



Marlborough Town Hall used as a theatre

The attractive musical play, "The Orchid", to be staged at Marlborough Town Hall on Tuesday evening is from the Gaiety Theatre, London and like all Gaiety pieces it is a mixture of merry-hearted fun and pretty dresses. The music plays a prominent part in the piece's success

The Marlborough Times and Wilts, Berks and Hants County Paper, 27th January 1906



A 1904 theatre advert for "The Orchid"

The Orchid is a musical play in two acts by James T. Tanner, with lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank and music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton and additional numbers by Paul Rubens. It opened at Gaiety Theatre in London on 26 October 1903 and ran for 559 performances. It starred Gertie Millar, Gabrielle Ray, Harry Grattan, Edmund Payne and George Grossmith, Jr. The show also had a successful Broadway run, revivals and a U.S. tour.

The Orchid was the first show played in the renovated Gaiety Theatre. King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra were both there for the opening night.

Some of the show's successful songs were "Liza Ann", "Little Mary", "Pushful", and "Fancy Dress". The story concerns the quest of a wealthy American for a \$2,000 Peruvian orchid to be sent, for obscure reasons, to Nice, France. When foul play keeps the flower from reaching its destination, it is discovered that a

nearly identical orchid is growing in the garden of the horticultural college. **Wikipedia 2013**