



ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
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6 - 10 OCTOBER 2015
The Exeter Barnfield Theatre



Wishing St David's Players good luck with their show

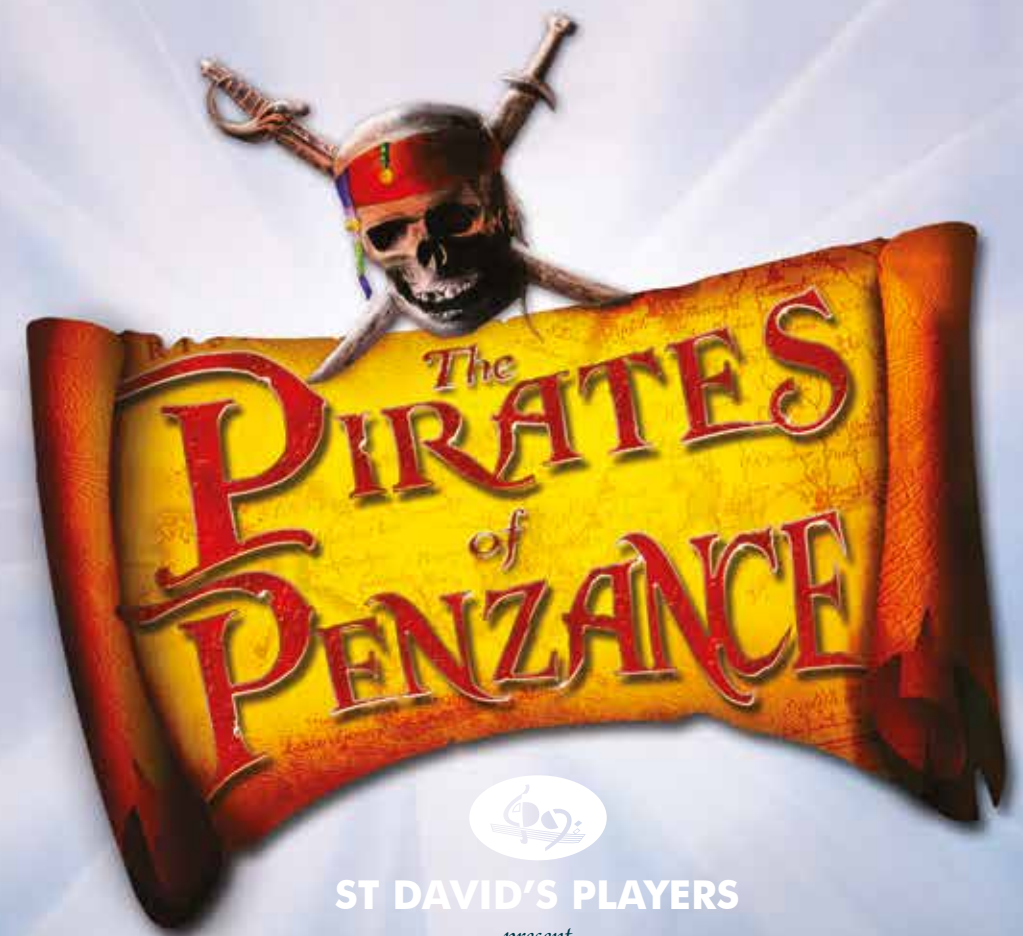
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ST DAVID'S PLAYERS

present

Gilbert & Sullivan's

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

- OR -

'The Slave of Duty'

Libretto by

W S Gilbert

Director

Martin J Kingston

Music by

Arthur Sullivan

Musical Director

Margaret Aagesen Hughes

6 - 10 October 2015

Nightly at 7.30pm - Matinée on Saturday at 2.30pm

at

THE EXETER BARNFIELD THEATRE

ST DAVID'S PLAYERS are proudly supporting THE PURPLE ANGEL DEMENTIA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN in 2015



The Exeter Barnfield Theatre is fitted with an Inductive Loop system. Members of the audience with hearing aids should set them to the 'T' position



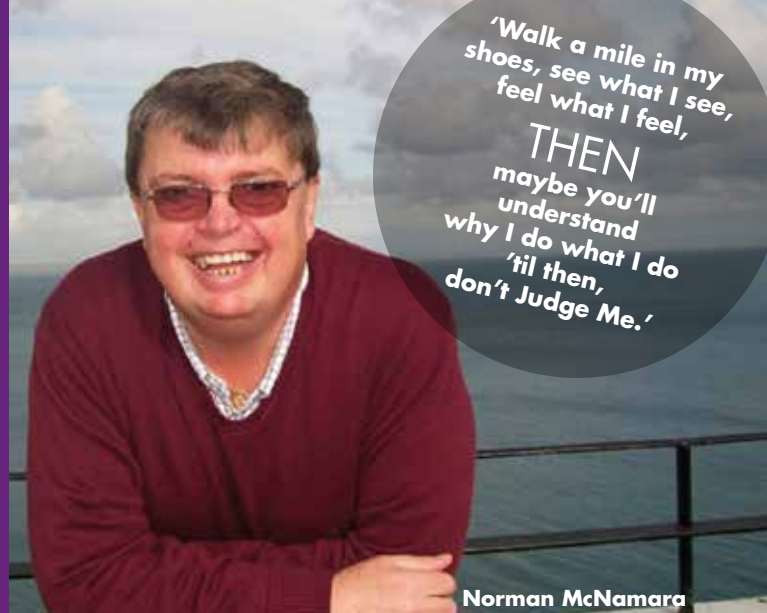
Members of the audience are asked to switch off any mobile phones and other mobile devices (including SMS text messaging and Internet browsing)



Members of the audience are reminded the unauthorised use of photographic, recording or video equipment is not permitted in the auditorium



ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
are proudly supporting
THE PURPLE ANGEL
DEMENTIA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
in 2015



Norman McNamara

THE PURPLE ANGEL

Norman McNamara was diagnosed with young dementia at age 50.

Whilst in a local shop Norms (as he likes to be known) was confronted with a joke about dementia and decided there and then to promote awareness of the serious nature of these progressive diseases.

The Purple Angel was born!

Over the past 4 years his message has spread far and wide in the UK and many other countries throughout the world.

There are now over 400 Global Purple Angel ambassadors creating dementia friendly communities and raising awareness.

Memory cafés; radio shows; charity fundraising; support groups; films; hospital training - all include people with dementia and their carers.

Please join us at **Purple Angel** and make a difference in your community!

