



Dunfermline
Gilbert and Sullivan Society

noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre



IOLANthe

or The Peer and the Peri

THE

22 – 24 February 2024

Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline

From our Chair:

This is my first year as Chair of the Society and it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to our 2024 production of *Iolanthe*.

It has been 12 years since we last performed this comic opera, one of Gilbert's wittiest librettos and with some of the most memorable music and songs and we are all looking forward to performing *Iolanthe* again after such a long gap.

It is also a privilege to congratulate Michael Scott on this his first production with the Society as Director. A demanding job, particularly when coupled with being on stage playing the Lord Chancellor, and I would like to thank him for his work and commitment along with Mark Adams, his assistant. Likewise, Eddie MacLennan, our long-standing and excellent Musical Director, who has once again worked extremely hard with principals and chorus to ensure wonderful music from both the pit and the stage.

I would also pay tribute to the production team as we present a rather different interpretation of this G&S opera, and to thank all those who contributed and helped with the set construction. Last but not least I must give huge thanks to our committee, whose hard work behind the scenes so often goes unnoticed.

The bar bells are now ringing, the musicians are in place and it's "Overture and Beginners, please", so sit back and enjoy the show!

Sinead Black (Chair, Dunfermline G&S Society)

Honorary President's message:

Dear friends

W S Gilbert was a keen observer of human nature and his words still resonate almost 150 years on from when they were written. In *Iolanthe*, Private Willis observes that, when a vote happens in Parliament, the MPs have to leave their brains outside and vote as they are told to vote, while, when Strephon enters Parliament, he carries every bill he wishes and no-one refuses. In 2003, a ministerial reshuffle and significant changes in the machinery of government were announced by the Prime Minister, which included the abolition of the role of Lord Chancellor. It became almost immediately apparent that this could not be done by way of a ministerial shuffle. Gilbert would have had a field day with that!

I hope you enjoy the performance.

With best wishes,

Frances McCafferty

Up and coming NODA Shows in Fife

Kirkcaldy Gilbert & Sullivan Society
The Mikado

7-9 March at Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy
<https://www.kgass.co.uk/>

Markinch Amateur Operatic Society
The Producers

19-23 March at Markinch Town Hall
<http://www.maos.org.uk/>

Kirkcaldy Amateur Operatic Society
Company

23-27 March at Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy
<https://www.facebook.com/KirkcaldyAOS/>

Leven Amateur Musical Association
Beauty and the Beast

7-11 May at The Centre, Leven
<https://en-gb.facebook.com/levenmusical/>

Lochgelly & District Amateur Musical Association
Anything Goes

29 May-1 June at Lochgelly Centre
<https://www.facebook.com/LADAMAmusicals/>

Glenrothes Amateur Musical Association
Crazy For You

24-28 September at Rothes Halls, Glenrothes
<https://en-gb.facebook.com/GlenrothesAMA/>

Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society
presents

Iolanthe

or The Peer and the Peri

performed at

Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline

Thursday–Saturday 22–24 February 2024

The story of *Iolanthe* takes a satirical dig at the assumed power of parliament and how MPs respond to a challenge from a band of more liberal-minded fairies. Without delving too much into the politics of the 1880s, there are worrying reflections in the story of many of the antics of recent governments, nevertheless we hope that you enjoy our version of this much-loved operetta!

Our Director this year is Michael Scott. This is his first show with us as Director and, to emphasise just how enthusiastic Michael is for the production, he is also taking the part of the Lord Chancellor.

It is our good fortune to have Elaine Young with the Society as the Queen of the Fairies, the major adversary to the Lord Chancellor. She appeared with the Society in last year's production of *The Pirates of Penzance* amongst the bold police, but this year she leads the fairies into battle against the peers of the realm.

Amongst the newcomers to the Society, we welcome David Thomson, who plays the part of young Strephon, and Caroline Warburton in the title role of Iolanthe. Mike Enright is promoted from the chorus to the military, puts on a soldier's uniform as Private Willis, and sets the scene in Act II.

