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Lyme Regis Operatic Society

Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association



Message From The President

Dear Friends,

We welcome you to our annual production of "Anything Goes" by Cole Porter.

We were most fortunate to secure a licence to perform this Broadway success and you will be seeing the 1962 Off-Broadway Revival which includes all the captivating tunes, infectious rhythms, spectacle and dancing for which this show is famous.

Whilst we show our appreciation of the performance on stage, let us not forget the many unsung people who work backstage with scenery, costumes, properties and make-up without whom our show could not hope to flow smoothly.

If you are impressed with tonight's performance why not join us? There is a niche somewhere in the Society for almost any latent talent and if that does not appeal to you, there is always the possibility of becoming a patron. Do make yourself known to us.

I hope you have a pleasant and memorable evening.

And From The Chairman...

Dear Friends,

This year the Society has chosen a show diametrically opposed to our usual fare and we hope you approve of our choice.

This show has certainly proved challenging to the cast, for some their first foray into musical comedy, and we are particularly happy to welcome our younger new members and hope they will want to stay with us. Their contribution has had a very positive effect all round and has put a spring back into the step of many of us. Without a broad spectrum of age groups on stage no society can hope to thrive in today's hustle bustle environment and we will be making every effort to keep that balance for next year's production of My Fair Lady.

Finally, we hope you enjoy tonight's show and, as our President has said, if you feel you would like to be involved with the Society in any way please let a member of the Front of House team know, we would be delighted to welcome you!

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The society would like to apologise to those patrons whose names were received too late to be included.

Civic Night

On Wednesday evening we are pleased to welcome The Mayor and Mayoress of Lyme Regis, Mrs. Barbara Austin and Mrs. Sheila Applebee to the show. We hope that their evening will be enjoyable.

National Operatic and Dramatic Association

Patron: The Lord Lloyd-Webber

Headquarters: NODA House, 58-60 Lincoln Street, Peterborough PE1 2RZ

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The National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) was founded in 1899 "to protect and advance the interests of Operatic and Dramatic Art, and of Societies engaged therein." It has a membership of some 2,300 amateur societies and 2,500 individual enthusiasts throughout the UK, staging musicals, operas, plays, concerts and pantomimes in a wide variety of performing venues, ranging from the country's leading professional theatres to tiny village halls. Members have access to a wide range of benefits.

NODA is divided into eleven Areas, each headed by an Area Councillor who sits on the National Council (the ruling body of the Association), supported by a network of Regional Representatives. These volunteers are the vital link to the grass roots of the Association, the amateur theatre companies. The Association is administered from a Headquarters in Peterborough, with a knowledgeable and friendly staff able to deal with virtually any enquiry relating to amateur theatre. There is a broad spectrum of ages involved with amateur theatre nationwide, from a burgeoning number of youth groups to adult companies which meet the needs of all levels of both performers, whether dramatic or musical, and enthusiasts involved backstage, front of house or in administration.

NODA aims:

To give a shared voice to the amateur sector

To help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance

To provide leadership and advice to enable the amateur sector to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century

We are pleased to welcome on Wednesday NODA Immediate Past National President Mrs. Mary Hobbs and on Friday Mrs. Janet Elworthy, South West Regional Representative.

Keeley W i o e o x t L t e /

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Show Synopsis

Synopsis according to MusicScope:

The action takes place on the S. S. American, sailing from New York to England. On board are the beautiful American heiress Hope Harcourt, her English fiancé Sir Evelyn Oakleigh, and Hope's mother. Stowing away on board is Billy Crocker, a young admirer of Hope who can't believe she would really marry the silly Sir Evelyn, and determines to try and stop her. Public Enemy Number Thirteen, with his moll Bonnie, is also along for the ride and he passes on to Billy the passport and ticket of a gangster friend of his who didn't catch the boat. This leads to unwelcome complications for Billy as he has to keep changing disguises to avoid arrest. Keeping the steam at boiling point in the ship's engine room and working the stabilisers overtime is sexy, incandescent Reno Sweeney; evangelist and currently night club singer. With her help all the shipboard disasters are averted and all the romances sorted out - including her own.

This show, widely regarded as the very best of Cole Porter, shows off all the consummate skills of a master right at the very pinnacle of his powers.



