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THE Mikaddo

8TH - 12TH OCTOBER 2013

EXETER BARNFIELD THEATRE

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ST DAVID'S PLAYERS

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are proud and delighted to present their
50TH PRODUCTION

THE Mikaddo

OR THE TOWN OF TITIPU

Libretto by **WS Gilbert**
Director **Jane May**

Music by **Arthur Sullivan**
Musical Director **Nicky Perry**

8TH - 12TH OCTOBER 2013

NIGHTLY AT 7.30PM

MATINÉE ON SATURDAY 12TH AT 2.30PM

EXETER BARNFIELD THEATRE

Supporting  in 2013



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Thank you

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こんにちは **RÖNNICHIWA**

SUSAN JAMES

PRESIDENT OF ST DAVID'S PLAYERS

Welcome to the 50th production by St David's Players. The Mikado is the most celebrated of all the Gilbert and Sullivan shows and at the tender age of 12, I took part in a school production of this comic opera and even after more than four decades still find it as enjoyable and engaging.

This year we have a number of new faces joining us together with many regular stalwarts taking part and it is great to see Nicky back wielding her baton as musical director and also to be able to work with Jane again on the production side.

and for his wonderful support and friendship he has given us.

We wish him well.

Many of you will know that St David's Players was founded to provide charitable donations and following the success of last year's production of Princess Ida we were able to present a cheque to the **League of Friends of Mardon Neuro-Rehabilitation Centre** for the sum of £2,731. A big thank you to everyone who helped us raise this amount.

bon voyage

It is vital for the Society to continue to attract new members as we often lose members to pastures new and this year we have had to say 'bon voyage' to one of our longest serving members, Ian Bond, who recently emigrated to Australia.



Susan James (LEFT) presenting a farewell gift to Ian Bond before his departure to a new life in Australia



LEFT TO RIGHT: Susan Gunn-Johnson; Eleanor Bridgman; Debbie Walsh presenting a cheque for £2,731 to **League of Friends of Mardon Neuro-Rehabilitation Centre** representative Norman Shiel

Our chosen charity this year is **FORCE Cancer Charity** and I hope you feel able to support them by donating in the bucket collection at the end of the show or by purchasing a raffle ticket.

Classics Galore!

In addition, on 9th November 2013 St David's Players will be singing in the Classics Galore! Concert in the Great Hall, Exeter University, to raise more money for this worthy charity and we would love to see you there. Further details can be found later in this programme.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable evening and hopefully see you again at the Classics Galore! Concert or next year for our production of Ruddigore.



Susan James

President: St David's Players

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ELEANOR BRIDGMAN

CHAIR OF ST DAVID'S PLAYERS

With joyous shout - Welcome to the St David's Players
2013 production of The Mikado.

Set, to all intents and purposes, in Japan – but this is a fairy-tale Japan that is a thin veil for some very British satire, (the satire as relevant today as it was in 1885) – whilst the corruption personified in that illustrious official, Pooh-Bah, can be recognised as present in any government worldwide. Cash for questions, expenses scandals (duck houses!) – ring any bells?

A favourite of the Gilbert and Sullivan repertoire, The Mikado premiered on 14th March 1885 at the Savoy Theatre in London and ran for 672 performances. To remain a favourite for 128 years pays credit to the tunes – from sea shanty in Nanki-Poo's solo, through madrigals to imperial marching songs in the pentatonic scale depicting Japanese music styles – to say nothing of the usual Gilbertian plot and characters (self righteous Pooh Bah, conniving Katisha, and the innocent Yum-Yum). Tonight it is our turn and I hope you enjoy the performance.

I am delighted that this year we are supporting FORCE, the Exeter cancer charity. Please dig deep to support their raffle and bucket collections.

My thanks go to our director, Jane May and our musical director, Nicky Perry, who, supported by our backstage & technical crew, have created a fantastic show for you tonight.

The cast have brushed up on their Japanese, including fan technique – so expect flawless execution tonight (there have been a few bruised toes in rehearsals!)

This year, I'd like to recognise the St David's Players committee, who, with Jane May and Nicky Perry, have made tonight's performance possible – thank you all for your contribution.

I am pleased to continue to welcome new members to the company – both on stage and off – and it's lovely to welcome back returning members.

I'd like to welcome audience members who are new to Gilbert & Sullivan, as well as loyal members of the audience. My thanks for your continued support of the Society.

