



The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of SA Inc.



G&S Newsletter

www.gandssa.com.au

No. 2 December 2012



Artwork: Dénes Nagy

In this Issue:

- **2013 Survey**
- *Les Misérables* Fundraiser
- *Pirates* at the Maritime Museum
- *Oliver!* Cast Announced
- Catching Up With Carol
- *The Secret Garden*
- State Opera Stars
- *The Front*
- Vale Ian Muster
- 75th Anniversary Quiz Night

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of South Australia

Established 1937 ABN 45 510 475 165

PO Box 306

HINDMARSH SA 5007

Website: www.gandssa.com.au

Email: contact@gandssa.com.au



Royal Flying Doctor Service

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of South Australia is proud to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

From the President...

Wow, doesn't time fly ?- Christmas is almost upon us again. I remember when I was a kid Christmas took *all year* to come around again. Now, it seems like it barely takes a year....

Of course there is no rest for the wicked....or even the comatose as many of our production team members appear to be.

Since the last newsletter, we have had a very successful quiz night, held at the State Opera Studio (many thanks to State Opera of SA for their kind donation of the venue). The evening was hosted by Peter Goers and Johanna Allen and both of them were in fine form that evening. Everyone had a brilliant time, we raised a significant amount of money and Friends of State Opera are even stealing some of our ideas for their own quiz night (with permission of course).

Next up is our screening of the new *Les Misérables* movie starring Hugh Jackman (apparently our own Mark Oates was unavailable so they had to settle for Hugh). This too is a fundraiser with more than 50% of the ticket price going to the G&S Society - if you are planning to see the movie (and who isn't) then get a group together and join us on December 30th at the Palace Cinema in Rundle Street. Book tickets at www.gandssa.com.au

So the shows....

Exciting news all round with *The Secret Garden* in full swing. We were over the moon to have had Carolyn Ferrie and Mark Oates agree to head up our cast as Lily and Archie Craven. They gave us a sneak peak at the Quiz night and wow....just wow.

But lets not forget the rest of our stellar cast. You can catch up with who they are and what they are up to on our website and facebook pages.

And news just in....all of the adult roles for our 2013 production of *Oliver!* have been cast and by the time you read this they will have been announced. The show will be directed by David Lampard and musically directed by Peter Johns - expect an *Oliver!* like you have never seen before. We are really pleased to be welcoming back some old favourites to perform with the Society and also some new members. Keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish the Board, the Members, our casts and crew Season's Greetings from me - and the Great Flying Spaghetti Monster.

Next year will be big folks - things keep changing but one thing stays the same - G&S will always be here.

Paul



Tell Us What You Think! The 2013 G&S Survey

In the next few weeks members will receive by letter or email, or see on the website or facebook, a survey to help us ensure that the Society keeps you informed and hears what you have to say.

Amongst other questions, you will be asked to let us know whether your details are up to date and what shows you want to see the Society stage.

So please take the time to fill it in and give us some feedback. One lucky respondent will win a Westfield voucher worth \$200 as a thank you for your time.

What's On At The Society - December

G&S and Les Misérables together - its too much happiness!

The long awaited film version of this much-loved musical will soon be in Adelaide cinemas and the Society is grateful to Palace Nova Eastend Cinemas for the opportunity to hold a screening in support of the Society.

The film, directed by Tim Hooper (*The King's Speech*), stars a host of fabulous performers such as Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Helena Bonham Carter, and Sacha Baron Cohen.

We hope to see you there!

Date: 30 December 2012

Time: 2.30 pm for 3.00 pm

Place: Cinema 4, Palace Nova Eastend Cinemas
251 Rundle Street (enter off Vaughn Place)

Cost: \$25 per ticket including ticket and drink
(including beer, wine or soft drinks)

Bookings: www.gandssa.com.au or Paula 8447 7239
Bookings must be received by no later than
8 pm 29 December 2012

Parking: Frome Street/North Terrace Carpark or Rundle Street

PLEASE NOTE: The Cinemas advise us that the session is likely to be sold out and it is therefore is very important that you collect your tickets by 2.30 pm at the latest. G&S Society personnel will guide you to your seats.

You will not be able to book G&S tickets at the Cinema.



Our Grateful Thanks!

Thank you so much to all of those members who answered my call for anecdotes and memories of the Society over the last 75 years. They have been very interesting.

I had hoped to feature those items in this edition of the newsletter but things are so busy in the Society at present that I ran out of room!!!

