

DIAMOND VALLEY
SINGERS

and
DIAMOND VALLEY and
ELTHAM COMMUNITY
ORCHESTRA

present

Johann Strauss'
DIE FLEDERMAUS
(THE BAT)



PROGRAM

WARRANTYTE HIGH SCHOOL
12th - 20th JULY 1996

SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

The house of Gabriel and Rosalinda Eisenstein. The voice of Alfredo, an opera singer and old flame of Rosalinda can be heard beneath the balcony, Alfredo wanting desperately to rekindle his affair with the lady of the house. Adele, the Eisenstein's chambermaid laments the fact that she is not a member of the aristocracy. An invitation arrives to a party that evening at the villa of Prince Orlofsky, a rich Russian emigre. The invitation is presumed to be from Adele's sister, Ida. It encourages Adele to ask for the evening off 'to visit her poor sick aunt', to borrow one of her mistress' ball gowns and come to the party pretending to be a young lady of the aristocracy. Rosalinda enters, having heard Alfredo's voice, and is far too preoccupied to listen to Adele's plea for the evening off. Gabriel is due to go to prison that evening, and they must all prepare for this. Once Adele has gone, Alfredo enters through the french windows and begins to serenade Rosalinda, promising to come and visit her during her husband's absence. Rosalinda agrees, to get him to leave, just as Gabriel arrives, with his lawyer, Doctor Blind. Not only did his appeal fail, but the judge had increased his sentence to eight days. Rosalinda protests her grief but is secretly looking forward to a tete-a-tete with Alfredo. Enter Doctor Falke, an old friend of Gabriel, and the 'bat' of the title. Falke has come to ask Gabriel to a party tonight, at Prince Orlofsky's villa and says that he has fixed it with the Prison Governor that he does not have to report to prison until dawn the next morning. He should come in disguise, as the 'Marquis de Renard', and Rosalinda need never find out. Gabriel agrees and rushes off to dress. Rosalinda calls Adele, and agrees to let her have the evening off, to visit her aunt. The Eisensteins then bid each other farewell, with Adele, each of the three secretly looking forward to what the evening will bring. Alfredo returns and begins the seduction of Rosalinda. He dresses in the clothes of the master of the house, as he intends to take over this role for the time of Gabriel's absence. The lovers are interrupted by the entrance of Frank, the Prison Governor, who has come to collect Gabriel, to escort him to prison. He naturally assumes Alfredo is Gabriel. Rosalinda quickly recovers the situation by convincing Frank that the very tipsy Alfredo is indeed her husband. Alfredo reluctantly agrees to go to prison for the sake of Rosalinda's reputation.

ACT 2

The party at Orlofsky's villa is in full swing. We are introduced to the host through his song "Chacun a son Gout", where he encourages his guests to relax and do as they please. Gabriel and Adele recognise each other. He is, of course, introduced as the "Marquis de Renard" and she as "Olga". He points her out, and then is made to look ridiculous, as such a lady could not possibly be a chambermaid. To further complicate matters, Rosalinda enters, also in disguise, dressed as an Hungarian Countess and wearing a mask because she knows that Gabriel is also here, calling himself something else, and flirting with none other than Adele. Since Rosalinda is in disguise, she gets him to flirt with her so that she would have ammunition to use against him. Rosalinda lets Gabriel use his famous watch trick on her, where he attempts to hypnotise her into submission. She turns the tables however as she manages to get the watch away from him. The party then continues with the entire company singing to the virtues of His Majesty King Champagne.

Another guest is the mysterious Chevalier Chagrin (none other than Frank, the Prison Governor). The finale continues, with Doctor Falke singing to the virtues of Brotherhood, and all of Orlofsky's guests becoming more and more inebriated. The Act ends with Gabriel and Frank both leaving at six a.m. for their respective appointments (both at the prison, of course).

