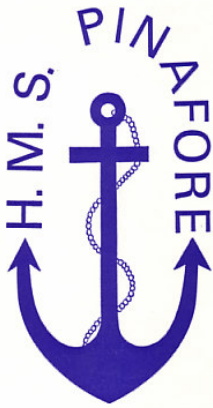


COVENTRY SAVOY OPERA SOCIETY

PRESENTS



CHORUS OF FIRST LORD'S SISTERS, COUSINS & AUNTS
 — 0 —
 ELSIE AVES
 SYLVIA AVES
 ANGELA COOPER
 JANET COX
 LYNDA FENNER
 IZEL GARNER
 CHRISTINE JENNINGS
 MARGARET LEVER
 BARBARA LEWIS
 CATHERINE MCCONWAY
 MARGARET ORLAND
 JEAN PRIEST
 JOYCE ROBBINS
 ALISON RUSSELL
 PAT SATCHWELL
 KRISTINE SMITHERMAN
 ANNE STANYON
 JUNE STEWART
 HEATHER TAYTON
 MARILYN THOMPSON
 ADELE TILLEY
 HAZEL WINTER

"H.M.S. PINAFORE"

OR

THE LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR

THE RT. HON. SIR JOSEPH PORTER, B.C.S. (First Lord of the Admiralty) — JOHN FENNER
 CAPTAIN CORCORAN (Commanding H.M.S. Pinafore) — BARRY JONES
 RALPH RACKSTRAW (Able Seaman) — MARTIN RANTZEN
 DICK DEADEYE (Able Seaman) — ERNEST CHARLTON
 BILL BOBSTAY (Boatswain's Mate) — ANTHONY CRYER
 BOB BECKET (Carpenter's Mate) — ADRIAN BRITTON
 JOSEPHINE (The Captain's Daughter) — SYLVIA FREEDY
 HEHE (Sir Joseph's First Cousin) — MONICA TUCKEY
 MRS. CRIPPS (LITTLE BUTTERCUP) (a Portsmouth Damsel of Woe) — ANNE BENNETT

CHORUS OF SAILORS
 — 0 —
 FRED ANDERSON
 JOHN AVES
 PETER COOK
 JOHN COX
 ARTHUR LEVER
 PETER MAHER
 RON OWEN
 GEORGE SUDDENS
 PETER TREW
 ROD WASHBROOK
 — 0 —
 MARINES
 — 0 —
 ROBERT SCOTT
 WILLIAM FOX

Scenery by James Fredericks scenic Studio, Weston S. Mare.
 Costumes and Wigs by William Matric & Son Ltd., Edinburgh.
 Make-up by Gardner's theatrical Stores, Coventry.

EIGHT

NINE

'HMS Pinafore'

... at the College Theatre, Coventry.

THE Coventry Savoy Opera Company maintains its high standard with this ever-popular Gilbert and Sullivan opera which opened a week's run last night.

Despite the cramped conditions on the small stage, the chorus work is extremely good and the singing is of a high standard although the men are outnumbered by about two to one by the women.

An excellent performance is given by Ernest Charlton as

'H.M.S. Pinafore' steers a satisfying course

FAITHFUL supporters of the annual Gilbert and Sullivan productions staged by the Coventry Savoy Opera Society will find that "H.M.S. Pinafore" offers satisfying fare at the College Theatre this week.

After two shows under a professional producer, the society has spared the expense this year, calling upon one of its own members, Rex Satchwell, to direct the production. With previous experience of taking singing roles in the society's shows, he proves well able to steer "H.M.S. Pinafore" along a smooth course.

The big chorus scenes are handled tidily, and the cast has been encouraged to make sensible use of the extended stage, which has certainly proved a big advantage for amateur shows of this type.

The society also has a new musical director this year — Peter Carder, who is organist and choir-master of Warwick Road Con-

regational Church.

Under his baton, the well-integrated orchestra makes a strong contribution to the success of the show, giving a fresh and vigorous rendering to the lively and appealing Sullivan melodies. It is also worth noting that the singers are given a chance to be heard; an orchestra of this strength could easily have drowned them.

The singing varies in quality, with Sylvia Freedy taking the main honours as the captain's lovestruck daughter, Josephine, who pines for a low-dick sailor, despite her father's plans to pair her off with the First Lord of the Admiralty.

Her fine soprano voice is a big asset to the society, and she enhances the considerable reputation gained for her work in previous shows.

The male principals do not make such a strong impact, but their efforts deserve commending.

Martin Rantzen, a newcomer with previous experience, puts a great deal into the part of Ralph Rackstraw. Josephine's common sailor, and Barry Jones does well looking rather young in the part.

More bustle

Ernest Charlton, seized the chance of giving Dick Deadeye an arresting identity, and Anne Bennett brings a warm touch to the part of Little Buttercup.

The main opportunity for comedy lies with John Fenner as Sir Joseph Porter, but his characterization is not strong enough to exploit it.

The chorus gives solid backing, although the sailors — who need to display more bustle — are heavily outnumbered by the First Lord's sisters, cousins and aunts. More young male voices are required, but the society finds it difficult to attract them. B.J.H.

