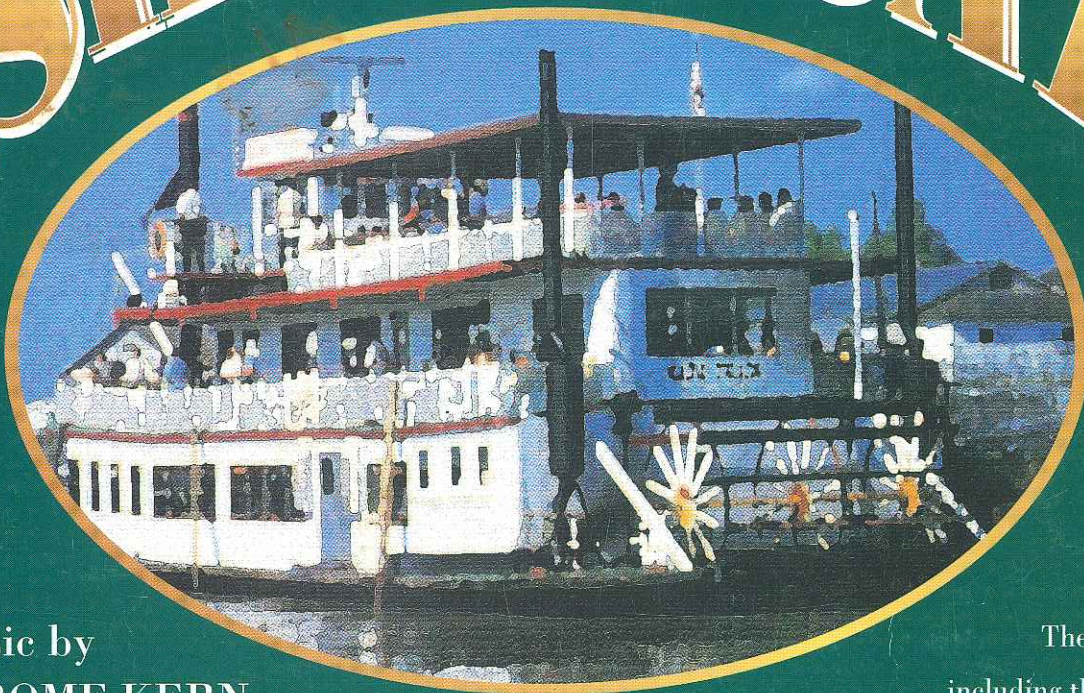


# NEWCASTLE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Affiliated to the National Operatic & Dramatic Association Reg. Charity No. 501464.

PROUDLY PRESENT

# SHOWBOAT



Music by  
**JEROME KERN**

Book & Lyrics by  
**OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

By kind permission of  
**JOSEPH WEINBERGER Ltd.**

The Musical  
including the songs:

**OL' MAN RIVER**

**WHY DO I LOVE YOU?**

**BILL · MAKE BELIEVE**


**CAN'T HELP LOVIN' DAT MAN**

**MONDAY 10th ~ SATURDAY 15th APRIL 2000**


**The Royal**  
Pall Mall, Hanley  
Stoke-on-Trent

Producer **ANDREW TALBOT**  
Musical Director **MICHAEL LAMBERT**



 **VAUXHALL**

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# Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society

## President's & Chairman's Message

Welcome to this our production for the year 2000, Jerome Kern's musical SHOW BOAT, Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. It was adapted from Edna Ferber's novel of the same name.

Show Boat in the year 2000 is not an easy show to cast, we had open auditions. We tried every way possible to get a black chorus and principals. In the beginning we got five people interested, but alas one by one they dropped out. I am pleased to say that one young girl Alicia Adu stayed with us and is in the chorus.

