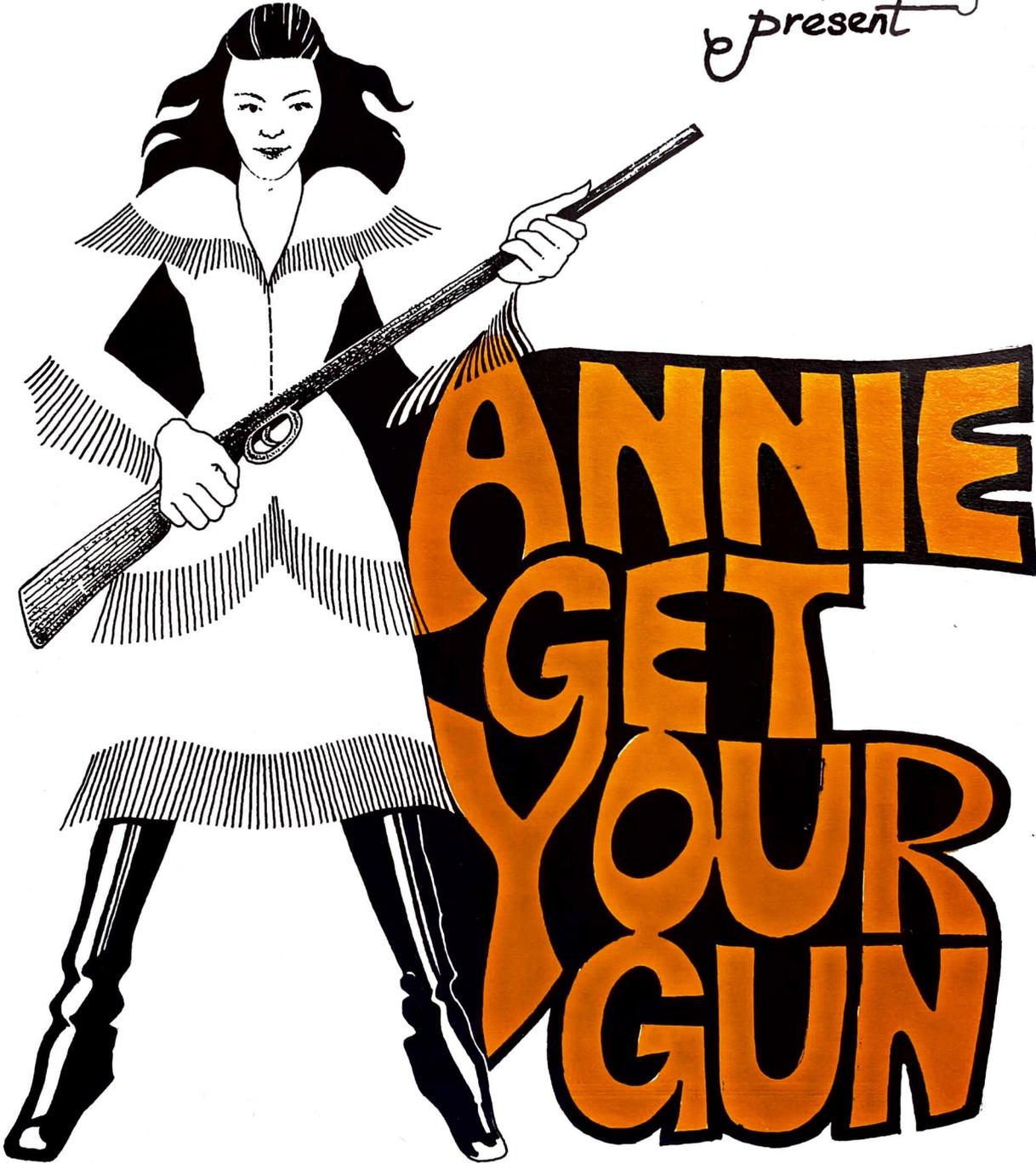


1983  
Farnborough  
& RAE  
amateur operatic society  
p present



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Surprisingly, this is the first time the Society has performed Irving Berlin's "Annie Get Your Gun". One can only say "better late than never!" to sing the many well-known songs from this sparkling and witty show.

It is very appropriate that we are performing "Annie Get Your Gun" on this, the 75th anniversary of Cody's first powered aircraft flight at Farnborough. Cody was also a showman, modelling himself on his namesake and friend, the famous Buffalo Bill, and with the money he made from his own Wild West shows he was able to indulge his hobby of kite flying, which eventually led to the first aeroplane flight on British soil at Laffan's Plain.

