

BWT Review

A Luvverly Night Out

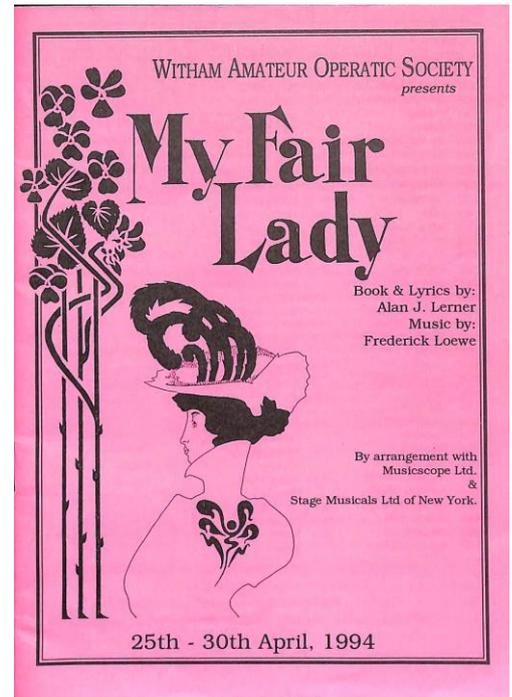
My Fair Lady

Witham Amateur Operatic Society

FULL of humour and talent, Witham Amateur Operatic Society's My Fair Lady was proof that you need not venture to the bright lights of the West End to see a top quality show.

The popular tale of Professor Henry Higgins and common cockney flowergirl named Eliza Doolittle brought the stage at Witham Public Hall alive.

Alison Brewer stole the show with her realistic, humourous and touching portrayal of Eliza, in the musical. The highly talented performer enchanted the audience from the moment she appeared on stage, with her cockney dialect and *Wouldn't it be Luvverly* —perhaps one of the best known songs – which was excellent. Her strong performance continued to the end, by when Higgins has transformed her into a well-spoken lady.



David Adams was brilliant as the stubborn Prof Higgins, who takes on Eliza as a bet with his pal Colonel Pickering. The banter and rapport between Eliza and Higgins was wonderful - the pair were great together. Pickering, played by Nicholas Clough, was the sobering influence on Higgins and he gave an outstanding performance. Other standards that enchanted the audience included *I Could have Danced all Night* and *Get Me to the Church on Time*. In the supporting cast, Tony Wood as Alfred P Doolittle, Philip Cousins as Freddy Eynsford Hill, Edna Starling as Mrs Higgins and Lydia Clough as Mrs Pearce, were all praiseworthy for their acting and singing. The performances in the chorus and dance scenes were top-class, with some stunning routines in eye-catching costumes.

Credit must also go to producer Edwina McKay, choreographer Lavinia Farmer and musical director Jill Parkin.

The whole show was very slick and the fact that tickets were sold out before it started a week-long run — which ended on Saturday says it all!

AMANDA STOCKS

- CAST -

(in order of appearance)

Costermongers	:	Stewart Adkins, Tim Clarke, Chris Lowe
Mrs. Eynsford Hill	:	Pam Adams
Eliza Doolittle	:	Alison Brewer
Freddy Eynsford Hill	:	Philip Cousins
Colonel Pickering	:	Nicholas Clough (Mon, Thurs, Sat eve) Geoff Coverdale (Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat mat)
Henry Higgins	:	David Adams
Bartender	:	Paul Chittleborough
Harry	:	Steve Draper
Jamie	:	Tim Clarke
Alfred P. Doolittle	:	Tony Wood
Mrs. Pearce	:	Lydia Clough
Mrs. Hopkins	:	Patsy Page
Butler	:	Stewart Adkins
Maids	:	Cynthia Draper, Helen Fox, Janet Hawkes, Judy Henderson
Mrs. Higgins	:	Edna Starling
Lord Boxington	:	Tim Clarke
Lady Boxington	:	Helene Jones
Flower Girl	:	Helen Fox
Mrs. Higgins' maid	:	Freda Willingham
Karpathy	:	Michael Dunion
The Queen of Transylvania	:	Anne Marsden

Chorus and Dancers

Kathryn Adkins, Stewart Adkins, Muriel Chambers, Rosemary Chaplin, William Chaplin, Paul Chittleborough, Tim Clarke, Val Ditchman, Anne Dobinson, Cynthia Draper, Steve Draper, Michael Dunion, Jan Edmunds, Helen Fox, Janet Hawkes, Judy Henderson, Helene Jones, Chris Lowe, Peter McKay, Anne Marsden, Danny Mullane, Patsy Page, Sue Pavelin, Julia Reed, Sue Rogers, Sue Siddalls, Liz Watson, Freda Willingham.

CREDITS

Producer: Edwina McKay
Choreographer: Lavinia Farmer
Stage Manager: David Hunt
Stage Crew: Phil Baggardy, Matthew Foulger, Tony Fox, Graham Green, Derek Hunt, Alastair Irving, Alan Nother, Mark Pullen, Ian Thorpe, Mark Tinworth
Lighting: Murray Styman
Assisted by: Steve Bailey
Properties: Kate Dawson, Janice Hawkes, Chris Willison, Samantha Willison
Wardrobe: Jane Furnival, Alma Clarke,
Make-up: June Smith, Margaret Jex
Wigs & Hair dressed by: Patsy Page
Production Secretary: Liz Watson
Scenery: Paul Lazell (Scenery)
Additional Furniture supplied by: Chris Snow, Mercury Theatre Colchester
Costumes supplied by: Lyndons Theatrical Costume Hire
Costumes for Act 1 Scene 1 etc., and Maids supplied by: Members of the Society
Flowers supplied by: Michelle
Lighting supplied by: Braintree District Arts Council, JBE Stage Hire
Front of House: John Gunson
Box Office: Liz Watson
Ticket Printing: Edward Maltby
Programme: Steve Draper
Cover & Poster graphics: Colin Ismay
Programme Advertising: Michael Dunion
Programme Sales: June Locke
Bar Manager: Ron Howe
Prompt: Anne Sheppard, Roberta Tyler
Rehearsal Accompanist: Ruth Le Poidevin

ORCHESTRA

Musical Director: Jill Parkin
Flute: Evan Davies
Oboe: Phillip Harmer
Clarinet: Sue Chambers
 Melanie Williams
Trumpet: John Hutchins
Horn: Stuart Sanders
Trombone: Neil Wallace
Percussion: Graham Instrall
Violin: Sarah Edwards
 Diana Lysenko
 David Harrison
Viola: AnnaJane Hall
Cello: Joanna Hill
Double Bass: Phillip Toms

PHOTOGRAPHY and RECORDING

Please note that the taking of photographs and/or the recording of this performance on film, video tape, audio tape or any other medium is strictly prohibited.

