

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

*the Pirates of
Penzance*

Diamond Valley Singers & Eltham Orchestras



Meg Warren – Director

Meg has been performing with DVS since 2005 when she played Ado Annie in *Oklahoma! Pirates* marks her first directorship having spent some time as first mate when she musically and assistant directed for Strathmore Secondary College. She has loved being at the helm of the ship as Captain!

Meg's performance credits include Calamity Jane (*Calamity Jane*), Lalume (*Kismet*), Lily Vanessi (*Kiss Me Kate*), Fantine (*Les Miserables*) and Annie Oakley (*Annie Get Your Gun*). She would like to thank her very supportive creative team who have helped chart some rough waters and her loving family who have been instrumental in navigating her back to the original course that was set! Meg hopes you have a swash buckling time aboard her maiden voyage.



Tamblын Smith – Assistant Director



Tam has been, and always will be, a performing arts nut! Brought up in the world of dance, and dabbling in many different styles and jumping at any opportunity he can to create dance. This has led to working with a number of amateur theatre company's in ensemble and supporting roles.

In 2009 and 2011 Tam was brought into Donvale Primary School to work with the staff and students to create their school productions. From 2007 till 2011 Tam worked with amateur theatre companies in ensemble (Visual and Dramatic Arts), a company run by Independence Australia, which allowed people with varying disabilities to get creative and step into the world of theatre.

Performing arts is long term plan for Tam, as he is currently studying at University to become a teacher within the field.

Director's notes

For as long as I can remember, going to the theatre has always been a source of great excitement and enjoyment and these feelings only increased when I began to perform myself. The experience of directing my first show has helped to resurface all these feelings and has "endeared the theatre to me tenfold".

When *Pirates of Penzance* made its stage debut at the Fifth Avenue Theatre in New York on 31 December 1879 it was met with acclaim and success. And so it should have, as this success still continues today. DVS have produced two previous productions of this witty opera; both being quite different from the other and our production is different again.

My vision for this show was to create a vibrant, action-packed production that captured the audience's imagination. Without a doubt, my favourite version of this opera is the 1980 performances in Madison Square Gardens where Kevin Kline commanded the stage as the Pirate King. I have drawn inspiration and my general love of good theatre from this. I hope you will agree that the cast has taken this 130-year-old production and created a fresh, 2013 version.

Prior to *Pirates* taking the stage in 1879, Sullivan wrote to his mother, boasting, "I think it will be a great success, for it is exquisitely funny and the music is strikingly tuneful and catching". As a creative team, we have made every attempt to make the witty humour and precise musicality of the opera the true hero.

I would like to acknowledge my wonderful creative team. Tam, my first mate, you have made the whole experience so much fun. Thank you for your creativity and willingness to compromise. Angela, my Pilot, the support you have supplied is over and beyond my expectations. Graham and Gerard, thank you for your note bashing and persistence. Thank you too to Malcolm for spruiking the show so beautifully, Barbara for making everyone look good, and my props Queen Helen! To Anita, Ian, Bod, Di and Robyn, I couldn't think of a more capable group to hand the important end staging of the show too. My final thanks goes a wonderful, hard working and very talented set production team ably led by Lynne, Trevor and Tim. You truly deserve to stop and "pour, oh pour the Pirate Sherry" for a spectacular job.

I have had a fantastic maiden voyage at the helm and hope DVS give me more opportunity to chart the waters once again in the future.

Meg

Angela Hennel – Producer

After winning Graham Ford in a raffle and starting singing lessons at the ripe age of forty-something, Angela foolishly offered to assist with ticket sales for the DVS production of *Kismet* in 2008, and further foolishly mentioned that she holds a PR qualification so could also help with publicity. Since then she has assisted DVS in various capacities including as secretary, a position she still holds today. Taking on the position of Producer seemed a natural progression after over 30 years involved in equestrian sports and in event management, and also because she feels any contribution she could make on stage would be negligible.



Producer's message

Everything you are about to experience has taken a lot of work on the part of many individuals and many, many hours to produce. Thank you to the hard-working creative team of *The Pirates of Penzance* – Meg, Tam, Graham, Mary – whose dedication and vision will soon be before you to see. Thank you to those who have worked to put this vision on the stage in front of you, our set builders, accompanists, props people, painters and designers. Thanks also the cast and orchestra who have worked long and very hard perfecting their roles and parts in the show. I hope you have all enjoyed the experience and the opportunity that DVS continues to provide members of the community. A special thanks to all the back-room people who have contributed to the show and whose efforts often go unacknowledged. I wouldn't be able to begin to tally how many hours have gone into *Pirates* from pre-production planning and rehearsals, to set building, costumes, publicity, ticketing, staging and a myriad of other necessary tasks. We look forward to presenting for your pleasure *The Pirates of Penzance* – enjoy!