Casting the show has been a nightmare, not because of any lack of talent, but because of the choice of companies locally all wanting to give you, the audience, shows of the highest calibre. The principal line up for Showboat is a large one with new lady Kym Taylor playing the part of Magnolia. Martin Hulme plays the part of Gaylord Ravenal, Maralyn Goldstraw plays Queenie and Michael Redfearn plays Joe. The owners of the Show Boat are Brenda Oliver and Mike Johnson as Parthy Ann and Andy Hawkes. A supporting cast of 50 all directed by Andrew Talbot and choreographed by Gina Yearsley. Michael Lambert is Musical Director and Lorraine Hunter is Assistant Director.

We would like to say thank you to the audience for your support. Enjoy Show Boat and have a safe journey home.

Sincerely Yours

Alderman Elsie Ashley OBE. (President)      Fred Johnson (Chairman)



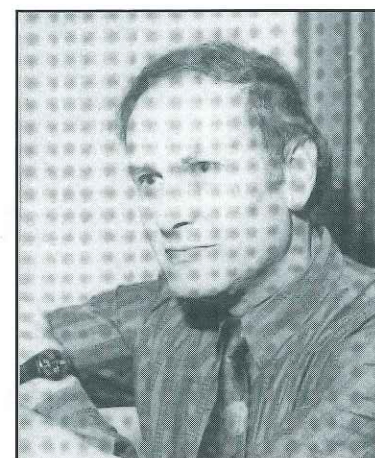
Chairman: Fred Johnson



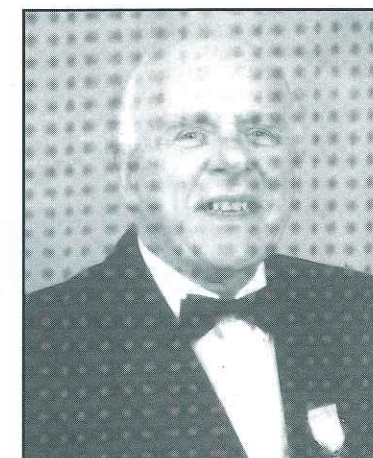
President: Alderman Elsie Ashley OBE



Hon Secretary: Gill Johnson



Vice Chairman: Brian Hilditch



Hon Treasurer: Dennis Oliver



We are very pleased to have an ex member as a patron Mr Robbie Williams. He accepted our invitation to be patron even though he gets 500 invitations per week!



# ON STAGE SIX DAYS PER WEEK

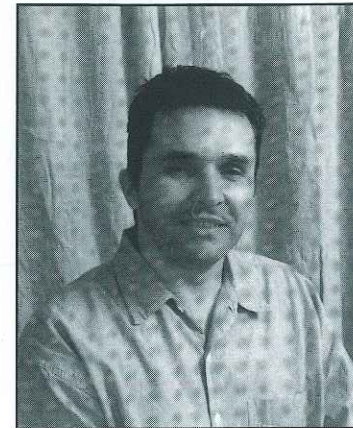
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### Director



Andrew Talbot

### Musical Director



Michael Lambert

### Assistant Musical Director



Lorraine Hunter

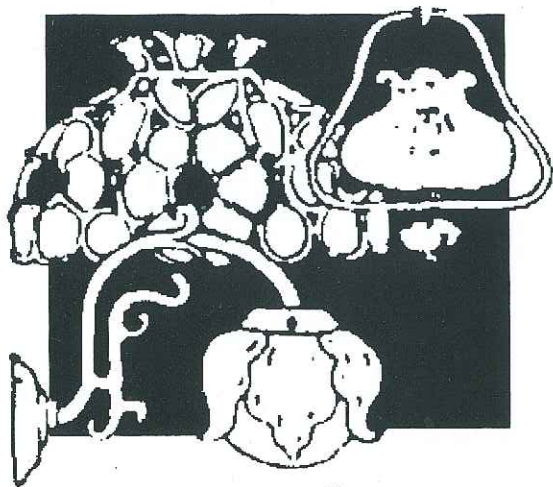
### Choreographer



Gina Yearsley

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### Synopsis of Scenes

#### Act I

- Scene 1. The Levee at Natchez on the Mississippi. In the Eighties.  
Scene 2. Kitchen pantry of the "Cotton Blossom". Five minutes later.  
Scene 3. Auditorium and stage of the "Cotton Blossom". One hour later.  
Scene 4. Box Office on foredeck. Three weeks later.  
Scene 5. Auditorium and stage during performance that night.  
Scene 6. The top deck. Later that night.  
Scene 7. The levee at Greenville. Next morning.

