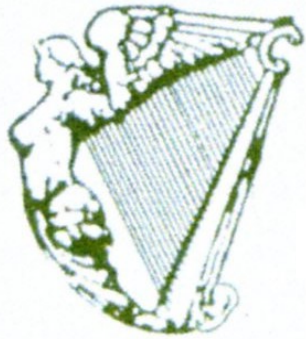


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# Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society

*Presents*

# Ruddigore

*or 'The Witch's Curse'*

## Batley Town Hall

Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th

April 2013 at 7.30pm

[www.batleygands.org.uk](http://www.batleygands.org.uk)

# Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society

## Welcome from the President

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you once again to Batley Town Hall for the 65<sup>th</sup> production in our history. The society was originally formed from the augmented choir of Hanover Street Congregational Church. Many will remember us as the Hanover Street Congregational Operatic Society until we changed our name in 1976 to become known as Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

Over the years the society has performed all of the operas and this will be the sixth time of presenting 'Ruddigore', or 'Ruddygore' as it was also known. This year we have a new production team at the helm with Graham Thorne as Musical Director and Becky Gregson-Flynn as Producer. Graham is no stranger to the society, having conducted us several times previously in concerts as well as performing on stage, but this is his first time as MD for the show and it has been a real pleasure to work with him. This is Becky's second production, having produced 'Gondoliers' for Meltham G & S Society last year, but she is no stranger to Gilbert & Sullivan and has taken many of the mezzo roles before deciding to turn her hand to directing. We hope she has enjoyed working with us as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing with her.

I am honoured and delighted to be serving yet another term as President of the Society, having been associated with the company for forty-five years (I started very young!). It becomes more and more difficult each year to make ends meet and we consider ourselves very lucky to be able to continue where many fellow societies are falling by the wayside. Our efforts, however, would be to no avail without the continued support of you, our audience, and we thank you most sincerely.

We hope you enjoy our performance and look forward to welcoming you back next year for "The Mikado".

*Stephanie Roe*



## Acknowledgements

Producer/Director  
Musical Director  
Accompanist  
Scenic Designer  
Stage Manager  
Lighting  
Prompter  
Wardrobe Team  
Costumes  
Make Up  
Understudy for Rose Maybud  
Bookings Team  
House Manager  
House Staff Coordinator  
Publicity  
Programme Editor  
Librarian  
Musical Score  
Safety Officer

Becky Gregson-Flynn  
Graham Thorne  
John Hall  
Keith Horner  
Tom Lynch  
LX Stage Services Ltd  
Jeremy Shoemsmith  
Margaret Hanson & Pamela Thorne  
The Boyz Theatrical Costume Hire Ltd  
Stephanie Roe  
Carol Parkinson  
Chris Sowerby, Carol & Malcolm Parkinson  
Beryl Johnson  
Margaret Hanson  
Robert Thurman  
Robert Thurman  
Tracey Hook  
James Newby Music  
Stephanie Roe

*With thanks to our Orchestra, front of house staff  
and all who have helped with this production*

## Society Officials

**President:** Stephanie Roe, **Treasurer:** Robert Thurman  
**Executive Committee:** Ali Burton, Tracey Hook, Deirdre O'Shea, Catherine Roberts

## Honorary Life Members of the Society

Mrs M Harrap, Mr K Horner, Mrs M Newell, Mr R B Pearson, Mrs S L Roe,  
Mrs S Roberts, Mr C R Thurman, Mr G Weston

## NODA Long Service Medal Holders

Mr K Horner, Mrs C Parkinson, Mr M G Parkinson, Mr R B Pearson, Mrs S Roberts,  
Mrs S L Roe, Mr C J Sowerby, Mr C R Thurman, Mrs K Thurman, Mr I Townend

## Invited Guests

The Mayor and Mayoress of Kirklees: Cllr David Ridgeway & Mrs Karen Ridgeway  
NODA Representative: Mr Noel Rigg and Guest  
Mr Malcolm Haigh and Guest  
The Auditions Panel: Mrs Margaret Lister, Mr Ian Abbott and Mr Michael Littlewood  
Representatives from Leeds, Halifax, Harrogate, Wakefield and Haworth  
G & S Societies, Batley Amateur Thespians Society, Carlinghow Theatre Company,  
Dewsbury Arts Group and Dewsbury Collegians

