

## presents

# My Fair Lady



### 22nd - 31st October 2009



www.salos.org

By arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musicals Limited of New York
Adapted from George Bernard Shaw's Play and Gabriel Pascal's motion picture "PYGMALION"

#### Founder Members

E A Blanchard FCGHill JP M Owen E H Young R Sutton A Carron

#### **Vice Presidents**

Byron Carron John Garrett Robert Hill Graham Haines Alan Wrixon

#### 2009 Committee

Ray Dance Stuart Dark Russell Langdown Martin Read Judith Sharp Stephanie Trinci

#### Patrons

Mr P F Jones Mr B R Carron Mrs J Woodward Dr J P Coad



President Peter Jones



Hon. Secretary Pat Purdy



Treasurer Paul Coad

#### 58 Previous Productions

1952 The Arcadians

1953 The Desert Song

1954 The Vagabond King

1955 The Quaker Girl

1956 The New Moon

1957 Rose Marie

1958 Oklahoma!

1959 South Pacific

1960 Brigadoon

1961 Chu Chin Chow

1962 Carousel

1963 The Merry Widow

1964 Showboat

1965 Glamorous Night

1966 The Pajama Game

1967 Bitter Sweet

1968 No No Nanette

1968 Finian's Rainbow

1969 White Horse Inn

1970 Kiss Me Kate

1971 The Gypsy Princess

1972 Wedding in Paris

1973 Brigadoon

1974 Hello Dolly

1975 Bless The Bride

1976 Guys and Dolls

1977 Summer Song

1978 The Dancing Years

1979 Carousel

1980 The Pajama Game

1981 Fiddler on the Roof

1981 Music Man

1982 Oklahoma!

1983 The New Moon

1984 Kismet

1985 Annie Get Your Gun

1986 Kiss Me Kate

1987 South Pacific

1988 Hello Dolly

1989 Gigi

1990 Half a Sixpence

1991 Brigadoon

1992 Bitter Sweet

1993 Funny Girl

1994 My Fair Lady

1995 Anything Goes

1996 Showboat

1997 Me and My Girl

1998 Carousel

1999 The Music Man

2000 Mack and Mabel

2001 Oklahoma!

2002 Oliver

2003 Jesus Christ Superstar

2004 Kiss Me Kate

2005 Singin' in the Rain

2007 Fiddler on the Roof

2008 Thoroughly Modern Millie

#### A Letter from the President

Dear Friends.

At last, we are able to present 'My Fair Lady' to you, even if it is three years later than originally planned! To many of you, 2006-2009 must have seemed like a never ending period of hibernation, waiting for a favourite show to appear.

I can assure you however, that in no way were the plans for 'My Fair Lady' ever frozen out from our minds. The truth is that we felt it prudent to allow the tremendous feeling of frustration and disappointment experienced in October 2006 to depart from our minds. This it now has certainly done, and we have enjoyed planning, rehearsing and producing 'My Fair Lady' afresh. At this point I thank the Wyvern Theatre management for all their endeavours to cope with the events both before and after October 2006.

Once again our early warning radar has functioned for us. As some of you will know, some weeks ago, we became aware that 'Beauty and the Beast' was to be released and following up our contact with Josef Weinberger Ltd we have been able to sign a contract for SALOS to perform this show at the Wyvern in October 2010. As I mentioned in my letter for the 'Millie' programme, as Swindon's Premier Musical Theatre Company, we are always looking out for newly released opportunities to provide our members, and you our audience with as varied a menu of challenges and entertainment as possible. I feel that 'Beauty and the Beast' will certainly provide us with the opportunity to do just that. The contrast between 'My Fair Lady' and 'Beauty and the Beast' is considerable.

That is all in the future; for the present moment let us turn the clock back nearly one hundred years. Relax in your seats and allow Eliza, Higgins, Colonel Pickering, Doolittle and the whole of the dynamic cast to entertain you in an era of long ago.

Sincerely Peter Jones President

# IMy Fair Lady

#### Acknowledgements

The head teachers, staff and caretakers of Holy Rood Junior School, Lainesmead Junior School and Churchfields School for rehearsal facilities.

The management and staff at the Wyvern Theatre for their help and co-operation.

Swindon Borough Council for allowing banners to be displayed around Swindon.

The STEAM museum for the loan of props.

All who have exhibited posters.

Swindon Advertiser, Wiltshire Gazette & Herald, Heart Radio, BBC Radio Swindon, BBC Radio Wilts hire, Swindon 105.5, BBC Radio 2 for publicising the show.

All advertisers who have contributed to this programme.

Prestige Colour for the printing of posters and programmes.

Everyone who has helped in any way towards the production of this show.

#### Story of the Show

The year is 1912 and on a cold March night in Covent Garden, Henry Higgins, a professor of phonetics, encounters Eliza Doolittle, a common flower girl, and declares to his friend Colonel Pickering that within six months he could transform Eliza into a duchess.

The following day Eliza, who has dreams of working in a flower shop, visits Higgins at his home to ask for elocution lessons. Pickering, who is intrigued by Higgins' claim to be able to transform Eliza, wagers the expenses of the experiment that it can't be done. Higgins accepts the bet and Eliza moves into his home to begin a gruelling schedule of learning to speak and act like a lady.

