



Imperial College Operatic Society



Anniversary Celebration

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

1956 - 1977

- 1956 Victorian Melodrama
1957 Trial by Jury
1958 The Mikado
1959 Iolanthe
1960 H.M.S. Pinafore
1961 The Yeomen of the Guard
1962 Trial by Jury, Bastien and Bastienne (Mozart)
1963 The Pirates of Penzance
1964 The Gondoliers
1965 February - Iolanthe: Tour - The Mikado;
October - The Mikado (Tour Revival)
1966 February - H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury
Tour - The Gondoliers
1967 February - Ruddigore; June - Carmen (concert
version) and G & S extracts from Iolanthe and
The Yeomen of the Guard.
1968 February - The Pirates of Penzance;
Tour - Iolanthe
1969 February - The Yeomen of the Guard; Tour - The Mikado
1970 February - H.M.S. Pinafore;
Tour - The Pirates of Penzance
1971 February - Patience; Tour - The Gondoliers
1972 February - The Yeomen of the Guard;
Lunchtime - Trial by Jury;
Tour - The Sorcerer
1973 February - Iolanthe; Lunchtime - The Zoo;
Tour - Ruddigore
1974 February - Princess Ida; Lunchtime - Trial by Jury;
Tour - H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury
1975 February - The Mikado; Lunchtime - G & S extracts;
Tour - Patience
1976 February - Utopia Ltd; Lunchtime - The Zoo
Tour - The Pirates of Penzance, The Zoo
1977 February - Orpheus in the Underworld (Offenbach)
Lunchtime - Venus and Adonis (John Blow)
Tour - The Yeomen of the Guard

PROGRAMME

PINEAPPLE POLL (excerpts) Sullivan/
Mackerras

Musical Director Michael Withers

COX AND BOX Sullivan/
Burnand

Cox Roger Woodward
Box John Foster
Bouncer Richard Ault

Musical Director Michael Withers
Producer Ian Gledhill

I N T E R V A L - 15 Minutes

H.M.S. PATIGORE LTD Sullivan/
Gledhill
(with apologies to Gilbert)

Musical Director David Pollard
Producer Ian Gledhill

Proceeds from this performance will go to the Queen's
Silver Jubilee Fund for the South-Western Area

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

ROGER WOODWARD A Chemistry graduate from Imperial College, now teaching, Roger has played the parts of The Judge, Grosvenor and the Major-General. He has been Tour Chairman and made his debut as a producer last year with The Zoo.

JOHN FOSTER A graduate in Civil Engineering from I.C., John works in the Department of the Environment. He has been coming to Salterton longer than he cares to admit, playing Frederick ('70), Marco and the Notary in The Sorcerer (including bottom E flats!).

RICHARD AULT A graduate from I.C. working in insurance. Mainly remembered for his part in The Mikado in 1969.

CECILIA SNELL nee Gordon-Clark, resident in Brighton, where she sings for local opera groups. She played the part of Tessa in the '71 production.

ANN HATTON Ann teaches music near Kidderminster. She played Gianetta in The Gondoliers in 1971.

LINDSAY FOSTER An occupational therapist originally from Australia, she married John earlier this year. Her first show was Sorcerer in 1972, since when she has proved invaluable as Secretary and Wardrobe Mistress.

DEBORAH JOHNSON nee Kemp, a flute teacher by trade, Debbie has monopolized the contralto roles since joining in 1972. She has played the parts of Dame Hannah, Lady Jane and Ruth, to name but a few.

DELITH BROOK A student of opera at the Guildhall, Delith's only role in Salterton was as Laetitia in The Zoo. She has taken lead roles in college productions of Utopia Ltd. and Orpheus in the Underworld.

TERESA QUINN Teresa joined ICOS in 1971 while a student at the Royal College of Music. She has played Patience, Mad Margaret and Mabel in recent tour productions.

JANE AULT nee Scotson, Jane is married to Richard and is

a housewife. She played Mabel in the '70 "Pirates" production. She was Elsie Maynard in the 1972 College performance of The Yeomen of the Guard.

MAX TAYLOR Max studied Mathematics at I.C. and is a keen amateur singer/composer/recorder player. Now in insurance, he has portrayed the Colonel, Dick Deadeye and Frederick in 1976.

