

**The Clacton Operatic
and Musical Comedy Society**

presents



MAY 22nd to 27th, 1972

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is my privilege and great pleasure to welcome you to this performance of "Hello Dolly", the fiftieth production of the Society.

For our forthcoming Winter production we have once again deserted the land of Pantomime and will present "Oliver" for your entertainment at the Prince's Theatre, from the 1st to the 6th January, 1973.

For our major production in the Spring of 1973 we are extremely fortunate to have secured the rights to perform the most wonderful show, "Fiddler on the Roof". This will be performed at the Prince's Theatre from the 14th to the 19th May, 1973.

These are two shows which we are much looking forward to presenting and which we know you will enjoy, so please make a note of these dates.

New members are welcome at any time and a word with our Honorary Secretary or any member of the Committee will bring full particulars. We are also always pleased to enrol new Vice-Presidents, who for a subscription of £2 are entitled to two seats for our main production with the advantage of priority booking.

Within the limits of a programme it is impossible to mention the names of all our willing helpers, mostly unseen. I do, however, sincerely thank all those who have in any way helped us with this production and finally I should like to thank our Vice-Presidents and all our patrons for their support and without whom the show could not go on.

PETER A. ANSELMINI,
Chairman.

FULLY LICENSED BAR AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE ESSEX HALL.

CLACTON OPERATIC & MUSICAL COMEDY SOCIETY
(amateur)



*Affiliated to the
National Operatic and Dramatic Association*

proudly presents

HELLO, DOLLY!

(by arrangement with Evans Brothers & Stage Musicals Ltd. of New York)

A Musical based on the Play "THE MATCHMAKER" by THORNTON WILDER

Produced for the Broadway stage by DAVID GARRICK & CHAMPION —
FIVE INC.

Music and lyrics by JERRY HERMAN

Book by MICHAEL STEWART

Original production directed and choreographed by GOWER CHAMPION

at

THE PRINCE'S THEATRE, CLACTON-ON-SEA

MAY 22nd to MAY 27th, 1972

PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY KENNETH SMITH

CHOREOGRAPHY BY DOREEN BRADBROOK

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY ROY BUDDEN

Stage Manager JOHN WHITE

Costumes by W. A. HOMBURG LTD. and PANTOMIME HOUSE Birmingham

Scenery by JAMES FREDERICKS Weston-Super-Mare

Sound Amplification by STANWOOD RADIO LTD.

Additional Lighting by STRAND ELECTRIC LTD.

Furniture by OLD TIMES FURNISHING CO. LTD.

THE STORY OF HELLO, DOLLY!

The curtain rises on a colourful street in Gay Nineties New York. Mrs. Dolly Levi, the heroine of our story, enters, accompanied by Ambrose Kemper a poor Artist. They are en route to Yonkers, to arrange the marriage of Ambrose with Ermengarde, the niece of the "Scrooge of Yonkers", Horace Vandergelder.

Dolly has her hand in every kind of business, but as you will quickly gather is currently engaged as a "Matchmaker". She numbers among her clients none other than Horace Vandergelder himself, the well known half millionaire.

Horace, who lives above his "Hay and Feed Store", is waiting eagerly to learn from Dolly news of his prospective bride, Mrs. Irene Molloy, a New York widow. Ambrose and Ermengarde's marriage proposals receive a firm NO! from Horace who banishes Ermengarde to New York to get over her foolishness.

Dolly explains to Horace how the late Mr. Molloy met his demise after a bowl of chowder — made specially, and tells him of another client, Miss Money. Though naturally interested in the new name "Miss Money", Horace stubbornly insists on meeting Mrs. Molloy. However, unbeknown to Horace, Dolly has him picked out as her own marriage partner, together with the half million dollars, and as the story unfolds she skilfully wheedles her way into Horace's affections and eventually gets her man. Even makes him glad that she has caught him.

