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presents

A New Version of Gilbert & Sullivan's

The PIRATES of PENZANCE

Musical Adaptation by
William Elliott

Choreography by
Graciela Daniele

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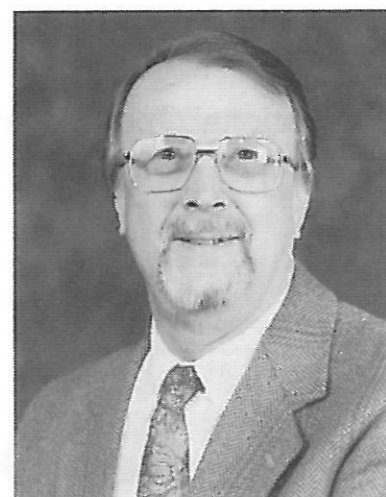
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Once again Ray Jeffery and Andrew Denyer join forces to bring you the Broadway version of "Pirates".

I have in the past, mentioned a number of unseen heroes working behind the scenes. It is with great sadness that I have to announce that this is the last show that Jim Bowman will be "lighting" as he is shortly to leave the Mercury Theatre staff. For many years Jim has delighted audiences with his brilliant lighting designs. He has also been a great friend of Colchester Operatic Society. Jim, we shall all miss you and extend our best wishes to you for the future.

At the time of writing, ticket sales are very poor and I do hope they will pick up as Colchester Operatic's financial position could be serious in a short period of time. The cast have thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing "Pirates" and look forward to entertaining you.

I do hope that you will be able to support us in the future.

Best Wishes.

John Enfield
Chairman



The Pirates are celebrating Frederic's coming of age and the completion of his apprenticeship. He was apprenticed as a Pirate rather than as a Pilot because Ruth, his nurserymaid, is hard of hearing. At 12 o'clock Frederic will be free and Ruth, the only woman he has seen since boyhood, hopes to go with him.

When he meets the daughters of Major-General Stanley he realises that Ruth is no young beauty. But he is spurned by the girls. Mabel takes pity on him; Frederic warns them about the Pirates, but too late, the girls seem about to be married off to the Pirates when the Major-General appears and pleads that he cannot spare his daughters, as he is an orphan

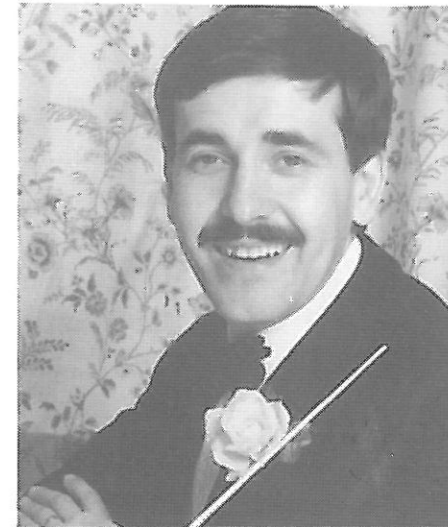
In Act II the Major – General confesses that he has lied, and even Frederic's expedition with the local Police fails to revive his spirits. The Police are equipped with good tunes but bad nerves and they march off reluctantly.

Frederic is now shaken to learn that he is really only 5 because he was born in a Leap Year, but he promises to come back and marry Mabel in 70 years' time.

The Police are indignant and puzzled, hiding at the approach of the pirates, who hide from the Major-General and his daughters. He is doomed and the Police cannot save him. As a last hope the Sergeant invokes the Queen's name, bringing the Pirates to their knees. Ruth rescues them by telling the Police they are really nobleman who have “gone wrong” – welcome news for the Major-General, who thinks he can now marry his daughters into the Peerage. Thus all ends happily.

A black and white portrait of a man with dark hair, a full beard, and a mustache. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a dark, possibly black, collared shirt. The background is a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a wall or a curtain.