Several months later the Embassy Ball takes place and Eliza is a triumph. After the ball, Eliza becomes upset at seeing Higgins celebrating his success with seemingly little regard for her feelings. She leaves Higgins, and whilst worrying what will now become of her, Higgins wonders whether he will be able to manage living without Eliza.

# Mair Hady

#### **Director's Comment**

When invited to direct "My Fair Lady" I was pleased to have the opportunity to present the show after so many people were disappointed in 2006 when the society was forced to cancel the production owing to the Wyvern's closure. We started again with a new cast, set, choreography and direction.

I am acutely aware that audiences have an expectation of "My Fair Lady"; the black & white Ascot costumes, and the characters now renowned by the legendary Audrey Hepburn, Rex Harrison and Stanley Holloway. However, I'm sure you will appreciate that all creative teams and performers want to put their own interpretation on a production, and when you are working on one so well known and well crafted as "My Fair Lady", this will inevitably lead people to make comparisons. You will see an ending which is inspired by Shaw's epilogue, and an overall sentiment stirred by the Greek legend where Pygmalion is a sculptor and King of Cyprus who falls in love with his own statue of his ideal woman which is brought to life by Aphrodite. Whilst we have done it 'our way' and tried new ideas, I have tried to be mindful of showcasing the fine quality of Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion" and Lerner & Lowe's musical.

Once again I have been privileged to direct a very talented cast; I am sure you will agree tonight when you see the standard of performances, that it is almost impossible to believe everyone in SALOS has 'day jobs'. I would like to thank the cast for their commitment, as well as their sense of humour and patience at rehearsals! I would also like to extend particular thanks to Daphne Breakspear for joining our cast as Mrs Higgins; Daphne's biography later in the programme shows her longstanding association with SALOS, and she has been a great support to me over the past few years as Director. I would also like to make special mention of Mike Chivers who, until recent weeks, was to play 'Doolittle'; owing to ill health, sadly Mike had to step down from the role, however he has provided lots of support for Bob who has taken over, and Mike continues to cover the part for us. Thank you all.

"My Fair Lady" has a dedicated creative team who work in a quiet, unassuming way to enable a production of this magnitude to take place. I would like to thank the whole production team for their huge efforts and talents in bringing this show together and without whom, none of this would have been possible.

I hope you enjoy our production.



#### Ray Dance - Henry Higgins

As a young teenager, Ray's interest in music only extended to 'pop' until, whilst escaping the cold and wet during a camping trip, he visited a cinema and saw South Pacific, his first and all-time favourite musical. From that time, his interest and involvement with musicals has grown and now, having had the privilege of playing more than thirty leading roles, eighteen of which have been with SALOS, his enthusiasm remains high, as does his enjoyment and zeal for producing and performing in musicals with Judith Sharp, his singing partner of twenty-five years. Ray has always considered playing leading roles, with whatever organisation, a privilege and this performance with SALOS is just that. Doing justice to the work of brilliant composers and lyricists and creating enjoyment for others is a big responsibility, a challenge and is always enjoyable. Ray hopes that he, and all the cast of this SALOS production, meet the challenge and enable you, the audience, to thoroughly enjoy My Fair Lady's superb score and libretto.

"I'll make a Duchess of this draggle-tailed guttersnipe!" - Higgins

"I washed my face and hands before I came, I did" - Eliza

#### Heather Reynolds - Eliza Doolittle

Heather started dancing with the Judith Hockaday School of Dance & Drama at the age of six. She has taken part in many dance shows and festivals, winning medals and trophies all over the country, including The All England Dance Competition at Sadler's Wells Theatre. In 1998 Heather received first place at the Imperial Ballet Awards in London and went on to become a fully qualified dance teacher. She is now a 'Fellow' of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing and teaches at the Judith Hockaday School and College of Dance & Drama. Choreographic credits included 'Rusalka' for Stowe Opera, 'Carmen' for the Dormy-House Opera Season, 'Guys & Dolls', 'Brigadoon', 'High Society' and 'Hello Dolly'.

She has also modelled and choreographed for hair and fashion shows for Schwarzkopf and L'Oreal in Istanbul, Dublin and London. After taking part in many SALOS productions as a dancer, Heather



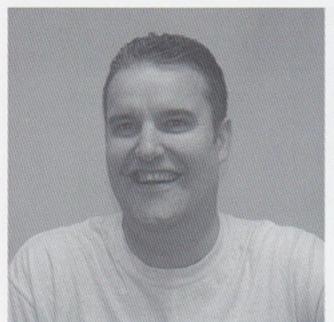
joined the company as a full member in 2003, playing the role of Mary Magdalene in 'Jesus Christ Superstar'. Subsequent roles include Lois in 'Kiss Me Kate', Hodel in 'Fiddler on the Roof' and the title role in last year's production of 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. She is also a member of the close harmony group 'Ten in a Bar' and takes singing lessons with Sarah Jefferies.