The Mikado is particularly special to me as I met my husband on stage in my first production of the Mikado in Staines 12 years ago. The Mikado was also my first production with St David's Players when we moved to the West Country in 2004.

I hope you enjoy The Mikado as much as we do and you find it as enduring and endearing as I do.



Eleanor Bridgman
Chair of St David's Players



ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
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ディレクター DIRECTORS

JANE MAY

DIRECTOR

Jane joins St David's Players once again for her ninth
production with them. Having appeared in at least
eight (at the last count) productions of The Mikado,
Jane decided that she had sufficient experience to
direct this Gilbert and Sullivan Operetta for us.

Nostalgically The Mikado remains one
of her favourites because performing
with Plymouth Gilbert and Sullivan
Fellowship it was her first appearance
on stage in a Gilbert & Sullivan Operetta;
and her involvement with taking a
production of The Mikado to Bad Ischl
in Austria for Southampton Operatic
Society, three coaches, The City of
Southampton Orchestra, scenery,
two performances in the Kurhaus,
quite a memorable experience!

Jane took the part of Katisha in our
2004 production of The Mikado, a part
she enjoyed playing immensely.

Jane always finds it a great privilege
directing this extremely talented
and hard working Society.



NICKY PERRY

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Nicky's first involvement with St David's Players was as a
school girl complete with wig and kimono in our 1981
production of The Mikado.



Nicky and husband Mark Perry during our 1981
production of *The Mikado* here at the Barnfield Theatre.

For the next nine years she was either in
the pit playing the flute or the piano or
taking time out to bring up three children.

Over the past eight years she has
either played the piano or directed
the musicians in the pit for Iolanthe
(2007), Rose of Persia (2009), Trial by
Jury (2010) and Princess Ida (2012).

Nicky is so pleased that there are so many
young people in the cast - as young as
she was all those years ago! - still wanting
to be part of G&S productions, and
that the orchestra playing tonight are
experienced St David's supporters too.



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解題 SYNOPSIS

contributed by Ian Bond

The Mikado, or The Town of Titipu, is probably the most popular of the 14 comic operas written by WS Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan in the 25 years between 1871 and 1896. The work enjoys an enduring popularity that has seen it presented in many languages on many stages throughout the world, and to this day it is believed that on any day in the year, the opera is playing somewhere.

The piece opens in the courtyard of Ko-Ko's palace in the town of Titipu. A gathering of Japanese nobles is interrupted by the arrival of Nanki-Poo, a wandering musician (second trombone) who is in search of his beloved Yum-Yum. Some months ago as he was playing with the Titipu town band, their eyes met, and they fell in love. However, Yum-Yum was engaged to her guardian, Ko-Ko, a cheap tailor, and so Nanki-Poo left the town. Hearing that Ko-Ko had been condemned to death for the crime of flirting, Nanki-Poo has returned.

Nanki-Poo's hopes are dashed however, by Pish-Tush, who explains that in an effort to prevent anyone else from being beheaded, Ko-Ko has been raised to the post of Lord High Executioner, thus ensuring that no one else can be executed until Ko-Ko beheads himself. Pooh-Bah, the Lord High Everything-Else, after having received a considerable bribe, reinforces the point by telling Nanki-Poo that Ko-Ko is to wed Yum-Yum that very afternoon.

Ko-Ko arrives and consults Pooh-Bah about the details of his wedding. Their discussion is interrupted by the arrival of Yum-Yum, her friends Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo, together with their school chums.

Yum-Yum is delighted to find that Nanki-Poo has returned, but is alarmed when he reveals that he is, in fact, the son of The Mikado, having fled his father's court and the unwanted attentions of the Katisha. In despair at the thought that Yum-Yum is to marry Ko-Ko, Nanki-Poo attempts suicide, but is persuaded by Ko-Ko to submit to execution at the hands of the public executioner in a month's time, provided that he can marry Yum-Yum in the interim. This will allow Ko-Ko to fulfil a decree received from the Mikado himself. However, the first act ends in confusion as Katisha arrives, recognises Nanki-Poo, and threatens to reveal his whereabouts to his father.

Act Two opens in Ko-Ko's garden Spa, where Yum-Yum's friends are preparing her for her wedding to Nanki-Poo. The only drawback is the prospect that Nanki-Poo will be beheaded in a month's time, but a readjustment of the theory of time brings the lovers some relief.