## Forthcoming events

**22nd June 2013 - Concert at Central Methodist Church, Batley**

**28th September 2013 - Concert at St Mary's Church, Mirfield**

**19th October 2013 - Concert with Gawthorpe Band**

**For further information, please contact 01924 505648**

## Would you like to join us?

**We rehearse every Wednesday at 7.30pm at St Andrew's  
Church Hall, Purlwell, Batley.**

**For further details visit our illustrated website**

**[www.batleygands.org.uk](http://www.batleygands.org.uk)**

**Or contact Stephanie Roe on 01924 505648**



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## The plot

The basis of the plot is a curse on the Murgatroyd line. According to the curse, every Baronet of Ruddigore must commit a crime every day or die in terrible agony. The curse is inherited along with the title.

The action begins in the village of Rederring, the only village in the country with an endowed troupe of professional bridesmaids, who find themselves woefully under-employed. Dame Hannah explains that she had been engaged to a man who was, as she later discovered, the holder of the title of bad baronet, and subsequently pledged herself to an eternal maidenhood. Rose Maybud, whose life is guided by a book of etiquette, hopes to find a suitor. One whose love she might return, if he could work up the nerve to state it, is Robin Oakapple, really Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd, who lives in disguise in order to avoid the curse. His younger brother, Despard, believing Ruthven to be dead, has assumed the title. Robin's foster-brother Richard, one of the few people who knew this secret, comes home and Robin confides his love. Going to Rose to act on Robin's behalf, Richard finds himself enchanted, and speaks his own heart, with Rose responding as he desires. Robin enters and, through insinuating comments about a sailor's difficult life, wins Rose for himself.

Mad Margaret enters to warn Rose that Despard plans to carry her off in one of his criminal sprees. But as Rose is now engaged to Robin, she feels safe. Despard enters and bemoans the cruel curse, explaining how he gets his crime over with first thing and spends the rest of the day doing good in atonement. In order to get back at Robin for winning Rose, Richard tells Despard Robin's secret. They go to Rose and Robin's wedding and Despard claims Robin as his older brother and the true baronet of Ruddigore. Robin admits it, and Rose, ignoring Richard, offers herself to Despard, who refuses because he can now keep his promise to marry Margaret. Rose then turns to Richard, and Robin faints.

Act two opens in the picture gallery at Ruddigore Castle, where Ruthven and his servant attempt to devise new crimes. Rose and Richard arrive seeking consent to their marriage but, although Ruthven threatens them with harm, Richard thwarts him with a Union Jack, which he cannot overcome. Ruthven reluctantly consents and allows them to leave.

The ghosts of Ruthven's ancestors step down from their frames and accuse him of failing to fulfil the terms of the curse that rests upon him. They tell him to carry off a lady immediately. Ruthven directs Adam to do this on his behalf and he leaves for the village. Despard and Margaret arrive and inform Ruthven that he bears responsibility for Despard's crimes, committed while Ruthven was living as Robin Oakapple. He decides that he will defy the curse and take the consequences of doing so. Adam returns from the village having kidnapped Dame Hannah who grabs a weapon and pursues Ruthven, who calls upon the ghost of his uncle, Sir Roderic, who had been engaged to Hannah. Roderic and Hannah recognise each other and demand privacy. Ruthven leaves, only to return with the entire cast. He has established that refusal to commit a daily crime is tantamount to suicide and is thus itself a crime. That being the case, Roderic should not be dead and finds himself 'practically alive', in which state he and Hannah can now be happy together. Rose returns to Ruthven, and Richard finds himself a bridesmaid to love, and everyone is happy.