Eddie MacLennan is our Musical Director once again. What would we do without the superb orchestral accompaniment for our singers that Eddie and his brilliant musicians provide!

Iolanthe was first performed in November 1882 and made theatrical history by becoming the first play or opera ever to open simultaneously in Britain and the United States on the same night. It was also the first show to premiere in the Savoy Theatre just off the Strand in London. Here, under new electric lighting, another first in London, it ran for 396 performances.

Sets for this opera have frequently been very grand, with large silvery cobwebs in an Arcadian setting right through to a grandiose second act depicting an elaborate House of Lords. Tonight's show is set in less sumptuous surroundings! We find ourselves in a village hall in the little-known village of Thanolite where the caretaker and cleaner are getting ready for a dancing class, whose members will be dancing to a Sullivan tune. The mothers who arrive to collect them think they would like to recapture their youth and 'take wing', so to speak. A little later, the married couple who run the local band and cricket club arrive separately to find that their hall bookings have clashed ... fortunately their members are happy to join the topsy-turvy world that's been created. It's faithful to Sullivan's music, though a few liberties have been taken with Gilbert's words in the interests of emphasising the currency of the plot and the humour. We are sure that you will enjoy our very different production of *Iolanthe*!

Iolanthe

or *The Peer and the Peri*

Characters

Lord Chancellor	Michael Scott
Earl of Mountararat	Robin O'zóg
Earl Tolloller	Liz Landsman
Private Willis (of the Grenadier Guards)	Mike Enright
Strephon (an Arcadian Shepherd)	David Thomson
Queen of the Fairies	Elaine Young
Iolanthe (a Fairy; Strephon's Mother)	Caroline Warburton
Fairies	
Celia	Sharon Edgar
Leila	Angie Fowler
Phyllis (an Arcadian Shepherdess and Ward of Chancery)	Jennifer Murray-Smith

Members of the Thanolie Women's Institute, Band and Cricket Club,
as the chorus of Fairies and members of the House of Lords

First produced at:

Savoy Theatre, London, 25 November 1882

Scene

Thanolie Village Hall, which becomes

ACT I An Arcadian Landscape

ACT II Palace Yard, Westminster

There will be one interval of 20 minutes

Refreshments will be available from the Tiffany Lounge
during the interval at every performance,
and also after the show by special arrangement



Michael Scott
Director



Eddie MacLennan
Musical Director

**Members of the Thanolie
Women's Institute**

Margaret Brown	Joy Campbell
Anne Dolbear	Fiona Enright
Karen Grant	Joan Johnson
Mary Kidd	Gwyneth Kirby
Val McManus	Ellen Patrick
Susan Reid	Morag Riley
Clare White	Theresa Wilson

**Members of the Thanolie
Brass Band and Cricket Team**

Ian Anderson	Jack Archibald
Eric Brown	Andrew Campbell
Willie Campbell	Bob Martin
Andrew Murray	Douglas Reid
James Robinson	Brian Shaw
Martin Tarr	

Dancers

Erin Connolly	Ava-Violet Daglish
Sophie Dowdell	Emma Gillies
Rachel Kerr	Kirsten Mitchell
Gemma Smith	Martha Wood

Dance teacher

Louise McGurk

Orchestra

Leader	Vince Gray
1st Violin	Christine Munday
	Wendy Gudgin
2nd Violin	Jenny Bain
	Lesley Brown
Viola	Bryan Little
Violoncello	Robin Thomson
Double Bass	Catherine Frew
1st Flute	Craig Steedman
2nd Flute	Hannah Ford
Oboe	John Gourlay
1st Clarinet	Stuart Smith
2nd Clarinet	Melanie MacGregor
Bassoon	Jennifer Kelly
1st Trumpet	Steven Gray
2nd Trumpet	Mark Maylin
Trombone	John Paterson
French Horn	Suzanne Jackson (Fr/Sa)
	Rebecca Cherrie (Th)
Percussion	David Wilson

Rehearsal Pianists

Carol Madden Willie Campbell

Choreographer

Michael Scott

The story of Iolanthe

Act I

The curtain rises on the village hall in Thanolie where a dance school, the Women's Institute, the village band *and* the cricket team have all booked meetings for the same evening. How this develops into our story you will soon discover!

