

Diamond Valley Singers
and Diamond Valley & Eltham Community Orchestra present

Gilbert & Sullivan's

Yeomen of the Guard



PROGRAM

proceeds to
Eltham Emergency Relief Fund and Community Aid Abroad

WARRANTYTE HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE JULY 9 - 17 1993

The Story

The happy ending is one of the most persistent conventions of light opera. The audience always knows that it can expect that the problems of the characters and the complications of the story will be resolved, however implausibly, in the closing scene, and that every couple will be united amid general rejoicing. *The Yeomen of the Guard* is an exception to this rule.

The time is the sixteenth century; the place, Tower Green. Colonel Fairfax, handsome and brave, is under sentence of death, falsely charged with sorcery by a powerful relative who will inherit the Fairfax estate if the Colonel dies unmarried. An expected reprieve has failed to arrive and Sergeant Meryll, who owes his life to Fairfax, makes a plan to save him. Meryll's son, Leonard, is joining the Yeomen of the Guard; he will go into hiding and Fairfax, shaved and dressed as a Yeoman, and will take Leonard's place. Phoebe, Meryll's daughter, is in love with the Colonel, and readily agrees to steal the keys of the dungeon from her admirer, the slow-witted Head jailer and assistant tormentor, Wilfred Shadbolt. The Colonel, meanwhile, prepares to face death with exemplary courage. He asks the Lieutenant to find a girl who will marry him for a consideration so that his evil relative's intentions can be thwarted. Two strolling players, Jack Point and Elsie Maynard, now arrive, and the Lieutenant is just in time to save them from an aggressively ill-behaved crowd. Elsie, badly needing money to buy medicine for her sick mother, agrees to the marriage plan. Jack Point, who hopes to marry Elsie himself, also agrees when he is convinced that the new bride will become a widow an hour after the ceremony has taken place. Elsie is blindfolded and led away to be married, while the Lieutenant engages Point as his household jester. Phoebe steals the keys from the lovesick Wilfred, the Colonel is released, disguised as a Yeoman and welcomed by the Guard. In the finale of Act I, all is ready for the execution when it is discovered that the prisoner is missing. Wilfred is in disgrace, Jack Point is in despair, and Elsie faints in Fairfax's arms as the curtain falls.

Two days later, the Yeomen have failed to recapture the prisoner, and the formidable Dame Carruthers leads a chorus of women in deriding them for their incompetence. The Dame then reveals that Elsie, whom she has been nursing, has talked of the marriage in her sleep. Fairfax, still as Leonard, is pleased to find that he has married the attractive Elsie. Jack Point now devises a scheme to save Elsie from the marriage. He persuades Wilfred, in return for some lessons in jesting, to fire a shot and pretend that the two of them have pursued Fairfax and shot him through the head as he tried to swim the river. The story is believed, and for the moment Wilfred is a hero. Point now proposes to Elsie, but Fairfax-Leonard offers to give him a lesson in wooing and wins Elsie for himself. Point is in despair again, and Phoebe, who is distraught, inadvertently lets out the secret of Fairfax's disguise to Wilfred. Realising what she has done, she buys his silence by agreeing to marry him, and Dame Carruthers, who has overheard, seizes her chance to force Meryll (whom she has long had designs upon) to take her to the altar.

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan Text by Sir William Gilbert

Overture

Act I

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. When a maiden loves, she sits and sighs | <i>Phoebe</i> |
| 2. Tower warders, under orders | <i>People and Yeomen; solo second Yeoman</i> |
| 3. When our gallant Norman foes | <i>Dame Carruthers and Yeomen, Chorus</i> |
| 4. Alas! I waver to and fro | <i>Phoebe, Leonard and Meryll</i> |
| 5. Is life a boon? | <i>Fairfax</i> |
| 6. Here's a man of jollity | <i>People, Elsie and Jack Point</i> |
| 7. I have a song to sing, O! | <i>Elsie and Jack Point</i> |
| 8. How say you maiden will you wed | <i>Elsie, Jack Point and Lieutenant</i> |
| 9. I've jibe and joke | <i>Jack Point</i> |
| 10. 'Tis done! I am a bride! | <i>Elsie</i> |
| 11. Were I thy bride | <i>Phoebe</i> |
| 12. Oh, Sergeant Meryll, is it true | <i>Finale of Act I, Ensemble</i> |

