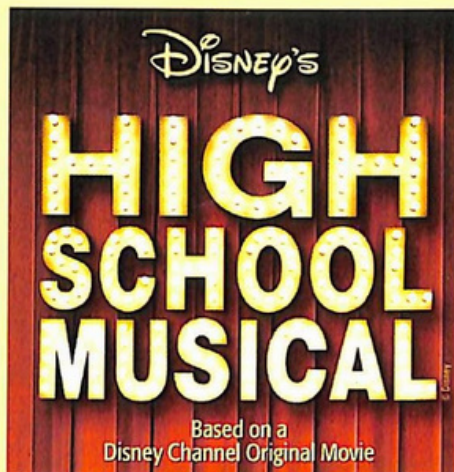


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Gabriel Pascal's motion picture "PYGMALION"

By arrangement with MusicScope and  
Stage Musicals Limited of New York

# My Fair Lady

Witham Public Hall  
22nd - 27th October 2007

Reg. Charity  
No.265029



## Witham Amateur Operatic Society

**President:** Mr R Howe

**Hon. Life members:**

Mrs K. M. Adams,  
Mrs P. Briggs,  
Mr N. H. O. Clough,  
Mr G. H. Coverdale,  
Mrs C. M. Draper,  
Mr J. E. Gunson,  
Mrs J. Hawkes,  
Mr R. Howe,  
Mrs H. Jones,  
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Mrs P. Page,  
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Mr T. J. Sheppard

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Hon Secretary: Anne Marsden  
Hon Business Manager: Trevor Drury  
Hon Treasurer: Helen Temperley  
Hon Membership Sec.:  
Anne Marsden,  
18 Saxon Drive, Witham  
Hon Production Manager: Liz Watson  
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Graham Green (WOW Chairman)  
Cynthia Stead  
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Adapted from George Bernard Shaw's Play and  
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By arrangement with MusicScope and  
Stage Musicals Limited of New York

Director and Choreographer  
Cathy Court

Musical Director  
Richard Reed

# My Fair Lady

At The Public Hall, Witham  
Monday 22nd - Saturday 27th October 2007  
Nightly 7.30 pm - Doors open 7.00pm  
Saturday Matinee 2.30 pm - Doors open 2.00 pm

Visit our website for up-to-date information [www.waos.org](http://www.waos.org)  
WITHAM AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY was inaugurated in 1921, is a registered  
charity (number 265029) and is affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic  
Association (NODA)



## The Principal Characters



**Tim Clarke**  
**Freddy Eynsford-Hill**

Lucky enough to have been bold Giuseppe in *The Gondoliers*, a very nervous Oscar in *Sweet Charity* and Hysterium in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*. I'm grateful to have been chosen to play Freddie in the current production.

**Liz Watson**  
**Mrs Pearce**



I have been treading the boards for some 22 years with WAOS now, and in that time have been fortunate to play some wonderful soprano leads and cameo parts. I have now progressed, in *My Fair Lady*, to the more mature, character role of Mrs. Pearce.



**Pat Briggs**  
**Mrs Eynsford-Hill**

I began singing as a church chorister at 7 years of age, joined WAOS in 1967 and played my first role in *Desert Song* in 1968. I have played many principal roles since but have also been Prompt, Wardrobe Mistress, Committee Member. President for 3 years and now enjoy cameo and chorus roles.

**Patsy Page**  
**Mrs Higgins**



I sang my first solo, aged five in *Cinderella* but have played leading roles in operetta, musicals and Gilbert & Sullivan ever since. My favourites were Anna in *The Merry Widow* and Margot in *The Desert Song*. I have sung with Chelmsford Opera and with South Anglia Savoy Players, travelling to Rome, South Africa, Madeira, Portugal and Ireland with the latter. A hairdresser by trade I now create period wigs which I hire to theatrical companies all over England.