Visit: www.purpleangel-global.com

There will be a raffle at every performance in aid of Purple Angel with bucket collections for any loose change. Look for the list of prizes available at each performance in the upstairs foyer.

The following have kindly donated the following prizes for the raffle:

Bovey Castle – Afternoon tea for two

www.boveycastle.com

Cafe Ode Shaldon – A basket of local delicacies

www.odetruefood.com/cafe-ode/

Riviera Bar Teignmouth – Meal for two

www.rivierabar.co.uk

Shaldon Zoo – Keeper for a day

www.shaldonwildlifetrust.org.uk

South Devon Railway – Family rail ticket

www.southdevonrailway.co.uk

Carole's Cupcake – Box of cakes

www.carolecupcakes.moonfruit.com

G Redfern & Sons Teignmouth butcher – Meat voucher

DYDHI DA!

(that's 'Welcome' in Cornish!)

No doubt this is a favourite show for many of you (me included!) and I hope you will enjoy our lively production. I therefore wish you all a pleasant evening and hope to see you again next year for our production of *Patience* which we haven't performed since 1992, so long overdue.

Charity

Last year we were delighted to have **St Loye's Foundation** as our chosen charity and were able to raise £1,000 towards this worthy cause.

This year we have chosen to support **The Purple Angel Dementia Awareness Campaign**, whose details are opposite this page, and in particular their local 'Memory Cafés'.

We hope you will be happy to support this worthy cause by purchasing a raffle ticket or donating in the bucket collection at the end of the show.

Date for your Diary

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2015,
GREAT HALL, EXETER UNIVERSITY

We have again been invited to participate in one of the most popular charity events on the Exeter musical calendar.

'Classics Galore!' is an extravaganza of entertainment that features familiar and uplifting music performed by a 200 strong ensemble (*full orchestra, brass band and two choral societies*). The event is staged to raise money for local cancer charity **FORCE** and I hope that many of you will be able to join us for this event.



SUSAN JAMES
President: St David's Players



ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
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Society officers 2015

President: SUSAN JAMES

Chairman: CHRIS BERRY

Secretary: RICHARD JOHNSON

Treasurer: JACKIE TURNER

Membership and Patrons' Secretary:

ELEANOR BRIDGMAN

General Committee:

CAROLINE AVERY

ALMA HARDING

Life members

IAN BOND · SUZANNE BROWN · LORRAINE COLEBROOK

ST DAVID'S PLAYERS
are proud participants in an evening of
light popular classical music in aid of

classics Galore!
2015

Saturday 14th November

**For more information,
see the special feature
in this programme**

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"Pirates of Penzance" every success*

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ARR ME HEARTIES!

A welcome from our Chairman

**This year, St David's
Players are delighted
to present perhaps the
best known of Gilbert
and Sullivan's operas
The Pirates of Penzance
or, *The Slave of Duty*.**

The Pirates of Penzance received its
official première in New York at the Fifth
Avenue Theatre, in order to secure the
American copyright for themselves.
This happened on 31 December 1879.
To secure the English copyright,
a performance was given in England on
the afternoon of 30 December, at the *Royal
Bijou Theatre* in Paignton, Devon.



The blue plaque placed by Torbay Civic Society on the site of
the Bijou Theatre, Paignton, now an anonymous brick wall
alongside a travel agent

St David's Players first performed
'Pirates' in 1974 and are excited for
you all to see this year's production.

A huge thanks goes to our director
Martin J Kingston and musical director
Margaret Aagesen Hughes who both
join St David's Players in these roles for
the first time this year. They have, with the
support of the backstage and technical
crews, guided the cast to produce another
stunning show for you this year.

We are especially delighted to
welcome many new members and
many returning members who had not
performed with us in recent years.

To the executive committee, as always,
I give my thanks for all their hard work,
most of which occurs behind the scenes.

A special thanks must go to **Jackie
Turner** for pulling everything together
this year.

Going forward we would welcome
anyone with an interest in joining our
committee in 2016, to give fresh ideas and
ensuring the longevity of this quality musical
society. Email contact@stdavidplayers.co.uk
for more information about joining us.

As a final note, it is with both sadness and
excitement that I announce I will be stepping
down from the role of Chairman. My wife
and I are expecting our first child and so feel
that I need to pass the baton to someone
who will have a little more time in 2016.

CHRIS BERRY

Chairman: St David's Players

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THE DIRECTORS

Director: Martin J Kingston

Musical Director: Margaret Aagesen-Hughes

Martin brings vast experience of musical theatre, with notable appearances at the Exeter Northcott Theatre including Major-General Stanley (*The Pirates of Penzance - Broadway Version*), Amos (Mr. Cellophane - *Chicago*) and Seymour (*Little Shop of Horrors*), all for Exeter Musical Comedy Society and Nathan Detroit (*Guys & Dolls*) and Sir John (*Me and My Girl*) for Exeter Musical Society.

Further afield, Martin has played a large number of leading roles. Among his favourites are Mack Sennett (*Mack and Mabel*), Professor Henry Higgins (*My Fair Lady*), Fagin (*Oliver!*), Pontius Pilate (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), Dave (*The Full Monty*), Frank (*Educating Rita*), John Smith (*Run For Your Wife*) and René (*'Allo 'Allo*). He has also worked in pantomime and weekly rep, as well as walk-on roles in

television including BBC TV's *EastEnders*, *Casualty* and *Only Fools and Horses*.

Directing credits include *Cabaret*, *Acorn Antiques - The Musical!* (twice!), *Bugsy Malone* and *Red Hot and Cole*. He directed *Jesus Christ Superstar* for Exeter Musical Society at the Exeter Northcott Theatre in 2011 and Sidmouth Arts Club Operatic Society's production of

The Mikado, which won the 'Allan Brooking Cup for Best Gilbert and Sullivan Production' at the NODA South West Awards 2013.

Martin would like to dedicate his work on this production of *The Pirates of Penzance* to the memory of his friend and inspiration, **Chris Stabb**.

Margaret is well known as both a singer and conductor. Born in Exeter, she has spent much of her career in Hampshire where she also brought up her two children, while gaining wide experience in oratorio and recital, and singing with the Contemporary Opera Studio at English National Opera.

As Vocal Animateur to the City of Southampton Margaret devised projects for the city's schools, whilst also teaching at Southampton University and Bedales School. She conducted Gilbert and Sullivan for Southampton Operatic Society, enjoying particularly their lively junior productions. She led the first Be a Chorister for a Day events at Wells Cathedral alongside Malcolm Archer and has presented workshops with Simon Lole.

