A woman with blonde hair, smiling, stands with her arms slightly outstretched. She is wearing a black long-sleeved top with a white horizontal band across the chest and a full, pleated white skirt. The background is a dramatic, high-contrast image of a mountain range under a blue sky.

Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society

a Gordon Alcock Production of
Rodgers & Hammerstein's

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Under the musical
direction of
Chris Timewell

The Mitchell Memorial Theatre
Broad Street, Hanley
4th - 8th November 2003

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THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by Howard Lyndsey and Russel Crouse
Suggested by 'The Trapp Family Singers'
by Maria Augusta Trapp

Director GORDON ALCOCK
Musical Director CHRIS TIMEWELL
Assistant to the director GREG WALKER

The Mitchell Memorial Theatre
4th - 8th November 2003



President's & Chairman's Message



President
Elsie Ashley



Chairman
Fred Johnson

Welcome to 'The Sound of Music'!

It has been a while since Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society last produced a full length musical (our millennium version of 'Showboat' at The Royal), although we have kept busy with a number of concerts at 'The Mitch'. The Royal sadly has now closed, and this is particularly poignant when remembering our successful 1998 production of 'The Sound of Music'.

However, we are extremely lucky to revisit this classic musical with a wonderful production team of Gordon Alcock and Chris Timewell, and for those of you with long memories- there are a number of the '98 cast rejoining us for this production- we'll leave it up to you to spot them!

The last few years have been difficult for the society, and we would like to take the opportunity of thanking all those who have helped us during this period as well as those who have worked so hard on this new production.

There are too many people to thank individually, but we feel special thanks should go to Lorraine Hunter, whose musical help over the last few years has kept the society going.

We hope you enjoy this production and thank you for your support.

Director



Gordon Alcock

Musical Director



Chris Timewell

Assistant to the Director

Greg Walker

Gordon is well known in local theatrical circles, having taken a leading role in the development of local theatre and youth talent.

Since Gordon's last production for N.A.O.S, Gordon has been involved in professional theatre and television. Gordon made his West End debut at The Dominion Theatre in 'Bread', and since then has starred with such luminaries as Albert Finney, Tom Courtney and Nigel Havers in various West End productions and national tours including: 'A Passionate Woman' and 'Art'.

TV roles include: 'Coronation Street', 'Heartbeat', 'Hetty Wainthrop Investigates', 'Emmerdale', 'Casualty' and 'The Bill', as well as a role in the TV film 'A Good Thief'.

This is the first time Chris has taken the role of Musical Director for N.A.O.S, although he has assisted with rehearsals in the past. Chris has been the Musical Director of many local amateur shows in the 70s and 80s including productions by Studio One, The Rep, Stoke Youth and Screamlane.

More recently Chris has been a co founder and Musical Director of a local charitable concert group, who include his wife Jennie. By pure coincidence they are called 'The Sounds of Music'! As well as performing locally the group travels all over the country and has presented more than £20,000 to a variety of charities.

Recent retirement has given Chris time to pursue his many hobbies including: model railway, golf, video photography, and of course music!

For over the last 20 years, Greg has been a stalwart of local theatre, taking such leading roles as Frank Butler in 'Annie Get Your Gun', Tony in 'West Side Story', Joseph in 'Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat' and Anatole in 'Chess' to mention just a few.

Greg is a seasoned cabaret performer, and has performed in numerous plays with companies such as Studio One and The Rep.