Alternative Synopsis by The Society

In a nutshell the story of Anything Goes centres around the fulfilment of unrequited relationships on the ocean liner S.S. American bound for Europe from New York. Billy Crocker is in love with Hope Harcourt, who is unfortunately for him, already engaged to Sir Evelyn Oakleigh. As Hope is well above his station and her mother Mrs. Wadsworth T. Harcourt completely unaware, Billy has to resort to subterfuge to be near her. He therefore connives with Moonface Martin to impersonate a far more dangerous criminal and Public Enemy Number One, Snake Eyes Johnson, who is booked on board but never actually appears, having (allegedly) been detained by the Feds on the gangplank (but they got the wrong man). Moonface, disguised as a preacher, and his moll Bonnie assist Billy who works as a secretary for Elisha J. Whitney, another passenger, to get on board.

Are you following this? Good.

Meanwhile, Reno Sweeney and her "Angels" also join the passengers. Reno instantly recognises both Billy and the disguised Moonface and correctly guesses that "something is up." Billy enlists her help to vamp Sir Evelyn and compromise him so that Hope realises the mistake she is making. However, in the end this subterfuge proves unnecessary as Sir Evelyn confesses to an "indiscretion" with a Chinese girl whilst in the Orient. By an amazing coincidence and several disguises later... But that would be telling too much.



On the left is Reno Sweeney (Tracey Dare) with her ever-attendant "angels" above, left to right Virtue (Karen Hull), Charity (Jan Elliott), Chastity (Nikki Moore) and Purity (Trudi Robson)

Here's Mrs. Wadsworth T. Harcourt (Jill Chase) with the "happy" couple, Hope (Kelly Street) and Sir Evelyn Oakleigh (John Challis)



Definitely looking ready for the part are Bonnie (Claire Frankum) and Moonface Martin (Mike Brooks)

Interval

During the interval between Acts 1 and 2, **TheatreFriends** will have tea, coffee and soft drinks available for sale at the back of the auditorium.



The hapless cleric Bishop Henry T. Dobson (Robin Brewer) with his not so innocent acolytes Ching (Sue Wiscombe) to the left and Ling (Joyce Pomeroy) to the right

The hard working crew.
Steward (Nigel Sankey) and
Purser (Brian Rattenbury)



Left: Elisha J. Whitney, without his glasses
(Jim Pettifer) and his Secretary Billy (Phil Atkins)

Looking ready for the "Bon Voyage"
are the passengers and some of the crew



Reminder

We respectfully remind you to refrain from smoking in the auditorium and to ensure that your mobile phone is switched off for the duration of the show. Thank you.



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The Cast

Reno Sweeney (<i>Broadway entertainer and Part-Time evangelist</i>)	Tracey Dare
Billy Crocker (<i>Fresh Faced All-American Boy</i>)	Phil Atkins
Hope Harcourt (<i>Ivy League Debutante</i>)	Kelly Street
Mrs. Wadsworth T. Harcourt (<i>Hope's Domineering Mother</i>)	Jill Chase
Sir Evelyn Oakleigh (<i>English Aristocrat and All Round Good Egg</i>)	John Challis
Moonface Martin (<i>Thirteenth-rate Gangster and Ecclesiastical Impersonator</i>)	Mike Brooks
Bonnie (<i>Moonface's Hapless Moll</i>)	Claire Frankum
Elisha J. Whitney (<i>Severely Myopic Wall Street Tycoon and Philanderer, Billy's Boss</i>)	Jim Pettifer
The Angels (<i>Reno's Dancing Girls and Flappers</i>)	
Purity	Trudi Robson
Virtue	Karen Hull
Chastity	Nikki Moore
Charity	Jan Elliott
Purser (<i>All-Seeing, the One Really In Charge</i>)	Brian Rattenbury
Captain (<i>Really Only There For Show</i>)	Nick Lawrence
Steward (<i>A Loud and Troublesome One</i>)	Nigel Sankey
Bishop Henry T. Dobson (<i>Very Unlucky Cleric</i>)	Robin Brewer
Ching (<i>Chinese Convert of Initially Uncertain Purpose</i>)	Sue Wiscombe
Ling (<i>Another One</i>)	Joyce Pomeroy