## The Principal Characters



**Ron Howe**  
**Jamie**

I started singing in the Parish Church Choir and joined the Society in 1964. I have played several roles over the years from pantomime horse to principal dancer. I now enjoy life being in the chorus. My most memorable moment was retrieving a fellow member of the cast from the orchestra pit.

**Richard Herring**  
**Harry**



From a background in choral music I was persuaded to join the chorus of WAOS in 1994 to make up the numbers. I've been here ever since in roles varying from Roman soldier to pilot, pirate to Salvationist in a range of nationalities from USA to Ukraine.



**Richard Cowen**  
**Zoltan Karpathy, Lord Boxington, Bartender**

Since 1998 I have played a variety of roles, from the incredibly evil 'Wazir' in *Kismet* through to the suave if not slightly faded Italian movie star 'Vittorio' in *Sweet Charity*. I also perform and direct Wickham Bishops Drama Club and sing with my country band.'

**Lesley Wilson**

**Lady Boxington, Entertainer, Chorus**

Having loved musical theatre since childhood I am now enjoying performing in some of my favourite musical productions. After teaching dance for many years and performing in two productions with Chelmsford Ballet Company as a guest artiste, I joined WAOS in 2002 for *Oklahoma* and have performed as dancer and in the chorus for 6 shows since and feel privileged to be a member of such a friendly and talented society



# My Fair Lady

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

Entertainers .....	Laura Crimmins, Bethan Mackenzie, Rachel Nichols, Lesley Wilson
Costermongers .....	Will Ashbey, Richard Herring Adam Watson, Tom Whelan
Mrs Eynsford-Hill.....	Pat Briggs
Freddy Eynsford-Hill .....	Tim Clarke
Eliza Doolittle .....	Rachel Clapp
Colonel Pickering .....	Nicholas Clough
Professor Higgins .....	David Slater
Bartender .....	Richard Cowen
Jamie .....	Ron Howe
Harry .....	Richard Herring
Alfred Doolittle .....	Chris Cordelier
Mrs Pearce.....	Liz Watson
Mrs Hopkins .....	Janet Hawkes
Servants .....	Richard Cowen, Natalie Hawkes, Helene Jones, Muriel Loveridge, Anne Marsden, Tom Whelan, Sarah Wilson
Mrs Higgins .....	Patsy Page
Chauffeur.....	Will Ashbey
Lord Boxington .....	Richard Cowen
Lady Boxington .....	Lesley Wilson
Constable .....	Adam Watson
Flower Girl .....	Pam Whelan
Footman .....	Thomas Clarke
Zoltan Karpathy .....	Richard Cowen
Queen of Transylvania .....	Helene Jones
Mrs Higgins' Maid.....	Marea Irving

## Chorus

Will Ashbey, Pat Briggs, Thomas Clarke, Tim Clarke, Richard Cowen,  
Laura Crimmins, Trevor Drury, Janet Hawkes, Natalie Hawkes, Richard Herring,  
Ron Howe, Marea Irving, Helene Jones, Muriel Loveridge, Anne Marsden,  
Bethan Mackenzie, Danny Mullane, Rachel Nichols, Patsy Page, Adam Watson,  
Liz Watson, Pam Whelan, Tom Whelan, Lesley Wilson, Sarah Wilson

## Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers

### Act 1

- Scene 1: Outside the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; After-theatre, a cold March night**  
Street Entertainers..... The Three Buskers  
Why Can't the English? ..... Higgins  
Wouldn't It Be Lovely? ..... Eliza and Costermongers
- Scene 2: Tottenham Court Road – a shabby back alley, later that evening**  
With A Little Bit of Luck ..... Doolittle, Harry and Jamie
- Scene 3: Higgins study in Wimpole Street, the next day**  
I'm An Ordinary Man..... Higgins
- Scene 4: Tottenham Court Road, three days later**  
With A Little Bit of Luck (Reprise) ..... Doolittle and Friends
- Scene 5: Higgins' study, later that afternoon**  
Just You Wait ..... Eliza  
The Rain in Spain ..... Higgins, Eliza and Pickering  
I Could Have Danced All Night ..... Eliza, Mrs Pearce and Maids
- Scene 6: Ascot, near to race meeting, a sunny June afternoon**
- Scene 7: Ascot, inside a club tent, immediately following**  
Ascot Gavotte..... Spectators at the Race
- 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**
- Scene 10: The Promenade outside the ballroom of the Embassy, later that evening**
- Scene 11: The Ballroom of the Embassy, immediately following**  
The Embassy Waltz..... Higgins, Eliza, Karpathy and Guests