ACT 3

Set in the jail, Frogg, the Prison Guard is trying in vain to quieten his prisoner, Alfredo, who has been singing constantly. His antics are interrupted by the arrival of an equally inebriated Frank. Soon, Adele and Ida arrive seeking out the mysterious Chagrin, and explaining that "Olga" is not really a lady, but a mere chambermaid, one who only needs a sponsor to help her to get started on her stage career. This group is interrupted by the arrival of Gabriel, who discovers to his dismay that someone else has been arrested in his place. He quickly waylays Doctor Blind and, disguised as the lawyer, prepared to discover what has happened. Rosalinda then arrives, anxious to get Alfredo out of prison before Gabriel discovers him and together the two lovers ask for the help of the 'lawyer'. Gabriel reveals his identity, accusing the two of deceiving him. Rosalinda then reveals what she knows about his own deceit, and the married couple reunite. Doctor Falke reveals that the entire evening was engineered to avenge the earlier episode where Gabriel had left him high and dry. Eventually the blame for the entire evening is laid at the feet of the real culprit, His Majesty King Champagne!

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

Overture

Darling Dove That Flew Away	Alfredo, Adele
Ah, My Mistress has said no	Adele, Rosalinda
No one but an awful lawyer	Eisenstein, Rosalinda, Blind
Come with me to the dance	Falke, Eisenstein
So I must say farewell, dear	Rosalinda, Eisenstein, Adele
Finale Act 1	Alfredo, Rosalinda, Frank,

Act 2

What a Night, How Divine	Chorus
Chacun a son Gout	Orlofsky
My Friends do pay attention, The Laughing Song	Orlofsky, Falke, Adele, Eisenstein and chorus
What a manner she's so gracious	Rosalinda, Eisenstein
Songs of my homeland!	Rosalinda
Finale Act 2	Principals and Chorus

Act 3

Melodrama	Frank
I'd have the greatest success	Adele
I feel a suspicion	Rosalinda, Alfredo, Eisenstein
Finale Act 3	Principals and Chorus

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Rosalinda	Mavis Ford
Gabriel von Eisenstein, <i>her husband</i>	Peter Churchland
Adele, <i>the chambermaid</i>	Micheala Bloom
Doctor Falke, <i>an old friend of Gabriel's</i> <i>and the 'Bat' of the title</i>	(July 13, 14, 20) Graham Ford (July 12, 17, 19) Chris Russell
Alfredo, <i>opera singer, Rosalinda's former lover</i>	Darren Rosenfeld
Frank, <i>the Prison Governor</i>	Geoff Dawes
Prince Orlofsky, <i>a Russian aristocrat</i>	David Cox
Ida, <i>Adele's sister</i>	Erin Farrell
Doctor Blind, <i>the lawyer</i>	Robert Tuttleby
Frogg, <i>the prison guard</i>	Michael Knuckey
Melanie	Olgaa Fienco
Johann, <i>the butler</i>	Kevin Whiting

CHORUS

Ball Guests: Marg Ampfea, Andrea Fitzgerald, Carmela Giuliano, Ian Milligan, Edna Nelva, Scott Newnham, Gareth Pye, Kevin Pye, Kimberley Pye, Dianne Richter, Jane Smolenaers, Margaret Tacke, Norma Turnbull-Smith, Kevin Whiting, Geraldine Wilson, Malcolm Wilton, Julie Wright

Domestic Staff: Geoff Cox, Benjamin Richter, Michael Try

Character Dancer in Act 2 Finale: Elizabeth Bryant

Act 2 Dance Choreographer: Julie Wright

Chris Russell

In this production of *Die Fledermaus*, Chris resumes a theatrical career that ended abruptly in high school. In the intervening years, Chris studied and tutored in philosophy at university and also worked as a relieving teacher. This year, Chris has recommenced work on a PhD thesis.

In recent years Chris has had singing and music lessons and occasional choral experience. His main interests are learning to sing well and playing the shakuhachi.

