

The
ARCADIANS

Presented by

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1952

First Production

Souvenir Programme

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SWINDON AMATEUR LIGHT OPERATIC SOCIETY

presents

A Fantastic Musical Play in Three Acts

The Arcadians

(By arrangement with Messrs. Samuel French Ltd.)

The Book by

MARK AMBIENT, A. M. THOMPSON and ROBERT COURTNEIDGE

The Lyrics by

ARTHUR WIMPERIS

The Music by

LIONEL MONCKTON and HOWARD TALBOT

In the EMPIRE THEATRE, Swindon, for Six Nights,
27th OCTOBER to 1st NOVEMBER, 1952, at 7-30 p.m.
Matinee, Saturday, 1st NOVEMBER, 1952, at 2-30 p.m.

ASK YOUR GARAGE

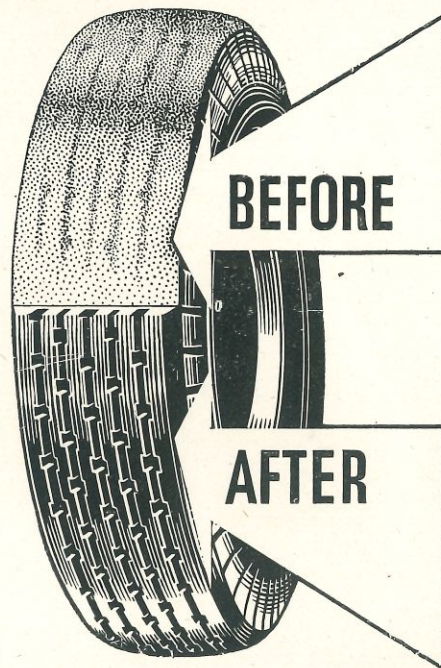
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Musical Director	CHARLES COMLEY
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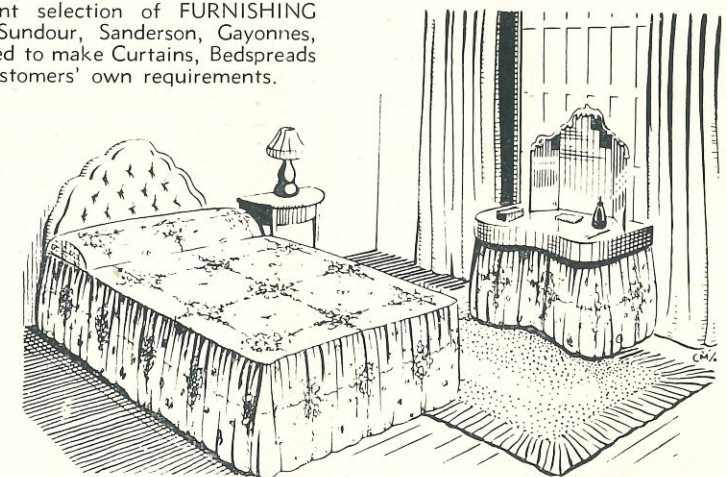
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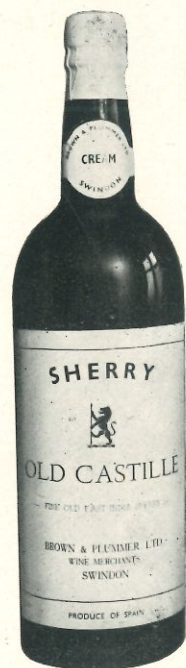
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DAY AND NIGHT



*A Message
from
the President*

Dear Audience,

Tonight you will witness the fulfilment of an idea, born in the minds of a small group of enthusiasts almost a year ago, the revival of amateur light operatics in Swindon. The Society was actually formed in January of this year and since then there has been much hard work for all concerned. The result of these endeavours you will, I hope, enjoy this week.

Much depends upon the support the Society receives this week, for the production of a show such as "The Arcadians" is a costly business and we cannot hope to survive without strong support. I sincerely believe S.A.L.O.S. will receive the encouragement which I know it deserves and that it will become firmly established to play an important part in the social life of the town.

