



Hitchin Thespians Present

The
(Reduced)
Pirates
of Penzance

Lyrics by W S Gilbert
Music by Arthur Sullivan

A free concert as part of
HITCHIN
FESTIVAL
≧ 2021 ≦

Saturday 24th July
3.00 pm

At The Dell, Walsworth Road, Hitchin



@HitchinThespians



@HitchinThesps

Hitchin Thespians is a registered charity: number 1005332

SONGS AND PLOTLINES ACT ONE

THE PIRATES CELEBRATE FREDERIC'S 21ST BIRTHDAY
SUNG BY SAM AND THE CHORUS

"Pour o pour the pirate sherry"

HOW FREDERICK ACCIDENTALLY BECAME A PIRATE
SUNG BY RUTH, HIS MAIDSERVANT

"When Frederic was a little lad"

A FAVOURABLE COMPARISON OF PIRACY VERUS
RESPECTABILITY, AND FREDERIC LEAVES THE CREW
SUNG BY THE PIRATE KING AND CHORUS

"I am a pirate king"

THE GIRLS ARRIVE AT THE BEACH
SUNG BY THE LADIES CHORUS

"Climbing over rocky mountains"

FREDERIC PROPOSES TO THE GIRLS, BUT IS REJECTED
SUNG BY FREDERIC AND THE LADIES CHORUS

"Oh, is there not one maiden here?"

MABEL ARRIVES AND ACCEPTS FREDERIC'S PROPOSAL
SUNG BY MABEL AND LADIES CHORUS

"Poor wandering one"

THE PIRATES ARRIVE AND ATTEMPT TO ABDUCT THE
GIRLS!

SUNG BY FREDERICK, MABEL AND THE CHORUS

**"Stay, we must not lose our senses/First rate opportunity/Hold
monsters"**

THE MAJOR GENERAL ARRIVES
SUNG BY THE MAJOR GENERAL AND THE CHORUS

"A modern major general"

THE MAJOR GENERAL PRETENDS TO BE AN ORPHAN IN
ORDER TO ESCAPE FROM THE TENDER-HEARTED PIRATES
SUNG BY THE MAJOR GENERAL AND THE CHORUS

"A modern major general/I am an orphan boy"

THE PIRATES LET THE FAMILY GO AND EVERYONE
CELEBRATES MABEL AND FREDERIC'S ENGAGEMENT
SUNG BY THE KING, SAM, THE MAJOR GENERAL AND THE
CHORUS

"Telling a terrible story/You may go/Oh happy day"

SONGS AND PLOT LINES ACT TWO

THE GIRLS COMFORT THEIR FATHER WHO FEELS GUILTY FOR
LYING TO THE PIRATES

SUNG BY THE LADIES CHORUS

"Oh, dry the glistening tear"

FREDERIC REVEALS HIS PLANS TO ATONE FOR HIS DAYS OF
PIRACY AND THE POLICE ARRIVE

SUNG BY THE SERGEANT AND CHORUS

"Now let your escort lionhearted/When the foeman bears his
steel"

FREDERIC LEARNS HE WAS BORN IN A LEAP YEAR, SO HAS
NOT ACTUALLY REACHED HIS 21ST BIRTHDAY. HE BECOMES
A PIRATE ONCE MORE. THE PIRATES LEARN THAT THE
MAJOR GENERAL LIED TO THEM ABOUT BEING AN ORPHAN,
AND DECLARE REVENGE

SUNG BY RUTH, THE PIRATE KING AND FREDERIC

"Paradox/Away Away"

MABEL AND FREDERIC PART, KNOWING THEY WILL NOT
BE REUNITED FOR OVER 50 YEARS. THEY PROMISE TO
WAIT FOR EACH OTHER

SUNG BY MABEL AND FREDERIC

"Stay, Frederic, stay/In 1940 I of age will be/Oh here is love"

THE POLICE OVERCOME THEIR FEAR OF THE PIRATES
SUNG BY THE SERGEANT AND THE CHORUS

"A policeman's lot is not a happy one"

THE PIRATES ATTACK AND CAPTURE THE MAJOR
GENERAL - BUT THE SERGEANT HAS AN ACE UP HIS
SLEEVE

SUNG BY SAM, THE PIRATE KING AND THE CHORUS

"A rollicking band/With cat-like tread/With base deceit"

THE PIRATES SURRENDER, ARE FORGIVEN AND
EVERYONE LIVES HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

SUNG BY THE SERGEANT, PIRATE KING, MAJOR
GENERAL, RUTH, MABEL, FREDERIC AND THE CHORUS

"To gain a brief advantage you've contrived/Queen
Victoria/Let me tell you who they are/We anticipate felicity"

HITCHIN THESPIANS' REDUCED PIRATES

Whether you're a dedicated Gilbert and Sullivan fan, or have never even heard of Pirates before, you're probably wondering how this production came about.

Hitchin Thespians were thrilled to be asked to participate in the rejuvenation of The Dell as a performance space (we last performed in The Dell in 1992!), but timescales were tight and Covid restrictions were unpredictable.

With just 6 weeks of rehearsal time available, Cathy (Musical Director) and John (Accompanist) sat down and took apart this most beloved of G&S operettas to create something that could be performed at short notice, without an interval, and in any location. Suitable, in fact, for whatever situation July - and Covid - presented.

The result is the "Reduced Pirates of Penzance", which has retained most of the plotlines and all the best songs of the original, while taking certain liberties with the lyrics and musical content, bringing the whole thing down to a family-friendly 1 hour concert.

We have really enjoyed rehearsing it, and we hope you enjoy listening to it. Please feel free to sing along!

Cast (in order of solo performance)

Sam: Barbara Thomas

Ruth: Lynne Leggat

The Pirate King: Bob Sulzbach

Frederic: Jo Emler

Mabel: Melanie Plowman-Cobb

Major General: Andy Johnson

The Sergeant: Colin Wilson

Edith: Nicola Wilson

Musical Director: Cathy Coulthard

Accompanist: John Edwards

The chorus:

Sopranos: Belinda Gee, Susan Osbourn, Sheila Soothill, Jane Tunesi, Kate Webb;
Altos: Marianne Bond, Viv Hamilton, Jules Hammond, Elizabeth Sturges, Vivienne
Tadman; Tenors: Ian Hamilton, Chris Read; Basses: Jack Lardent, Nick Morgan,
Trevor Sturges, Justin Thomas