Graham Ford – Musical Director

A joint founder of DVS, Graham is currently our Artistic Director. He has been a student at the National Theatre Opera School and a Sun Aria semi-finalist. Graham has previously directed or co-directed many DVS productions. He teaches singing in the local area, and many DVS members are his students. Graham has sung lead roles on many occasions with DVS, as well as with the semi-professional Globe Opera, taking leads in *Paint your Wagon*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and *Kismet*. He conducts the Manningham Senior Choir.



Musical numbers

Act 1 Aboard the Pirate Ship

- 1 Pour O pour the pirate sherry Samuel and pirates
2 When Frederic was a little lad Ruth
3 O better far to live and die Pirate King and pirates

A rocky remote beach on the Penzance coast of Cornwall

- 4 O false one you have deceived me Frederic and Ruth
5 Climbing over rocky mountain Edith, Kate and daughters
6 Stop, ladies, pray Frederic, Edith, Kate and daughters
7 O is there not one maiden breast Frederic, Mabel and daughters
8 Poor wandering one Mabel and daughters
9 What ought we to do Edith, Kate and daughters
10 How beautifully blue Frederic, Mabel and daughters
10 Stay, we must not lose our senses Frederic, daughters, and pirates
11 Hold, monsters
Mabel, Samuel, Major-General, daughters, and pirates
12 I am the very model of a modern Major-General
Major-General, daughters, and pirates
13 O men of dark and dismal fate Ensemble

INTERVAL

Act 2 Garden at the edge of the Stanley Baronial Castle cemetery

- 14 O dry the glistening tear Mabel and daughters
15 Then, Frederic, let your escort lion-hearted
Major-General and Frederic
16 When the foemen bares his steel
Sergeant, Mabel, Kate, Major-General, Police and daughters

Stanley Baronial Castle cemetery

- 17 Now for the pirates' lair Frederic, Pirate King and Ruth
18 When you had left our pirate fold Frederic, Pirate King and Ruth
19 Away! away! my heart's on fire Frederic, Pirate King and Ruth
20 All is prepared ... Stay, Frederick, stay Mabel and Frederic
21 No, I am brave ... When a felon's not engaged in his employment
Mabel, Sergeant and Police
22 A rollicking band of pirates we Sergeant, pirates and police
23 With cat-like tread Pirates and police
24 Hush, hush, not a word ...
Sighing softly to the river Major General Stanley and ensemble

The story of The Pirates of Penzance

At Penzance, on the Cornish coast of Britain, a small band of pirates is drinking a round to Frederic who this day completes his apprenticeship to become a full-fledged pirate. Ruth, a female servant of the band, reveals that when Frederic was a child, she mistakenly brought him to be a 'pirate' instead of a 'pilot'. Being too embarrassed, she too signed on with the pirate band.

Frederic points out that the pirates' major problem is being too compassionate. They themselves claim to be orphans and therefore sympathize with orphans by releasing them on the ships they capture and their treasure with it. As this has become well-known, every ship they capture claims to have a crew of orphans as a result.

Ruth is told she must accompany Frederic as he departs. Frederic makes a final effort to convince the pirates to give up piracy and leaves.

Frederic expresses his worries to Ruth about finding a woman to wed. He questions Ruth about her own beauty as a group of young maidens come hiking along the cliffs. Frederic realizes that Ruth is deceiving him and Ruth departs. Frederic observes the girls and emerges, admitting to be a former pirate and asking if any will marry him. All refuse, until Mabel appears and claims him. Mabel and Frederic talk about love, while the girls are forced to speak about the weather! The pirates return and claim each of the girls for a wife. Mabel announces that the girls are daughters of Major-General Stanley (the very model of a modern Major-General). M-G Stanley lies to the pirates, claiming to be an orphan, for he has heard about them as well. The pirates then have no choice but to free everyone.

Act II opens with Stanley in deep mental anguish for betraying his ancestors by lying to the pirates. Frederic then prepares to lead the police into exterminating the pirates.