Since returning to Exeter in 2012, Margaret has appeared as guest soloist with Exeter Cathedral Choir and the Bach Society and conducted workshops on Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzer* and Monteverdi's *Beatus Vir* at the university. After judging a competition for lawyers' workplace choirs, she was invited to conduct the choir at solicitors, Michelmores. She has appeared on stage with the

Cathedral Players, playing Mother in Jean Anouilh's *Ring Round the Moon* and the Innkeeper's wife in the *Exeter Nativity*.

Margaret is a versatile recitalist, whose programmes embrace art song, chansons and lieder, with repertoire ranging from Monteverdi to Judith Weir and beyond. She is delighted to be receiving coaching from renowned teacher Jessica Cash. Recent recital reviews have praised the 'warmth and variety of her tone' and 'a generous connection with the audience.' She plays the piano accordion and English Concertina and once a month can be found jamming Gypsy Jazz at the Globe Inn in Exeter's Newtown.

She is conductor of Exeter Male Voice Choir, Chair of the Devon and Cornwall Centre of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, and is a mentor for South West Music School. She has also facilitated the first appearances in the region of the acclaimed national touring company **Pop-Up Opera**.

Margaret is delighted to be conducting for the society in which she first discovered Gilbert and Sullivan.



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PIRATES OF PENZANCE SYNOPSIS

ACT I

In Cornwall in the 1870s, during the reign of Queen Victoria, the story focuses on young Frederic, a pirate apprentice with a very strong sense of duty.

He has been apprenticed to the infamous Pirates of Penzance and now it is his 21st birthday. The pirates are throwing him a birthday party to celebrate him completing his apprenticeship and becoming a fully-fledged swashbuckler. But alas, his strong sense of duty now causes him to reveal that he abominates piracy and has decided to leave them that very day and devote the rest of his life to their extermination. He loathes their villainous ways and became a pirate only because his nursemaid, Ruth, apprenticed him by mistake. Before leaving, Frederic tries to persuade the pirates to give up their piratical ways, but to no avail.

Ruth wishes to go with Frederic and, given that he has never seen any other women before, manages to persuade him that she is in fact a young and beautiful woman, despite being aged forty-seven. All looks good for Ruth until Frederic spots a bevy of beautiful young ladies approaching and he realises that Ruth has deceived him. He rails against Ruth's treachery and she flees, while Frederic hides in order to watch the young ladies unobserved.

A day at the seaside

The daughters of Major-General Stanley have arrived on a picnic and are just about to throw propriety to the wind and take their shoes and stockings off and paddle in the sea when Frederic leaps out to stop them, his sense of duty forcing him to reveal his presence to them. Their horror at being observed is tempered by their realisation that this ex-pirate is also a

very handsome young man. When he pleads with them for one of them to be his wife, it is all they can do to resist his charms, but they all do, prudently putting position above principle. All, that is, except Mabel. The daughters politely discuss the weather to enable Mabel and Frederic to indulge in a spot of courtship but they are interrupted by the sudden return of the pirates, who attempt to seize the young ladies and carry them off to the nearest clergyman. Battle ensues as the daughters put up a desperate struggle and they are very relieved when their father, Major-General Stanley arrives on the scene.

Often an Orphan

The Major-General has heard that the Pirates of Penzance are famous for never molesting an orphan, being all orphans themselves. When he realises who they are, he pleads with them and declares that he too is an orphan. The pirates' hearts are touched by this admission and promptly free them all.

ACT II

That night, the Major-General's conscience is bothering him for his lie about being an orphan - awakening in the middle of the night, the daughters find their father in the family crypt racked with guilt.

Call the police

Frederic comforts him with the news that he has assembled the local police and that he will lead them on a mission to capture all the pirates. The police march in to demonstrate their heroic manliness. Unfortunately, the daughters notice that the police are terrified and taunt them with descriptions of their imminent and gory demise, promising to water their graves with their tears. After much persuasion, the police eventually leave on their mission.

Frederic is about to follow, when the Pirate King and Ruth, now a fully-fledged pirate, appear from the shadows. They reveal to Frederic that due to his being born on 29 February, he has not yet reached his 21st birthday, but only his 5th birthday! Consequently, he is still apprenticed to the pirates.

Conflicting sense of duty

Frederic, dutiful as ever, solemnly agrees his pirate pledge and divulges that the Major-General lied about being an orphan. The Pirate King is furious and seeks revenge. Frederic goes to say farewell to Mabel and they each confess their love for the other. They swear to wait for each other until Frederic is again free of his indentures in some sixty years' time. Mabel, however, is not prepared to sit about and pine until 1940, so she summons the police again and orders them to go after the pirates. Their philosophical musings are terminated by the arrival of the furious pirate band, out for blood. The policemen hide from the pirates, and then the pirates hide in turn as Major-General Stanley appears, followed by his daughters. The appearance of his daughters is the cue for the pirates to pounce.

The police leap out from hiding, only to be completely overwhelmed by the pirates. Just as the Major-General is about to be murdered by the triumphant pirates, the police try one last patriotic tactic: they appeal to the pirates to yield in Queen Victoria's name. The pirates being proud Britons, this tactic succeeds immediately and they all surrender.