I would emphasise that it is the SWINDON Amateur Light Operatic Society and in effect, therefore, it is your Society. If you have any preference for a show and would like to see it performed at some future date drop a note to our Hon. Secretary. I cannot, of course, guarantee that your suggestion will be accepted, but I can assure you it will receive careful consideration.

Finally, I wish to thank all those people who have assisted in any way at all, and you, our audiences for your generous support.

Yours sincerely,

GRAHAME HILL,
President.

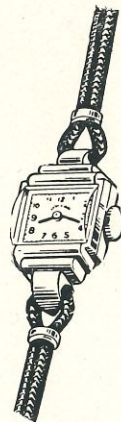
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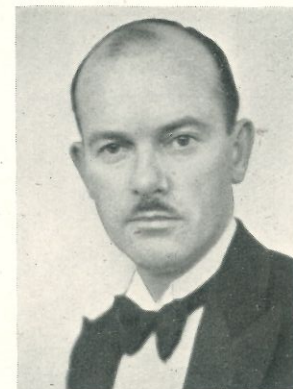
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ARTHUR CARRON



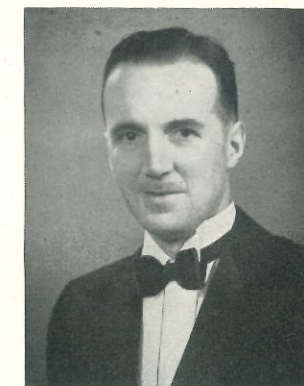
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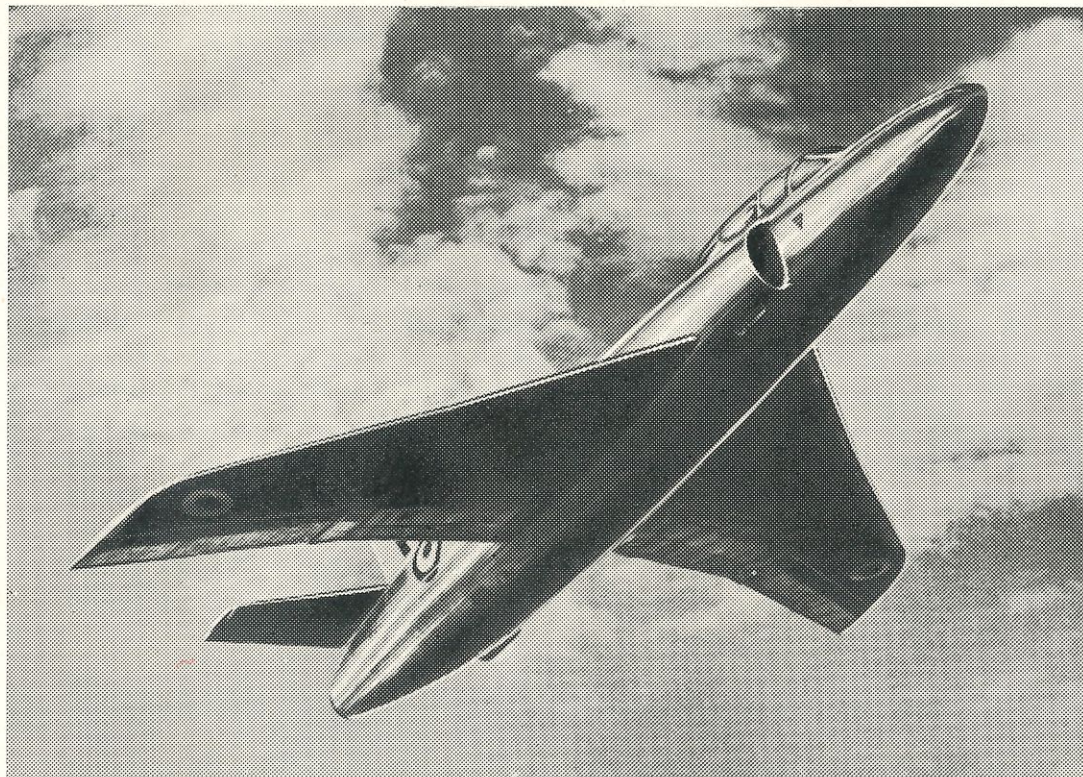
The Story

