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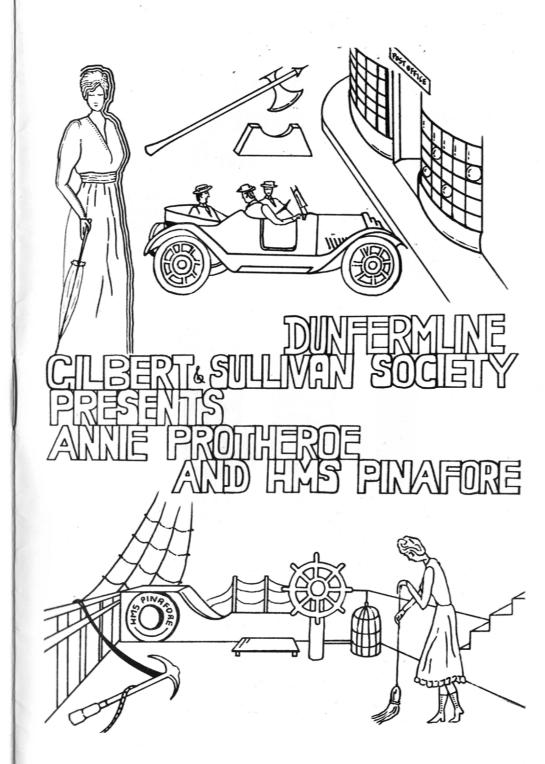


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or THE DISSIPATED SAW

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Music by Arthur Sullivan, arranged and re-orchestrated by Stanford Robinson

and

H.M.S. PINAFORE

or THE LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR

Words by W. S. Gilbert

Music by Arthur Sullivan

in the

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THURSDAY 17th — SATURDAY 19th FEBRUARY, 1977

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Annie Protheroe

The action takes place in the courtyard outside the village Post Office of Stratford-le-Bow

PRINCIPALS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

LUCY DAY, A Young Lady of Stratford-le-Bow LYNNE MASTERTON HARRY RAY GRAHAM LILLY Gentlemen of the Town PERCY JAY DAVID PALMER ANNIE PROTHEROE, Postmistress of Stratford-le-Bow MARY ANN LOCKHART GILBERT CLAY, Her Lover and the Public Executioner IAIN MASTERTON PETER GRAY, Her ex-Lover, condemned to die DENNIS OSMEN ZORAH BRAY LINDA BLAIR Ladies of Stratford-le-Bow HANNAH MAY FRANCES GRAY

Ladies of Stratford-le-Bow and Gentlemen of the Town:

ADAM WAY, A Married Gentleman

Netta Adam, Pam Barnes, Robert Barnes, David Grieve, Barbara Johnstone, Elizabeth Larpent, Jennifer McKay, Allan Mees, Margaret Robinson, Lindsey Russell, Alan Stewart, Shirley Stocks, Bill Tulloch, Christine Young.

COLIN CAMPBELL

PROLOGUE

Annie Protheroe is post-mistress at Stratford-le-Bow. She is the envy of the local girls because she is attractive to men. She is currently engaged to Gilbert Clary, the village headsman. He takes grim pleasure from the though that he shortly to perform the execution of Peter Gray, Annie's previous lover, guilty of the capital charge of flirting. But Gilbert is not so happy about Annie. Has she really forgotten Peter?

Events which are to change the lives of all are set in train when a party of city bucks descend on the village attracted by Annie and by the pending execution.

Producer-Sigurd Scott

Musical Director—Richard Galloway

There will be an interval of 15 minutes after this performance.

H.M.S. Pinafore

Scene-The Quarter-deck of H.M.S. Pinafore, off Portsmouth

Act I — At noon

Act II - At night

PRINCIPALS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

TOM TUCKER, Midshipmite

KATE OSMENT

BILL BOBSTAY, Boatswain's Mate

DUNCAN CAMPBELL

BOB BECKETT, Carpenter's Mate

DAVID GEMMELL

LITTLE BUTTERCUP, A portsmouth Bumboat Woman

BARBARA JOHNSTONE

DICK DEADEYE, Able Seaman

COLIN CAMPBELL

RALPH RACKSTRAW, Able Seaman

DENNIS OSMENT

CAPTAIN CORCORAN, Captain of the Pinafore

ALLAN MEES

JOSEPHINE, The Captain's Daughter

JANICE GEMMELL

HEBE. Sir Joseph's First Cousin

SHIRLEY STOCKS

THE RT. HON. SIR JOSEPH PORTER, K.C.B.

