **1984** (February) Trial by Jury & A Music Revue, (October) Fiddler on the Roof. **1985** (February) Utopia Ltd., (October) South Pacific. **1986** (February) A Celebration, (October) White Horse Inn. **1987** (February) The Mikado, (October) The Pajama Game. **1988** (February) The Pirates of Penzance, (October) Calamity Jane. **1989** (February) Iolanthe, (October) Half a Sixpence. **1990** (February) H.M.S. Pinafore.



Barbara Roberts

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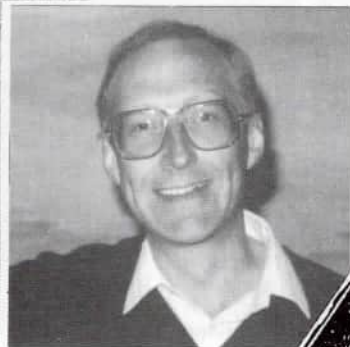
Musical Director
Peter Vernon

Accompanist
Vic Benson

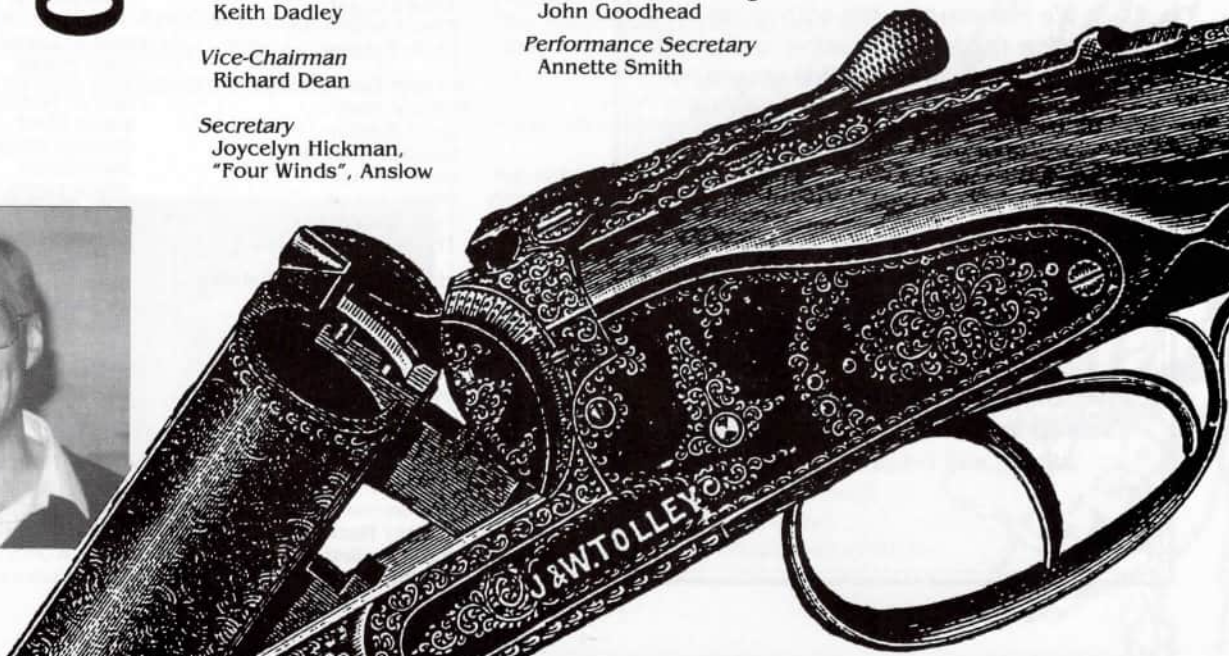
Choreographer
Katrina Burrows-Smith, R.A.D.,
I.D.T.A.

Continuity
Vicky Biddle

Stage Director
David Hussey



Richard Dean



In Memory Of

It is with great sadness and a deep sense of loss that we recall the death on the 28th March 1990 of one of our Honorary Vice-Presidents, Mr. Jim Thornley.