#### Act II

- Scene 1. The Midway Plaisance, Chicago World's Fair, 1893.  
Scene 2. A room on Ontario Street, 1904.  
Scene 3. Rehearsal Room, Trocadero Music Hall. A few days later.  
Scene 4. St. Agatha's Convent. About the same time.  
Scene 5. Trocadero Music Hall. New Year's Eve ringing in the year 1905.  
Scene 6. Stern of the Show Boat 1927.  
Scene 7. Top deck of the "Cotton Blossom". That night.  
Scene 8. Levee at Greenville. The next night.



## Magnolia & Gaylord Ravenal

### Magnolia

Daughter of Andy and Parthy, she idolises Julie, the leading lady on the Show Boat and wishes only to follow in her footsteps; only that is, until she meets and falls in love with Ravenal, but fate sees that she also takes Julie's place on the stage.

### Gaylord Ravenal

A riverboat gambler who by chance, becomes the leading man with the Cotton Blossom troupe. His direct approach sweeps Magnolia off her feet and much against Parthy's will the couple are married. Later on in Chicago gambling debts catch up with him and he leaves Magnolia to bring up their daughter Kim on her own.



Kym Taylor and Martin Hulme

## Cap'n. Andy & Parthy Ann Hawks

### Cap'n Andy

A brash, rumbustious extrovert, determined to enjoy life to the full. Typical of the "Barnstorming" American showmen of the late nineteenth century, his "Barn" is "Cotton Blossom" a big Mississippi riverboat, travelling the river, stopping off to entertain the folks in the newly settled townships.

### Parthy Ann Hawks

Just as determined that he should not enjoy life is Parthy, his wife. Her two aims in life... to keep Cap'n Andy on the straight and narrow and to see their daughter assume a decent station in life away from the 'vulgarity' of showbusiness. She succeeds in neither ambition.



Mike Johnson and Brenda Oliver

## Queenie and Joe

### Queenie

Joe's long suffering spouse, the cook for the Cotton Blossom. Typically full of life and energy, she helps to sell the show to the coloured folk with her rousing "Ballyhoo".

### Joe

The odd job man on the boat who, according to Queenie, is shiftless and good for nothing but 'her man just the same'. He is, in his own way quite a philosopher and with a keen insight knows that whatever else happens in life "Ol' Man River will always keep rollin on".



Michael Redfearn and Maralyn Goldstraw



## The Dancers



Jill Bowdery, Lisa Di-Piazza, Sarah Webb and Julie Anthony

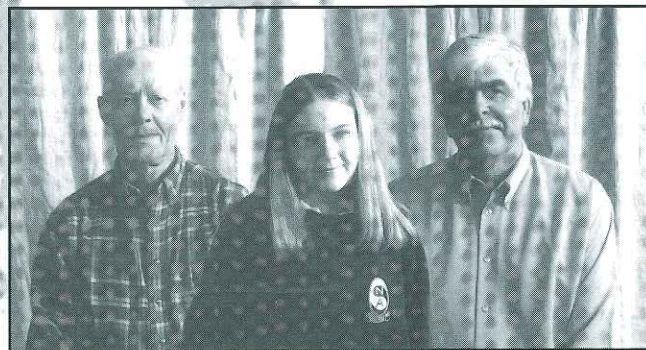


# Background to Showboat

Possibly one of the most influential musicals of the twentieth century SHOWBOAT combined the talents of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II, both of whom had felt for some time that the Broadway musical theatre was suffering from a lack of depth and that something was needed to steer it away from the lightweight musical comedies and rather dated melodramatic operettas which were its staple diet. They chose for their subject Edna Ferber's novel of life on the Mississippi, which gave them the opportunity of dealing with issues such as unhappy marriages and racial prejudice.

