**H.M.S. Pinafore**
or, The Lass That Loved A Sailor

**THE CAST**

Captain Corcoran (Commander of the H.M.S. Pinafore) ............. Waldyn J. Benbenek
Little Buttercup (a Portsmouth Bumboat Woman).............................. Felicia Dismer
Ralph Rackstraw (Able Seaman) ..................................................... Eric Mellum
Josephine (daughter of Captain Corcoran) ...................................... Jill Sandager
Dick Deadeye (Able Seaman) ......................................................... Michael Mlinar
Bill Bobstay (Boatswain's Mate) ..................................................... Joe Kolbow
Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. (First Lord of the Admiralty) ................. Ethan Edwards
Cousin Hebe (Sir Joseph's relative) ................................................ Lynne Hicks
“Carpenter's Mate” pressed from College Boys ......................... Jeremy Bierlein

**Chorus of Passengers and Ship's Company:**

Deckhands........................................ Mario Diaz-Moresco, Bruce Haasl, Matthew Hall
Sisters, Cousins & Aunts....Rachael Brogan, Penny Dale, Kathy Hering
College Boys..........................Jeremy Bierlein, Kristefor Lysne, Richard Rames
Schoolgirl Friends of Josephine .................. Shanda Hannan, Ari Hopstock, Janna Kysilko
Schoolgirls' Chaperone .......................... Holly Windle
Stowaways ..............................Ernest Brody, April Hanson, Paul Hardt
Honeymooners .......................... Mary Gregory, Stephen Hage
Elder Sweethearts............................. Warren Loud, Charlotte Morrison
College Boys .................................. Jill Stanton
Photographer .................................. Roger Evans
Sun Goddess .................................... Holly MacDonald
Mom & Dad ..................................... Rhea Sullivan, Jim Brooks
Children ......................................... Lyndsay Hage, Madeleine Hage
Priest ................................................. Dean Laurance
Nun ...................................................... Marcia Hill
Jeeves, the Butler ................................ John Murray
Jebe, the Housekeeper .................................. Jean Van Heel

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**Understudies:** Jim Brooks, Mario Diaz-Moresco, Mary Gregory, Bruce Haasl, Paul Hardt, Lynne Hicks, Kristefor Lysne, Lisa Maria Vogel

The Deck of the Cruise Ship **H.M.S. Pinafore**, 1978

**Act I:** Departure & Journey to Island of Barataria

**Act II:** Night, docked at Barataria

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~ Turn off all cell phones & pagers ~
~ No eating or drinking is allowed in the theatre ~
~ No smoking is permitted in the building ~
~ The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden ~
Synopsis

**H.M.S. Pinafore** opened in London in 1878, and became the first great success by Gilbert and Sullivan. We have chosen to set our production one hundred years later, in 1978, on a British cruise liner bound for the imaginary tropical island of Barataria.

**Act I:** During the overture, the passengers prepare for departure. Once under way, Little Buttercup appears, to sell provisions to the ship's company. Ralph (pronounced "Rafe") Rackstraw enters and tells his fellow sailors of his love for the Captain's daughter Josephine. She is supposed to marry Sir Joseph Porter, the First Lord of the Admiralty, who is on board (along with his accompanying gaggle of sisters, cousins, and aunts). Josephine tells her father, Captain Corcoran, that she has had the misfortune to fall in love with a common sailor (Ralph, of course). Being dutiful and proud, however, she will keep her feelings to herself and marry Sir Joseph. Rejected, Ralph is set on suicide, but is interrupted in the nick of time by a repentant Josephine. They plan their elopement, encouraged by Sir Joseph's relatives and the sailors – all but Dick Deadeye, who tries in vain to discourage the union.

**Act II:** The act opens with a worried Captain Corcoran musing on the problems of his daughter and Sir Joseph. Little Buttercup hints to him of mysterious changes to come. When Sir Joseph expresses displeasure at Josephine's coolness, the Captain suggests that she is probably holding aloof because of the difference in rank between a captain's daughter and Sir Joseph. Josephine's soliloquy, however, shows that she's debating about giving up her wealthy home to live in poverty with a lowly sailor. Sir Joseph and her father appear at this critical moment to tell her that "love levels all ranks," which she takes as encouragement about Ralph. Thanks to a warning from Dick Deadeye about the planned elopement, the Captain is ready when Ralph and Josephine begin to leave the ship. Sir Joseph, shocked by the Captain's use of the "big, big D" word, banishes him to his cabin, and sends Ralph off to the brig in chains. Buttercup steps forward with an improbable tale of babies switched in infancy, and the resulting new identities produce three happy couples united in matrimony, as all prepare for a midnight masked ball!

