



THE
WISBECH
AMATEUR
OPERATIC
AND DRAMATIC
SOCIETY
presents

Gigi

EMPIRE THEATRE
WISBECH
11th - 16th MARCH
1985



Gigi
Alison Frisby

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Honoré Lachailles
Don Payne



Gaston Lachailles
Colin Wise



Mamita
Valerie Standen



Aunt Alicia
Saskia Wykes

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Manuel
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Maitre Duclos
John Trower



Maitre Dufresne
Gordon Ringrose

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The Company



The Children

**DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED
BY RAY JEFFERY**

G

CAST – in order of appearance

| | |
|--|---|
| Honoré Lachailles | Don Payne |
| Gigi | Alison Frisby |
| Inez Alvarez (Mamita) | Valerie Standen |
| Aunt Alicia | Saskia Wykes |
| Gaston Lachailles | Colin Wise |
| Liane D'Exelmans | Gillian Stapleton |
| Balloon Seller | Ann Shippey |
| Guide | Grahame Lindsey |
| Governess | Doreen Kowalewsky |
| Flower Seller | Margaret Hunt |
| Ladies on the Promenade | Sheila Petch, Teresa Hudon |
| Waitress at the Pre-Catelan Restaurant | Brenda Woods, Jenny Sirett, Amanda Scott |
| Maid | Ann Woods |
| Charles (Alicia's Butler) | Isobel Shippey |
| Fiddle Player | John Trower |
| Feather Dancer at the Eiffel Tower | Robert Bridges |
| The Apache Dancers | Cynthia Naylor |
| Jacqueline de Beautemps | Katrina Twitchett, Michele Twitchett, Kevin Shippey |
| Sandomir | Pat Shippey |
| An Artist | Kevin Shippey |
| A Count | James King |
| Manuel, the Valet | Fred King |
| A Dancing Teacher | Alec Ilett |
| Hotel Receptionist of the Grand Hotel | John Richmond |
| The Bell Boy | Fred King |
| Porters at the Hotel | Robert Bridges |
| Housemaids at the Hotel | David Maris, Andrew Ward |
| Madame La Verne | Olga Williams, Sue Butterfield |
| Telephone Installer | Elizabeth Ilett |
| Young Girls | John Petch |
| Maitre Dufresne (Gaston's Lawyer) | Stephanie Shippey, Rachel Ward |
| Maitre Duclos (Alicia's Lawyer) | Gordon Ringrose |
| Two Law Clerks | John Trower |
| Waiter at the Street Cafe | John Petch, Kevin Shippey |
| Head Waiter at Maxims | Gary Brown |
| Juliette Lesage | Howard Stapleton |
| | Wendy Mitcham |

Children

Joe Allen, Lisa Handley, Claire Judd, Carol-Anne McClenahan, Christopher Ozanne, Sara Woods.

We are asked that Patrons REFRAIN FROM SMOKING in the Auditorium

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We are pleased to present this year the charming musical play Gigi.

Chrissie Newell who was selected to play the part of Gigi had a very serious road accident before Christmas and our Committee has had to arrange for a substitute, namely Alison Frisby, who is working very hard in the part. We all wish Chrissie a complete recovery and hope in the years to come she will be able to take leading parts in other productions.

Once again Ray Jeffery will be producing the show with the assistance of Barbara Mews helped by Vera Boekee both of whom have worked very hard to produce an excellent show.

Our grateful thanks are due once again to our Secretary John Richmond — the amount of work he does and the concern he shows for our Society is legendary — thank you very much John.

We must thank our Patrons for their continued support without which we could not put on the shows we do, and to all members of the Society both on and off the stage.