Following our very successful productions last season and your excellent support, we were able to donate £1,000 to local charities. Our next show is that great favourite "Show Boat", and with its many beautiful chorus numbers, it should make a memorable evening. Do come along and bring your friends.

LLOYD JONES

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE, 1983-84

President — Mr. T. H. Kerr (Director, RAE)	Treasurer — Mr. M. S. Binning
Chairman — Dr. I. L. Jones	Finance Officer — Mr. H. Hall
Deputy Chairman — Mr. M. S. Binning	Box Office Managers — Mrs. M. Molyneux
Secretaries — Mrs. A. Mitten	Mrs. E. Adams
Mrs. P. Alner	Publicity Manager — Mr. W. R. Walker

### General Committee

Mrs. A. Garrod, Mr. R. Duffett, Mr. J. Mack, Dr. W. G. Molyneux, Mr. A. Nelson

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer — Mrs. J. Thomas	Assistant Producer — Mr. J. Mack
Musical Director — Mr. D. Canfield	Assistant Musical Director — Mrs. G. Canfield,
Stage Manager — Mr. J. Mitten	LRAM
Choreographer — Mrs. J. Atlee, UKAPTD	Assistant Stage Manager — Mr. W. J. Bleasdale
Costume Manager — Miss M. Kitson	Assistant Choreographer — Mr. H. Prall
Lighting — David Goddard, Bob Newman,	Assistant Costume Manager — Mr. H. Thomas
Paul Dunn, Ian Chapman	Prompt — Mrs. A. Garrod
Front of House — Doris Mack	Stage Door — Bert Evans
Property Mistresses — Florrie Newman,	Wardrobe Mistress — Rosemary Doherty
Eileen Cox	
Make-up — Jenny Rawlings, Maureen Brown, Pauline Perry, Anne Garrod, Anne Wilson	
Librarian and Make-up Co-ordinator — Janet Jones	

### Scenery constructed and painted by

Bill Bleasdale, Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, John Mitten, Mike Williams, Tony Merryweather, Tim Canfield

### Stage Crew

Bill Bleasdale, Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, Mike Williams, Tony Merryweather, Tim Canfield, Mike Davall, Jeremy Freke, Ted Freke, Barrie Hills, June Thomas

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Society gratefully acknowledges the valuable support received from Patrons, Programme Sellers, Stewards and all those who have contributed to the production. Special thanks are due to the members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade who are on duty in the hall throughout the week, and to John Mack for obtaining so many of the properties.

The Society takes this opportunity of thanking the Theatre Manager, and his staff, for their help and co-operation.

The foyer photographs were taken by Terry Hallett.

The programme cover design is by Trevor Andrews.

The costumes are from the Theatrical Costume House (Westcliff) Ltd.



## FARNBOROUGH & R.A.E. AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

(founded in 1920)

presents by arrangement with

EMILE LITTLER and CHAPPELL & CO. LTD.

# ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

Music and Lyrics by  
IRVING BERLIN

Book by  
HERBERT & DOROTHY FIELDS

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

September 19th-24th, 1983

Nightly 7.30 p.m. Saturday Matinee 2.30 p.m.

Producer—JUNE THOMAS

Musical Director—DEREK CANFIELD

Choreographer—JOYCE ATLEE

Stage Manager—JOHN MITTEN

## SYNOPSIS

Buffalo Bill's travelling Wild West Show is playing Cincinnati and in order to whip up custom, the show folk stage a shooting contest between their own sharpshooter, Frank Butler, and a local challenger Annie Oakley. Annie wins, and Buffalo Bill asks Annie to join the Show. Having already fallen for Frank, Annie willingly accepts and tries to reform her brash backwoods image in order to win Frank's affections. She is gradually succeeding, when their relationship founders as both stubbornly continue to consider themselves the superior marksman. Their rivalry splits them, and Frank leaves and joins another show.

Months pass, and harder times befall them both before their paths cross once again. Old affections are rekindled, but so are the old rivalries and another contest is planned. The situation appears to be unfolding in exactly the same way as before, except that this time the wily Sitting Bull has a plan.