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**GSVLOC – The Past and The Future:**


We will again be joining the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra at the Lake Harriet Band Shell this summer – for The Pirates of Penzance, on July 14 & 15

On October 19 and 20, 2001, The GSVLOC will present a concert version of Sullivan's The Rose Of Persia, at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 900 Summit Avenue, St. Paul

In the Spring of 2002, we will present Patience.

Tax deductible contributions to help support our season are always welcome.

**The Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company**

P.O. Box 580172, Minneapolis MN  55458  
Telephone: (651) 255-6947

Visit the GSVLOC home page at: http://www.gsvloc.org
PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director and Choreographer .................................................. Mikal J. Kraklio
Music Director .................................................................................. Steven Michael Utzig
Artistic Director ................................................................................ Wendy Evans

Stage Manager .................................................................................. Lisa Horton
Assistant Stage Managers ................................................................. Peggie Kennedy, Carol Kollander
Jennfer Anne McDermott, Eli Tracy

Set Designer ....................................................................................... Mikal J. Kraklio
Head Scenic Painter ......................................................................... Wendy Waszut-Barrett
Set & Prop Construction and Painting .............................................. Jim Aisenbrey, Sam Blees, Matt Dolph
Mark Ellenberger, Peter Erickson, Hellen Ferguson, Allen Gregory
Lisa Horton, Bob Hunter, Bob Johanneck, Jennifer Anne McDermott
Abigail, Bethany and Nathaniel Mlinar, David Morrison
Eric Pasternack, Dan Peters, Scott Sandberg, Mike Scheller, Gordon Staff
with Ernest Brody, Dean Laurance, and other cast members

Costume Designer ............................................................................. David Pipho
Wardrobe Mistress ........................................................................... Jo Pasternack
Costume Workers ............................................................................ Wendy Evans, Lesley Hendrickson, Janine Juergens
Jo Pasternack, Carol Sandberg, Judy Wehrwein & cast members

Lighting Designer .............................................................................. Rhuby Gallinati
Light Board Operator ......................................................................... Bob Hunter
Spotlight Operators ............................................................................ Evan Ellenberger, Peter Erickson
Hellen Ferguson, Eli Tracy

Audio-Visual Engineer ...................................................................... Bob Johanneck, Pat Johanneck
Poster Graphic Design ...................................................................... Robert Anderson, A.D. Associates
Poster Graphic Production ............................................................... Robert Bussey

Curtain Call Music ............................................................................. Mikal J. Kraklio, Steven Utzig, Jean Van Heal, Kristefor Lysne
Lobby Display & Photography .......................................................... Roger Evans, Stephen Lysne

Group Photos by .............................................................................. Daniels Studio
Orchestra Manager ............................................................................ Holly Leighton
House Managers .............................................................................. Kathy Mitchell, Fred Morrison, Mary Kay Murray
House Staff Recruiter ........................................................................ Charlotte Morrison

Ticket Sales .......................................................................................... Katie Lowry
Ticket Assistants .............................................................................. Laurie Brooks, Ruth Erickson, Barb Hovey, Carol Kollander
Dean Laurance, Stéphanie Leblond, Fred Morrison, Chris Rusin, Julie Seykora

The Board:
Producer ............................................................................................. Kristefor Lysne
Labour Pool Coordinator .................................................................. Ernest Brody
Publicity .............................................................................................. Jeremy Bierlein
Treasurer .............................................................................................. Richard Rames
Chorus Representatives ..................................................................... Stephen Lysne, Charlotte Morrison
Orchestra Representative .................................................................. Barb Hovey

ORCHESTRA

Conductor ......................................................................................... Steven Michael Utzig