D. ASHLEY WHITTERIDGE

THE WISBECH AMATEUR OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY PAST PRODUCTIONS

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1922 H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury | 1956 Gipsy Love | 1977 Bitter Sweet |
| 1923 Yeomen of the Guard | 1957 The Desert Song | Aladdin |
| 1924 The Gondoliers | 1958 Carousel | 1978 Oliver |
| 1925 Iolanthe | 1959 The Merry Widow | Cinderella |
| 1926 The Mikado | 1960 The King and I | 1979 Hello Dolly |
| 1927 Utopia | 1961 Kismet | Songs from the Shows |
| 1928 Les Cloches de Cornville | 1962 Free as Air | Dick Whittington |
| 1929 The Pirates of Penzance | 1963 Finian's Rainbow | 1980 Calamity Jane |
| 1930 The Emerald Isle | 1964 White Horse Inn | Rock v Opera |
| 1931 Miss Hook of Holland | 1965 Annie Get Your Gun | Jack & The Beanstalk |
| 1932 The Geisha | 1966 The Vagabond King | 1981 The Merry Widow |
| 1933 The Quaker Girl | 1967 South Pacific | That's Entertainment |
| 1934 The Country Girl | 1968 Kiss Me Kate | Sleeping Beauty |
| 1935 The Maid of the Mountains | 1969 My Fair Lady | 1982 The Boyfriend |
| 1936 The Arcadians | 1970 The Dancing Years | Extracts |
| 1937 Goodnight, Vienna | 1971 The Sound of Music | Robinson Crusoe |
| 1938 Rio Rita | 1972 The Music Man | 1983 Camelot |
| 1939 The Vagabond King | 1973 Fiddler on the Roof | Silent Days & Summer Nights |
| 1950 The Lilac Domino | 1974 Half a Sixpence | Snow White |
| 1951 No, No, Nanette | 1975 Show Boat | 1984 Oklahoma |
| 1952 Rainbow Inn | Mother Goose | Smile |
| 1953 Maritza | 1976 Call Me Madam | Goldilocks and the Three Bears |
| 1954 The Arcadians | Babes in the Wood | |
| 1955 Oklahoma | | |

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RAY JEFFERY
(DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER)

Our Director and Choreographer RAY JEFFERY, is delighted to be back directing for our society, for his eighth year. Since our exciting "Oklahoma", last year Ray has been extremely busy working in many parts of the U.K., producing many new shows: "Carmen", "Irene", a new "Mikado", the English Premier of "Hans Andersen", - the new Drury Lane presentation of "The Pirates of Penzance" in Northern Ireland, "Mack and Mabel", "Jesus Christ Superstar", "Grease", "Pinocchio" and "Bye, Bye Birdie". All these shows were "firsts", for Ray and will be added to his repertoire.

In May of last year Ray re-formed his own company Players Anonymous - who staged the rarely performed musical "The Man of La Mancha", based on the life and works of Don Quixote. The production was cast crewed from all the companies that Ray works with in the British Isles. Wisbech Operatic contributed several members. Derek Mews was invited to Stage Manage, Barbara Mews acted as personal assistant to Ray, Alec Ilett created the make-up for the production and played the 'old prisoner', Liz Ilett and Fred King gave fine performances also. Robert Warner designed the lighting for the show, his expertise and skill you see tonight for "Gigi". "Man of La Mancha", won many awards including the lighting trophy for Robert and the Director's award for Ray. The Company took the Premier trophy for the competitive festival scoring ninety seven marks out of a possible hundred points.

Ray would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous assistance he receives from our Assistant Producer.

Ray has been invited back to direct our 1986 musical - "Annie".



DAVID COUND
(MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

Originally trained as a singer he gained a wide experience as a principal tenor in Opera, Musical Comedy and Oratorio. He took up conducting in 1963 and since then has regularly conducted musicals in the Midland area. He is currently Musical Director of Loughborough Theatre Club & Loughborough Amateur Operatic Society. For the last two years he has been one of the staff Musical Directors of the N.O.D.A. Operatic Summer School. He was also the Musical Director of the 1984 winning entry at the Waterford Festival of Light Opera - "Man of La Mancha" performed by Players Anonymous and Directed by Ray Jeffery.