Dr. Falke



Erin Farrell



This time last year, Erin was moving from Sydney to Melbourne, so this is her first production with Diamond Valley Singers and she definitely hopes to participate in future productions.

As a year 11 student at St. Helena Secondary College, Erin is taking Drama and Year 12 Music.

We wish Erin well in her theatrical debut.

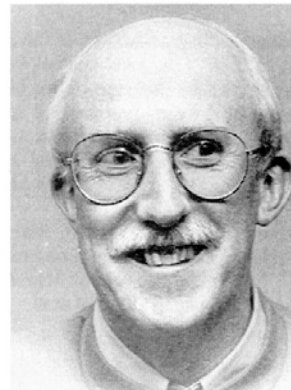
Ida

David Cox

This year marks David's fifth principal role with Diamond Valley Singers. He has played The Lord Chancellor (*Iolanthe*), Jack Point (*Yeoman of the Guard*), Archibald Grosvenor (*Patience*) and Captain Corcoran (*H.M.S. Pinafore*). In addition to these Gilbert and Sullivan roles, David has enjoyed singing tenor solos with Diamond Valley Singers in their performances of Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Haydn's *The Creation* and Spohr's *The Last Judgement*.

In the dim, dark past, David played a number of G & S roles and has participated in a wide range of choral music, with a number of groups. This involvement continues with his own church choir. His one and only incursion into opera was a minor solo role in Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* decades ago!! *Die Fledermaus* is his first taste of Viennese Operetta.

Prince Orlofsky

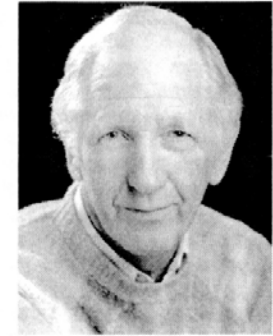


Robert Tuttleby

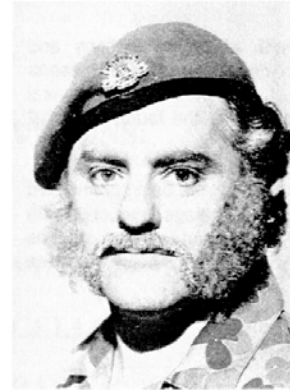
Robert Tuttleby makes his debut with Diamond Valley Singers and his return to the lyric stage as the blundering Dr. Blind after directing plays for various suburban theatre companies.

His most recent assignment of a musical character was directing *Lend Me a Tenor* for Trak Players last October. In between, he has made fleeting appearances in *Blue Heelers* and *Mercury* without singing a note.

Dr. Blind



Michael Knuckey



Since Michael's introduction to Gilbert and Sullivan with the Melbourne University choral society in 1963, he has played Sir Joseph Porter (*H.M.S. Pinafore*), the Duke of Plaza-Toro (*Gondoliers*), King Gama (*Princess Ida*), and Colonel Calverley (*Patience*). Michael has also been a chorus member in *Ruddigore*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Iolanthe* and *Yeoman of the Guard*.

Other theatrical roles have included the Cowardly Lion (*Wizard of Oz*), Toad (*Toad Hall*), William Featherstone (*How the Other Half Loves*), Thesus (*Rape of the Belt*) and Birdboot (*The Real Inspector Hound*). Many of these roles were played while Michael and his family were living in Papua New Guinea, eleven years ago.

Frogg

COMING PRODUCTIONS.....

