



The Yeomen Of The Guard

First performed at the Savoy Theatre, London on 3 October 1888

Colonel Fairfax is under sentence of death in the Tower of London. Phoebe Meryll, who has fallen in love with him laments her plight. This annoys Wilfred Shadbolt, the Head Jailor who had previously been her suitor. Dame Carnuthers, the Tower housekeeper believes Fairfax is guilty and chastises Phoebe for supporting Fairfax. Phoebe's father, Sergeant Meryll, saddened at the forthcoming execution of a man who twice saved his life, awaits the arrival of his son, Leonard, who is to join the Tower Warders. He hopes his son will bring a reprieve for Fairfax.

The Lieutenant of the Tower receives a request from the condemned Fairfax. To thwart his wicked cousin, whom Fairfax believes is the cause of his imprisonment; he needs to marry at once. His bride would receive for her trouble a hundred crowns, his dishonoured name and be free within the hour of his death. The Lieutenant who respects Fairfax agrees to find him an unknown bride.

Leonard arrives early and unnoticed, but has no reprieve. Sergeant Meryll, Phoebe and Leonard devise a plan to assist Fairfax to escape. Leonard will lie low, whilst Fairfax assumes his identity. Phoebe is to steal the keys from the unsuspecting Shadbolt.

Travelling entertainers arrive on Tower Green. Jester Jack Point and his betrothed Elsie sing to earn money to buy medicine necessary to save Elsie's mother's life. The crowd become excitable and a brawl results. On clearing the rabble the Lieutenant asks Elsie to consider Fairfax's request. With Point's encouragement, she agrees and is led away blindfolded to marry Fairfax.

After successfully freeing Fairfax, Sergeant Meryll and Phoebe introduce him as son and brother "Leonard" to the Yeomen Warders. The hour of the execution arrives. On discovery that Fairfax has escaped, a commotion results: Shadbolt is to die in his place, Point is distraught as Elsie is no longer single, and Elsie in genuine shock faints into "Leonard's" arms as the crowd disperse to search for Fairfax.

Night falls and Dame Carnuthers chastises the Yeomen Warders for their failure to find Fairfax. Point, in an attempt to free Elsie from wedlock and Shadbolt, who needs to save his own life, fabricate a tale that they have shot and killed Fairfax as he was escaping across the river.

Elsie now recovered, confesses to "Leonard" her involvement with Fairfax. The disguised Fairfax has by this time fallen for Elsie and, much to the annoyance of Point and Phoebe, earns her love. A disappointed Phoebe inadvertently reveals the family's involvement in the escape of Fairfax to Shadbolt. The price of his silence is her hand. Sergeant Meryll is also similarly trapped into marriage by Dame Carnuthers.

Everyone gathers for the wedding of Elsie and "Leonard." The real Leonard returns with a reprieve for Fairfax. Elsie who is still legally wed to Fairfax laments the loss of her true love "Leonard" as she must now obey her husband. Fairfax returns to life to claim her and she realises the true identity of her "Leonard". The celebrating crowd follow Elsie and Fairfax as they leave.

Everyone has forgotten Point. Distraught at the loss of Elsie he unsuccessfully tries to retrieve her love.....

AMS/03/2000



Acknowledgements

Produced & Directed By	Graham Weston
Musical Director	Keith Webster
Accompanist	Brian Burnitt
Ass. Accompanist	Keith Horner
Set Design	David J. Martin
Set Construction	Ian Castle & Chris Sowerby
The Scene Team	Emilie Berry, John Berry, Paul Child, David Hall, Keith Horner, Alison Sowerby & Debbie Stringer
Stage Manager	Tom Lynch
Lighting	John Trout
Prompt	Allan Haigh
Wardrobe	Stephanie Roe
Costumes	G & S Costume Hire Limited
Make-Up	Sue Ralph, Stephanie Roe & Debbie Stringer
Properties	Paul Child
Booking Manager	Chris Sowerby
House Staff Co-ordinator	Alison Sowerby
Bar & Refreshments	Chris & Alison Sowerby
House Manager	James Goddard
Bar & Catering Managers	Malcolm & Dina Powell
Our grateful thanks to the Front of House Staff	
Cashier	Barry Pearson & Geoff Kitson
Publicity	John Berry
Programme	Chris Sowerby
Box Office	Robert Nicholson & Jayne Lees
Librarian	Debbie Stringer
Score	James Newby Music