The story which spans almost fifty years, deals primarily with the fortunes of the impressionable young Magnolia Hawks, whose father, Captain Andy Hawks, owns a showboat, "The Cotton Blossom", and a troubled riverboat gambler turned actor named Gaylord Ravenal. Magnolia and Ravenal fall in love while acting together on the showboat and eventually marry and move to Chicago. They separate, however, after Gaylord loses all of their money gambling. A subplot involves Magnolia's friend, Julie La Verne, who is of mixed race. Julie, a singer on "The Cotton Blossom" falls foul of the harsh laws of the Southern states because of her marriage to leading man Steve.

SHOW BOAT opened at the Ziegfield Theatre on December 27th 1927 and ran for 572 performances and has since had many revivals.



Black Chorus

# Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

Windy - Dennis Oliver  
 Steve (Baker) - Jonathan Fernyhough  
 Pete - Nigel Evans  
 Queenie - Maralyn Goldstraw  
 Parthy Ann Hawkes - Brenda Oliver  
 Capt Andy Hawkes - Mike Johnson  
 Ellie - Sarah Mould  
 Frank - Andrew Tooth  
 Rubberface - Albert Whittaker  
 Julie - Amanda Tilsley  
 Gaylord Ravenal - Martin Hulme  
 Vallon - Brian Hilditch  
 Magnolia - Kym Taylor  
 Joe - Michael Redfearn  
 Backwoodsman - Nigel Evans  
 Jeb - Stuart Owen  
 Landlady - Dereth Bailey  
 Ethel - Jean Charsley  
 Jim - Brian Hilditch  
 Mother Superior - Lily Tildesley  
 Kim (Child) - Stephanie Brook  
 Kim - Kerry Egan  
 Old Lady on Levee - Marjorie Turner

## White Girls

Nicola Barnett, Sarah Webb (Dancer), Kerry Egan, Carole Bissell, Jill Bowdery (Dancer), Lisa Di-Piazza (Dancer), Lily Tildesley, Joyce Webb, Dereth Bailey, Julie Anthony (Dancer), Sarah Redfearn

## Black Girls

Marjorie Turner, Kathleen Cope, Michayla Pass, Tamitha Huckfield, Alicia Adu, Jean Charsley, Maureen Davenport, Herta Williams, Val Clay

## White Men

John Eagles, Stuart Owen, Kevin Baddeley, Arthur Smith, Richard Wainwright

## Black Men

Ken Wilkes, John Byatt, Malcolm Crawford, Ken Turner, Chris Capewell, Peter Thomas, John Steele

## Children

Danielle Anthony, James Johnson, Ryan Taylor



White Chorus





Stuart Owen



Brian Hilditch, Albert Whittaker, Dennis Oliver



Alicia Adu, Kerry Egan,  
Stephanie Brook



Dereth Bailey, Marjorie Turner, Lily Tildesley



## Ellie and Frank

### Ellie

One half of a song and dance act on the Cotton Blossom. Full of ambition she sees herself going on to starring roles and is the driving force in the twosome.

### Frank

The other half of the team. He does eventually persuade Ellie to marry him and they do move up in the entertainment world. It is Frank too, who introduces Magnolia to the Trocadero night club from where she goes on to be a great singing star.



Sarah Mould and Andrew Tooth

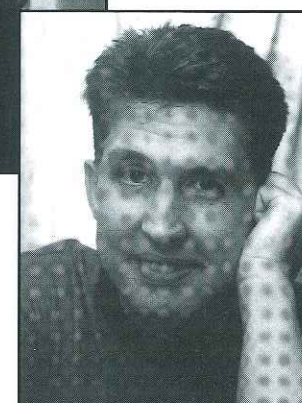
## Julie and Steve

### Julie

The tragic figure who plays such an important part in Magnolia's life. Because of her mixed blood and Southern racial laws she is forced to leave the Cotton Blossom, her place being taken by Magnolia. Again, in Chicago, it is Julie who stands aside so that Magnolia can obtain a job which will enable her to support Kim.