Act II

- | | |
|---|--|
| 13. Night has spread her pall once more | <i>People, Yeomen and Dame Carruthers</i> |
| 14. Oh! a private buffoon is a light-hearted loon | <i>Jack Point</i> |
| 15. Hereupon we're both agreed | <i>Jack Point and Wilfred</i> |
| 16. Free from his fetters grim | <i>Fairfax</i> |
| 17. Strange adventure | <i>Kate, Dame Carruthers, Fairfax, Meryll</i> |
| 18. Hark! What was that sir? | <i>Elsie, Phoebe, Dame Carruthers, Fairfax, Wilfred, Point, Lieutenant, Meryll, Chorus</i> |
| 19. A man who would woo a fair maid | <i>Fairfax, Elsie and Phoebe</i> |
| 20. When a wooer goes a-wooing | <i>Elsie, Phoebe, Fairfax and Jack Point</i> |
| 21. Rapture, rapture! | <i>Dame Carruthers and Sergeant Meryll</i> |
| 22. Comes a pretty young bride | <i>Finale, Ensemble</i> |

The Story cont.

In the final scene, Elsie is about to marry the man she believes is Leonard, when the Lieutenant brings news that Fairfax is alive and reprieved, and coming to claim his bride. Elsie feels again that she is doomed to be the wife of a man she has never seen; but she soon recognises her husband as "Leonard". The couple's happiness is acclaimed by all on stage; but in this opera someone is painfully and poignantly excluded from the rejoicing. Point enters, and as the opera ends, "falls senseless at their feet".



THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

PRINCIPALS in order of appearance.

Phoebe Meryll, <i>Sergeant Meryll's daughter</i>	<i>Ellen Hundley</i>
Wilfred Shadbolt, <i>Head jailer and assistant tormentor</i>	<i>Rod Gorfine</i>
Second Yeoman	<i>Simon Newnham</i>
Dame Carruthers, <i>housekeeper to the Tower</i>	<i>Judith O'Shea</i>
Sergeant Meryll, <i>of the Yeomen of the Guard</i>	<i>Graham Ford</i>
Leonard Meryll, <i>his son</i>	<i>Darren Rosenfield</i>
Sir Richard Cholmondely, <i>Lieutenant of the Tower</i>	<i>Martin King</i>
Colonel Fairfax, <i>under sentence of death</i>	<i>Michael Try</i>
Jack Point, <i>a strolling jester</i>	<i>David Cox</i>
Elsie Maynard, <i>a strolling singer</i>	<i>Mavis Ford</i>
First Yeoman	<i>Allan Luke</i>
Kate, <i>Dame Carruthers' niece</i>	<i>Jenni Williams</i>

Thank-you to Nicholas Lauder Pty Ltd, Real Estate Agents, Main Rd Eltham, for assisting with the publicising of THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD.

Thank-you also to Pancakes on the Yarra for providing the best ticket seller's prize.

PRODUCTION

Director	Ruth Richter	Set Design/Building	Les Bardwell
Producer	Dianne Richter	Stage Manager	Irene Hayes
Assistant Director	Graham Ford	Lighting	Alfred Lee, Dick Hayes
Musical Director	Ian Lowe	Costumes	Marilyn Billing, Andrea Fitzgerald
Choreographer	Lisa Stampf	Make-up	Marilyn Billing, Connie Iannello
Orchestra Leader	Mary Wright	Poster	Jack Newnham
Rehearsal pianists	Ian Lowe, Roger Peck, Geoff O'Neil	Ticket Sales	Diane Morgan
Chorus whips	Nancy Cornwallis, Graham Ford, Simon Newnham	Publicity	David Sadedin

CAST

Citizens Lesley Alves, Sue Bell, Jenni Blackman, Nancy Cornwallis, Pam Crohan, Jane Fishburn, Andrea Fitzgerald, Lorraine Knuckey, Kim Kocijan, Catherine McGain, Joy Melton, Edna Nelva, Bronwyn Ryall, Gael Shearer, Norma Turnbull-Smith, Phil Clarkson, Don Douglas, Dennis Hickey, Henk Umland

Yeomen Robert Alves, David Blackman, Adrian Donahue, Michael Knuckey, Allan Luke, Simon Newnham, Darren Rosenfield, Peter Thomas, Tim Warren.

