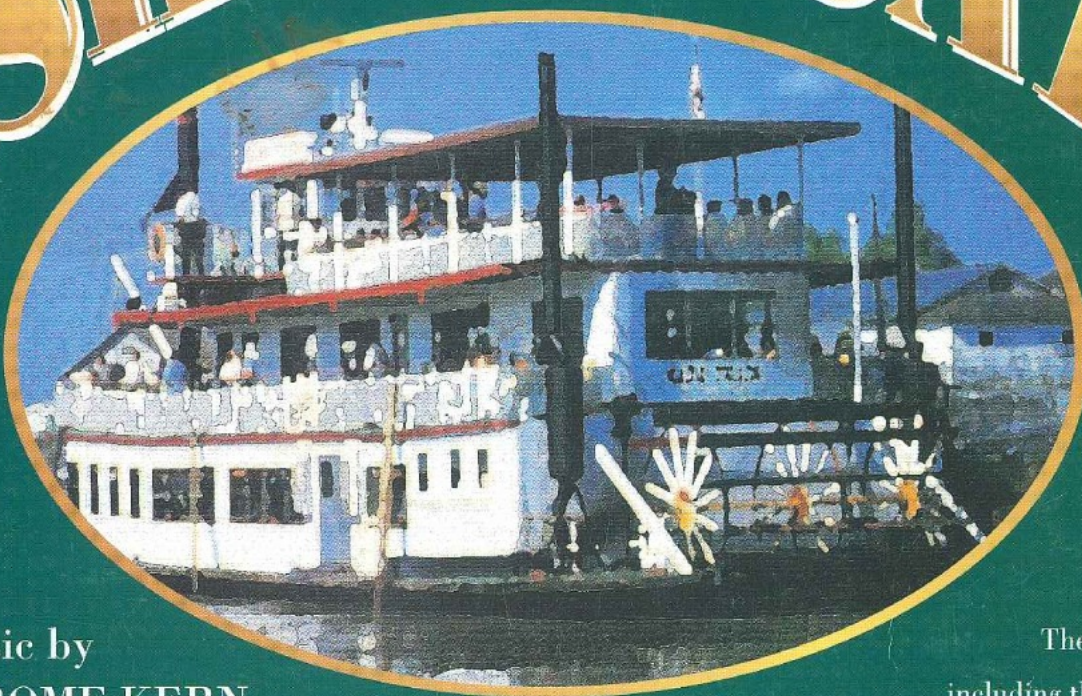


NEWCASTLE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

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

PROUDLY PRESENT

SHOWBOAT



Music by
JEROME KERN

Book & Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

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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**



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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.

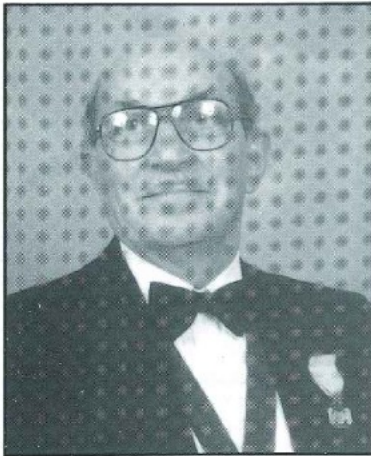
Casting the show has been a nightmare, not because of any lack of talent, but because of the choice of companies locally all wanting to give you, the audience, shows of the highest calibre. The principal line up for Showboat is a large one with new lady Kym Taylor playing the part of Magnolia. Martin 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



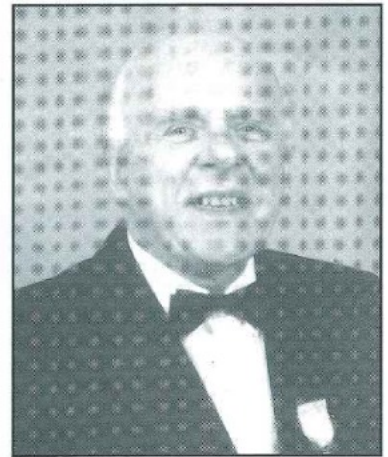
President: Alderman Elsie Ashley OBE



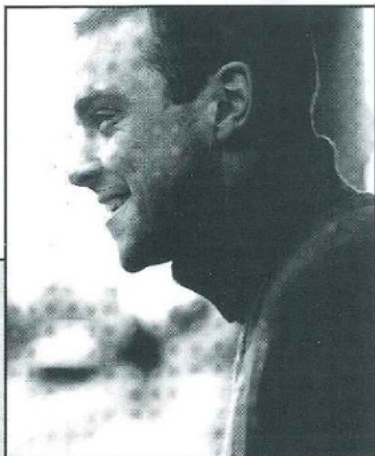
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Vice Chairman: Brian Hilditch