We remember Jim with great affection for his dedication and good humour. In addition to his singing he served the Society in numerous capacities and was always available when we needed him. He was there to advise and guide us when we had difficult decisions to make. He always found time to encourage and support the Society and was a personal friend to many of our members.

His courage at the end of his life has served as a lasting inspiration to us all. He will be greatly missed.

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Assistant Stage Manager
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Keith Dadley

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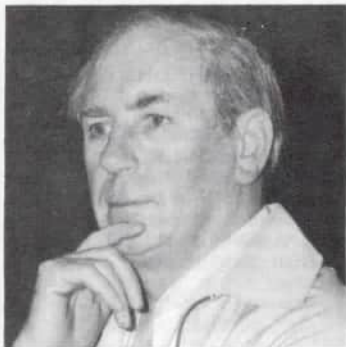
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Pam Woodcock

The Arthur Ormerod Memorial Fund

This was set up by the Society to provide an "Arthur Ormerod Bursary" for a local student of the Arts. This year, we offer our congratulations to Rachael Gilman, a singer from Hilton, the recipient. The adjudicators were Sarah Kirby of Derby Museum and Art Gallery, Christine Battye of BBC Pebble Mill, Jean Johnson of the Jean Johnson School of Dancing in Solihull and Nigel August B.Mus.FRCO of Birmingham. The administration of this Bursary is now in the hands of the Burton and District Arts Council.



Frank Doran
Producer



Peter Vernon
Musical Director

Acknowledgements

The Committee, on behalf of the Society, wishes to express its grateful thanks to -

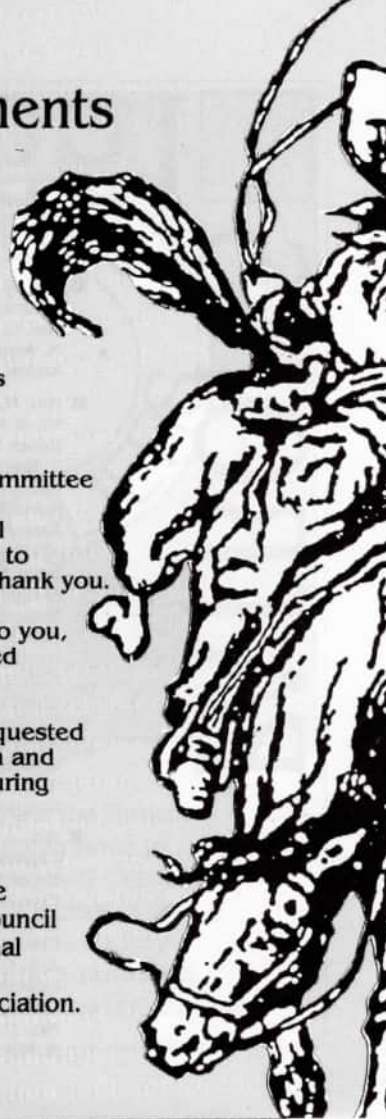
de Ferrer's High School
Dean & Smedley, Ltd. Chemists
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Ind Coope Burton Brewery
Marston's Brewery
The Staffordshire Education Committee
Time Consortium
Tony Gaskin - The Beacon Hotel
and to anyone else who helped to make Oklahomal a success. - Thank you.

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

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



The Society is affiliated to the Burton Arts Council and the National Operatic and Dramatic Association.



1990

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If interested please contact -

Mrs. Louise Evanson,
85 Kitling Greaves Lane,
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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION
will be Gilbert & Sullivan's



This will run from
Monday,
February 18th to
Saturday,
February 23rd,
1991.

Booking Plan
opens January
9th, 1991.
Telephone Burton
40781.

During this year the Society
has made donations to
The Brewhouse Arts Centre,
the Burton branches of the
British Red Cross Society
and the Diabetic Association,
St. Giles Hospice and the Samaritans.



OKLAHOMA!

Design ● James Grant

Printed ● John Mackie Printer, Burton-on-Trent