

**Diamond Valley Singers and Yarra Valley Singers
with soloists and organist**

present a Sunday afternoon season

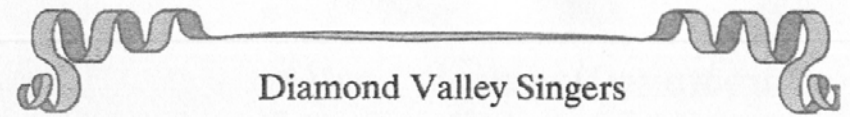
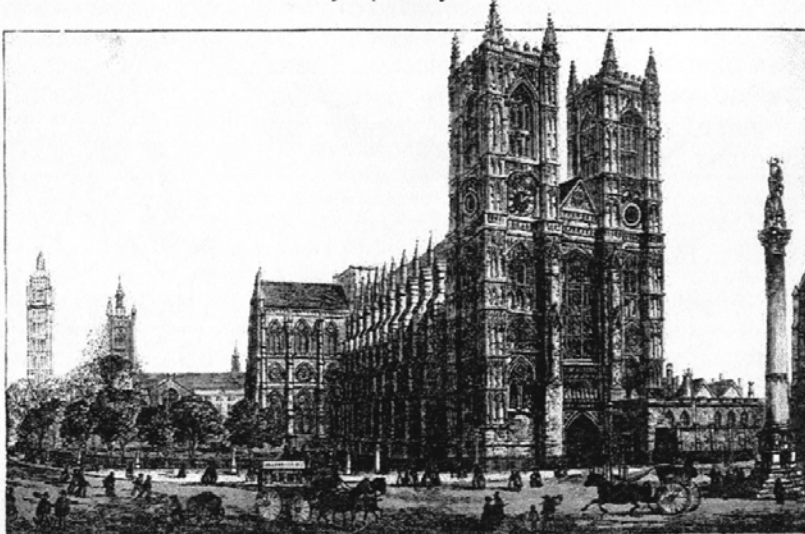
**Faure's Requiem
and
Handel's Coronation Anthems**

Greensborough: Sunday, November 11, 2:30 pm
All Saints Anglican Church, Church St

Ormond: Sunday, November 18, 2:30 pm
Ormond Uniting Church, cnr North and Booran Road

Tickets available at the door: \$12 adults, \$10 concession,
Profits to World Vision
Enquiries 9435 5841

Preston: Sunday 25th November, 2.30 p.m.
Preston Town Hall
Faure's Requiem
performed with Preston Symphony Orchestra



Diamond Valley Singers

Presents

A Nice Dilemma

A rollicking new adventure based on the works of
W. S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

**Featuring
songs from:**

The Mikado

H.M.S. Pinafore

The Pirates of

Penzance

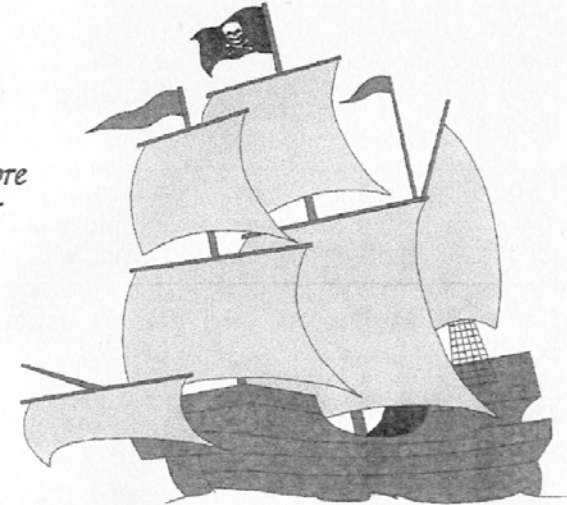
Ruddigore

Princess Ida

Gondoliers

Iolanthe &

Trial by Jury



Written By Darren Rosenfeld

Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall

Cnr Yarra St. & Mitchell Av. Warrandyte

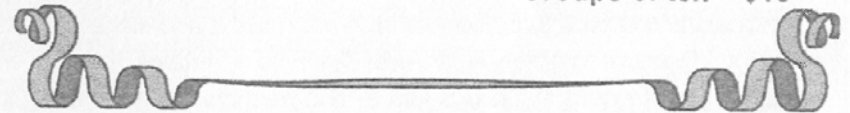
Oct. 26,27 at 7:30pm

Tickets - Adult \$20

Oct. 28 at 2pm

Child/Con/Pen \$15

Groups of ten + \$15



PROGRAM

Director's Notes:

I saw *A Nice Dilemma*, written by Darren Rosenfeld, ten years ago and thoroughly enjoyed it. I am told that it was originally written because a sailing club requested a show with a nautical theme and magic that has enabled them to shine through countless generations and this show contains a treasure trove of the all time favourites.

I am delighted to have been able to work with a most accomplished cast. As well as our regular performers we have several young and very talented singers working with us for the first time.

I would like to thank all who have helped in so many ways to bring this show to fruition, especially the Musical Director Graham Ford for his masterful and dedicated work with principals and chorus, the pianist Roxanne Viggiano, the Producer Dianne Richter and Darren Rosenfeld, not only for his script, but for his overall contribution to the staging of the show.

Thank you for coming to share this experience with us. We hope you enjoy it.

To Darren Rosenfeld – A Thank You

Darren is a long time member of Diamond Valley Singers, participating in a number of seasons, both staged productions and oratorio.

As a community based organisation, our beginnings had very strong links with Gilbert and Sullivan shows which offer opportunities for both principals and chorus to participate in music making and stage craft that is fun! Darren's creation – *A Nice Dilemma* – retains the fun and unlikeliness of events that is true G & S, and we thank him for making the show available to us.

Diamond Valley Singers Cast and Committee

A Nice Dilemma Synopsis

ACT ONE begins when a ghostly figure transports us back to the year 1826 and to Gilbert Island. There, the Duke and Duchess of Plaza Toro have stopped to drop off the young Princess Ida at Sullivan Girls College with her chaperone and secret lover Marco, a common sailor. Later the Pirates of Penzance, led by their Pirate King and his apprentice, Frederic land on the beach, and there, celebrate the end of Frederic's piratical apprenticeship. Frederic is left alone on the beach when a group of College girls arrive. The girls are startled by Frederic until he reveals his true identity and falls instantly in love with Mabel. Suddenly Buttercup arrives followed by the Mikado and Katisha (who have plans to buy the College). Katisha recognises Frederic as the one who left her at the altar two years earlier. She convinces the Pirate King to help her get Frederic back from Mabel by luring him with treasure. When Frederic refutes Katisha's protestations, she vows to close the College down so that Frederic and Mabel will have to part. Alarmed at this news Buttercup convinces Marco and Frederic to enter parliament and pass a bill to save the College.

ACT TWO - Marco and Frederic have entered Parliament. Meanwhile the Pirate King has ordered his crew to evict the girls from the College. The girls are unfazed by this but then Buttercup delivers bad news for Mabel, and Ida has an upsetting visitation. Later that evening Marco, Frederic and Cyril sneak into the College with plans to elope with the girls. However things go from bad to worse and everyone ends up in "A Nice Dilemma"

ACT THREE - The action takes place in the courtroom and as with all great Gilbert and Sullivan operettas there is an unusual twist with a surprising outcome.

Dramatis Personae

In order of appearance

Narrator/Learned Judge	Malcolm Wilton
The Duke of Plaza Toro	Colin Bland
The Duchess of Plaza Toro	Julie Houghton
Princess Ida	Jessica Stephens
Marco	Tomas Dalton
Buttercup	Mary Chandler
Pirate King	Alan Flint
Frederic	Darren Rosenfeld
Samuel	Adrian de Leonadis
Cyril	Gary Short
Dick Deadeye	Kevin Maynes
Mabel	Joanna Patocs
Patience	Michelle Reeves
Elsie	Luisa Adami
The Mikado	Tim Warren
Katisha	Robyn Mulder
Usher	Dianne Richter

Our thanks to the Chorus who play a number of different roles in this production – ghosts, pirates, school girls, maids, bridesmaids, jury, clergyman, and public.