Greg has choreographed many productions throughout the North Midlands and N.A.O.S are delighted to have him on board for 'The Sound of Music'. Greg has also directed for various Scout Gang and other Youth shows and is currently working with 'Our Gang' Congleton Scouts.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Maria Rainer.....	Caroline Keen
Captain Georg Von Trapp.....	Mark Hilton
Mother Abbess.....	Michaleen Hilton
Baroness Elsa Schraeder.....	Sarah Mould
Max Detweiler.....	Jon Bott
Rolf Gruber.....	Patrick Buckley
Sister Berthe.....	Irene Crawford
Sister Margaretta.....	Margaret Brassington
Sister Sophia.....	Dereth Bailey
Franz.....	Andrew Tooth
Frau Schmidt.....	Brenda Oliver
Herr Zeller.....	Fred Caddy
Baron Elberfeld.....	Malcolm Crawford
Admiral Von Schreiber.....	Brian Hilditch
New Postulant.....	Jemma Forsythe
Fraulein Schweiger.....	Gill Johnson

THE CHILDREN

Liesl.....	Marianne Plau
Friederich.....	Marcus Robinson
Louisa.....	Sophie Brambley
Kurt.....	Adam Johnston
Brigitta.....	Megan Shaw
Marta.....	Katie Jones
Gretl.....	Miriam Mould

ENSEMBLE: Kevin Baddeley, Penny Ball, Val Clay, Abbi Cox, Malcolm Crawford, Simon Davis, John Eagles, Gary Edge, Tamitha Huckfield, Glenys Johnson, Russell Johnston, Sharon Lawton, Lily Tildesley, Marjorie Turner, Sandra Wain.

The Story: Maria, a postulant in a Salzburg Abbey, is distracted from her religious duties by the majestic alpine landscape, her restless, passionate spirit and her love of music.

The Mother Abbess, believing that Maria's personality may not be suited to Abbey life sends her away to try and discover her true calling. Maria is to be governess to the Von Trapp family- a brood of seven children helmed by Captain Von Trapp, a widowed naval officer who educates his children with military discipline.

Maria quickly learns that she is the latest in a long line of governesses who have been scared away by the antics of the seven children, who are incorrigible pranksters. Ignoring the Captain's instructions for stern discipline, Maria wins over the children with her natural warmth and kindness. She fashions them play clothes from curtain cloth, encourages them to play and teaches them to sing- and they respond to her care with happiness and laughter.

Together, Maria and the children entertain the Captain and his guests, Baroness Schraeder, the Captain's new love interest and Max Detweiler, a friend of the family. At a party designed to introduce the Baroness to the Captain's friends, the Captain and Maria dance together the Austrian folk dance, The Laendler, and both realise they have fallen in love with the other.

Maria, being confused about her feelings and believing this to conflict with her desire to become a nun, leaves the household and returns to the Abbey. Maria confesses her love to the Mother Abbess, who tells Maria to return and face her love.

On return to the Von Trapp household Maria discovers that the Captain and Baroness are due to be married. However, all is not roses with this relationship, and when the Captain discovers that the Baroness' views about the impending Nazi annexation of Austria differ dramatically from his own, it is clear that the wedding cannot proceed. The Baroness leaves and Maria and the Captain are finally free to marry.

Whilst the Captain and Maria are on honeymoon, the Anschluss takes place and the Nazis occupy Austria. At the same time, Max who has been captivated by the children's singing has entered the children into the Kaltzberg music festival.

On return from honeymoon, Captain Von Trapp discovers that he has been called into military service for the Nazis, an appointment, which his conscience will not allow him to take. However the Nazis are not prepared to discuss the matter, and soldiers arrive to ensure the Captain's compliance.

In order to avoid involvement with the Nazi regime, a plan is drawn up for the family to escape to nearby Switzerland under cover of the festival...

