

**Batley Congregational Operatic Society**

**HANOVER STREET**

*Princess Ida*

***Souvenir Programme***

**MARCH, 1956**



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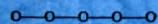
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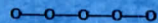
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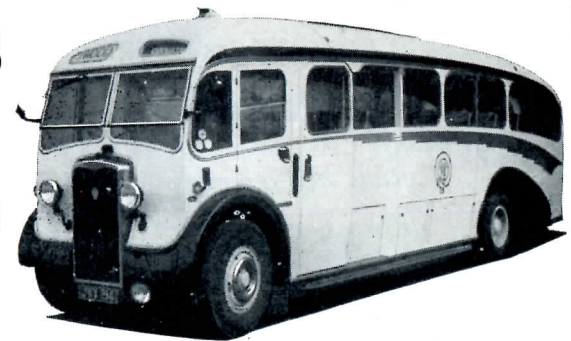
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Our thanks go out to everybody who has, in any way, helped to make the show such a success.

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## Princess Ida — Story

WHEN Ida was a "twelve month old" she was betrothed to Prince Hilarion, the two year old son of King Hildebrand. The opening scene celebrates the Prince's coming-of-age when he, along with his father and the courtiers are anticipating the arrival of the bride and her father, King Gama. When King Gama eventually arrives, accompanied by his three sons, and without his daughter, there is great consternation and annoyance.

He explains that the Princess is now Head of a University for women at Castle Adamant, where man is forbidden to set foot and the very mention of his name is a crime. The Prince immediately leaves with two companions to storm Castle Adamant where he hopes to win the Princess's heart, and King Gama is kept as a hostage.

At Castle Adamant the lovely students are studying the classics and much of their training emphasises the inferiority of Man.

Already two girls have been expelled for playing with chessMEN and another for sketching a perambulator.

When Hilarion and his friends arrive they disguise themselves as women students in order to mix with the Girl Graduates, but their ruse is discovered when Cyril after drinking freely of the wine at luncheon sings, "Would you know the kind of maid sets my heart a flame?" and the young men are taken into custody.

Hilarion's father, King Hildebrand, arrives at Castle Adamant and declares that if the marriage contract is not kept and the Princess still refuses to marry his son he will make war on the University. The Princess is defiant and decides to defend Castle Adamant with her ladies, who arm themselves with battleaxes (they don't use rifles because they might go off).

At last the Princess agrees that the issue can be decided between her brothers and Hilarion with his two friends. Hilarion is the victor and Princess Ida resigns her post as Head of the University and gives him her hand.



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G. Greenwood  
(King Hildebrand)



B. Sykes  
(Princess Ida)



S. W. Lockyer  
(King Gama)



C. K. Moul  
(Arac)



R. Newsome  
(Lady Blanche)



A. Smithson  
(Hilarion)



M. Byrne  
(Guron)



B. Newsome  
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*Presents*

# PRINCESS IDA

or CASTLE ADAMANT

(By permission of Miss Bridget D'Oyly Carte)

*William S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan*



## DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

KING HILDEBRAND ... ..GEOFFREY GREENWOOD  
HILARION (his son) ... .. ALFRED SMITHSON  
CYRIL { (friends of ) ... ..N. ALLAN HAIGH  
FLORIAN { Hilarion) } ... .. ERIC COUPLAND  
KING GAMA ... .. STANLEY W. LOCKYER  
ARAC { (Sons .. ) ... ..CLIVE K. MOUL  
GURON { of King } ... .. MALCOLM BYRNE  
SCYNTHIUS { Gama) } ... ..FRANK BURTON  
PRINCESS IDA (daughter of King Gama) ... .. BETTY SYKES  
LADY BLANCHE (Professor of Abstract Science)  
RICHMOND NEWSOME  
LADY PSYCHE (Professor of Humanities) MAUREEN BRINNEN  
MELISSA (daughter of Lady Blanche) ... BARBARA NEWSOME  
SACHARISSA { (Girl students ... ) ...JUDITH HAMPSHIRE  
CHLOE { at ... MAVIS HAYWOOD  
ADA { Castle Adamant) } ...MARGARET WILSON  
CHORUS LADIES (Girl Graduates, Daughters of the Plough, etc.)  
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D. GILL, A. GRAYSON, A. GREENWOOD, H. HAIGH,  
D. KEMP, F. STEAD, D. SYKES, W. WALKER, E. G. WATSON,  
J. A. WHITEHEAD, N. WOOD.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1.—Pavilion attached to King Hildebrand's Palace.  
ACT 2.—Gardens in Castle Adamant.  
ACT 3.—Outer walls and Courtyard of Castle Adamant.