Ruth and the Pirate King interrupt these plans, and notify that Frederic is still bound to his contract due to a paradox, a quirk of the calendar. Frederic was born on February 29 in a leap year and therefore has only had five birthdays rather than the 21 required by his apprentice contract. Bound by honour and a 'slave of duty', Frederic is forced to leave Mabel and rejoin the pirates. Further, Frederic's sense of duty forces him to reveal that M-G Stanley lied about being an orphan. An angry Pirate King declares that the pirates will raid Stanley's estate that night.

Soon afterwards the police continue to hunt down the pirates and the two bands finally confront each other. A short battle results with the pirates winning. However, when challenged, the pirates declare their allegiance to Queen Victoria. Ruth reveals to the police that the pirates are only 'noblemen who have gone wrong'. (Surely the original public would have recognized a few names who fitted this description.) They renounce piracy and all the weddings of the 'Poor wandering ones' proceed without hindrance.

Cast list in order of appearance

Pirate King	James Young
Samuel	Paul Draper
Frederic	Othon Charalambous
Ruth	Jessica Heard
Edith	Karina Aston
Isabel	Kaitlin Spelling
Kate	Eleesha Higbed
Mabel	Linda Belle
Major-General	Owen Davies
Sergeant of Police	Malcolm Wilton

Our show for July 2014 is 'Me and My Girl', featuring The Lambeth Walk!



Lesley Walton
Photographer

General photography including:
weddings, children's parties, nature and pets
Phone: 0403 779 758

Diamond Valley Singers thanks

Classic Press, Bayswater, for printing posters and cards.

Diamond Valley Singers wishes to thank Hudson Bond Real Estate PL, 751 Doncaster Rd, Doncaster for advertising boards outside the school.

Thanks also to Red Box Vineyard and Winery, 2 Ness Lane, Kangaroo Ground, for lending a barrel, although empty.

Production team

Producer	Angela Hennel
Director	Meg Warren
Assistant director	Tamblyn Smith
Musical director	Graham Ford
Assistant MD	Gerard Banner
Conductor	Mary Wright
Choreographer	Tamblyn Smith
Stage manager	Anita Wilton
Backstage crew	Ashley, Ben and Gary Richter, Loris McLean, Natasha Satler and Karen Mulder
Costume	Barbara Skewes
Makeup	Lynne Counsel
Sets team	Trevor D'Ambrosio, Tim Warren and helpers
Sets painting	Lynne Counsel, Robyn Hannan and cast
Lighting team	Design: Ian Craig; Operation: Cameron Horsfield, John Keys, Tam Smith, Kyle Turpin
Sound	Dianne Richter, Robyn Mulder
Pianists	Gerard Banner, Ian Lowe
Props	Helen Watt
Program	Ian Lowe
Publicity	Malcolm Wilton
Poster	Teresa Ingrilli
Photography	Lesley Walton
Website, credits, video	Bod
Ticket sales	Angela Hennel
Front of house	Jennie Barnett, Kristen Barnett, Philip Connell, Louise Young, Shirley Way, Norma Turnbull-Smith, Brad Buckingham
Parking	John Keys and volunteers

DVS and Malawi

In addition to World Vision and Open House, Diamond Valley Singers now supports a small private school: Elizabeth Nursery School. Our link with them is through our president Ian Lowe, who visits Malawi regularly to train teachers in the teaching of mathematics. All money donated goes to the school. The school has about 50 pupils at present but is building new classrooms.



Linda Belle - Mabel



Linda Belle, a former law student from Monash University, is a coloratura soprano training with Carmela de Lossino. Since commencing her operatic vocal tuition it has been Linda's utmost passion to educate the lay public about opera and classical music. She has pursued this thus far by performing many concerts in cafes, restaurants and churches to packed crowds. Linda is ecstatic to be playing the part of Mabel – her first role to date.

Othon Charalambous - Frederic

Othon is a full dramatic tenor who started his singing career in 2009 in the Melbourne City Opera (MCO) production of Verdi's *Ernani*. Since then, he has gone on to perform in a number of different MCO productions, including *Andrea Chenier* by Giordano, *La Rondine* by Puccini, the *Joan Sutherland Story* concert and Puccini's *Tosca*. More recently, he did his first production with Melbourne Opera in their performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio*.

He has played a number of roles, including the Abate in *Andrea Chenier*, Prunier in *La Rondine* and Mario Cavaradossi in *Tosca*. This is also his second engagement with Diamond Valley Singers, having performed the role of Enoch Snow in their 2009 production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*.



