

The
Queanbeyan
Arts
Council
Players



present
Gilbert &
Sullivan's



HMS



PINAFORE



Producer

LINDSAY SMITH was introduced to Gilbert and Sullivan at Geelong College. He has been singing it ever since. This has included principal roles with the Canberra Philharmonic Society and Canberra Opera. He was co-producer for the recent Philharmonic Society's production of 'The Mikado'. Since writing and producing the "G and S Story" to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the partnership, he has enjoyed the production side of the theatre.

The Principals

JOSEPHINE (Fran Bosly) Fran is an active member of Canberra's Philharmonic and Opera Societies, participating in several productions, both as a chorus member and as a principal. Her activities with the Queanbeyan Players include the role of Mable in 'Pirates of Penzance' and singing in the chorus of 'The Gondoliers'. She is currently studying singing with Canberra teacher Patricia Davey. Principal roles have included Salad Days, White Horse Inn, Sentimental Bloke, Brigadoon, Calamity Jane, Carousel, Show Boat and La Vie Parisienne. For the Opera Society she played principal parts in Die Fledermaus, Don Pasquale.

COUSIN HEBE (Norma Roach) played Casilda in the Gondoliers. Norma is well-known to Queanbeyan and Canberra audiences as a soloist.

CAPTAIN CORCORAN (Peter Dark) is new both to Queanbeyan and to Gilbert and Sullivan.

CARPENTER (Anthony McGlynn) makes his first appearance in a G & S opera.

SIR JOSEPH (John Johnston). Has appeared in the Players' two previous productions. He has performed in several G & S Productions in Singapore and also enjoys participating in drama.

THE BOSUN (Richard Craft) Richard is a relative newcomer to stage and singing. After being press-ganged into a Canberra Philharmonic Society production last year as an extra, he has become an active member of that Society and of the Canberra Opera Society. He commenced vocal training with Canberra teacher Patricia Davey early this year. This is his first appearance with the Queanbeyan Players.

BUTTERCUP (Val Cutler) played in the chorus in 'Pirates of Penzance' and 'Gondoliers'. Has commenced studies with Lois Bogg and enjoying his first principal role in 'H.M.S. Pinafore'.

RALPH RACKSTRAW (Phil Perman) has sung in Adelaide, Perth, Melbourne and Brisbane and more latterly has done a variety of roles with the Canberra Philharmonic Society and the Canberra Opera Society. Recent productions in which he has performed are La Vie Parisienne, Die Fledermaus, Don Pasquale and Merry Widow.

DICK DEADEYE (John Davies). John is enjoying his first principal role. He first became interested in QAC Players while taking publicity photos of 'Pirates of Penzance' for the Queanbeyan Age. He joined the Players and appeared in the chorus of 'Gondoliers', played Constable "Boot" in a workshop production of 'Salad Days' and is a member of the Management Committee. He was Publicity Officer for both Arts Council and Players.

HMS PINAFORE

The Music

ACT ONE – On board H.M.S. Pinafore at Portsmouth

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| 1. We Sail the Ocean Blue | Chorus |
| 2. Hail Men-O'-War's Men | Little Buttercup |
| 3. But Tell Me Who's the Youth . . | Little Buttercup and Bill Bobstay |
| 4. A Nightingale Sighed for the
Moon's Bright Ray | Ralph and Chorus |
| 5. A Maiden Fair to See | Ralph |
| 6. My Gallant Crew, Good-morning | Captain Corcoran |
| 7. Sir, You are Sad | Little Buttercup and Captain Corcoran |
| 8. Sorry her Lot Who Loves Too Well | Josephine |
| 9. Over the Bright Blue Sea . . | Chorus |
| 10. Sir Joseph's Barge is Seen . . | Chorus |
| 11. Now Give Three Cheers | Sir Joseph Porter, Captain Corcoran,
Hebe and Chorus |
| 12. When I was a Lad | Sir Joseph and Chorus |
| 13. For I Hold That on the Seas . . | Sir Joseph, Hebe and Chorus |
| 14. A British Tar is A | Ralph, Bill Bobstay and Bob Becket |
| 15. Refrain, Audacious Tar | Josephine and Ralph |
| 16. Can I Survive this Overbearing | Ralph, Dick Deadeye, Hebe, Josephine
and Chorus |