The fairies take the stage first and they summon Iolanthe from her watery banishment. We learn that her punishment for marrying a mortal was pretty severe and, to cap it all, she has a son, Strephon, who is half fairy and half mortal.

We then meet Strephon, who announces his intention to marry Phyllis, a shepherdess, who is also a Ward-in-Chancery. Strephon is very disconsolate as the Lord Chancellor has not consented to the marriage, but the Fairy Queen promises her assistance. Phyllis and Strephon hesitate no longer and vow to marry.

The peers enter, and the main concern of the day is which of them will be lucky enough to wed Phyllis, this being the Lord Chancellor's decision. He even fancies her himself, which is strictly against the rules! Phyllis turns down their approaches, pledging herself to Strephon.

Once again, Strephon's appeal to the Lord Chancellor is rejected, but his case is not helped when he is seen by the peers one evening talking with his mother. Being a fairy, she does not age, so appears to be just 17 years old!

The peers grab this opportunity to declare to Phyllis that Strephon is being unfaithful. Mad with him, she offers herself to either of the Lords Tolloller or Mountararat. Strephon summons the Fairy Queen to his aid. Infuriated by the peers, she declares that Strephon, by the power of fairy magic, will enter Parliament and pass any bill he proposes, crushing the power of the peers.

Act II

The fairies goad the peers about Strephon's power and they ask help from the fairies to limit Strephon's meddling in matters of state. But he is under the Queen's protection and they can do nothing, despite being much attracted to the peers – after which the Queen reminds them of the penalty for marrying a mortal!

Phyllis has yet to decide which lord to marry and leaves it to them to decide. With a duel to the death in prospect, Tolloller and Mountararat agree that both will renounce their claims: they have always been close friends, and that is more important to them than the love of Phyllis.

The Lord Chancellor enters dressed for bed but suffering insomnia as he too is desperately in love with Phyllis. Mountararat and Tolloller even encourage him to take her hand.

Meanwhile, Strephon is still heartbroken and speaks to his mother. It turns out that she was married to the Chancellor, who believes her dead, and does not know that Strephon is his son. Iolanthe is forbidden from speaking to the Chancellor on pain of death, but never-the-less reveals herself to him to appeal on behalf of Strephon and Phyllis. She now has to face death at the hands of the Fairy Queen ...

Is there a reprieve and a happy ending? Will the Lord Chancellor come up with a legal solution? All will be discovered in the final scene!



The Dance Bank

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& THE KABIN, DALGETY BAY

A well established dance school with purpose-built studios in Dunfermline
& a branch at The Kabin in Dalgety Bay

Royal Academy of Dance ballet
classes, tap & jazz, Acro, hip-hop,
lyrical, RADAR Technique &
adult classes with qualified and
experienced teachers.

With classes for children from 16 months, toddler/pre-school classes,
various dance styles for children primary 1+ as well as adult dance, we're
sure we'll have a class to suit you or your little one! Classes run in
Dunfermline 7 days a week and in Dalgety Bay on a Friday
afternoon/evening.

Contact us using the details below for more information

 www.facebook.com/thedancebank  01383 872132
 www.thedancebank.co.uk  info@thedancebank.co.uk

We can't wait to hear from you!

Director's note

Our production begins with a performance in a village hall of a fairy dance set to music from the *Iolanthe* overture. This is used as an excuse for the women of the village to don fairy garb and play at being fairies themselves. Before anyone knows it, the women are performing their way through the opera and everyone who enters the hall is charmed into joining in. There's no need to stop, because Gilbert's tale is so compelling and the women are fully entertained both by their own excuse to become fairies and also at seeing the men of the village band and cricket team act out the antics of the story's joyous dig at the British aristocracy.

