

Burton & District Operatic Society  
Presents

# THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

**OR THE SLAVE OF DUTY**



*Written by* **W. S. Gilbert**  
*Composed by* **Arthur Sullivan**  
*Produced by* **Peter Barlow**  
*Music Directed by* **Bryan Clarke**  
*Scenic Design* **Cheryl Sherratt**  
*Lighting Design* **Mike Thompson**  
*Choreographer* **Melanie Stevenson**

*Costumes by* **Carousel Costumes of Leamington Spa.**

Commencing  
Tuesday 16th February 1999  
at  
de Ferrers High School,  
Harehedge Lane, Horninglow, Burton upon Trent.



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

## ☠ Story ☠

The curtain goes up to show a rocky Cornish cove, where the pirates are holding a celebration, and liberally "Pour, Oh, Pour the Pirate Sherry". Young Frederic, one of their number, has completed his apprenticeship, and today takes his place as a fully trained pirate.

However, Frederic surprises them all by announcing to the Pirate King that, as slave of duty, he did his best for them while under his indentures, but now that he is free he proposes to leave them that night. His presence with them was, in any case, due to an error. Ruth, once his nurse, and now a pirate maid of all work, confesses that, instructed by his parents to apprentice him to a "pilot", she did not catch what they said, and inadvertently bound him to a "pirate". Frederic explains, he has the greatest affection for the pirates as individuals, but his conscience demands that he devote himself henceforth to exterminating them. The Pirate King comments that they are not very successful at making piracy pay, and Frederic, his sense of duty permitting him to help them until his indentures are completed at midnight, points out that they are much too tender-hearted and also that, being orphans themselves, they never molest an orphan. "Everyone we capture says he's an orphan." declares Frederic. "The last three ships we took proved to be manned entirely by orphans, and so we had to let them go". He urges them to disband and, accompany him back to civilization, but the Pirate King points out that, contrasted with respectability, piracy is a comparatively honest pursuit, and that it is a glorious thing... "To be a Pirate King".

The pirates depart, leaving Frederic with Ruth. She urges him to marry her, but when a bevy of beautiful maidens appear he realises that there are better, and younger, fish to fry. They are all daughters of Major-General Stanley - when they discover Frederic they are delighted with his rare good looks, but alarmed to hear that he is a pirate. He courts their sympathy, and one of them, Mabel, falls in love with him. The pirates suddenly return and seize the girls, and would marry them on the spot but for Mabel's intervention: their father she informs them, is a Major-General! Major-General Stanley himself appears, and when he announces that he, too, is an orphan the pirates are reduced to tears. They release the girls. Ruth makes another futile attempt to win Frederic's love.

Act II is set in a ruined chapel, where General Stanley humbles himself before the tombs of his ancestors - he lied when saying he was an orphan and is now filled with remorse. He is not comforted when Frederic arrives and points out that he bought the property only a year ago. "I don't know whose ancestors they WERE, but I know whose ancestors they ARE" he groans.

But the time for the attack on the pirates has arrived and he calls upon Frederic to summon his forces.

The Police, in single file, march in and form up - but they have little enthusiasm for their task, "When the foeman bares his steel, We uncomfortable feel!" The gallant soldier urges them to attack, and with his daughters takes leave of Frederic.

There is now a new twist to the tale! Which we will leave you to discover as the 'tale' unfolds.