ACT TWO – The same evening

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|---|---|
| 17. Fair Moon, to Thee I Sing . . | Captain Corcoran |
| 18. Things are Seldom What
They Seem | Little Buttercup and Captain Corcoran |
| 19. The Hours Creep on Apace . . | Josephine |
| 20. Never Mind the Why and
Wherefore | Josephine, Captain Corcoran and
Sir Joseph |
| 21. Kind Captain, I've
Important Information . . | Captain Corcoran and Dick Deadeye |
| 22. Carefully on Tip-toe Stealing . . | All |
| 23. Farewell, my Own | All |
| 24. Many Years Ago | Buttercup and Chorus |
| 25. Oh Joy Oh Rapture Unforseen | All |

Conductor

MYRA LAW is well known to Canberra audiences, both as a singer and conductor. She has also played principal roles with the Canberra Philharmonic Society. In addition she still finds time to act as secretary to the National Eisteddfod Society. Myra will be remembered for the very successful production of "The Pirates of Penzance" at Queanbeyan and last year's production of 'The Gondoliers'.

Chorus

SAILORS: (Tenors). John Everett, John McGlynn, Jim Vickers, Geoff McCubbin, Tim Casey, David McCubbin (Midshipmite).

BASSES: Graeme Finlayson, Les Cook, Tony Vaile, Richard Craft, Peter Sidney.

SISTERS, COUSINS AND AUNTS: (Sopranos). Judy Bezear, Barbara Robinson, Jackie McLoughin, Helen Roach, Rosemary Coombs, Angela LaVella, Kathryn Schuller, Pam Snedden, Sue Gibson, Margaret Brazier, Kerry Chown.

ALTOS: Jadwiga Bierzonski-Burczyk, Jenny Cox, Eleanor Frame, Mady Swain, Jeanette Field, Susan Bell, Rosemary McCubbin, Linda Phillips, Dinah Sutton, Joan Hosking.

The Story

ACT ONE

Hard at work on the quarter-deck of Her Majesty's Ship, Pinafore, the gallant crew busy themselves polishing brass and splicing ropes. The ship is anchored just off Portsmouth; it is high noon as Little Buttercup steps aboard with a basket of tobacco, scissors, ribbons and all the other little things a sailor on the Pinafore might buy.

Dick Deadeye enters, pushing his way through a circle of sailors and causing them to draw back in horror at his ugliness. Just as Little Buttercup begins to speak to him, she notices a new face among the familiar crew. It belongs to Ralph Rackstraw, a most unlikely type to have joined the British Navy, this young man is hopelessly in love with his Captain's daughter, Josephine.

The commander of the ship, Captain Corcoran, enters with an extremely formal though cordial ceremony. He wishes his crew a good morning; they gallantly return it. After inspection the outwardly confident and happy Captain, reveals to Buttercup that he is worried because Josephine does not seem to take kindly to the prospect of marrying Sir Joseph. It also appears that Buttercup and he are attracted, but again there is the problem of social status and nothing can come of it.

The Admiral arrives: Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., accompanied by all his sisters and his cousins and aunts, a crowd that follows him wherever he goes. Apparently satisfied with the conditions aboard this ship, the Admiral retires to the Captain's quarters for a private word on a tender and sentimental subject.

Free to talk with the great man gone, Ralph confides in the crew that he is about to tell the Captain of his love for Josephine.

Josephine enters and Ralph pours out a torrent of amorous protestations. She rejects him and leave Ralph who returns to his crew desolate and bent on ending his life. The Boatswain, ever helpful, hands him a pistol, Ralph takes aim at his own head. Seeing that Josephine runs fearlessly into the crowd of sailors shrieking that she does love him. The lovers decide to jump ship in the night with the help of the crew. Once ashore they will find a clergyman who will marry them immediately. Everyone, with the exception of Sir Joseph, the Captain and the unpleasant Dick Deadeye, help to plot an elopement.

ACT TWO

It is night; Buttercup listens secretly as the Captain sings sadly to the moon. He grieves because his daughter will not accept Sir Joseph Porter, instead she wants a miserable tar. Buttercup reveals her presence and offers her comfort to him. Actually, she is quite taken with the noble officer, who would have been equally interested in her had not rank divided them forever.