First Lord of the Admiralty

JIM ETHERIDGE

Sailors from H.M.S. Pinafore:

George Alexander, Robert Barnes, Alistair Birnie, Graham Lilly, Iain Masterton, David Palmer, Bill Reynolds, Alan Stewart, Bill Tulloch.

Sir Joseph's Sisters, Cousins and Aunts:

Netta Adam, Pam Barnes, Linda Blair, Betty Chalmers, Ella Coates, Fay Colyer, Pat Drummond, Ann Duly, Johan Edwards, Linda Fyfe, Therese Gaston, Elizabeth Gay, Marilyn Graham, Frances Gray, Gillian Gray, Mary Kelly, Jean Kennedy, Elizabeth Larpent, Jennifer McKay, Lynne Masterton, Bette Reid, Margaret Robinson, Lindsey Russell, Marjon West, Christine Young.

Producer-Sigurd Scott

Musical Director-Richard Galloway

•

The interval between Acts I and II will be one of 10 minutes. Refreshments are on sale in the fover.

H.M.S. PINAFORE -- the story of the Opera

THIS IS A TALE OF LOVE — of love which crosses barriers of rank and class. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., First Lord of the Admiralty, has condescended to love Josephine, daughter of Captain Corcoran, who commands H.M.S. Pinafore. But Josephine is also loved by Ralph (pronounce it 'Rafe') Rackstraw, a humble foremast hand, a love which Josephine secretly returns, although she recognises that a Captain's daughter may never marry a simple sailor.

The opera opens with the crew of H.M.S. Pinafore displaying their nautical and musical skills on the quarter-deck of their ship where they are soon joined by Little Buttercup with her basket of sweetmeats for sale. After exchanging words with the Boatswain and Dick Deadeye (a fearsome character), Little Buttercup seems distressed by the arrival of Ralph. In madrigal and ballad Ralph reveals his love for his Captain's daughter, receiving a sympathetic hearing from the crew, with the exception of Dick Deadeye.

Captain Corcoran enters and exchanges greetings—in the key of A—with his crew, claiming that he is never sick at sea, and never uses bad language—well, hardly ever.

The Captain explains to Little Buttercup the problem of having a daughter loved by a First Sea Lord, a problem which is soon intensified by Josephine's admission to him that she loves a common sailor, although she promises never, never to reveal that love to the sailor concerned. Sir Joseph's barge is seen, and that gallant gentleman comes aboard accompanied by dozens of sisters, cousins and aunts, led by First Cousin, Hebe. He explains to the assembled company how he achieved his exalted rank and instructs Captain Corcoran in the standards of politeness expected of a ship's captain. In the course of this he enlarges upon the worth of the crew, claiming that a British seaman is any man's equal—excepting himself, of course.

This remark gives the lovelorn Ralph much encouragement and seizing his first opportunity he declares his love to a startled Josephine, who, ignoring the dictates of her heart and mindful of the social gulf which separates them, rejects him. Driven to despair, Ralph prepares to shoot himself in the presence of his messmates and Sir Joseph's relations, but Josephine saves the day by relenting and publicly declaring her love for him. Immediate plans are laid by all assembled for an elopement at half-past-ten that very night. Only the wretched Dick Deadeye is heard to mutter against the plan and Act I ends amid general rejoicing.

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At the start of Act II Captain Corcoran is found full of melancholy thoughts and even Little Buttercup's presence cannot console him. She hints at an impending change of destiny and sings, to a puzzled Captain, that things are seldom what they seem. Sir Joseph is also unhappy, telling of his doubts about Josephine's love for him, but accepting Captain Corcoran's explanation that she is probably dazzled by his high station in life, takes steps to assure Josephine that 'love is a platform upon which all ranks meet.' This, of course, merely confirms Josephine in her love for Ralph.

However, Dick Deadeye has set out to spoil the happiness of the lovers by revealing the elopement plan to Captain Corcoran, whose reaction is to reach for a cat-o'-nine-tails and slip into hiding to await the unfortunate pair.

The two lovers and the crew enter on tiptoe but when challenged and threatened by the Captain, Ralph takes refuge in the claim that he is an Englishman. Thus thwarted, the Captain so far forgets himself as to utter a 'big, big D.' Sir Joseph and his sisters, and his cousins, and his aunts, have overhead this dreadful word and rush to protest. The Captain is sent below in disgrace, and when Sir Joseph learns of the reason for the injudicious word, Ralph too is arrested and led away in chains.

But Little Buttercup has a tale to tell . . . and all ends, as all love stories should end, with happiness and merriment.

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