



Newsletter Autumn 2020 number 2

Welcome to our second autumn 2020 newsletter, keeping you in touch with what's happening at Stewartby Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society and our friends in other societies.

This is an electronic newsletter which can be delivered automatically to your email inbox or downloaded from the website. To sign up, go to www.saods.org.uk, scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your email address. We promise that we will not use your email address for any purpose other than the delivery of the newsletter.

Coronavirus

Despite the current lockdown in England and the uncertainty of not knowing what will happen when lockdown finishes, the plan remains to recommence rehearsals in January 2021. If the situation in the country changes, for better or for worse, at least the plans will be in place to adapt or to implement at the appropriate time.

When it is known for certain that rehearsals are due to re-start members will be sent an email or postal reminder of the five conditions for attendance i.e.

- Have you had recently any Covid-19 symptoms?
- Have you been in close contact with anyone who has or who might have Covid-19?
- Have you been told you should self-isolate?
- Are you quarantining?
- Have you been advised to shield?

If you answer "yes" to any of these questions you must NOT attend rehearsals. In the meantime please continue to look after yourselves.



Gondoliers 2020

Tuesday 17th to Saturday 21st November, 2020, should have seen Stewartby Village Hall being filled with the sounds of the orchestra, chorus and principals delighting the audience with the story and music of The Gondoliers. In honour of this missed occasion this newsletter is dedicated to Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Gondoliers".

Gilbert and Sullivan's The Gondoliers

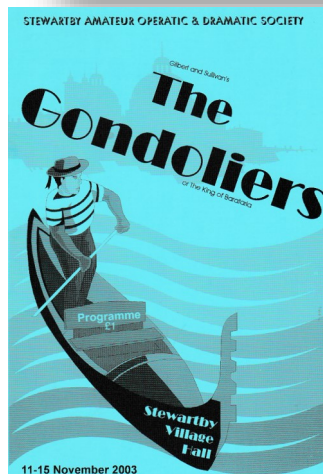
The Gondoliers, subtitled The King of Barataria, opened at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday 7th December, 1889, and ran for 554 consecutive performances. The company and orchestra also performed at Windsor Castle in front of Queen Victoria.

Gilbert and Sullivan's previous operetta had been The Yeomen of the Guard and its more operatic style had been so much more to Sullivan's liking that he needed some convincing to return to the frivolity and topsy-turvyness of comic opera.

The story is a satire on the emerging enthusiasm for republicanism and egalitarianism.

The Gondoliers has the longest vocal score of any of the G&S works with the first fifteen minutes of the show unbroken by dialogue.

Stewartby Operatic 1985

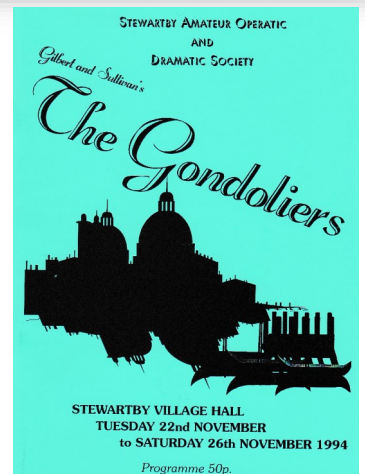


programme 2003

director Shirley Hale,
musical director Allan Thomas, principals John Epton, Frank Banks, Charles Mills, Steven Swales, Doreen Hunter, Paula Fraser, Carol Urwin and Linda Bowen

programme 1994


director Phil Street,
musical director Allan Thomas, principals John Epton, Brian Adams, Charles Mills, Tony Sanders, Doreen Hunter, Jean Lloyd, Carol Urwin and Berenice Reiblein



The Story

Two just-married Venetian gondoliers are informed by the Grand Inquisitor that one of them has just become the King of "Barataria", but only their foster mother, presently at large, knows which one. As Barataria needs a king to put down unrest in the country, they travel there to reign jointly, leaving their wives behind in Venice until the old lady can be interviewed. It turns out that the king was wed in infancy to the beautiful daughter of the Spanish Duke of Plaza Toro, and so it seems he is an unintentional bigamist. Of course, the beautiful daughter is in love with a common servant! When the young Spaniard and the two Venetian wives all show up wanting to know which of them is queen, complications arise. No worries: The true identity of the king is revealed, and all is combed out spectacularly well by the end.

From the Programme, December 1889



Every Evening at 8.30, the entirely Original Comic Opera, in Two Acts, entitled

THE GONDOLIERS

Or, The King of Barataria.

Written by **W. S. GILBERT.** Composed by **ARTHUR SULLIVAN.**

Produced under the personal direction of the Author and Composer.

Dramatis Personæ.