Jenny Barnett, Annette Eggums, Lisa Farrell, Jeanette Flint, Wendy Gregory, Rae Lawry, John Lemcke, Maxine Lemcke, Ian Milligan, Noel Rawson, Kevin Pye, Anne Sharkey, Norma Turnbull, Smith

Our Special Thanks to:

- **Warrandyte Theatre Company**
- **Savoy Theatre Company**
- **Members of cast and their families who have so generously sourced props and costumes and donated their time to 'off stage' tasks**

ABOUT THE CAST

Malcolm Wilton

Malcolm first took to the stage with the Sandringham Light Opera Company with *Showboat* in 1987. He joined the Diamond Valley Singers in 1994 with a performance of *Patience*. The following year he was the Learned Judge in *Trial by Jury*, and has since enjoyed performing in many shows produced by the Diamond Valley Singers. He has been in three melodramas with the Eltham Little Theatre Company. 2003 saw Malcolm polishing up his Star Wars outfit to be Barth Rahda in *The Gondoliers (A Space Oddity)*. In 2004 he enjoyed bringing out the Kilt to be Donald Ritchie in *Brigadoon*. This year in *A Nice Dilemma* he returns to being the Judge, and also the Narrator and hopes you enjoy the show and all its twists and turns!

Colin Bland

Colin is a teacher at Diamond Valley College. He took up singing later in life when forced to sing over the public address system by some student. Colin has competed in Eisteddfods and has received Honorable Mentions and a Third at the Diamond Valley Eisteddfod. He was a part of the Diamond Valley Singers' production of *Brigadoon* in 2004 playing the part of Sandy.

Julie Houghton

After a whirlwind tour of inner Melbourne at age 9 as Grumpy in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Julie won a scholarship to St. Martin's Theatre School, and had a minor career in television and film, ranging from juvenile leads in the 1970's police shows to remaining fully clothed in the film *Alvin Rides Again*, before graduating to respectable work in the TV series *High Flyers* and *Blue Heelers*. Finding that she wished to eat every week, she trained as a journalist with the ABC. Julie writes a column for the Saturday Herald Sun, is a professional MC and narrator/voice actor at Vision Australia and a radio announcer at classical music station 3MBS-FM. She has played principal roles in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Sweet Charity*, *As You Like It*, and *Hippolytus*, and chorus in *Tarantara Tarantara!* and *The Mikado*. Julie began formal singing training two years ago, and studies with Joan Arnold.

Tomas Dalton

Tom has been studying piano since age 9, and is a first year piano student at the University of Melbourne, Faculty of Music, studying with Glenn Riddle. He is also taking a Diploma of Modern Languages in French. Tomas has sung with many choirs, including the Victorian Children's Choir, Victorian State Singers and Vox Synergy, and is currently studying voice with Kathryn Sadler.

Tom's music theatre credits include the Russian tenor and Reb Nahum from *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ambrose Kemper from *Hello Dolly!* and Marius from *Les Misérables* – all with Miracle Productions. Tomas' concert repertoire includes Mendelssohn's "The Dove", Strauss' "Wer uns getraut", Dvorak's "Te Deum" and excerpts from Handel's "Messiah".

Narrator/The Judge

Duke of Plaza Toro

Duchess of Plaza Toro

Marco

A Nice Dilemma – Musical Numbers

ACT ONE

1. The Ghost's High Noon	Chorus
2. From the Sunny Spanish Shore	Duke, Duchess, Ida & Marco
3. We Sail the Ocean Blue	Chorus
4. Pour oh Pour the Pirate Sherry	Samuel & Pirates
5. What Shall I Do?	Frederic
6. Comes a Train of Little Ladies	Chorus
7. Three Little Maids	Mabel, Ida & Elsie
8. Stop Ladies, Pray	Frederic
9. A Wandering Minstrel, I	Frederic
10. Poor Wandering One	Mabel & Girls
11. I'm Called Little Buttercup	Buttercup
12. Oh Better Far to Live and Die	Pirate King & Chorus
13. For the Merriest Fellows Are We	Samuel & Chorus
14. Mi-Ya Sa-ma	Mikado, Katisha & Chorus
15. But Tell Me	Katisha & Pirate King
16. Oh! False One	Frederic & Katisha
17. Henceforth They Will Cast Away	Buttercup & Chorus
18. Go Away Madam	Samuel, Katisha & Chorus
19. Come let's away (Finale Act 1)	Ensemble