#### Courtenay Merchant - Colonel Pickering

Courtenay began singing as a 5-year-old chorister in his local parish and continued to sing throughout his formative years. Taught by the late Caroline Brown whilst at Dauntsey's school for three years, he was a chorister and sang in various concerts. At 17 he took to the amateur musical stage for the first time as Sky Masterson in Guys and Dolls. However, life and work took a different direction at this time and it would be another 15 years before he returned to his favourite hobby. Under the expert vocal coaching of Sheila Harrod and with the support of new friends, you know who you are, but especially Daphne Breakspear, he returned to the stage taking on the role of 'Sir Percy Blakeney' the Scarlet Pimpernel for Opus one. Consequently, Courtenay joined Ray Dance and Judith Sharpe at the Arts Centre for Guys and Dolls, Brigadoon, High Society, Hello Dolly, The King and I and most recently Anything Goes. With the Phoenix Players he has also enjoyed parts in Home and Beauty, The Winslow Boy, The Government Inspector and Darling Buds of May when he played the Brigadier. Family commitments have meant that until this year he was unable to commit to

SALOS but now he has, he cannot wait to get involved. Courtenay is thoroughly enjoying his first turn on the Wyvern stage and would like to thank Russell and all involved for their support.



#### Bob Desmond - Alfred P Doolittle

This is Bob's first principal role with SALOS having joined the Society in 2007 when he played The Constable in 'Fiddler On The Roof' as well as understudying the part of Perchik. At the following years annual concert, he sang High Flying Adored as a solo before understudying the role of Trevor Graydon in last years production of 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. His first ever principal role was earlier this year with Circncester Operatic's production of 'Calamity Jane' playing the part of Lieutenant Danny Gilmartin. Bob would like to thank everyone in the Society for their support in stepping up to the plate to make his debut as Alfred P Doolittle.



#### Margaret Price - Mrs Pearce

After a classical training in London and principal roles with Willesden Operatic Society, a move to Northampton gave Margaret the opportunity to play her first lead in 'The Maid of the Mountains'. Another move to Nottingham led to leading roles in 'Hello Dolly', 'The Count of Luxembourg' and 'Fiddler on the Roof' with the Nottingham Operatic Society, but the most memorable role there was Maria in the world amateur premier of 'The Sound of Music'. The family's move to Swindon led to Margaret joining SALOS with whom she has played leading roles in 'Guys and Dolls', 'The Pajama Game', 'Hello Dolly', 'Funny Girl', 'Anything Goes', 'Me and My Girl', 'Music Man', 'Oliver', the title role in 'Kiss me Kate' and last year the role of Mrs Meers in 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. Margaret is also a member of the Phoenix Players. When not treading the boards she enjoys gardening and exercising her Rough Collie, Snaz, who is now a PAT dog visiting three local nursing homes and he takes Margaret along too!



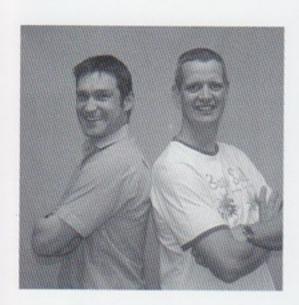
#### Daphne Brakespear - Mrs Higgins

Daphne joined SALOS in 1960 as member of the chorus and over the years progressed first to understudying and later to playing major roles, her favourites being Golda in 'Fiddler on the Roof', Mrs. Brice in 'Funny Girl' and Aunt Eller in 'Oklahoma!'. Daphne played the role of Mrs Higgins in the SALOS 1994 production and is delighted to be asked to undertake the role again this year. In 1980 Daphne moved to the other side of the footlights joining the production team which is where her interest really lies. Daphne has also been a member of the popular Phoenix Players for 50 years during which time she has directed over 200 productions for them. For many years now she has also directed the musicals which Ray Dance & Judith Sharp stage at The Arts Centre each year in aid of charity. The most recent being 'Anything Goes' back in June.



#### Martin Read - Freddy Eynsford-Hill

Born in Swindon, Martin began performing at an early age as a pupil of the Judith Hockaday School of Dance & Drama, appearing in many shows and competing in festivals throughout the country including The All England Finals at the renowned Sadler's Wells Theatre in London. With a tendency for keeping busy he also played in youth orchestras and was a keen runner with Swindon Athletics Club. In 1998 he became an Associate of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. He joined SALOS in 1991 and has since played several principal roles including Will Parker in 'Oklahoma!', Peter in 'Jesus Christ Superstar', Motel in 'Fiddler on the Roof' and Jimmy in last years production of 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. In addition to SALOS, he has performed with several other local groups including the M4 Theatre Company and Swindon Opera and is a member of the close harmony group 'Ten in a Bar'.

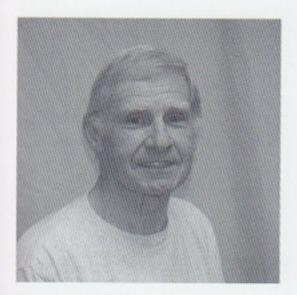


#### Mark Newton - Jamie

Mark was born in Chesterfield, Derbyshire almost 40 years ago and has so far managed to cheat death; which is nice. He moved to Swindon in 1993 and joined SALOS a few weeks later. Highlights of his stage "career" include Mr Snow in Carousel, Freddy in the last presentation of My Fair Lady, Herod in Jesus Christ Superstar and various ranks of passer by, crowd member, knife grinder, servant, policeman, ghost, dog's body and corpse. He hopes that in his portrayal of a dustman's sidekick his star is back in the ascendance!

