

THEATRE

NETTON

Netton and District  
Choral and Amateur  
Operatic Society

Present the  
COMIC OPERA:

Highwayman  
Love.

Souvenir Programme,  
November, 1923.



# PAVILION THEATRE HETTON

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Proprietors ... .. Messrs. R. BARTON & SONS  
General Manager ... .. Mr. J. BARTON  
Telephone HETTON 20

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## SIX PERFORMANCES OF THE COMIC OPERA 'Highwayman Love'

(By arrangement with Messrs. J. Curmen & Sons, Ltd.)  
Book by F. R. Bell.                      Lyrics by Harold Ellis  
Music by W. H. Bullock.  
(Authors and Composer of "DOGS OF DEVON")

BY

The Hetton and District Choral and  
Amateur Operatic Society

COMMENCING

***Monday, November 12th, 1923***

at 7-15 p.m. Nightly.

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Patrons are requested to be seated before the rise  
of the Curtain and to refrain from smoking during the  
First Act.



MR. E. MASON

(Producer).



Mr. TENNYSON KAY, *Musical Director.*

## *Officers of the Society.*

*President* :—J. F. BELL, Esq.

*Vice-President* :—T. Walker, Esq.

*Chairman* :—Mr. W. Strachan.

*Vice-Chairman* :—Mr. W. Stoker.

### *Committee :*

Mesdames Barnett, Holmes and Gordon, Miss F. Sainthouse.  
Messrs. R. Potts, R. H. Twigg, J. Burt, A. Mennear, A. Walker  
and G. Walker.

*Financial Secretary* :—Mr. W. F. Holmes.

*Treasurer* :—Mr. R. Charlton.

*Organising Secretary* :—Mr. J. Gentles.

*Hon. Secretary* :—Mr. J. Dixon, 40, Barrington Terrace, Hetton





BESS MANNERING—Miss L. GARMONSWAY.  
SIR HARRY LOVEL—Mr. A. PURVIS.

### Orchestra.

*Violins*—Messrs. W. Owen (*leader*), J. Henderson, J. Smith  
and J. Green.

*Viola*—Mr. Wm. Harver.

*Cello*—Mr. A. Barton.

*Bass*—Mr. R. Pincher.

*Oboe*—Mr. R. Nichol.

*Flute and Piccolo*—Mr. H. Lax.

*Clarionette*—Mr. J. Millar.

*Cornets*—Messrs. W. Kelly and E. Hodgkiss.

*Trombone*—Mr. G. Donkin.

*Drums*—Mr. A. Roberts.

*Pianist*—Mr. M. Roberts.



SOPHY—Mrs. PARNABY.  
SERGEANT MUSTARD—Mr. W. STOKER.

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Stewards.

Mr. T. Heads, *Manager*.

Mr. E. Parnaby.

Mr. R. Boldon.

Mr. J. F. Marshall.

Mr. G. Barrass.

Mr. P. J. Rennie

Mr. R. Widdowfield.

Mr. A. Mennear.

Mr. R. L. Watson.



DENIS O'NEILL—Mr. G. WALKER.  
ISABEL—Miss G. MINOR.

### Honorary Members.

Miss Robinson.

Mr. J. T. Goymer.

Mr. E. Best.

Mr. T. Heads.

Mr. R. L. Watson.

Mr. R. Stokoe.

Mr. A. Cowie.

Mr. E. Parnaby.

Mr. A. Walker.

Mr. W. F. Holmes.

Mr. J. F. Marshall.

Dr. Anderson.

Mr. R. Bolton.

Mr. J. Thorne.

Mr. T. Walker.

Mr. P. J. Rennie.

## THE LOVEL LEGEND.

FROM earliest Elizabethian times there had run a legend in the Yorkshire House of Lovel which told as follows :

Lovel's line from sore distress  
Rescued was by Royal BESS.  
When it's doom is written plain  
BESS shall save the House again.'

How young Sir Harry, latest heir of Lovel's line, found his fortunes suddenly imperilled by a kinsman's malice; how his betrothed, the fair Bess Mannering, believing herself to be the 'Bess' forshadowed by the prophecy, renounced her happiness to shield her lover; and how Destiny in the guise of a chivalrous highwayman, intervened in the nick of time to 'save the House'—this is the central *motif* of the opera, through which the 'Lovel Legend' threads its way to a surprising, but at the same time literal, fulfilment.