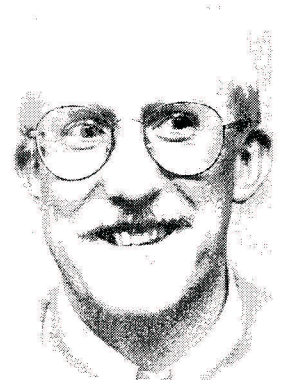
Jack Point's Apprentices Christopher Martin, Heather Wright.

Citizens' children Catherine McGain, Daniel Richter-Martin, Melanie Fitzgerald, Lucas Richter

Axcman Ivan Matey

DAVID COX
David is experiencing a "second wind" in his singing "career". The last time he trod the light fantastic was back in the 60's as a chorus member in IOLANTHE and THE GONDOLIERS with Melbourne Uni Choral Society and later with Melbourne State College as The Duke in PATIENCE. He has played Marco in THE GONDOLIERS for the Dunregan Players and Goro in a potted version of MADAM BUTTERFLY for a local operatic company. These days his singing is mainly confined to the church choir and occasional excursions into oratorio. Last year he was the Lord Chancellor in IOLANTHE in his first production with DVS.

Jack Point



MAVIS FORD

Mavis has sung in a vast number of operas and operettas. Her experience includes leads in THE MIKADO, THE GONDOLIERS, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, SISTER ANGELICA (Puccini), THE TELEPHONE (Menotti), IL SERAGLIO and THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (Mozart). She has been a member of the Tudor Choristers and has sung solos in several oratorios. Mavis has performed in TRIAL BY JURY, HMS PINAFORE, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, PRINCESS IDA and THE GONDOLIERS with DVS.

Elsie Maynard



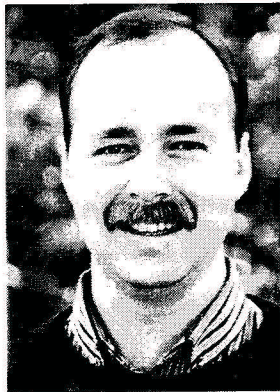
ELLEN HUNDLEY

Ellen Hundley has played with bush and jazz bands, and is currently singing with the Melbourne Chorale, as well as being involved in Latin American music. She completed a Bachelor of Education degree at Melbourne CAE in 1985 and has since studied singing with Loris Synan. Ellen plays a variety of musical instruments. Other appearances include restaurants such as The Cuckoo, The Skyhigh and Cafe Mondiale. In 1982 she sang for the Duke of Edinburgh at the Brisbane Commonwealth Games and she has had television appearances in *Shirl's Neighbourhood*, *New Faces* and *A Big Country*. In 1992 Ellen played the title role with DVS in IOLANTHE.

Phoebe



Colonel Fairfax



MICHAEL TRY

Michael has had choral experience with the Melbourne Youth Choir and the Faye Dumont Singers. His first stage show was in 1985 with the VSO Youth Company's production of THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER. Since then he has performed with the Savoy Opera Company, Loyola Musical Society and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Principal roles include The Duke in PATIENCE, Florian in PRINCESS IDA and Carboy in THE ZOO. With DVS previously he has been Luiz in THE GONDOLIERS and Strephon in IOLANTHE. He appeared as Curley in OKLAHOMA with St Michael's Players last year.

