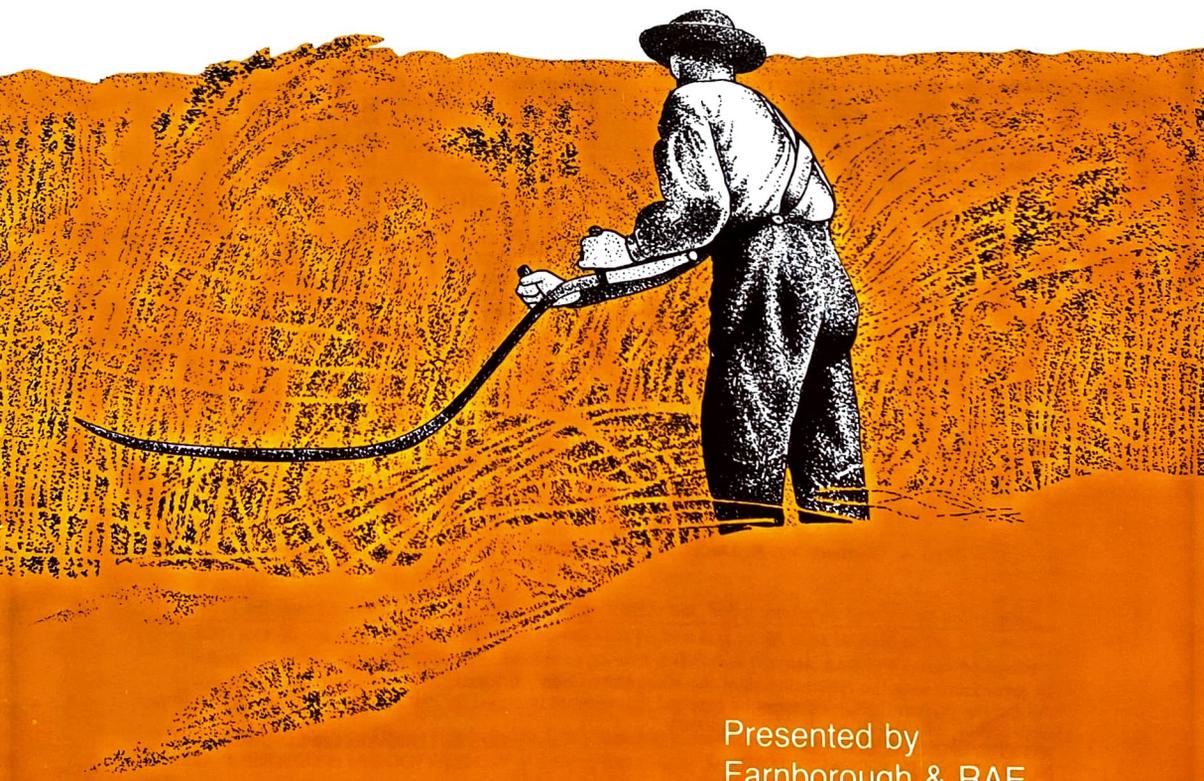


1986

3/86

# OKLAHOMA!



Presented by  
Farnborough & RAE  
Amateur Operatic Society

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Mrs. A. Mitten

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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 ALLOWED  
NO SMOKING IN THE AUDITORIUM

NO VISITORS ALLOWED BACKSTAGE  
NO PHOTOGRAPHY OR RECORDING



## FARNBOROUGH & R.A.E. AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY (founded in 1920)

presents by arrangement with  
CHAPPELL MUSIC LTD.

# Oklahoma!

Music by  
RICHARD RODGERS

Book and Lyrics by  
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, II

Based on Lynn Rigg's  
"GREEN GROW THE LILACS"

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT  
March 17th-22nd, 1986

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

Producer—ELIZABETH HILLIER Musical Director—DEREK CANFIELD  
Choreographer—HUW PRALL Stage Manager—JOHN MITTEN

### SYNOPSIS

Curly and Laurey have grown attracted to each other but, being somewhat headstrong individuals, both look to the other to make the first move. That night a box social is to be held at the Skidmore ranch. However, out of spite, each chooses to go with a different partner, Laurey's escort being the unsavoury Jud Fry.

Having raised Jud's hopes for her affections, Laurey is afraid then to reject him, both for Curly's safety and her own. The rivalry between Curly and Jud culminates in a showdown, the unfortunate outcome of which looks set to ruin all of Laurey's dreams.

