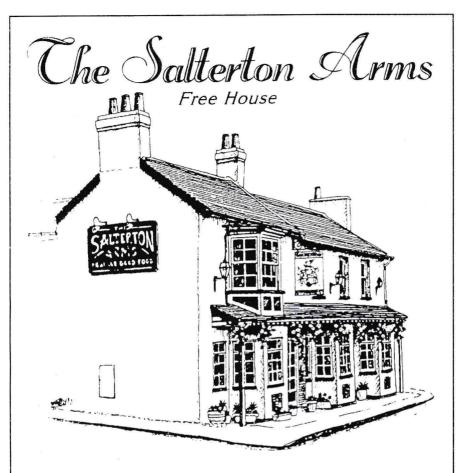
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RUDDIGORE

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OPERATIC SOCIETY 30th. July - 9th. August 1997



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IMPERIAL COLLEGE OPERATIC SOCIETY

It hardly seems twelve months have past since we were last here in Budleigh Salterton. Perhaps with the photographs and memories of last year, the association with Imperial Opera at Christmas time and the organising and rehearsing of the approaching summer's show means that we never really leave. Whatever the reason there is something magical here that makes our stay in Budleigh one of the most enjoyable experiences ever.

Our stay is all the better for the welcoming atmosphere we receive and without it we would be lost. The Town Council and the Governors of St Peter's School are instrumental in making the whole thing happen. Age Concern, local businesses and organisations, the subscribing members and, indeed, the entire community are outstanding in supporting the event. On top of this, it seems that everyone comes along to see the show. For this we are truly grateful; after all, where would we be without our audiences?

This year's tour marks our 30th anniversary - remarkable by any standards. History relates that we were double-booked by a venue in another part of the country, we found Budleigh and since then have looked no further. I have little doubt that the society will content itself to remain here for another 30 years.

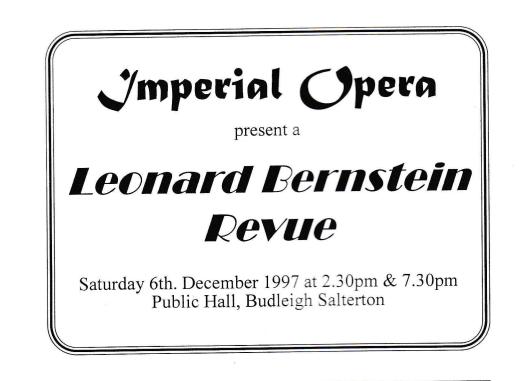
Thank you for your continuing support over the years. The cast, crew and production team have put together a little ghost story for you... I hope you will enjoy the show.

Derek Hirst 1997 Tour Chairman

Our Thanks to

Budleigh Salterton Town Council The Red Cross St Peter's School John & Jo Tripp Age Concern Brian Hutchesson

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In the Cornish fishing village of Rederring a corps of professionally endowed bridesmaids laments their continuing state of spinsterhood. Pretty Rose Maybud could marry if she would, if her beauty did not abash the local youths; Dame Hannah, her adopted aunt could marry her decrepit suitor Old Adam Goodheart, if it were not for the maidenly vow she took the day she renounced Sir Roderic Murgatroyd, one of the accursed baronets of Ruddigore. Rose secretly loves the bashful Robin Oakapple, a handsome young farmer, but he too has a secret - he is one of the bad baronets of Ruddigore who, in order to avoid the family curse (which obliges each incumbent to commit a crime punctually each day, or perish in unspeakable agony) has gone into hiding, abandoning his younger brother, Sir Despard to be the villain of the piece.