*This page has been kindly sponsored by Mr and Mrs Moores of Marple*



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Dick Dauntless  
*Leon Waksberg*



Sir Despard  
Murgatroyd  
*Robert Thurman*



Sir Roderic  
Murgatroyd  
*David Parker*



Old Adam Goodheart  
*Kelvyn Waites*



Robin Oakapple  
*Malcolm Parkinson*



Rose Maybud  
*Anna Trent*

## Our Players



## Ruddigore



Mad Margaret  
*Liz Blount*



Dame Hannah  
*Stephanie Roe*



Zorah  
*Deirdre O'Shea*



Ruth  
*Catherine Roberts*

*Robin Oakapple's costume was kindly sponsored by Percy Flaage Esq*

Carlinghow Theatre Company  
presents

# Singin' in the Rain

**Batley Town Hall 11-14th September 2013 at 7.15 pm**

**Tickets: £13 (£11 concessions)**

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Screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph Green

Songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed

Based on the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film,

by special arrangement with

Warner Bros. Theater Ventures, Inc.

Music published by EMI

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with

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(Original movie choreography by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen)

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Our Show for 2014 will be...



# THE MIKADO



Batley Town Hall, 9th - 12th April 2014

For further details contact 01924 503510 or visit [www.batleygands.org.uk](http://www.batleygands.org.uk)

# Our Production Team



## *Becky Gregson-Flynn - Producer*

Becky has performed for over 20 years, although her parents would say it was a lot longer. Having gained a first class honours undergraduate degree in Music & Classics from Keele University (specialising in Opera and American Music), she returned home where she was roped into G&S as *Pitti Sing* and has never looked back. Taking on mainly soubrette parts because of the depth of characterisation required, she nonetheless wishes she was a man so she could be, for example, the *Lord Chancellor*. That said, *Princess Ida* was a favourite role, along with *Phoebe* and *Mad Margaret*. Other musical genres were tried but none provided the entertainment and enjoyment of the beloved G&S, so when she became a little old to play a “schoolgirl, 18 and under” and a little young to play a “nice old person”, production seemed the next logical step as singing choruses in public just wasn’t her thing.

## *Graham Thorne - Musical Director*

Graham has always had a love of music, going back to conducting in front of the wireless with a knitting needle at the age of two. He has had a lifelong involvement with Church and Cathedral choirs and has also sung with and directed male voice choirs, amateur operatic societies and brass/military bands. He conducted Batley G & S several years ago in a performance of *Trial By Jury* and for a number of concerts around the locality and has sung with them on occasions. This is the first time he has had the opportunity to work with a professional orchestra and he is looking forward eagerly to the new challenge this presents.

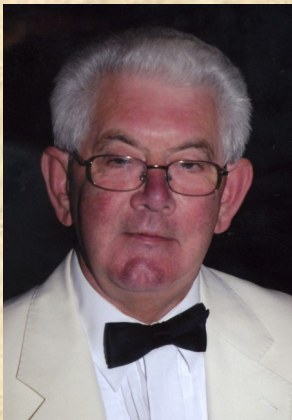
He is currently also choirmaster at Batley Central Methodist Church and Musical Director for St Mary’s Roman Catholic Theatre Group.



## *Accompanist - John Hall*

This is John’s fifth show with Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society. Over the years he has accompanied Dewsbury Collegians, Batley Amateur Thespian Society and Dewsbury Concert Society. He is a member of Mirfield Choral Society and also sings with the Longcauseway Church Choir in Dewsbury.

John is a valued member of our team and we enjoy working with him, Thanks for all your hard work!



## The ladies chorus

**Back Row:** Carol Parkinson, Marie Sugden, Jennifer Day, Kath Thurman, Joan Hinchcliffe, Caroline Pringle, Lyndsey Hall, Debbie Moores

**Kneeling:** Ali Burton, Martina O'Rourke, Tracey Hook, Margaret Hanson



## The gentlemen's chorus

Clive Daniel, Tony Johnson, Fintan O'Shea, AJ Jno-Baptiste, Peter Sugden, Chris Hall, Eoin O'Shea, David Hall

# Dramatis Personae

## *Mortals*

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd ( <i>disguised as Robin Oakapple, a Young Farmer</i> )	Malcolm Parkinson
Richard Dauntless ( <i>his Foster-Brother, a Man-o'-war's man</i> )	Leon Waksberg
Sir Despard Murgatroyd ( <i>of Ruddigore, a wicked Baronet</i> )	Robert Thurman
Old Adam Goodheart ( <i>Robin's Faithful Servant</i> )	Kelvyn Waites
Rose Maybud ( <i>a Village Maiden</i> )	Anna Trent
Mad Margaret	Liz Blount
Dame Hannah ( <i>Rose's Aunt</i> )	Stephanie Roe
Zorah ( <i>a professional bridesmaid</i> )	Deirdre O'Shea
Ruth ( <i>a professional bridesmaid</i> )	Catherine Roberts