#### Martin Whiteley - Harry

This is Martin's first show with SALOS, having joined the company in April of this year. Martin has not been on stage since his school days (many, many years ago) when he played Judas in Jesus Christ Superstar, as well as other roles. Having promised himself every year since that he would get back into a very much missed musical theatre life, he has eventually taken the plunge. In fact, Martin recently played the part of the milkman and the gynaecologist in the Phoenix Players production of Blood Brothers, the play, at the Swindon Arts Centre.



#### Chris Coleman - Zoltan Kaparthy

Chris has performed in various musicals for SALOS, Ray Dance & Judith Sharp charities and recently played the 'Narrator' and 'Mysterious Man' in the first ever showing of 'Into the Woods' in Swindon by the Janice Thompson YAP. With SALOS Chris has appeared in 'Oliver', 'Jesus Christ Superstar', 'Kiss me Kate', 'Singin' in the Rain', 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. Also with SALOS Chris has performed in numerous choral concerts enjoying solos as extreme as 'Mack the Knife' and 'Ol Man River', the most enjoyable moment was 'The Floral Dance' with the rest of the men! For Ray and Judith Chris has done 'South Pacific', 'Guys & Dolls', 'Brigadoon', High Society', 'Hello Dolly' and 'The King and I'. Away from musicals Chris is with The Phoenix Players and has performed in 'Rough Justice', The Darling Buds of May', the 'Shell Seekers' and 'Blood Brothers'.

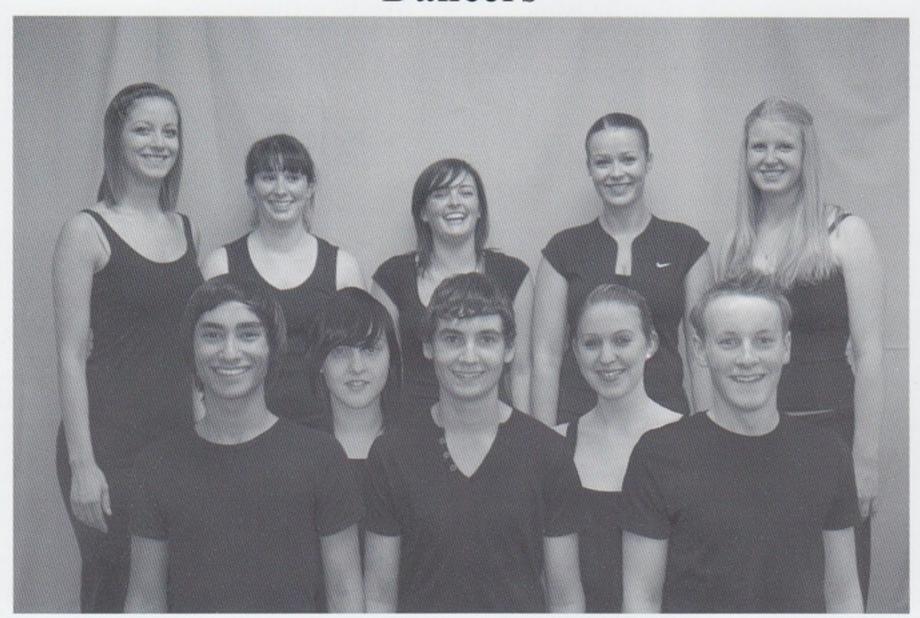




Matt Fox Marie Moment Amy Cole

Martin Lawrence
Grace Leggett Judith Sharp

#### **Dancers**



Laura McAllister Hannah Farrow Natalie Sabido Gemma Short Ellie Griffiths Anthony Starr Briony Rogers Sam Wearing Sophie Richings Ryan Walklett

#### **Understudies**



Russell Langdown - Jamie Kevin O'Grady - Freddy
Stephanie Trinci - Mrs Higgins, Mrs Pearce Becci Benson - Eliza Doolittle

#### Rehearsals can be fun... Sometimes...



Try this finger John...



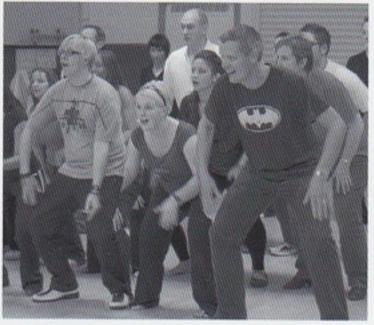
...and with just a little bit of luck, ONE of you will get it right!



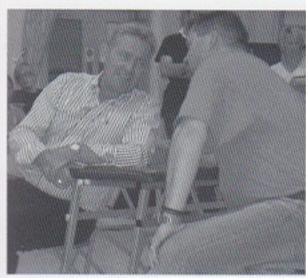
Wake me up when it's over!



Ahhhh......Oooohh......



Yes, we were all primates once!



Words? Dunno mine either!

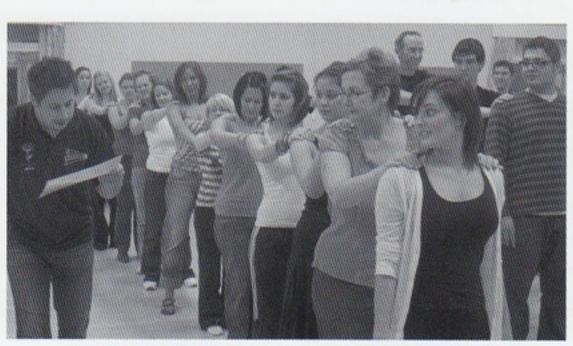


So you youngsters think this is funny, eh?