Robin's foster brother Dick Dauntless returns home from sea and is contracted by Robin to declare his feelings to Rose, but on seeing that lovely maiden, Dick successfully wins Rose for himself. Robin returns to find out if Dick had been successful in pleading his case, but finds instead that Dick and Rose are engaged. Robin succeeds in winning Rose back to his own affections, but this incites Dick to betray Robin on his very wedding day, by revealing to Sir Despard that Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd (alias Robin Oakapple) is still alive, and as the elder brother, should be the current victim of the curse. Rose, appalled by this revelation, offers to marry Sir Despard in place of Sir Ruthven, but Despard prefers to return to his former love Margaret, whom as an earlier victim of the family curse of evil-doing, he had cruelly deserted on their wedding day.

At the end of Act One Robin, attempting to disrupt the wedding celebrations of Rose and Richard and of Sir Despard and Margaret, is felled by a reluctant blow from Richard and falls insensible to the ground.

Later, in the picture gallery at Ruddigore Castle, Robin/Sir Ruthven and his faithful servant Old Adam who, in the spirit of the thing, has renamed himself Gideon Crawle muse upon their evil state. As Lord of the Manor, Robin could forbid the marriage of Richard and Rose, but when they come up to the castle and Rose pleads in person, Robin is unable to deny her and gives his blessing upon the wedding. Alone once more, Robin acknowledges the evil of the house of Ruddigore and vows to sin no more, which act of rebellion incites his ancestors to step down from the frames of their portraits to remonstrate with him. Their torments and the scorn of Robin's uncle, Sir Roderic, prevail upon him to resolve to continue with the family's prescribed course of evil, by carrying off a village maiden at the very least. As Robin despatches Gideon Crawle to the village upon this infamous errand, Sir Despard and his new wife Margaret arrive. They plead with Robin to abandon his life of crime, pointing out that he was morally responsible for every crime committed on his behalf by Sir Despard during his ten years of bad Baronetcy. Appalled by this, he resolves to perish by the curse rather than add a single further item to the catalogue of his crimes. Fortified by this resolution, Robin is horrified to find Gideon Crawle returning with the freshly carried-off maiden.

Will Robin pursue a heinous life of crime as his ancestors have done, or will he resist the force of the family curse and die in agony, but (relatively) unspotted with evil this very day?

Dramatis Personae

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd / Robin Oakapple Richard Dauntless, his foster brother Sir Despard Murgatroyd, of Ruddigore Sir Roderic Murgatroyd, of Ruddigore Old Adam Goodheart, Robin's faithful servant Rose Maybud, a village maiden Mad Margaret, a wronged maiden Dame Hannah, Rose's aunt Zorah, the vicar's flighty daughter Ruth, a farm girl Laura, Zorah's sensible sister Nora, Zorah's sister and arch-rival in flightiness Flora, Zorah's frivolous sister Dora, Zorah's studious sister Agnes, a very elderly bridesmaid Cissie, the great, great niece of Agnes Chastity, niece of the landlord of Murgatroyd Arms Purity, sister of Chastity Carrie, a farmer's daughter Lizzie. a milkmaid Daft Billy, a village idiot Daft Sammy, another one Big Nat, the horse holder from the Murgatroyd Arms Old Ham, a pig keeper Seth, a farm labourer Young Flossie, a shepherd Jacob, a potboy at the Murgatroyd Arms Mr Musgrove, a gentleman farmer Young Master Ralph, his son Jethro Spadger, a gamekeeper Mad Bob, a crazed fisherman Frank Fearless, A sailor Sam Steadfast, Another sailor Sir Mervyn Murgatroyd Sir Desmond Murgatroyd Sir Gilbert Murgatroyd Sir Thomas Murgatroyd Sir Richard Murgatroyd Sir Conrad Murgatroyd Cardinal Edwin Murgatroyd Sir Lionel Murgatroyd Sir Jasper Murgatroyd Sir Rupert Murgatroyd Ug, a proto-Murgatroyd Sir Matthew Murgatroyd, Witchfinder-General Soldier 1 Soldier 2 Ahab Feltch, Tormentor Innocent Village Maiden Succubi & Bucks and Blades