Relief which is short lived however, as Ko-Ko reveals that he has discovered that by the Mikado's law, when a married man is beheaded, his wife is buried alive. An announcement that the Mikado is about to arrive prompts speedy and drastic action as Ko-Ko dispatches

Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo to be married by the Archbishop of Titipu (Pooh-Bah), and then prepares to face the Mikado.

Ko-Ko aided by Pitti-Sing and the Titipu coroner (Pooh-Bah), gives a graphic account of the recent (fictitious) execution, only to get themselves deeper into trouble when Katisha reads the death certificate and discovers Nanki-Poo's name. The three conspirators are condemned to death by boiling in oil, the only concession being that this will take place after luncheon.

This delay gives Ko-Ko just enough time to woo Katisha and persuade her to marry him, this time before the registrar (again Pooh-Bah). When the Mikado reappears, all is resolved in truly Gilbertian manner; Nanki-Poo and Yum-Yum are able to come back to life and everyone (except, perhaps, Ko-Ko and Katisha) is happy!



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JOHN
STUART



THE
MIKADO
OF
JAPAN

The Emperor of Japan and the
father of Nanki-Poo,
The Mikado is the law.
In fact, 'When His Majesty
says, "let a thing be done",
it is as good as done -
practically it is done -
because His Majesty's
will is law'.

SHEENA
GALPIN



KATISHA

A Lady of The Mikado's
Court, Katisha is in love
with Nanki-Poo and has
been promised to him
by The Mikado.

However, Nanki-Poo
does not return her love.

IAN
SPACKMAN

TIM
HUNT

ROB
CHAVE



POOH-BAH

The 'Lord High Everything
Else', Pooh-Bah is 'First Lord
of the Treasury; Lord Chief
Justice; Lord High Admiral;
Master of the Buckhounds;
Groom of the Back Stairs;
Archbishop of Titipu, and Lord
Mayor (both acting and elect)
all rolled into one'.

KO-KO

The 'Lord High Executioner
of Titipu' (the highest rank a
citizen can obtain), Ko-Ko was
a cheap tailor who had been
sentenced to death for flirting,
until he was raised to his
high position through
'remarkable circumstances'.
He is also engaged to marry
Yum-Yum, even though she
doesn't love him.

PISH-TUSH

A Noble Lord of Titipu

MARK
HURFORD

TOTTY
TUCKER



NANKI-POO

The son of The Mikado, Nanki-Poo
has fled the Royal Court because his
father promised him in marriage to
Katisha. Nanki-Poo, however,
loves Yum-Yum and has gone
in search for her, disguised
as a wand'ring minstrel.

HANNAH
MOUNTAIN

SARAH
FORD



PEEP-BO
and
PITTI-SING

Wards of Ko-Ko
and sisters of Yum-Yum

YUM-YUM

A ward of Ko-Ko and sister of
Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo, Yum-Yum is
in love with Nanki-Poo, even though
she is betrothed to Ko-Ko,
whom she doesn't love.

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校長文字 **PRINCIPAL
CHARACTERS**

THE MIKADO OF JAPAN

NANKI-POO his Son, disguised as a wand'ring minstrel
KO-KO Lord High Executioner of Titipu
POOH-BAH Lord High Everything Else
PISH-TUSH a Noble Lord
YUM-YUM
PITTI-SING wards of Ko-Ko
PEEP-BO
KATISHA a lady in love with Nanki-Poo

JOHN STUART
MARK HURFORD
TIM HUNT
IAN SPACKMAN
ROB CHAVE
TOTTY TUCKER
SARAH FORD
HANNAH MOUNTAIN
SHEENA GALPIN

Libretto by **WS Gilbert**
Music by **Arthur Sullivan**
Director **Jane May**
Musical Director **Nicky Perry**



School-Girls
SARAH AUBREY
TINA BLAKER
ELEANOR BRIDGMAN
JACKIE TURNER
DEBBIE WALSH
GRACE WHITEHOUSE

Ladies of Titipu
CAROLINE AVERY
JAN CHAVE
DEBBIE COLE
ALMA HARDING
CHANTAL KEMP
EMMA MILLS
JANE O'CALLAGHAN
HAZEL PRICE
MARIANNE SKINNER
ROSE SWIFT

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RICHARD JOHNSON
KRISTIAN LOPEZ
PAUL LUFFMAN
DAVID MCILROY
MIKE REDMAN
PETER SARGENT
WARREN TENNANT
STEPHEN TREGALE