ROGER NICHOLLS A graduate of the Royal School of Mines, and now a teacher of Mathematics, he is approaching his 100th performance with ICOS. He has played the Counsel, the Major and Thomas Brown. This year he portrays Jack Point and is also Tour Chairman.

BRIAN PARSONS Studied singing at the Royal College of Music and is at present a free-lance professional tenor. His most famous roles have been Alexis, Dick Dauntless, Ralph Rackstraw and the Duke in Patience.

PETER MILLS An English teacher with a keen interest in amateur dramatics. He is well-known for his roles as John Wellington Wells, Robin Oakapple, Sir Joseph Porter and Bunthorne. He produced "Pirates" in 1976.

JANICE MILLS Like her husband, Janice teaches English. She received much praise from the local press for her portrayal of Hebe. She has also played Saphir and Edith.

STEVE CHAYTON Steve graduated from I.C. this year and now plays his first principal part in Salterton. He was Pluto in the college show Orpheus earlier this year.

JOHN BARRATT Presently doing Chemistry at I.C., he had two roles on the '76 tour as Grinder and Samuel.

ROBINA VALLANCE Since leaving the Royal College of Music Robina has studied at the London Opera Centre. Her lead soprano roles include Aline and Josephine.

TIM JOHNSON Tim returns to play Shadbolt in "Yeomen" after a break of two years. His previous principal roles were as Sir Roderick and the Defendant in Trial by Jury.

The History of the Society

The Imperial College Operatic Society was formed twenty-one years ago in 1956 as a section of the Imperial College Music Society, which included the choir and orchestra. Their first production was a Victorian Melodrama.

After nine years of performing shows at college a two-week tour was arranged to Folkestone and Bristol. The audience numbers at Bristol were disappointingly small, but after a successful week at Folkestone, the Society returned for two weeks the following year. Accommodation was in a group of caravans on the 'Happy Day Caravan Site'. Audience numbers were not sufficient to warrant shows for two weeks, so the following year the Society stayed "at home" and staged a concert performance at the Royal College of Music. In this same year the Society became independent from the Music Society.

Eager to venture further afield again, the Society arranged to tour Salisbury and Lyme Regis, but at the last moment the Lyme Regis arrangements fell through due to the theatre being booked for Bingo! Fortunately the Public Hall at Budleigh Salterton was available and so the first of the now famous 'Budleigh' tours took place. Although enthusiastically received at Salisbury, audiences were small; the week at Budleigh, however, was such a success that the Society has returned ever since.

One major problem of organizing tours is the provision of accommodation for the company. At Salisbury an old disused boys' boarding school 8 miles away at Cholderton was available. Although in a dilapidated condition, the school was one of the most enjoyable forms of accommodation, with not only numerous pianos but even an old London Transport bus which was repaired (by I.C. engineers of course) and driven round the grounds! After a mid-tour party, during which several people decided to visit Stonehenge at midnight, the cast moved to the Church Hall in Salterton. This was very convenient for the Public Hall, but with the large numbers in the company, by now around seventy, it was quite a squeeze to fit everyone in. For the next and subsequent tours the A.T.C. and Guide Huts solved the accommodation problem. This year, however, the company moves to the adjacent Primary School. Thanks must go to the

Football and Tennis Clubs for shower facilities and local residents for baths - much appreciated by the female members at least!

The disappointment of Salisbury (1968) led to a decision to perform in Pinhoe near Exeter for the first week of the '69 tour. The company could thus live in Budleigh for the entire two weeks with just the scenery being moved during the middle weekend. It was during this tour that the first men landed on the moon. Thanks to the loan of a television, a relay of watchers stayed up until 4 a.m. in order to alert the remainder of the Company who wished to watch this historical event.

The following year it was decided to try a new venue for the first week - Street in Somerset - but plans fell through and the Society returned to Pinhoe. This year saw the first concert in St. Peter's Church during the middle weekend. It started as a concert for singers and piano, but has developed to include full scale choral excerpts, symphonies and concertos. Members are thus given a chance to perform in more unfamiliar roles. The collections from these concerts are given to various charities.

A concert on ~~that~~ Saturday inevitably created difficulties in transferring scenery, and much extra work for the Stage Crew in re-assembling and relighting the set. The outcome was a decision to stay both weeks in Budleigh Salterton - a decision not regretted.

Peter Johnson

The Members of the Society send their best wishes to Peter and Margaret Johnson and Colin and Heather Davis, who are prevented from being with us tonight by recent additions to their families.