Violin ................................................................................................. J. Michael Compton, Concertmaster
Greg Bastien, Abigail Berg, Katie Berg, Nancy Birth
Debbie Feinwachs, Mary Heimerman, Marit Johnson
Kristin Samaartano, Carl Selness, Eva Zorn

Viola ................................................................................................. Don Olson, Aija Ronis, Tom Rognsvoog

Cello ................................................................................................. Coral Bastien, Amy Carlson, John Dunham
John Litch, Karen Rognsvoog

Bass ................................................................................................. Ron Rasmussen

Flute ................................................................. Ruth Erickson, Julie Lindstrom, Katie Lowry, Nancy Wucherpfennig

Clarinet .............................................................................................. Barb Hovey, Julie Piper
Oboe ................................................................................................. Jean Beyer, John Hunt

Bassoon .............................................................................................. Holly Leighton, Rebecca Totzke

Horn ................................................................................................. Judy Heimerman, Ellen Sorenson, James Straka

Trumpet ................................................................. Bob Hirte, Betty Mackay, Andrew Shellenberger

Trombone ......................................................................................... Greg Michnay, Greg Onstad, Lawrence Perry

Percussion ......................................................................................... Julie Henry, Jeff Sass, Jim Streich

Rehearsal Pianists ............................................................................ Lawrence Henry, Jean Van Heel
Glossary (in order of occurrence)

Act I:

Buttercup's wares:
- Jacky - twists of tobacco soaked in rum (for chewing)
- I've treacle and toffee - molasses, or a similar syrup
- Soft tommy - a kind of bread
- Chicken and contes - wild rabbits
- Pretty polonies - smoked sausages named, like the sandwich meat, after Bologna, the Italian town where they were first made
- Reddest beauty in all Spithead - body of water off Portsmouth

Dick Deadeye, Bill Bobstay (boatswain) - the last names of these sailors refer to parts of a ship's ropes or rigging
- To do her menial's duty - to be her humble servant
- Foremast hands - those sailors who serve "before the mast" (those below the rank of officer) [see Quarter-deck]
- Quarter-deck - the deck to the aft of the mainmast where only commissioned officers may promenade
- Ship a selvagee - a hank of rope yarn made into a strap or sling
- He would commit solecisms that society would never pardon - gaffes, or breaches of etiquette

Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. - Knight Commander of the (Order of the) Bath (high honor)
- Bang the loud nine-pounders go - the smallest of the battery of the cannons carried on Royal Navy ships (which also include 18 and 32-pounders)
- Pocket borough - refers to a parliamentary seat controlled by a single individual (usually wealthy landowner); these seats were abolished by the Great Reform Act of 1832
- Grog - rum diluted with water (from the nickname of the Admiral who began the custom of issuing the drink to sailors, "Old Grog," so called for the grogram cloak he usually wore)
- British tar - slang for sailor
- Cimmerian darkness - according to Homer's Odyssey, the Cimmerians lived in a land where the sun never shines
- I am but a living ganglion of irreconcilable antagonisms - a bundle of nerves

Act II:

Either at sixes or at sevens - to be "at sixes and sevens" is to be confused
- Bumboat woman - boat used to peddle provisions to ships in port
- Storks turn out to be but logs; bulls are but inflated frogs - references to Aesop's fables
- Turbot is ambitious brill - kinds of fish, turbot being preferred
- Gild the farthing - lowest denomination of British coin at the time
- The prospect is Elysian - in Greek mythology, Elysian fields were the home of the blessed
- Cat-o'-nine-tails - (or simply "the cat") - a whip with nine knotted lashes used for punishment
- Fo'c'sle - short for "forecastle," the forward part of the ship, usually containing the crew's quarters
- No telephone - the first telephone transmission was in 1876, and the first London exchange opened in June of 1878, a month after Pinafore did
- Go, ribald, get you hence - a vulgar person using coarse language
- To your cabin with celerity - haste
- The consequence of ill-advised asperity - harshness of manner; ill temper
- I practiced baby-farming - took in foster children
CONTRIBUTORS

Gilded Lordlings  ($100 and over)


Sisters, Cousins, and Aunts  ($50 - $99)


Foremost Hands  (up to $50)


 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company presents

**H.M.S. Pinafore**

or

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at

The Howard Conn Fine Arts Center
1900 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis

March 16 - April 8, 2001