

## BWT Report

### Society's Sparkling Success

WITHAM Operatic Society marked their 75th anniversary with a sparkling success, presenting *Guys and Dolls* last week.

Lee Threadgold and Lavinia Farmer, the producer and his assistant, handled the large cast on a small stage with skill. Some of the movements, in particular the final scene in the meeting hall, were outstanding. They had the advantage of producing a well written show but Michael Dunian's timing and acting created a memorable Nathan Detroit.

He had, and needed, considerable stage presence to play opposite Pat McLeod. The part of Adelaide could have been written for her and her larger than life personality exploded across the footlights. The variety of her moods were remarkable. Her eyes, on occasions, sparkled to the back of the auditorium, while in Adelaide's Lament she drew out all the humour.

The young dancers were a strong point in a show which calls for a lot of dancing. The many minor male parts were also played with enthusiasm.

Nicholas Clough was an "avuncular" grandfather and Paul Chittleborough was a rival to Stubby Kaye in his entertaining portrayal of Nicely Nicely Johnson.

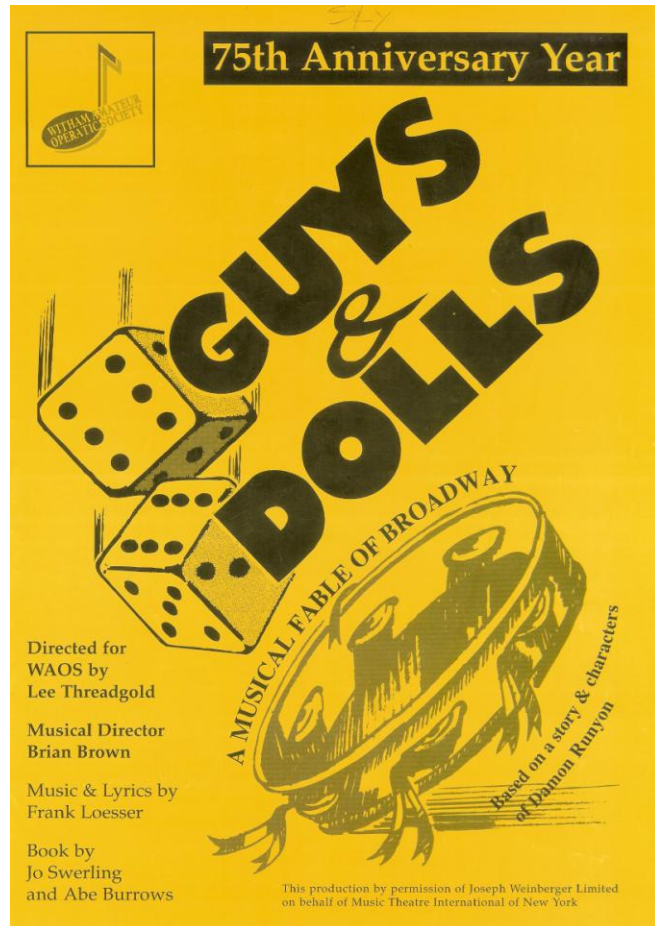
Liz was a sympathetic Sarah Brown whose transformation, in Cuba, gave her the chance to show other aspects of her stage craft.

Mick Hemstedt was her effective partner creating the slick personality as the sophisticated gambler.

It was a delight to hear all the words of the songs. Brian Brown, the musical director, created the right atmosphere with on occasions, the whole orchestra and on others provided helpful accompaniment to the soloists.

An outstanding show.

### James Bright



# Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Nicely-Nicely Johnson	Paul Chittleborough
Benny Southstreet	Tim Clarke
Rusty Charley	Richard Shakespeare
Sarah Brown	Liz Watson
Arvide Abernathy	Nicholas Clough
Agatha & her fellow Mission Band members	Pamela Adams Judy Henderson, Richard Herring
Harry the Horse	Richard Shakespeare
Lt. Brannigan	Alf Farmer
Nathan Detroit	Michael Dunion
Angie the Ox	Tom Whelan
Miss Adelaide	Pat McLeod
Sky Masterson	Mick Hemstedt
Mimi & her fellow	Patsy Page Kathryn Adkins,
Hot-Box Dolls	Anne Dobinson, Elisabeth Ladd, Sue Rogers, Sue Siddalls
Joey Biltmore	Steve Rogers
General Matilda B. Cartwright	Pat Briggs
Society Max	Jim Crimmins
Big Jule	Stewart Adkins

## THE DANCERS

Elisabeth Ladd, Sue Rogers, Jonathan Baron,  
Tim Clarke, Jim Crimmins, Steve Rogers.

## THE DOLLS

(including minor roles)

Helen Clark, Muriel Chambers, Julie Edwards,  
Natalie Hawkes, Judy Henderson, Marea Irving,  
Cherry Lenox, Michelle Sims, Sarah Wilson

## THE GUYS

(including minor roles)

Stewart Adkins, Jonathan Baron, Jim Crimmins,  
Richard Herring, Richard Shakespeare,  
Steve Rogers, Tom Whelan

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