

**Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust**

**St. Anthony's
Girls' Catholic Academy**



A Short History of St. Anthony's Opera 1997-2010

Web-site: www.st-anthonys-academy.com

E-mail: enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com

Twitter:

@St_Anthonys3 (St. Anthony's)

@AAASixthForm (St. Anthony's and St. Aidan's Catholic Sixth Form)

@BeaconSch (Beacon Teaching Alliance based at St. Anthony's)

Telephone: 0191 5658904

St. Anthony's has a strong tradition of musical theatre and light opera. Our recent musical theatre productions have included:

- School of Rock 2020
- Guys and Dolls 2019
- The Sound of Music 2018
- 'A Night at the Musicals' 2017
- Calamity Jane 2016
- Into the Woods 2015
- Oliver 2014
- Joseph 2013

We have a tradition of musical theatre and light opera stretching back over half a century.

There was a historic tradition of Gilbert and Sullivan opera productions at St. Anthony's during the 1940's and 1950's and there are some photographic records of productions from the earlier years in our school records held in the school library. The light opera tradition was resurrected in 1997 and there were annual performances by St. Anthony's Opera Group 1997-2010, directed by Mr. Dewhurst.

Mr. Dewhurst (Director) was assisted by Miss McGarey/Mrs. Tomlin (Producer), Mrs. Dewhurst (Vocal Coach) and many other students, staff and friends of the school including our very own Mrs. Dudley (Orchestra) who is now our Subject Leader: Music.

Much camaraderie developed between the staff and students who have took part in St. Anthony's Opera over the years and a number of students have entered theatre full-time, most notably Frances McNamee and Patrick McNamee. You can find information about Frances in the Alumna section of our website.

Below is a list of the light opera productions from those years and a record of those who have taken main parts in productions 2005-2010. If anyone can help us out with the cast lists from the 1997-2004 productions, then please do contact either Mrs. Dudley (Subject Leader Music and Associate Assistant Headteacher at St. Anthony's), or Mrs. Shepherd (Headteacher) via enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com. We would be delighted to add cast list names for the 1997-2004 productions.

Light Opera 1997-2010:

- Iolanthe 2010
- The Pirates of Penzance 2009
- The Mikado 2008
- The Sorcerer 2007
- The Gondoliers 2006
- Ruddigore 2005
- Iolanthe 2004
- The Mikado 2003
- Yeoman of the Guard 2002
- The Pirates of Penzance 2001
- The Gondoliers 2000
- Ruddigore 1999

- Iolanthe 1998
- The Mikado 1997

Calling all past cast members of St. Anthony's Opera. We are trying to establish a list of all those who have taken part. If we have made an error or you can add any information then please e-mail : enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com and mark "Opera: Mrs. Dudley and Mrs. Shepherd".

Iolanthe 2010 – Cast List

The Lord Chancellor – Ella Clasper
 Lord Mountarat – Abena Ansah
 Lord Tolloller – Clara Shepherd
 Private Willis – Patrick McNamee (St. Aidan's)
 Strephon – Lizzie Fetherston
 Phyllis – Christie Bainbridge
 Queen of the Fairies – Charlotte Riley
 Iolanthe – Rebecca Prestwood
 Celia – Bethany Guy
 Leila – Elizabeth Bradford
 Fleta – Emily Dodds

The Pirates of Penzance 2009 – Cast List

Major General Stanley – Rebecca Taylor
 Pirate King – Abena Ansah
 Samuel – Clara Shepherd
 Frederick – Lizzie Fetherston
 Sergeant of Police – Ella Clasper
 Mabel – Kate McCallum
 Edith – Bethany Guy
 Kate – Catriona Linsley
 Isabel – Bethany Guy
 Ruth – Christie Bainbridge

Mikado 2008 – Cast List

The Mikado of Japan – Rory Oliver
 Nanki – Poo – Christine French
 Ko – Ko – Emma Rodgers
 Yum – Yum – Kate McCallum
 Katisha – Clarissa Grimes
 Pooh – Bah – Abena Ansah
 Pish – Tush – Clara Shepherd
 Pitti – Sing – Rebecca Taylor
 Peep – Bo – Catriona Linsley

The Sorceror 2007 – Cast List

Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre – Hope Travers
Alexis – Christine French
Dr. Daly – Robyn Willis
Notary – Abena Ansah
John Wellington – Wells – Emma Rodgers
Lady Sangazure – Rebecca Miller
Aline – Lauren Dryden
Mrs. Partlet – Rhiannon Oxley
Constance – Sophie Sullivan

The Gondoliers 2006 – Cast List

The Duke of Plaza – Torro – Emma Rodgers
Luiz (his Secretary) – Christine French
Don Alhambra del Bolero – Kayleigh Oliver
Marco – Frances McNamee
Guiseppe – Laura Walton
Antonio – Stephanie Pearson
Francesco – Victoria Barlow
The Duchess of Plaza – Torro – Rebecca Miller
Casilda (her daughter) – Michelle Oakes
Gianetta – Miriam Phipps – Bertram
Tessa – Victoria Atkinson
Fiametta – Laura Crawley
Vittoria – Jennifer Brown
Giulia – Sophie Sullivan
Inez – Mica Denila

Ruddigore 2005 – Cast List

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd – Frances McNamee
Richard Dauntless – Christine French
Sir Despard Murgatroyd – Laura Walton
Old Adam Goodheart – Kayleigh Oliver
Rose Maybud – Michelle Oakes
Mad Margaret – Victoria Atkinson
Dame Hannah – Rebecca Miller
Zorah – Laura Crawley
Ruth – Claire Liddell
Sir Roderick Murgatroyd – Susannah Gibson
Reverend Greengrass – Bethany Patience

Mrs. M. Shepherd (Headteacher)