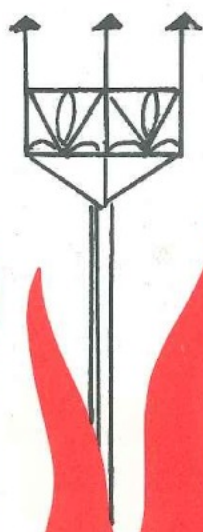


NAOS



RPHEVS

IN THE



UNDERWORLD







Frank Richardson - Founder  
First Producer and Life Member

### MR FRANK RICHARDSON

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of the founder of our Society, Mr Frank Richardson.

After having been engaged in amateur stage work for 20 years, he formed a group of young people known as the Newcastle Youth Concert and Drama Society, which met in the old farmhouse at Clayton. He advertised for adults to join them to rehearse pantomimes, concerts and carnivals. The response led to the formation of the Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society, and he produced their first show 'Carousel' in the old Municipal Hall in 1965.

The success and enthusiasm of the members inspired him to take the young Society to the Gaumont Theatre, Hanley, for their next production and from then on they have continued in strength to the present Show, taking their place alongside the other already well established Societies in the area.

Frank Richardson died on 2nd July, 1977, but he will always be remembered with gratitude by all members of our Society.

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*Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association*



*President*

**Councillor Mrs Elsie Ashley J.P. C.C.**

presents

# ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD

*A comic operetta in three acts from the original by*  
**Hector Crémieux and Ludovic Halévy**

*New Book and Lyrics by*  
**Phil Park**

*Music by*  
**Jacques Offenbach**

*Music adapted and arranged by*  
**Ronald Hanmer**

*Producer :* **Mr Charles Gillespie, NODA**

*Musical Director :* **Mr Keith Mosedale**

*Choreographer :* **Beryl Cooper**

**at The Odeon Theatre, Hanley**

**Monday 17th April to Saturday 22nd April 1978**

**Evenings at 7.15 p.m.**

**Matinee on Saturday 22nd April at 3 p.m.**



# Management Committee 1977/78

<i>Chairman</i> .....	<b>John Deakin</b>
<i>Vice Chairman</i> .....	<b>Albert E. V. Whittaker</b>
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<i>Programme Secretary</i> .....	<b>Vera Hickman</b>

**Connie Taylor    George Banks**

*Programme Cover by* **Pauline Harvey**

## Production Appointments

<i>Stage and Lighting Director</i> .....	<b>John Deakin</b>
<i>Stage Manager</i> .....	<b>Geoff Ault</b>
<i>Property Mistress</i> .....	<b>Pauline Harvey</b>
<i>Assistant Musical Director</i> .....	<b>Alan Cotton</b>
<i>Deputy Stage Manager</i> .....	<b>Christopher Norcup</b>
<i>Assistant Stage Managers</i> .....	<b>Phillip Alcock</b>
	<b>Martin Swinnerton</b>
<i>Prompter</i> .....	<b>Barbara Hulme</b>
<i>Wardrobe</i> .....	<b>Margaret Byatt</b>
<i>Make-up supervised by</i> .....	<b>Jessie Shaw</b>
<i>House Manager</i> .....	<b>George Banks</b>
<i>Ticket Secretary</i> .....	<b>Sheila Ault</b>
<i>Assistant Wardrobe Mistress</i> .....	<b>Joan Whittaker</b>

### Stage Crew

Robert Alcock	Keith Fradley
Andy Beckett	Harry Hassell
Ron Beckett	Paul Hassell
Michael Barnes	Paul Leighton
Tim Cooper	Peter Ridgeway
Jim Cumberbatch	Ken Smith
Paul Davies	

