



GOSFORTH MUSICAL SOCIETY

presents



HUMBUG!



A MUSICAL "CHRISTMAS CAROL"

by

FRASER CHARLTON



Based on the words of Charles Dickens,
the songs of Gilbert & Sullivan, and Traditional Carols



Friday 26th November 2010: Morpeth Methodist Church

Saturday 27th November 2010: St Andrew's Church, Monkseaton

Saturday 4th December 2010: Trinity Church, Gosforth

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A Musical “Christmas Carol”

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Dramatis Personæ

Narrator.....	ROGER CROWTHER
Scrooge.....	FRASER CHARLTON
Bob Cratchit.....	TIM BECK
Fred.....	LARS BUECHLER
Bess	VANESSA WARD
Mr. Hope.....	SEBASTION DAVIDSON
Mrs. Charity	BRENDA WALLACE
Jacob Marley.....	SEBASTION DAVIDSON
Ghost of Christmas Past.....	BRENDA WALLACE
Mr. Fezziwig.....	PAUL MURPHY
Belle.....	ZOE THOMA
Young Scrooge	ZAC WANCKE
Ghost of Christmas Present.....	PAUL MURPHY
Mrs Cratchit	ESTHER COHEN-TOVÉE
Peter Cratchit	GEORGE FERGUSON
Belinda Cratchit	BETH FERGUSON
Martha	LAURA REED
Tiny Tim.....	PHILIPPA CHARLTON
Clara.....	GEMMA KEMP
Topper.....	ROBBIE CLOSE
Ignorance	GEORGE FERGUSON
Want	BETH FERGUSON
Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.....	ZAC WANCKE
Joe.....	QUENTIN WHITAKER
Mrs. Dilber.....	ESTHER COHEN-TOVÉE
Boy in Street.....	GEORGE FERGUSON

CHORUS

DAVID HALL, LORAIN HILL, PAUL LEACH, ROSEMARY MENZIES, MARILYN PERCY, JEANNIE UPTON

IF YOU’VE ENJOYED THIS, WHY NOT COME AND JOIN US?

The Society welcomes new members aged 16 and over. Rehearsals for our next show, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, are held on Monday evenings, with Wednesday rehearsals for principals only. Rehearsals are at the Trinity Christian Community Centre, Freeman Road, South Gosforth (down the road from the Freeman Hospital) and start at 7.30pm. For further details, contact June Hurst on 0191 258 6910 – or just turn up to a rehearsal!

Order of Music

ACT ONE

1. OPENING CAROL - "God rest ye merry, gentlemen"
2. SONG - "A pattern to professors" (*The Grand Duke*) SCROOGE
3. DUET - "There once was a man" (*The Mikado*) FRED & BESS
4. TRIO - "To what you state we make reply" (*Haddon Hall*) HOPE, CHARITY & SCROOGE
5. CAROL - "In the bleak midwinter"
6. a. SONG - "Beware! Beware!" (*Ruddigore*) MARLEY, SCROOGE & CHORUS
b. SONG - "When the night wind howls" (*Ruddigore*) MARLEY & CHORUS
7. CHORUS - "Ebenezer!" (*Iolanthe*)
8. SONG - "Come away, come and walk with me" (*Emerald Isle*) GHOST PAST & CHORUS
9. a. CHORUS - "Now to the banquet we press" (*The Sorcerer*)
b. RECIT. & SONG - "Be happy all" (*The Sorcerer*) FEZZIWIG & CHORUS
10. DUET - "There was a time" (*The Gondoliers*) BELLE & YOUNG SCROOGE
11. CAROL - "Ding dong merrily on high"