# Annie Get Your Gun

## CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

### LADIES' CHORUS

Colette Astill  
Christine Bond  
Ursula Brind  
Hilary Burroughs  
Rachel Burroughs  
Fiona Cairns  
Michèle Cathie  
Ann Chatterton  
Jacki Fox  
Elizabeth Francis  
Christine Gray  
Betty Hills  
Charlotte Hills  
Jean Horsey  
Mavis Inker  
Mary Kitson  
Catherine McPake  
Eileen Mann  
Jenny Meadows  
Anne Nelson  
Doris Short  
Caroline Smith  
Eileen Stevens  
Hilary Tattershall  
Lynda Taylor  
Peggy Twyman  
Jenny Wilson

### Little Boys

Charlie Davenport  
Mac, the Property Man  
Foster Wilson  
Dolly Tate  
Winnie Tate  
Tommy Keeler  
Frank Butler  
Annie Oakley  
Little Jake  
Nellie  
Jessie  
Minnie  
Colonel Wm. F. Cody, Buffalo Bill  
Porters  
Circus Dancer  
Major Gordon Lillie, Pawnee Bill  
Chief Sitting Bull  
Red Indian  
The Wild Horse, Ceremonial Dancer  
Pawnee's Messenger  
Major Domo  
Sylvia Potter-Porter

### Daniel Burroughs, Richard Garrood

Roger Davies  
Dan Payen  
Desmond Wood  
Janet Jones  
Sián Thomas  
David Main  
Ron Walker  
Sue Main  
Russell Butt  
Lucy Williams  
Karen Pharo  
Michelle Payen  
Haydn Thomas  
Roy Duffett, Alan Hall, Keith Hayward  
Amanda Walker  
Brian Busby  
John Mack  
Alan Hall  
Huw Prall  
Arthur Nelson  
Arthur Nelson  
Jean Pharo

### MEN'S CHORUS

Andrew Ashdown  
Richard Brown  
Bob Butt  
Tony Doherty  
Roy Duffett  
Stephen Garrood  
Alan Hall  
Keith Hayward  
Lloyd Jones  
Mike Lehman  
Trevor Mann  
Dennis Martin  
Stuart Morrison  
Arthur Nelson  
Dan Payen  
Gordon Peake  
Mark Reason  
Eric Smith  
David Wilson  
Desmond Wood

### DANCERS

Fiona Bell  
Julia Davison  
Jane Dugan  
Nicola Dugan  
Kay Jones  
Yvette Kite  
Charlotte Patton  
Justine Patton  
Amanda Walker  
Huw Prall

## ACT I

- Scene 1 THE WILSON HOUSE, a summer hotel on the outskirts of Cincinnati, Ohio, July
- Scene 2 A PULLMAN PARLOUR IN AN OVERLAND STEAM TRAIN. Six weeks later
- Scene 3 THE FAIR GROUNDS AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. A few days later
- Scene 4 A DRESSING ROOM TENT. Later that night
- Scene 5 THE ARENA OF THE BIG TENT. Later that night

## ACT II

- Scene 1 THE DECK OF A CATTLE BOAT. Eight months later
- Scene 2 BALLROOM OF THE HOTEL BREVOORT, NEW YORK. The next night
- Scene 3 THE GOVERNOR'S ISLAND FERRY. Next morning
- Scene 4 GOVERNOR'S ISLAND. Near the Fort. Immediately following

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts I and II

## ORCHESTRA

Flute/Piccolo — Alan Browning  
Clarinet/Alto Sax — John Young, Cyril Meeres  
Clarinet/Tenor Sax — Nigel Allen, Colin Charman  
Trumpets — David Edwards, Roy Falshaw  
Trombones — Gill Falshaw, Michael Glover  
Violins — Sydney Fincham (Leader), Harold Kershawe, Gordon Arthur,  
Jenny Arthur, Ann Lloyd, Graham Hunt  
Viola — Constance Fincham  
Cello — Richard Toll  
Bass — Charles Cudmore  
Percussion — Russell Widdecombe  
Piano — Pearl Reed  
Rehearsal Accompanists — Pearl Reed, Desmond Wood

## MUSICAL PROGRAMME

### ACT I

#### Overture

Colonel Buffalo Bill ..... Charlie and Chorus  
I'm a bad, bad man ..... Frank and Girls  
Doin' what comes natur'ly ..... Annie, Kids and Wilson  
The girl that I marry ..... Frank  
You can't get a man with a gun ..... Annie  
There's no business like show business ..... Charlie, Buffalo Bill, Frank and Annie  
They say it's wonderful ..... Frank and Annie  
Moonshine lullaby ..... Annie and Porters  
I'll share it all with you ..... Tommy and Winnie  
Circus dance ..... Dancers  
My defences are down ..... Frank and Men  
Drum dance ..... Dancers  
I'm an Indian too ..... Annie and Chorus

### ACT II

#### Entr'acte

I got lost in his arms ..... Annie and Chorus  
Who do you love I hope ..... Tommy and Winnie  
I got the sun in the morning ..... Annie and Chorus  
Anything you can do ..... Annie and Frank  
Finale ..... Company

In accordance with the requirements of the Hampshire County Council:

All gangways, corridors, staircases and external passageways intended for exit shall be kept entirely free from obstruction, whether permanent or temporary.