Philip Hollman Stephen Brown John Franks Matthew Soane Paul Sheehan Emma Hall Kirsty Bennett Leonie Barron Georgina King Gina Brill Laura Hudson Karine Ogilvie Sarah Moltoni Kath Ball Vicky Swerling **Ruth Parker** Julia Harries Marianne Kaufmann Annika Vieweg Mary Soane Simon Ibbotson Matthew Soane Lin Yi Mina Derek Hirst John Savery Joe Wicks David Lillie Derek Drennan Phillip Thompson Angus Henderson Philip Errington Joe Wicks David Lillie Derek Hirst Phillip Thompson Simon Ibbotson Derek Drennan Ruth Parker Lin Yi Ming Philip Errington Joe Wicks John Savery Angus Henderson David Lillie Phillip Thompson Angus Henderson Simon Ibbotson Derek Hirst Alison Abery / Adrian Lillie The ladies and gentlemen of the company

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New Gallery

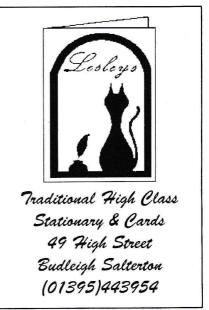
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Imperial College Budleigh







Operatic Society in Salterton





ful achievement of this he intends to progress onto cloning £20 notes, Aston Martins and other artefacts of great value. He will be available after the show to discuss his plans with potential sponsors and profit sharers. Police- and tax inspector-types need not apply.

Derek is also a part-time artist: his latest work, Banana In Mineral Oil (Divided) is on display in the Gear Lab of Imperial College.

Philip Hollman

After sweltering beneath a false beard in the 1995 production of "Yeomen of the Guard" and then swanning about with a false American accent in last years "Gondoliers", Phil would like to point out that this year his sideburns are all his own.

Laura Hudson

Busty Nordic Laura lives in a pinescented theme park near Weston Super Mare. Her hobbies include clogdancing, topiary and spot-welding. A multi talented individual, Laura is currently working on a BBC-commissioned opera based on the life of Nobby Stiles.

Simon Ibbotson

Ex-member of an unsuccessful boy-band, Simon aspires one day to own more than one shirt. His Ph.D. in atmospherics and well-known communicative abilities first thing in the morning leave him suitably qualified to become a GMTV weathergirl.

Marianne Kaufmann

Marianne's friends continue to receive their annual postcard from Budleigh. Three years of chorus singing have not yet cloyed her joy of playing a bridesmaid - au contraire!

Georgina King

George first performed with Opsoc at the age of eight in the 1985 production of "The Sorcerer". Since then, she has remained an undiscovered chorus member - until now that is! She is delighted to be playing the part of Zorah and is looking forward to learning the advanced acting skills required of her to fulfil this very important role.

David Lillie

Lawrence Olivier, Marlon Brando, Peter O'Toole. These are just a few of the great actors not to have been compared with David. He struggles to emulate his acting heroes and 'hams' his way through our shows! To his annoyance, we think he most closely resembles a cross between Gordon Jackson and Wilfred Bramble.

Millie Lillie

Millie has shown a disconcerting lack of interest in operetta and plans to sleep through this show on a sofa in the dressing room. But then, as the Society's canine mascot, we think that's her privilege.

Sarah Moltoni

Sarah joined Opsoc for the 1994 tour of "Pirates". Since then she has worked on and off stage, co-designed the set ("The Gondoliers"), co-choreographed ("Sweet Charity") and now she appears as a frivolous bridesmaid. All that remains for her now is to become first-choice spin bowler for the Italian cricket team!

Karine Ogilvie

Karine will be the sole survivor from last years "Foreign Legion", however if BA plan any more strikes, we'll have to send the gondola to Spain to bring her over. Hope its worth it (for her, we mean!)

Ruth Parker

Apart from maintaining her position as youngest member on stage (although see Phil 'New Boy' Thompson later), Ruth is a member of that rare breed of artist in amateur operatic circles - she never rehearses! We'll probably see her for the first time when Opsoc reach Budleigh, but she'll still know her words by opening night. Doesn't it just make you sick!