## *Ghosts*

Sir Rupert Murgatroyd ( <i>The First Baronet</i> )	Peter Sugden
Sir Jasper Murgatroyd ( <i>The Third Baronet</i> )	AJ Jno-Baptiste
Sir Lionel Murgatroyd ( <i>The Sixth Baronet</i> )	Chris Hall
Sir Conrad Murgatroyd ( <i>The Twelfth Baronet</i> )	David Hall
Sir Desmond Murgatroyd ( <i>The Sixteenth Baronet</i> )	Fintan O'Shea
Sir Gilbert Murgatroyd ( <i>The Eighteenth Baronet</i> )	Eoin O'Shea
Sir Arthur Murgatroyd ( <i>The Nineteenth Baronet</i> )	Tony Johnson
<i>and</i>	
Sir Roderic Murgatroyd ( <i>The Twentieth Baronet</i> )	David Parker

## *Chorus of Officers, Ancestors, Professional Bridesmaids, and Villagers*

Ali Burton, Clive Daniel, Jennifer Day, Chris Hall, David Hall, Lyndsey Hall,  
Margaret Hanson, Joan Hinchcliffe, Tracey Hook,  
AJ Jno-Baptiste, Tony Johnson, Debbie Moores, Martina O'Rourke,  
Eoin O'Shea, Fintan O'Shea, Carol Parkinson, Caroline Pringle,  
Marie Sugden, Peter Sugden, Kathryn Thurman,

*This page has been sponsored by the Gentlemen's chorus in memory of  
Peter Jones, a member of the Society, who sadly passed away last year*

# Musical Numbers

## Act I Overture

1. "Fair is Rose"	<i>Chorus of Bridesmaids</i>
2. "Sir Rupert Murgatroyd"	<i>Hannah and Chorus</i>
3. "If somebody there chanced to be"	<i>Rose</i>
4. "I know a youth"	<i>Rose and Robin</i>
5. "From the briny sea"	<i>Chorus of Bridesmaids</i>
6. "I shipp'd, d'ye see, in a revenue sloop"	<i>Richard and Chorus</i>
6a. Hornpipe	
7. "My boy, you may take it from me"	<i>Robin and Richard</i>
8. "The battle's roar is over"	<i>Rose and Richard</i>
9. "If well his suit has sped"	<i>Chorus of Bridesmaids</i>
10. "In sailing o'er life's ocean wide"	<i>Rose, Richard, and Robin</i>
11. "Cheerily carols the lark"	<i>Margaret</i>
12. "Welcome, gentry"	<i>Double Chorus</i>
13. "Oh, why am I moody and sad?"	<i>Sir Despard and Chorus</i>
14. "You understand? I think I do"	<i>Richard and Sir Despard</i>
15. Finale Act I	
"Hail the bride of seventeen summers"	<i>Ensemble</i>
Madrigal, "When the buds are blossoming"	<i>Ensemble</i>
"When I'm a bad Bart, I will tell taradiddles!"	<i>Robin and Chorus</i>
"Oh, happy the lily"	<i>Ensemble</i>

## Act II

16. "I once was as meek"	<i>Sir Ruthven and Adam</i>
17. "Happily coupled are we"	<i>Rose and Richard</i>
18. "In bygone days"	<i>Rose with Chorus of Bridesmaids</i>
19. "Painted emblems of a race"	<i>Ruthven, Sir Roderic, and Chorus of Ancestors</i>
20. "When the night wind howls"	<i>Sir Roderic and Chorus</i>
21. "He yields, he yields"	<i>Chorus</i>
22. "I once was a very abandoned person"	<i>Margaret and Despard</i>
23. "Melodrame"	
24. "There grew a little flower"	<i>Hannah with Sir Roderic</i>
25. "Finale" Act II Ensemble	
"When a man has been a naughty baronet"	
"For happy the lily" (reprise)	<i>Ensemble</i>

*This page has been kindly sponsored by Becky Gregson-Flynn*