### Act 2

- Scene 1: Higgins' study, 3.00 the following morning**  
You Did It ..... Higgins, Pickering, Mrs Pearce and Servants  
Just You Wait (Reprise)..... Eliza
- Scene 2: Outside Higgins' house, immediately following**  
On the Street Where You Live (Reprise) ..... Freddy  
Show Me ..... Eliza and Freddy
- Scene 3: Covent Garden Flower Market, 5.00 that morning**  
Wouldn't It Be Lovely? ..... Eliza and Costermongers  
Get Me to the Church on Time ..... Doolittle, Harry, Jamie and Costermongers
- Scene 4: Higgins' house, upstairs hall, 11.00 the following morning**  
A Hymn to Him ..... Higgins
- Scene 5: The conservatory of Mrs Higgins' house, shortly after**  
Without You ..... Higgins and Eliza
- Scene 6: Outside Higgins' house, Wimpole Street, later that afternoon**  
I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face ..... Higgins
- Scene 7: Higgins' study, immediately following**

## Production Credits

Director and Choreographer .....	Cathy Court
Stage Manager .....	Gary Bruce
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Ghislaine Humphrey
Stage Crew .....	Jenny Hilliard, Nikki Grainger, Keith Radley, Nicolette Jeans, Mark Bundock, Robin Stuart Brace, Graham Green, Pete Fishwick
Scenery .....	Paul Lazell
Scenery Assistants .....	Melissa Eden, Lesley Stuart Brace
Lighting .....	Nigel Northfield
Sound .....	Paul Galley: Event Sound and Light
Properties Manager .....	Helen Temperley, Judy Fishwick
Properties Team .....	Pat Brown, Lydia Clough, Angie Crimmins, Christine Green, Jennifer Papworth, Janice Hawkes, Jo Speed, Christine Willison.
Wardrobe Mistress .....	Patsy Page
Costumes .....	Costume Store
Make-up .....	Liz Watson.
Wigs .....	Patsy Page
Prompt .....	Cynthia Draper
Box Office Manager .....	Janice Hawkes
Front of House Manager .....	Richard & Janet Wash
Publicity Manager .....	Angela Briley
Bar Manager .....	Kath Adkins
Programme Cover & Poster Artwork .....	Cowdalls Printers
Publicity Photos .....	Graham Batt
Programme .....	Stewart Adkins

## Orchestra

Musical Director .....	Richard Reed
Violins .....	Helen Ryan, Bryony Rees
Trumpet .....	John Malam
Trombone .....	Scott Mordecai
Woodwind .....	Jessie Threadgold, Sandy Tate
Keyboard .....	Brian Atkinson
Percussion .....	Mike Lovell
Bass .....	Amy Merryweather
Rehearsal Accompanists .....	Brian Atkinson, David Mitchell, Hans Montanana

- Please ensure your mobile phone is switched off.
- Please do not take videos, photographs or sound recordings of this production.
- Hearing Aids: Wearers of suitably equipped hearing aids should select the T position.

## The Company



**Janet Hawkes**  
*Mrs Hopkins & Chorus*

I played a maid in our last production of *My Fair Lady* and so I am particularly pleased to experience the glamour of *Ascot* this time round. Born and raised in the north, I am also revelling in the opportunity to try out my Cockney accent on an audience of (mostly) southerners!