The central motive is Gilbertian in its whimsicality and the adroitness with which it is developed. The first act is set in a romantic glade peopled by Arcadians to whom the sudden appearance of Mr. James Smith, a prosaic restaurant proprietor with a passion for aeroplanes, causes much concern. He exhibits no less surprise than the bewitching Arcadians, and in the course of mutual explanation he tells a lie. For this he is immersed in the Well of Truth, from which he merges in the scanty costume of Arcadia, with a luxuriant head of hair and minus the mutton chop whiskers which previously adorned his face. It is then decided by the beautiful and enthusiastic Sombra that he, now christened Simplicitas, in company with her and the pretty Chrysaëa, shall descend to earth to "set up the truth in England and for evermore banish the lie".

They begin their crusade at Askwood Races where naturally they cause considerable curiosity, being still clothed in the costume of Arcady. Here Simplicitas meets his wife, who, not recognising her husband, proceeds to fall in love with the interesting young stranger. This gives rise to much comic "business" between husband and wife. Then comes an opportunity for Simplicitas to distinguish himself. The jockey who was to have ridden the Deuce has been savaged by that ill-tempered animal, and Sombra arranges that Simplicitas shall take his mount. The Arcadians have the gift of speech with animals and at the approach of Simplicitas the brute becomes as gentle as a lamb. An exciting and extremely well managed description of the race follows. Simplicitas, with his arms around the horse's neck, rides in the winner, to the great satisfaction of its owner, Jack Meadows, who has staked his all on the event, including the hand and heart of Eileen Cavanaugh.

In the next act we are taken to the Arcadian Restaurant which has become the rage of London, and where the diet is that of the simple life. This is more than can be said of Simplicitas who is having "the time of his life", but in endeavouring to explain the reason of an all-night absence he tells a lie. He is again immersed and to the astonishment and confusion of his wife, re-appears as Mr. Smith, complete with bald head and shaggy whiskers.

Such is the outline of the story, which gives capital opportunities to all concerned.



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Sombra and James Smith

Time and The Arcadians



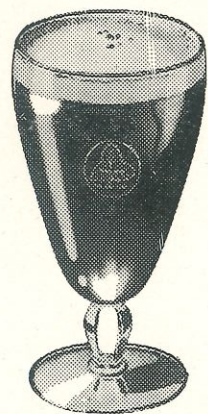
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Characters

(in order of appearance)

AMARYLLIS	} Arcadians	Pearl Dixon
DAPHNE		Madeline Smart
DRYOPE		Barbara Yeulett
ASTROPHEL		Peter Hayes
STREPHON		Tom Williams
DAMOETAS		Roy Tucker
CHRYSAEA		Jeanne Hancock
SOMBRA		Beryl Done
TIME		George Hicks
JAMES SMITH (of Smith & Co., Caterers, London)		}
SIMPLICITAS (an Arcadian)		
LADY BARCLAY		Pamela Hill
PERCY MARSH		Pat Tumber
LUCY SELWYN		Hilda Bassett
REGGIE		David Wainwright
MARION		Jean Guntrip
HARRY DESMOND		Jim Pickard
BOBBIE		Stanley Jones
JACK MEADOWS		David Bradley
SIR GEORGE PADDOCK		Randolph Hill
EILEEN CAVANAUGH		Vera Bennett
MRS. SMITH		Beryldene Hunt
PETER DOODY (a Jockey)		David Jennings