Chorus of Passengers and Crew

Laura Addey, Anne Bosence, Danni Bosence, Jane Broom, Elizabeth Broome, Cathryn Frankum, Mary Hallett, Jenny Harding, Emily Hollway, Johanna Hopkins, Elaine Kendrick, Pat Marler, Yvonne Marsh, Edwena Piper, Lisa Quick, Anita Routley, Natalie Spiller, Kate Wootton, Maureen Yell
 Malcolm Deane, Howard Earl, Ed Hollway, Tom Matthews, Scott Robson, Dennis Yell

The Ship's Band

Bass:	Edward Canning
Flute, Clarinet, Alto Sax:	Julie Schofield
Oboe, Tenor and Bass Sax:	Jenny Campbell
Trumpet	Stuart Paul, Lee Baines
Trombone:	Chris Holland
Percussion:	Glyn Rattenbury
Piano:	Stephanie Dommett

Musical Numbers

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE: *The afterdeck of the S. S. American shortly before sailing*

“Opening”	.....	The Ship’s Band
“Reno’s Entrance”	.....	The Ship’s Band
“You’re The Top”	.....	Reno & Billy
“Moon’s Entrance”	.....	The Ship’s Band
“Bon Voyage”	.....	The Company

SCENE TWO: *On the ship’s deck in the moonlight*

“It’s Delovely”	Billy, Hope & Company
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SCENE THREE: *Two cabins on the “A” deck – next morning*

SCENE FOUR: *The ship’s deck – immediately following*

“Heaven Hop”	Bonnie, Sailors & Girls
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SCENE FIVE: *The ship’s deck – that morning*

“Friendship”	Reno, Billy & Moonface
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SCENE SIX: *Sir Evelyn’s stateroom – that evening*

SCENE SEVEN: *The ship’s deck – later on the cruise*

“I Get a Kick Out of You”	Reno
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SCENE EIGHT: *The afterdeck – that afternoon*

“Anything Goes”	Reno & Dancers
“Finale – Anything Goes”	Reno & Company

ACT TWO

SCENE ONE: *The ship’s lounge – after dinner*

“Public Enemy Number One”	.....	Company
“Let’s Step Out”	.....	Bonnie & Company
“Let’s Misbehave”	.....	Reno & Sir Evelyn
“Blow Gabriel, Blow”	.....	Reno & Company

SCENE TWO: *The brig – on arrival in England*

“All Through the Night”	.....	Hope & Billy
“Be Like the Bluebird”	.....	Moonface
“Reprise – All Through the Night”	.....	Hope & Billy

SCENE THREE: *The ship’s deck – soon after*

“Take Me Back to Manhattan”	.....	Reno & the Angels
“Wedding Music”	.....	The Ship’s Band
“Finale – You’re the Top”	.....	The Company
“Bows & Exit Music”	.....	The Ship’s Band

There will be an interval of approximately twenty minutes between Acts 1 and 2, during which, the draw will be made. Refreshments are available through TheatreFriends and the bar will be open. A bell will sound three minutes before curtain up for each act.

For This Production

Répétiteur	.....	Brian Manners
Rehearsal Accompanist	.....	Brian Manners, Stephanie Dommett
Choreographer	.....	Jill Chase
Dance Captain	.....	Anita Routley
Stage Manager	.....	Jacky Hedley-Tuffs
Stage Crew	.....	Reg Dixon, Roy Jackson, Malcolm Street, Tony Cook, Peter Ward, Bob Kendrick, Robin Brewer
Set Design	.....	Nick Lawrence
Stage Lighting	.....	Lyme Light
Sound	.....	Theatre Production Services
Prompter	.....	Diana Swann
Make-up	.....	Jean Wellings, Ann Higgs
Wardrobe Mistress	.....	Maureen Yell assisted by Edwena Piper
Costumes by	.....	Costume Workshops, I.O.W.
Props	.....	Jacquie Ward
Photographs	.....	Howard Earl, John Cable
Programme	Howard Earl
Original Artwork and Poster Design	Scott Robson
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Front of House Manager	Margaret Perry
Publicity	Howard Earl, Robin Brewer, Jo Hopkins, Jane Broom
Web Site	.....	Howard Earl

The Society is most grateful to **Bradford's Building Supplies Ltd.** of Axminster for their generous support with materials for the set for this production.