Along the way she succeeds in matching Mrs. Molloy with Vandergelder's Head Clerk, Cornelius Hackl, and Barnaby Tucker, his assistant, with Minnie Fay, Mrs. Molloy's Hat Shop assistant. They all have the strangest meeting in Mrs. Molloy's Hat Shop in New York with Cornelius and Barnaby having to hide when Vandergelder shows up for his rendezvous with Mrs. Molloy. Vandergelder discovers that there are men hiding in the shop, but luckily for Cornelius and Barnaby, he does not discover who, since they are having an unofficial day off. Vandergelder storms out of the shop resigned to shifting his affections to Miss Money. He eventually meets up with Ernestina Money at the Harmonia Gardens, where Cornelius and Barnaby have also been cajoled into taking Irene and Minnie. Eventually, of course, Horace discovers Cornelius and Barnaby and worse Ermengarde and Ambrose. The ensuing melee lands them in court, where Dolly's adept manipulations get all but Vandergelder pardoned.

On returning to Yonkers Vandergelder's low spirits are even more depressed when he discovers that his clerks are establishing a rival store. He finally admits the error of his ways and makes Cornelius his partner, Barnaby his Head Clerk, and Ambrose his nephew in law — and Dolly his wife!

A word about the Principals

MRS. DOLLY LEVI — Forsaking her, by now, almost traditional role as "The Witch or The Good Fairy", Beryl Taylor plays the part of Dolly. Beryl, in everyday life a housewife, was formerly with the Westminster Amateur Operatic Society before moving to Clacton and joining this Society in 1965. Her first lead with this Society was as "Margot" in "The Desert Song". She has subsequently appeared in such notable productions as "Kings Rhapsody", "The Pajama Game" and "My Fair Lady".

HORACE VANDERGELDER — is played by Ken Rowlands. Ken, a local schoolmaster joined the Society in 1957 and appeared in the chorus of "Chu Chin Chow". He was formerly with the County High Evening Institute Drama Group. His first leading role with this Society was in 1957 as "Grinkle" in The White Horse Inn. He has subsequently appeared and taken the lead in many major productions, notably, "Carousel", "Annie Get Your Gun", "Brigadoon", "Summer Song", and last year as Henry Higgins in "My Fair Lady".

MRS. IRENE MOLLOY — is played by Valerie Massey. Valerie, a local schoolmistress, was formerly with the Uxbridge Amateur Operatic Society. She joined this Society in 1966 for "King's Rhapsody" in which she played opposite our Producer, Kenneth Smith as his leading lady, "Christiane". Valerie has appeared in many of the Society's subsequent productions, most notably "Half a Sixpence".

CORNELIUS HACKL — is played by Peter Hazell. Peter, who is on the Clerical Staff of the Electricity Board joined the Society in 1952 and took part in "The Quaker Girl". His first lead with this Society was in 1953 as "Frank" in Showboat and he has subsequently appeared and taken roles in many of the Society's major productions including playing "The Dame" in our last Christmas Pantomime, Red Riding Hood.

BARNABY TUCKER — is played by Alan Motson. Alan, who is an Accountant, joined the Society in 1969 and took part in Cinderella. He also played his first leading role in 1969 as "Pearce" in Half a Sixpence and has appeared in most of the Society's subsequent productions including most notably "My Fair Lady" in which he played the part of "Alfred Doolittle". Alan's partner in "Hello Dolly", "Minnie Fay", is played by none other than his wife, Hilary.