Gilbert's *Iolanthe* is about "sky-high" Fairyland and down-to-earth Britain. The conflicts of these diverse worlds are the same: the inhabitants of both are governed by their duty, and their duty is to the Law – the Law of Fairyland or the Law of the Land. What brings these worlds together is the love of two couples. *Iolanthe*, an immortal, met her lover when he was a young man and she a fairy of ... about 200 years. Now it's 25 years on, and their offspring – whose struggle is compounded by being governed by both worlds – finds himself in love with a mortal. The problem for the mother is that the Law of Fairyland forbids marriage to a mortal and the problem for the son is that the Law of the Land forbids him to marry his love unless he can up his career status – he's only a poor (but decorative) shepherd lad, and there are many men of the highest station for him to compete with.

The theme throughout *Iolanthe* is that happiness could be achieved if it were not for the strictness of the Law. All the characters have difficulties with this, but the law officers – the Fairy Queen and the Lord Chancellor – especially struggle with enacting the Law. If only a way could be found to relax the Law! In playing out these conflicts and resolutions in the quiet intimacy of the village hall, perhaps our villagers learn something important about themselves, that adhering to the Law for its own sake is not enough to achieve the love and happiness they desire. Acting their way through *Iolanthe* produces a magical transformation, and all skip home unreasonably happy. After all, it's Love and not the Law that makes the world go round!

Michael Scott

Production Manager's note



You may have noticed that this year our production looks a bit different. The village of Thanolie may be hard to locate on a map but it has been a big part of our lives since we heard Michael Scott's vision for the show. We weren't going to be doing a traditional production, and the decision was made to approach the staging of the show in a different way too. With one eye on finances and the other on sustainability, various members of the company have been involved in the construction of the set, the making of props and the sewing of costumes. We've tried to avoid buying things that would be used just for the show and then stored away, possibly not to see the light of day for many years.

We are particularly grateful to two local businesses who have supported us in providing material either at greatly reduced cost or even for free: for their support – thank you Young Joinery of Dalgety Bay and The Paint Shed in Dunfermline. I'd also like to thank those brave villagers who came and worked in my garage in a wet November as we built and painted the set: Jack Archibald, Colin Dolbear, Douglas Reid, Morag Riley, Phil Riley, and Clare White ... with only coffee and custard creams to keep them going!

Margaret Cooze

Our Dunfermline Society

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production & Stage Manager Margaret Cooze
Deputy Stage Manager Kerry Black
Assistant Stage Managers Lindsay Black
..... Amanda Dellar
Lighting Carly Barr
Sound Solus (Ian Cunningham)
Costumes Anne Wiltshire and Kerry Black
Set DGASS (see p.5)
Front of House Manager Phil Riley
Cast photographs Val McManus
Programme John Allen and Martin Tarr

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Sinead Black
Vice-Chair Morag Riley
Finance Manager Anne Dolbear
Administration Manager Ellen Patrick
Social & Fund-Raising Manager . Jack Archibald
Production Manager Margaret Cooze
Publicity Manager Clare White
Ticket Sales Manager Anne Dolbear
Programme Manager John Allen

WEB MASTER

Martin Tarr

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

Mark Adams

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Jim Etheridge

NON-PERFORMING MEMBERS

John Allen	Sinead Black
Lyn Bowring	Margaret Cooze
Amanda Dellar	Ann Duly
Tom Johnston	Rae Lamond
Jennifer Williams	Theresa Wilson
Anne Wiltshire	

THE SOCIETY WISHES TO THANK

Limekilns Parish Church (welcoming rehearsal venue and supplier of many props!)

Val McManus (photographs of set-up for poster and programme cover)

Young Joinery and The Paint Shed (see p.5)

All volunteer staff and programme sellers, and all who have assisted in anyway and whose names have been inadvertently omitted.

DGASS AND NODA

Our Society has been affiliated to NODA almost from the outset, and our members regularly take part in NODA Scotland's activities, in particular enjoying the annual Peebles conference.

NODA is an excellent organisation supporting amateur theatre throughout the UK, helping societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance, providing leadership and advice, and assisting members facing problems.