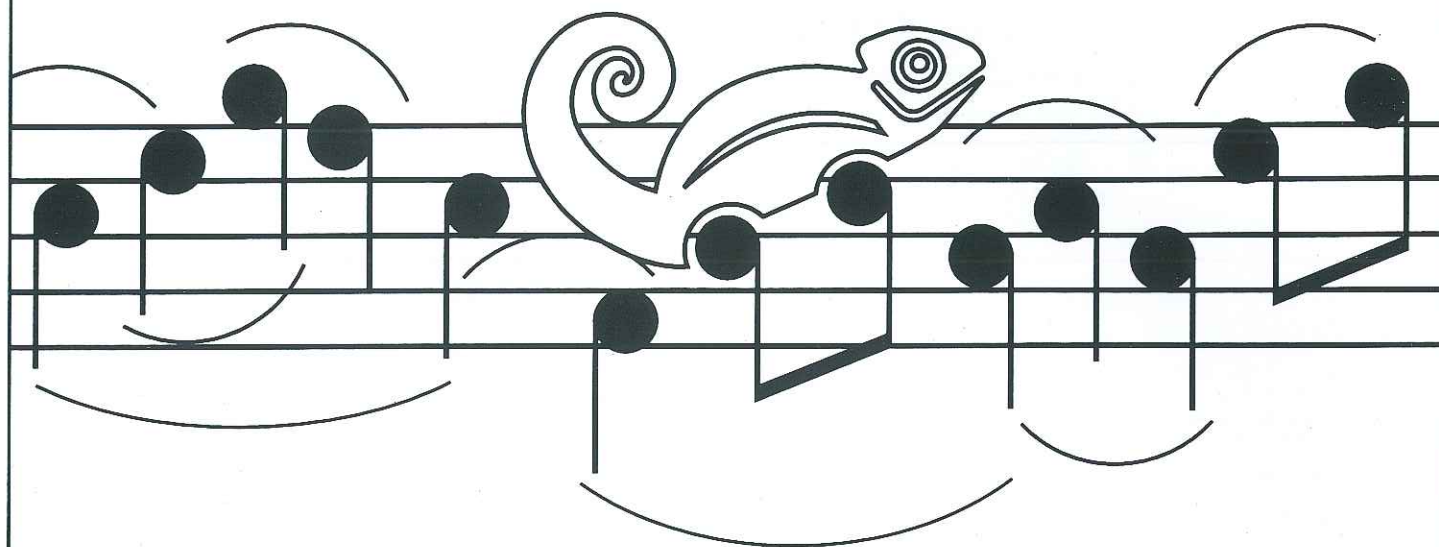
Amanda Tilsley



Jonathan Fernyhough



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BNP PARIBAS Group

## Production Appointments

**Director:** Andrew Talbot  
**Choreographer:** Gina Yearsley  
**Musical Director:** Michael Lambert  
**Assistant Musical Director:** Lorraine Hunter  
**Stage Manager:** Geoff Huckfield  
**Property Mistress:** Helen Millington  
**Ticket Secretary:** Gill Johnson  
**Assisted by:** Val Clayton  
**House Managers:** Roy Davenport, Jean Webb  
**Wardrobe Mistress:** Georgine Machin  
**Make-up Coordinator:** Joyce Willis and Team  
**Programme Editor:** Fred Johnson  
**Assisted by:** Dennis Oliver  
**Programme Distribution:** Roy Davenport  
**Honorary Auditor:** Steve Jones  
**Bankers:** Lloyds (Newcastle)

## Management Committee

**President:** Alderman Elsie Ashley O.B.E.  
**Chairman:** Fred Johnson  
**Secretary:** Gill Johnson  
**Treasurer:** Dennis Oliver  
**Vice Chairman:** Brian Hilditch  
**Assistant Secretary:** Julee Mountford  
**Registrar/Welfare:** Stuart Owen  
**Librarian:** Brian Hilditch  
**Social Secretaries:** Jill Bowdery, Julie Anthony  
**Publicity and PRO:** Amanda Bosson  
**Committee Members:** Lorraine Hunter, Roy Davenport