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Reg Thomas	Pat Banks

### Property Assistants

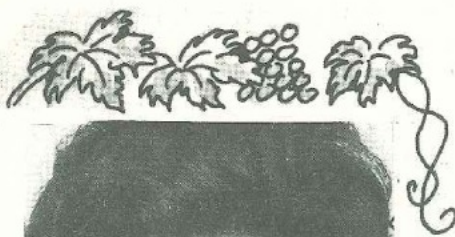
Alison Alcock  
Sheila Ault  
Mary Beckett  
Brian Nevitt  
Pamela Smith

**Cast Selection Committee:** Charles Gillespie, Keith Mosedale, Beryl Cooper, Anthony Bradburn, John Deakin.

**Rehearsal Teas** by Joan Whittaker, Mae Thompson, Margaret Byatt.

**Dressing Room Team:** Brenda Brooks, Edith Price, Iris Thomas, Irene Harvey, Mae Thompson, Joan Whittaker, Joyce Lambert.





## *President's Message*

Dear Music Lovers,

Welcome once again to our show. Your continued support over the years is so very much appreciated and gives encouragement to all members of the Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society whose sole

aim is to bring you pleasure which I am sure they will not fail to do with their very excellent production of Orpheus in the Underworld.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the many unseen volunteer workers who have worked so hard preparing for the opening night and also the Manager of the Odeon Theatre and his Staff for their help and co-operation. May this show bring you joy and happiness and I look forward to seeing you at our next production in November.

Best Wishes,

Sincerely Yours,

ELSIE ASHLEY

## *Chairman's Message*

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first production in 1978 'Orpheus in the Underworld' a delightful and entertaining Operetta by Offenbach.

The production team is the same that brought you KISMET in 1977, and with the exception of Pam Cotton playing Diana, all the principal players are old friends. This production has not been without its problems of sickness and injury but I am glad to say that everyone is recovered and with us.

I am sure that you will enjoy this merry romp as much as the Company enjoy performing it and will look forward with us to our next production in November of the Desert Song which we will present at the QUEEN'S THEATRE, BURSLEM for 10 performances commencing Thursday 9th November. You will find further details elsewhere in the programme.

In the meantime please enjoy this offering and to coin a phrase 'May YOUR God go with you'.

Yours in friendship,

JOHN M. DEAKIN  
Chairman





# *The Story of "Orpheus in the Underworld"*

Offenbach's extremely funny operetta is based loosely on the ancient legend by Homer. The story opens in Thebes in Ancient Greece where Eurydice has fallen in love with a handsome shepherd Aristaeus (really Pluto, King of Hades in disguise). Her husband Orpheus bores her to distraction with his endless music and so she is only too willing to find solace elsewhere.

Pluto cunningly contrives that Eurydice is bitten by a snake, causing her to die (beautifully) only to be awakened by Pluto and carried off to sample the delights of Hades.

Orpheus is delighted when he discovers that Eurydice is gone, but Calliope his mother insists that he appeals to the Gods on Mount Olympus for her return, and arranges for their transportation in her balloon, piloted by Icarus, after a touching farewell from the pupils of Orpheus.

On Mount Olympus all is not as idyllic as one would expect, the Gods and Goddesses are rather resentful of Jupiter's attitude of "Do as I say not as I do" and they crave a little excitement. Then news arrives of the abduction of Eurydice and suspicion immediately falls on Jupiter, noted for his "affairs". Upset by these accusations, Jupiter orders Mercury to summon Pluto, a rather noted gay dog, to find out the truth. On his way Mercury passes Calliope and Orpheus en route to Olympus in their balloon.

When Pluto arrives, the Gods and Goddesses mount a full scale rebellion and order is only restored when Orpheus arrives to accuse Pluto. Jupiter orders Pluto to return Eurydice, and decides to go to Hades himself to see that Pluto obeys, taking all the heavenly bodies with him.

Alas, in Hades, Eurydice is rather disillusioned and bored as Pluto has confined her to a private room with only Styx, a deposed king, for company.

