

**Batley Gilbert & Sullivan
Society**



PRESENT

Ruddygore

**BATLEY TOWN HALL
MAY 12th–16th 1987 at 7.30pm**

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Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association
Member of Yorkshire Arts Association
presents

Ruddygore

or

"THE WITCH'S CURSE"

by William S. Gilbert & Arthur S. Sullivan

AT BATLEY TOWN HALL

12th TO 16th MAY, 1987

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I have pleasure in welcoming you on behalf of the Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society to our 38th Annual Production. This year we have chosen "RUDDYGORE" or "RUDDIGORE" as it later became known. The original spelling was considered offensive at the time. "Ruddygore" opened at the Savoy Theatre on January 22nd, 1887 and therefore celebrates it's Centenary this year.

This year has also seen a major change of both of our 'key' personnel. We are delighted to welcome Raymond Wood as our Musical Director/Accompanist and Owen S. Ward as our Producer. Ray was in fact a member of our Society in 1971. We have all thoroughly enjoyed both musical and floor rehearsals with Ray and Owen and we hope we have not given them too traumatic a time.

We hope you enjoy your evening with us and thank you for your continued support. It is, after all, you our audience who make all our efforts worthwhile.

STEPHANIE L. ROE, President.

OFFICIALS OF THE SOCIETY

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Vice-Presidents :

Mr. P. NEWELL, Mr. M. PARKINSON, Mr. C. SOWRBY

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY, 1st NOVEMBER, 1987—Dewsbury Town Hall
ANNUAL CELEBRITY CONCERT featuring
Vivian Bailey & David Owen Lewis
[from English National Opera North]

TUESDAY, 10th to SATURDAY, 14th MAY, 1988—Batley Town Hall
ANNUAL SHOW

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“RUDDYGORE”

or “The Witch’s Curse”

SYNOPSIS

Rederring is perhaps the only village in Cornwall with a professional corps of bridesmaids but they could be out of a job unless someone marries soon. Robin and Rose, the likeliest couple do not seem to be able to pluck up the courage to speak to each other!

Richard, Robin’s foster brother, returns from the sea and offers to woo Rose on Robin’s behalf. He does such a good job that he woos her for himself! All is soon made well however, Richard’s wooing is no match for Robin’s riches and so preparations are made for the wedding.

Families can be terribly embarrassing and none more so than Despard, Robin’s younger brother, who turns up uninvited with his dotty girlfriend, Mad Margaret. Despard is moody and sad and with good cause, for whilst Robin, true heir to the title of Baronet of Ruddygore, has been lying low in disguise for the past twenty years, Despard has wrongly carried the burden of the witch’s curse which inflicts upon each Baronet of Ruddygore the task of committing a crime a day or else face an excruciating death. He therefore takes great delight in unveiling Robin as his elder brother [but rather less delight in marrying Mad Margaret]. Rose falls into the arms of Richard and Robin is banished to Ruddygore, the baronial hall, where his ancestors, immortalised on canvas, look down on him menacingly.

At midnight, the ghosts’ high noon, the portraits come to life and, led by Sir Roderic, quiz Robin as to what crimes he has committed. Unimpressed, they order him to carry off a lady or die.

Will our hero avoid his dim and dismal fate or merely become the next subject for the artist’s brush.



“RUDDYGORE”

CAST

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd
[disguised as Robin Oakapple] IAN TOWNEND
Richard Dauntless [Robin’s foster brother] . . . STEVEN GREENWOOD
Sir Despard Murgatroyd [a wicked Baronet]. . . KEITH HORNER
Old Adam Goodheart [Robin’s faithful servant]
CHRIS SOWERBY
Sir Roderic Murgatroyd [21st Baronet] MALCOLM PARKINSON
Rose Maybud [a village maiden] STEPHANIE ROE
Mad Margaret ALISON SOWERBY
Dame Hannah [Rose’s aunt] MARGARET LISTER
Zorah] Professional CAROL PARKINSON
Ruth] bridesmaids VERITY THOMAS

ANCESTORS/BUCKS & BLADES :

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VERNON NEWMAN
BARRY PEARSON

BRIDESMAIDS/VILLAGERS :

HELEN FRAIN
JUDITH GILL
AMANDA JAMES
SARAH LEACH
MARY LUDFORD
RACHEL ROE
THELMA SCOTT
RUTH TROUT
DOROTHY WHITWORTH

Act I : The fishing village of Rederring in Cornwall.

Act II : The picture gallery in Ruddygore Castle.

Time : Early in the nineteenth century.



Ruddygore

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

- 1—CHORUS OF BRIDESMAIDS [Zorah & Chorus]
"FAIR IS ROSE AS BRIGHT MAY DAY"
- 2—LEGEND [Dame Hannah]
"SIR RUPERT MURGATROYD, HIS LEISURE AND HIS RICHES"
- 3—SONG [Rose]
"IF SOMEBODY THERE CHANCED TO BE"
- 4—DUET [Rose & Robin]
"I KNOW A YOUTH"
- 5—CHORUS OF BRIDESMAIDS
"FROM THE BRINY SEA"
- 6—SONG & HORNPIPE [Richard]
"I SHIPPED, D'YE SEE"
- 7—SONG [Robin]
"MY BOY YOU MAY TAKE IT FROM ME"
- 8—DUET [Rose & Richard]
"THE BATTLE'S ROAR IS OVER"
- 9—ENTRANCE OF BRIDESMAIDS
"IF WELL HIS SUIT HAS SPED"
- 10—TRIO [Rose, Richard & Robin]
"IN SAILING OVER LIFE'S OCEAN WIDE"
- 11—RECIT & ARIA [Margaret]
"CHEERILY CAROLS THE LARK"
- 12—CHORUS
"WELCOME GENTRY"
- 13—SONG & CHORUS [Sir Despard]
"OH WHY AM I MOODY AND SAD"
- 14—DUET [Richard & Sir Despard]
"YOU UNDERSTAND, I THINK I DO"
- 15—FINALE
"HAIL THE BRIDE OF SEVENTEEN SUMMERS"