RAY JEFFERY
Director
&
Choreographer



ANDREW DENYER
Musical Director

Associate Musical Director
PETER HUMPHREY

Director's Assistant
SALLY HAMMOND

Dialogue Coach
PHYL DEEBLE

Pianist
PETER SNELL



PHYL DEEBLE



SALLY HAMMOND

1925	Gondoliers	1949	New Moon	1966	Hay Fever	1984	Brigadoon
1926	Mikado	1950	The Wind and Rain	1966	La Belle Helene	1985	Guys & Dolls
1927	Princess Ida	1950	The Desert Song	1967	Carousel	1985	Carousel
1929	Iolanthe	1951	The Student Prince	1968	Count of Luxembourg	1986	Pirates of Penzance
1930	Yeomen of the Guard	1952	Harmony Hill	1969	Oklahoma	1986	The Sound of Music
1931	Trial by Jury and Pirates of Penzance	1953	Show Boat	1970	Kiss Me Kate	1987	South Pacific
	Les Cloches de Corneville	1954	Brigadoon	1971	Die Fledermaus	1987	Oliver
		1955	Pink Champagne	1972	Mikado	1988	The Desert Song
1932	Quaker Girl	1956	Vagabond King	1973	Robert and Elizabeth	1988	Annie Get Your Gun
1933	Mikado	1957	White Horse Inn	1974	Orpheus in the Underworld	1989	The Mikado
1934	Gondoliers	1958	Summer Song	1975	The Merry Widow	1989	My Fair Lady
1935	Merrie England	1959	The Merry Widow	1976	My Fair Lady	1990	The Pajama Game
1936	Duchess of Danzig	1960	Song of Norway	1977	The Great Waltz	1990	The Music Man
1937	Vagabond King	1961	Naughty Marietta	1978	Fiddler on the Roof	1991	Fiddler on the Roof
1938	Country Girl	1962	The Dancing Years	1979	The King & I	1992	Oklahoma
1946	Beggar's Opera	1963	Kismet	1980	Show Boat	1993	Kiss Me Kate
1947	Tom Jones	1964	The Most Happy Fella	1981	Hello Dolly	1994	Godspell
1947	The Arcadians	1965	They Came to a City	1982	Camelot	1994	Orpheus in the Underworld
1948	Waltz Dream	1965	The Student Prince	1983	Half a Sixpence	1995	Hello Dolly

PIRATES OF PENZANCE

CAST

Pirate KingJonathan Davies
 Frederic.....Mark Fincham
 Samuel.....Stephen Thompson
 Sergeant of Police.....Lee Carter
 Major – General Stanley.....Vic Edwards
 MabelJoanna Daniels
 Edith.....Barbara Ryan
 KateDebbie Andrews
 Isabel.....Emma Spurgeon
 RuthJenny Spurgeon

CHORUS

Liz Brown	Chris Barrell
Sharon Clarke	Richard Daniels
Jane D'Angibau	John Enfield
Brenda Green	Nick Flower
Leanne Knott	Mick Hemstedt
Sally Leung	David Moya
Ann McLaren	Clive Smith
Sandra Moorhouse	Nigel Smith
Viv Morris	Mike Spurgeon
Sue Nicholson	Colin Thorne
Sarah Pawsey	John Warburton
Jane Pipe	Ian Young
Katie Richmond	



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Jim Bowman (Lighting)
 Max Fox (Stage Technician)
 Martyn Hunt (Sound Design)
 Nick Key

For The Colchester Operatic Society:

Alan Lerner (Stage Manager),
 Dave Clarke, Andrew Jeffers,
 Terry Lion, Jim Lynas,
 John Moya, Bob Wilkinson
 Mike Spurgeon
 Jane McKercher – Kaye, Carol Smith
 Ken and Simone Smith, Ann Dye, Sylvia Hawkins,
 Lynda Kendall, Michael Mundell-Poole, Margaret Norfolk
 Beryl Balls, Maggie Walton, Barbara Scully
 Gill Edwards & Team
 Theatrical Costume House, Westcliff
 Carousel Costumes, Kelvedon
 Jim Welling
 Stage Sets
 Katie Davey

Stage Director:

Prompt:

Make Up Team:

Props:

Wardrobe:

Costume:

Wigs:

Scenery:

Programme Editor:

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Society expresses grateful thanks to all who have contributed to this Production, and in particular to:-
 The Society's Non-Playing Members for their loyal support in Publicity, Programme Sales
 and other essential duties.

Mick Hemstedt for programme cover.

The Arena Sports and Leisure Club.

Staff and Management of the Mercury Theatre.

John Andrews, Acting Treasurer

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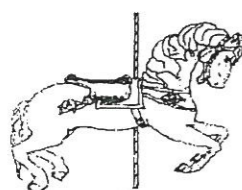
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FREDERIC – **Mark Fincham** has been a member of COS for 13 Years. He is Chairman of CO2 and Business Manager for COS. From the age of 6 he has participated in a total of 52 stage productions, both on and backstage. This will be the third time he has played Frederic making it his twenty-fourth principal role. All Mark's spare time is taken up with amateur theatre.

With love Always Mark x



MABEL – **Joanna Daniels** joined the Society at 14 for Carousel as a dancer. She performed for several years with CO2 and played Maria in West Side Story. She then trained at Guildford School of Acting in Musical Theatre. Joanna rejoined COS to play Mabel in Pirates; other roles she has enjoyed are Julie Jordan in Carousel and Rapunzel in Into the Woods.