HONORARY OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1984/85

President: Arthur J. Towler

Chairman S. Ashley Whitteridge
Vice-Chairman Graham Ward
General Secretary John W. Richmond
Business Manager Eric Russell
Treasurer Jean Hutchinson
Assistant to the Producer Barbara Mews
Mistress of the Dance Vera Boekee
Dancing Assistant Gillian Stapleton
Wardrobe Jenny Sirett
Stage Manager Derek Mews
Publicity Manager Phil Wagg

General Committee:
Michael Allen
Pauline Bambridge
Vera Boekee
Alec Ilett
Christopher Ketteringham
Fred King
Derek Mews
Barbara Mews
Coleen Seward
Pat Shippey
Norma Shippey
Jenny Sirett
John Smith
Gillian Stapleton
Phil Wagg
Joe Waltham
Saskia Wykes

Pantomime Committee:

Chairman John Richmond
Secretary Ann Shippey
Business Manager Margaret Hunt
Musical Director Lillian Miller

Life Members

Donald J. Borrill
Joan Borrill
Mary Register
Winifred Wagg

Committee Members

Pauline Bambridge, Vera Boekee, Doreen Kowalewsky,
Barbara Mews, John Petch, Richard Shippey, Jenny Sirett,
Ann Waltham.

Social Committee:

Chairman Pauline Bambridge
Secretary Carol Cox

Committee Members:

Derrick Bottom, Alison Frisby, Christopher Ketteringham, Doreen Kowalewsky, John Richmond,
Mavis Russell, Kevin Shippey, Olga Williams.

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OUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Standing: Olga Williams, Kevin Shippey, John Richmond, Christopher Ketteringham,
Mavis Russell.

Sitting: Alison Frisby, Pauline Bambridge (Chairman), Carol Cox (Secretary),
Doreen Kowalewsky.

A message from Chairman, Pauline:

"Always give it to busy people to do", this must be the rule by which members of the Social Committee abide: Our Secretary Carol works like a trojan and is capable of selling igloos to eskimos. Doreen, Olga and Mavis are our cooks extraordinary who will cater for any number from 10 to 100 without batting an eyelid. Alison, Kevin, Christopher and Derrick Bottom all work together arranging functions and as for me, well I sit back and "thank heavens for boys and girls" who work hard to support our members in every way under the watchful eye of course of the Society's able Secretary John Richmond.

PAULINE BAMBRIDGE

Coming Events:

- 29th March 1985 — WAODS Annual Dinner & Dance at Emneth Central Hall.
25th May 1985 — V.E. Charity Dance 1940's style.
5th October 1985 — Square Dance at Walpole Fruit Packers
(Book early to avoid disappointment).

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Scenery | Designed by Ray Jeffery | Calls | David Fairbrother |
| Costumes | S.B. Watts & Co.Ltd. | House Safety | Michael Allen & helpers |
| Sound Amplification | Neville Angell, Chatteris | Programmes and | Betty Lindsay asstd. by |
| Wardrobe Mistress | Jenny Sirett | Usherettes | members and friends |
| Make-up | Alec Ilett, Dawn Robinson | Cloaks | A.H. Chase, asstd. by |
| Ladies Hairdressing | and Anne Sharp | | H.R.Cattell, B.G. Pentelow, |
| Theatre Workshop | Chantal Hairfashions | | N. Pentelow, |
| | Wig Creations Ltd., London | Programme | G.B.G. McDonald. |
| | Derek Mews asstd. by Gordon | Photographs | David Fairbrother, Norfolk |
| | Clark, John Goodley, Charles | Dry Cleaning | Street, Wisbech. |
| | Layton, Mark Rycroft, Tony | Piano Tuning | Laytons, Wisbech. |
| | Scott | | Walter Seath, West Walton |
| Lighting Manager | Joe Waltham | | |
| Lighting Cues | Barbara Mews | | |
| Registrar | Margaret Hunt | | |
| Properties | John Richmond asstd. by | | |
| | John Goodley, Mark Lees, | | |
| | Mick Robinson, Martin Scott | | |
| | Ann Waltham, Sara Waltham | | |
| Prompter | Sally Harrison | | |
| Lighting Design | Robert Warner asstd. by Steven | | |
| and Control | Newton, Samuel Smith, John | | |
| | Taylor, Ken Turner, Joe | | |
| | Waltham, Tim Ward, Louise | | |
| | West, Martin West | | |
| Patrons Secretary | Sheila Whitteridge | | |
| Party Bookings | Mavis Russell | | |
| Secretary | | | |
| Advance Bookings | Norma Shippey asstd. by Pip | | |
| | Bates, Muriel Farrow, John & | | |
| | Vera Ferguson, Bet Ilett, | | |
| | Catherine Tyler, Nora Ward. | | |
| Box Office | Daphne Twitchett & Shirley Walker | | |
| Theatre Decor | Peter Houlden, Ann Maxey, | | |
| | Janet Ward, Sheila Whitteridge | | |
| Back Stage | Gordon Clark, John Goodley, | | |
| | Charles Layton, Andrew Maxey, | | |
| | Derek Mews, Martin Scott, | | |
| | Richard Shippey, Tony Shippey, | | |
| | Graham Ward | | |