Sergeant Meryll



GRAHAM FORD

Graham, a former student at the National Theatre Opera School and a Sun Aria semi-finalist, has sung lead roles on many occasions with DVS, as well as a number of roles with the semi-professional Globe Opera. He has previously directed or co-directed several DVS G&S productions (TRIAL BY JURY, RUDDIGORE, PIRATES OF PENZANCE, THE GONDOLIERS, PRINCESS IDA, IOLANTHE). Graham is also a local singing teacher.

ROD GORFINE

Rod has been a Gilbert and Sullivan specialist for some years and has performed principal roles in PRINCESS IDA, YEOMEN OF THE GUARD, HMS PINAFORE, THE SORCERER, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, and THE MIKADO during his time with the SEC Theatre Company. Since joining Diamond Valley Singers, Rod has played the roles of Pooh Bah (THE MIKADO), Sir Rodderick (RUDDIGORE), The Pirate King (PIRATES), King Hildebrand (PRINCESS IDA), Don Alhambra del Bolero (THE GONDOLIERS), and Lord Mountararat (IOLANTHE).

Wilfred Shadbolt



JUDITH O'SHEA

Judith has been a long-time member of the Diamond Valley Singers after singing with the Tudor Choristers and other groups in the UK, Perth and Canberra. G&S roles with DVS have included Pitti-Sing (THE MIKADO), Ruth (THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE), Lady Blanche (PRINCESS IDA) and Tessa (THE GONDOLIERS). With Babirra Players she played Katisha (THE MIKADO) and with Loyola Theatre, Iolanthe (IOLANTHE). Judith keeps herself busy studying singing and musicianship and performing as chorister and/or soloist with DVS in concerts and oratorios.

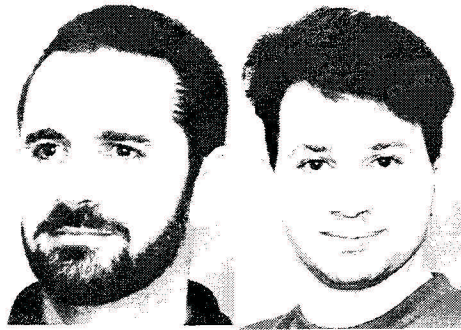
Dame Carruthers



MARTIN KING and DARREN ROSENFELD
 For 16 years Martin has performed with the Gospel Barber Shop Quartet (as seen on TV). The Quartet has performed at hundreds of concerts throughout Australia and overseas. His involvement with YEOMEN is giving him valuable experience in stagecraft, musical comedy and mime.

Darren is making his acting debut as Leonard Meryll in this production. He decided to join DVS after seeing last year's production of IOLANTHE. He has previously sung in the chorus of THE MESSIAH and in several DVS concerts and competed in eisteddfods this year at Bendigo.

Sir Richard Cholmondely and Leonard Meryll



RUTH RICHTER

After making her stage debut at 8 years of age Ruth spent her childhood fascinated by stage and performing. Ruth studied drama at La Trobe University and went on to risk life and limb playing TheatreSports. Undeterred, she became a drama teacher. She has co-directed MAN OF STEEL and GREASE. She wrote and directed INSPECTOR SLEUTH FINDS THE TRUTH, a play about nutrition for primary school children under the auspices of the Victorian Health Promotions Unit. It was a smash hit in Broadmeadows! She was co-director with Graham Ford in 1990 for PRINCESS IDA and in 1991 for THE GONDOLIERS.

Director



Kate



JENNI WILLIAMS

Jenni Williams, who has been studying singing with Mavis Ford for a number of years, has participated in various High School musicals and played the lead role Sandy in GREASE in 1986. She played Rose Maybud in DVS production of RUDIGORE 1988, Edith in PIRATES of PENZANCE 1989, Lady Psychie in PRINCESS IDA in 1990 and Phyllis in IOLANTHE in 1992. Jenni is currently studying dance with Pat Miller School of Dance, (Tap & Jazz Ballet). In 1991 Jenni won the 21 years and under Musical Comedy section at the Dandenong Eisteddfod.