### **Acknowledgement**

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

**Carlsberg Tetley**

**Dean & Smedley Ltd., Chemist**

**The Staffordshire Education Committee**

**Tony Gaskin, The Beacon Hotel**

*and to anyone else who helped to make*

*"The Pirates of Penzance"*

*a success - Thank you.*



# ☠ ☠ **Synopsis of Scenes & Musical Numbers**

## ACT I

A Rocky Seashore on the Coast of Cornwall

### OVERTURE

Opening Chorus of Pirates and Solo Song (Ruth)	<i>Pour, oh pour, the pirate sherry When Fred'ric was a little lad</i>
Song (Pirate King and Chorus)	<i>Oh, better far to live and die</i>
Recitative and Duet (Ruth and Frederic)	<i>Oh! false one, you have deceived me</i>
Chorus of Girls	<i>Climbing over rocky mountain</i>
Recitative and Duet (Edith, Kate, Frederic and Chorus)	<i>Stop ladies, pray!</i>
Aria (Frederic and Chorus of Girls)	<i>Oh! is there not one maiden breast</i>
Air (Mabel and Chorus)	<i>Poor wand'ring one</i>
(Edith, Kate and Chorus of Girls)	<i>What ought we to do? gentle sisters, say!</i>
Duet (Mabel and Frederick and Chorus of Girls)	<i>How beautifully blue the sky</i>
(Frederick, Chorus of Girls and Pirates)	<i>Stay, we must not lose our senses</i>
Recitative (Mabel, Major-General, Samuel and Chorus)	<i>Hold, monsters!</i>
Song (Major-General and Chorus)	<i>I am the very pattern of a modern Major-General</i>
Final Act I. (Mabel, Edith, Kate, Frederick, Samuel, King, Major-General, Ruth and Chorus)	<i>Oh! men of dark and dismal fate</i>

During the 20 Minute Interval - why don't you try a glass of wine, fruit juice, mineral water or a cup of coffee, and perhaps be tempted at our chocolate bar!

## ACT II

A Ruined Chapel by Midnight

Introduction Solo (Mabel and Chorus)	<i>Oh! dry the glist'ning tear</i>
Recitative (Frederic and Major-General)	<i>Now, Frederic, let your escort lion-hearted</i>
Chorus with Solos (For Mabel, Edith and Sergeant)	<i>When the foeman bares his steel</i>
Recitative and Trio	<i>Now for the pirates' lair!</i>
Trio (Ruth, Frederic and King)	<i>When you had left our pirate fold</i>
Trio (Ruth, Frederic and King)	<i>Away, away, my heart's on fire!</i>
Recitative and Duet (Mabel and Frederic)	<i>All is prepared! your gallant crew await you!</i>
Duet (Mabel and Frederick)	<i>Stay, Frederic, stay!</i>
Recitative (Mabel etc., chorus of Police)	<i>No, I'll be brave! Oh, family descent</i>
Song (Sergeant and Chorus)	<i>When a felon's not engaged in his employment</i>
Solo (Sergeant and Chorus of Pirates and Police)	<i>A rollicking band of pirates we</i>
Solo (Samuel and Chorus of Pirates)	<i>With cat-like tread</i>
(Frederic, King, Major-General, Police and Pirates)	<i>Hush! hush! not a word</i>
Song (Major-General and Chorus of Pirates and Police) and Finale	<i>Sighing softly to the river</i>

## Orchestra

Musical Director **Bryan Clarke**

Violin Leader **Karen Smith**

**Angela Lane, Kathy Lucas, Jo Forrest & Helen Martin**

Viola **Howard Jones** Cello **Joanne Rose** Double Bass **David Pikett**

Flute **Julie Young** Oboe **Joanne Perkins/Margaret Gilchrist**

Clarinet **Sarah Hancock & Tony Reynolds** Horn **Lynda Benson**

Trumpet **Liz Butler & Kath Ball** Trombone **Stephen Eyley**

Percussion **David Shipley** Piano **Vic Benson**

☠ **Cast** ☠



Mayor-General Stanley.....**Alan Swift**



The Pirate King.....**Andrew Last**



Samuel (his Lieutenant).....**Gary Prince**



Frederic (The Pirate Apprentice) **Melvyn Edwards**



Sergeant of Police...**Mark Jones**



Mabel.....**Sally Prince**



Edith.....**Sarah Cottle**



Kate.....**Karen Heather**



Isabel.....**Helen Lowe**



Ruth (A Piratical Maid of all Work).....**Sally McInnes**

Chorus - General Stanley's Daughters and Chaperones:  
**Jean Bradknock, Sandy Brown, Kate Buckley, Mary Collingwood,  
Louise Evanson, Andrea Franke, Stella Hambleton, Sam Hartwright,  
Anne Holmes, Lisa Holmes, Clair Martin, Jean Mason,  
Sue May, Donna Moffat, Sarah Stephenson,  
Melanie Stevenson, Jenny Walton & Angela Wynne.**

