

# Great Yarmouth Gilbert and Sullivan Society

Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Society  
and in association with the D'Oyley Carte Trust

CLUB NIGHT

performance of

## PRINCESS IDA

or

Castle Adamant

by

W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN

to be held in the

Assembly Room, Town Hall, Gt. Yarmouth

on

Tuesday, 8th May, 1962

at 7.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME

PRICE 6d.

## SYNOPSIS

Act. I. Pavilion in King Hildebrand's Palace

Act. II. Gardens of Castle Adamant

Act. III. Courtyard of Castle Adamant

*ACT I.* The scene is King Hildebrand's Palace. Courtiers and others led by Florian are waiting for the arrival of King Gama and his daughter Ida. Princess Ida was betrothed to Hilarian, Hildebrand's son and heir, in infancy, and now that she has grown to womanhood, Gama is bound to deliver her to her husband.

Soon Gama and his retinue are sighted, and Arac, Guron and Synthus, Gama's three sons, are the first to arrive, followed by Gama himself, an unattractive specimen, being deformed, and hunch-backed. When Hildebrand requests the Princess, Gama informs him that she is not with the party, but is ruling a women's university. Hildebrand, angry at this news, promptly has Gama and his three sons detained as hostages for the surrender of Ida. Hilarian announces his intention of finding the University with his two friends, Cyril and Florian, and of winning the Princess.

*ACT II.* The scene is the garden of the University, or as it is called, Castle Adamant. The girl graduates are singing of their academic achievements, and are joined by Princess Ida.

After all have left, Hilarian, Cyril and Florian, are seen climbing over the wall, and finding some academic robes, disguise themselves. When the Princess returns, the three men introduce themselves as noblewomen wishing to enter the University. To this the Princess agrees, and leaves them.

Lady Psyche enters, and Florian finds to his surprise, that she is his sister whom he has not seen for many years. He is compelled to let her into the secret which she agrees to keep. This conversation is overheard by another student, Melissa, but she too agrees to keep

the secret. Lady Blanche has also discovered the true sex of the new students, but is persuaded by her daughter, Melissa, to keep the secret, as she points out that, if Ida leaves the University, Lady Blanche will succeed as Principal.

At length lunch is served presided over by the Princess. Unfortunately, because of some misbehaviour by Cyril, Hilarian rushes to strike him, and the Princess at last realises the true sex of the new students. In her confusion she falls into a stream, but is rescued by Hilarian. The girls beg the Princess to show mercy to Hilarian who saved her life, but she is unmoved, and the three men are arrested and marched off as prisoners.

At this moment Melissa rushes in to announce that an army stands at the gate demanding admittance for Hildebrand. The Princess gives orders for them to be resisted, but the Soldiers rush in with Gama and his three sons bound. Hildebrand now enters and informs Ida that, if she does not surrender herself to Hilarian, he will destroy the Castle—but the Princess refuses to yield. At length Hildebrand gives Ida till next afternoon to make her final decision.

*ACT III.* The scene is the outside of Castle Adamant. The girls are armed with battle axes. The Princess enters and attempts to rouse the girls spirits for the fight, but they are so alarmed at having to use fire-arms, that Ida realises she will have to confront the invaders alone.

King Gama enters, and brings a message from Hildebrand, who is loth to war with women, and suggests that Ida's brothers shall be pitted against Hilarian, Cyril and Florian, and that Ida's fate shall be decided on the issue. Ida has no alternative but to agree, and the fight takes place. Soon Gama's sons are wounded, and Hilarian, Cyril and Florian, stand victorious over them.

The Princess now realises she must yield, and after Hildebrand has pointed out that no posterity can be provided whilst she and her girls keep themselves shut up and away from all, she admits the error of her views, and leaves to marry Hilarian.



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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

1954	( <i>Formation of Society</i> )	Iolanthe The Mikado
1955		H.M.S. Pinafore The Pirates of Penzance
1956		The Mikado H.M.S. Pinafore
1957		The Gondoliers Patience
1958		Iolanthe The Pirates of Penzance
1959		Ruddigore Trial by Jury and H.M.S. Pinafore
1960		The Yeoman of the Guard The Sorcerer
1961		The Mikado The Gondoliers
1962		Princess Ida