**Helene Jones**  
*Servant, Queen of Transylvania & Chorus*

I have been a member of WAOS for 35 years and as well as singing in the chorus I have been fortunate enough to have taken many principal roles. I also sing with South Anglia Savoy Players and Trinity Methodists



**Marea Irving**  
*Mrs Higgins' Maid & Chorus*

I started dancing when I was 8, took my first role of Liat in *South Pacific* with CAODS in 1961 and joined Little Waltham Drama Group in 1971, enjoying pantomime, plays and music hall. I joined WAOS in 1992 and my favourite role was Meg Brockie in *Brigadoon* in 1993. I look forward to dancing again in *My Fair Lady*.



**Muriel Loveridge**  
*Servant & Chorus*

I have been a member of WAOS since 1985 and have been a regular member of the chorus, also playing minor roles including Celia in *Iolanthe*. I sing regularly with Tiptree & District Choral Society, sing with a country band and tour the area with Pat's People, a small concert group. I have also sung with Trinity Music and Drama in Chelmsford. I was a dancer in the last performance of *My Fair Lady* in 1994.



**Tom Whelan**  
*Costermonger, Servant, Chorus*

I was born into a musical Liverpoolian family and made my stage debut at the age of five. In my teens I was a member of a pop group and recorded with Decca, but my prime interest was opera and I also dabbled in musicals and folk music. I have performed in over twenty shows with WAOS, as well as singing with Maldon Promenaders, Chelmsford Opera, and Trinity Music and Drama



**Pam Whelan**  
*Flower Girl & Chorus*

My first show for WAOS was the *Mikado* in 2000 as a member of the chorus. Despite some heroic failures at auditions for major parts I am still a member of the chorus! At least this time I get a named part as a flower girl.

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The Company



**Will Ashbey**  
*Costermonger , Chauffeur & Chorus*

This is my third show with WAOS and I hope to be involved with at least one more WAOS production before I leave for University. I am now taking a gap year before going on to study film and television. I am really looking forward to *My Fair Lady*, even if it does put me somewhat out of my comfort zone with the large amount of waltzing!

**Thomas Clarke**  
*Footman & Chorus*



I've been on stage for about 5 years, performing in both the junior and senior groups. Being on stage is a passion of mine, and I hope to continue at an amateur level. I have played the Devil in *Disco Inferno* and the Black Knight in the last WOW pantomime.

**Laura Crimmins**  
*Entertainer & Chorus*



This is my first show with WAOS. I enjoy dancing and performing, which I have been doing since I was two years old. I have done two shows with WOW, most recently in *Crazy For You*.

**Trevor Drury**  
*Selse man & chorus*



I am a relative newcomer to the society and performing, having joined in 2000. My neighbours asked me if I fancied "doing a bit in the chorus, as we are short of men". My first show was *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*, where, at one point, I stripped down to my boxer shorts, on stage! A little more than "a bit in the chorus". Since then, I have been a fairly regular member of the cast for WAOS shows.

**Natalie Hawkes**  
*Servant & Chorus*



I have been involved with the society for 21 years and I'm a third generation member of WAOS. I'm really pleased to be following in my grandad's footsteps and singing the same line that he sang in the Servant's Chorus in the 1984 production of *My Fair Lady*.

**Anne Marsden**  
*Servant & Chorus*



I joined WAOS in 1984 for their production of *My Fair Lady*. You think that you know a score, but 23 years later – it's like starting all over again. I am a stalwart member of the chorus and current Honorary Secretary of the Society.

## The Company



**Bethan Mackenzie**  
*Entertainer & Chorus*

This is my first show with WAOS but I have been performing for seven years at school and also with WOW. My favourite roles have been Dulcie in *The Boyfriend* and Gretl in *The Sound of Music*.

**Danny Mullane**  
*Chorus*



Having been a member of Kelvedon Players for many years but never exercised my vocal chords I joined WAOS way back In 1982. In the early days I did not let my interest in marathon running interfere with WAOS so that I often joined in dress rehearsals after touring London on my feet in the morning. I remember specifically *Fiddler on the Roof* where I had a few words to say and the first knowledge the prompt had of my presence was when I joined in mid rehearsal spot on cue!