Producer

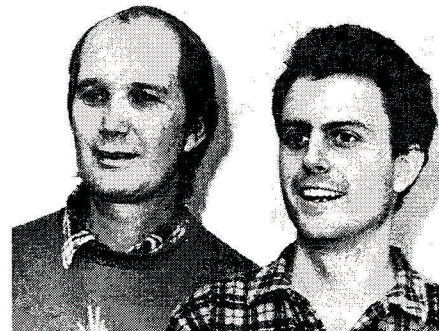


DIANNE RICHTER

Dianne's involvement with Diamond Valley Singers began as assistant producer for THE MIKADO in 1987. Since then she has participated in numerous DVS performances including solos in THE MESSIAH. She also took on the role of producer for RUDDIGORE, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, PRINCESS IDA, THE GONDOLIERS and IOLANTHE. Dianne regularly sings in concerts and eisteddfods. She played the lead female role in a gospel musical at Ormond Uniting Church and also performed in NOW FOR THE 1990'S, and SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY with Elwood Theatre Company.

ALLAN LUKE and SIMON NEWNHAM
 Allan has been with DVS since 1987 as chorister, soloist and on stage in various roles such as Cyrill in PRINCESS IDA. As well as appearing in YEOMEN he will play the part of Nanki-Poo in THE MIKADO with the Dandenong Choral Society in August.

First and second Yeomen



Simon is a Telecom engineer who has recently discovered the joy of theatre. His first appearance was in last year's DVS production of IOLANTHE and he is very pleased with his progression to a solo part this year in THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD.

LISA STAMPF

Lisa has been dancing since she was nine, and has been involved in many amateur theatre productions. She has choreographed chorus numbers for a series of concerts by Victoriana, and assisted with a VFL Grand Final entertainment show. She has worked on the road in a Music Hall production, and enjoyed a 6-month stint in a Theatre Restaurant. Lisa choreographed our production of IOLANTHE and we are very pleased that she has returned for YEOMEN.

Choreographer



IAN LOWE

Ian has conducted the Eltham (now Diamond Valley and Eltham) Community Orchestra for fifteen years, preparing it for programs of serious and lighter works, always of popular appeal. He has also acted as musical director for several performances by Diamond Valley Singers of Handel's MESSIAH and Haydn's THE SEASONS and the annual Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Ian's other musical directions have included OKLAHOMA, ANNIE, MY FAIR LADY, ANYTHING GOES, THE WIZARD OF OZ, PEACE CHILD and ANNIE. Ian is also a competent pianist and enjoys music as a hobby from his profession as a mathematics educator (teacher and text book author).

Musical director



THE ORCHESTRA

VIOLINS	Mary Wright, Klaus Buechler, Ethel Newton, Nola Thompson, Jo Parr, Kevin Mullen, Eve Scopes
VIOLA	Eric Pool
CELLO	Ray Banks
BASS	David Rawlinson
FLUTES	Mary Keusgen, Betty Martin, Len Johnstone
OBOES	Dennis Thiel, Meroe Cahill
CLARINETS	Derek Wright, Geoff Oakes, Nada Cahill (Bass cl)
BASSOON	Judy Stack
HORNS	David Mileshkin, Tim Adam, Natalie Plukss
TRUMPETS	Peter Gangell, Neville Wright
BASS TRMPT	Ormsby Stewart
TROMBONE	Andrew Peters, Geoff Parker
PERCUSSION	Julie Wright, Andrew Alves

DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS

In 1985 Ian Lowe approached Graham and Mavis Ford for help in staging TRIAL BY JURY with the Eltham Community Orchestra in aid of World Vision. Rehearsals began, and "The Valley Musical Society" (later to become "The Diamond Valley Singers") was formed to provide local singers with opportunities to be heard in public and to raise money for charity. So far, \$25,700 has been donated to World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, the Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service, Harrison Youth Services and the Eltham Emergency Relief fund.