John Savery

Having overcome the disadvantage of not performing in his native Danish, John's verve and vivacity have allowed him to become one of the most popular members of the ballroom dancing society. Are there any more at home like you, John?

Paul Sheehan

Paul is on the first and only leg of his 'come back' tour (otherwise known as the 'don't come back' tour), returning to the West country after three years, and to G&S after four raptureless years. His first time with the Society, Paul was sceptical about spending two weeks under canvas in the Devon countryside with a bunch of relative strangers, but was soon persuaded by the tales of sobriety and clean-living for which Opsoc is noted! He feels his performance as Old Adam is influenced by the Julie Walters "Is it on the trolley" school of acting, and Paul's future plans include Don Alfonso in Cosi fan tutte and downing pints in a cosy pub!

Mary Soane

Although she has continued to appear in a number of Opsoc's London shows, Mary's last appearance on the Budleigh stage was in "Yeomen". She took a break last year to get married and now she is pleased to be back again for "Ruddigore".

Matthew Soane

Matthew has been in Opsoc for longer than anyone cares to remember. He has exhausted all possibilities of playing 'live' upper-class twits, so he reappears this year for what might be his last show as a 'dead' one.

Vicky Swerling

Well known for her hairdressing skills (resulting in a large increase in this production's wig budget), Vicky's passion for life has resulted in her scraping (with intent) through her studies at Imperial. This is her second tour and she is once again playing an old bag in the chorus, a role she has now become fairly accustomed to!

Phillip "New Boy" Thompson

Phil is a lovable, fun loving chap (well so he says). This is his first Tour and one in which he hopes to start his Broadway career. He is Cornish-born and the youngest member of the cast (bar one!) and hence he's still a student, studying Chemical Engineering. Singer, dancer, actor, scientist and sculpture artist; competent in all, excels in none, but can drink like a fish.

Annika Vieweg

Ms. Vieweg (pronounced *fee-veg*, but that's Germans for you) is a former Bayern Munich centre-forward who has just been signed for £3 million and is enjoying her first season with Imperial College.

Joe Wicks

Well known for drinking <u>other</u> cast members' bottles of gin, Joe is performing in Budleigh Salterton for the first time. Joe's talents include a convincing impression of a 7 year old boy in shorts, and a pouting scarlet femme fatale. Joe's productions with other companies include "Guys and Dolls".

Lin Yi Ming

Lin first joined the Society in 1843 (well, it <u>seems</u> that long ago!) and has been delighting audiences with his bijou cameo roles ever since. A keen student of method acting, this year Lin has made use of his own pocket machete in order to perfect his headless ghost act. He will be signing 'before and after' photos after the show.



The Orchestra

Violins	Aiden Broadbridge (Leader), Barbara Steel,
	Fred Boodoo, Jim Norris, John Dickinson,
	Colin Parker, Ted Wood, Antonia Cviic
Viola	Pippa Cleverdon, Beverley Fell
Cello	Vanessa Lawley, Hannah Lynes,
	Lynda Marsan
Double Bass	Damen Burrows
Flute	Maxine Willis, Alison Silver
Clarinet	Andy Power, Joanna Soane
Bassoon	Tanya Rivers-Moore
Oboe	Tom Lambert
Horn	Tim Jones
Trumpet	Cliff Parker
Trombone	Marion Hinds, Colin Parker
Percussion	Brian Steel