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

MRS. DOLLY GALLAGHER LEVI	BERYL TAYLOR
ERNESTINA MONEY	BETTY BEALES
AMBROSE KEMPER	DANNY O'BRIEN
HORACE VANDERGELDER	KEN ROWLANDS
ERMENGARDE	SIMONE SMITH
CORNELIUS HACKL	PETER HAZELL
BARNABY TUCKER	ALAN MOTSON
MINNIE-FAY	HILARY MOTSON
IRENE MOLLOY	VALERIE MASSEY
MR. ROSE	KEN SMITH
RUDOLPH	GRAHAM NELSON
JUDGE	ALAN KING

LADIES OF THE CHORUS

Ursula Borges, Beryl Balls, Jackie Boot, Maureen Calvert, Valerie Collop, Doris Cowdell, Barbara Gasking, Valery Gray, Marion Manning, Barbara Heath, Gillian Plumtree, Juliet Propert, Margaret Tee, Jill Sanderson.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CHORUS

Ken Drake, Dick Gray, Gil Gray, Alan Howard, Alan King, Bob Fairbairn, Derek Massey, Douglas Moonie, Adrian Robinson, John Sparrow, Mike Spurgeon, Colin Thorne, Tony Titcombe, Ray Wynne.

DANCERS

Mary Foster, Christine Locke, Angela Rankin, Nicola Rayner, Jennie Spurgeon, Leslie Wynne, Chum Borges, Dick Gray, Gil Gray, Alan Howard, Michael Spurgeon, Alan Hodgson.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1

- SCENE 1 STREET SCENE IN NEW YORK CITY IN THE 1890'S.
 GRAND CENTRAL STATION.
- SCENE 2 HORACE VANDERGELDER'S FEED STORE, YONKERS, NEW YORK.
 YONKERS RAILROAD STATION.
- SCENE 3 MRS. MOLLOY'S HAT SHOP.
 FOURTEENTH STREET PARADE.

Fifteen Minutes Interval

ACT 2

- SCENE 1 OUTSIDE THE HOFFMAN HOUSE HOTEL.
 HARMONIA GARDENS EXTERIOR.
- SCENE 2 HARMONIA GARDENS RESTAURANT.
- SCENE 3 COURTROOM.
- SCENE 4 HORACE VANDERGELDER'S FEED STORE.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

1. OVERTURE Orchestra
2. I PUT MY HAND IN Dolly
3. YONKERS MARCH Orchestra
4. IT TAKES A WOMAN Horace, Cornelius, Barnaby & Chorus
5. REPRISÉ: IT TAKES A WOMAN .. Dolly & Horace
6. PUT ON YOUR SUNDAY CLOTHES ... Dolly, Cornelius, Barnaby, Ambrose & Chorus
7. REPRISÉ:
PUT ON YOUR SUNDAY CLOTHES ... Chorus
8. RIBBONS DOWN MY BACK Mrs. Molloy
9. REPRISÉ: RIBBONS DOWN MY BACK Mrs. Molloy
10. MOTHERHOOD MARCH Dolly, Mrs. Molloy & Minnie
11. DANCING Dolly, Mrs. Molloy, Cornelius & Barnaby
12. BEFORE THE PARADE PASSES BY ... Dolly & Chorus

ACT 2

ENTR'ACTE

13. ELEGANCE Mrs. Molloy, Minnie, Cornelius & Barnaby
14. MARCH TO HARMONIA GARDENS ... Ernestina
15. WAITER'S GALLOP Dancers
16. HELLO, DOLLY Dolly & Men
17. REPRISÉ: HELLO, DOLLY Men
18. REPRISÉ: WAITER'S GALLOP ... Orchestra
19. POLKA Orchestra
20. IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT ... Cornelius
21. IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT ... Mrs. Molloy, Cornelius & Chorus
22. SO LONG, DEARIE Dolly
23. FINALE Company

THE CLACTON OPERATIC AND MUSICAL COMEDY SOCIETY

President: W. H. Timmens, Esq.

Executive Committee 1971-72:

Mr. P. Anselmi (Chairman)
Mesdames D. Cowdell, N. Timmens
Messrs. C. Bayliss, J. Plumtree, K. Rowlands, D. Simcox, J. White

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. G. Osborn

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs. C. Baker, 29 Boley Drive, Clacton-on-Sea

Honorary Auditors:

Messrs. Norfolk Pawsey & Co.