Chorus - of Policeman and Pirates:  
**Adrian Baxter, John Collingwood, Richard Dean,  
Steven Foster, Patrick Gibbs, Maurice Goodhead,  
Robert Hughes, Ken Lowe, Mervyn Shore, Mike Storr,  
Iain Wishlade, James Ellington & Robert Walker.**



### Bryan Clarke



Our Musical Director for this production is usually to be seen playing timpani with a number of orchestras in the Derby area including Derby Concert Orchestra of which he is chairman. During the 1970s and 80s, Bryan was chorus master of the Derby Colleges Music Society since when he has been Musical Director of Melbourne Operatic Society, Gilvan Opera Company and Three Counties Musical Society. He is also a member of Saint Edmund Parish Church Choir, Allestree. During the day he is a Chartered Insurance Practitioner and director of a leading Insurance Brokerage in Derby.

### Peter Barlow



Has produced our Gilbert & Sullivan Operettas for us for a number of years, his last being Mikado in early 1997. He has acted in productions of Shakespeare restoration comedy and plays by modern authors. His portrayal of Judas in the Wakefield Mystery Cycle and Cromwell in a Man for All Seasons being particularly notable. He has been narrator, with the Derby Concert Orchestra for Peter and the Wolf, Tubby the Tuba, The Snowman and Paddington Bear's First Concert. In 1997 he won 'Best Character Actor' in the 4th Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Philadelphia playing 'King Gama' in 'Princess Ida'. By profession he is an international lecturer on Data Base design.

**We are members of the Derby Arts & Theatre Association who wonder if you would be interested in any of the following events:-**

- 27/2/99 Kocian String Quartet of Prague. Music at Duffield. Ecclesbourne School Duffield. Tel: 01332 841503
- 27/2/99 Concert by the Derwent Singers at St. Osmands Church, London Rd., Derby. Tel: 01332 556072
- 2/3/99 The Good Companions (The musical). Derby Theatre in the Round. The Guild Hall, Derby. Tel: 01332 559374
- 6/3/99 Concert by the Derby Concert Orchestra, St. Peter's Church, Mickleover.
- 9/3/99 'Half-a-Sixpence', Central Operatic Society, Landau Fort College, Derby. Tel: 01332 664577

**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 building, and not to use flash photography in the auditorium during the performance.**

**ALL MOBILE PHONES TO BE SWITCHED OFF.**

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

# CHESS

Written by Benny Anderson and Bjorn Ulvaeus

Music by Tim Rice

By arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>

**October 1999**

with Matinee on Saturday

at the Dove Building deFerrers High School, Harehedge Lane, Burton upon Trent

Our February 2000 production:

## Hello, Dolly!

Book by Michael Stewart, Music & Lyrics by Jerry Harman



# Honorary Officials



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Mr. Jack Last • Mrs. Effie Shorthose • Mr. Alan Thompson**

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*Choreographer:* **Melanie Stevenson**

*Stage Director:* **J. P. Harrison**

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*Assistant Stage Manager:* **Darren Hussey**

*Scenic Design:* **Cheryl Sherratt**

*Property Mistress:* **Virna Harlow**

*Set Dressing:* **Virna Harlow • Derval Lester • Cheryl Sherratt**

*Props. Assistants:* **Virna Harlow • Derval Lester • Cheryl Sherratt**

*Set Painting:* **Cheryl Sherratt • Derval Lester • Virna Harlow**

*Scenery Construction & Stage Technicians:* **David Hussey • Brian Hogg  
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*Lighting Construction:* **Francis Bates • Mark Bates • Robert Cottle  
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**John Woodcock • Pam Woodcock**

The Society would like to thank all Patrons for their continued support..

**Would you like to become a patron? If interested, please contact  
Louise Evanson, 85 Kitling Greaves Lane, Burton upon Trent. Telephone: 01283 543240.**

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