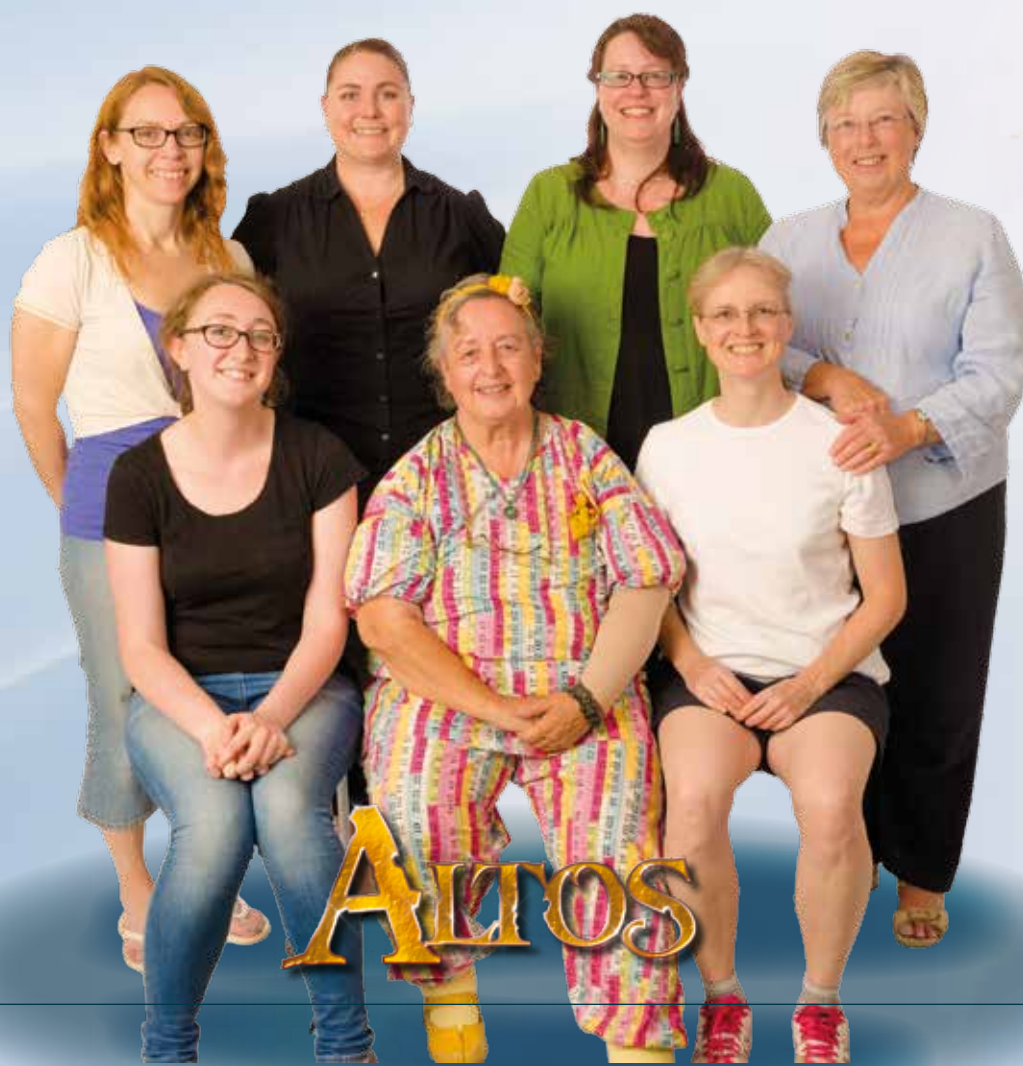
All now appears to be lost for Frederic and the pirates. However, Ruth springs one further surprise which brings about a happy and satisfactory ending for all.



TENORS



BASSES



ALTOS



SOPRANOS

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ
IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

SAMUEL	MARK HURFORD
The Pirate king's lieutenant.	
FREDERIC	SAM LITTLEFAIR
A pirate trainee, Frederic was apprenticed to the pirates by mistake. He is a noble young man who falls in love with Mabel but puts his sense of duty above everything else, including love.	
RUTH	TONI BISHOP
A pirate maid-of-all-work and Frederic's nursery maid, Ruth mistakenly bound Frederic to a pirate instead of a pilot. She is in love with Frederic and feels betrays when he falls in love with Mabel.	
THE PIRATE KING	TIM HUNT
A largely unsuccessful commander, the pirate king, although a flamboyant braggart, is too tender-hearted to do what pirates are supposed to do.	
EDITH	SHEENA GALPIN
ISABEL	TINA BLAKER
KATE	ELEANOR BRIDGMAN
MABEL	NICOLA WILKES
MAJOR-GENERAL STANLEY	MARK OLLIER
A one star-general in the British Army, Major-General Stanley is the protector of many young women, his wards.	
SERGEANT OF POLICE	PETER FRANCIS
The leader of a bumbling squad of policemen, the good natured sergeant of police is committed to stopping the pirates.	



Act 1 · Scene 1
on board a pirate ship

Overture
Orchestra

Pour, oh pour, the pirate sherry
Samuel and Chorus of Pirates

When Fred'ric was a little lad
Ruth

Oh, better far to live and die
Pirate King and Chorus of Pirates

Act 1 · Scene 2
a rocky seashore on the coast of Cornwall

Oh! False one, you have deceiv'd me
Frederic and Ruth

Climbing over rocky mountain
Chorus of Girls

Stop, ladies, pray
Edith, Kate, Frederic and Chorus of Girls

Oh, is there not one maiden breast?
Frederic and Chorus of Girls

Poor wand'ring one
Mabel and Chorus of Girls

What ought we to do?
Edith, Kate and Chorus of Girls

How beautifully blue the sky
Mabel, Frederic and Chorus of Girls

Stay, we must not lose our senses
Frederic and Chorus of Girls and Pirates

Hold, monsters
Mabel, Major-General, Samuel and Chorus

I am the very model of a modern Major-General
Major-General and Chorus

Finale, Act I
Mabel, Kate, Edith, Ruth, Frederic
Samuel, Pirate King, Major-General and Chorus

Oh, dry the glist'ning tear
Mabel and Chorus of Girls

Then, Frederic, let your escort lion-hearted
Frederic and Major-General

When the foeman bares his steel
Mabel, Edith, Sergeant of Police, Chorus of Policemen and Girls

Now for the pirates' lair!
Frederic, Ruth and Pirate King

When you had left our pirate fold
Ruth, Frederic and Pirate King

Away, away! My heart's on fire!
Ruth, Frederic and Pirate King

All is prepar'd; your gallant crew await you
Mabel and Frederic

Stay, Fred'ric, stay
Mabel and Frederic

Oh, here is love, and here is truth
Mabel and Frederic

No, I'll be brave
Though in body and in mind
Mabel, Sergeant of Police and Chorus of Police

Sergeant, approach!
Mabel, Sergeant of Police and Chorus of Police

When a felon's not engaged in his employment
Sergeant of Police and Chorus of Police

A rollicking band of pirates we
Sergeant of Police, Chorus of Pirates and Police

With cat-like tread, upon our prey we steal
Samuel and Chorus of Pirates and Police

Hush, hush, not a word!
Frederic, Pirate King, Major-General
and Chorus of Police and Pirates

