



**COWBRIDGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

PRESENT

(AS THEIR 350<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PRODUCTION)  
BY PERMISSION OF BRIDGET D'OYLY CARTE

*“The Mikado”*

by

W. S. GILBERT *and* ARTHUR SULLIVAN

at

THE TOWN HALL, COWBRIDGE

on

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY and  
SATURDAY, MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 1959  
at 7.15 p.m.

PROGRAMME - PRICE 6d.



## Dramatis Personae

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THE MIKADO OF JAPAN - - ARTHUR CODLING

NANKI-POO (his Son, disguised as a  
wandering minstrel, and in love with  
Yum-Yum) - - - - REG TALBOT

KO-KO (Lord High Executioner of Titipu) CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS

POOH-BAH (Lord High Everything Else) - ROGER GARFIELD

PISH-TUSH (a Noble Lord) - - DAVID EDWARDS

YUM-YUM { Three Sisters, - - ROBERT LEWIS  
PITTI-SING { Wards of - - DAVID HAWKINS  
PEEP-BO { Ko-Ko - - IAN MACMILLAN

KATISHA (an Elderly Lady, in love with  
Nanki-Poo) - - - - JOHN BECKETT

*Chorus of School-Girls*: ROGER BEAVIL, NORMAN DAVID, PAUL EVANS,  
CHRISTOPHER GILL, ANTHONY GOODWIN, ROBIN HAMMOND, GOVAN  
HOWELL, JOHN ISAACS, GEOFFREY JAMES, GARETH JONES, IAN  
MACDONALD, PETER MORGAN, DAVID REES, PAUL ANTHONY THOMAS,  
PAUL ADRIAN THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, RICHARD THOMAS,  
PETER WHITAKER, ROBERT WHITAKER.

*Chorus of Noblemen*: ANTHONY CROCKER, GERAINT DAVID, ROGER  
FLUCK, FRED HERLIHY, GLYN JONES, ROBIN LEE, PAUL MARSHALL,  
PETER POOLE, DEREK POWELL, GEOFFREY SLADE, CARLETON TARR,  
MICHAEL THORNBERRY, PETER THOMAS, RICHARD WALTERS.

*Guards*: LYN RICHARDS, JOHN YARDLEY.

*Attendant on Ko-Ko*: MAXWELL COOKE.

The Opera is presented in two Acts with an interval between.  
The first Act takes place in the Courtyard of Ko-Ko's Official Residence  
and the second in Ko-Ko's Garden.

*Production by* - - Messrs. P. G. COBB and M. B. EDWARDS

*Piano Accompaniment* - - Mr. P. G. COBB and T. J. CHILCOTT

*The Scenery devised and executed by* - Miss G. M. DAVIES, Mr. R. A.  
WHITTLE and BOYS OF THE SCHOOL

*Stage Helpers* - R. BROWN, P. D. HANNAN, F. A. TAYLOR, K. V.  
TAYLOR, C. S. A. COOKSLEY, R. M. G. S. FELL

*Business Manager* - - - - Mr. M. VAUGHAN

*Business Helpers* - A. EASTMENT, D. G. DAVIES, G. S. LEWIS,  
B. MADGE, I. R. WIESNER, M. J. P. BOARD,  
L. J. HOW, J. M. LEWIS, J. P. M. RAGGATT,  
R. P. MEWIS.

*Lighting* - Mr. I. D. DAVIES, A. J. B. CODLING, E. N. THOMAS

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GOD SAVE THE QUEEN will be sung before Curtain Rise and

MAE HEN WLAD FY NHADAU at the end of the play.

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### "THE MIKADO"

Perhaps the most popular of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas,  
*The Mikado* was first produced on March 14th, 1885. Japanese art  
was something of a fashionable craze in England at that time, and so  
Gilbert's choice of a Japanese background for the farcical plot of the  
opera was a topical one. The Japan of the opera is, of course, nothing  
like the real Japan; in fact the Japanese themselves were mortally  
offended by Gilbert's humorous treatment of their country and its  
"Emperor."

**Act 1.** In the town of Titipu in Japan live Ko-Ko, an ex-tailor now  
exalted to the rank of Lord High Executioner; a nobleman,

Pish-Tush ; and another, Pooh-Bah, the Lord High Everything Else. Ko-Ko has three young female wards, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo. The Mikado, or Emperor, has but one son, Nanki-Poo, who is betrothed to the unattractive Katisha, but has fallen in love with Yum-Yum. He has run away from his father and Katisha, and arrives in Titipu disguised as a wandering musician, in search of Yum-Yum.

He finds her, but to his horror learns that she is to marry her guardian, Ko-Ko, the same day. Flirting is a capital crime in Japan, but he reveals his identity to her, and they kiss and part.

The Mikado has ordered Ko-Ko to find an execution victim. Nanki-Poo, in despair, offers to die in a month if he may marry Yum-Yum immediately. Ko-Ko is so anxious to find his victim that the offer is accepted.

Katisha enters in pursuit of Nanki-Poo. Her attempt to tell all Titipu who he is is drowned by the crowd's voices, and she goes off in a rage to inform the Mikado of his whereabouts, not knowing of his agreement with Ko-Ko.

**Act 2.** While the wedding is being prepared with mingled joy and sorrow, Nanki-Poo learns that by law his widow must die when he is beheaded. He resolves to kill himself. But as the Mikado approaches, the noblemen marry Nanki-Poo to Yum-Yum and hurriedly hide the couple. They then produce a false death certificate to say that the execution ordered by the Mikado has actually taken place—for Ko-Ko is really too nervous to kill anything.

The Mikado and Katisha (the latter still bent on marrying Nanki-Poo) enter and are shown the death-certificate. Katisha reads that the Emperor's son has been executed. The two noblemen and Pitti-Sing are condemned to frightful torture and death.

Ko-Ko solves the situation by wooing and winning Katisha, much as he hates doing so. It is then safe to produce Nanki-Poo and Yum-Yum, and all ends happily.