# Oklahoma!

## LADIES' CHORUS

Wendy Allen  
Rachel Burroughs  
Julia Davison  
Carol Halliday  
Betty Hills  
Jean Horsey  
Mary Kitson  
Wendy Mace  
Judy Martin  
Jenny Meadows  
Irene Mowat  
Rosemary Philpott  
Jane Ryan  
Doris Short  
Diane Stejskal  
Eileen Stevens  
Maureen Strike  
Lynda Taylor  
June Thomas  
Penelope Vincent  
Lorna Walters

## DANCERS

Joyce Atlee  
Jan Bonny  
Irene Chantle  
Julia Davison  
Jane Dugan  
Debbie Higgins  
Sasha Liddiard  
Charlotte Patton  
Siân Thomas

## CHARACTERS

Aunt Eller  
Curly  
Laurey  
Ike Skidmore  
Fred  
Slim  
Will Parker  
Jud Fry  
Ado Annie Carnes  
Ali Hakim  
Gertie Cummings  
Andrew Carnes  
Dream Laurey  
Dream Curly  
Cord Elam

Janet Jones  
Graham Ryan  
Caroline Smith  
John Stechman  
Mike Lehman  
Adrian Bell  
Roger Davies  
David Main  
Eve Nye  
Haydn Thomas  
Hilary Burroughs  
Jim Prescott  
Debbie Higgins  
Andy Barker  
Ron Walker

## MEN'S CHORUS

Phil Alner  
Maurice Binning  
Richard Brown  
Bob Butt  
John Canfield  
Tony Doherty  
Roy Duffett  
John Edwards  
Alan Hall  
Handel Hall  
Francis Hancock  
Lloyd Jones  
John Mack  
Dennis Martin  
Arthur Nelson  
Gordon Peake  
Eric Smith  
Adrian Thomas

## DANCERS

Phil Alner  
Adrian Bell  
John Edwards  
Huw Prall  
John Stechman  
Ron Walker

The action takes place just after the turn of the century,  
in Indian territory (now Oklahoma)

## ACT I

Scene 1 The front of Laurey's farmhouse  
Scene 2 The smoke house  
Scene 3 The grove on Laurey's farm

## ACT II

Scene 1 The Skidmore ranch  
Scene 2 The back of Laurey's farmhouse

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

## ORCHESTRA

Flute — Alan Browning  
Oboe — Barry Collisson  
Clarinets — John Young, Cyril Meeres  
Horn — Ted Roberts  
Trumpets — David Edwards, Celia Collins  
Trombone — Gill Falshaw  
Violins — Peter Dawkins (Leader), David White, Margaret Dines,  
Mark Fielker, Elizabeth Ward, Jane Terepin  
Viola — Brenda Collins  
Cello — Rosamund Twinn  
Bass — Charles Cudmore  
Percussion — Russell Widdecombe  
Piano — Pearl Reed/Desmond Wood

Rehearsal Accompanists — Pearl Reed, Desmond Wood, Brenda Woolger

## MUSICAL PROGRAMME

### ACT I

Overture  
Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin' ..... Curly  
The Surrey with the Fringe on Top ..... Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller  
Kansas City ..... Will, Aunt Eller and the Boys  
I Cain't Say No ..... Ado Annie  
Many a New Day ..... Laurey and the Girls  
It's a Scandal! It's a Outrage! ..... Ali Hakim and the Boys and Girls  
People Will Say We're in Love ..... Curly and Laurey  
Pore Jud is Dead ..... Curly and Jud  
Lonely Room ..... Jud  
Out of my Dreams ..... Laurey and the Girls  
Dream Ballet ..... Dream Laurey, Dream Curly, Jud and Dancers

### ACT II

Entr'acte  
The Farmer and the Cowman ..... Carnes, Aunt Eller and Chorus  
All or Nuthin' ..... Ado Annie and Will  
Oklahoma ..... Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller and Chorus  
Finale ..... Company

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Society gratefully acknowledges the valuable support received from Patrons, Programme Sellers, Stewards and all those who have contributed to the production. Particular thanks are due to the National Westminster Bank for sponsoring our Saturday night performance.

The Society takes this opportunity of thanking the Theatre Manager and his staff for their help and co-operation, and the members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade who are on duty in the hall throughout the week.

