

1983 The Pirates of Penzance

Chronicle Review

Model performance

The Pirates of Penzance — Witham Amateur Operatic Society

ANY local amateur performers who would like to see a model performance of Gilbert and Sullivan should hasten to the Public Hall in Witham tonight or tomorrow to catch Derek Collins' stylish production of The Pirates of Penzance for the Witham Amateur Operatic Society.

All the principals are outstandingly good: acting and singing are of the highest order. Nicholas Clough is a super bold Pirate King, Tony Wood a bibulous sergeant of Police. Tim Sheppard zooms through his patter song with not so much as single hiatus as a very martial Major-General Stanley and Malcolm Lowe is suitably keen as the Pirate Apprentice.

The ladies are delightful: Elisabeth Miller trills sweetly as Mabel; Lara Barber. Janet Collins and Angela Lait are a becoming trio of daughters and Rita Page a very dependable Maid of All Work.

The chorus, both male and female, works excellently together and Gareth Dallender-Jones conducts a trim little orchestra.

Don't miss it.

Jon Richards