Arriving with Pluto, Jupiter takes a great fancy to Eurydice himself and whilst she is taking a bath, attempts to seduce her, disguising himself as a fly. His efforts meet with some success and he arranges to meet her at the party being held in his honour. While the party is in full swing Orpheus appears to claim Eurydice. Jupiter tells him that he may take her, but in ascending from Hades he must not look back. Orpheus agrees and all seems well, but Jupiter contrives to get him to turn and so he loses Eurydice.

The only problem left is - who gets Eurydice? Well you will have to wait for the finale to find the answer to that one!





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Fred Johnson  
*Bacchus*

Dancers for Orpheus in the Underworld



*Musical Director Keith Mosedale*

*Assistant Musical Director Alan Cotton*

*Accompanist Kath Round*

## MUSICAL CONTENTS

*Overture* ..... The Orchestra

### **ACT 1** A Village near Thebes in Ancient Greece

- 1 Opening of Act 1 (*Calliope with Chorus*)
- 2 A Nymph in Love (*Eurydice*)
- 3 The Violin Duet (*Eurydice and Orpheus*)
- 4 A Shepherd am I (*Pluto, as Aristaeus, and the Girls*)
- 5 Mortals Below, Gods up Above (*Eurydice, Pluto and Chorus*)
- 6 Invocation (*Eurydice and Chorus*)
- 6a The Awakening
- 6b Pluto Exit
- 7 Finale Act 1 (*Orpheus, Calliope, Pupils and Chorus*)

### **ACT 2** Mount Olympus

- 8 Entr'acte
- 9 Opening Act 2 (*Orchestra*)
- 10 Lament for Acteon (*Diana, Venus, Jupiter and Chorus*)
- 11 Balloon Interlude (*Calliope, Orpheus and Icarus*)
- 12 Nothing We Can Do (*Juno, Pluto and Jupiter*)
- 13 To Arms (*Ensemble*)
- 14 Ha - Ha - Ha: (*Cupid, Venus, Diana, Mars and Chorus*)
- 15 Finale Act 2 (*Ensemble*)

### **ACT 3** Scene 1 — Pluto's Den

- 16 Entr'acte
- 17 Sorry I came (*Eurydice*)
- 17a I was a King (*Styx*)
- 18 Cherchez La Femme! (*Pluto, Juniper, Mercury, Mars and Styx*)

### **ACT 3** Scene 2 — Anti-room to Pluto's Den

- 18a The 'Fly' duet (*Eurydice and Jupiter*)

### **ACT 3** Scene 3 — Hades

- 19 The Hades Chorus (*Chorus, Venus and Cupid*)
- 19a Hymn to Bacchus (*Eurydice and Chorus*)
- 20 Reprise : Mortals Below, Gods up above (*Eurydice, Pluto and Chorus*)
- 21 Minuet (*Jupiter, Pluto and Ensemble*)
- 22 Galop (*Ensemble*)
- 23 Entrance of Orpheus
- 24 Finale Act 3 (*Full Company*)
- 25 Curtain Calls (*Full Company*)
- 26 Play out (*The Orchestra*)





Kathleen Round  
*Society Pianist*



Keith Mosedale  
*Musical Director*



Beryl Cooper  
*Choreographer*

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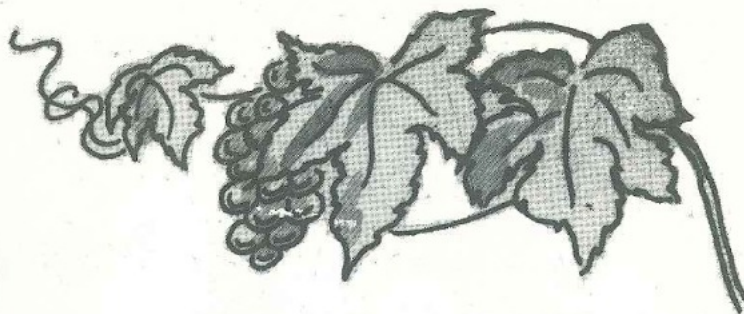
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*Calliope* Margaret Dall