Members of the Orchestra under the baton of Mr Keith Webster

Leader	Christine Brown
1st Violin	Karen Blythe
2nd Violin	Jennifer Thom
Viola	Elaine Oakley
Cello	Carolyn Harley
1st Clarinet	Peter Elcock
2nd Clarinet	Alison Elcock
Flute	Helen Day
Trumpet	Sue Walker
Trombone	Ian Graham
Percussion	Bill Berry



The Yeomen Of The Guard

Or The Merryman And His Maid

Produced & Directed By
Graham Weston

Musical Director
Keith Webster

DEWSBURY ARTS CENTRE
Upper Road, Batley Carr

10 to 15 April 2000
At 7.30 pm & 2.30 pm Saturday Matinee

Sponsored By

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 Director Graham Weston
 Musical Director Keith Webster
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Mr E. Bullock, Mrs D. Farquarson, Mr N.A. Haigh,
 Mrs M. Harrap, Mrs M. Newall, Mr R.B. Pearson,
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The Society provides a touring Concert Party during the summer and autumn seasons, entertaining local groups as part of a mutual fund-raising concern. For details of this or any of the Society's activities, please contact the Secretary:

Alison M. Sowerby
 "Wlyvts End" 1 Ullswater Road
 DEWSBURY, WF12 7PH
 Tel & Fax : 01924 454168
 E-mail : bookings.batgas@talk21.com

Next Year's Production

Iolanthe

23 - 28 April 2001



Dramatis Personae

Sir Richard Cholmondeley Keith Horner
 Colonel Fairfax Ian Townend
 Sergeant Meryll Lyndon Wilkinson
 Jack Point Malcolm Parkinson
 Wilfrid Shadbolt Robert Thurman
 1st Citizen/The Headsman Ian Castle
 2nd Citizen Martin Ripley
 First Yeoman Stephen Roe
 Second Yeoman Paul Child
 Elsie Maynard Carol Parkinson
 Phoebe Meryll Stephanie Roe
 Dame Carruthers Pamela Thorne
 Kate Karen Morton

Ladies & Gentlemen Of The Chorus

Tracey Barker, John Berry, Chris Duce,
 Rachel George, Harold Greenwood, Lyndsey Hanson,
 Margaret Hanson, David Hirst, Samantha Jones,
 Gill Leverton, Sue Ralph, Lyndsay Ripley, Sally Roberts,
 Alison Sowerby, Chris Sowerby, Neil Stones,
 Debbie Stringer, Kathryn Thurman & Dorothy Whitworth

Coffee & Biscuits and the Wine Bar will be available during the interval.
 The Wine Bar will be open at the end of the performance.
 (Persons under the age of 18 years will be unable to purchase wine)

HOLDERS OF THE N.O.D.A. 25 Year Long Service Medal

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 * 50 Year Gold Medal

The Society gratefully acknowledges the kind assistance of:
 Messrs Wilsons Of Wakefield
 Charlotte Street, Wakefield
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 Kirklees Metropolitan Council



Musical Numbers

Overture
 Act I
 Introduction & Song "When Maiden loves..."
 Song "When jealous torments..."
 Double Chorus "Tower warders under orders"
 Song with Chorus "When our gallant Norman foes"
 Song "A laughing boy..."
 Trio "Alas! I waver to and fro"
 Ballad "Is life a boon?"
 Chorus "Here's a man of jollity"
 Duet "I have, a song to sing, O!"
 Trio "How say you maiden, will you wed..."
 Recit. "I've jibe and joke..."
 Recit. "Tis done! I am a bride"
 Song "Where I thy bride"
 Finale "Oh, Sergeant Meryll, is it true..."
 Act II
 Chorus "Night has spread her pall once more"
 Solo "Warders are ye?"
 Song "Oh! A private buffoon..."
 Duet "Hereupon we're both agreed"
 Ballad "Free from his fetters grim"
 Quartet "Strange adventure"
 Scene "Hark! What was that, sir?"
 Trio "A man who would woo a fair maid"
 Quartet "When a wooer goes a-wooing"
 Duet "Rapture! Rapture!"
 Finale "Comes the pretty young bride"

NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEO RECORDING
 DURING THE PERFORMANCE, PLEASE!

PLEASE SWITCH OFF ALL MOBILE PHONES!

In accordance with the requirements of Kirklees Metropolitan Council:
 The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exits and entrances,
 and the door of such exits and entrances shall at all times be open.
 All gangways, passages and staircases shall be kept entirely free from chairs and any other obstructions.