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in

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The ICOS Shows

- 1956 Victorian Melodrama
- 1957 Trial by Jury
- 1958 The Mikado
- 1959 Iolanthe
- 1960 HMS Pinafore
- 1961 The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1962 Trial by Jury, Bastien & Bastienne
- 1963 The Pirates of Penzance
- 1964 The Gondoliers
- 1965 Iolanthe, The Mikado
- 1966 HMS Pinafore, Trial by Jury, The Gondoliers
- 1967 Ruddigore, Carmen, G & S Highlights
- 1968 The Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe
- 1969 The Yeomen of the Guard, The Mikado
- 1970 HMS Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance
- 1971 Patience, The Gondoliers
- 1972 The Yeomen of the Guard, Trial by Jury, **The Sorcerer**
- 1973 Iolanthe, The Zoo, Ruddigore
- 1974 Princess Ida, HMS Pinafore, Trial by Jury
- 1975 The Mikado, G&S Highlights, Patience
- 1976 Utopia Limited, The Pirates of Penzance
- 1977 Orpheus in the Underworld, Venus & Adonis, The Marathon, The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1978 The Gondoliers, Tales of . Hoffman Act II, Iolanthe
- 1979 The Grand Duchess, Trial by Jury, **Princess Ida**
- 1980 The Sorcerer, The Zoo, The Mikado
- 1981 Ruddigore, Fiddler on the Roof,

The Zoo, HMS Pinafore, Trial by Jury

- 1982 Patience, The Marathon, Trial by Jury, Utopia Limited
- 1983 The Yeomen of the Guard, The Martyr of Antioch, **The Gondoliers**
- 1984 Iolanthe, Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo, **The Pirates of Penzance, The Zoo**
- 1985 The Grand Duke, Horrortorio, The Sorcerer
- 1986 Princess Ida, Bessie's Dilema, Widgets PLC, **The Mikado**
- 1987 The Zoo, HMS Pinafore, The Marathon, Patience
- 1988 The Gondoliers, Side by Side by Sondheim, Saint George and the Dragon, The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1989 The Pirates of Penzance, Bernstein on Broadway, Iolanthe
- 1990 Utopia Limited, The Songs of Cole Porter, Ruddigore
- 1991 Kiss Me Kate, HMS Pinafore, Trial by Jury
- 1992 Grease, The Marathon, The Mikado
- 1993 Anything Goes, **Princess Ida**, Opposites Attract
- 1994 Chicago, The Pirates of Penzance, Daughters of Misfortune
- 1995 Cabaret, Another Hundred People, **The Yeomen of the Guard**, The Return of the Scarlet Pimpernel
- 1996 The Boyfriend, Play A Simple Melody, **The Gondoliers**
- 1997 Sweet Charity, A Little Bit of Everything, **Ruddigore**

G&S Interval Quiz

- 1. "The Mikado" had the highest initial number of performances, but which opera had the shortest ?
- 2. In which year was "Ruddigore" first performed ?
- 3. Which G&S opera is set in Ploverleigh ?
- 4. In which year would Frederic become of age ?
- 5. Who was the "Waterloo House young man"?
- 6. Which first-night regular at G&S operas was immortalised in the Fairy Queen's song "Oh, foolish fay" ?
- 7. Who was Professor of Abstract Science at Castle Adamant ?
- 8. In which two G&S operas does the character Ruth appear ?
- 9. What event reputedly gave Gilbert the idea for "The Mikado" ?
- 10. Which half of Strephon was mortal ?
- 11. Who wrote Pose Maybud's book of etiquette ?
- 12. Which opera transferred from the Opera Comique to open the new Savoy Theatre ?
- 13. From whose book did Jack Point obtain his 'original' Merrie Jestes ?
- 14. Who was waiting in the torture chamber, to be interviewed by Don Alhambra ?
- 15. In which opera is the unaccompanied chorus "Eagle high in cloudland soaring"?

Answers

Inez, 15. Utopia Ltd.

1. The Grand Duke, Z. January Z2, 1887, 3. The Sorcerer, 4. 1940, 5. Archibald Grosvenor, 6. Captain Shaw, of the Fire Service, 7. Lady Blanche, 8. The Pirates of Penzance and Ruddigore, 9. A Japanese sword fell from the wall in his study, 10. His lower half, 11. The wife of a Lord Mayor, 12. Patience, 13. Hugh Ambrose 14. *The Company*

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Set Construction

Portraits Costumes

Front of House Manager Front of House Staff

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