ACT TWO

12. CAROL - "It came upon the midnight clear"
13. CHORUS - "Ebenezer!" (*Iolanthe*)
14. SONG - "For the merriest fellow am I" (*The Gondoliers*) CHRISTMAS PRESENT & CHORUS
15. SONG - "Now hearken to my strict command" (*Princess Ida*) MRS CRATCHIT & CHORUS
16. MADRIGAL - "When the budding bloom of May" (*Haddon Hall*)
..... BESS, TOPPER, CLARA & CHORUS
17. DUET - "Hoity-toity, what's a kiss?" (*Haddon Hall*) TOPPER & CLARA
18. CHORUS - "Ebenezer!" (*Iolanthe*)
19. DUET - "Morning Joe, I hope you're well" (*HMS Pinafore*) MRS. DILBER & JOE
20. CAROL - "Lully, lullay, thou little tiny Child"
21. DUET - "I've learned my lesson well" (*Patience*) SCROOGE & MARLEY
22. QUINTET - "Uncle Scrooge has changed direction" (*Patience*)
..... FRED, SCROOGE, TOPPER, CLARA & BESS
22. FINAL CAROL - "Hark! the herald angels sing"

The title in brackets indicates the show from which the music was taken.

*"Haddon Hall" is by Sullivan & Grundy and "The Emerald Isle" by Hood, German & Sullivan;
all the other operas are by Gilbert & Sullivan.*

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

The Yeomen of The Guard

by W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

Royal Grammar School Theatre

Wed. 4th – Sat. 7th May 2011

at 7.30pm

Author's Note

There are several excellent versions of Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' that use the music of Gilbert & Sullivan: 'A Gilbert & Sullivan Christmas Carol' by Gayden Wren, 'A Savoy Christmas Carol' by Nigel Holloway and 'Humbugg' by J. K. Local and R. W. Tyler. However, none of them were *quite* right for the sort of staging that I had in mind, which was a semi-concert version in two acts, requiring minimal rehearsal, so I decided to write one myself! I wanted a version that had a narrator, no sets and a chorus that could sing from books – in other words a show that could be performed with a short rehearsal period and in any performing space. I also wanted to follow Dickens story as much as possible, with his plot and his words (many of the most well known adaptations take considerable liberties). While musing on these requirements, I hit on the idea of incorporating several of my favourite Christmas carols into the piece, and making them, in a sense, comment on the action, creating something like a combined musical and carol service.

I wish to acknowledge the influence of the other versions of 'A Christmas Carol' on the choice of songs, although I have written my own lyrics. Incidentally, the editing of the text largely follows the version of 'A Christmas Carol' that Dickens used in his celebrated public readings.

So: Dickens, carols, Gilbert and Sullivan – the perfect ingredients for a Christmas show. I hope you enjoy it!

Crew & Committee

Director Fraser Charlton
Musical Director Tony Hurst
Accompanist Julian Dawson
Lighting Richard Temperley
Refreshments..... Rosemary Menzies

President Jane Tait
Chairman Paul Murphy
Treasurer..... Laurence Scott
Secretary June Hurst
Ticket secretary Rosemary Menzies
Poster & Programme Fraser Charlton
Publicity Esther Cohen-Tovée
Committee Members..... Roger Crowther, Monica Goldfinch & Gemma Kemp

Past Autumn Shows

- 1995** Viennese Operetta
- 1996** Edwardian Musical Comedy (*excerpts from 'The Geisha', 'The Arcadians' & 'The Quaker Girl'*)
- 1997** Merrie England (with Tynemouth G&S Society)
- 1998** Pot Pourri Concert
- 1999** Romance and the Musicals (*excerpts from 'Bless the Bride', 'Goodnight Vienna' and 'Lilac Time'*)
- 1999** Trial by Jury & Other Songs
- 2000** Sullivan on Stage (*featuring a song from every show Sullivan wrote for the stage!*)
- 2003** Happy Ever After...? (*Songs about love, marriage - and what happens next!*)
- 2004** Gilbert & Co (*songs by Gilbert & German, Carr, Cellier, Clay... and Sullivan*)
- 2005** Three Little Maids (*excerpts from 'The Maid of the Mountains', 'A Country Girl' & 'The Merry Widow'*)
- 2006** Mutiny on the Pinafore (*Fraser Charlton*)
- 2007** Modern Girls (*Fraser Charlton*) & The Zoo (*Rowe & Sullivan*)
- 2008** The Phantom of the Operetta (*Paul Clarke*)
- 2009** The Philanderer (*Fraser Charlton*) & Murder at the Savoy (*Noel Katz*)