**Make-up:** Joyce Willis, Lillian Ratcliffe, Mary Blaise, Mary Cooper  
**Cast Selection Committee:** Fred Johnson, Andrew Talbot, Michael Lambert, Georgine Machin, Lorraine Hunter, Gill Johnson

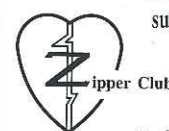
**Wardrobe Assistant and Dressers:** Georgine Machin, Daphne Ratcliffe, Anne Baddeley, Lyn Clarke, Ann Copeland, Dawn Eagles, Sylvia Wright, Helen Legan, Alison Ratcliffe, Christine Pass, Joan Whittaker, Margaret Swift, Pat Woods.



The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society gratefully acknowledges financial assistance of the Musicians' Union.

### The British Cardiac Patients Association

If you have cardiac problems or are expecting heart surgery, have had heart surgery, care for someone who has, support and reassurance are available to cardiac patients, their families and carers.



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 Keith Archer: 01782 774646 • Alan Lea: 01782 832390  
 National: 01223 846845

### Centenary Amateur Operatic Society

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### The Pirates of Penzance

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## Members List

**Honorary Members**  
Michael Lambert  
Lorraine Hunter  
Dr. Ahuja

**Life Members**  
Elsie Ashley O.B.E.  
Mary Blaise  
Margaret Byatt  
John Deakin  
Albert Whittaker  
Joan Whittaker  
Mary Beckett

**Vice Presidents**  
Roy Davenport  
Maureen Davenport  
John M. Deakin

**Members**  
Alister Acar  
Alicia Adu  
Carol Andrews  
Mike Ankrett  
Julie Anthony  
Ann Baddeley  
John Baddeley  
Kevin Baddeley  
Nicola Barnett  
Ron Beckett  
Donna Bannister  
Geoff Berrow  
Carole Bissell  
Kate Blackburn  
Amanda Bosson  
Shelley Bosson  
Jonathan Bott  
Kym Boyson  
Jill Bowdery  
David Butler  
Jean Byatt  
John Byatt  
Chris Capewell  
Jean Charsley  
John Chatton  
Cynthia Cheetham  
Val Clay  
Mary Cooper  
Kathleen Cope  
Malcolm Crawford  
Thomas Davies  
Simon Davis  
Lisa Di-Piazza  
Caroline Durber  
Judith Dutton  
Dawn Eagles  
John Eagles  
Andrew Edwards  
Anne Edwards  
Kerry Egan  
Maralyn Goldstraw  
Alex Griffiths  
Maria Hampton  
John Highfield  
Pat Highfield

Brian Hilditch  
Dereth Hilditch  
Joan Hilton  
Mark Hilton  
Michaleen Hilton  
Brian Hitchens  
Anita Hobson  
Bill Hopwood  
Mr D. Hopwood  
Mrs J. Hopwood  
Tamitha Huckfield  
Alan Hulme  
Martin Hulme  
Freda Hurley  
Fred Johnson  
Gill Johnson  
Alison Johnson  
Glenis Johnson  
Mike Johnson  
Katherine Legge  
Georgine Machin  
Richard Masters  
Ann Mace  
Julee Mountford  
Sarah Mould  
Pauline Oakley  
Brenda Oliver  
Dennis Oliver  
Catherine O'Reilly  
Peter O'Sullivan  
Stuart Owen  
Michayla Pass  
Edith Price  
Irene Price  
Daphne Ratcliffe  
Michael Redfearn  
Sarah Redfearn  
Linda Slinn  
Arthur Smith  
Jackie Spackman  
John Steele  
Judith Stephenson  
David Stephenson  
Joan Taylor  
Kym Taylor  
Paul Thomas  
Peter Thomas  
Jim Tildesley  
Lily Tildesley  
Amanda Tilsley  
Albert Tompkinson  
Andrew Tooth  
Barry Tooth  
Norma Tooth  
Ken Turner  
Marjorie Turner  
Richard Wainwright  
Ryan Waters  
Jean Webb  
Joyce Webb  
Sarah Webb  
Tony Webb  
Ken Wilkes  
Herta Williams  
Verity Winkle