Sir Joseph enters. He demands an explanation for Josephine's apparent lack of interest in the First Lord of the Admiralty. The Captain, his mind in shreds, can supply only the vague possibility that the young girl thinks he is too highly placed for her to encourage. The Admiral immediately speaks to the reluctant girl, who is delighted to hear from so official a source that difference in rank is no cause for denying love. But it is not Sir Joseph's station in life that the girl is concerned about.

Like the others, Dick Deadeye knows her secret. He tells the Captain of the elopement planned for that very night. The Captain seizes a cat-o'-nine tails and hides himself in a cloak. Just as the unsuspecting couple have stolen across the deck and stepped up to the rail he reveals himself and demands to know where his daughter is bound and with whom. Ralph boldly answers, that although humble he is still an Englishman! Ralph's audacity is such a rude shock to the Captain that he swears for the first time in his captaincy. The Admiral, who has overheard, will listen to no defence. The crime is too monstrous. The Captain is confined to his cabin and Ralph is loaded with chains and cast into the dungeon.

Little Buttercup holds the key to the unravelling of all this mess. She requests a hearing from the Admiral and tells him that once she had two little boys in her care and mixed them up. One was highborn, the other low. When they left her, one became Ralph Rackstraw, able seaman, the other Captain Corcoran of H.M.S. Pinafore, reversing their true-born situations. Thus the true captain should be Ralph and the true sailor Captain Corcoran.

Sir Joseph has both the prisoners brought up — they are already in uniform for their new positions — and announces the change. Now the former Captain's daughter is common, she is far too low for a First Lord of the Admiralty to consider at all, but not too low for her true love Captain Rackstraw, who marries her, while Corcoran weds Buttercup and Sir Joseph weds the ever admiring cousin Hebe.

All rejoice and a reprise of "For he is an Englishman" ends the operetta.

Credits

SET DESIGN	— Tom Bosman
SET CONSTRUCTION	— Tom Bosman, Dan Eaton and Members of the Company
HOUSE MANAGER	— Roger Coombs
PUBLICITY	— Roger Coombs, Peter Dark, John Davies
BUSINESS MANAGER	— John Snedden
ASSISTANT B.M.	— Peter Sidney
STAGE MANAGER	— Dan Eaton
MAKE-UP MISTRESS	— Kerry Chown
ASSISTED BY	— Dallas Toone and Connie Hunt
PROPERTIES	— Diana Gillman
FRONT OF HOUSE	— Bill Toone
CHOREOGRAPHY	— Jackie McLoughlin, Helen Roach
LIGHTING	— Greg Toone assisted by Peter McIntyre, Bill Schuler
PROMPT	— Chris Dunshea
WARDROBE	— Norma Roach, Carla Balzanelli, Pam Snedden aided by Connie Hunt, Helen Roach

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance and co-operation received from:—

PIANIST — RODNEY JOHNSTON
ORGANIST— HARRY CROFT
CANBERRA PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY
CANBERRA OPERA
CANBERRA THEATRE
J.B. YOUNG LTD. QUEANBEYAN
"THE QUEANBEYAN AGE"
LEONARDS FABRICS
QUEANBEYAN HIGH SCHOOL
MELROSE HIGH SCHOOL
THE BURLEY GRIFFIN MOTEL
THE LUCKY STAR KIOSK
THE SWING SHOP
BOUCHIERS

We apologise for any person/s or company/s omitted.

The organ for this production was supplied by courtesy of
"THE ORGAN CENTRE," The Boulevard, Canberra.

PRODUCTION NOTE:

Basically HMS Pinafore, the second of the G & S Operas, has a simple plot and singable tunes. We have tried to maintain the freshness and simplicity of the opera. Many of the ideas have come from the cast themselves proving that "give and take" between producer and cast can reap benefits. This is the third Savoy Opera to be produced by the QACP. We hope it proves that Queanbeyan can make its own music and entertainment. My thanks to cast and crew, in particular, Tom Bosman, Jackie McLoughlin and Norma Roach.

LINDSAY SMITH
(Producer)

Queanbeyan Arts Council

The Queanbeyan Arts Council Players was formed in 1974 under the auspices of the Queanbeyan Branch of the Arts Council of N.S.W.

If you are interested in musical and/or drama productions and are prepared to assist in any way, by singing, dancing, acting, making costumes, assisting with make-up or any of the many other activities associated with theatre — we would like to hear from you.

People wishing to join the Queanbeyan Arts Council Players should contact Dr Trevor Roach or Norma Roach — Telephone 97-1108