Two successful performances of TRIAL BY JURY raised \$1300 for World Vision. Since then, singers and orchestra have combined in more Gilbert and Sullivan productions (HMS PINAFORE, THE MIKADO, RUDDIGORE, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, PRINCESS IDA, THE GONDOLIERS and IOLANTHE), as well as in Handel's MESSIAH and Haydn's THE SEASONS. The Singers have also performed smaller works, including Maunday's OLIVET TO CALVARY, have taken part in local Carols by Candlelight services and sung in the massed choir at Carols by Candlelight at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl on Christmas Eve.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested, please call Graham Ford on 439-3267.

DIAMOND VALLEY AND ELTHAM COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

This orchestra has been in existence for about eighteen years, and performs three or four programmes annually. These have involved symphonies, concertos (some with Ian Lowe as piano soloist), musical comedy and other lighter works. Teaching is incorporated into the program for each year, with separate wind and string sessions, as well as rehearsing for public performance. The Orchestra is a resource for classical-type musicians and for local endeavours such as festivals and art shows and for other performing groups. The Orchestra looks forward to tackling ambitious works and to continuing its enjoyable and productive association with the Diamond Valley Singers.

The Shire of Eltham has given financial support to the orchestra for over a decade and this support is gratefully acknowledged.

If you would like to join or support the Orchestra, call Ian Lowe, Conductor, on 435-5841.

COMING EVENTS

Warrandyte High School will present THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE from Aug 14 - 21.

Eltham High School will present CAPTAIN WALDOS MAGIC CABERET OF THE SUBURBAN SOUL from the 7th to the 11th of September.

Diamond Valley Singers will present Mendelsohn's ELIJAH in November. Contact Graham Ford on 439 3267 for details.

The Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra will present a concert including a ballet performance at the Eltham Festival in November.

COMMUNITY AID ABROAD

Community Aid Abroad is an Australian non-government overseas aid organisation that supports about 200 self-help projects in 23 countries overseas and in Aboriginal Australia. The aim is not only to improve the living conditions of people but also to support the poorest of the poor in their struggle to overcome poverty and injustice.

Strengthening people's organisations is an important step in making sure that socio-economic improvements really benefit the poor. For instance, a village irrigation may only benefit the wealthy landowners unless the poorer villagers have the power to determine where it goes and who gets the water.

CAA funds projects that are initiated and carried out by the people who directly benefit from them. We believe people are motivated towards change when they control that change. The range of projects is broad; it includes health, training, production, education, employment, agricultural, literacy and motivational projects. Some are integrated community development projects encompassing many of these areas. Some focus specifically on the position of women. Care is taken to ensure that projects are in harmony with the local environment and culture.

Raising awareness about issues of poverty and injustice amongst Australians is also a priority, and CAA is active in campaigns such as Third World Debt and Aboriginal Issues.

People can help by donating, by joining a local community group or by assisting with the campaigning work of Community Aid Abroad; **please telephone 289 9444.**

ELTHAM EMERGENCY RELIEF SERVICE

The Eltham Emergency Relief Service is one of the programs which operates from the Eltham Community Health Centre in Dudley St, Eltham. The service provides assistance with emergency housing, crisis counselling, financial counselling, advocacy, cash cheques, cheques to Safeway and food parcels donated by the Warrandyte Food Bank, Eltham FoodShare and the Christian Outreach Centre. Trained staff from both the Eltham Shire and the Victorian Department of Health are employed at the Centre and provide respectful and relevant help. Demand for help is continually increasing and exceeds the resources available so that appointments can be given to about only about two-thirds of applicants. This was about 1000 people and families last year.

The Emergency Relief funds have been mainly obtained through the Federal Government (approx \$17 000 last year) and the Magistrates Courts (Heidelberg Court \$25 000 last year). However, the Court funds have dramatically reduced to about \$500 a month. We therefore greatly appreciate this effort by the Diamond Valley Singers and the Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra. All money raised will go directly to people who need it.

To cope with the problems of demand and lack of resources the Relief Service is now starting a volunteer program. In this program volunteers will be given professional training and professional work. It is hoped that the scheme will appeal to people pursuing professional social-work type courses and they will feel that the work will benefit them in this type of career. If you would like to know more about this scheme please call Margaret Cant on 431 1333.