**Rachel Nichols**  
*Entertainer & Chorus*

This is my second show with WAOS although I have been performing for many years. I started dancing when I was two and haven't stopped since. My favourite memories were as a Hot Box Girl in *Guys & Dolls* and tap dancing at the London Palladium.

**Adam Watson**  
*Costermonger, Policeman & Chorus*



This is my fourth show with WAOS, starting with *Fiddler on the Roof* three year ago. Since then I have played Enoch Jr in *Carousel* and was part of the chorus in *South Pacific*. I have just finished playing Beadle Bamford in Witham Music Theatre's *Sweeney Todd*.

**Sarah Wilson**  
*Servant & Chorus*



I have been a member of WAOS since 1990 and since then have played a variety of chorus and minor roles from Nuns to Maids. Previous acting roles include the Kelvedon Players where I won a Braintree Districts Arts award for my part in *The Torch Bearers*, a one act play about the highs and lows of AmDram. The "Clarke-Wilson Family Players" includes husband Tim Clarke, daughter Rosie and son Thomas both of whom have been active with WOW! I am now business manager for WOW.

**Cynthia Draper**  
*Prompt (not on stage)*



I have sung, danced and acted my way across the Witham stage since 1965 and have also at times managed costumes and make-up. A maid in our last two productions of this show, this time I'm in the prompt box, no doubt joining in with the altos on the chorus numbers! As a prompt I'd say "with a little bit of luck" I won't be heard.

## The Origins of My Fair Lady

My Fair Lady (1956) began as the brainchild of the film producer Gabriel Pascal, who originally approached Rodgers and Hammerstein to write the musical adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's play *Pygmalion*. Unable to solve the problems presented by Shaw's insistence that *Pygmalion* was not a love story, Hammerstein withdrew from the project. Lerner and Loewe were approached and spent some months working on the book (this pairing always started with the words and then the music) but also gave up when they realized they could not overcome the lack of romance in the story, which was deemed an essential ingredient of musicals at that time. Noel Coward, Cole Porter, Schwartz and Dietz and others were all approached by Pascal but all refused. Some time later Lerner learned of Pascal's death and that his estate included rights to *Pygmalion*. Lerner and Loewe acquired the rights and set about the task one more time. But on this occasion they stayed faithful to the play and let the story speak for itself. However, they did add three scenes, including the Ascot Racetrack scene and the ending. In *Pygmalion* Eliza walks out on Higgins and suggests she may marry Freddy but in the musical she returns and we are left to suppose that she marries Higgins.

## A Brief History of WAOS

Witham Amateur Operatic Society has been in existence since 1921 but as a Musical Society it can claim to date from the beginning of the 20th century. Before World War One Witham was noted for its musical activities, with significant support from the families of Luard, Croxall and Richards. After the war it was decided that musicals should be staged and the Society gave its final concert of songs under its old name in April 1921. Under its new name of WAOS it performed HMS Pinafore in April 1922 and has performed in April every year since, with the exception of the years during World War Two. In the autumn of 1964 a concert was performed as a fund-raiser and this proved sufficiently popular that after five successful years the concert became a fully staged musical. This format of two productions a year remains to this day. Throughout the seventies, eighties and nineties the standards became higher than ever, with improved orchestras, hired sets and the addition of stage microphones but each innovation has added to the cost of a production, with the inevitable consequences for seat prices. However, WAOS is still holding its own and has even added a youth section, called WOW, now in its 11th year. WAOS started from interested families, with both husband and wife taking part in the management with perhaps a daughter on stage. This has continued to the present day where one often finds two generations in one show and several families have served the society for over forty years. If you would like to join WAOS, in any capacity, or to become a supporter, please contact the Membership Secretary, Anne Marsden on 01376 519629.