Finale, Act II
Ensemble

CHORUS

ROB CHAVE Pirate, policeman	SARAH AUBREY Daughter
STEVE COLLINGS Pirate, policeman	SARAH BERRY Theatre 'audience'
NEVILLE GIBBINGS Pirate, reserve policeman	SARAH BUTLER EVANS Theatre 'audience'
CHRIS GOULD Pirate	DEBBIE COLE Daughter
RICHARD JOHNSON Pirate, policeman	KATHRYN COLLINGS Daughter
NICK JONES Pirate	DETTIE ELLERBY Daughter
PAUL LUFFMAN Pirate, policeman	HEATHER GOULD Theatre 'audience'
DAVID MCILROY Pirate	HOLLY GOULD Daughter
IAN NASH Pirate, policeman	NICKY GOULD Daughter
PETER SARGENT Pirate, policeman	SUE GUNN-JOHNSON Daughter
MICHAEL SHARPE Pirate, policeman	ALMA HARDING Theatre 'audience'
BRIAN SMALL Pirate, policeman	KELLYJEAN MCGOVERN Daughter
IAN SPACKMAN Pirate	ROSE SWIFT Theatre 'audience'
WARREN TENNANT Pirate, policeman	JACKIE TURNER Daughter
STEPHEN TREGALE Pirate	DEBBIE WALSH Daughter
PHILIP TURNER Pirate	LEALA WATSON Daughter
RICHARD WEARE Pirate, policeman	

Photograph © Christopher Wilson www.chrisw.me.uk



ABOUT US

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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.

St David's Players have built a formidable reputation for staging Gilbert and/or Sullivan productions to the highest possible standard, initially accompanied by two pianos, but since 1985, by an orchestra.

Over the past 45 years the Society has presented all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas with the exception of *Thespis* for which, although

there are several adaptations, a major proportion of Sullivan's original music has been lost.

St David's Players have introduced Exeter, East and Mid Devon to the delights of *Utopia (Limited)*, *The Grand Duke*, and also to a number of Sullivan's non-Gilbert works, including *The Zoo*, *The Rose of Persia* and *The Emerald Isle*. In 1999 the Society had the honour of being commissioned by the Arthur Sullivan Society to perform *The Emerald Isle* at the *International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival* in Buxton, Derbyshire.

We rehearse in central Exeter from April to October each year with a performance 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 St David's Players, we shall be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact us or visit our brand new web site which contains society news, information about previous productions, photo galleries, libretti, reviews of recordings and vocal scores.

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1970	<i>Patience</i>	1985	<i>The Mikado</i> (Centenary concert version)	1999	<i>The Emerald Isle</i> (Concert production)
1970	<i>Iolanthe</i>	1985	<i>The Zoo and The Pirates of Penzance</i>	1999	<i>The Gondoliers</i>
1971	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>	1986	<i>The Grand Duke</i>	2000	<i>Trial by Jury and HMS Pinafore</i>
1971	<i>The Mikado</i>	1987	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i>	2001	<i>Princess Ida</i>
1972	<i>The Gondoliers</i>	1988	<i>Trial by Jury and The Sorcerer</i>	2002	<i>Ruddigore</i>
1973	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i>	1989	<i>The Gondoliers</i> (Centenary production)	2003	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i>
1974	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	1990	<i>The Rose of Persia</i>	2004	<i>The Mikado</i>
1975	<i>Princess Ida</i>	1991	<i>Ruddigore</i>	2005	<i>The Zoo and The Sorcerer</i>
1976	<i>Iolanthe</i>	1992	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> (Concert production)	2006	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>
1977	<i>Patience</i>	1992	<i>Patience</i>	2007	<i>Iolanthe</i>
1978	<i>The Gondoliers</i>	1993	<i>HMS Pinafore</i> (Concert production)	2008	<i>The Gondoliers</i>
1979	<i>Trial by Jury and HMS Pinafore</i>	1993	<i>Princess Ida</i>	2009	<i>The Rose of Persia</i>
1980	<i>Ruddigore</i> (1887 version)	1994	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i>	2010	<i>Trial by Jury on HMS Pinafore</i>
1981	<i>The Mikado</i>	1995	<i>The Mikado</i>	2011	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i>
1982	<i>Princess Ida</i>	1996	<i>Utopia (Limited)</i>	2012	<i>Princess Ida</i>
1983	<i>Iolanthe</i> (First night version)	1997	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	2013	<i>The Mikado</i>
1984	<i>Utopia (Limited)</i>	1998	<i>Iolanthe</i>	2014	<i>Ruddigore</i>

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PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCTION

Director MARTIN J KINGSTON
Musical director MARGARET AAGESEN HUGHES
Rehearsal pianists MARY PICKARD
ALFIE PUGH
JOHN DRAISEY

STAGING AND TECHNICAL

Stage manager CHRIS BERRY
Assistant Stage Manager ANDY SWIFT
Stage crew DAVID GUNN-JOHNSON
ALISTAIR KIDD
MARTIN TREGALE

Lighting design DOMINIC JEFFERY
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Set design MARTIN J KINGSTON
Set construction & painting CHRIS BERRY
DAVID GUNN-JOHNSON
ALISTAIR KIDD
MARK OLIVER

Properties manager SARAH RIDOUT
Makeup JACKIE TURNER
ALMA HARDING
KEITH SPENCER
DAVID GUNN-JOHNSON
REBECCA BURGE
AND HELPERS

ORCHESTRA

under the direction of MARGARET AAGESEN HUGHES
Violin EMMA MILLS
Flute & Piccolo RUTH MOLINS
Oboe JULIA HILL
Clarinet COLIN BROCKLEBANK
Bassoon VERITY STROUD
Double bass MELANIE LESTER
Horn TREVOR IVES
Percussion MICHELLE HILEY
Piano ALFIE PUGH

Orchestral arrangement supplied by Martin Paterson of **Pattersong Music**. For more information about this and other similar Gilbert & Sullivan arrangements please visit pattersong.co.uk.

WARDROBE

Wardrobe manager JACKIE TURNER
Deputy wardrobe managers ALMA HARDING
RUTH TURNER
Costume hire THE COSTUME WORKSHOP
ISLE OF WIGHT

If you are interested in hiring any of the costumes that we have made for our shows, please contact:
Jackie Turner
t: 01392 465462
e: contact@stdavidsplayers.co.uk

PUBLICITY AND MARKETING

The Society is indebted to Daniel Saint for his continuous support in all technical matters involved in the production of posters, programmes and all things connected with publicity.