*Orpheus* Alan Hulme

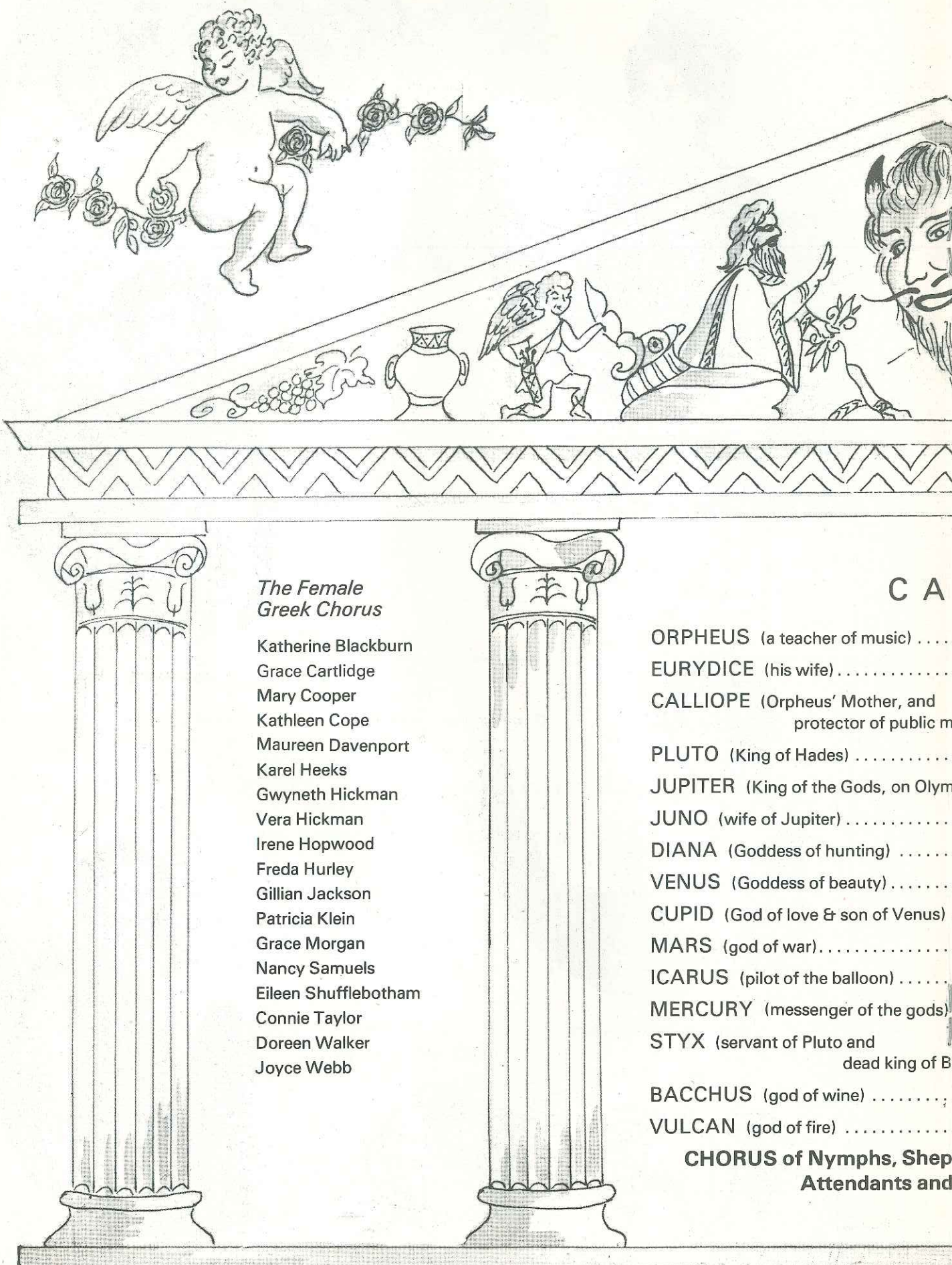


*Eurydice* Jeannie Atkins



*Pluto* Brian Hilditch





### *The Female Greek Chorus*

Katherine Blackburn  
Grace Cartlidge  
Mary Cooper  
Kathleen Cope  
Maureen Davenport  
Karel Heeks  
Gwyneth Hickman  
Vera Hickman  
Irene Hopwood  
Freda Hurley  
Gillian Jackson  
Patricia Klein  
Grace Morgan  
Nancy Samuels  
Eileen Shufflebotham  
Connie Taylor  
Doreen Walker  
Joyce Webb

### C A

ORPHEUS (a teacher of music) . . . .  
EURYDICE (his wife) . . . . .  
CALLIOPE (Orpheus' Mother, and  
protector of public m  
PLUTO (King of Hades) . . . . .  
JUPITER (King of the Gods, on Olym  
JUNO (wife of Jupiter) . . . . .  
DIANA (Goddess of hunting) . . . . .  
VENUS (Goddess of beauty) . . . . .  
CUPID (God of love & son of Venus)  
MARS (god of war) . . . . .  
ICARUS (pilot of the balloon) . . . . .  
MERCURY (messenger of the gods)  
STYX (servant of Pluto and  