Right! There WAS a pot of tea here...



Oh God... Not again!



Sorry to keep you, it would help if I could read!



Tea Break!

## Scenes and Mu

Overture

Londo

Act 1

Scene 1 COVENT GARDEN FLOWER MARKET

A cold March night

Why Can't The English? Wouldn't It Be Loverly?

Higgins & Ensemble Eliza & Ensemble

Scene 2 A PUB – TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

Later that evening

With A Little Bit Of Luck?

Doolittle, Jamie & Harry

Scene 3 HIGGINS' STUDY

The next day

I'm An Ordinary Man

Higgins

Scene 4 A PUB – TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

Midday - several weeks later

With A Little Bit Of Luck (reprise)

Doolittle, Jamie, Harry & Ensemble

Scene 5 HIGGINS' STUDY

Later that afternoon

Just You Wait

The Servants' Chorus

The Rain In Spain

I Could Have Danced All Night

Eliza

Higgins' Servants

Eliza, Higgins & Pickering Eliza, Mrs Pearce & Maids

Scene 6 & 7 ASCOT

A July afternoon

**Ascot Gavotte** 

Ensemble

Scene 8 OUTSIDE HIGGINS' HOUSE - WIMPOLE STREET

Later that day

On The Street Where You Live

Freddy

Scene 9 HIGGINS' STUDY

Evening – six weeks later

# sical Numbers

Act 2

Scene 1 THE EMBASSY BALLROOM

Later that evening

Embassy Waltz

Ensemble

Scene 2 HIGGINS' STUDY

Later that night - 3am

You Did It

Just You Wait (reprise)

Pickering, Higgins & Servants

Eliza

Scene 3 OUTSIDE HIGGINS' HOUSE - WIMPOLE STREET

Immediately following

On The Street Where You Live (reprise)

Show Me

Freddy

Eliza & Freddy

Scene 4 COVENT GARDEN FLOWER MARKET

Immediately following - 5am

Wouldn't It Be Loverly (reprise)
Get Me To The Church On Time

Ensemble

Doolittle & Ensemble

Scene 5 THE UPSTAIRS HALL - HIGGINS' HOUSE

Later that morning - 10am

Hymn To Him

Higgins

Scene 6 THE CONSERVATORY - MRS HIGGINS' HOUSE

Later that day - noon

Without You

Eliza

Scene 7 OUTSIDE HIGGINS' HOUSE - WIMPOLE STREET

Immediately following

I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face

Higgins

Scene 8 HIGGINS' STUDY

Some time later

#### Cast (in order of appearance)

Eliza Doolittle Heather Reynolds

Freddy Eynsford-Hill Martin Read
Mrs Eynsford-Hill Judith Sharp

Colonel Pickering Courtenay Merchant

Henry Higgins

Bartender

Alfred P Doolittle

Jamie

Harry

Mrs Pearce

Mrs Hopkins

Ray Dance

Stuart Dark

Bob Desmond

Mark Newton

Martin Whiteley

Margaret Price

Albertine Davies

Servants Amy Cole, Matt Fox, Martin Lawrence, Grace Leggett,

Marie Moment, Judith Sharp

Mrs Higgins Daphne Breakspear
Lord Boxington Martin Lawrence
Lady Boxington Mary Cleverly
Policeman AJ Kane

Flower Girl Gemma Short
Footman Mike Viret
Zoltan Karpathy Chris Coleman
Queen of Transylvania Stephanie Trinci

Bartender AJ Kane Mrs Higgins' Maid Laura Dark

#### Gentlemen of the Chorus

Chris Coleman, Stuart Dark, Matt Fox, AJ Kane, Martin Lawrence, Kevin O'Grady, Richard Perrett, Mike Viret

#### Ladies of the Chorus

Nicky Ashdown, Becci Benson, Cara Chivers, Mary Cleverly, Amy Cole, Laura Dark, Albertine Davies, Grace Leggett, Kim Marrett, Sue-ling Marrett, Marie Moment, Sophie Richings, Louise Roache, Jackie Salisbury, Judith Sharp, Gemma Short, Jackie Theobald, Stephanie Trinci, Louise Vanderwatt

#### Dancers

Hannah Farrow, Ellie Griffiths, Laura McAllister, Sophie Richings, Briony Rogers, Natalie Sabido, Gemma Short, Anthony Starr, Ryan Walklett, Sam Wearing.