**Previous Productions**  
1965 Carousel  
1966 The Student Prince  
1967 Rose Marie  
1968 Calamity Jane  
1969 Oklahoma!  
1970 Desert Song  
1971 The Vagabond King  
1972 Brigadoon  
1973 Gypsy Love:  
*Old Tyme Music Hall*  
1974 Carousel  
1975 Showboat:  
*The Gypsy Baron*  
1976 The Great Waltz  
1977 Kismet  
1978 Orpheus in the  
Underworld:  
*The Desert Song*  
1979 Die Fledermaus:  
*Rose Marie*  
1980 The Merry Widow  
1981 The Land of Smiles:  
*Lilac Time*  
1982 Brigadoon  
1983 King's Rhapsody  
1983 Student Prince  
1984 The Vagabond King  
1985 Summer Song:  
*The King & I*  
1986 South Pacific  
1987 Fiddler on the Roof:  
*The Gypsy Baron*  
1988 Camelot  
1989 Showboat:  
*Calamity Jane*  
1990 Orpheus in the  
Underworld  
1991 Carousel  
1992 Carmen  
1993 The Merry Widow:  
*Kismet*  
1994 Oklahoma!  
1995 Die Fledermaus:  
*The Great Waltz*  
1996 My Fair Lady  
1997 Annie Get Your Gun  
1998 The Sound of Music  
1999 The Best Little  
Whorehouse in Texas  
Calamity Jane

**Acknowledgements**  
Many thanks to Malcolm Lycett,  
Mrs Glover, Trevor & Albert for  
making us welcome at Hempstalls  
CP school.

Our thanks to Robbie Williams  
for his patronage.

A big thank you to the Ladies &  
Gentlemen of the St. John  
Ambulance.

Thank you to Tony Sherwin for  
the Society photographs.

Many thanks to Geoff Huckfield  
and Helen Millington and their  
teams backstage, and our grateful  
thanks to anyone who helped  
with this production in any way.

Our thanks to the ladies and  
gentlemen of the Orchestra.

Our thanks to Newcastle  
Conservative Club for the use of  
the Committee Rooms.

Our thanks to the advertisers in  
the programme for their support.

The Society wishes to thank all  
the friends who have so willingly  
given time during this  
production.

A special thank you to Mike  
Lloyd and his staff, also to Ian  
Price and all his staff at The  
Royal.

Costumes by Midland Costumes  
Crewe.  
Scenery by Stagesets.  
With grateful thanks to John  
Wardle.  
Sound by Viking (Norwich).  
Props by Howarth Wrightson and  
NAOS Props Team.

Congratulations  
To Joan and Albert Whittaker on  
their 50th Wedding Anniversary  
18th March 2000.

### Mae Thompson

It is with deepest regret that we report the death of Mae Thompson. Mae  
was a valued member of the society for over 30 years and will be sadly  
missed by her many friends.

## The Royal Concerts & Shows

### April to June 2000

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### Coming Soon...

- Radio 4's I'm Sorry Haven't Got A Clue (Monday 22nd May 2000)
- BBC Music Live 'Stoke-on-Trent 60s Rock'n'Roll Reunion (Fri. 26th May)
- Porthill Players' Millennium Magic  
- A celebration of the West End Musicals (Sat. 3rd - Sun. 4th June 2000)
- The Chuckle Brothers (Saturday 10th June 2000)
- Jack Jones (Thursday 15th June 2000)

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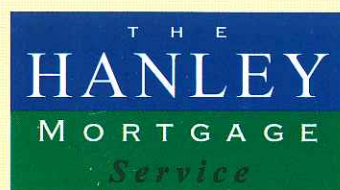
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