Samurai Warriors
STEVE JEHU
TIM CHAMPION
DANIEL ILEY

**MUSICAL
SYNOPSIS**

ACT ONE

THE COURTYARD OF KO-KO'S
OFFICIAL RESIDENCE

If you want to know who we are
Chorus of Men
A wand'ring minstrel, I Nanki-Poo & Men
Our great Mikado, virtuous man
Pish-Tush & Men
Young man, despair Pooh-Bah
Nanki-Poo & Pish Tush

Behold the Lord High Executioner
Ko-Ko & Men
I've got a little list
Ko-Ko & Men

Comes a train of little ladies
Girls & Ladies
Three little maids from school are we
Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Peep-Bo,
Girls & Ladies

So please you, sir, we much regret
Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Peep-Bo
Pooh-Bah, Girls & Ladies

Were you not to Ko-Ko plighted
Yum-Yum & Nanki-Poo

I am so proud
Pooh-Bah, Ko-Ko
& Pish-Tush

Finale Act 1
Ensemble

There will be an interval between Acts I and II

Interval drinks may be ordered
from the bar before the show

ACT TWO

KO-KO'S GARDEN SPA

Braid the raven hair Pitti-Sing & Ladies
The sun whose rays are all ablaze
Yum-Yum

Brightly dawns our wedding day
Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing
Nanki-Poo & Pish-Tush

Here's a how-de-do
Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo & Ko-Ko

Mi-ya Sa-ma Mikado, Katisha & Chorus

A more humane Mikado
Mikado & Chorus

**The criminal cried as he
dropped him down**
Ko-Ko, Pitti-Sing
Pooh-Bah & Chorus

See how the Fates their gifts allot
Mikado, Pitti-Sing
Pooh-Bah, Ko-Ko & Katisha

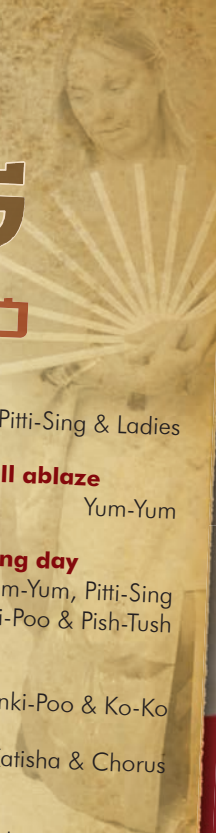
The flowers that bloom in the spring
Nanki-Poo, Ko-Ko, Yum-Yum
Pitti-Sing & Pooh-Bah

Alone, and yet alive
Katisha

Willow, tit-willow
Ko-Ko

**There is beauty in the
bellow of the blast**
Katisha & Ko-Ko

Finale Act II
Ensemble



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Mikado**

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ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
**IF YOU
WANT TO
KNOW
WHO WE
ARE**

Formed in late 1969 by members of
the choir of St David's Church, Exeter,
St David's Players' aim was to raise funds
for the Biafran crisis. The first production
(*Patience*) was such a success that it was
decided to form a permanent company.

For the first couple of years the
Society presented two productions a
year, but since 1972, one main stage
production a year has been normal.

During the years St David's Players have
built a formidable reputation for staging
Gilbert and/or Sullivan productions
to the highest possible standard,
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Over the past 43 years, the Society has
produced all 14 Gilbert and Sullivan
Operas at least once, and in many cases
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St David's Players have introduced Exeter,
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Emerald Isle at the International Gilbert
and Sullivan Festival in Buxton, Derbyshire.

We rehearse in central Exeter from April
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at the end of that period. Rehearsals are
great fun and we are always delighted to
welcome new members both on stage
as performers and off stage as helpers.
We also arrange various social events
throughout the year including trips to
other productions by local companies.

If you would like to join us or wish to
know more about the Society, we shall be
delighted to hear from you. Please contact
our secretary (see left) or visit our web site
which contains society news, information
about previous productions, a photo
gallery, libretti, reviews of recordings and
vocal scores, all kindly managed by
Ian Bond.