## What is NODA?

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

Your Regional Representative is Ann Platten. Contact her at 01787374069 or email her at [theplattens@f2s.com](mailto:theplattens@f2s.com). Alternatively, check out NODA's website directly [www.NODA.org.uk](http://www.NODA.org.uk)

## The Society's Grateful Thanks are Extended to:

not only the individuals and organisations credited in this programme, but also to the many others who have contributed in any way to the preparation or production of our show.

### In particular:

- all the Friends of the Society for their financial support;
- those involved with box office, stewarding, programme and raffle ticket selling;
- those involved with refreshments and the bar;
- those involved backstage or with transportation;
- Witham Dramatic Club for the use of the raised seating;
- Derek Elliot at the Public Hall;
- Spring Lodge and Ian Jefferies for their rehearsal facilities;
- Witham Library for permission to display photographs
- Pat Day at CYGAMS and Lisa Lovelock of CO2 for the loan of props;
- Sound effects - mm productions
- The kind gentleman who allowed WOW to use his truck for the Witham Carnival
- the media;
- those who have freely donated window space for the display of our posters;
- ...and anyone else who has helped in any way.

## Previous Productions of the Society

1922	HMS Pinafore	1968	The Desert Song	1989	Fiddler on the Roof
1923	The Pirates of Penzance	1969	Rose Marie	1990	Die Fledermaus
1924	Ruddigore		Mikado		The King and I
1925	Patience	1970	Free As Air	1991	Carousel
1926	Yeomen of the Guard		The Pirates of Penzance		Patience
1927	Dorothy			1992	Annie Get Your Gun
1928	Les Cloches de Corneville	1971	Oklahoma!		Bless the Bride
	Mikado		Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore	1993	Brigadoon
1929	The Gondoliers	1972	The Merry Widow	1994	My Fair Lady
1930	Falka		The Gondoliers		South Pacific
1931	HMS Pinafore	1973	Carousel	1995	Kiss Me, Kate
1932	Merrie England		Iolanthe		Oliver!
1933	Tom Jones	1974	The Pajama Game	1996	Anything Goes
1934	The Geisha		Yeomen of the Guard		Guys & Dolls
1935	Dorothy	1975	Pink Champagne	1997	Orpheus in the Underworld
1936	The Maid of the Mountains		Patience		The Pirates of Penzance
1937	The Street Singer	1976	South Pacific		Ruddigore
1938	Goodnight Vienna		Ruddigore	1998	The Pajama Game
1939	Miss Hook of Holland	1977	Guys & Dolls		The Merry Widow
1947	Maritza		Utopia Ltd	1999	Kismet
1948	Katinka	1978	The White Horse Inn		Calamity Jane
1949	The Lilac Domino		Mikado	2000	Mikado
1950	Rio Rita	1979	Brigadoon		The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas
1951	Wild Violets		Princess Ida		The Gondoliers
1952	Magyar Melody	1980	Orpheus in the Underworld	2001	Can-Can
1953	Carissima		Iolanthe		Die Fledermaus
1954	Rose Marie	1981	Summer Song	2002	Oklahoma!
1955	Tulip Time		The Quaker Girl	2003	A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum
1956	The White Horse Inn	1982	The Desert Song		Show Boat
1957	The Gipsy Princess		Cox & Box & The Sorcerer	2004	Me and My Girl
1958	The Merry Widow	1983	Oklahoma!		Sweet Charity
1959	Bless the Bride		The Pirates of Penzance	2005	Fiddler on the Roof
1960	The Boy Friend		My Fair Lady		Iolanthe
1961	Grab Me a Gondola	1984	Free As Air	2006	Carousel
1962	The Quaker Girl		Showboat		South Pacific
1963	The New Moon	1985	La Vie Parisienne	2007	How to Succeed in Business
1964	Mikado (CV)		Yeomen of the Guard		
	The Maid of the Mountains	1986	The Sound of Music		
	Pirates of Penzance (CV)	1987	The Merry Widow		
1965	Gipsy Love		Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore		
	HMS Pinafore (CV)	1988	Kismet		
1966	Call Me Madam		Half a Sixpence		
	Iolanthe (CV)				