Chorus Master	David Cawdell
Accompanist	Josie Cavender
Assistant Stage Manager	C. Bayliss
Assisted by	M. Adamson, L. Allen, J. Brockett, T. Collop, D. Cowdell, M. Fletton, K. Garrod, S. Harvey, J. Heath, A. Manning, M. Potter, M. Rumsey, M. Seaman, E. Tearle, M. Freeman.
Stage Lighting	David Beales
Assisted by	A. Lerner, B. Harry, A. Rouse
Wardrobe	Nora Timmens
Assisted by	Elaine Cawdell, Anne Heath, Wendy Millard, Jean Smith, Wendy Sparrow, Marion Rawlings
Properties	Cynthia Baker
Assisted by	Janet Price, June Fletton, Bobbie Anselmi
Prompter	Janet Finch
Call Boy	Gillian Robinson
Publicity	John Plumtree, Colin Bayliss
Make-up	Barbara Simcox
Assisted by	Margaret Titford, Edna Collitt & Members of the Society
House Manager	Derek Simcox
Programme Distribution	Jean Hutley
Theatre Box Office	Bill Barrett
Ice Cream Sales	Enid Symes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society wishes to acknowledge its thanks to the following:—

Messrs. Fairbairns for transport facilities

The County High School

C.U.D.C. Director of Entertainments and Publicity, and Mr. George Watton,
and Staff at the Princes Theatre

Mr. Arthur Westwood for Box Office facilities

Committee of R.A.F.A. Club and Steward for rehearsal facilities

Nygren-Freeman & Co. Ltd. for workshop facilities

St. John Ambulance Brigade

Mrs. Faragher for the loan of properties

Messrs. Samuel Foster for the loan of properties

Messrs. J. A. Down Ltd. for the loan of properties

West Clacton Laundry Ltd. for care of costumes

Vice-Presidents for their continued support.

May we introduce . . .

Bill and Nora Timmens

Our President, and his — and our — “first lady”

The names of Bill and Nora are almost synonymous with that of the Society itself, for both have been active members since the very early days. Indeed, our President is one of the few remaining founder members, having been among a select company who came together way back in 1928 with the intention of forming an operatic society in Clacton. Incidentally, another member of that happy band long ago was Phyl Gasgoigne, now Chairman Elect of our sister society, the C.A.D.S.

Back in those early days, Gilbert and Sullivan shows were the almost inevitable choice, and Bill could be found as a member of the tenor section of the chorus, with an occasional foray into support leading roles.

As well as his interest in the fortunes of the Society, often very actively, for he was our Treasurer for a long period, he has found time to take an influential part in civic affairs generally, having been a local Urban District Councillor for many years, and serving as its Chairman in 1959.

When the late Jimmy Thompson relinquished the Chairmanship of the Society in the mid 50's, Bill succeeded him, and for the past four years has done us the honour of serving as our President. As if all this were not enough for any one person, he has also been a member of the Council of the National Operatic & Dramatic Association since 1959, and how delighted we all were when he became its President in 1970/71.

Nora, too, has been actively concerned with the amateur stage for a very long time indeed. For many years pre-war she produced an annual children's show at the Westcliff Theatre here in Clacton. In 1947 she joined the Society as Honorary Accompanist, a role which she fulfilled for eight years. Eventually she moved out of the pit and onto the stage, playing character parts in “The Arcadians”, “The Geisha”, and “Me and My Girl”. Her last appearance (and her favourite role, she tells me) was as Mrs. Mullins in “Carousel” when, since the character demanded it, she had her hair dyed red!

Many of the senior citizens of the surrounding area have cause to know and be grateful to Nora, for with her own small concert party “The Happy Wanderers”, (most of the members of which are also Society members), she has staged over 700 shows for old people.

Though now both veritable doyens among us, Bill and Nora will be very busy this week, as usual. Bill will be making his genial presence felt from time to time “front of house”, and Nora — well, you'll find her backstage in charge of the wardrobe — certainly no sinecure. The members of the Society have a lasting affection for them both, and are grateful for their long service to the amateur stage.

K.W.R.