There are 11 NODA Districts in Scotland, each with its own representative on the Scottish Committee. Fife is District 7 and our District Representative is Mike Pendlowski, who many of you will know was our Production Manager for many years. For more information on NODA, his email address is mike.pendlowski@noda.org.uk.

Be inspired by amateur theatre

Did you know?

NODA was founded in 1899.

Membership of over 2000 amateur groups and 1000 individual members.

Members stage musicals, opera, plays, concerts and pantomimes.

Member venues range from professional theatres to village halls.

Supports the needs of youth and adult theatre, on and off stage.

NODA publishes three magazines a year **NODA Today**, read it for free on our website

Visit our website to join today

noda.org.uk

KEEP THE DATE!

We look forward to returning
to the Carnegie Hall on
20–22 February 2025

with another sparkling production
and hope to see you there!

Details will shortly appear
on our website dgass.org.uk

More about Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society

OUR SOCIETY

The Dunfermline Gilbert & Sullivan Society was founded on 13 May 1970 for the main purpose of performing G&S works and giving audiences in Dunfermline and Fife the opportunity to see and hear their operettas with a full orchestra.

The Society performs a full operetta each February, with occasional concerts and other events throughout the year. We have occasionally interspersed non-G&S shows, but have maintained our original remit of performing G&S works every year since our inception.

Recent DGASS productions

2016 *The Yeomen of the Guard*

2017 *Ruddigore*

2018 *The Mikado*

2019 *The Sorcerer*

2020 *HMS Pinafore*

2021 *Zoom Mikado*

2022 *Princess Ida*

2023 *The Pirates of Penzance*

The full list is on our website!

Enjoy live chamber music in Dunfermline

7.30pm on Sundays
in Viewfield Baptist Church



Fyrish String Quartet

17 March 2024

More information
at dunferlinemusic.org

THE SUPPORT TEAM

Margaret Cooze is our new Production Manager. She brings her experience of working in London's West End and touring overseas to our society which is very welcome. Her own personal highlight was touring with *Cats* in Australia. Margaret will be doubling as stage manager, supported in the prompt corner by **Kerry Black**. Regular patrons will remember Kerry as having been our Wardrobe Mistress on many occasions. This production of *Iolanthe* is in modern dress, and Anne Wiltshire has provided invaluable wardrobe assistance, freeing Kerry to take on the responsibilities of Deputy Stage Manager.

Lindsay Black and **Amanda Dellar** are our reliable and efficient Assistant Stage Managers looking after our props, **Ian Cunningham** sits at the sound desk to make certain that the right mics are live at the right time, and resident chief electrician at the Carnegie Hall, **Carly Barr**, is both lighting designer and board operator. **Eddie MacLennan** is our brilliant Musical Director and wields the baton in the orchestra pit as he has done for the past 20 years.

We are also grateful for the support of our front of house team. **John Allen** and **Phil Riley** will be on duty for all performances ably assisted by **Anne** and **Chris Wiltshire**, **George Shand**, **Patsy Allen**, **Theresa Wilson** and **Linda Milne**. Thanks too to **Martin Klauz**, who is always there to help with the get-in and fit-up. It takes many hands to make the shows work and we are thankful for all those who volunteer their time to the Society.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME ...

We give a warm welcome to new performing members whether or not they have previous stage experience. Chorus rehearsals for our main show start in August and are held on **Wednesday evenings** from **7.30 to 9.30** at Limekilns Parish Church, 8 Church Street, Limekilns, KY11 3HT. Auditions for principal parts are held each summer – information on dates and arrangements for auditions will be posted on our website, dgass.org.uk.

FIND OUT MORE

For enquiries, contact our Secretary, Ellen Patrick, on ellenpatrick54@gmail.com or Martin Tarr, our webmaster, on martin@dgass.org.uk. They will make certain the right committee member gets back in touch with you.