NO STANDING IS ALLOWED  
NO SMOKING IN THE AUDITORIUM

NO VISITORS ALLOWED BACKSTAGE  
NO PHOTOGRAPHY OR RECORDING

## THE CAST

**Sue Main (Annie).** Sue trained at the Laban Art of Movement Centre in Dance and Drama. She lectures at Farnborough College of Technology in Drama and Communications and teaches Keep Fit in her spare time. She has directed, choreographed and appeared in many shows, her favourites being "Oklahoma", "Guys and Dolls", "Cabaret" and "Godspell". Her last appearance with the Farnborough & RAE Society was as Nancy in "Oliver".

When "resting", Sue enjoys cooking and dressmaking.

**Ron Walker (Frank).** Having served his singing apprenticeship in a local rugby club, Ron still has difficulty remembering the right words. Ron joined the Society for "Kismet", and has only missed one show since. He has played a number of roles, including Tommy in "Brigadoon" and Sky Masterson in our last show, "Guys and Dolls".

Ron works in the Helicopter Division at RAE.

**Roger Davies (Charlie).** Local born, married with two children, Roger is employed at Pyestock. He joined the Society last October on "impulse" and made his debut as Benny Southstreet in "Guys and Dolls". With previous experience limited to the occasional "boozy" sing-song, Roger feels his progress has been quite "dramatic".

**Janet Jones (Dolly).** Introduced to the theatre while in her pushchair, Janet made her stage debut at the age of three. She has played many principal and minor roles since then, her favourites being Nellie in "South Pacific" and Golde in "Fiddler on the Roof". Janet has appeared with the Society since 1960, and currently devises the make-up for each production.

**Sián Thomas (Winnie).** Sián has been a member of our dance team since she was 12, and has played a number of smaller roles, including Louise in "Carousel". It is a pleasure to see our younger members maturing to take on principal parts, and we hope we will see a lot more of her in the future.

**David Main (Tommy).** Started his amateur dramatic career rather late in life, having been a professional musician for several years. He has appeared with a number of societies, and won the 1980 best actor award at the Woking Drama Festival. He feels he has now settled at Farnborough, however, having played Mr. Sowerberry in "Oliver" and a gay waiter in "Guys and Dolls", the latter of which he is still trying to live down.

**Haydn Thomas (Buffalo Bill).** Haydn has been a member of the Society for 23 years and has taken many leading parts in its productions. He may be classed as our resident "King", having played the King in the "King and I", King Arthur in "Camelot" and King Ajax in "La Belle Helene". Haydn was our Business Manager for many years, and latterly has been in charge of costumes.

**John Mack (Sitting Bull).** A veteran of the Society, John has taken part in all but two shows since he joined in 1953. His favourite roles have been as Mr. Bumble in "Oliver" and Guy Tabarie in "The Vagabond King", where he feels his sense of fun was given its fullest play.

John is a member of our Main Committee, Chairman of our Social Committee, and provides many of the hand properties in our productions.

### OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:

## SHOW BOAT

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

March 19th-24th, 1984

The Society welcomes new members, whether they wish to take part actively or join as patrons. Particulars of membership may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. Mitten, 9 Carlton Crescent, Crookham, Nr. Aldershot, Hants. Telephone: Fleet 4286 4-3 78

The RAE Players invite you to come and celebrate their diamond jubilee with a revival of their first production

## TRELAWNY OF THE "WELLS"

On October 27th-29th, at the RAE Assembly Hall

Tickets available from Ian Allen Travel, Queensmead, Farnborough. The audience is invited to come to the Saturday performance in Victorian dress.

## THE CHARACTERS IN REAL LIFE

Phoebe Anne Oakley Mozee was born of Quaker parents in Darke County, Ohio, in 1860. Her shooting prowess was evident at an early age and by her early teens, as one of eight children, she was regularly supplementing the family's meagre income by selling game to Cincinnati restaurateurs. At the age of 15, Annie did indeed enter a shooting contest against Frank Butler, but it was to promote Butler's own show. The targets were 25 live birds let loose from a trap. Butler hit 24, Annie 25. A year later they were married, and formed the shooting double act "Butler and Oakley".

At this time, other characters in the story were engaged in more serious pursuits, for this was the year of "Little Big Horn". Sitting Bull and his people had been confined to a reservation above the North Platte River in 1868, but it was not oil that was found on their land, it was gold. The Indians were hounded relentlessly until, in 1876, their retaliation culminated in Custer's "last stand". Sitting Bull's glory was short lived, however, for a year later he was in exile in Canada.