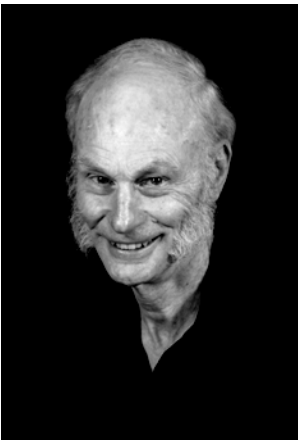
Outside of his singing, Othon works in the corporate world of banking, which has proved extremely useful in developing his character as a cut-throat pirate! He also enjoys the occasional game of golf, which has proved less useful. He is married with a six-year old son, who has been helping dad polish off his sword fighting skills, albeit with the use of light sabres. He hopes you enjoy the show.

James Young - Pirate King

This is James' first production with Diamond Valley Singers and he is honoured to have been given the opportunity to play the role of the Pirate King. His previous show credits include the characters Trevor Graydon in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast* where he was nominated for a Music Theatre Guild of Victoria award, David in *Blue Sky Town* and most recently The Constable in *Murder at the Music Hall*. James has been studying singing for three years and currently learns with Adam Wood at Armstrong's School of Singing. James would like to thank the production team for all their hard work.



Owen Davies - Major-General Stanley



This is Owen's first show with Diamond Valley Singers, but he is no stranger to the Gilbert and Sullivan repertoire, having made his theatrical debut in *Yeomen of the Guard* in 1989. He has also appeared in *HMS Pinafore* and *Trial By Jury* (twice), *Princess Ida* and *Pirates* (as a pirate). Among his favourite roles have been the "pompous ass" Kromov in *The Merry Widow* and the pretentious cake-eating Uncle Percy in *The Sentimental Bloke*. Owen maintains a strong involvement in musical theatre as President of Babirra Music Theatre, a position he has held for the past five years. He feels a particular affinity with the character of the Major-General and hopes you enjoy the show.

Jessica Carrascalão-Heard - Ruth



Since finishing her BA/BMus (Hons) in 2009, and entering many eisteddfods and doing well in a number of them, Jessica has made it her goal to work through all of her beloved G&S operettas.

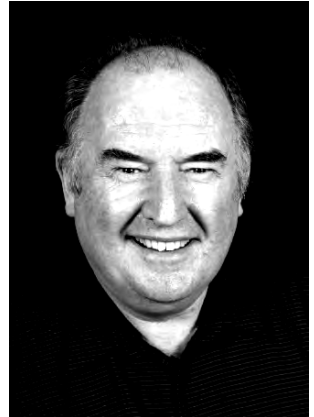
In her first G&S she played the title role in DVS's *Iolanthe* (2010). Since then she has performed as Pitti-Sing in Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Victoria's *The Mikado* (2012), Fiametta in Savoy Opera's *The Gondoliers* (2012), Josephine in Monash University Choral Society's *HMS Pinafore* (2011) as well as performing in the chorus in GSOV's *Trial By Jury* and *The Sorcerer*. She is very excited to be involved in *Pirates of Penzance*, the first G&S she ever saw, and hopes you enjoy the show.

Malcolm Wilton - Sergeant of Police

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*, Pooh Bah in *The Mikado*, as well as other leads in *HMS Pinafore*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Gondoliers*.

Comedy roles have included Music Hall with Eltham Little Theatre such as *Power's Persuasion* and *Love and Lassos*. He has also taken himself beyond the comedies with roles such as Donald Ritchie in *Brigadoon* and then Omar Kyam in *Kismet*, a more fatherly role.



Last year in *Pajama Game* it was back to the comedy roles as Mr Hasler, the pajama factory owner. Along with all the constables, we hope to bring you a laugh or two as the police battle the pirates. He hopes you enjoy the show and all its songs and characters!

Eleesha Higbed - Kate

Eleesha first appeared with DVS as a guard in the *Mikado*. Since then she has been a long time performer with the St Pauls Parish Players in Ringwood. She returned to DVS to be in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, then decided to stay around and become the enchanting Fairy Queen in *Iolanthe*. Having been in a number of shows with DVS, playing everything from a guard to a fairy, it is becoming clear that she can't resist the stage. She has loved being a part of the cast for this show, and hope that the laughs the cast have had in putting it together are shared by the audience.



Paul Draper - Samuel

Paul last performed in amateur operatics 20 years ago when he was with the Acton and Crewe amateur operatic societies in the UK. Shows he took part in at the time included *Robert and Elizabeth*, *Half a Sixpence*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Hello Dolly*, *Oliver*, *The Merry Widow* and *Calamity Jane*.

Bringing up a family and emigrating to Australia have kept him busy in the intervening years and he is now delighted to be performing once again especially as his son Timothy is also part of this year's cast for *The Pirates of Penzance*.