#### **Covent Garden 1912**



Pea Shellers



A Delivery Ready To Go



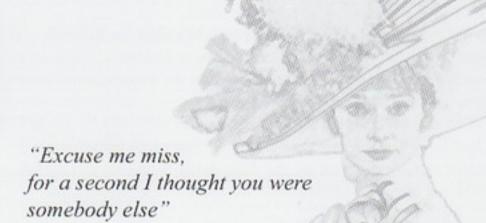
A Typical Market Scene



Flower Sellers



Getting Ready For The Day



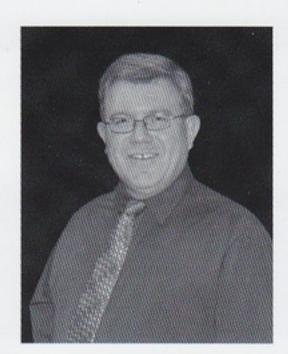


#### Russell Langdown - Director

Russell is a professional teacher of Performing Arts in a local secondary school and he also teaches drama at the highly regarded Judith Hockaday School of Dance & Drama. He trained in dance with Judith Hockaday from an early age and has also received singing tuition from Swindon's Sarah Jefferies. His practical experience of theatre, gained in performing, has been achieved through playing principal roles in SALOS productions, including Bill Calhoun in 'Kiss Me Kate' and Jesus in 'Jesus Christ Superstar'. In addition to SALOS, Russell is a member of the Phoenix Players and has also performed in Ray Dance & Judith Sharp's productions, with roles including Lt Cable in 'South Pacific', Harry Ritchie in 'Brigadoon', Barnaby Tucker in 'Hello Dolly', and earlier this year: Billy Crocker in 'Anything Goes'. Russell has been asked to perform with other societies and has played the role of Cosmo Brown in 'Singin in the Rain' for GODS in Gloucester. Russell has been involved in every annual production with SALOS since 1988 and has enjoyed staging SALOS concerts over the past five years; in recent years he has been honoured to direct 'Fiddler on the Roof' in 2007 and the 2008 SALOS & Swindon premier - 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. Russell is thrilled to be directing 'My Fair Lady'.

#### Malcolm Webb - Musical Director

My Fair Lady is Malcolm's fourth production as Musical Director with SALOS. Born in Swindon, Malcolm studied flute with Wilfred Smith (Principal Flute – Covent Garden Orchestra) and now has a busy and varied schedule of both playing and conducting. In his role as MD, Malcolm has many musical credits to his name, including 'South Pacific', 'Kiss Me Kate', 'Oklahoma!', 'Me and My Girl', 'Anything Goes', 'The Scarlet Pimpernel' 'Singin' in the Rain' and 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. Malcolm has also worked with Musical Theatre groups in Wootton Bassett, Cirencester and Chippenham. He held the post of Director of Music with the Band of the Wiltshire Constabulary for approximately thirteen years and has worked regularly with Swindon Opera over the last ten years, conducting their highly successful production of 'Carmen' at the Wyvern Theatre in June 2008. He is currently conductor of the Swindon Symphony Orchestra. With so much time taken in conducting, Malcolm tries hard not to neglect his own playing. He is Principal Flute with the British Police Symphony Orchestra, with whom he regularly tours the UK and with whom he has performed as a soloist. He also plays with the North Wiltshire Orchestra,



which regularly performs in Chippenham and with whom he will be performing the Ibert Flute Concerto in March 2010.



#### Judith Hockaday - Choreographer

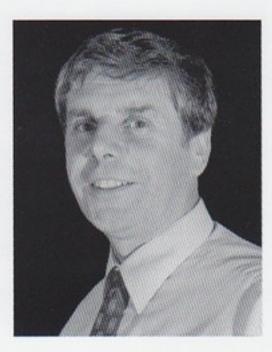
Judith came to the society in 1983 and has choreographed the dancing for many of the shows since, including 'The New Moon', 'Kismet', 'South Pacific', 'Hello Dolly', 'Gigi', 'Half a Sixpence', 'Brigadoon', 'Funny Girl', 'My Fair Lady', 'Anything Goes', 'Show Boat', 'Me and My Girl', 'Carousel', 'Mack & Mabel', 'Music Man', 'Oklahoma!', 'Oliver', 'Jesus Christ Superstar', 'Kiss Me Kate', 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. She has been the principal of her own school for 49 years and is a triple examiner for the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. In 1976 she won the Isobel Haxwell Trophy for outstanding work in national dance, and later that year the Gordon Edwards Trust Award for overseas study. Former pupils can be found teaching and dancing in shows, ballet and television all over the world. Judith has also been honoured with the Imperial Award for an outstanding contribution over many years to the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing

#### Alan Wrixon - Stage Manager

Alan's 23rd show as Stage Manager is the first that he has undertaken without Clive Wall at his side as Right Hand Man. Clive retired last year and has left quite a hole, much of it filled this year by Alan's daughter, Sarah, who, as DSM, is taking even more responsibility for the planning and running of the show.

With 23 shows under his belt as Stage Manager for SALOS, you can imagine that Alan has seen just about everything there is to see or indeed he wants to see, and although My Fair Lady is a repeat show for Alan, he is enjoying the experience of a complete new look at the show by a different, much younger Director.

When not working with SALOS, Alan can normally be found in the Lighting box at the Arts Centre working on musicals and plays that often feature casts that he knows so well from the many years he has worked the Arts. Away from that and with fresh air in mind, he can often be found clad in a white coat in the middle of a cricket pitch.



#### Judith Sharp - Chorus Mistress

Judith started studying music at the age of 8 and quickly realised that her chosen instrument would be her voice, taking her first lead in a community production at the age of 10. She first conducted a choir at school aged 16 and progressed to Chorus Mistress over the next two decades as a playing member of two light operatic groups. She has been a member of SALOS since 1983 and has played many leading roles for the society, including Laurie in 'Oklahoma', Marion in 'The Music Man', Magnolia in 'Showboat', Sara in 'Bitter Sweet' and Golde in 'Fiddler on the Roof'. She became SALOS Chorus Mistress in 1999 and has enjoyed the musical challenge of conducting the last 5 SALOS concerts. She has also directed



the music for the last 7 musicals she has staged at the Arts Centre with her singing partner, Ray Dance, the last of which, Anything Goes, raised £1750 for The Coronary Care Unit at Great Western Hospital. Their next production, "Celebration", to mark their 25-year singing partnership during which they have raised tens of thousands of pounds for local charities, will take place at the Arts Centre in January 2010, followed hopefully by "Kiss Me Kate" in June 2010.