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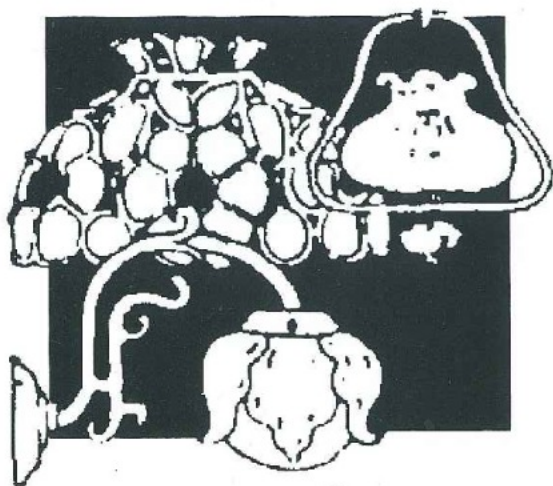
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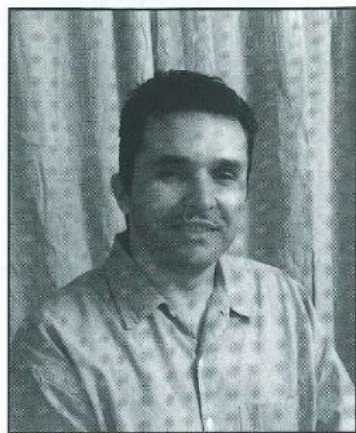
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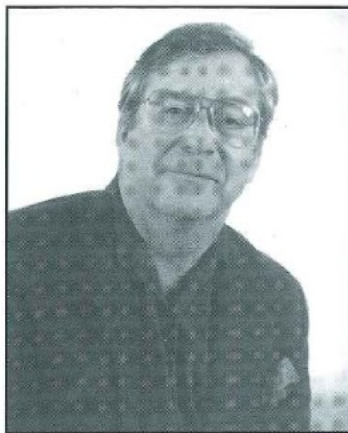
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Director



Andrew Talbot

Musical Director



Michael Lambert

Assistant Musical Director



Lorraine Hunter

Choreographer



Gina Yearsley

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



Mike Johnson and Brenda Oliver

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.

Queenie and Joe

Queenie

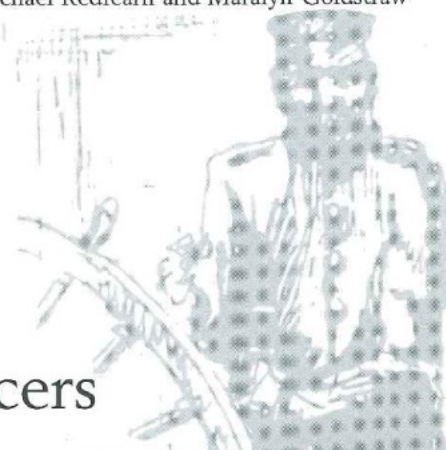
Joe's long suffering spouse, the cook for the Cotton Blossom. Typically full of life and energy, she helps to sell the show to the coloured folk with her rousing "Ballyhoo".

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



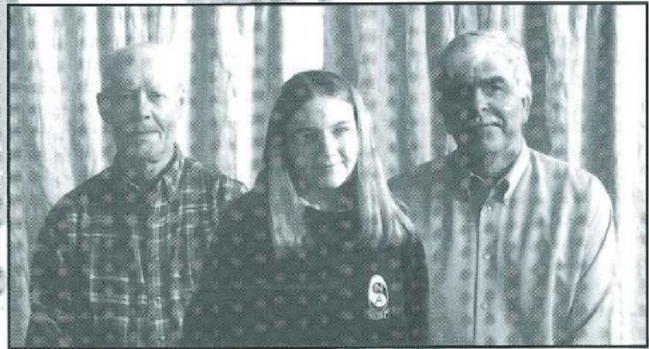
Jill Bowdery, Lisa Di-Piazza, Sarah Webb and Julie Anthony

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

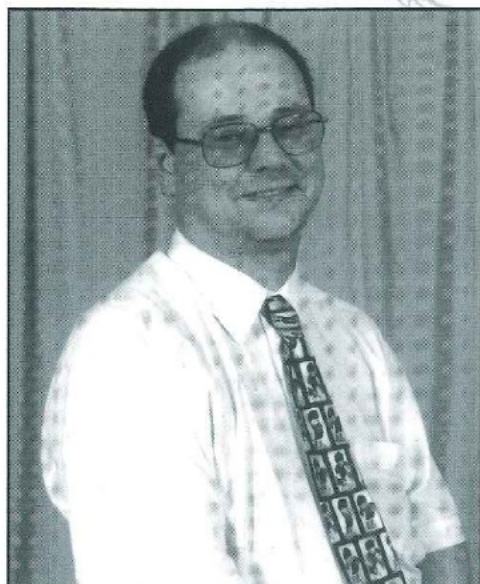
Ken Wilkes, John Byatt, Malcolm Crawford, Ken Turner, Chris Capewell, Peter Thomas, John Steele