The Wisbech
Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society

present for your future entertainment:—

July 1985 — Pippin

December 1985 — Cinderella

March 1986 — Annie

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R D Wormaid Esq
Mr & Mrs D F Young

THE ORCHESTRA

Conductor and Musical Director: David Cound

| | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Violins: | R. Rose Leader R. Bradley S. Morgan R. McManus A. Shaw A. Tolliday | Flutes & Piccolo: | R. Millard |
| Viola: | V. Rose | Clarinet: | P. Bray |
| Cello: | G. Stephenson | Horn: | D. Dorey |
| | | Trumpet: | D. Hicks |
| | | Trombone: | A. Turner |
| | | Piano: | M. Jefferis |
| | | Percussion: | R. Mander |

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We had the pleasure of printing this programme

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The Society extends its grateful thanks to:—

The Worshipful the Mayor of Wisbech (Cllr. Leslie Sims) for his support and kind co-operation with the Civic Night.

The proprietors of this Theatre, Jacobs Theatre and Leisure Group Ltd., for making it available to us and in particular to their resident Manager, Mr. G. Cobbold and his Staff for their interest, co-operation and practical help throughout the year.

Barbara Mews for valuable assistance to the Producer and her ability in coping with the arduous rehearsals.

Barbara Bramwells, Mary Jefferies, Linda Scott, Ann Stevens, Lillian Miller for piano accompaniment at our rehearsals.

Andrews of Wisbech for the loan of china and glass.

French Kier Construction Ltd for continuing help in providing changing accommodation.

The Society are most grateful to have the use of St. Peter's Church Hall for their rehearsals.

Mr W.P. Wright for signwriting.

The Press for their interest and support throughout the year.

The advertisers in this programme.

The organisers of the many parties and groups who are attending this production.

Members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for their attendance at performances

Mr. Peter Houlden for his generous contribution to the floral decorations in this theatre.

Members of the Rotary Club of Wisbech for their assistance at the matinees.

Saskia Wykes for her continuing help with the design of our Programme cover.

All employers who have so kindly co-operated in allowing members of their staffs to take part in the matinee performances.

Everyone who has helped the Society in any way and whose names were not available at the time of going to press.

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The Angles Theatre Company presents "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Angles Theatre, Wisbech, March 20th to April 4th 1985.
Tickets available from Catours Travel, Nene Quay, Wisbech, Telephone: 585244.

March & District Operatic Society invite you to their show . . .
"Kiss Me Kate" at the Neale Wade Community College, County Road, March, each evening at 7.30 p.m. 1st - 6th April 1985.
Bookings: Mr. P. Houlden, C/o Martins (Newsagents), 9 High Street, March, Cambs.
Telephone: March 2117.

The Wisbech Players will be presenting "Lord Arthur Savilles Crime", a play by Oscar Wilde, as their Spring production at the Angles Theatre, Wisbech, 30th April - 4th May 1985.

The Upwell Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents "HMS Pinafore" at the Upwell Secondary School on the 28th, 29th and 30th March 1985, tickets available from Stuart Carrson, Tel: Wisbech 772369.

King's Lynn Operatic & Dramatic Society will be presenting "Guys and Dolls" at the Fermoy Centre, King's Lynn, 23rd to 30th March 1985.
Bookings: Mrs. L. Mitchell, Tel: King's Lynn 4994.

PATRONS INVITATION

If you would like to become a Patron of the Society and enjoy priority advance bookings, please write to the Patrons' Secretary, Mrs. S. Whitteridge, Hallcroft, Leverington, Wisbech, Cambs.

The minimum subscription is £3, payable annually in January.

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