Principals

Sharon Edgar has been in theatre since she was eight years old, graduating through children's and youth theatre in a mixture of musical theatre and panto, and first performing Gilbert and Sullivan with Kirkcaldy G&S in her late teens, joining her dad, a long-time member of KGASS. Moving back to Fife in 2015, she joined DGASS and has been in several shows, initially in the chorus before playing Isabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* last year.

Happiest singing mezzo-soprano, Sharon returned to KGASS, playing Lady Saphir in *Patience '68* in 2019, and Vittoria in *The Gondoliers* in 2020, and also performed with Kirkcaldy Amateur Dramatic Society playing the club singer in *Made in Dagenham* in 2023. She will be returning for *Elf The Musical* in November 2024.

Away from the theatre, Sharon works both as an NHS nurse, and also runs her own business as a clinical hypnotherapist.



Sharon Edgar
as **Celia**



Michael Enright
as **Private Willis**

Michael Enright spent most of his working life in uniform, first as a police officer, and after retirement as an auxiliary nurse, but never thought he'd be wearing a bearskin! Proud to call himself a "Scot by marriage" (although actually Irish!) he lives in Kinghorn with wife Fiona, who also sings with the Society. This will be Michael's first principal part with DGASS, although he is no stranger to Savoy Operas, having appeared as Dr Daly in *The Sorcerer* and Pish-Tush in *The Mikado*, in his former home town of Swindon.

Beyond the world of G&S, Michael has sung many principal roles including Baron Zeta in Franz Lehár's *The Merry Widow* and Belcore in Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*, and has performed as bass soloist in oratorio and other works including Handel's *Messiah* and Mozart's *Requiem*. Whilst reading history at the University of Oxford, Michael was awarded a choral bursary to the chapel choir of Pembroke College. Michael also sang semi-professionally in the BBC Symphony Chorus for fifteen years, and currently sings in the choir of Dunfermline Abbey.

Angie Fowler first performed with DGASS as Edith in our 2023 production of *The Pirates of Penzance*, and is pleased to be back this year playing Leila.

Angie has been in the amateur dramatics scene in Edinburgh since 2015, mostly with Edinburgh G&S, joining the ensemble for *South Pacific*, *Me and My Girl*, *Oklahoma!*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Carousel* and *The Mikado*. She joined Captivate Theatre as Mrs Bedwin for their Edinburgh Fringe production of *Oliver!* in 2022 and was in their ensemble for *Sunshine on Leith* in 2023.

She does ongoing work with the Edinburgh-based 'Let's Face the Music and Dance' theatre group, which works for the support of Leukaemia Care and other charities.

2024 will see her debut with Threepenny Theatricals when she takes on the role of Gabrielle in their production of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* which will stage at the Church Hill Theatre in Edinburgh next November.



Angie Fowler
as **Leila**

Principals



Liz Landsman
as **Lord Tolloller**

Liz Landsman first performed on stage during her student days at St Andrews where she discovered a love of the Savoy operas. Three years with the Angus G&S Society followed, after which she moved to Edinburgh, where she played many mezzo roles with Edinburgh G&S, including the title role in *Iolanthe*, Lady Angela in *Patience*, Tessa in *The Gondoliers*, Psyche in *Princess Ida* and Mad Margaret in *Ruddygore*. Her first role with DGASS was as the Duchess of Plaza-Toro in *The Gondoliers* in 2016, since when she has played several alto principal parts. In 2023 Liz was delighted to be back in the Carnegie Hall as Ruth in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and also joined the cast of Threepenny Theatricals as the eccentric Rose Flood Porter in *The Lady Vanishes*. At weekends Liz can be found participating in dog agility and Hoopers shows with her border collies Rue and Alta, or standing for hours on CalMac ferries as a Marine Mammal Surveyor for the charity, Orca.

Jennifer Murray-Smith has been a G&S principal since the age of 17. When studying at the University of St Andrews, she played multiple principal soprano roles with St Andrews G&S, Peak Opera in Buxton and Edinburgh Fringe company Happy-Go-Lucky Theatre, and more recently was Yum-Yum in *The Mikado* and Hebe in *HMS Pinafore* with Edinburgh G&S. Achieving a LLCM in performance in 2016, her operatic roles include Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Susan in *A Dinner Engagement*, and Lady Milhouse in *The Minister* with the Byre Opera Company. Recent oratorio engagements include Faure's *Requiem* and Monteverdi's *Vespers*.