Nick Lawrence - Producer, Musical Director and Ship's Captain

Nick has his work cut out keeping order in tonight's riot of music, dance and quick-fire gags. Look out as well for his stand-in conductor in "Public Enemy."

Anything Goes is one of Nick's personal favourites and you can see his production skills again at the end of May in Paignton for "Fiddler on the Roof" (see the Forthcoming Events section).

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- Committee:Ann Higgs, Elaine Kendrick, Brian Rattenbury,
Nikki Moore, Malcolm Deane, Pat Marler
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The Anything Goes Fact Page

There are many versions and incarnations of this popular show and their history could fill a book. Some relevant information has been collected from the excellent and informative web site "The Cole Porter Reference Guide" at www.geocities.com/porterguide/

Original Broadway Production

The original version of Anything Goes opened on November 21st 1934 at the Alvin Theatre, New York City after tryouts from November 5th at the Colonial Theatre in Boston.

On September 30th 1935 the show transferred to the 46th Street Theatre and eventually closed on November 16th 1935. In total the show ran for 420 performances.

At the Alvin Theatre Reno Sweeney was played by Ethel Merman and at 46th Street by Benay Venuta. The Ship's Orchestra was played by The Stylists.

The show was produced by Vinton Freedley and directed by Howard Lindsay who also participated in the revisions to the original book.

A 78rpm record of "You're The Top" backed with "I Get A Kick Out Of You" was recorded by Ethel Merman with Johnny Green's Orchestra to promote the show and released on the Brunswick label. It peaked at number 4 in the chart of December 22nd 1934. A host of other contemporaneous recordings followed.

1936 Film Version

With Ethel Merman as Reno, Bing Crosby as Billy and Ida Lupino as Hope this Adolf Zukor black and white film version had considerable success. Incidentally, the film also featured Margaret Dumont, of Marx Brothers fame as Mrs. Wentworth, a character not included in the 1962 version.

1962 Off-Broadway Revival

The subject of tonight's performance, this revival opened on May 15th 1962 at the Orpheum Theatre in New York produced by Jane Friedlander, Michael Parver and Gene Andrews and directed by Lawrence Kasha.

Reno was played by Eileen Rodgers with Hal Linden as Billy.

Songs from other Cole Porter shows were introduced: "It's Delovely" from "Red, Hot and Blue," "Heaven Hop" from "Paris," "Friendship" from "Du Barry Was A Lady," "Let's Step Out" from "Fifty Million Frenchmen" and finally "Take Me Back To Manhattan" from "The New Yorkers." Technology had advanced and this show benefitted from a Stereo LP release on the Epic label with the original cast.

Other revivals followed including 1989 at the Prince Edward Theatre London with Elaine Paige as Reno and Bernard Cribbins as Moonface Martin. The latest version, the 2002 National Theatre Revival closed as recently as August 28th 2004.

We Remember...

The Asian Tsunami swept away many people world-wide; few communities escaped the consequences. We, Lyme Regis Operatic Society, did not escape either. It was such a shock to realise that Mary Levett and her husband were victims whilst on holiday in Thailand. Mary had been in our chorus for some years and then had helped backstage as a member of our makeup team. Our sympathy goes out to their families.

A Tribute to Winifred Broom and Patrick Perry

Sadly, since our last production two of our most loyal and long serving members have passed away. Winifred Broom was for many more years than she cared to recall a member of our chorus. But this was not all: she made costumes, was Social Secretary, was year after year elected on to the main committee and eventually became Treasurer. Winnie always avoided the spotlight but once, during our Northcott production of "Golden Revenge," thanks to the intervention of the callboy, narrowly missed walking onto the stage wearing her spectacles! Something just not done thirty years ago. It was a great moment when, in 2003, the National Operatic and Dramatic Association made her a presentation in recognition of fifty years service. She leaves a daughter who, we are pleased to say, is in the current production.

