



Following the success of Oh What a Lovely War last year, a public meeting was held at which it was agreed to form a drama group in Balcombe – the first for 40 years! The objective of the group is to perform drama in Balcombe, and to offer its members a range of drama related activities, including theatre visits, play readings and workshops. Those who don't want to take part in productions but would like to join in general activities can become friends of the group. Annual subscription is £10 for Members and £7.50 for Friends. Membership is open to all Balcombe residents, and to non-residents when sponsored by a Balcombe resident member. We now have 42 Members and 15 Friends - and there's a special welcome for new members that reduce our average age!

Our next major production - in December - will be the World Premier of *Joseph and the Big Secret*, a pantomime written and directed by Jim Knight (who directed Oh What a Lovely war).

OFFICERS

Secretary *Mike Rayner*
Treasurer and Membership Secretary *Robin Williamson*
Events Organiser *Miranda Murray*
Producer *Rodney Saunders*

Honorary President *Paul Scofield*

Membership forms available from Threads or any of the officers

The Victory Players
in association with Balcombe Social Club

PRESENT

THERMAL UNDERWEAR

A ONE ACT PLAY BY ANDREW DAVIES



TRIAL BY JURY

A ONE ACT OPERETTA BY GILBERT & SULLIVAN

13 - 16 APRIL · THE VICTORY HALL · BALCOMBE

THERMAL UNDERWEAR

by Andrew Davies

CAST

Elaine *Colette Randall*
Bob *Rodney Saunders*
Mrs Hudd *Jacqueline Kehoe*
Mr Hudd *John Bunn*
Shirley *Miranda Murray*
Gareth *Chris Walker*

Directed by *Glenys Harries-Rees*

Mr & Mrs Hudd are celebrating their Ruby Wedding Anniversary at the home of their daughter Elaine and her husband Bob. Their son Gareth, his wife Veronica and friends Mick and Shirley have been invited along to share the caviar and to toast this happy couple with champagne. However, due to the crazy behaviour of the party members, the day becomes memorable for all the wrong reasons! As the celebrations progress, the tangled web of their lives is revealed but the characters themselves are kept in the dark.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer *Rodney Saunders*
Stage Manager *Martin Allitt*
Crew *Richard Harris, John Moore, John Randall,
Nigel Willson*
Lighting *Keith Major*
Wardrobe *Manuela Warburton*
Makeup *Margaret Laker*
Sets designed and built by *Richard Harris and John Randall*
Graphic Design *Robert Saunders*
Prompt *Pam Taylor*
Front of House Manager *Robin Williamson*
Front of House Team *Anthea Bell, Roger Bell, Steven Daultrey,
Alan Dearden, Margaret Hartman,
Tom Kehoe, Julie Walker*
Box Office *Isabel Gordon*

TRIAL BY JURY

by W. S. Gilbert and A. S. Sullivan

CAST

Judge *John Humphries*
Usher *Mike Rayner*
Counsel *Jane Horrell*
Defendant (Edwin) *Charles Metcalfe*
Plaintiff (Angelina) *Charlotte Marshall*
Bridesmaids *Caroline Carpenter, Maria Daultrey, Sue Etheridge,
Elaine Haynes, Manuela Warburton*
Foreman of the Jury *Mike Chatt*
Jury *Robert Crockford, Norman Howard, Michael Kershaw,
Max Preston-Bell*
Public *Elizabeth Croxford, Dorothy France, Isabel Gordon,
Val Horton, Margaret Laker, Flora Oman,
Shirley Michell, Barbara Saunders, Jacqueline Wiginton,
Audrey Williams, Priscilla Williamson*
Rehearsal Pianist *Jacqueline Wiginton*
Performance Pianist *David Moore*

Directed by *Douglas Wragg*

The original performance of Trial by Jury was almost exactly 130 years ago, on March 25th 1875, the first collaboration between William Schwenck Gilbert (1836 – 1911) and Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842 – 1900), both later knighted. This work is unusual for a number of reasons – it is only in one act, there is no spoken dialogue and the music is continuous from start to finish. It deals with a unique moment in the legal world in Victorian times as, generally speaking, women had no rights in law except for breach of promise of marriage.

Here we have just such a case brought by Angelina – the plaintiff – against Edwin – the defendant. As with many things legal, the case turns out to be anything but straightforward, and it has a startling dénouement, about which nothing will be written here lest it spoil your enjoyment.

Those with a keen musical ear will not fail to notice the parody (and almost exact copy) of “D’un pensiero” from Bellini’s La Sonnambula towards the end of the operetta.

It has been enormous fun putting this together – the teamwork has been brilliant, the cast have worked like Trojans, and our fervent hope is that you will enjoy our presentation of Trial by Jury.