THERE WILL BE A 10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

20. Of Happiness the Very Pith	Pirates
21. Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes	Marco
22. Frederic/Marco's a Member of Parliament	Chorus
23. Merrily Ring the Luncheon Bell	Patience and Chorus
24. Duty, Duty Must Be Done	Ida, Duchess and Duke
25. Sorry Her Lot	Ida
26. I am a Maiden	Marco, Frederic & Cyril
27. Refrain, Audacious Tar	Ida and Marco
28. Alone, and Yet Alive	Katisha
29. I've Got a Little List	Mikado & chorus
30. With Cat-like Tread	Samuel & Chorus
31. Messmates Ahoy!	Marco, Ida and Chorus
32. Carefully on Tiptoe Stealing	Ensemble
33. Frederic Hear One Word	Katisha, Frederic & Chorus
34. Hold Everyone	Marco, Duke, Ida
35. A Nice Dilemma	Ensemble

THERE WILL BE A 20-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT 3

36. Hark the Hour of Ten	Ensemble
37. Now Jurymen Hear my Advice	Usher
38. All Hail Great Judge	Judge & Chorus
39. Judge's Song	Judge & Chorus
40. Comes the Broken Flower	Mikado, Usher & Chorus
41. When First of Katisha I Knew	Frederic & Chorus
42. With a Sense of Deep Emotion	Mabel, Mikado, Judge & Chorus
43. Monster, Monster	Usher & Chorus
44. O Gentlemen, Listen	Frederic
45. That Seems a Reasonable Proposition	Judge, Mikado & Chorus
46. Kind Sir You Cannot Have the Heart	Mabel
47. I Love Him, I Love Him	Ensemble
48. All the Legal Furies	Judge & Chorus
49. If You Go In	Frederic, Samuel & Pirate King
50. There is Beauty in the Bellow of the Blast	Katisha & Pirate King
51. Braid the Lovely Hair	Brides & Chorus
52. When the Buds are Blossoming	Ida
53. Hold Bride and Bridegroom	The Duke
54. The Royal Prince	Buttercup, Marco, Ida, Duke, Duchess & Chorus
55. Dance a Cachucha (Finale Act 3)	Ensemble

Production Team

Director	Lynne Counsel
Musical Director	Graham Ford
Direction Consultant	Darren Rosenfeld
Producer	Dianne Richter
Stage Manager	Anita Wilton
Accompanist	Roxanne Viggiano
Percussionist	Andrew Griffith
Costume Co-ordination	Robyn Mulder
Makeup	Dianne Richter
Lighting operation	Lynne Counsel
Ticket Secretary	Ian Craig, Sam Craig
Photography	Verna Turnbull-Smith
Poster Design	Lesley Walton
Video	Darren Rosenfeld
Sign Painting	Gary Richter
Props	John Counsel
Publicity	Darren Rosenfeld, Maxine Lemcke and cast
Front of House	Darren Rosenfeld, Anita Wilton
	Members of Diamond Valley Singers

Jessica Stephens

Jessica has been singing classical music for eight or so years. Although she has been in the chorus for Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* and *Orpheus*, this is her first leading role. She is enjoying extending her capabilities as an actor as well as a singer

Ida**Mary Chandler**

Mary has been singing in choirs for about thirty years and caught the music theatre bug seven years ago. She started in the chorus of *Merry Widow* and that's it! She was hooked! Mary has performed in six other shows, including Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience* and *Fiddler on the Roof* earlier this year with DVS. Mary played the role of Rowena in *Salad Days*, but Buttercup is her first singing role. Hopefully it won't be her last! She is really enjoying it!