Publicity & programme design DANIEL SAINT
danielsaint@gmail.com

Programme compilation ELEANOR BRIDGMAN
DANIEL SAINT
JACKIE TURNER

Programme & show photography CHRISTOPHER WILSON
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SPECIAL FEATURE

MEALS AND WHEELS BOOST FOR
**CLASSICS
GALORE!**

Members of St David's
Players are proud
participants in one of
the most popular charity
events on the Exeter
musical calendar.

Organisers of the popular *Classics Galore!* concert have introduced changes for this year, designed to make the evening even better for concert-goers. The event is staged to raise money for FORCE Cancer Charity and this year's concert at the University of Exeter Great Hall is on Saturday 14 November.

There will be free shuttle buses running from the university car parks and, for the first time, pre-concert meals will be available. The walk from the car parks to the Great Hall is quite long and uphill on the way back so buses will be much appreciated, especially if it is a wet evening. The shuttles will operate from 5-11pm between campus car parks A and B and the Great Hall and the University's Terrace Restaurant will open at 5.30pm. There is no need to pre-book the buses or pre-order food.

Classics Galore! is an extravaganza of light popular entertainment and has been held every two years since 2007 and raised more than £50,000 for FORCE. The Last Night of the Proms style concert features 200 musicians - a hand-picked orchestra, South West Comms Band from Lymington, Ottery St Mary Choral Society and members of St David's Players - performing a programme of familiar and uplifting music. Malcolm Matthews will again be the concert's musical director and Penny Daw returns as the soprano soloist.

Tickets went on sale 1 August at the Exeter Visitor Information and Tickets (EVIT) in Dix's Field and the message is to get in quickly as it is expected to be a sell-out again this year.

More details are available at classicsgalore.co.uk

**classics
galore!**
2015
classicsgalore.co.uk

Saturday 14th November
7.30pm

featuring:
Classics Galore! Symphony Orchestra
South West Comms Band
Ottery St Mary Choral Society
Members of St David's Players
with soloist Penny Daw (soprano)

programme includes:
A Gilbert & Sullivan medley
Every of the Gladiators - Rock
Titch Titch Titch - Sings
Grand March - Aida - Verdi
and a 'Proms' style finale

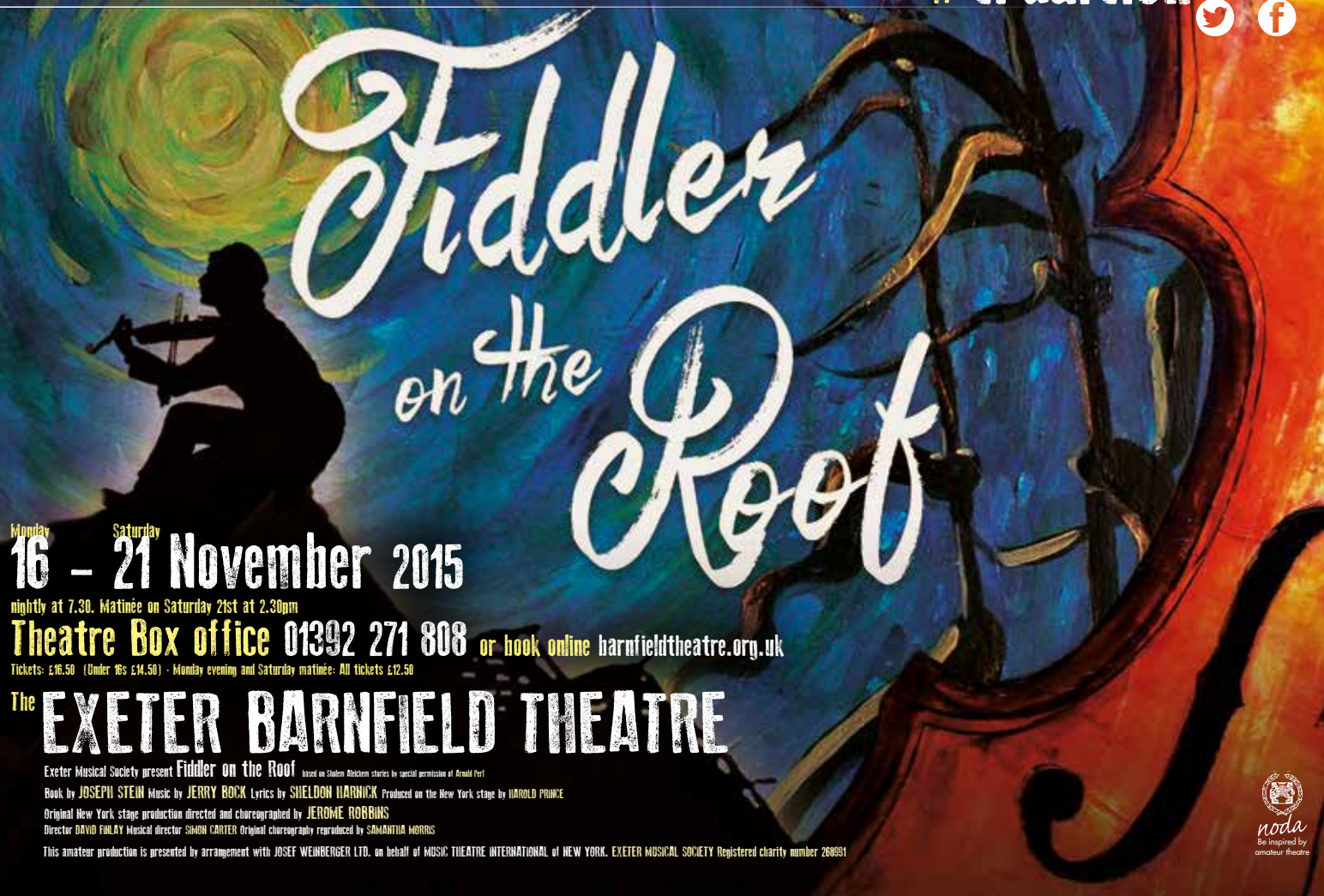
Gallery and Box tickets from £18 contact classicgalore@hotmail.com
Auditorium tickets from £14 available from the Exeter Visitor Information & Tickets (EVIT)
01392 665885 or evit@exeter.gov.uk

Main sponsor:  **UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
GREAT HALL** 



♦♦ The full company of performers at the Classics Galore! 2013 concert.