LADIES OF THE CHORUS

Hilda Bassett	Pamela Hill	Madeline Smart
Anita Bathe	Sheila Hitchens	June Smith
Enid Carravick	Susan Hiscock	Marjorie Smith
Ivy Davis	Peggy Jones	Beryl Summerhayes
Pearl Dixon	Ethel Lever	Betty Symonds
Violet Field	Doris Newman	Patricia Taylor
Janet Gould	Meryl Rowe	Peggy Walker
Jean Guntrip	Mary Ruddick	Betty Webb
Jean Hawkins	Marie Shailes	Barbara Yeulett

GENTLEMEN OF THE CHORUS

John Babbington	Deryck Johnson	Derrick Stuart-Kelso
Victor Dibben	Joseph Kelly	David Titcombe
Frank Endersby	Jim Pickard	Pat Tumber
Peter Hayes	Gerald Razey	Alan Vockins
George Hicks	George Streetly	David Wainwright
Randolph Hill		Tom Williams
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Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I
Arcadia

ACT II
Askwood Racecourse

ACT III
The Arcadian Restaurant

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Musical Director, CHARLES COMLEY

The Play Produced by ARTHUR CARRON

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Musical Numbers

OVERTURE

ACT I

OPENING CHORUS "Arcadians are we"
SONG (*Time*) and CHORUS "I quite forgot Arcadia"
QUARTETTE "The Joy of Life"
CHORUS OF FEAR "Look what hovers there above us"
SONG (*Sombra*) "The Pipes of Pan"
CHORUS "All a lie!"
SONG (*Simplicitas*) and CHORUS "Sweet Simplicitas"
FINALE "We go to teach the simple life"

ACT II

OPENING CHORUS "That's all over bar the shouting"
SONG (*Bobbie*) and CHORUS "Back your fancy"
SONG (*Eileen*) and CHORUS "The Girl with a brogue"
SHOWER CHORUS "This is really altogether too provoking"
SONG (*Sombra*) and CHORUS "Arcady is ever young"
SONG (*Simplicitas*) "Somewhere"
DUET (*Eileen and Jack*) "Charming weather"
FINALE "The Horses are out"

ACT III

OPENING CHORUS "Plant your posies"
SONG (*Chrysaea and Bobbie*) "I like London"
DUET (*Eileen and Jack*) "Half past two"
CHORUS OF BELGRAVIANS "Cheer for Simplicitas"
SONG (*Simplicitas*) "All down Piccadilly"
QUINTETTE "Truth is so beautiful"
SONG (*Doody*) "My Motter"
SONG (*Sombra*) "My heart flies homing"
FINALE "All down Piccadilly"

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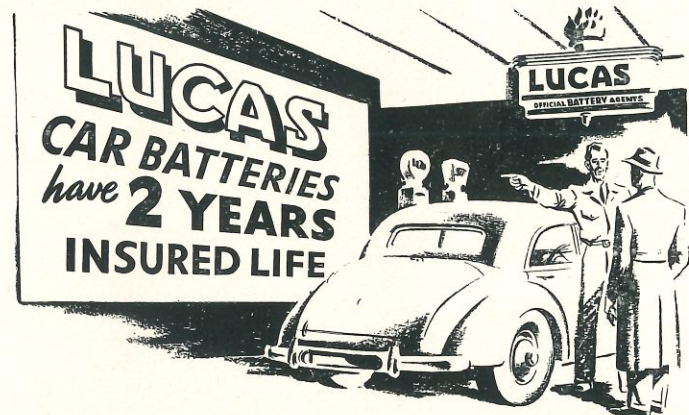
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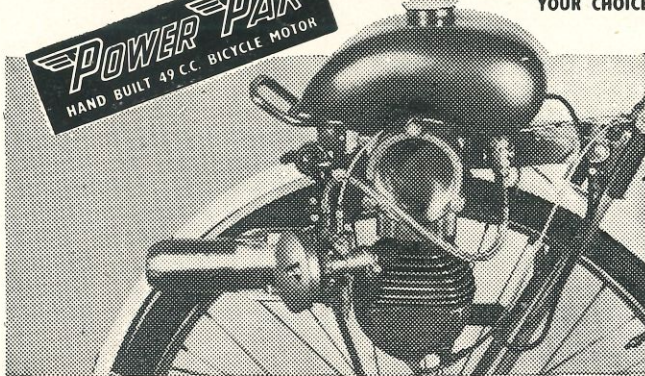
Our Guarantors