dead king of B  
BACCHUS (god of wine) . . . . .  
VULCAN (god of fire) . . . . .  
**CHORUS of Nymphs, Shep  
Attendants and**





## S T

.....ALAN HULME  
 .....JENNIE ATKINS  
 (orals) MARGARET DALE  
 .....BRIAN HILDITCH  
 (pus) ..GEORGE ROBINSON  
 .....MARY BLAISE  
 .....PAMELA COTTON  
 .....DERETH BAILEY  
 .....JUNE COLLINGS  
 .....ALBERT WHITTAKER  
 .....DAVID STEVENSON  
 .....RICHARD MASTERS  
 (eotia) JOHN STEELE  
 .....FRED JOHNSON  
 .....ALAN LAMBERT  
 herds, Gods & Goddesses,  
 Revellers, Etc.

### *The Male Greek Chorus*

Michael Ankrett  
 Kevin Bradshaw  
 Douglas Brookes  
 Joseph Cooper  
 Brian Dale  
 Colin Ford  
 William Hopwood  
 Terry Leak  
 George Simms  
 Reginald Tremlow  
 Kenneth Wilkes  
 Wilfred Wynne  
 Terry Yates

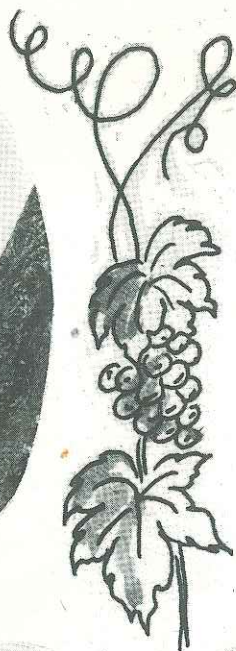
### *Dancers*

Margaret Bradburn  
 Kim Johnson  
 Jayne Gilson  
 Kimberley Oates  
 Elizabeth Marsh  
 Jean Webb