#### Sarah Wrixon Deputy Stage Manager



Having started in SALOS in 1991, My Fair Lady is the first show Sarah has repeated. Last time in 1994 as a nine year old in the chorus attempting to make sense of the stage and scenery that surrounded her. This time taking the role of Deputy Stage Manager and finding herself in charge of that stage and scenery, a challenge that she really enjoys. Being DSM takes up a lot of Sarah's free

time, but she also continues to enjoy singing and working backstage for several local drama societies.



Our wonderful Stage and Properties Crew typing their CVs for the Job Centre. Somebody mention that the 'phones are not digital!

#### Rehearsal Accompanists

#### Mike Strong



Michael has now been performing with SALOS for the past nine years and enjoys the challenge and variety of music that each show brings. When he is not rehearsing with SALOS, Michael enjoys getting involved in local charity and variety shows, workload and fatherhood permitting. Unknown to many, but not now, Michael also has a great love of jazz and is often heard 'tinkling' away at some jazz classic during a break in rehearsals.

#### John Davies



John will tell you that most musicals have some challenging and exciting moments for the musicians and for the audience too if they are alert. The 'My Fair Lady' score is full of those, coupled with those superb and classic songs that we all know so well. While last year's 'Millie' score is not so well known, it's not the case with 'My Fair Lady' and that certainly keeps the orchestra on its toes.

#### Jessie Thompson



Jessie completed her BMus (Hons) in music at the University of London in 2004. She is currently a freelance music teacher, vocal coach and accompanist in the Wiltshire area; working with a variety of schools, colleges and performance groups. Jessie is a founding member of the Janice Thompson Performance Trust and currently runs the Trust's boys, baby and scholarship classes.

#### **Production Team**

Director Musical Director Choreographer Stage Manager Deputy Stage Manager Associate Choreographer Chorus Mistress

Stage Scenery Crew

Properties Crew

Prompt

Costume Mistress

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Scenery Sound Design **Lighting Design**  Russell Langdown Malcolm Webb Judith Hockaday Alan Wrixon Sarah Wrixon Heather Reynolds Judith Sharp

Bob Manning, Eric Pyle, James Bishop, Adam Cleverly, Haydn Rischmiller, Nigel Green,

Will Thomas, Matthew Cremin, Edward Baxter-Woolford, James Canning, Steve Keogh, Lee Dowdy

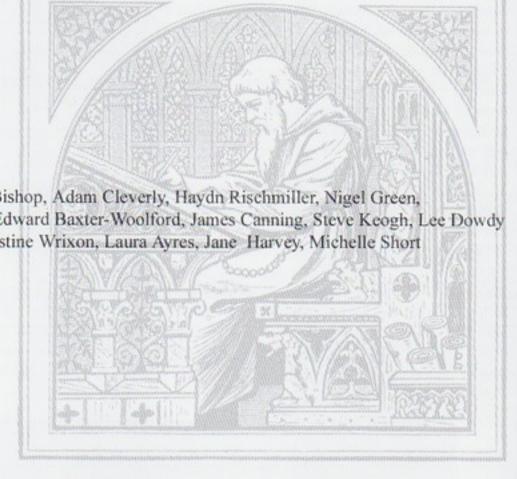
Jo Davies, Heather Flaherty, Christine Wrixon, Laura Ayres, Jane Harvey, Michelle Short

Sue Short Jacqui Doell Martin Read Chris Coleman James Canning Stas Pershin

Peter Jones & Team Irene Vaughan, Jan Davies

Jo Coad & Team Triple C Costumes Scenic Projects Ltd

Mike Hay Alan Wrixon



#### The My Fair Lady Orchestra

John Davies

Steve Wiltshire

#### Wyvern Staff

Theatre Director Operations Manager Accounts Manager FOH Manager Assistant FOH Manager Hospitality Manager Assistant Hospitality Manager Marketing Manager Marketing Distribution Marketing Assistant Marketing Assistant/Administrator Community & Education Ticket Office/Accounts Assistant Ticket Office Manager Deputy Ticket Office Manager Ticket Office Assistant Ticket Office Assistant Technical Manager Deputy Technical Manager Theatre Technician Theatre Technician Theatre Technician Stage Door Receptionist Stage Door Receptionist Stage Door Receptionist Maintenance

Chef

Siân Walters Lesley Franklin Sonja Drew Victoria Capener Paul Stewart Jody Higgins Curtis Fulcher Josie Lewis Claire Mcfauld Charity Smith Nyree Kingsbury Laura Bowman Peter Hynds Chris Husseyin Nicki Norman-Thorpe Sarah Wrixon Mike Hay David Jell Rob Brandon Robert Clews Chris Alexander David Howell Cat McLeod Rickie Legg Richard Barrett Mark Holmes

Derek Aldridge

2nd Violins Viola Cello Bass Flute Oboe/Cor Anglais Clarinet Bassoon Trumpet 1 Trumpet 2 Trombone French Horn Percussion Harp/Keyboard Orchestral Fixer