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT II

- 1—DUET [Robin & Adam]
"I ONCE WAS AS MEEK AS A NEW-BORN LAMB"
- 2—DUET & CHORUS [Rose & Richard]
"HAPPILY COUPLED ARE WE"
- 3—SONG [Rose with Chorus]
"IN BYGONE DAYS I HAD THY LOVE"
- 4—CHORUS OF ANCESTORS
"PAINTED EMBLEMS"
- 5—SONG & CHORUS
"WHEN THE NIGHT WIND HOWLS"
- 6—CHORUS
"HE YIELDS, HE YIELDS"
- 7—RECIT & SONG [Robin]
"AWAY REMORSE, COMPUNCTION HENCE"
- 8—DUET [Margaret & Despard]
"I ONCE WAS A VERY ABANDONED PERSON"
- 9—TRIO [Margaret, Robin & Despard]
"MY EYES ARE FULLY OPEN"
- 9a MELODRAME
- 10—SONG [Hannah with Sir Rodric]
"THERE GREW A LITTLE FLOWER"
- 11—FINALE
"WHEN A MAN HAS BEEN A NAUGHTY BARONET"

There will be an interval of 15 minutes. Refreshments will be served in the Council Chamber. Winning numbers for the Raffle will be displayed at entrance to the 'Main Hall'.



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The Society was formed in 1949 and has presented all the Gilbert & Sullivan operettas. Originally based at Hanover Street Congregational Church and Cross Bank United Church, the Society now meets to rehearse at St. Andrew's Church Schoolroom at Mount Pleasant on Wednesday evenings. Why not come and join us either to sing or help "backstage", you will be made very welcome.

Full details may be obtained from our Secretary :
Mrs. M. E. HARRAP,
197 Soothill Lane, Batley. Tel. Batley 472962

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

May we take this opportunity to express thanks to the following people :

Producer : OWEN S. WARD
Musical Director : RAYMOND WOOD
Scenic Artist : VERITY THOMAS
Stage Manager and
Set Design : DAVID FLETCHER
Scenery Built by : MALCOLM PARKINSON, JOHN & RUTH TROUT
CHRIS SOWERBY, NEIL BIRD,
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Kirklees Metropolitan Council for their kind co-operation.

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PRODUCER'S NOTES

OWEN S. WARD

My first appearance as a member of the Wakefield A.O.S. was in 1955 as one of the chorus of 'ghosts' in Ruddigore—my next, in 1956, as Nanki-Poo in Mikado. Since then many parts, many activities [stage manager, lighting technician, Society Chairman, etc.] plus 15 years voice training, led to a number of small productions, concerts, concert versions, musical evenings, and so on, a first major production for my own Society in 1975 of "Iolanthe", followed by further productions for my own Society and for a number of other Societies, both G.& S. and other musicals. Recollections—most enjoyable part Billis in 'South Pacific', most rewarding Colonel Pickering in 'My Fair Lady' with one of my pupils for voice training and stagecraft playing the lead of Eliza Doolittle. [She is now a product of three years training with R.A.D.A.]. Member of the Doyle Carte Opera Trust for many years—G.& S. Shows for me are unique, and I regard them as specialities, and members of G.& S. Societies as rather special people with whom I share a great deal of enjoyment.

OWEN S. WARD.



D.H.Howarth

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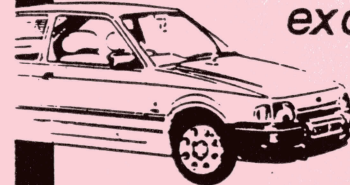
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PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

1949	The Mikado	1968	The Mikado
1950	Iolanthe	1969	The Grand Duke
1951	The Pirates of Penzance	1970	The Gondoliers
1952	The Gondoliers	1971	Patience
1953	Ruddigore	1972	Iolanthe
1954	H.M.S. Pinafore	1973	The Pirates of Penzance
1955	The Yeomen of the Guard	1974	Trial by Jury & H.M.S. Pinafore
1956	Princess Ida	1975	Ruddigore
1957	Utopia Ltd.	1976	Princess Ida
1958	Patience	1977	The Mikado
1959	The Mikado	1978	The Yeomen of the Guard
1960	Iolanthe	1979	The Pirates of Penzance
1961	The Gondoliers	1980	The Sorcerer
1962	The Pirates of Penzance	1981	The Gondoliers
1963	Ruddigore	1982	Princess Ida
1964	Princess Ida	1983	Iolanthe
1965	The Yeomen of the Guard	1984	Trial by Jury & H.M.S. Pinafore
1966	Trial by Jury & H.M.S. Pinafore	1985	Patience
1967	The Sorcerer	1986	The Mikado

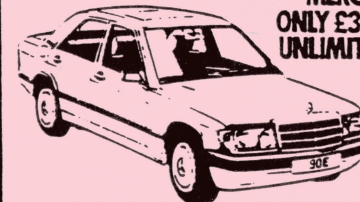
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