*Diana Pam Cotton*



*Mars Albert Whittaker*



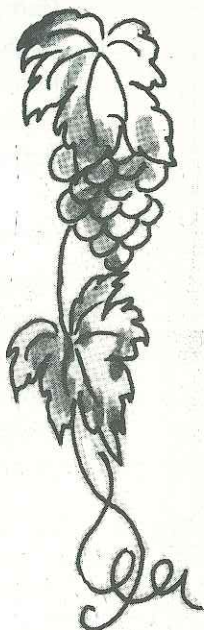
*Jupiter George Robinson*



*Juno Mary Blaise*



*Venus Dereth Bailey*



*Cupid June Collings*





*Icarus David Stevenson*

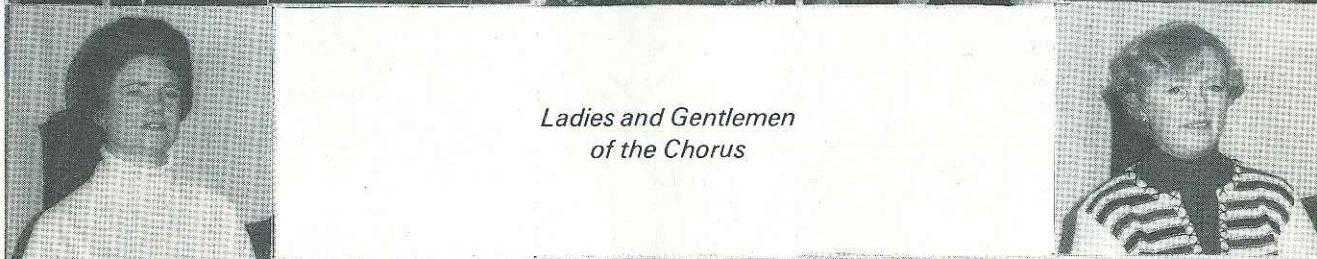
*Styx John Steele*

*Vulcan Alan Lambert*

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## *Our Producer*

Charles Gillespie needs no introduction to our audience, after having produced our last very successful show "Kismet". His wealth of experience and knowledge of the theatre will be directed to making yet another successful production for us and to show our confidence in his ability, he has been engaged to produce our next show, "The Desert Song" in the Autumn.

We are very glad to welcome him back and wish him a very enjoyable stay with our Society.



Kathleen Cope  
*Secretary*



Geoffrey Ault  
*Treasurer and Stage Manager*



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# REMEMBRANCE

## **LESLIE C. B. THOMPSON 1907 - 1978**

The death of Tommy Thompson on Thursday 23rd February 1978 will leave a sad void in the lives of all who knew him. A native of Plymouth Tommy appeared in many Amateur productions in that town between the wars where he played many of the smaller character principal parts in the popular musicals of the day. During the Second World War Tommy was in the Tanks in Africa and Western Europe. After the war he went to work in Manchester where he was the guiding light of the then Pauldine Players, after removing to Newcastle Tommy became Prompter for Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society, a position he held until being taken ill just before Christmas 1977, except in 1976 when he appeared on stage in the role of the Chinese Firework Expert in the Midland Amateur Premier of THE GREAT WALTZ, during which I had the greatest of pleasure in presenting him with his NODA Long Service Medal and Gold Bar for 50 years service to the Amateur Stage.

J. M. D.

**REV'D ERNEST R. ROE** the former Vicar of Cobridge, has been a Vice-President of the Society for the past 10 years, and so his death on Sunday 26th February shortly after returning from a visit to relatives in Australia and New Zealand came as a shock for those who knew him as an active and industrious worker for the Society, especially during Show week, when he was always on hand to show patrons to their seats with a friendly and helpful word.

We would like to extend our sympathy to Terry Yates in the sad loss of his wife. Joan was a loyal member of the Society for many years, despite her continued illness; she will be sadly missed.

---

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Society wish to thank the following for their help in presenting ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD:-

Mr Peter Kelly and the House Staff of the Odeon Theatre.

Mr Ken Taylor and the Technical Staff of the Odeon Theatre.

Mr Bernard Weaver of Rank Leisure Services for help with the Sound Equipment.

Mrs Ann Watkins for her help and co-operation with costumes.

Staffordshire Education Committee for the use of Rehearsal Rooms and also help with the Painting Competition.

Newcastle Conservative Club for the use of Committee Rooms.

The Editor and staff of the Staffordshire Evening Sentinel.

The Manager and Staff of B.B.C. Radio Stoke on Trent.

Mrs Kath Burton of G. H. Smith and Son for help with the Programme.

Mr John Dean for his help as Society Auditor.