Buttercup**Alan Flint**

Alan has been involved with a number of DVS productions, including the role of Curly in *Oklahoma*. He doesn't limit his stage experience to DVS, and he performed the role of George in *High Society* with Park Players and is currently rehearsing *Les Miserables* with St. Gabriel's

Pirate King**Darren Rosenfeld**

Darren's interest in performing began in 1992 when he joined the Diamond Valley Singers to do what he thought was a stage show. It turned out to be Handel's *Messiah*. Since then he has sung tenor solos in Haydn's *Creation*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Verdi's *Messiah*. He has performed with DVS, Savoy Opera, Loyola, Babirra, Catchment, Amuse, Phoenix and is a member of Savoy Singers travelling show "100 Years of Musical Comedy." Darren's roles include Leonard Merry (Yeomen), The Duke (*Patience*), Alfredo (*Die Fledermaus*), Camille (*Merry Widow from Bluegum Creek*), St Brïoche (*Merry Widow*), Sebastian (*Sorcerer*), Feuilly (*Les Mis*), Mendel (*Fiddler*) Charlie (*Brigadoon*) and he last appeared with DVS as Francis Fryer (Calamity Jane). Darren was originally Co-Director but has been thrust into the role of Frederic at the last minute. Darren hopes you enjoy today's performance.

Frederic & Direction Consultant

Last time "A Nice Dilemma" was performed, Darren took on the role of Director. This time around he was brought on board as adviser and co-director since he wrote the show. At the last minute he has been thrust into the role of Frederic leaving the directing in the very capable hands of good friend and the very talented Lynne Counsel.

Kevin Maynes

Talk about a nice dilemma. Gilbert and Sullivan: I thought it was a law firm! So, yes, I put my hand up – thinking they could help regarding a parking ticket. Talk about wrong! A jury including a drunkard, a judge who used marriage as a vehicle to further his career and parliamentarians with no relevant skills or qualifications; now that's just too close to reality to be funny! By the time I realised what I had got myself into, not only had I lost my hand, I was hooked and half-blinded to the truth. Hope you all enjoy our little dilemma.

Dick Dead Eye**Adrian De Leonardis**

Adrian would like to thank DVS for the opportunity of the role of Samuel in *A Nice Dilemma*. This is Adrian's second role after debuting as Mendel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, also staged by DVS in July 2007. He has enjoyed the friendship extended by DVS while drawing on their experience and knowledge.

Samuel**Gary Short**

Gary has been learning singing from Graham Ford for over five years. This is his first DVS 'venture' although he has been an audience member on several occasions. Gary has been co-producing and performing musical entertainment events with his church group (St. Paul's, Ringwood) for over 10 years as well as singing in concerts at nursing homes and retirement villages. Gary is also learning ballroom dancing.

Cyril**Joanna Patocs**

This is the first show Joanna has been involved in after a short break from Musical Theatre and she loves being back! She completed her Bachelor of Music (Performance) Honours at The University of Melbourne in 2005 and is currently studying singing with Loris Syman. Joanna performs regularly in eisteddfods and concerts. Some of this year's highlights have included singing the soprano solo in the Faure *Requiem* with Victoria Chorale, being a semi-finalist in the Herald Sun Aria, and of course, singing Mabel in *A Nice Dilemma*! Some of her previous shows have included *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), *My Fair Lady* (Eliza), *Tosca* (Chorus) and various Melbourne University Opera projects.

Mabel**Michelle Reeves**

This is Michelle's first DVS Show and she is thoroughly enjoying the role of Patience. Michelle has performed with Nova during *Cats* and *A Chorus Line*, and crewed with Whitehorse and Babirra. Michelle has also played the roles of Mitzi in *Crazy for You*, Aunt Em in the *Wizard of Oz* and The Queen of Transylvania in *My Fair Lady*. Michelle is currently in her 4th year with singing teacher Angeline Brasier. Studying Grade 6 singing and also enjoys playing the guitar and composing her own works, which she hopes to record in the near future.

Patience**Luisa Adami**

Luisa has been involved in Shakespearean theatre for the last 6 years and tried musical theatre for the first time this year with DVS' *Fiddler on the Roof*. Elsie is my first singing role and hopefully not my last! Thanks DVS for a wonderful opportunity.