But never fear, they will not be forgotten. I intend to feature them over the 2013 editions of the news letter. So if you have any memories of the Society that you wish to share please let me know.

From the Editor

Christmas is upon us and I am not sure where the last few months have gone!

Your comments and feedback on Edition 1 of my tenure of newsletter editor were very kind and greatly appreciated.

Thank you in particular to Susan Henderson for her encouragement, support and ongoing contributions (she said she had retired from the newsletter!)

Contact me on: liz@gandssa.com.au

What's On At The Society - January

The Pirates Are Coming!

The Society is once again joining forces with the South Australian Maritime Museum to stage a production of *The Pirates of Penzance* on board the Museum's ketch, *Active II*.

Directed by John and Barbara Turner, with musical direction by John Drake, this production was first performed at the Museum in 2011, followed by *HMS Pinafore* in 2012.

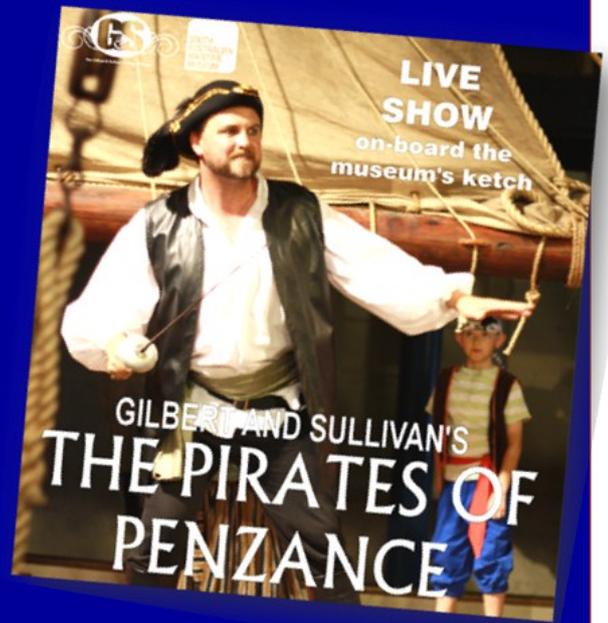
Featuring Andy Turner as the Pirate King, Ian Andrew as Frederic, Sarah Jane Pattichis as Mabel and Barry Hill as the Major-General, *Pirates* will be a night of rollicking fun on the high seas!

Where: South Australian Maritime Museum
126 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide

Dates: 18 and 19 January 2013 at 7.30 pm
(Bar Opens 6.30 pm)

Tickets: \$30 Adults, \$25 Concession

Book: Maritime Museum 8207 6255 or maritime@history.sa.gov.au



Oliver! Cast

Announced

Roles cast for the August 2013 production of *Oliver!* are as follows:

Nancy	Emma Bargery
Fagin	Rod Schultz
Bill Sikes	Paul Talbot
Widow Corney	Bev Shean
Mr Bumble	John Greene
Mr Bronlow	Tim Blackshaw
Noah Claypole	Damien Quick
Mrs Sowerberry	Vanessa Lee Shirley
Mr Sowerberry	David Lampard
Mrs Bedwin	Renie Walker
Old Sally	Wendy Rayner
Grimwig	Nic Easton

Auditions for the children's' roles will occur early in 2013.

Watch the Society's website for further details.

Catching Up With Carol

Editor Liz Olsson recently spent a very happy day catching up with one of the Society's early members, Carol Escott (nee Smith).

Joining the Society in 1948 in the chorus of *The Mikado*, Carol appeared the following years' *The Yeomen of the Guard* and *Patience*.

She then became the Society's Stage Manager for the next six or seven years - a female in the role was very progressive for 1951! Carol remembers many country tours of productions during those years, which she also stage managed.

After over a decade's involvement, Carol's time with the Society came to an end when she moved to Melbourne for work but she maintained interest in the Society.

Thanks to Carol's daughter Christine for her generous hospitality.



What's On At The Society - February

Young rising stars to lead the way!

We are very pleased to present *The Secret Garden* from 1 - 9 February 2013 at the Arts Theatre.

Directed by Richard Trevaskis and musical directed by Daniel Brunner this moving and beautiful production will feature some amazing youth talent with Laura Williams and Nadia Barrow sharing the role of Mary Lennox and Jack Raft and Harry Fiedler sharing the role of Colin Craven. These four rising stars were picked amongst many talented young people who auditioned for the coveted roles.