The Duke of Plaza-Toro	(A Grandee of Spain)	Mr. FRANK WYATT.
Luis	(His Attendant)	Mr. BROWNLOW.
Don Alhambra del Bolero	(The Grand Inquisitor)	Mr. DENNY.
Marco Palmieri	(Venetian Gondoliers)	Mr. COURTICE POUNDS.
Giuseppe Palmieri		Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON.
Antonio		Mr. MEDCALF.
Francesco		Mr. ROSE.
Giorgio		Mr. DE PLEDGE.
Amibale		Mr. WILBRAHAM.
Ottavio		Mr. C. GILBERT.
The Duchess of Plaza-Toro		Miss ROSINA BRANDRAM.
Cecilia	(Her Daughter)	Miss DECIMA MOORE.
Gianetta		Miss GERALDINE ULMAR.
Tessa		Miss JESSIE BOND.
Fiametta	(Contadine)	Miss LAWRENCE.
Vittoria		Miss COLE.
Giulia		Miss PHYLLIS.
Inez	(The King's Foster-mother)	Miss BERNARD.

Chorus of Gondoliers and Contadine. Men-at-Arms, Heralds, and Pages.

ACT I.—THE PIAZZETTA, VENICE.

ACT II.—PAVILION IN THE PALACE OF BARATARIA.

(An interval of three months is supposed to elapse between Acts I. and II.)

Date—1790.

Morning Performance every Saturday at 3.30, Doors open at 3.

Musical Director ... Mr. FRANCOIS CELLIER.
Stage Manager ... Mr. W. H. SEYMOUR.

The Scenery painted by Mr. HAWES CRAVEN (by permission of Mr. HENRY IRVING).

The Dances arranged by Mr. WARD (by permission of M. MARIS).
The Dresses designed by Mr. PERCY ANDERSON and executed by Miss FISHER, MME. LEON and M. BARTHE. Wigs by CLARKSON.
Stage Machinist, Mr. SHELDON.

The Theatre is lighted entirely by Electricity.

All letters on any business connected with the SAVOY THEATRE should be addressed to Mr. R. D'O'LY CAETE, and not to any individual official.

NO FEES OF ANY KIND.

PROGRAMMES are provided and Wraps taken free of charge. Any attendant detected in accepting money from visitors will be instantly dismissed; the public is therefore requested not to tempt the attendants by offering them gratuities.

The Refreshment Saloons are under the direct control of the Management, and everything will be found to be of the best quality.
Loos supplied by the ANGLO-AUSTRIAN CONFECTIONERY COMPANY.

BOX OFFICE ALWAYS OPEN, FROM 9 A.M. UNTIL 11 P.M.
Doors open at 8.

Private Boxes £2 2/- & £1 1/-, Stalls 10/6, Balcony Stalls 7/6,
First Circle (reserved) 4/- Pit 2/6, Amphitheatre 2/-, Gallery 1/-

The Theatre is protected against Fire by an elaborate system of Water-
"Sprinklers" placed over the Stage, and also by the

HARDEN STAR GRENADES
(As adopted by Her Majesty).

The Blue Fluted Glass Grenades are the Harden Stars, 40/- PER DOZEN CASE
HARDEN STAR AND SINCLAIR CO., LTD.,
114, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Background Information
and some images from
"The Complete
Annotated Gilbert &
Sullivan" edited by Ian
Bradley and The Gilbert
and Sullivan Archive at
www.gsarchive.net



Christmas 2020 is going to be different! That doesn't mean that it cannot be enjoyable. If you have any favourite Christmas recipes, Christmas traditions, Christmas films or books, Christmas crafts or anything else Christmassy that you would be happy to share please send your contributions in words and / or pictures to stewartbyoperatic@saods.org.uk for inclusion in our Christmas newsletter.

Christmas is Coming!

Stewartby Operatic 2012

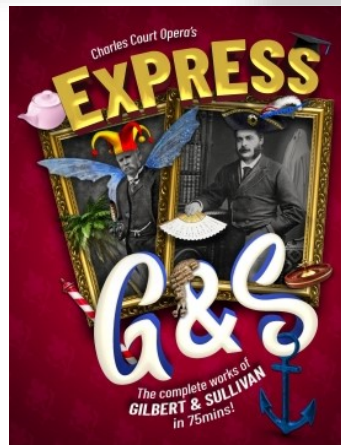


Current G&S productions

STANLEY OPERA

PERFORMING OPERA IN HINCKLEY SINCE 1973

presents a virtual
production of Trial by Jury
in episodes from 21st
November. Click on the
logo for more details.



Charles Court Opera presents the
entire G&S canon (new dates):

The Pleasance Theatre, London
2nd - 7th February, 2021

The Maltings Theatre, St Albans
9th - 13th February, 2021

Click the poster for more details.

gsopera.tv



virtual season continues
with a Topsy-Turvy Trivia
quiz in December. Click on
the logo for more details.

Watch the best of Gilbert and Sullivan
online including a G&S advent
calendar in December. Click on the
logo for more details

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word UNSUBSCRIBE as the subject.

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newsletter please email stewartbyoperatic@saods.org.uk

Information about Stewartby Operatic Society can be found at our web site at www.saods.org.uk and
on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stewartbyoperatic. Queries about tickets should be sent to
boxoffice@saods.org.uk. Any other queries should be sent to information@saods.org.uk.