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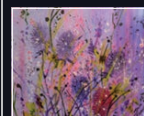
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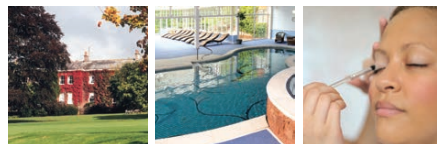


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A big thank you to **Debbie Cole** and
Debbie Walsh who have worked
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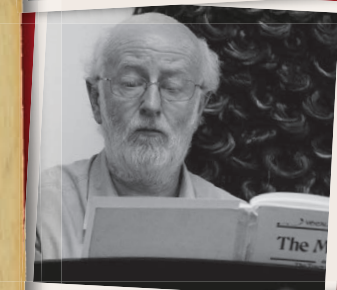
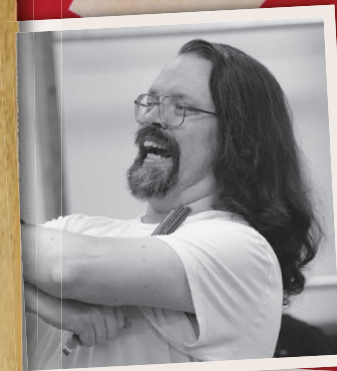
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An enormous number of people have been involved in the task of bringing this production to the stage. Without their help and support, the show would not have happened. Among them are:

Exeter Cathedral School
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Hire of halls for rehearsals

The Barnfield Theatre Staff
Managing our Box Office
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Gina Redman, Patrons
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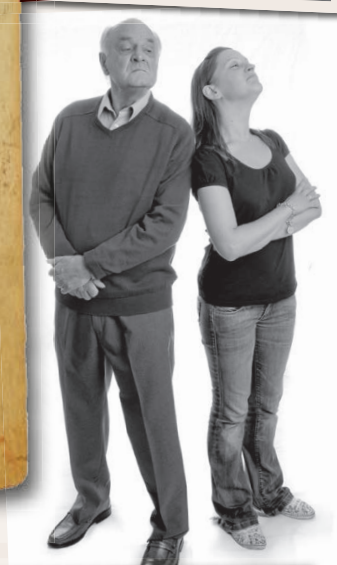
Management and Owner of Cedar Falls Health Farm, Taunton
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Kurusu Nakamura of Yo! Sushi
for his assistance with the Japanese translations in this programme

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The Lord Mayor of Exeter's office
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Our thanks also go to all our advertisers in this programme, to countless businesses and organisations which have displayed our posters and an army of volunteers who have delivered flyers through hundreds of letter boxes — we are delighted that their efforts have brought you here this evening.



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Mikado

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IN AID OF **force**
cancer charity

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St David's Players are delighted and proud to be taking part in the hugely popular Classics Galore! concert in aid of Exeter cancer charity FORCE - and the message is to get tickets early as it's expected to be a sell-out again this year.

Classics Galore! is staged every two years and since 2007 it has raised more than £35,000 for FORCE. It is now established as one of Exeter's largest indoor concerts, attracting well over a thousand people each time.

Classics Galore! was founded by cancer patient Dick Passmore and his wife, Rosemary. After the 2011 concert they decided to stand down from organising the event, although they are still on hand to offer advice to the newly formed organising committee.

There is no change to the Passmores' successful format - the concert is specially arranged for those with an interest in the lighter side of classical music. Each item is around seven or eight minutes long and is usually immediately recognisable.

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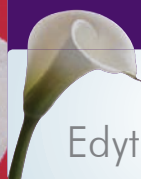


There will be the usual Proms-style finale when concert-goers are encouraged to join in with rousing favourites Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory. As the concert is on the eve of Remembrance Sunday this will be reflected in a wartime medley of tunes that is guaranteed to engage the audience.

Many popular golden oldies including White Cliffs of Dover and We'll Meet Again will feature in a section entitled 'Classics Galore! Remembers'.

We hope to see you there!

With regret



Edythe Crump

It is with regret that we learned of the death of Edythe Crump who passed away in June of this year, aged 101. Edythe had been a Patron

of this Society for many years and our best wishes are extended to her family.

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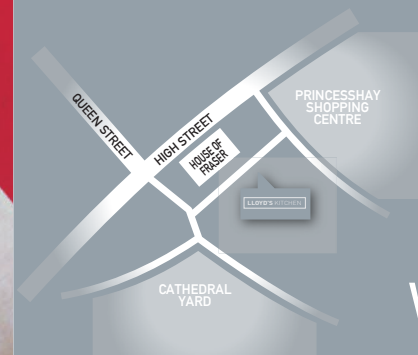
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