Elsie**Tim Warren**

Tim has performed with DVS since 1992 and has notably played *The Mikado* in that show, McKeith in *Brigadoon* and a lamp post in *Pirates of Penzance*. He played a scout in *Calamity Jane* and this year was seen dressed in a Russian uniform in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Tim has also played Joseph (of *Dreamcoat* fame) and performed with Eastern Metropolitan Opera. He hopes you enjoy *A Nice Dilemma*.

Mikado

Robyn Mulder

Robyn has enjoyed singing for many years and has sung with Opera Melbourne, Victoriana Concert Singers and Ashton Smith Singers. She has sung solos with DVS in a number of oratoria. This is her seventh stage production with DVS, having played the roles of Queen Angina in *Merrie England* and Duchess in *Gondoliers*. More recently, Robyn has been behind the sound desk for DVS productions! She is really enjoying her return to the stage!

Katisha**Dianne Richter****Usher and Producer**

Dianne's involvement with Diamond Valley Singers began with the first production of *The Mikado* in 1987. Dianne was President of Diamond Valley Singers for number of years, as well as Producer of stage productions. She has participated in many DVS seasons, both as a chorus member and soloist.

Lynne Counsel**Director**

Lynne has worked for over forty years in amateur professional, and children's productions as a director, performer set and costume designer and makeup artist. For seven years she also appeared regularly in Theatre Restaurant productions.

As well as working with Diamond Valley singers, she is an active member of Warrandyte Theatre Company and Templestowe Entertainers. This is her tenth show with DVS.

Graham Ford**Musical Director**

A joint founder of Diamond Valley Singers, Graham is currently their Artistic Director. He has been a student at the National Theatre Opera School and a Sun Aria semi-finalist. He has previously directed or co-directed many DVS productions. He teaches singing in the local area, and many DVS members are his students. He has sung lead roles on many occasions with Diamond Valley Singers, as well as with the semi-professional Globe Opera, taking lead roles in *Paint Your Wagon*, *Kismet* and *Kiss Me Kate*. He is the conductor of the newly established Plenty Valley Community Choir.

Roxanne Viggiano**Accompanist**

Roxanne has accompanied and musically directed many productions including *Gentlemen Only* at the Victorian College of the Arts – an all female care in male drag!; Flying Fruit Fly Children's Circus Band; *Cats* – Melbourne professional production; *Marcia Hines*; accompanist in *Jerry's Girls* in Sydney; and punk bands in the 1980s. More recently, Roxanne accompanied *Forensic Follies* with Warrandyte Theatre Company and Children's Performing Company of Australia (CPCA).

Roxanne wonders how she has ended up playing Gilbert and Sullivan and what's more, enjoying it! Currently, she is also training to be a choir leader in gospel style – her latest fave thing!

Diamond Valley Singers (DVS)

This year DVS celebrates 22 years of music making! In 1985 the local orchestra conductor Ian Lowe, approached Mavis and Graham Ford for help in staging *Trial by Jury* with the Eltham Community Orchestra (as it was then called) for a concert in aid of World Vision. Rehearsals began and "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 well over \$85 000 has been donated to organizations such as World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service, Harrison Youth Services, Eltham Emergency Relief Fund and Open House.

Since the initial production of *Trial by Jury* Diamond Valley Singers have performed most Gilbert and Sullivan shows. In the last few years they have presented American musicals: *Brigadoon*, *Oklahoma*, *Calamity Jane* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Next year it will be the exotic *Kismet* set in old Baghdad.

They also perform annually one major oratorio such as *The Messiah* (Handel). Last year they joined with Yarra Valley Singers and Preston Symphony Orchestra in Verdi's powerful *Requiem*. This year they also sing with Yarra Valley Singers, in Faure's gentle *Requiem*.

New members are always welcome. There are no auditions for chorus parts. We rehearse on Wednesday nights at Diamond Creek Uniting Church.

Contact Artistic Director Graham Ford (9439 3267).