♦ Penny Daw, returns as soloist for the 2015 concert



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Monday 16 – Saturday 21 November 2015
 nightly at 7.30. Matinée on Saturday 21st at 2.30pm
Theatre Box office 01392 271 808 or book online barnfieldtheatre.org.uk
 Tickets: £16.50 (Under 16s £14.50) • Monday evening and Saturday matinee: All tickets £12.50

The EXETER BARNFIELD THEATRE

Exeter Musical Society present *Fiddler on the Roof* based on Sholem Aleichem stories by special permission of Arnold Perl
 Book by JOSEPH STEIN Music by JERRY BOCK Lyrics by SHELTON HARNICK Produced on the New York stage by HAROLD PRINCE
 Original New York stage production directed and choreographed by JEROME ROBBINS
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Gilbert & Sullivan

Contributed by Ian Bond

Gilbert and Sullivan's joint works are:

Thespis

or, *The Gods Grown Old* (1871)

Trial by Jury (1875)

The Sorcerer (1877)

HMS Pinafore

or, *The Lass That Loved a Sailor* (1878)

The Pirates of Penzance

or, *The Slave of Duty* (1879)

The Martyr of Antioch†

Gilbert modified the poem by Henry Hart Milman (cantata 1880)

Patience

or, *Bunthorne's Bride* (1881)

Iolanthe

or, *The Peer and the Peri* (1882)

Princess Ida

or, *Castle Adamant* (1884)

The Mikado

or, *The Town of Titipu* (1885)

Ruddigore

or, *The Witch's Curse* (1887)

The Yeomen of the Guard

or, *The Merryman and his Maid* (1888)

The Gondoliers

or, *The King of Barataria* (1889)

Utopia (Limited)

or, *The Flowers of Progress* (1893)

The Grand Duke

or, *The Statutory Duel* (1896)

† *The Martyr of Antioch* was staged as an opera in the late 1890s, and was toured by Carl Rosa, never by D'Oyly Carte. It never played at the Savoy Theatre, and is not recognised as one of the 'Savoy Operas.'

The partnership of **William Schwenck Gilbert** and **Arthur Seymour Sullivan** is probably the most remarkable collaboration in the history of the musical theatre to date.

During a period of 25 years (1871 – 1896) the partners produced a series of 14 comic operas and one Cantata which, not only created an entirely new genre of British musical theatre and revolutionised the art of stage direction, but also laid the foundation for all musicals that have followed.

Their comic operas became known collectively as the '*Savoy Operas*,' named after the London theatre built by impresario Richard D'Oyly Carte in which to present them by an opera company which, from 1875 until it disbanded in 1982, bore his name.



W S Gilbert
(1836–1911)

Gilbert, born in 1836, became a much respected theatre critic, writer of short stories and a series of comic poems known as the 'Bab' Ballads, which overshadow the works of Hood, Carroll and Lear. His first acknowledged stage work, a burlesque of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*, appeared in London during 1866, although his first play, *Uncle Baby* (written under a pseudonym) appeared as early as 1863. A series of burlesques, dramas, comedies and comic operas followed, and it was seldom during the 1870s and 1880s that there were less than half a dozen Gilbert works playing in various London theatres at any one time, with many more in the provinces. The comedy, *Engaged*, still holds the stage to this day and is generally acknowledged to be the forerunner of Wilde's *Importance Of Being Earnest*. In total Gilbert has almost 70 stage works to his name.

Arthur Sullivan
(1842–1900)

Sullivan, whose father was a military band master and also a theatre musician, was born in 1842 and by the age of eight was able to play every wind instrument. At 12, Sullivan became a chorister in the Chapel Royal and at 16 won the prestigious Mendelssohn Scholarship allowing him to study at the Royal Academy of music and, for two years, at Leipzig. His first major work – incidental music to Shakespeare's *Tempest*, immediately won him fame in 1862 and a string of cantatas, oratorios, ballets, operas, church music, chamber music and ballads followed. He was nominally Master of the Queen's Music until his early death in 1900. His works (apart from Gilbert) were sidelined for many years by the musical establishment. However, during the last 25 years or so, his work has started to regain the position it so richly deserves.

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Best wishes to St David's Players for
'The Pirates of Penzance'

THANKS

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 LITTLE THEATRE COMPANY and EXETER CATHEDRAL SCHOOL. Hire of halls for rehearsals
 - THE LORD MAYOR'S OFFICE and EXETER CITY COUNCIL. Permission and facilities to sing at the Guildhall
 - THE BARNFIELD THEATRE STAFF. Managing our box office and their general support
 - BAY LEAF INDIAN RESTAURANT. Display of show banner
 - PATRONS AND FRIENDS OF ST DAVID'S PLAYERS. Sale of programmes
 - JENNY READ. For choreography advice
 - ARENA SCREEN & DESIGN, EXETER. Production of show polo shirts
- Our thanks also go to all our advertisers in this programme, to countless businesses and organisations which have displayed our posters and banners and the army of volunteers who have delivered flyers through hundreds of letter boxes. We are delighted that their efforts have brought you here this evening.

PATRON MEMBERSHIP

The contribution of patrons is invaluable in helping to put on one major performance of a Gilbert and Sullivan work every year and we gratefully acknowledge your support.

Mrs Y Anderton	Mr J & Mrs V Glanfield	Miss S Odell	Mr R P Thompson
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Mr E & Mrs M Crowle	Mrs J Mitchell	Mr B & Mrs A Sykes	

Patrons are able to join us for social events, receive our newsletters and are invited to attend rehearsals as an observer. Patronage of St David's Players costs as little as £10 per person per year.

If you would like to support us by becoming a patron, please contact:
Eleanor Bridgman, Membership and Patrons' Secretary, St David's Players.
 e: contact@stdavidplayers.co.uk

WITH REGRET

It is with regret that we learned of the death of **ROD STEWART** in August this year.

Rod joined St David's Players in 1976 singing with the bass chorus in **Iolanthe**, and then took on the role of **Major Murgatroyd** in **Patience** the following year. He continued performing every year right up to 2000 and his last appearance was in the chorus of that year's production of **HMS Pinafore** and **Trial by Jury** in the latter of which he was costumed as **Don Alhambra** (the chorus being dressed as characters from various G & S Operas).

He was always happy to help out and would put his hand to most things and often could be found helping out with the building of the set. A larger than life character!

During the 90's he increasingly took a place in the chorus, although he did occasionally step back into the limelight, most memorably as **The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland** in **The Emerald Isle**. His entrance song, accompanied by Christine West as the Countess and Philip Fairweather as the Chaplain, Doctor Fiddle, D.D., was always a source of great amusement for cast and audience alike.