Heidelberg Theatre Company presents *M. Butterfly* 10 - 27
July Heidelberg Theatre, Turnham Ave, Rosanna Bookings
9457 4177

Babirra Musical Theatre presents Strauss' *Gypsy Baron* 25
October - 2nd November, Nunawading Arts Theatre. Bookings
9886 3182

Alice Bugge

Director

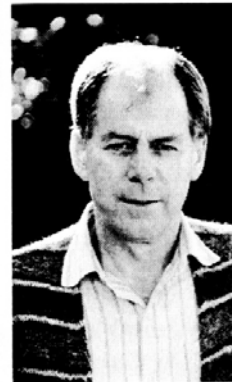
Alice is an active member of Heidelberg Theatre Company and the Victorian Drama League. She has directed over forty plays including *Potice* a modern French language play for the Melbourne French Theatre. Of the plays she has directed for Heidelberg Theatre Company, she has won awards for best director and best production at South Street, Ballarat competitions *View From The Bridge* (Arthur Miller), *St. Patrick's Day* (Richard Brinsley Sheridan) *After the Rain* (John Bowen); Mordialloc Arts Festival (1970) *After the Rain*; and Moomba Festival of Theatre *the Servant of two Masters* (Goldani), *Play It Again, Sam* (Woody Allen), *Absurd person Singular* (Alan Ayckbuourn).

Die Fledermaus is the first operetta Alice has directed and she has enjoyed every moment and hopes that you, the audience, will too.



Ian Lowe

Musical Director



Ian has conducted the Eltham (now Diamond Valley and Eltham) Community Orchestra for 18 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*, Haydn's *The Seasons* and *The Creation*, in addition to the annual Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Ian's musical directions have included *The Magic Flute* and *Don Giovanni* (Eastern Metropolitan Opera), *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma*, *Annie*, *My Fair Lady*, *Anything Goes*, *The Wizard of Oz*.

Ian, who is also a competent pianist finds his music an ideal foil for his profession of mathematics educator, teacher and textbook author. Eleven years ago he decided he like conducting for singers, and started with the group that became the Diamond Valley Singers. The decision was a good one!!

Jeannette Donehue

Choreographer



Jeannette has been associated with stage productions and pantomime from a very early age dancing and ballet lessons began at around four years of age. She has been in several Gilbert and Sullivan productions and this is the fourth time that she has choreographed.

Ten years ago, Jeannette's musical talents were being channelled into the production and choreographing of a stage production with a Western theme. Since then, we are pleased to report she has turned her talents to Gilbert and Sullivan and now, Viennese operetta.

Dianne Richter

Producer

Dianne's involvement with Diamond Valley Singers began as Assistant Producer for *Mikado* in 1987 and then as Producer for following productions.

Dianne has participated in numerous DVS performances including solos in Handel's *Messiah* and chorus member in *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *Patience* and *Trial By Jury*. Last year Dianne played the role of Cousin Hebe in *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

She has also performed in numerous eisteddfods and concerts and with Elwood Theatre Company in *Sentimental Journey* and *Now For The 1990's*.



THE ORCHESTRA

VIOLINS:

Mary Wright, Wilma Ezard, Claire Hrynko, Kevin Mullen, Ethel Newton, Patrick Russell-Young, Franz Spranger, Nola Thompson

VIOLAS:

Geoff Gloster, Eric Pool

CELLOS:

Ray Banks, Janet Spink, Thalia Strange

BASS:

David Rawlinson

FLUTES:

Len Johnstone, Mary Keusgen, Betty Martin

OBOE:

Dennis Thiel

CLARINETS:

Geoff Oakes, Derek Wright

BASSOON:

Linda Pearson, Julie Holmes

HORN:

Henry Huggins

BASS TRUMPET:

Orm Stewart

PERCUSSION

Heather Wright

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Alice Bugge
Musical Director	Ian Lowe
Choreographer	Jeannette Donehue
Producer	Dianne Richter
Chorus Leader	Nancy Cornwallis
Orchestra Leader	Mary Wright
Rehearsal Pianists	Ian Lowe, Roger Peck, Ken Peard
Stage Managers	Ruth Richter, Michael Try
Set Design/Painting	Chris White
Sets	Adrian Donehue, Les Bardwell
Costumes	Jeannette Donehue, Andrea Fitzgerald
Lighting	Ian Bell, Dick Hayes, Alfred Lee
Ticket Sales	Jill Wallis
Poster	Ian Lowe
Front of House Managers	Irene Hayes, Gael Shearer

OUR THANKS.....