Jennifer is also experienced in musical theatre playing The Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*, Lucy in *The Threepenny Opera* and Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*. Last year she played Annie with Forest Theatre Company and made her first appearance with us as Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. When not singing, Jennifer can be found at Glasgow Caledonian University where she is a lecturer in Marketing.



Jennifer Murray-Smith
as **Phyllis**



Robin O'zóg
as **Lord Mountarat**

Robin O'zóg is one of the founder members of DGASS and a favourite with our audiences. Over the years he has played all the major tenor and romantic lead roles in G&S (many several times over!). Outwith G&S, Robin has performed in many Societies in Fife, Lothian, Forth Valley and Tayside. He has played Danilo in *The Merry Widow*, Alfred and Falke in *Pink Champagne*, Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*, Brazil, Raoul and Robert in *La Vie Parisienne*, Pluto in *Orpheus in the Underworld*, and many other leading roles. More recently Robin played the part of Ko-Ko in *The Mikado*, Archibald Grosvenor in *Patience*, Jack Point in *The Yeomen of the Guard*, Sir Despard Murgatroyd in *Ruddigore* and Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre in *The Sorcerer*.

In our 2018 production of *The Mikado*, Robin played the part of Katisha, probably one of the first productions ever where the genders of those performing the parts of Katisha and Ko-Ko were swapped.

Robin is currently directing Kirkcaldy G&S in their forthcoming production of *The Mikado* when he will star once again as Ko-Ko.

Principals



Michael Scott
as **Lord Chancellor**

Michael Scott loves working in all aspects of theatre. He had a successful career as a dancer, beginning with London City Ballet and Scottish Ballet. Highlights include tap-dancing as a bellhop in English National Opera's *The Mikado*; Cossack dancing at Princess Diana's fund-raising party held at her family home, Spencer House; flamenco dancing in the world's largest production of *Carmen* with José Carreras; and knocking both Carreras and Plácido Domingo to the floor of the stage of the Royal Opera House.

Over the past ten years, Michael has been involved in Scotland's thriving amateur scene including choreographing for Fife Opera, singing Perchik in SLO's *Fiddler on the Roof* and General Deelah in EDGAS's *Cups and Saucers*. He also acted in Edinburgh Grad's two-hander that won the 2018 week-long One-Act Play competition at Edinburgh's Church Hill Theatre. Before Covid lockdown he played Bunthorne in the Kirkcaldy G&S production of *Patience* and directed and designed the Aristophanes Greek comedy *Women in Parliament* before working as choreographer and movement director of Opera Bohemia's *Merry Widow*, which had an 18-venue tour of Scotland. *Iolanthe* is Michael's first production with DGASS as director following his performance as Major-General Stanley in last year's *The Pirates of Penzance*.

David Thomson was introduced to G&S with the University of St Andrews Gilbert and Sullivan Society, where he performed as Bunthorne in *Patience* in 2007 and Strephon in *Iolanthe* the following year. David has continued to enjoy performing G&S with Peak Opera at the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival, with recent credits including Antonio in *The Gondoliers*, Sir Marmaduke in *The Sorcerer* and Scynthus in *Princess Ida*. David will be rejoining Peak Opera later this year, once more as Strephon in *Iolanthe*.

Outside G&S, David appeared in the 2023 Perth Festival of the Arts with Scots Opera Project in the Celtic folk opera, *The Seal Woman*.

David is most regularly found performing as a soloist with the Jambouree Choir and Cabaret Singers in Perth, enjoying singing an eclectic selection of pieces from opera, musicals, Scots and other popular music. Since joining the choir in 2017, David has performed in many seasonal concerts as well as appearing on the BBC's Christmas Eve programme, *Christmas Celebration* in 2019.