The foyer photographs were taken by Terry Hallett.  
The programme cover design is by Trevor Andrews.  
The costumes are from The Haslemere Wardrobe.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

When "Oklahoma!" burst on the musical world in the early 1940s, a new era was born. It set the pattern for future shows, introducing realistic, down to earth characters, a believable plot and Richard Rodgers' most lyrical score. After all this time, "Oklahoma!" is as popular as ever with societies and audiences alike. We have had a great deal of fun and enjoyment in staging this production and I am sure you will find it equally enjoyable.

We hope you will all be delighted with the choice of "The Desert Song" as our next production. For our dedicated supporters it will be a nostalgic occasion and, for others, an opportunity to enjoy the revival of this well known romance. I look forward to welcoming you again in the autumn.

LLOYD JONES

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer — Miss E. Hillier  
Musical Director — Mr. D. Canfield  
Stage Manager — Mr. J. Mitten  
Choreographer — Mr. H. Prall, IDTA  
(ABT, AT, AST) Gold Medal LAM  
Fight Choreographer — Mr. D. Main  
Costume Manager — Mr. H. Thomas  
Lighting and Sound — David Goddard,  
Bob Newman, Paul Dunn, Catherine Dunn  
Property Mistresses — Florrie Newman,  
Eileen Cox  
Librarian — Eve Nye  
Stage Door — Bert Evans  
Call Boy — Richard Garrood

Assistant Producer — Mrs. A. Garrood  
Assistant Musical Director  
— Mrs. G. Canfield, LRAM  
Assistant Stage Managers  
— Mr. M. Williams, Mr. M. Davall  
Assistant Choreographer  
— Mrs. J. Atlee, UKAPTD  
Assistant Costume Manager  
— Miss M. Kitson  
Properties — John Mack  
Prompt — Anne Garrood  
Front of House — Peter Adams  
Wardrobe Mistress — Rosemary Doherty

Make-up — Moreen Brown, Jean Pharo, Anne Wilson, Jenny Wilson  
Make-up Co-ordinator — Janet Jones

### Scenery constructed and painted by

Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, John Mitten, Mike Williams,  
Tony Merryweather, Ted Freke, Peter Viveash, Doug Gibbey

### Stage Crew

Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, Tony Merryweather, Peter Viveash,  
Ted Freke, Jeremy Freke

## THE CAST

**Caroline Smith (Laurey).** Following her recent move to the Petersfield area, we are fortunate that Caroline still maintains her association with the Society. Caroline has performed with us for a number of years, playing the parts of Magnolia in "Show Boat" and Fiona in "Brigadoon". She has appeared with local companies throughout the area including, now, both the Petersfield groups. At Farnborough, she has served both on our Committee and as our Assistant Producer.

**Graham Ryan (Curly).** We warmly welcome Graham and his wife to the Society, following their recent move to the area from St. Albans. Graham has played several roles with the St. Albans company, including Cliff Bradshaw in "Cabaret" and Brazil in "La Vie Parisienne". Graham works for a local wax manufacturer, and we confidently look forward to a polished performance from him!

**Eve Nye (Ado Annie).** Eve joined the Society for "Show Boat", in which she played the part of Ellie May Chiple. She was previously a member of the Sale Society, where she first performed Ado Annie. A librarian by profession, the Society represents something of a busman's holiday for Eve, for she has recently taken on the librarian's role for us as well.

**Roger Davies (Will Parker).** Roger joined the Society during "Guys and Dolls", on impulse, as he says, and was plunged immediately into the part of Benny Southstreet. Since then, he has played the parts of Charlie Davenport in "Annie Get Your Gun" and Steve in "Show Boat". When he gets the time, Roger enjoys taking himself around the golf course.

**Janet Jones (Aunt Eller).** Janet has performed regularly with the Society for several years, playing the roles of Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" and Golde in "Fiddler on the Roof". Although she opens the show, Janet will already have been much involved behind the scenes, co-ordinating the cast's make-up. A busy lady, Janet also produces the Society's newsletter.

**Haydn Thomas (Ali Hakim).** The role of Ali Hakim was one of the first that Haydn performed with the Society, some 19 years ago, a fair feat of endurance "married" to Gertie Cummings, as he points out. Equally at home with serious acting as with comedy, Haydn took the part of King Arthur both times the Society performed "Camelot", Robert Browning in "Robert and Elizabeth", as well as many others. Haydn serves on the main committee.

**David Main (Jud Fry).** More used to lighthearted roles, the part of Jud Fry makes a welcome change for David. He took the parts of King Pellinore in "Camelot" and Frank Schultz in "Show Boat". Once again he has choreographed the fights for this production, although his talents have been extended this time to include a confrontation between the ladies!

