

Act 1

Scene 1 - Outside the Lords’ house - Early Morning

Scene 2 - Tracy’s Bedroom - After her Morning Ride

Scene 3 - The Veranda - Breakfast

Scene 4 - A Nursery - Later the Same Day

Scene 5 - Front Gates Leading to The Mansion

Scene 6 - The South Parlour

Scene 7 - The Pavilion at The Tennis Court - Later

Scene 8 - The Lords’ Swimming Pool

Act 2

Scene 1 - Outside Uncle Willie’s House - Four AM

Scene 2 - The Ballroom at Uncle Willie’s - Immediately Following

Scene 3 - Dexter’s House - A Little Later

Scene 4 - Uncle Willie’s House - The Staff Clean Up, Nearly 5 AM

Scene 5 - Wooded Grounds of Uncle Willie’s House - Moments
Later

Scene 6 - The Lords’ Swimming Pool - Very Late

Scene 7 - Rear Terrace of The Lords’ Mansion - Dawn Rising

Scene 8 - The Terrace Followed by The Lords’ Ballroom - The
Next Morning



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Special thanks to Crane & Staples for their sponsorship of the show.

Musical Numbers

Act 1

High Society	Staff
Ridin’ High	Tracy and Staff
Throwing a Ball Tonight	Mother Lord, Tracy, Uncle Willie, Dinah and Staff
Little One	Dexter and Dinah
Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?	Liz, Mike and Staff
I Love Paris	Dinah and Tracy
She’s Got That Thing	Uncle Willie, Dexter and Staff
Once Upon A Time	Dexter
I Worship You	George
Once Upon A Time	Tracy
True Love	Tracy, Dexter and Staff

Act 2

Let’s Misbehave	Tracy, George, Mike, Liz, Uncle Willie, Seth, Mother Lord and Staff
I’m Getting Myself Ready for You	Uncle Willie and Liz
Just One of Those Things	Dexter
Well, Did You Evah!	Tracy, Liz, Uncle Willie and Staff
You’re Sensational	Mike
Say It With Gin	Uncle Willie
It’s Alright With Me	Mike and Tracy
He’s a Right Guy	Liz
Samantha	Dexter
Finale	Tracy, Dexter, Full Company

Pirton Players Present



Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter

Book by Arthur Kopit. Additional Lyrics by Susan Birkenhead

An Amateur Production by arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musical Ltd of New York

Chairman's Welcome

A Pirton Players’ year wouldn’t be complete without a musical, and I trust you’ll enjoy Cole Porter’s classic feel-good musical, ‘High Society’, brought to life by Lorna Sexton and her team here in the new-look and revamped Village Hall. Lorna has been an advocate for this show for many years now, and I’m pleased she finally has the chance to present it.

Since our last production, ‘The Wolves of Willoughby Chase’, we announced our 2019 season of shows. In the spring we will present ‘Absurd Person Singular’ by Alan Ayckbourn and this time next year we will be putting on a Pantomime... oh yes we will!

We’ve also been doing a lot of work updating our website; pirtonplayers.org. My thanks to Dave Woodward who has done an incredible job updating the site which includes an incredibly rich archive of every Pirton Players production. Check it out.

Finally, as always, we are keen to welcome new members, especially younger members of our community. We have two new youth representatives; Sophie Carroll and Rebecca Turner. So, if you or your kids would like to get involved, on the stage or off it, please do get in touch with any of the group who will be glad to help!

Thank you for coming, and for supporting Pirton Players. Enjoy the show!

Mark Sadler
Chairman

DIRECTOR'S NOTES AND SYNOPSIS

Welcome to our 2018 musical production. This time we are proud to present to you the popular but, in my view, somewhat under-performed ‘High Society’, brim-full of Cole Porter classics.

We meet Tracy Lord’s harried mother, throwing a wedding for seven hundred guests, Tracy’s precocious younger sister, Dinah (she’s grumpy because Tracy is marrying George Kitteridge, the dullest man on earth!) and finally the ecstatic bride-to-be, society’s darling, Tracy Lord herself. At breakfast, moments after Tracy reminds absent-minded Uncle Willie (whose house borders their estate) that he is ‘Throwing A Ball Tonight’, her good mood ends. Dexter, her despised first husband (and Dinah’s favourite person in the world), has come back! What’s more, he has sailed back in the ‘True Love’ – a boat which holds only painful memories for Tracy – and has anchored it off-shore, right by his nearby house.

Dexter tells Tracy and her family that a pair of reporters for a scandal magazine called ‘Spy’, Mike Connor and Liz Imbrie, will be attending Tracy’s wedding, masquerading as guests. Dexter invited them, in order to stop ‘Spy’ from publishing an exposé of Tracy’s father, Seth, and his affair with dancer Tina Mara. Mike and Liz arrive and Tracy and Dinah greet them with grotesque affectation, sing a version of ‘I Love Paris’, Dinah leaves and Tracy proceeds to interview Mike and Liz rather than them interviewing her.

This is an upper-class farce, really a vehicle for fabulous songs. Watch how it unfolds, of course culminating in the happy ending!

I grew up with music from the shows being sung around the house, and have had a passion for them for a very long time. So, it is a privilege to be directing this one for the second time – the first being my swan song at Hitchin Boys’ School, where ALL parts were played by the boys! Working with mainly adults offers different challenges!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank ALL involved from background crew to the band, chorus and actors, and very importantly to my brilliant production team who have worked tirelessly throughout this past two-and-a-half months of rehearsal, leading to tonight’s performance.

Lorna Sexton
Director

Cast

Tracy Lord.....Danielle Peters
Mother Lord.....Ruth Smith
Dinah Lord.....Ruby Clark
Uncle Willie.....Graham Gibbs
Dexter.....Luke Crouch
Liz.....Amanda Vines
Mike.....Mark Savage
George.....Trevor Clark
Seth Lord.....Dennis Sexton

Chorus

Butlers – Paul Kerswill, Chris Peters, Peter Johnson & Dave Tinney
Maids – Sophie Davies, Julie Dawson, Rhiannon Gibbs,
Stevie Gibbs, Valmai Guess, Julia Hawkins,
Mary Hollingdale, Justine McCreith, Antonietta Tinney,
Rebecca Turner, Stella Turner & Viv Tyler

Band

Conductor.....Margaret Johnson
Keyboards.....Clifton Hughes
Viola.....Emily Clark
Clarinets & Alto/Soprano Sax.....Howard Etherington

With Thanks To:

Pirton Village Stores, The Barn and Harlequin Costume Hire.

Crew

Director.....Lorna Sexton
Producer.....Stella Turner
Assistant Producer.....Rebecca Turner
Choreography.....Amanda Vines & Mark Savage
Stage Manager.....Paul Kerswill
Stage Crew.....Butlers & Maids
SetGraham Gibbs
Set Design.....Penny Picken & Jacqueline Hockley
Painting.....Jacqueline Hockley
Props.....Janet Tackley and Team
Wardrobe.....Valmai Guess and Team
Prompt.....Rosie Hamilton McLeod
Lighting.....Reuben Harvey
Sound.....Clive Griffin
Poster and Programme Design.....Rebecca Turner
Box Office.....Stella Turner
Publicity.....Mark Sadler
Bar.....Ed Picken & Team
Front of House.....Anne Peters & Team
Photography.....Rebecca Turner & Kev Vines

