

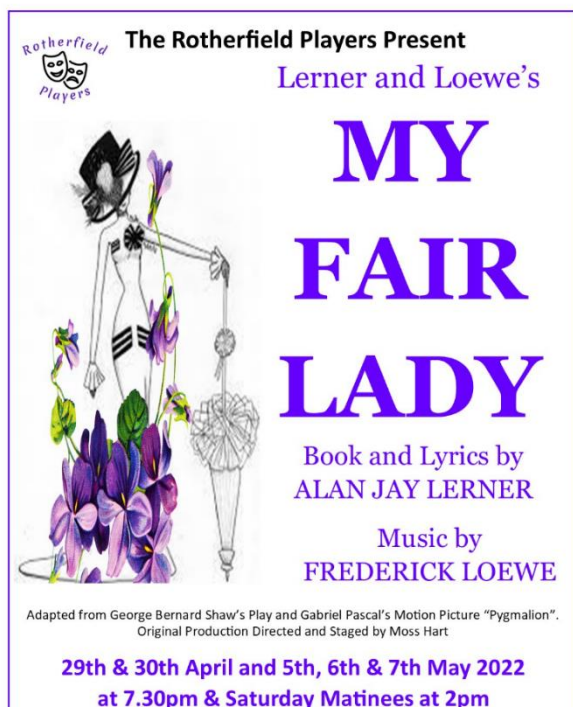


The Rotherfield Players Newsletter

November 2021

2022: “Jack and the Beanstalk” and “My Fair Lady”

Sadly, the committee has taken the decision to defer our pantomime “Jack and the Beanstalk” until January 2023. Unfortunately, we had only a very limited number of adult members turn up to the auditions due to both the ongoing impact of the pandemic and several our members having other commitments in January.



This does, however, allow us to turn our attention to our production of “My Fair Lady”. Auditions and help night will continue as planned this month.

Audition information.

Help Night: Wednesday 17th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Auditions: Sunday 28th November. All day – am in the Institute and afternoon in the Village Hall. Exact timings to be confirmed dependant on the numbers auditioning. Please be prepared to ‘hang around’.

Audition pieces are now available on the Players website

www.rotherfieldplayers.co.uk

Characters - Women

Character	‘Stage’ Age	Name
Eliza Doolittle	20s	A cockney flower girl from Lisson Grove working outside Covent Garden. Her potential to become ‘a lady’ becomes the object of a bet between Higgins and Pickering
Mrs Pearce	30+	Higgins’ housekeeper. In charge of Higgins’ household and staff. Also, part of Higgins’ “servants’ chorus”
Mrs Higgins	70+	Higgins’ long-suffering mother

Mrs Eynsford-Hill	50+	A friend of Mrs Higgins and Freddy's mother
Mrs Hopkins	Any	A lively cockney woman who is always interested in everyone else's business
Georgie (Bar Landlady)	Any	Landlady of Doolittle's 'local'
Flower Girl	20s	Friend of Eliza who works at Covent Garden
Higgins' Maids (x 3)	Any	Maids who work for Professor Higgins. Singing parts
Ensemble	Any	A variety of Cockney and "well to do / upper class" characters

Characters - Men

Character	'Stage Age'	Name
Professor Higgins	40s / 50s	British, upper class professional bachelor, world famous phonetics expert, teacher and author of "Higgins' Universal Alphabet"
Colonel Pickering	60+	Retired British officer with colonial experience and author of "Spoken Sanskrit"
Freddy Eynsford-Hill	20s / 30s	Upper class young man who becomes completely smitten with Eliza
Alfred Doolittle	50+	Eliza's father; a lively dustman and 'philosopher!'
Harry & Jamie	Any	Drinking companions of Alfred Doolittle
Zoltan Karparthy	40+	A bearded Hungarian; former phonetics student of Henry Higgins
Higgins' Butler & Footman	Any	Servants of Professor Higgins. Singing parts
Policeman	Any	Policeman who works around Covent Garden
Ensemble	Any	A variety of Cockney and "well to do/upper class" characters

[Go to the Players' website to see/print the audition pieces](#)



Ladies Day

How good it was to put on a production after so long and what a success it was! Thank you Derek, Heather, Andy, Brian, Robert and the brilliant cast.

Here is the critique that was written by Brenda Gower, the local NODA representative:-

Having read the resume of Ladies Day in the programme, I knew we were in for a very good evening's entertainment and I was not wrong!

The multi layered characters of the four factory fish packers from Hull were so well defined, all giving great performances which ranged from hilarity to moments of true pathos. Also good Yorkshire accents throughout.

Pearl, beautifully played by Ros Williams was the instigator of their trip to Ladies Day at Ascot Races, being held in York that year, as this was her greatest wish for her retirement bash. Kate Organ played Jan with great gusto and Rachel Martin as Shelley, the youngest of the four, gave a wonderfully outrageous mini-skirted performance, with Emma Harrison as Linda who certainly enjoyed the champagne – great acting! A truly talented quartet.



Humphrey Skett played all the men including Joe, in charge of the fish packing girls, a ticket tout at the races, a radio commentator, a jockey and a drunk, ending with Barry who had passed away from a heart attack but who returned to visit Pearl, who had really come to the races to find him, the love of her life. This was a very affecting encounter played so well by both characters. Humphrey Skett is to be congratulated for portraying all the men so well and convincingly.

There was a happy ending – much rejoicing ensued when the ticket for their winnings was found!

The scenery was ideal - easily and well handled to change the scenes and those in charge of costumes really hit the spot. I loved the scene when the ladies transformed themselves from fish packers to Ladies Day racegoers with their backs to the audience, tossing their overalls aside to reveal posh frocks, super hats and footwear in time to the music!

The programme was very well presented in threefold style which included plenty of information for us to read.

Many thanks to Derek Holland for bringing this delightful play to the stage and to all involved whether on stage or behind the scenes in any capacity.

Very best wishes for your future productions.

Brenda Gower - Regional NODA Representative



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 17 th November	Help night for "My Fair Lady"	7.30 pm Rotherfield Village Hall
Sunday 28 th November	Auditions for "My Fair Lady"	am – Memorial Institute pm – Village Hall
29th, 30th April 2022 5th - 7th May 2022	Performances of "My Fair Lady"	7.30 pm - Village Hall