Karina Aston – Edith



Karina was a contented child preferring her adventure novels to the world of dolls and dresses. However at the age of 4 she conceded to her feminine side by picking up a tutu and dazzling her family with her natural talent and passion for ballet. Karina discovered the piano at the age of 8, thus furthering her love and appreciation for music. On the eve of her 9th birthday in the Regent theatre Karina sat in awe of the famous musical *The Lion King*. The stage was calling her, everything in her life had been building to this moment. Karina dived joyfully into the world of theatre with such roles as Marta, Caiphas and Hermia.

This show will mark her first dainty step into amateur theatre and, while it has been a struggle for her to fully understand what it is like to be rejected by handsome young men, she hopes her portrayal of despair and loneliness moves her audience to tears. She wishes to thank her family along with the cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the adventure that is *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Kaitlin Spelling – Isobel

Kaitlin first hit the stage in her debut performance as the beloved Mother Mary and has been enthralled by the theatre ever since. For years she worked tirelessly at developing her natural talent and captivated audiences with roles such as Tree 3 and Lamp-post 2. However it was only once she left the comfort of high school that she was discovered by a small amateur theatre company and was given the role of Shirl, a sweet enchanting country girl known affectionately to all as the town bike.



Since then her roles have been diverse and unusual, including a rather curvaceous Lemuel Gulliver, a slightly unhinged Betty 2, a French maid and a goblin. This show will mark Kaitlin's first step into musical theatre, and she hopes that you can appreciate how difficult it is to shuffle on your toes while singing 'Beautifully Blue'. *Pirates of Penzance* has been an unexpected and delightful experience for Kaitlin, allowing her to collaborate with fellow actors. She hopes you enjoy her performance.

Daughters (wards) of Major-General Stanley and Governesses

Sue Adderly

Sue has been in two productions with Diamond Valley Singers, *The Mikado* and *Carousel*, and *The Sound Of Music* with Epping Theatre Group. Sue has been with Manhattan Music School, Eltham, for six years and has performed solos in four concerts.



Nicola Barnard

This is Nicola's debut performance with the Diamond Valley Singers. Previous theatre performances have been G&S *Trial By Jury* (in the role as Bridesmaid) and *The Sorcerer*. After singing more modern genres in a number of solo and band performances over the years, 2013 sees her re-engage with classical singing. She hopes you have as much fun watching as she has being a part of it! Her character is called Felicity and she much prefers a man in uniform.

Annette Dick

Annette joined Diamond Valley Singers eight years ago when she became interested in singing with a choir, and she says it has been a wonderful experience. She has sung in the past in the chorus and has had some smaller lead roles, as well as having solo roles in the Diamond Valley Singers oratorios. Annette also sings with the Camberwell Chorale conducted by Douglas Heywood. Her other passion is singing in the choir on Channel 9 Carols by Candlelight. Annette loves to perform because she meets so many talented and wonderful people. She hopes you enjoy *The Pirates of Penzance*.





Robyn Hannan

Robyn Hannan is no stranger to Gilbert and Sullivan having formerly been a member of the G&S Society of Victoria for over 20 years and done over 40 G&S productions. She is having great fun with this production of *Pirates* and looks forward to doing some 'other' musicals with Diamond Valley Singers in the future. She wants to thank Diamond Valley Singers for making her feel so welcome.

Sharon Harding

Sharon has been a member of Diamond Valley Singers since 1995. Over the years, she has performed in the chorus of a variety of stage productions, including *HMS Pinafore*, *Brigadoon* and *Iolanthe*, and in many of the oratorio performances. Sharon has also been a part of the publicity team for many of the stage shows.



Teresa Ingrilli

Teresa Ingrilli has been singing for as long as she can remember. Starting out as an alto only to be discover she is a high soprano, Teresa has been classically training privately. She has performed with choral groups in Perth and Melbourne including the MSO chorus.



Rae Lawry

Rae has been involved with Diamond Valley Singers for nine years, either on stage in the chorus or as back stage crew which she has thoroughly enjoyed. Rae thanks Diamond Valley Singers, Meg and Tam for the opportunity to fulfil her long-life dream of performing in *The Pirates of Penzance*.



Sue Moore

This is the first Diamond Valley Singers production Sue has been in. She says she has seen a couple of previous shows and loves the idea of profits going to help others. She has sung with Victoria Chorale for several years, and more recently at Carols by Candlelight.