- Babirra Musical Theatre Company
- Heidelberg Theatre Company
- Smile and Style, 79 Grimshaw Street, Greensborough (9432 1155)
Hair & Beauty & 167 Springvale Road, Nunawading (9894 7888)
- Walshe's Florist, 127 Swan Street, Richmond (9428 1867)
- The Greenery, 4 Banksia Street, Heidelberg (9459 8433)
- Alliance Printing, 34 McIntyre Road, Sunshine (9311 7255)

Merri Saltmarsh, creator of "Hermy" the puppet, of whom he says:
"She made me what I am today"

DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS

In 1985 Ian Lowe approached Mavis and Graham Ford for help in staging *Trial By Jury* with Eltham Community Orchestra. Rehearsals began and "Valley Musical Society" (later to become Diamond Valley Singers) was formed to provide local singers with opportunities to be heard in public and to raise money for charity. So far, over \$45,000 has been donated to organisations such as World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service, Harrison Youth Services and the Eltham Emergency Relief Fund.

Since the initial production of *Trial By Jury* Singers and Orchestra have combined in most Gilbert and Sullivan productions (*H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Mikado*, *Ruddigore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Princess Ida*, *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *Yeoman of the Guard* and *Patience*), as well as Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *The Seasons* and *The Creation*, Vaughn-Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and Spohr's *The Last Judgement*.

DVS has also performed other works, including Mendelsohn's *Elijah*, and Maunder's *Olivet to Calvary*, 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. We rehearse on Wednesday nights at Diamond Creek Uniting Church. Rehearsals for our next endeavour, Mendelsohn's *Elijah* commence on 24th July. For more information contact Graham Ford (Artistic Director) on 9439 3267

DIAMOND VALLEY & ELTHAM COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

The orchestra has been in existence for about twenty years and performs three or four programs annually including symphonies, concertos (some with Ian Lowe as piano soloist), one musical comedy and other lighter works. Teaching is incorporated into the program 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 Diamond valley Singers.

The next venture is *Elijah*. If you would like to join or support the orchestra, call Ian Lowe (Conductor) on 9435 5841.

OPEN - HOUSE CHRISTIAN INVOLVEMENT CENTRES

Open House, which began in Ivanhoe some 25 years ago maintains a program of support for needy people in the community. The work is wholistic in nature and seeks to provide care, friendship and (informal) training in a supportive and encouraging atmosphere. It is based at three centres:

Ivanhoe: where there are clubs and a drop-in activities centre for adults and young people, open till 11.00 p.m.

Hurstbridge: where eight people live in two houses while recovering from alcoholism, drug dependency and mental illness. They learn living skills, undertake re-training programs and work, before re-entering the community.

Seymour which is the base for a small group camping program for teenagers and young adults.

Dozens of people provide thousands of hours of labour and personal support to all aspects of the work. Open House is grateful to Diamond Valley Singers and their patrons for their support.

For further information about Open House, contact:

Mr. G. Farrington, Director,
16-18 Ivanhoe Parade, Ivanhoe
Tel 9497 1855

WORLD VISION AUSTRALIA

WHAT DOES WORLD VISION DO?

"If World Vision is about one thing, it is transformation.. We hope for and work for the transformation of people, of communities, of the world. That is our vision for the world. A world transformed by love. A world reshaped by practical Christian caring. It often begins with a simple act - the sponsorship of a child or the decision to sponsor a 40 Hour Famine participant. From these important beginnings, we hope that both rich and poor will be transformed in their understanding of each other and themselves. It is our hope, our prayer and our vision."

Philip Hunt,
Chief Executive,
World Vision Australia.

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Announce our
NEXT JOINT VENTURE

MENDELSONN'S ORATORIO

ELIJAH

For details of rehearsals and performances
contact

Diamond Valley Singers:
Nancy Cornwallis 9434 3618

Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra:
Ian Lowe 9435 5841