## THE ARGUMENT.

### ACT I.

LOVEL COURT, near York, is *en fête* one May afternoon, 1720, for the coming of age of Sir Harry Lovel, whose widowed mother, Lady Lovel, is giving a reception to the tenantry. The county guests including General Mannering, Governor of York, and his daughter Bess, with whom Sir Harry is in love. Bess's hand is also sought by the young heir's uncle, Sir Jeffrey Digby, Bart, a shifty financier, who has had control of the Lovel revenues. At the moment he is promoting a swindling concern called 'Bubbles, Ltd.,' in which the credulous Governor has been induced to invest all his wealth. An escort of Grenadiers, under Sergeant Mustard, heralds the arrival at the *fête* of the Governor, his daughter, and Sophy, her maid. Sophy is captivated by the dashing sergeant, much to the chargin of her father, Solomon Smug, head watchman of York, who desires to see her wed Dr. Flute, the bashful Minster organist. The Governor announces a reward of 1,000 guineas for the capture of Denis O'Neill, a highwayman, and proclaims it an offence against the realm to give him shelter. Two of the company—John Braddlum, the village innkeeper, and Isabel, a gipsy girl—are in league with O'Neill (who is loved by the gipsy), and when, a little later, the highwayman unexpectedly appears on the scene, Isabel's alarm for his safety is great. This feeling turns to jealousy when Bess, surprising the two together, takes the stranger for a guest and welcomes him to Lovel Court. Sir Harry's entry causes an awkward situation, but O'Neill averts discovery by telling the lovers that the elusive highwayman is already in their midst, posing as a guest, and he gaily accepts Bess's suggestion that he (O'Neill) shall attend the masquerade 'disguised as a highwayman himself.' Unluckily for Denis he has been recognised by Obadiah, who informs Sir Jeffery. To vent his spite upon Sir Harry, now Bess's accepted lover, the baronet holds over her a threat of publicly accusing Sir Harry of harbouring a highwayman unless she will renounce her lover in his (Sir Jeffery's) favour. Invoking the 'Lovel Legend' he persuades the distressed girl that *she* is the 'Bess' destined to 'save the House,' and eventually she yields. It is now evening. Before all the masqueraders Sir Jeffery triumphantly proposes for Mistress Mannering's hand; reluctantly she consents. Instantly there comes a thundering 'No!' from the mysterious stranger, whose chivalry has been stirred by Bess's charm and evident distress; Obadiah as promptly denounces him as O'Neill; the watchman attempts to arrest him—and the next moment sees the highwayman galloping away on his black mare 'Bonnie Bess,' with the Grenadiers in hot pursuit.

### ACT II—SCENE I.

Later the same evening the villagers are seen deriding Solomon, who is in the stocks for allowing O'Neill to escape. The Grenadiers are still searching for the highwayman, who is lying concealed in the inn. By a stroke of luck O'Neill, masquerading this time as an old apple-woman, overhears Sir Jeffery dispatching Diggory to London with the title-deeds of the Lovel estate, which he is secretly mortgaging. To cover the fraud Obadiah has prepared forged copies of the deeds to palm off on Sir Harry. Disregarding danger to himself, O'Neill tells his discovery to the lovers. Meanwhile, Denis's presence at the inn has been detected by Solomon and Dr. Flute, and the highwayman finds himself trapped by the soldiery. Once again, by a skilful ruse he turns the tables and rides off.



LADY LOVEL—Mrs. T. KAY.  
MAJOR-GENERAL MANNERING—Mr. W. HOLMES.

### The Story of the Opera—*continued.*

#### SCENE II.

Daybreak next morning finds Soioman bemoaning his worries as a watchman. Sir Jeffrey gets the news that 'Bubbles, Ltd.,' has burst, and that a warrant is out for his arrest. Isabel, no longer jealous, is desperately hoping that her highwayman lover has succeeded in overtaking Diggory and the deeds. The whole village has now learnt of Sir Jeffrey's financial ruin. The Governor in his grief is consoled by Lady Lovel, for whom he discovers a tenderness which rapidly ripens into mutual love. He sternly forbids his daughter's marriage to Sir Jeffery. Foiled in his earlier attempt to involve his nephew's honour, he now hands over to the unsuspecting heir the bogus documents. All at once a horseman is heard approaching; it is O'Neill. Flushed but triumphant, he enters with the miserable Diggory his prisoner, and on him the purloined title-deeds. Sir Harry is free to marry Bess; Sophy is happy with the sergeant, O'Neill with Isabel—and the opera ends with the delighted company toasting the name of 'Bonnie Bess,' the highwayman's mare, whose all-night gallop to Lovel Court has proved, to the surprise of no one more than Bess Mannering herself, the true though unsuspected fulfilment of the legend's prophecy that—

'Bess shall save the house again.'



