

Halifax Gilbert and Sullivan Society Newsletter

March 2020

<http://www.halifaxgands.org.uk>

Regd. Charity 1177572

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Friday 13 March 2020 at 7.45

A special invitation Pot-Pourri

To celebrate three birthdays with zeros in them
(adding up to 200)

All Saints Parish Hall, Godfrey Road, Skircoat Green
Admission free, with retiring collection



Concerts and Club Nights

The following dates can be put in your diary

- Friday 3 April at 7.45 pm – Spring concert at All Saints. Free admission, with retiring collection.
- Sunday 19 April at 2.30 pm – Concert at Haworth Road Methodist Church, Bradford.
- Friday 15 May at 7.45 pm – Pot-Pourri club night at All Saints. This will return to the usual format, with anyone wishing to perform to contact Trevor Roberts (01274 017346)
- Saturday 6 June – Brighouse 40s weekend. We have two half-hour slots at 2.45 and 3.45. Further details to be given.
- Friday 19 June at 7.45 pm – Club night at All Saints. Show to be decided upon.
- Saturday 4 July at 7.30 pm – Concert at Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge

Princess Ida

The Society will present *Princess Ida* at Halifax Playhouse from Wednesday 4 to Saturday 7 November 2020. Auditions will take place at All Saints on Sunday 10 May, starting at 2.00 pm, and application forms and details will be available soon from the Secretary. These details will be circulated to everyone on the mailing list.

AGM and Subscriptions

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 20 March at All Saints Parish Hall. Papers should have been emailed to all members and patrons, so if you haven't received them please get in touch with the Secretary.

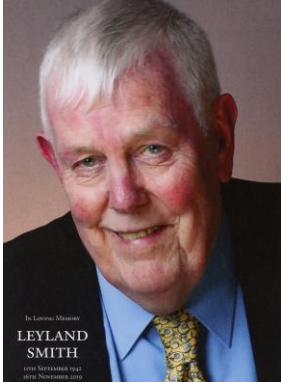
Subscriptions will be due on April 1 for the year 2020-2021. The rate is £30 for members, as agreed at the 2018 AGM, and £10 for patrons (members taking part in the show will also pay a £30 performance fee). You can pay on a Friday night or send a cheque to Stephanie Bolton, Aldwyn, Greenroyd Avenue, Halifax HX3 0LP.

If you have facilities for paying online, the Society's Account details are :

- Barclays, Halifax Commercial Street
- Sort code 20-35-84 ; Account number 20780502

Please give the reference SUB and your surname so that we can identify your payment.

Leyland Smith, 1942-2019



We were sorry to lose Leyland Smith on 16 November. He took part in our Spring Concert in March last year, and shortly afterwards was diagnosed with bone cancer. Though immobile, he was delighted to greet visitors in his various locations. We joined him for a sing-along in the foyer of Overgate Hospice in May, when he was able to recall and perform several of his solo. Later he moved to Summerfield House Care Home in Gibbet Street, where he was very pleased to enjoy the bar facilities, and again he was able to perform for his fellow residents when we visited for an impromptu concert. At his funeral on 5 December we performed *Hail Poetry* at his request, as well as joining the congregation in a fine concerted vocal effort.



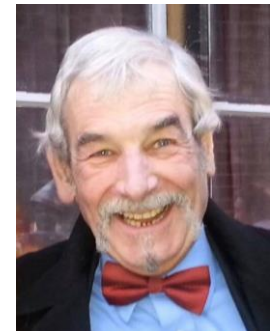
Leyland was a member of Sowerby Bridge G & S for its final years, and joined Halifax in the 80s. He was a valued member of the tenor chorus as well as taking several roles, including Private Willis, Guron, Sir Bailey Barre (*Utopia*), The Herald (*Grand Duke - illustrated*) and the Second Yeoman, where his beautiful tone was heard at its best in "This the autumn ...". He was a regular contributor to Pot-Pourri club nights with a mixture of Parlour Ballads and Tommy Cooper jokes, and was an unfailing source of encouragement to other less experienced performers.

We miss him a lot, and are very pleased to see Joan continuing to come along to support our events.

We also remember two other good friends of the Society who left us towards the end of last year.



John Child (pictured in *Iolanthe* in 1984) performed with us in the 70s and 80s, and went on to perform with Honley G&S. He and Pauline later moved to Tenerife, where he died in October. Their daughter Angela, also one of our members, continues to perform in Lancashire.



Then in December we lost Peter Drinkel, who began playing the trombone in our orchestra in the late 70s, and continued until a couple of years ago, when health problems finally took their toll. Peter, along with the rest of the orchestra, was a source of great encouragement and assistance to the present Musical Director when he took up the baton, and he is much missed.

Appearing soon :

- **Yeadon Theatre Company** : *Oklahoma!* Yeadon Town Hall, Tues-Sat 10-14 March, Tues-Fri 7.30, Sat 1.00 and 6.30 (0333 666 3366)
- **Wakefield G & S** : *Iolanthe*. Sandal Methodist Church, Fri-Sat 20-21 March, 7.30 (07759 413289)
- **All Souls AOS** : *Fiddler on the Roof*. Halifax Playhouse, Tues-Sat 24-28 March, Tues-Fri 7.15, Sat 2.15 (07939 227528)
- **Batley G & S** : *The Mikado*. Batley Town Hall, Wed-Sat 29 April-2 May, 7.30, also 2.30 Sat (07540 645172)
- **Leeds G & S** : *HMS Pinafore*. Leeds Carriageworks, Wed-Sat 13-16 May, Wed-Fri 7.30, Sat 12.30 and 5.30 (0113 376 0318)
- **Harrogate G & S** : *The Sorcerer*. Frazer Theatre, Knaresborough, Thurs-Sat 28-30 May, 7.30, also 2.30 Sat (07788 875526)