## THE "OKLAHOMA!" STORY

"No girls, no gags, no good!" Who would believe now that that was how the critics greeted "Oklahoma!" when it first appeared in New Haven, Connecticut on March 11th, 1943 under the title "Away We Go". Rodgers and Hammerstein knew that the show was risky. It defied popular convention by not opening with a rousing chorus and by portraying evil, in the person of Jud Fry, in a more realistic fashion than anyone had dared before. Backers had been almost impossible to find. As one potential investor had said, "Who's going to be interested in a show about which of two cowboys takes a girl to a box social?"

The next venue for the show was Boston, on March 15th. In four short days, Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote in more humour and action, cut out a song and dance, added a chorus and, in particular, and despite there already being over 100 songs of the same title, introduced the title song "Oklahoma" into the score. So late was all this completed that the show still had to open under the original title, "Away We Go!" for the programmes and tickets had already been printed.

The show was not an unqualified success even now. Most of the cast had German measles, which had to be concealed by liberal applications of greasepaint, and the critics felt that the show was too long. But the criticisms were constructive and, in general, the notices were enthusiastic. Rodgers was later to remark that he would never open anything, not even a can of tomatoes, except in Boston.

By the time the show opened in New York on March 31st, it was still uncertain how well it would be received. The box office had not been a sellout. It was not even clear that the production would last the week. Almost with the opening curtain, however, it was apparent that the show was destined to score a resounding hit. The ovation was tremendous. At the after show party, where the critics traditionally hinted at their reactions, the reception was equally rapturous. At one point, Rodgers was offered a drink. "No thanks," he said, "I want to remember this night exactly as it is."

The following day, Rodgers met Hammerstein for lunch, and the two ventured to the theatre to see how the tickets were selling. They were greeted by pandemonium, with a policeman gamely trying to keep an exuberant public under control as they jostled to get to the box office. Rodgers turned to Hammerstein and asked whether he would like to go some place quiet where they could talk, or whether he would prefer to go to Sardi's and show off. "Hell," said Hammerstein, "Let's go to Sardi's and show off." And they did.

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### OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:

# THE DESERT SONG

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

29th September-4th October, 1986

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, Church Crookham. Telephone: Fleet 614378.

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### PAST PRODUCTIONS

1921 The Golden Amulet	1945 Iolanthe	1971 Camelot
1922 The Pirates of Penzance	1946 The Rebel Maid	1972 Die Fledermaus
1923 Patience	1947 The Yeomen of the Guard	1973 Fiddler on the Roof
1924 The Mikado	1948 H.M.S. Pinafore	1974 Kismet
The Yeomen of the Guard	1949 The Mikado	1975 The Music Man
1925 Les Cloches de Corneville	1950 The Pirates of Penzance	1976 The Merry Widow
1926 The Gondoliers	1951 The Arcadians	Robert and Elizabeth
1927 The Pirates of Penzance	1952 The Quaker Girl	1977 La Belle Hélène
1929 The Rebel Maid	1953 A Country Girl	The King and I
1930 The Geisha	1954 Rose Marie	1978 Kiss Me Kate
1931 H.M.S. Pinafore	1955 Waltz Time	My Fair Lady
The Yeomen of the Guard	1956 The Desert Song	1979 Rose Marie
1932 Iolanthe	1957 The Gondoliers	Half a Sixpence
1933 Patience	1958 The Vagabond King	1980 Carousel
1935 The Mikado	1959 The Gypsy Baron	Oliver
1936 The Gondoliers	1960 Iolanthe	1981 Carmen
1937 Ruddigore	1961 White Horse Inn	Brigadoon
1938 Les Cloches de Corneville	1962 Brigadoon	1982 Die Fledermaus
1939 The Yeomen of the Guard	1963 Night in Venice	The Most Happy Fella
1940 The Pirates of Penzance	1964 South Pacific	1983 Guys and Dolls
1941 The Mikado	1965 Show Boat	Annie Get Your Gun
1942 A Waltz Dream	1966 The Land of Smiles	1984 Show Boat
1943 The Desert Song	1967 Oklahoma!	The Yeomen of the Guard
1944 The Vagabond King	1968 Merrie England	1985 Show Boat
The Gondoliers	1969 Orpheus in the Underworld	1985 Camelot
1945 Good Night, Vienna	1970 Chu Chin Chow	Orpheus in the Underworld