1st Violins

Jackie Pattenden, Matthew Taylor Nikki Attwood Liz Parkin Emma Bridgeman Teri Fosker/Tim Fosker Fuzzy Liston Claire Scholick Joe Bruce/Philippa Mayhew-Simpson Graeme Lewis Sean Frankcom Paul Holland Bernard Lovell Ashley Pullen

Stewart Attwood, Richard Couldridge

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Conductor, ALLAN GILL. WILL PLAT
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os to Ave III, " Lobengrin"

Peer Gyat" (Op. 46)

" From the New World"

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love Hall, M., Marchived Town Hall, Valide Hall, Couples,
General, Rat Lieu Spann, Right Mothers, W.C.
FERINSEY MEXICATS. Resources.



#### My Fair Lady - The Company

#### ABOUT NODA

The National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) was founded in 1899 and has a membership of some 2,300 amateur societies throughout the UK. NODA is divided into eleven regions, and supported by a network of regional representatives. NODA aims to give a shared voice to the amateur theatre sector, to help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance. It does this in a variety of ways; by holding conferences, an annual residential summer school and by offering training from professional tutors across the whole spectrum of theatrical skills. SALOS is an affiliated society with NODA.



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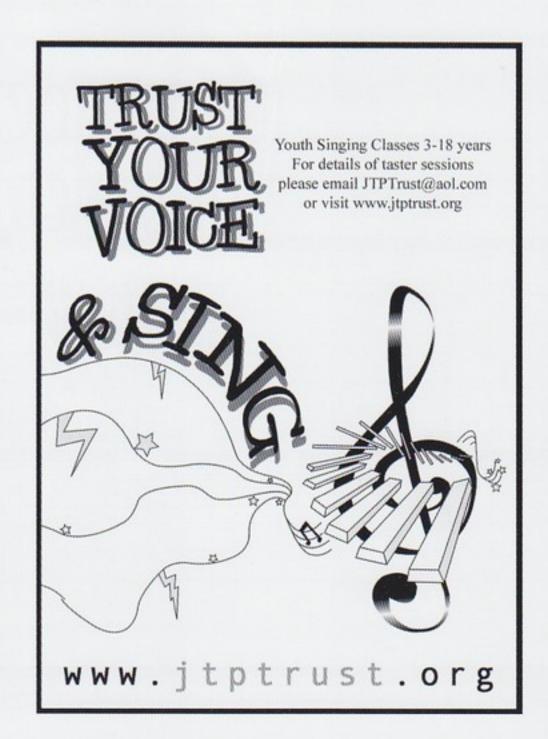
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#### Secretary's Notebook

Once again it my pleasure to bring you up to date with some of the society's events during the past year.

Wedding bells rang out in September this year for one of our back stage helpers Laura Cleverly and also playing member Louise Drewett. We wish Laura and Lee and Louise and Derek every happiness in the future.

Congratulations are also in order to Hannah and John on the birth of their baby son this summer, also of course to the proud grandparents, Alan and Christine Wrixon.

We would also like to congratulate Sarah Covey upon being accepted in to the Royal Academy of Music in London. We will certainly miss her and wish her every success.

A very warm welcome to Courtenay Merchant, Kevin O'Grady, Martin Whiteley, AJ Kane, Kim Marrett, Sue-Ling Marrett, Grace Leggett, who have joined us this year and also Matthew Cremin, Edward Baxter-Woolford and Peter Hynds who unfortunately were unable to take part in 'My Fair Lady' due to prior commitments, but are helping backstage for part of the show. We look forward to them being with us in our spring concert and of course next year's show 'Beauty & the Beast'.

We would also like to welcome Jo Coad as our Programme Mistress and to also say a very big thank you to Lee Tyler for having been our Programme Mistress for so many years – you did a wonderful job Lee, again our grateful thanks.

I would like to express my thanks to Mary Cleverly for all her help over the year.

I also have some very sad news. Two of our original members, Beryl Done and Stan Jones who were both in the very first show, 'The Arcadians' which SALOS performed at The Empire Theatre, have passed away during the year. Beryl Done played the lead in 'The Arcadians' and Stan Jones played Bobby. They both played many more parts over the years not only at The Empire Theatre, but also at The Mechanics Institute (Playhouse). Beryl was in the first ten shows and then moved away from Swindon. Stan played at the Wyvern as well as the other two theatres. They were both very talented and will be greatly missed by all who knew them.

Another of our members also passed away this year, Ken Head. Ken was in a number of the shows, mainly as a chorus member, and will also be sadly missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts and deepest sympathy are with all three families.

Pat Purdy Hon.Secretary

#### Interested in SALOS? New Members Wanted...

We always like to hear from people who are interested in joining SALOS, either as a playing member or as part of our technical crew. For further details please contact Pat Purdy on 01793 851504 or apply via the 'Contact Us' section of our website at www.salos.org. The website also contains photos and information about our previous productions in the 'Showography' section.



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# October 2010 SALOS Presents Walt Disney's Beauty and

the Beast

Music By Alan Menken

Book By Linda Woolverton

Lyrics By

Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Directed on Broadway by Robert Jess Roth

This amateur production is presented by permission of JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of New York

www.salos.org