The production will also feature Carolyn Ferrie as Lily Craven - reprising the role she performed opposite Anthony Warlow in the original Australian production. She is joined by celebrated local performer Mark Oates, who played Valjean in the Society's 2008 production of *Les Misérables*.

The Secret Garden, based on the classic tale by Francis Hodgson Burnett, is the story of Mary Lennox, a spoiled unhappy child who is shipped away from India to the Yorkshire moors to live with her uncle, after the death of her parents. She is met by a household of secrets, a grieving widower, a frail child and a garden locked ten years before after tragedy.

As the garden is nurtured and healed by Mary, she and the other inhabitants of the house recover and become a family bound together by the power of love.

Other Cast Members

Dr Craven	Andrew Crispe
Mrs Medlock	Anne Doherty
Martha	Sarah Nagy
Dickon	Ian Andrew
Ben	David Rapkin
Fakir	Hew Wagner
Ayah	Vanessa Lee Shirley
Rose Lennox	Danii Zappia
Capt Albert Lennox	James Nicholson
Lieut Peter Wright	Patrick Witcombe
Lieut Ian Shaw	Nicholas Coxhill
Major Holmes	Mark Oakley
Claire Holmes	Bethany Ide
Alice	Liana Nagy
Mrs Winthrop/Jane	Wendy Rayner
Maj Shelley/Timothy	Timothy Blackshaw
Dancers	Alexandra Wiedenmann Thomas Wiedenmann



Congratulations!

To Nadia Barrow, who won the State Grade 7 Cello and Piano Prizes in the recent AMEB exams.

To book your tickets, call Paula on
8447 7239

Email paula@gandssa.com.au

Or visit www.gandssa.com.au

Adults \$35, Con. \$29

Child \$19, Member \$27



State Opera Stars

Members attending the State Opera of South Australia's production of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* will notice some familiar faces amongst the principals. The lead role of Cio-Cio San will be played by Joanna McWaters, whilst her husband, Andy Turner (pictured in the *Pirates* poster) will appear as Prince Yakuside. Jo will be sponsored for her performance by G&S Society Patron The Hon Dr Kemerl Murray AO.



Also in the cast playing Kate Pinkerton will be Desiree Frahn, recently appointed as a State Opera Young Artist, who is sponsored by Kaaren and Kevin Palmer.

Madama Butterfly will be staged at the Festival Theatre on 23, 26, 28, 30 November 7:30 pm.

Andy also has a minor principal role in *Salome* in August along with former Society performers, Robert Macfarlane, Tasso Bouyessis and Tom Millhouse.

Many of our G&S performers also appear in the State Opera Chorus.

Above: Jo McWaters and Mark McKenna in 2001's *The Yeomen of the Guard*, Desiree Frahn and Patrick Witcombe in 2012's *Iolanthe*.

G&S Favourites in new Australian Musical Recording

A South Australian composer has written a new Australian Musical called *The Front* and has featured some G&S favourites in his first full album recording. Composer Lane Hinchcliffe has featured Carolyn Ferrie and Mark Oates, *Secret Garden* Principals, on the album which will be released in 2013.

Beau-Daniel Loumeau, who has performed in many G&S musicals has been the first artist on the album to have a single, *Miracles*, released. *Miracles* can be downloaded free of charge by visiting the website <http://www.upfrontproductions.com.au/thesongs.html>

The Front was written and scored by Lane Hinchcliffe and is set in the trenches of World War I in 1916. Hinchcliffe, now thirty years of age, has spent the past 13 years composing the music and developing the story. Focussing on the events leading up to and following the Battle of Fromelles, the story explores the lives of various 'diggers' and women who served in the Australian Forces.

"I hope that people far and wide will hear this song and feel moved. The message is universal: whether you are caught in a war, missing a loved one or struggling with health - don't lose hope" said Hinchcliffe.

Lane grew up with a passion for musical theatre after being trained from a young age in piano and composition. At the age of seventeen, Lane and a good friend and duet partner, Miriam, decided to write a musical based around Australia's involvement in WWI.

Miriam died suddenly in 1999 and it was through grief that Hinchcliffe made a commitment to write the musical they'd agreed to do together.

Hinchcliffe is still in touch with Miriam's parents who are very supportive of the project. They have donated funds to *The Front's* Pozzible campaign which saw hundreds of Australian's raise in excess of \$10,000.00 within 2 months to fund the first professional recording of the musical.



Vale Jan Muster

The Society was saddened to learn of the death of Ian Muster, on 30 November 2012 after a long battle with cancer.