MAJOR – GENERAL STANLEY – **Vic Edwards** has performed many times with COS in a variety of roles. His first lead was as Gaylord Ravenal in Showboat in 1980. His favourite to date has been Fagin in Oliver in 1987, and he is enjoying the challenging role of Major – General Stanley.

A brilliant and lovely laugh! Lots of love Vic Edwards



THE PIRATE KING – **Jonathan Davis** was born in Colchester but grew up in Chelmsford. He first appeared on stage at 11. Trained at Middlesex University he returned to Colchester and this is his fourth show with COS. He has appeared in Annie, 42nd Street, Hello Dolly and West Side Story. The highlight was playing Chalky White, the drunken friend of Andy Capp in Andy Capp the Musical.

all my love Jonathan

RUTH – **Jenny Spurgeon** joined Clacton Operatic Society at 14, and later COS where she met her husband. She has played many leading roles and was principal dancer. Her vast experience has been put to use as choreographer and dance captain. She played Hattie In Kiss Me Kate, but her favourite role was Valencienne in The Merry Widow.



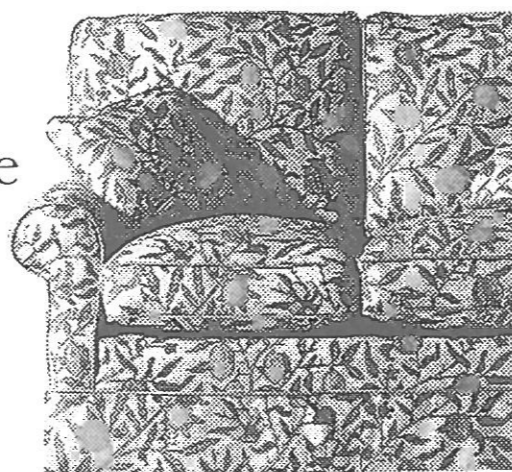
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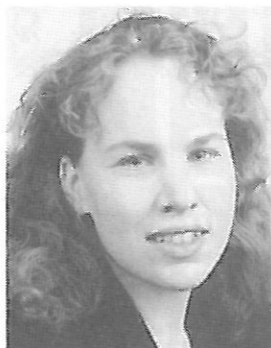
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EDITH – Barbara Ryan joined the Society in 1974 and her first role was Cupid in Orpheus in the Underworld. Since then she has appeared in most of the COS productions. Three favourite characters have been Nellie Forbrush in South Pacific, Eliza Doolittle in My Fair Lady, and Ann in Half a Sixpence. Her other roles have been in Fiddler on the Roof, Ethel in The Music Man, Laurie in Oklahoma, Diana in Orpheus in the Underworld in 1994 and Irene Molloy last year in Hello Dolly.

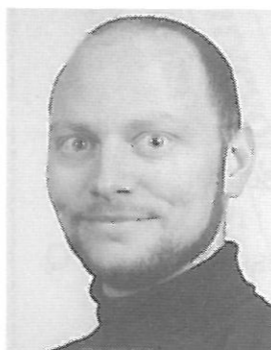
KATE – Debbie Andrews joined the Society in 1975 for My Fair Lady and has appeared in most productions since then. She is Assistant Secretary of COS and helps with CO2 in many ways. Debbie has played many small parts, and was Edith in the previous production of Pirates. She was a soloist in the Society's 70th Anniversary Concert last Autumn when she sang Bill from Showboat – one of her favourite numbers.



ISABEL – Emma Spurgeon has been involved with COS all her life, but her first performance was in CO2's first production of Grease. Emma has performed in numerous shows and has enjoyed playing principal roles which include Frenchie in Grease, Lily in Annie, Herb in Godspell and Peggie Sawyer in 42nd Street. Emma has also played thigh – slapping Prince Charming in Cinderella at Clacton – one of her favourite roles.

SERGEANT OF POLICE – Lee Carter stepped onto the stage at 14 as a shark in West Side Story with CO2. Since then he has appeared in Godspell, Guys and Dolls as Benny Southstreet, Grease as Kinicki, Anything Goes as Moonface Martin, and in Annie as Rooster. Lee also played Jesus in Godspell which COS presented in Delft in 1994. This is the second time he has played the Sergeant of Police – next time he wants to play something else.

have + lucks



SAMUEL – Stephen Thompson Pirates marks Steve's debut with COS. He is no stranger to the Theatre having performed with MLADS, WORMS and Gatsby Mill in Chelmsford. A keen squash player and fisherman, Steve is delighted to be treading the boards with such an accomplished cast.



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