# Musical Numbers.

## ACT I.

1. Introduction and Opening Chorus ... .. "Fill up the Can"  
**Chorus, Diggory, Sir Harry, Lady Lovel and Sir Jeffery**
2. Ballad ... .. "The Legend of the Lovels"  
**Lady Lovel and Chorus**
3. Song ... .. "My Lady Disdain"  
**Sir Harry**
4. Duet ... .. "The Villains of the Piece"  
**Sir Jeffery and Obadiah**
5. Chorus and Song ... .. "The Fortune Shop"  
**Isabel and Minxes**
6. Entrance of Grenadiers ... .. "With Tootling Fifes"  
**Sergeant and Chorus**
7. Ensemble ... .. "The Governor's Body-Guard"  
**Governor, Bess, Sophy and Chorus**
8. Song and Chorus ... .. "The Governor of York"  
**Governor and Chorus**
- 8a Exit of Chorus ... .. "Come, then, lasses"
9. Duett ... .. "When a Man would Woo"  
**Sir Harry and Bess**
10. Song ... .. "Highwayman Love"  
**O'Neill, with Isabel**
11. Song ... .. "The Magic of May"  
**Bess**
12. Chorus with Solo ... .. "Lads and Lasses, here's frivolity"  
**Soloman and Chorus**
13. Finale (a) Song and Chorus... .. "The Nightbird"  
**O'Neill and Chorus**  
(b) Recits and Chorus ... .. "One moment pray"  
**Full Company**

## ACT II. SCENE I.

14. Chorus ... .. "Here's a Source of Joy Ecstatical"  
**Rustics**
15. Trio ... .. "A Military Life"  
**Sophy, Sergeant and Soloman**
16. Song with Chorus ... .. "Guard, turn out!"  
**Governor and Grenadiers**
17. Scena ... .. "The Little Witch"  
**Isabel and Chorus**
18. Trio ... .. "Department"  
**Sir Jeffery, Diggory and Obadiah**
19. Song ... .. "Life and Love"  
**Sir Harry, with Bess, Isabel and O'Neill**
20. Quartette ... .. "Let us Raise a Tuneful Measure"  
**Bess, Lady Lovel, Sir Harry and O'Neill.**
21. Ensemble ... .. "When the Round Shot goes a-flying"  
**Bess, O'Neill, Governor, Sergeant and Chorus.**

## ACT II. SCENE II.

22. Entr'acte and Song ... .. "Witches and Watches"  
**Soloman.**
23. Quintette ... .. "Ring the Merry Marriage Bell"  
**Sophy, Isabel, Dr. Flute, Soloman and Sergeant.**
24. Duett ... .. "Matrimony"  
**Governor and Lady Lovel.**
25. Melodrame ... .. "Bess turns Rebel"  
**Sir Jeffery, Sergeant and Chorus.**
- Finale of Opera ... .. "Highwayman Love"  
**Full Company.**



JOHN BRADDLUM—Mr. E. MENNEAR.

PEGGY—Miss Z. WAGGITT.

PRUE—Miss E. WILDE.



SOLOMON SMUG—Mr. M. EGGLESTONE.

GAFFER JARGE—Mr. A. BURROWS.

DOCTOR FLUTE—Mr. NEIL MURPHY.

AN OLD APPLE WOMAN—Mrs. P. J. RENNIE.



SIR JEFFERY DIGBY—Mr. J. GENTLES.

OBADIAH BLUNT—Mr. E. SHENTON.

DIGGORY—Mr. J. DIXON.

# *We beg to Announce*

Our thanks and appreciation to the Public for their support in our previous production, and trust to merit the continuance of such helpful support.

Our indebtedness to the Committee of the Hetton Workmen's Club for allowing us to use, gratis, their Hall for practices.

That Hon. Members can join the Society for 10/6 Subscription which carries Two Complimentary Tickets for the production.

That Subscribers may become so for 5/- per annum which carries One Complimentary Ticket for the production.

"The Dogs of Devon."—Owing to so many requests, will be repeated for a week in March, 1924.

How grateful we are to the number of Gentlemen who have so willingly given their services gratis, and whilst it is impossible to enumerate them here, we tender our sincere thanks to them all.

OUR OBJECT:—(a) Educational, and to seek the co-operation of all persons interested in music generally. (b) The giving of assistance to charitable and philanthropic institutions.





A GROUP OF MEMBERS.

The following are the advertisements placed in  
the programme by the many local businesses.