Musical Synopsis & Synopsis of Scenes

ACT 1

Scene 1: Nonnberg Abbey
Preludium.....*The Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey*
 Scene 2: A mountainside near the Abbey
The Sound of Music.....*Maria*
 Scene 3: The Office of the Mother Abbess, next morning
Maria.....*Sisters Berthe, Sophia, Margareta and Mother Abbess*
My Favourite Things.....*Maria and Mother Abbess*
 Scene 4: A corridor in the Abbey
Reprise: My Favourite Things.....*Maria*
 Scene 5: The living room of The Trapp Villa, that afternoon
Do-Re-Mi.....*Maria and the Von Trapp Children*
 Scene 6: Outside the villa, that evening
Sixteen going on Seventeen.....*Rolf and Liesl*
 Scene 7: Maria's bedroom later that evening
The Lonely Goatherd.....*Maria and the children*
 Scene 8: A Hallway in the Villa
Reprise: The Lonely Goatherd.....*Gretl & children*
 Scene 9: The terrace of the Villa, 6 weeks later
How Can Love Survive?.....*Elsa and Max*
Reprise: The Sound of Music.....*The Children and Captain Von Trapp*
 Scene 10: A Hallway in the Villa, one week later
 Scene 11: The Living room, the same evening
So long, Farewell.....*The Children*
 Scene 12: The Office of the Mother Abbess
Climb Ev'ry Mountain.....*Mother Abbess and the Nuns*



ACT II

Scene 1: The Terrace, the same day
Reprises: The Lonely Goatherd.....*The Children and Max*
Do-Re-Mi.....*The Children*
The Sound of Music.....*The Children & Captain*
My Favourite Things.....*The Children & Maria*
No Way to Stop It.....*Elsa, Max and Captain Von Trapp*
Something Good.....*Maria and Captain Von Trapp*
 Scene 2: The Abbey, two weeks later
Gaudeamus Domino.....*The Nuns*
Reprise: Maria.....*The Nuns*
Alleluia and Gaudeamus.....*The Nuns*
 Scene 3: The Living room, one month later
Reprise: Sixteen Going On Seventeen.....*Maria and Liesl*
 Scene 4: The Concert Hall Stage, three days later
Reprise: Do-Re-Mi.....*Maria, Captain Von Trapp and the children*
Edelweiss.....*Captain Von Trapp, Maria and the children*
Reprise: So Long, Farewell.....*Maria, Captain Von Trapp and the children*
 Scene 5: The Garden of the Abbey, that night
Finale Ultimo.....*The Company*

Background to the Story

The Sound of Music is based around the true-life story of Maria Rainer, a postulant at the beautiful Nonnberg Abbey, near Salzburg, Austria. Maria had entered the abbey after completing the Austrian State Teachers' Course. On instructions from the Mother Abbess, she travelled to the Villa Trapp where she taught the children of widower, Captain Georg Von Trapp. Von Trapp had been a distinguished naval commander, and after his wife, Agathe died, Von Trapp was left alone with his children.

When Maria arrived, the children were already musically inclined, as was Von Trapp himself, however she brought about a sophistication to their music that resulted in the Von Trapp Singers becoming household names in Austria.

Maria and the Captain were married, and after the Anschluss in 1938, the family left to find a better life in America. Von Trapp died on 30th May 1947, although Maria and the children continued performing until 1956. Maria died in 1987 and was buried next to her Captain at The Von Trapp Family lodge in Vermont, USA.



Captain Von Trapp- Mark Hilton

Maria Rainer- Caroline Keen



Mother Abbess- Michaleen Hilton

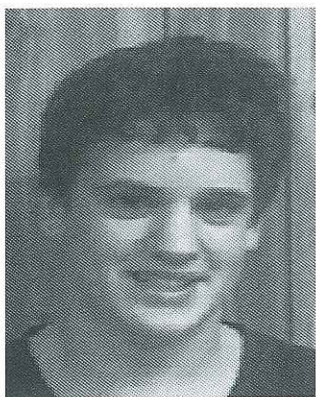


The Children

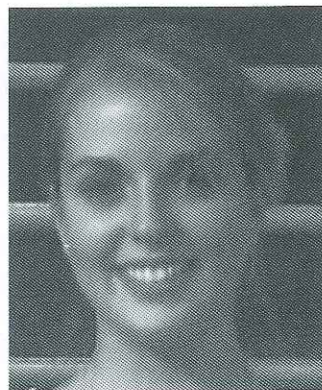
**(back-left to right) Louisa- Sophie Brambley, Liesl- Marianne Plau,
Friederich- Marcus Robinson, (middle) Brigitta- Megan Shaw,
Kurt- Adam Johnston, Marta- Katie Shaw, (front) Gretl- Miriam Mould**