Buffalo Bill at this time was a chief scout with the Army, and played no small part in tormenting the Sioux. He lived through countless scrapes, and his reputation as a fearless fighter grew. This he used to publicise the setting up of his Wild West Show in 1883. To a certain extent, the show's inauguration marked the taming of the West, for real life exploits were replaced by simple theatre. The show was not an instantaneous success, but two years later fortunes were to change, as first Annie, then Sitting Bull, joined up.

Butler had by now recognised Annie's superiority as a marksman, and had retired from competition to devote himself to managing her business. She was a diminutive figure, barely five feet tall, pretty and shy, but her aim was unerring. At 30 paces, she could slice a playing card held edgewise on; by sighting through a mirror, she could fire over her shoulder and break a glass ball her husband whirled around his head on a string. In no time she was a star, and the nation's darling.

Sitting Bull too fell for her. She was possibly his only true white friend, and he did indeed make her his daughter in a much-publicised ceremony. Not that Sitting Bull was without family. He had two wives and 11 children, and these he maintained with what he earned at the show. The rest he passed on to those poor children he found littering the streets of eastern cities. "The white man knows how to make everything," he once told Annie, "but he does not know how to distribute it."

Within a year Sitting Bull had had enough, and he returned to his reservation. To his tribe, he was as a father. Devoutly religious, he sang songs and wrote poetry. He never tired of his fight for a fair deal for his people, and in 1890 he was again arrested. He was shot in the back, while resisting.

The show meanwhile moved from strength to strength. Several successful European tours were made. Queen Victoria, herself, commanded two private performances, and the show folk met many other Royal dignitaries in person. Buffalo Bill eventually retired in 1911. Even in retirement he lived life to the full, and the fortune he had amassed was soon gone. Although the legend surrounding him was grossly exaggerated in order to publicise his show, he nevertheless remained the last of that fearless band of pioneers through whom the West was won. When he died in 1918, those old days had truly gone forever.

Annie announced her farewell performance in 1901. After it was over, the show train, heading south for winter quarters, collided head-on with another train. Frank Butler pulled the unconscious Annie from the wreckage. In 17 hours her chestnut hair had turned pure white. Doctors said she would never move again, much less shoot, but in five years she was shooting better than ever. Annie quit show business entirely in 1916, and finally settled in Dayton, where she died in 1926. It was reported that she left nearly \$500,000 to relatives, friends and charities. Frank Butler died 18 days later.

## PAST PRODUCTIONS

1921 The Golden Amulet	1944 The Gondoliers	1967 Oklahoma
1922 The Pirates of Penzance	1945 Good Night, Vienna	1968 Merrie England
1923 Patience	Iolanthe	1969 Orpheus in the Underworld
1924 The Mikado	1946 The Rebel Maid	1970 Chu Chin Chow
The Yeomen of the Guard	1947 The Yeomen of the Guard	1971 Camelot
1925 Les Cloches de Corneville	1948 H.M.S. Pinafore	1972 Die Fledermaus
1926 The Gondoliers	1949 The Mikado	1973 Fiddler on the Roof
1927 The Pirates of Penzance	1950 The Pirates of Penzance	1974 Kismet
1929 The Rebel Maid	1951 The Arcadians	1975 The Music Man
1930 The Geisha	1952 The Quaker Girl	1976 The Merry Widow
1931 H.M.S. Pinafore	1953 A Country Girl	Robert and Elizabeth
The Yeomen of the Guard	1954 Rose Marie	1977 La Belle Hélène
1932 Iolanthe	1955 Waltz Time	The King and I
1933 Patience	1956 The Desert Song	1978 Kiss Me Kate
1935 The Mikado	1957 The Gondoliers	My Fair Lady
1936 The Gondoliers	1958 The Vagabond King	1979 Rose Marie
1937 Ruddigore	1959 The Gypsy Baron	Half a Sixpence
1938 Les Cloches de Corneville	1960 Iolanthe	1980 Carousel
1939 The Yeomen of the Guard	1961 White Horse Inn	Oliver
1940 The Pirates of Penzance	1962 Brigadoon	1981 Carmen
1941 The Mikado	1963 Night in Venice	Brigadoon
1942 A Waltz Dream	1964 South Pacific	1982 Die Fledermaus
1943 The Desert Song	1965 Show Boat	The Most Happy Fella
1944 The Vagabond King	1966 The Land of Smiles	1983 Guys and Dolls