Mr Peter Bucknall for his services as Society Solicitor.

Mrs F. Durber for the Civic Party Refreshments.

The British Red Cross for the First Aid Facilities at all performances.

All the advertisers in this Programme.

Mr John Harrison of the Welsh National Opera for all his help.

W. & J. Wass for help with transport.

The Britannia Building Society for their generous offer to display publicity for the Society in the windows in Hanley, Newcastle.

Stafford Equipment Company Ltd. for loan of publicity material.

Mrs Hazel Philips, Mr Peter Legge, Mr Bill Fishwick and the County Education Authority for their help and co-operation with the Painting Competition.

And to all our friends and helpers including:-

The Back Stage Crew, Programme Sellers, Front of House Staff, and to everyone who has in any way helped with this production.

Brian Hilditch would like to thank the doctors and staff of the N.S.R.I. for getting him fit again.



*Burgess*

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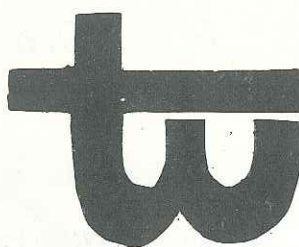
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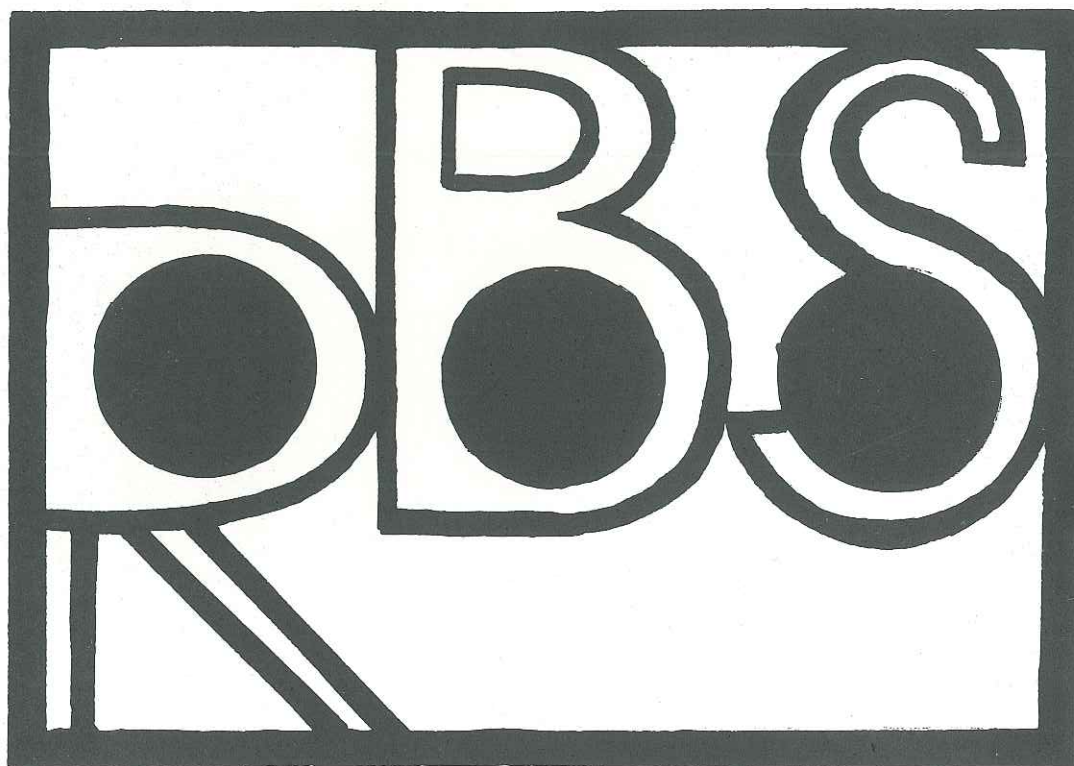
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