Anne Sharkey

Anne's first venture into theatre was with Diamond Valley Singers for its 2005 production of *Oklahoma* in the chorus. Anne has performed in numerous shows since then with both DVS and St Gabriels, such as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Calamity Jane*, *Iolanthe* and *Les Miserables*. She has valued the experience of learning from so many talented and committed artists. She mainly hides in the chorus, but has enjoyed playing the role of widow in *Kismet*; Panacea, a courtesan, in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with DVS and Inez in *The Gondoliers* with St Gabriels. *The Pirates of Penzance* is a great show and Anne hopes you enjoy it as much as she has enjoyed performing it.





Clair Stapley

Clair joined Diamond Valley Singers after seeing *Kiss Me Kate* in 2011. Witnessing the fun the performers had putting on their show she wanted to be a part of it. Her previous experience was during her school days. Since joining DVS she has performed in the chorus of *The Pajama Game* with DVS last year and also participated in oratorios and Christmas Carol concerts.

Pirates

Marlene Di Battista

This is Marlene's 5th production with Diamond Valley Singers. having appeared in *Carousel*, *Iolanthe*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Pajama Game*. Performances with other theatre groups include *Stepping Out*, *Jack's High* and several *Music Halls* with E.L.T., *Dinkum Assorted* with Essendon Theatre Group and *Barnum* with Dandenong Theatre Group. She is also an active member of the Heidelberg Allstars and is currently rehearsing for the Mahler 8 with the Heidelberg Choral Society.



Doreen Jamieson

Doreen has been involved in Musical Theatre for many years and this is her second show with Diamond Valley Singers having performed as the secretary Mabel in *The Pajama Game* last year. She has been singing and dancing all her life and just loves entertaining. Having played many different roles in the past, she is looking forward to playing a pirate in this show.

Barbara Skewes

Barbara has been involved in musical theatre for many years. Over this time she has done: *Annie, The Boy From Oz, Chicago, Anything Goes, Hairspray, Fame, The Wizard of Oz, Me And My Girl* elsewhere.

With DVS she has done *Kiss Me, Kate, Iolanthe, and The Pajama Game*, just to mention a few.



Helen Watt

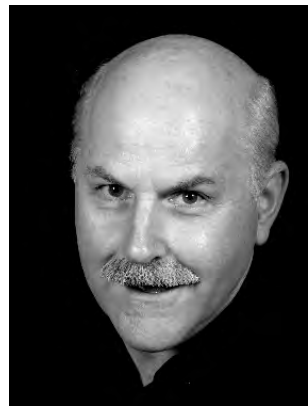
Helen, having been an avid audience supporter of the Diamond Valley Singers for about 20 years decided that perhaps performing would be more enjoyable and joined the chorus in 2008.

She is now a regular in Diamond Valley Singers performances and has expanded her involvement as props co-ordinator.

Helen hopes the audience enjoys the production and presentation of the show as much as she has enjoyed herself through the rehearsals and the company of the DVS troupe.

Kevin Maynes

Kevin began treading the boards in the eighties (that's 1980s!) performing in assorted comedy revues. His musical theatre roles have included Avram in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Hines in *The Pajama Game*, Drake in *Annie*, Mr Carnes in *Oklahoma* and Sgt. Steele in *Such is Life*. He has performed drama with *The Basin Theatre*, music-hall comedy with *Eltham Little Theatre*, and sings with *Camberwell Chorale* and the *Channel 9 Carols by Candlelight Choir*. With a background in physics and engineering (not your usual pirate!), Kevin actually is well acquainted with matters mathematical and knows many cheerful facts about the square of the hypotenuse!





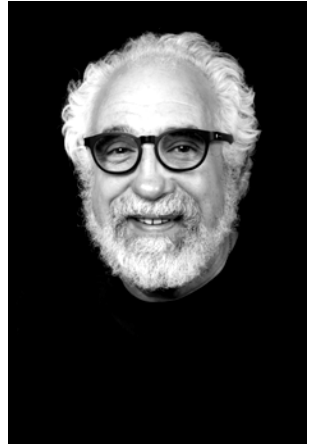
Gary Short

Being originally 'invited' by his singing coach Graham Ford to become a DVS cast member, Gary has since appeared in the DVS productions of *Kismet*, *Carousel*, *Such is Life!*, *A Nice Dilemma*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way to the Forum*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *the Pajama Game*. He enjoyed each enough to keep coming back. This is his first major G&S. Gary is also a central member of the St. Pauls' Players, in Ringwood, an involvement that has continued for over 15 years. It could be said of Gary that while he finds amateur theatre sometimes challenging, it is a fun thing to do.