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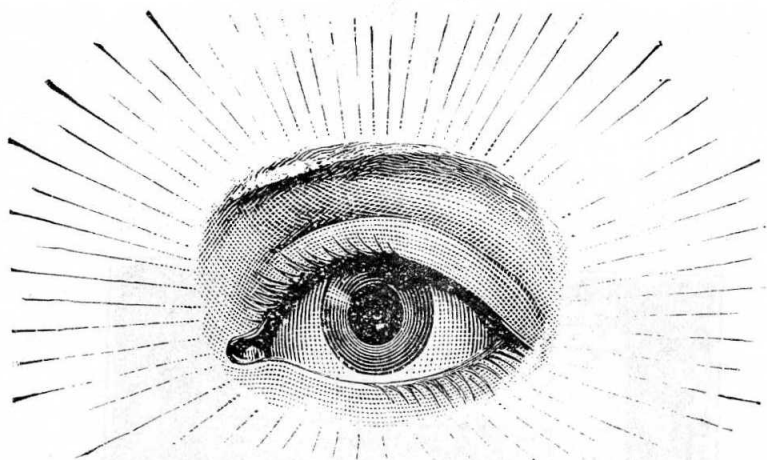
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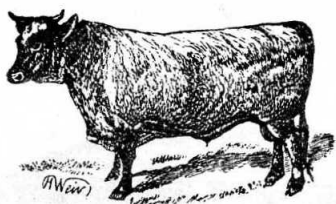
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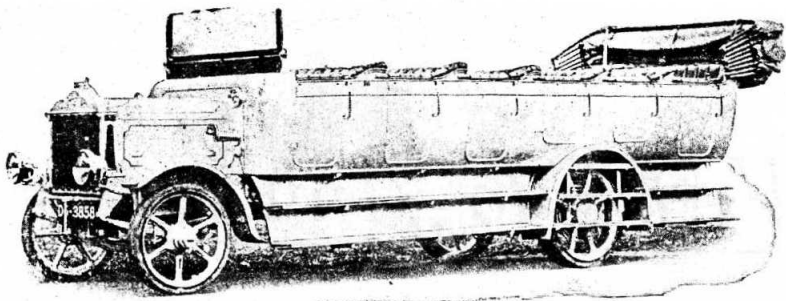
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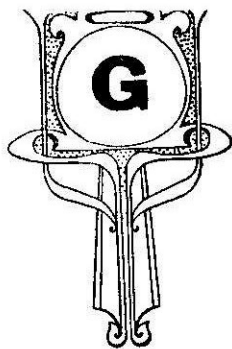
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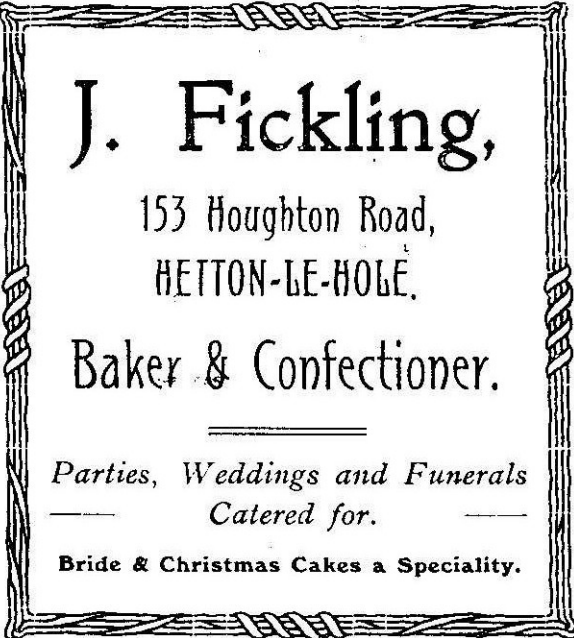
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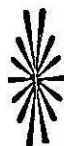
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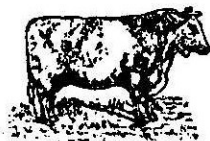
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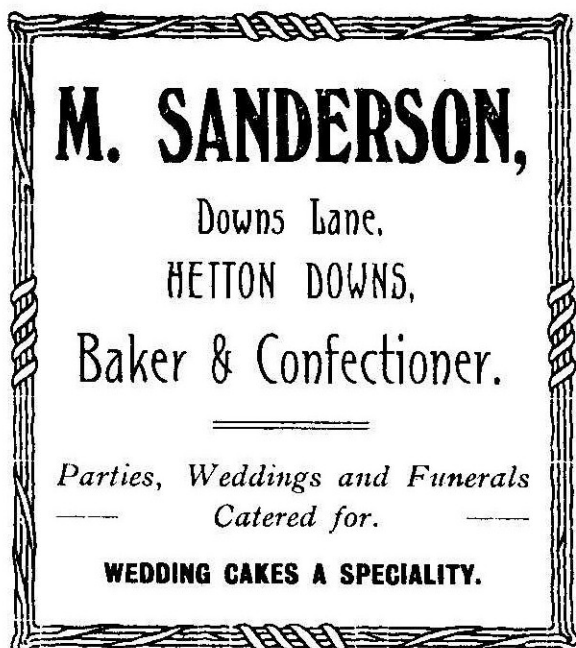
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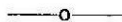


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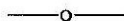
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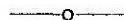
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