When he decided to no longer perform on stage he always offered to come along and sell programmes during show week so we continued to see him for quite a while.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and our condolences go to his family.



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We are always on the look out for new members, and welcome all enquiries whether you want to sing and perform, work with us backstage, or help with the myriad of tasks that need to be undertaken to put on a production every year.

Email us:
contact@stdavidsplayers.co.uk

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR BRAND NEW WEBSITE YET?

At the time of writing, we are putting the full new website through final testing.

Visit our new website, and keep an eye out for many updates to come.

These updates will include the resources that were kindly compiled over many years by Ian Bond. These will be added to the new site in the very near future and new photo galleries from most of our productions over the last 45 years..


Find us online:

stdavidsplayers.co.uk

On social media:

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The Major General can't count,
There's 15 daughters, my oh my,
And flags, a score of pirates and police,
The textile bill's gone sky high!

Laughing, singing, sitting, knitting,
Don't forget the tricoteurs
(Cause they're on stage they don't need a pose!)

The hours spent cutting and sewing
Have resulted in sewer's RSI
Still we've had such a week of fun
And it's all in aid of a charity.

You can help us further
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Contact: **Alma Harding**, 01626 890738 and have a chat
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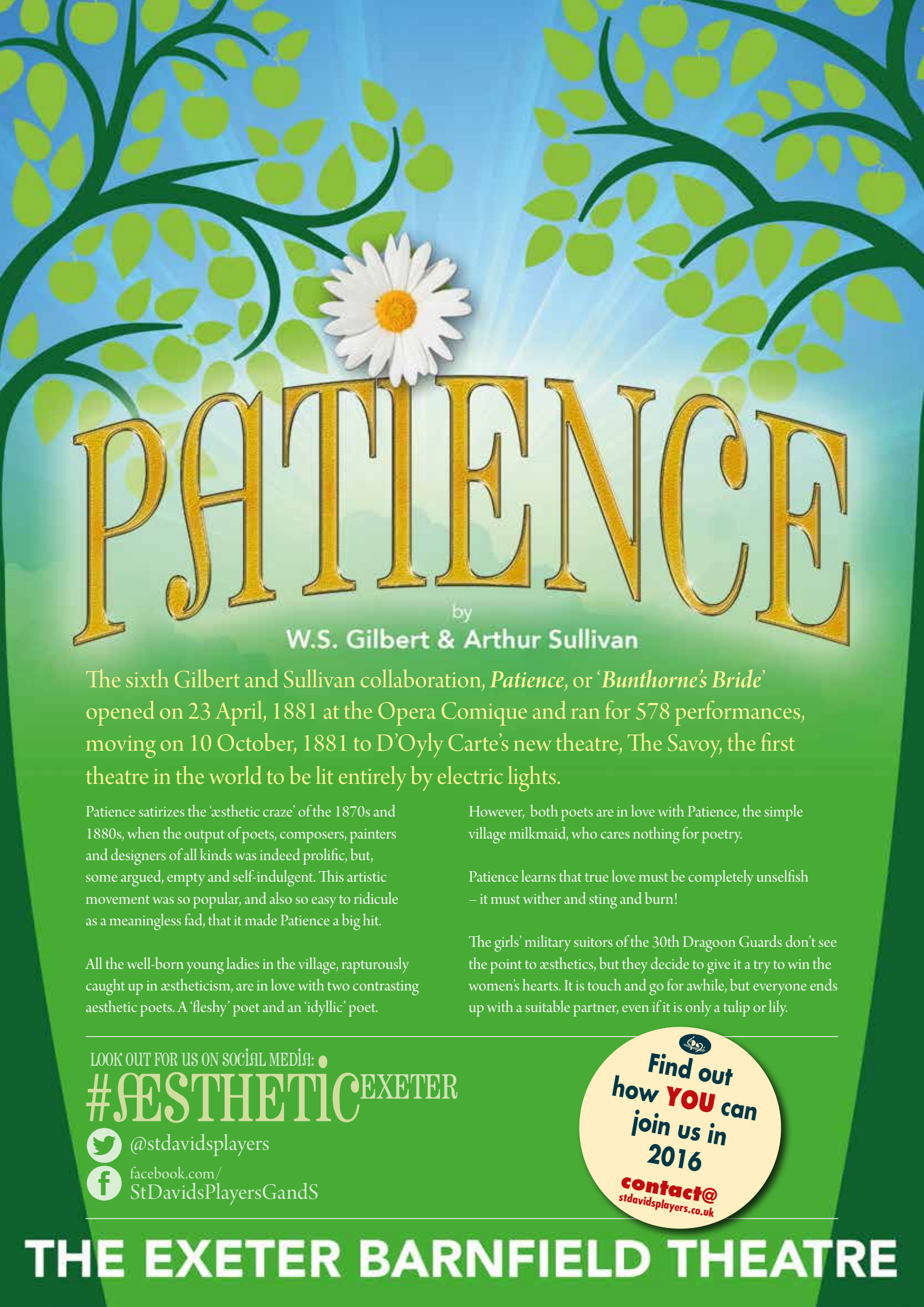
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Princess Ida

10th-13th February
Performances at 7:30pm
with a Saturday Matinee performance at 2:30pm
Exeter Northcott Theatre

EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER STUDENTS' GUILD



PATIENCE

by
W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

The sixth Gilbert and Sullivan collaboration, *Patience*, or '*Bunthorne's Bride*' opened on 23 April, 1881 at the Opera Comique and ran for 578 performances, moving on 10 October, 1881 to D'Oyly Carte's new theatre, The Savoy, the first theatre in the world to be lit entirely by electric lights.

Patience satirizes the 'aesthetic craze' of the 1870s and 1880s, when the output of poets, composers, painters and designers of all kinds was indeed prolific, but, some argued, empty and self-indulgent. This artistic movement was so popular, and also so easy to ridicule as a meaningless fad, that it made *Patience* a big hit.

All the well-born young ladies in the village, rapturously caught up in aestheticism, are in love with two contrasting aesthetic poets. A 'fleshy' poet and an 'idyllic' poet.

However, both poets are in love with *Patience*, the simple village milkmaid, who cares nothing for poetry.

Patience learns that true love must be completely unselfish – it must wither and sting and burn!

The girls' military suitors of the 30th Dragoon Guards don't see the point to aesthetics, but they decide to give it a try to win the women's hearts. It is touch and go for awhile, but everyone ends up with a suitable partner, even if it is only a tulip or lily.

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