

Productions in 2000

Waltzing Away 'The Merry Widow'

- The Queen of Operettas

Our show for Autumn 2000, 'The Merry Widow', was presented from 10th to 14th October in the Public Hall, Beccles. Would the Widow marry a foreigner and take her millions out of the country or can dashing Count Danilo rescue her fortune? We brought intrigue and romance to life in Pontevedro while delighting to the music of Franz Lehar in such standards as 'Vilia', 'Driving in the Park with You' and 'The Merry Widow Waltz' as the plots and sub-plots unfolded. All ended happily in the end, of course - for Pontevedro; for Anna & Danilo, and (most importantly!) for our cast and excellent audiences alike.

Under the baton of our Musical Director, Barry Paine, and the guiding hand of our Stage Director, Trevor Thurston, the company and orchestra produced yet another success for WLOG with strong performances from the leading players. Particular credit must go to David Arnold who not only took on the part of Danilo at short notice but also battled with a throat infection during the week. Despite earlier misgivings, the chorus showed that they really could waltz (well some of them anyway!) while the men's routine in 'Women!, Women!!, Women!!!' had to be seen to be believed!

"The beautifully costumed, high-kicking and frilly-knickered Grisettes brought the loudest applause and widest smiles of the evening and there can have been few members of the audience who went home without taking a large chunk of feel-good factor with them"

- Lowestoft Journal

No production can ever be brought off without a large backstage crew, and thanks must go to Stage Manager John Cushing and Front of House Manager Alex von Seld whose teams ensured that things went smoothly both behind and in front of the curtain. Special thanks must also go to David Porter, czar of the Public Hall, without whose good humour and patience nothing would ever happen.

