



The FOGS horn

"Pass the mustard"
The newsletter for friends of the University of York Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

Hello and welcome to the latest issue of the FOGShorn. It's now a year since we started this attempt to keep you up to date with what's going on in the society and we'd be interested to hear if you have any comments or ideas for how we could make it better. Let us know by email if you've got any suggestions!



This year's main show will be Ruddigore, to be performed in Central Hall from 14th-16th February 2008. We hope you'll be there to see it! More information will be available after Christmas.

Rehearsals began in October (it seems a long time ago now) and despite a much-bemoaned lack of men to take the roles of gentry and ghostly ancestors, the musical side of the show seems to be progressing well (if the smirk on the director's face is anything to go by!). Work has just started on learning the moves to go with the songs, and the men are feeling rather pleased with themselves, as due to the fact we have twice as many bridesmaids as gents, they've got two each!

Work on the set has begun too, and there's plenty to keep us busy constructing not only a Cornish village but also a picture gallery. We're still in need of a few people to join our orchestra- if you live locally and play an instrument I'm sure our musical director would be glad to hear from you.

Socials

This term has been a busy one socially, with a Halloween party, treasure hunt

around campus and of course a Christmas trip to the Willow.

In the last week of term we had our first full run through of the entire show's music and dialogue. As always this was great fun and those of us who hadn't heard the principals sing their parts before were impressed.



Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd (left) and Old Adam (right) rehearse their duet.

Cast interviews

FOGS horn has interviewed some cast members about what they think of Ruddigore so far...

Who are you?

Jackie: I'm a bridesmaid in the chorus.

Lauren: I'm Lauren Wade. Also known as Zorah for this production.

Stuart & Jim: We're in the male chorus.

James G: I'm Old Adam.

James D: I'm James Duckworth & I'm playing the role of Sir Despard Murgatroyd.

What have you most enjoyed about the show so far?

Jackie: I've really enjoyed starting to put the dances and music together.

Lauren: Getting started on the choreography, Welcome Gentry looks amazing (from where I'm dancing anyway!)

Stuart: The bits where we get to be very loud (e.g. When the Night Wind howls) and the MD tells us off for being too loud!

James G: I've had a general sense of enjoyment so far.

Jim: er...which show? Oh...the duet at the beginning of act 2 with Adam's low note.

James D: The witty and self-referential dialogue. You can squeeze a lot of comedy out of the extensive dialogue, and it also has moments of self-parody, such as Mad Margaret's criticism of Despard's crew ("they sing choruses in public,") Also, everyone of an immature disposition (like myself) delights in Gilbert's endless naughty innuendo, both in lyrics and dialogue.

What's your favourite song or piece of dialogue?

Jackie: Really hard as I enjoy all of it, probably Margaret's song or the Matter Patter.

Lauren: Possibly, "Nay, it is the accusative after the verb!" although that's really just the language student in me talking.

Stuart: Defiantly the men's scene in Act 2.

James G: When the Night Wind Howls.

Jim: Despard's Oh why am I moody and sad.

Who's your favourite character?

Jackie: Either Mad Margaret or Despard.

Lauren: All G&S characters are amazing! Though there is a certain something about Zorah...!

Stuart: Robin.

James G: Despard.

Jim: Sir Despard- it's close but...Sir Roderick would be next.

James D: To be honest it actually is Despard, because he's not at all transparent and you can interpret his shady character more than one way.

What are you most looking forward to about next term?

Jackie: Show week! Show week is just such fun, getting everyone together, enjoying ourselves, but working hard to produce a fantastic show!

Lauren: More dancing, more singing, more fun...more of the same really!

Stuart: Seeing what ridiculous costumes we can unearth from the storage hampers.

James G: The dancing.

Jim: Learning whatever cheesy dance moves the directors come up with. They have great comedy value!

James D: Seeing the directors' ideas for set and costume, and particularly the novelty of a pre-recorded video to depict Rupert Murgatroyd's sadistic shenanigans.

Ruddigore

14th -16th February 2008

Directors: Chris Charlton and Andrew Lawson

Musical Director: Fiona Constantine

Technical Director: Chris Armstrong

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd: Thomas Newby

Richard Dauntless: Mark Pim

Sir Despard Murgatroyd: James Duckworth

Adam Goodheart: James Gaughan

Sir Roderick Murgatroyd: James Knowles

Rose Maybud: Emma Bradley

Mad Margaret: Freya Jacklin

Dame Hannah Trusty: Lauren Matthews

Zorah: Lauren Wade

Ruth: Morven Hamilton

To book tickets email info@gsyork.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to our performance in February.



The University of York Gilbert & Sullivan Society would like to wish

**A Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year**

to all our Friends and Former Members!

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