Max Detweiller- Jon Bott Baroness Elsa Shraeder- Sarah Mould



Rolf Gruber- Patrick Buckley



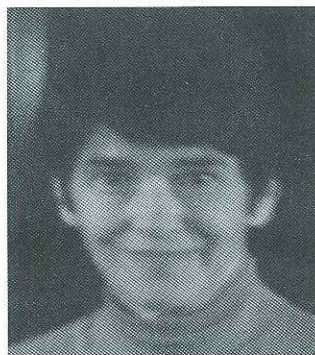
Liesl- Marianne Plau



**Sister Sophia-
Dereth Bailey**



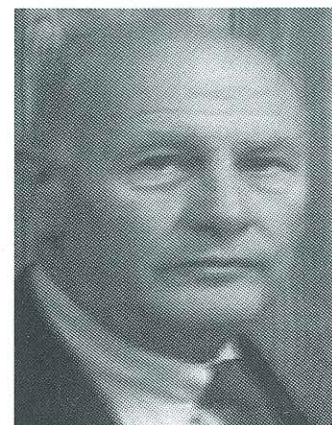
**Sister Berthe-
Irene Crawford**



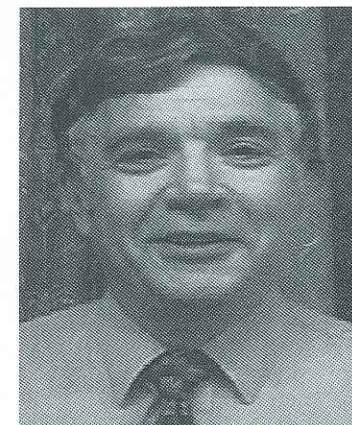
Sister Margareta- Margaret Brassington



Frau Schmidt- Brenda Oliver Franz- Andrew Tooth



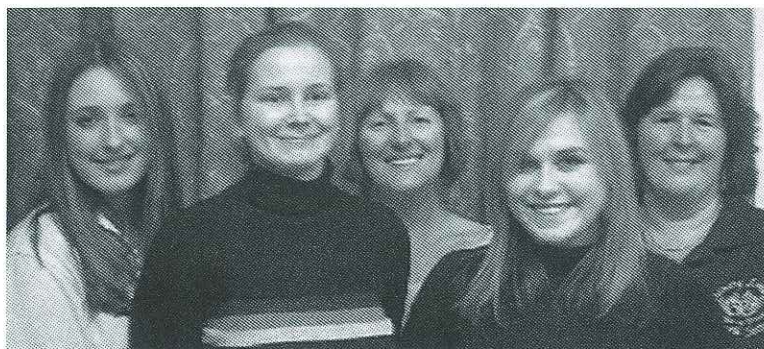
**Admiral Von Schreiber-
Brian Hilditch**



**Baron Elberfeld-
Malcolm Crawford**



Marjorie Turner, Lily Tildesley, Sharon Lawton, Val Clay



Jemma Forsythe, Penny Ball, Irene Crawford, Abbi Cox, Sandra Wain



Gill Johnson



**Simon Davis, John Eagles, Kevin Baddeley,
Russell Johnston.**

Production & Society Credits

Director	Gordon Alcock
Musical Director	Chris Timewell
Assistant to the Director	Greg Walker
Stage manager	Phil Callan
Property master	Helen Millington
Ticket secretary	Gill Johnson
House manager	Jean Webb
Wardrobe mistress	Georgine Machin
Programme Editor	Jon Bott
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Committee

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Patron	Robbie Williams
Chairman	Fred Johnson
Secretary	Gill Johnson
Treasurer	Dennis Oliver
Assistant Secretary & Vice Chairman	Brian Hilditch
Publicity & PR	Amanda Bosson
Publicity & PR	Jon Bott
Wardrobe mistress	Georgine Machin
Social	Roy Davenport
Social	Gill Johnson
Welfare	Tamitha Huckfield
Welfare	Kevin Baddeley

