The Original Script

The Pied Piper

as presented at

The Pavilion, Worthing

Friday 31st January & Saturday 1st February, 1969

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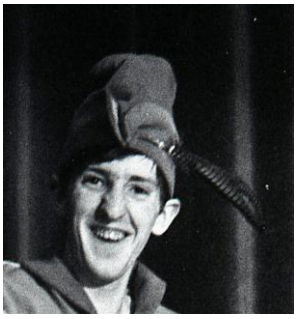
The Cast

 Alaric (the blacksmith) Don Boiling	 Lottie the Cook Derek Bell	 Roddy (Palace Handyman) Tony Richardson
 Fritz (the Councillor) Christopher Gough	 Grand Duchess Diana McNeill	 Kurt (the Councillor) Geoffrey Sheldon
 King Rat Steve Roll	 Lady Renate Valerie Bowles	 Johann (a Shepherd) Edna Jeanneret
 Nanny (Hildegard) Gwen Marshall	 The Pied Piper Barry Wood	 Gilda Marjorie Gwatkin

The Script

R. Mike up

PIED PIPER

SCENE I (In Hamelin Town)

"Opening Chorus" - (Best Things in Life are Free)

CHORUS

It is good such things are free because little enough is free in Hamelin.

The Burgomaster believes in making us pay pay pay.

But does nothing to keep our cottages in good repair.

Our roof is nearly falling in.

Why don't you mend it?

At the rents we pay we have no money left for repairs.

(Enter women screaming)

What is wrong Mrs.

There are lots of rats in our yard.

Some came in my house while I was sweeping the kitchen.

(Enter woman carrying a baby)

I found a rat crawling over my baby's cradle.

Look

(Enter rats, women try to shoo them. Eventually they depart)

How horrible.

(Enter Dame)

DAME — I hope you don't mean me dearie. What is the matter with all of you? You look frightened.

GIRLS

We have just seen a whole crowd of rats.

Oh dear, here they come again.

DAME — (Seizing Broom) Oh no you don't you nasty creatures. (Chases them)

(Exit women)
(Enter TONY)

TONY — Hello LOTTIE what are you up to now?

DAME — Just chasing some four-legged rats.

TONY — Well don't look at me like that - I'm no rat (Puts hat on seat)

DAME — Want to bet? Anyway looking at you I get a desire to be lonesome.

TONY — Why must we always quarrel. Lets sit down and have a friendly talk.

DAME — Oh very well (Dame sits on hat)

TONY — Do you know what you're sitting on?

DAME — I ought to, I've been sitting on it for forty years.

TONY — And the rest.

DAME — Indeed. Well I'm not saying you're a jerk, but you will do till one comes along.

TONY — I never thought I'd see anything like you without digging.

DAME — Huh. With a proper amount of training you could be a nobody (she goes to exit, stops, returns) Here comes Otto the 'Orrible. Let's go over there. (They hide) get out of this way
(Enter Burgomaster & Councillors)

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — I think we ought to do something about it, although I suppose it will cost a lot, but really she will expect it.

BURGOMASTER — Stop prancing about like that and tell me what you are bleating about.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — The Grand Duchess - home from her travels - all over the world they say.

BURGOMASTER — Ah the dear Grand Duchess. It will be so nice to have someone in Hamelin intelligent to talk to.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — But should we?

BURGOMASTER — (Testily) Should we what?

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — (Prancing) I keep saying, should we have a celebration?

BURGOMASTER — Celebration? Oh - oh - yes of course - I have - er - thought about it.

COUNCILLOR 2 — You didn't mention it at the meeting today.

BURGOMASTER — No I thought I would give you a surprise.

COUNCILLOR 2 — But can we really afford it? There are lots of things the people need.

COUNCILLOR 3 — We can do it easily. Why our finances have never been better.

BURGOMASTER — Just what I was going to say.

COUNCILLOR 3 — What sort of festivities are we to have?

COUNCILLOR 2 — Dancing in the streets, a procession, fireworks -

BURGOMASTER — I will arrange a programme and discuss it with the Grand Duchess. Something on the lines of dancing, a procession and yes, I think perhaps fireworks. How does that sound?

COUNCILLOR 2 — But that's what I suggested.