Stephen Smith

Stephen returns to the stage after an absence of approximately 25 years and is enjoying every minute of the experience.

He is very grateful for the experience and would like to thank Diamond Valley for the opportunity and for welcoming him to the fold.



Tim Draper

Tim performed in the Scout Gang Show in Sutton Coldfield in the UK before emigrating to Australia. He is currently studying at St Helena Secondary College where he is taking place in the 2013 Musical Revue playing the part of Seymour from the *Little Shop of Horrors* in addition to singing and dancing in several other numbers.



Pirates and (in Act 2) Police

Trevor D'Ambrosio



Pirates will be Trevor's sixth production with DVS, being part of the backstage crew in *Carousel*, then performing in *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way To The Forum*, *Iolanthe*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *The Pajama Game*.

Trevor has assisted greatly in the set constructions as well. He is particularly pleased with pirate ship and been heard mumbling "What do you mean it's now time to turn the pirate ship into sand dunes?"

Nick Hansen

A member of the Maroondah Singers, Nick is an experienced chorister who has also performed in Opera in the Market and Carols by Candlelight. He is excited about performing in his first musical production.



Daniel Richter-Martin

Daniel sings bass with trouble-making choir Men in Suits, and plays guitar in his lounge room while watching TV, much to the dismay of his housemate. He is delighted to be singing with Diamond Valley Singers again after a three-year break, last performing in *Iolanthe* in 2010.





Neil Spitzer

Neil has been in several Diamond Valley Singers shows culminating in the role of Joe in *The Pajama Game*.

This is the third time he has been in *Pirates* and he says it is probably the most enjoyable.

James Thomas

James only started singing chorus in musicals ten years ago after being talked into it by a friend when Mountain District Musical Society were short of men for their production of *Calamity Jane*. Hooked on musicals, he did one more show with them.

He did *Patience* with The Gilbert and Sullivan Society in 2005, followed by *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *The Merry Widow* in 2006. In 2007 *Patience* again in Melbourne was followed by a performance in Buxton UK at the Gilbert and Sullivan Festival. This was a first for Australia, as no Australian group had ever performed there. *The Pirates of Penzance* followed in 2007, and later *Yeomen of the Guard* and *Gondoliers*.

He did *Patience* (again), *Iolanthe* and *Pirates* with Savoy Opera Company, and is now looking forward to a third time with *Pirates* and a first show with DVS.



Tim Warren

Tim first performed with DVS 21 years ago, the highlight being his portrayal of Sid in *The Pajama Game* last year. Another noteworthy role was the lamp-post in *The Pirate Bankers of Penzance* in 1997. This year he is having too much fun in the chorus again.

Marie-Louise Wright - conductor



Originally from Graz Austria and later Switzerland, Mary studied music in Australia: violin with Tim Wachtel, Zefferino Mendes and Warwick Stengards and conducting with Robert Rosen, Peter Clinch, Marvin Rabin, Jerry Nowak, Robert Culver as well as attending Symphony Australia workshops in Melbourne, Adelaide and Tasmania. She has also attended workshop with the Royal Australian Navy Band, and this year has taken part in the Cairns Winter Music School.

Mary currently conducts the Surrey Hills Orchestra, Eltham Orchestra and its two string ensembles,

teaches strings at Briar Hill Primary School, is a past conductor of Henry Touzeau Strings for Melbourne Youth Music, the Preston Junior Strings and Victorian Concert Orchestra.

She has conducted many operettas, including *Mikado*, *Gondoliers*, *Merry Widow*, *Merrie England* and *Iolanthe* and musical theatre productions of *Oklahoma*, *Calamity Jane*, *Brigadoon*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Kismet*, *Carousel*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Pajama Game*. This year's show is one of Mary's favourite shows. Mary has also been privileged to conduct seven out of the nine Beethoven Symphonies. Her favourite music is Ballet, especially that of the Romantic Era.

The Eltham Orchestra

- 1st Violins: Jessica Callaway, Robyn Gibbons, Jackie Tinsley, Lisa Filmer, Mikayla de Gooyer, Wilma Ezard, Peter Davison
- 2nd Violins: Lauren Kirkham, Bronwyn Hodge, Nola Thompson, Kevin Mullen, Charlotte Hall, Carly McDowell
- Violas: Erik Pool, Olivia Costas
- Cellos: Margaret Grinbergs, Tyrone Louw, Misato Miyamasu
- Double Bass: Michael Taylor
- Flutes: Betty Martin, Katy Neesham, Alicia de Gooyer
- Oboe: Judy Lewis
- Bassoons: Penny Mayes, Ian Lowe
- Clarinets: Derek Wright, Tony Robinson
- Trumpets: Bill Pattinson, Seren Robinson
- Trombone: David Wheeler, Richard Armstrong
- Percussion: Heather Wright
- The Eltham Orchestras thank Storage King for their support.