Cast Selection Committee

Gordon Alcock	Chris Timewell	Fred Johnson	Gill Johnson
Brian Hilditch	Georgine Machin	Greg Walker	

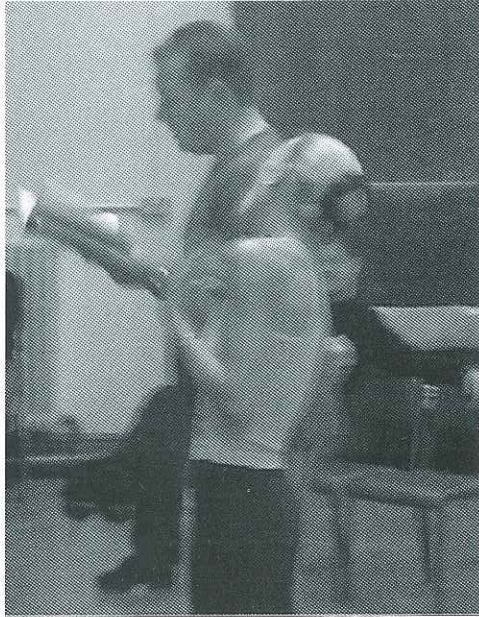
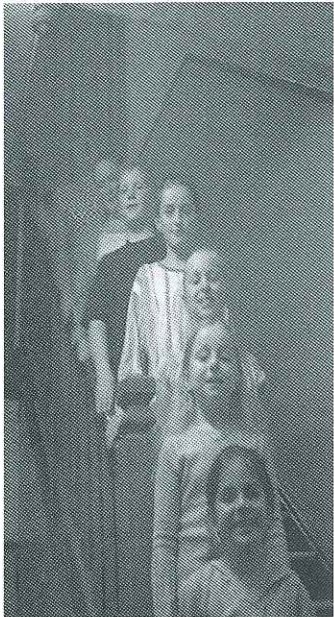
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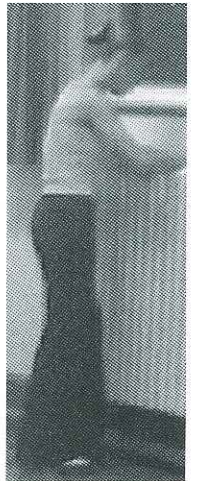
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The Mitchell Memorial Theatre Saturday 31st January 2004

IN REHEARSAL



THE SOUND OF MUSIC



Special Thanks:

- Our thanks to Robbie Williams for his patronage.
- A big thank you to St John's Ambulance.
- Many thanks to Phil Callan, Helen Millington and the backstage crew.
- Thanks to the advertisers in the programme for their support.
- Thanks to Stuart Clamp and all at The Mitchell Memorial Theatre.
- Thanks to anyone who has helped with this production in any way- you know who you are, and if we've missed you off we apologise, it's not intentional!

Honorary Members: Gordon Alcock, Chris Timewell, Dr. Ahuja

Life Members: Elsie Ashley, OBE Mary Blaise, Margaret Byatt, John Deakin, Albert Whittaker, Joan Whittaker, Mary Beckett

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1969 Oklahoma!	1983 King's Rhapsody	1997 Annie Get Your Gun
1970 Desert Song	Student Prince	1998 The Sound Of Music
1971 The Vagabond King	1984 The Vagabond King	1999 The Best Little
1972 Brigadoon	1985 Summer Song	Whorehouse in
1973 Gypsy Love	The King & I	Texas
Old Tyme Music Hall	1986 South Pacific	2000 Showboat
1974 Carousel	1987 Fiddler on The Roof	
1975 Showboat	The Gypsy Baron	
The Gypsy Baron	1988 Camelot	
1976 The Great Waltz	1989 Showboat	
1977 Kismet	Calamity Jane	
1978 Orpheus in the Underworld	1990 Orpheus in the Underworld	
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