Ian joined the Society in 1964 as part of the men's chorus. It was the start of a distinguished career as a

singer/actor in Gilbert & Sullivan, musicals and operetta.

His repertoire included Hajj (*Kismet*), Tevye (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Cervantes (*Man of La Mancha*), Dr Falke (*Die Fledermaus*) and Count Danilo (*The Merry Widow*) - the latter two with the Society. He performed most of the G&S baritone roles.

He played W S Gilbert in the Society's *Tarantara!* and received critical acclaim for his chilling portrayal in the title role of the Society's *Sweeney Todd* in 2001 (pictured above).

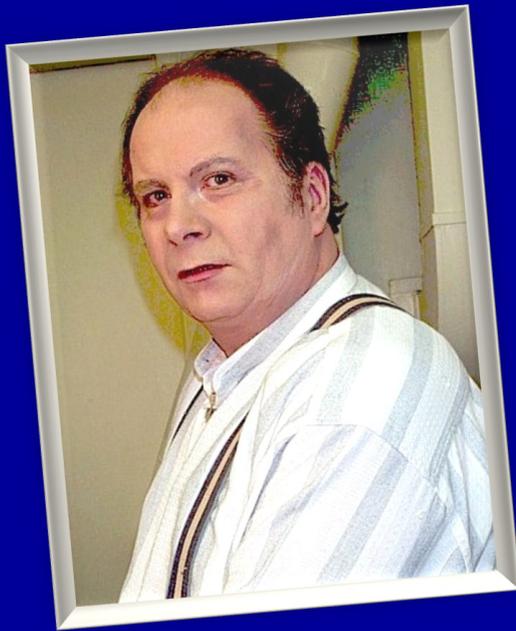
He appeared in professional Gilbert and Sullivan productions for the Adelaide Festival Centre at the Mikado, Sergeant of Police, Lord Mountararat and the Counsel in *Trial By Jury*.

For other amateur companies he played Javert (*Les Misérables*) and as Tito Morelli (*Lend Me A Tenor*).

His last role for the Society was as Colonel Calverley (*Patience*) in 2006. He was also a regular member of Co*Opera.

Ian is very fondly remembered by members of the Society and will be greatly missed.

Our sincere condolences to his family.



Remembering Jan

Ian's work with Co-Opera started with our production of *Kiss Me, Kate!* in 2007. We were looking for a suitably larger than life Harrison Howell and chose Ian because we all knew him from many years of outstanding work in Adelaide - most particularly with the G&S Society.

The role suited him down to the ground. His ability to lecherously eye off Lois Lane [Tegan Gully] whilst proclaiming steadfast loyalty to Lilli Vannessi [Lynny Harris] was for most of us the comic treasure of the production. Combine this with one of the loveliest examples of sheer baritone beauty in Adelaide and one can see why the production was so richly successful in a 12 week tour that included some of the most far flung communities in remote/regional Australia.

Ian joined us in subsequent local or touring productions of *The Magic Flute*, *Pirates*, and *La Boheme*, this latter production travelling to all mainland States and Territories [he shared the major role of Colline]. He was also an enthusiastic participant in small-scaled presentations of operatic highlights, such as Kevin Miller's quirky *A Bit on the Side* and never seemed more at home than in schools productions where he came into his own talking with students about life as a professional singer and performing "on the road".

He was MUCH loved. Always a willing spirit....doing more than his share of touring chores and providing a ready shoulder to cry on for young singers who suddenly discover that a life of singing is hard work under any circumstances and on the road, doubly so.....that the romance of the operatic troubadour is an utter fiction until necessary disciplines are appreciated and obeyed.

He was patient, understanding, immensely funny, kind as a person and generous as an artistwhich, of course, was why people loved listening to him.

He has gone far too soonand yet he is still in our hearts.....an indelible influence.

Vale, Ian, Mate.

Brian Chatterton

Our Deepest Sympathy And Belated Condolences

To Barry Hill, a regular director and performer with the Society on the passing of his mother in June.



Board of Management

President: Paul Talbot
 Vice President: Ric Trevaskis
 Secretary: Kate Warren
 Treasurer: Jan Hooper
 Board Members: Ian Andrew
 Susan Henderson
 Manik Meah
 Michelle Wickett
 David Williams
 Ticket Secretary: Paula Pamment

The G&S 75th Anniversary Quiz Night was held at the Opera Studio on 27 October 2012. As you can see, it was a great night!
 Photos by Tim Allan