Diamond Valley Singers (DVS)

This year DVS celebrates 29 years of music making! In 1985 the conductor of the local orchestra, 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 over \$130 000 has been donated to organisations such as World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service, Harrison Youth Services, Eltham Emergency Relief Fund and Open House.

DVS have performed most Gilbert and Sullivan shows. In the last few years they have presented American musicals: *Brigadoon*, *Oklahoma*, *Calamity Jane*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Kismet*, *Carousel* and *The Pajama Game*. This year on Sunday November 24 they will perform *The Messiah* (Handel) with other choirs and the Maroondah Symphony Orchestra in Yarra Valley Grammar School's George Wood Auditorium. The program will be repeated, without orchestra, on earlier Sundays in November. See www.dvsingers.org for details.

New members are always welcome. There are no auditions for chorus members. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday nights at Diamond Creek Uniting Church. For further information, please contact Artistic Director Graham Ford (9439 3267).

The Eltham Orchestras Inc.

The Eltham Orchestra was formed in 1975 by local musicians as a friendly community orchestra. The long-standing association with the Diamond Valley Singers has provided an exciting opportunity for orchestra members to be involved in musical theatre. Over the years the orchestra has expanded, with the creation of two additional groups, the Eltham Beginner Strings and the Eltham String Ensemble, to form The Eltham Orchestras Inc. The Eltham Orchestras play a wide range of classical and light music and perform three or four programs annually, in addition to the stage show with DVS, including combined concerts with Surrey Hills Chamber Orchestra, both locally and further afield.

Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings:
Beginner Strings 6.00 - 7.00 pm (for beginners to Grade 3),
String Ensemble 7.00 - 8.00 pm (minimum Grade 4 standard) and
Eltham Orchestra 8.00 - 10.00 pm (minimum Grade 6 standard).

All groups are open to players of any age. Vacancies exist in several sections and interested musicians - particularly advanced string and brass players - are invited to contact the conductor, Marie-Louise Wright, on 9434 2147 or email marielouise.wright@bigpond.com. For further information, visit www.elthamorchesteras.org.au.

Our profits from this show will support these two charities.
They thank you for your support.

Welcome to World Vision's Journey

We would like you to join World Vision on a journey. It is a journey of discovery that started over 50 years ago when one compassionate man, Bob Pierce, reached out to help a needy child. Along the way, millions of lives have now been transformed. We can say with absolute certainty that the world is a better place as the result of the outpourings of love and compassion that have been clearly demonstrated.

Wonderful changes have taken place in the lives of millions of people in the developing world due to the fact that Australians themselves are also transformed through becoming involved in giving, in advocacy and in learning. The response to the Asian Tsunami is witness to the generosity of Australians.

In working in developing areas of the world, and being a Christian Overseas Aid organisation, World Vision believes we can take even greater strides towards achieving a world where children and families can live in peace and happiness – in a world that no longer tolerates poverty.

We hope you will enjoy *The Pirates of Penzance* and consider joining World Vision as a child sponsor. To begin today, call 9287 2558, and help to be a part of the Vision.

Open House Christian Involvement Centres

Helping Open House

The long-term financial support of the Diamond Valley Singers is greatly appreciated by Open House Christian Involvement Centres. Open House was formed in 1971 when its founding director, Mr George Farrington AM, was challenged by the youth of the day to “provide an alternative to the pub because home is like hell”. Since then, its work has developed in many ways to offer friendship and holistic support to needy, marginalised and disadvantaged children, youth and adults through a diversity of positive and creative programs. Over 60 volunteers assist a small staff.

Open House is now into its 43rd year. It is vital to initiate new and relevant programs to meet the current needs of people. An example of this is our “Boys2Men” program – which started in response to a young guy who, when asked what it means to be a man, replied “That’s when you can watch porn”. It is a program for boys who lack positive male role models and helps them to see in new ways what manhood is really about.

For more information please phone 9497 1855 or write to us at PO Box 1002, Ivanhoe 3079. You could also visit our website: www.openhousecic.org.au.

Thank you, Diamond Valley Singers, for your continuing support.