Children

Danielle Anthony, James Johnson, Ryan Taylor



White Chorus

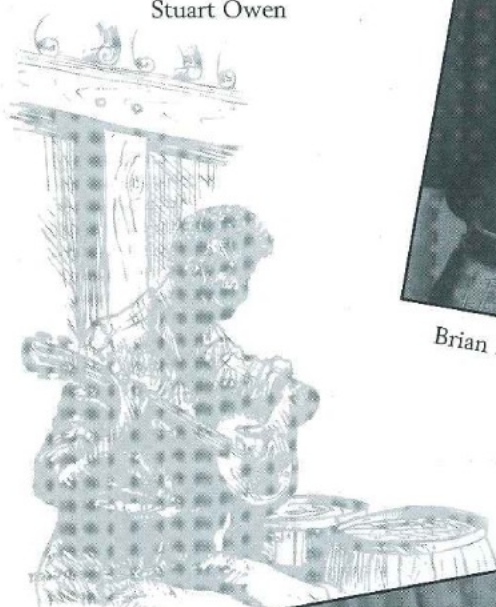


Stuart Owen

SHOWBOAT



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

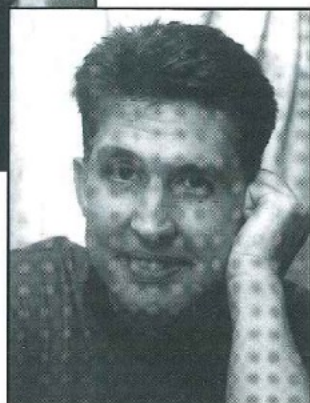
The other half of the team. He does eventually persuade Ellie to marry him and they do move up in the entertainment world. It is Frank too, who introduces Magnolia to the Trocadero night club from where she goes on to be a great singing star.



Sarah Mould and Andrew Tooth



Amanda Tilsley



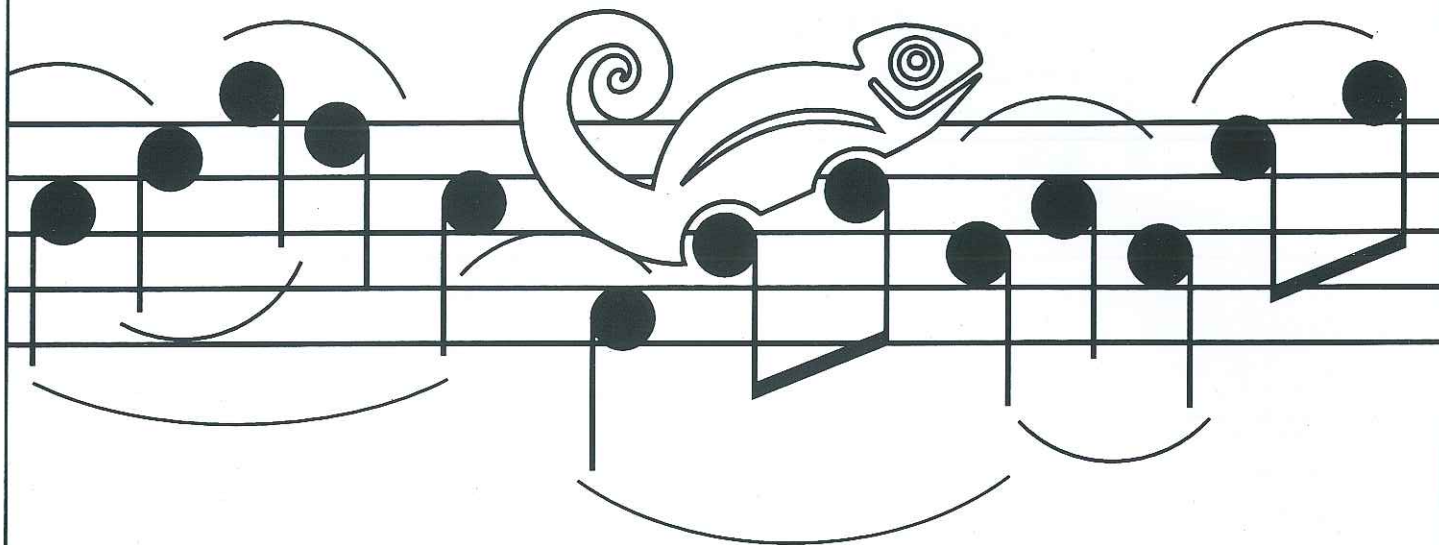
Jonathan Fernyhough

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.

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Musical Director: Michael Lambert
Assistant Musical Director: Lorraine Hunter
Stage Manager: Geoff Huckfield
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Ticket Secretary: Gill Johnson
Assisted by: Val Clayton
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Wardrobe Mistress: Georgine Machin
Make-up Coordinator: Joyce Willis and Team
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Programme Distribution: Roy Davenport
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The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society gratefully acknowledges financial assistance of the Musician's Union.

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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:
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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.

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With grateful thanks to John Wardle.

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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.


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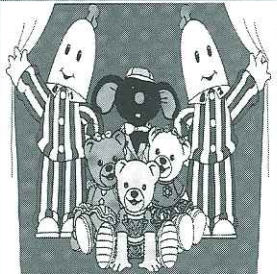
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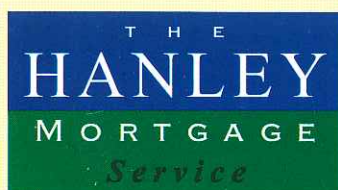
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