The Society wishes to acknowledge and express its gratitude to those people without whose generosity S.A.L.O.S. could not have been brought into being. We refer to our guarantors, who so willingly guaranteed amounts ranging from £10 to £100 against any loss the Society might sustain on this our first production. The response to our appeal for guarantors was remarkable and in a very short time the sum of £1,000 was assured. We sincerely trust that by the generous support received from you, our public, we shall have no cause to call upon our guarantors, but it is the knowledge that they are so solidly behind us that has made possible our efforts this week. We are indeed deeply grateful to:—

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We Welcome

During the week we welcome Members of the following Societies and Organisations and trust that they have enjoyed the show as much as we have enjoyed their presence.

The Marlborough Amateur Dramatic
and Operatic Society
The National Farmers' Union

Rotary Club of Swindon
The Athelstan Players (Malmesbury)
Swindon Chamber of Commerce

Acknowledgements

The Committee, on behalf of the Society, desire to express their sincere thanks to all those who have supported this our first production:—

The Principals
All Members of the Cast
The Officers of the Society
The Producer, Mr. Arthur Carron
The Musical Director, Mr. Charles Comley
The Hon. Dancing Mistress,
Miss Audrey Selman
The Hon Pianists, Miss M. Page and
Miss J. Farrow
Mr. R. Sutton for so ably wielding the baton
at rehearsals.
Wardrobe Mistresses and Mrs. Timms
The Prompter, Miss B. Tabb
The Callers
Mr. Bassett and his Team, for Make-up

The Swindon Press Ltd. for Photographs
The Lady Sellers of Souvenir Programmes
The Advertisers whose generosity made
possible the production of this Souvenir
Programme
Mr. A. J. Matthews and the Staff of the
Empire Theatre
To all who exhibited window and car bills
and
For kindly allowing use of rooms for rehearsals
The Committee of Management,
Presbyterian Church
Mr. Hoey, Principal of the High School,
Swindon
To everyone, however small their services

The Management of this Theatre wish S.A.L.O.S. the Best of Luck

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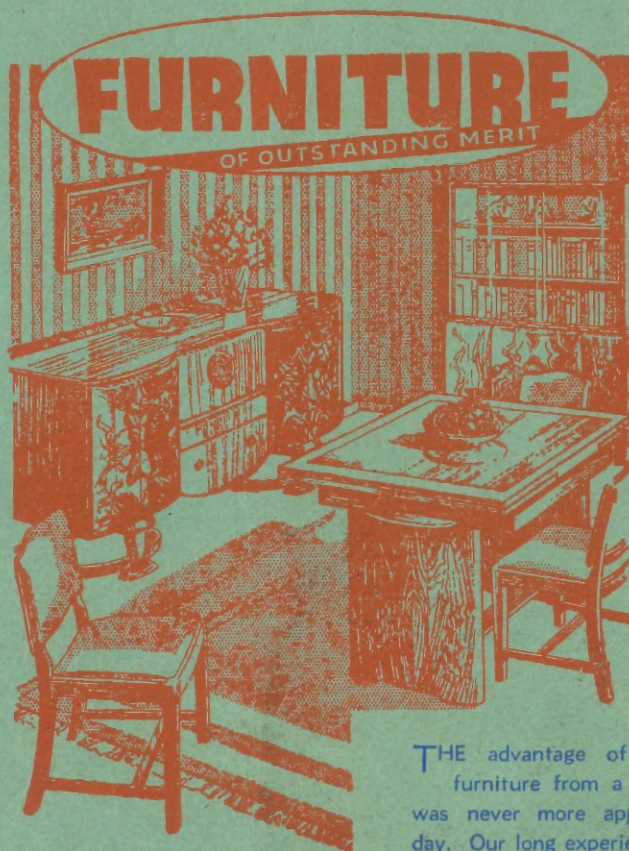
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