---

Producer ... .. Miss V. STUBBS  
Musical Director ... .. Mr. C. CARBUTT  
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## Musical Numbers

### ACT 1

#### OVERTURE

- 1 Chorus and Solo (**Florian**)—Search throughout the panorama
- 2 Song (**Hildebrand and Chorus**)—Now hearken to my strict command
- 3 Recitative and Song (**Hilarion**)—Today we meet
- 4 Chorus—From the distant panorama
- 5 Trio (**Arac, Guron, Scynthius and Chorus**)—We are warriors three
- 6 Song (**Gama**)—If you give me your attention
- 7 Finale—P'rhaps if you address the lady

### Act 2

- 8 Chorus of Girls and Solos (**Lady Psyche, Melissa and Sacharissa**)—  
Towards the empyrean heights
- 9 Chorus of Girls—Mighty maiden with a mission
- 10 Recitative and Aria (**Princess**)—Minerva ! Oh hear me
- 10a Exeunt for Princess Ida and Girls—And thus to empyrean heights
- 11 Song (**Blanche**)—Come mighty Must !
- 12 Trio (**Hilarion, Cyril and Florian**)—Gently, gently
- 13 Trio (**Hilarion, Cyril and Florian**)—I am a maiden
- 14 Quartet (**Princess, Cyril, Hilarion and Florian**)—  
The world is but a broken toy
- 15 Song (**Lady Psyche**) with Hilarion, Cyril and Florian—  
A lady fair of lineage high
- 16 Quintet (**Psyche, Melissa, Hilarion, Cyril and Florian**)—  
The woman of the wisest wit
- 17 Duet (**Melissa and Lady Blanche**)—Now wouldn't you like
- 18 Chorus of Girls and Solos (**Blanche and Cyril**)—  
Merrily ring the luncheon bell
- 19 Song (**Cyril**)—Would you know the kind of maid
- 20 Finale—Oh joy ! Our chief is saved

### ACT 3

- 21 Chorus and Solo (**Melissa**)—Death to the invader
- 22 Song (**Gama**) with Chorus of Girls—Whene'er I spoke
- 23 Song (**Princess**)—I built upon a rock
- 24 Chorus of Ladies and Soldiers—When anger spreads his wing
- 25 Song (**Arac**) with Guron, Scynthius and Chorus—  
This helmet I suppose
- 26 Chorus during the Fight—This is our duty
- 27 Finale—With joy abiding

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## *Minister's Remarks*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I am permitted to use a little space in this programme-brochure. I wrote last year without knowing at first hand the capabilities of our Operatic Society, but the production of "The Yeomen of the Guard" has made me one of the Society's most ardent 'fans'.

I am particularly looking forward to this new production of "Princess Ida" because it is the only one of these operas that I do not know at all. Perhaps that is true for you too, and so I hope that this presentation will attract many and complete our Gilbert and Sullivan education.

I understand that this is a spectacular show and the venture has demanded a great deal of courage on the part of the Society, for it is both costly and ambitious to produce. But our members are to be commended for their readiness to tackle the work. I wish the production great success, and hope that you who support it will make your enjoyment and appreciation known among your friends.

D. ALEXANDER DOUGLASS.

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## **Acknowledgement**

The President, Officers and members of the Batley Congregational Operatic Society are deeply grateful to all those friends who have furthered the production of these Operas, and to the advertisers who have made it possible to produce this Programme. We ask, where possible, to help those who have helped us.—THANK YOU !

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