David Thomson
as **Strephon**

S:1

... an award winning salon
01383 620609

Sheds

Principals

This is **Caroline Warburton**'s first show with DGASS. A regular with Kirkcaldy Gilbert and Sullivan Society, she has recently played the role of Phoebe in *The Yeomen of the Guard*, having previously had principal G&S roles including Tessa in *The Gondoliers* and Pitti-Sing in *The Mikado*. Caroline also played the title role of Lilli Vanessa/Katherine in Glenrothes Amateur Musical Association's 2022 production of *Kiss Me Kate*.

Caroline also sings with the Fife group Ensemble who perform around Fife and at The Edinburgh Fringe. Prior to moving to Fife, she sang with a number of groups in Inverness, her roles including Buttercup in *HMS Pinafore* and Polly in *The Beggar's Opera* – plus any number of pantos!

When not singing or at work, Caroline enjoys the great outdoors, whether this is locally on her allotment or travelling across Scotland to enjoy its wild places.



Caroline Warburton
as **Iolanthe**



Elaine Young
as **The Fairy Queen**

Elaine Young is delighted to be joining DGASS on stage in Iolanthe. However, this is not Elaine's first outing with the company, having 25+ years ago played Ruth in a 'come and sing' version of *The Pirates of Penzance* and last year she joined the chorus of policemen as the Sergeant's sidekick!

Elaine is a long-term member of Kirkcaldy G&S, where she has played the majority of the alto/mezzo roles in the G&S canon, many several times. Elaine has also performed many principal roles with Fife Opera, favourites being Cornelia in *Giulio Cesare* and Madame de la Haltière in *Cendrillon* and in June she will appear as Alisa in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Tayside Opera. For more than 30 years she has performed throughout Scotland and beyond with the concert group Ensemble, appearing annually at the Edinburgh Fringe. Happily retired, she enjoys the company of her two cats, William and Arthur! But what else would such a Gilbert & Sullivan devotee call her favourite furry companions?



Andrew Rodden

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death of our long-serving first violinist, Andrew Rodden.

Andrew had been a constant member of our orchestra for about twenty years.

The Society and orchestra offer their condolences to Andrew's family and friends at this time. He will be greatly missed.

Members of the Thanolie WI, band and cricket team



Ian Anderson



Jack Archibald



Eric Brown



Margaret Brown



Andrew Campbell



Joy Campbell



Willie Campbell



Anne Dolbear

Members of the Thanolie WI, band and cricket team



Fiona Enright



Karen Grant



Joan Johnson



Mary Kidd



Gwyneth Kirby



Bob Martin



Val McManus



Andrew Murray

Members of the Thanolie WI, band and cricket team



Ellen Patrick



Douglas Reid



Susan Reid



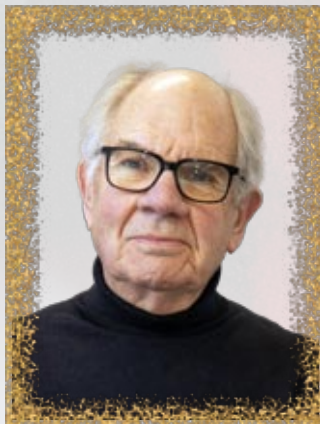
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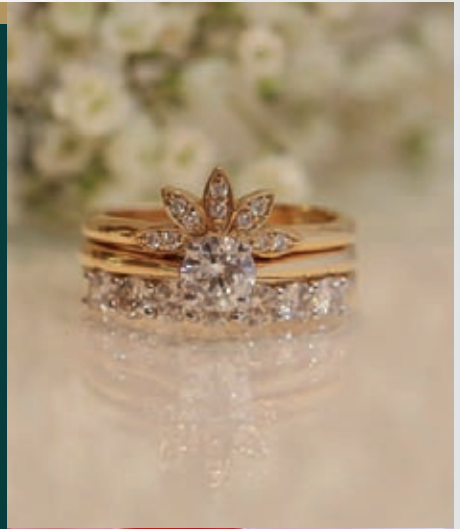
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