Patrick Perry was Winnie's brother-in-law. He was a masterly trombone player and held that position in our orchestra for more than twenty years. After a period of being Society Secretary he took on the organisation of a series of fund raising concerts with the Town Band when he conducted our combined forces. Also he was instrumental in the planning and construction of prize-winning floats as the Society's entry for the annual regatta procession. He leaves Margaret, his wife, who is our front of house manager, and also two daughters, one of whom is with us on stage in this production.

Winnie and Pat are sorely missed.

Best Wishes for "Anything Goes"

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Past Productions

Lyme Regis Operatic Society was founded in 1920

Visit our website www.lymeopera.org.uk for more information including photographs and programmes from past productions, with some material from the 1920's through the courtesy of Lyme Regis Philpot Museum.

1921	The Mikado	1971	Golden Revenge (Exeter)
1922	The Pirates of Penzance	1972	La Belle Hélène
1923	H.M.S. Pinafore	1973	The Merry Widow
1924	Iolanthe	1974	Love in a Mist
1925	The Yeomen of the Guard	1975	La Perichole
1926	The Mikado	1976	The Gondoliers
1927	The Country Girl	1977	Patience
1928	Highwayman Love	1978	The Count of Luxembourg
1929	The Geisha	1979	The Yeomen of the Guard
1930	The Yeomen of the Guard	1980	The Mikado
1931	The Arcadians	1981	Trial by Jury & The Sorcerer
1938	The Mikado	1982	La Belle Hélène
1939	The Gondoliers	1983	Ruddigore
1948	The Yeomen of the Guard	1984	The Gypsy Princess
1949	The Gondoliers	1985	The Arcadians
1950	Ruddigore	1986	Concert: The Merry Widow
1951	Iolanthe	1987	Orpheus in the Underworld
1952	The Mikado	1988	Golden Revenge
1953	Patience	1989	Gypsy Love
1954	H.M.S. Pinafore	1990	Merrie England
1955	The Yeomen of the Guard	1991	Waltzes from Vienna
1956	The Gondoliers	1992	The Gondoliers
1957	Les Cloches de Corneville	1993	Iolanthe
1958	The Sorcerer	1994	The Merry Widow
1959	The Bartered Bride	1995	Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore
1960	Merrie England	1996	Die Fledermaus
1961	Ruddigore	1997	The Mikado
1962	H.M.S. Pinafore	1998	The Gypsy Princess
1963	The Pirates of Penzance	1999	Ruddigore
1966	Iolanthe	2000	The Bells of Corneville
1967	The Mikado	2001	Véronique
1968	The Gypsy Baron	2002	The Sorcerer & The Zoo
1969	Orpheus in the Underworld	2003	The Gondoliers
1970	Golden Revenge	2004	Orpheus in the Underworld
1971	Die Fledermaus		

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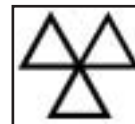
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Forthcoming Events

May 31st - June 4th 2005 Paignton Operatic Society presents "Fiddler on The Roof"
July 1st - 3rd 2005 Lyme Regis 15th Jazz Festival
July 23rd - 31st 2005 Lyme Regis Lifeboat Week
August 6th - 13th 2005 Lyme Regis Regatta and Carnival Week
October 17th - 22nd 2005 Chard Light Operatic Society presents "Carousel"
November 8th - 12th 2005 Axminster Operatic Society presents "Me And My Girl"

And don't forget!
In May 2006 Lyme Regis Operatic Society presents

My Fair Lady

(subject to licence)
Music: Frederick Loewe

Lyrics & Book: Alan Jay Lerner

Perhaps the most popular musical of the 1950s, My Fair Lady would not have existed but for the efforts of Hungarian film producer Gabriel Pascal who devoted the last two years of his life to finding writers who would adapt George Bernard Shaw's 1914 play Pygmalion into a musical. He was rejected by Rodgers and Hammerstein and Noël Coward and finally turned to the younger but very talented duo of Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner.

The story revolves around Eliza Doolittle, a coarse little peddler of flowers in Covent Garden who agrees to take speech lessons from phonetician Henry Higgins in order to fulfill her dream of working in a flower shop. Eliza succeeds so well, however, that she outgrows her social station and – in a development added by librettist Lerner – even manages to get Higgins to fall in love with her.

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING...



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throughout the year,
why not become a Patron?
See a member of the Front of House team or
call 01297 445257 for more information.