BURGOMASTER — Don't be silly, I planned it, I have to make all the decisions. There is really no one else capable.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — We are so lucky to have such a wonderful Burgomaster - such a hard worker (Enter women)

COUNCILLOR 2 — Some of us work hard too.

BURGOMASTER — Every great man must have little men to do the ordinary jobs.

COUNCILLOR 2 — Little men indeed. He'd be lost without us.

ALARIC — Pleqse sir, can you do something about the rats.

BURGOMASTER — Rats? What are you talking about.

GIRL — The town is infested with rats.

BURGOMASTER — Nonsense. Some of you see a rat and imagine dozens. Anyway if there are rats it is your own fault.

GIRL — Not dozens of rats but thousands. We need help.

BURGOMASTER — You will have to get rid of them yourselves. We have no money for such things.

ALARIC — The rats can get in easily because the cottages need repair badly.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — Nothing can be done, it will cost too much.

COUNCILLOR 2 — But -

BURGOMASTER — Quiet!

ALARIC — Just give us the materials, we will do the work.

BURGOMASTER — Certainly not, and what's more your rents are to be increased from next week.

WOMEN — Ooh.

BURGOMASTER — Come FRITZ we must arrange the festivities. (Exit. Dame imitates walks)

COUNCILLOR 2 — Oh (stamps and shakes fists, EXITS with other Couns.)

DAME — Next winter when it's good and cold I hope Otto the 'Orrible has long legs and a short blanket) (Exit)

WOMEN — The rats are coming again! (Screaming, exit)

RATS DANCE

ENTER KING RAT

KING RAT — With the help of the hordes I will soon take over this town.

RAT — After that what your Majesty.

KING RAT — We gradually conquer all the towns in Germany and in time I will rule all Europe.

RAT — Why not the world?

KING RAT — Maybe, maybe, but let us not be too ambitious yet.

RAT — For you anything is possible.

KING RAT — Only when there is greed and selfishness, and there is plenty of both here.

RAT — We await your instructions Majesty.

KING RAT — Continue attacking wherever you can (ALL EXIT)

(ENTER ANNETTE, JANICE, SALLY ETC.)

JANICE — I'm sure I saw some more of those horrible rats.

ANNETTE — Well they are not here now so why worry?

SALLY — Have you heard there is to be a celebration because of the return of the Duchess.

JANICE — It is a long time since she went away. I can hardly remember what she looked like.

SALLY — She had a young daughter. I wonder what she is like now? (ENTER PRIN.GIRL)

ANNETTE — Probably fat and pimply with no sense of humour.

PRIN.GIRL — (Coming Forward) I'm not fat, I've no pimples and I see the funny side of nearly everything.

ANNETTE — Oh dear, are you RENATE ?

PRIN.GIRL — Yes I'm RENATE daughter of the Grand Duchess.

ANNETTE — I am sorry.

P.GIRL — Don't worry. It is so good to be back again I couldn't be angry.

JANGCE — We thought you were still a child, we forgot we have all grown up.

R. Mike — SONG "THOSE WERE THE DAYS" (ENTER SHEPHERD)

P.GIRL — You, how lovely to see you again (They hug)

ANNETTE — Let's leave them, they don't want us (GIRLS EXIT)

JOHANNES — How you have changed, but you are still my dear oh but I forgot (Pushes her away)

P.GIRL — What is wrong Johannes?

JOHANNES — You are a grand lady I am only a shepherd

P.GIRL — But we are still the same people we were before.

JOHANNES — Yes, but we were little more than children then. You have Princes and Dukes for companions now.

P.GIRL — Yes and a very dull starchy lot they are too.

JOHANNES — Maybe, but I am no fit companion for a high-born lady like you. It will be better for us not to meet again. Goodbye dear
(Kissee her hand, Exits, She puts her hand to her cheek, slowly, suddenly removes it and stamps.

ENTER NANNY

P.GIRL — Oh men are impossible.

NANNY — Yes dear that's what we all say, but we couldn't do without them - why it's my dear How you have grown.

P.GIRL — Oh Nanny, you are just the same anyway.

NANNY — Yes dear still looking after other peoples babies

R. Mike — SONG "OTHER PEOPLES BABIES."

P.GIRL — You would make a lovely mother - all nice and cushiony and confortable.

NANNY — Yes dear (Glancing down) I know just what you mean - but I'll let you into a secret - I've got a boyfriend.

P.GIRL — That's good news Nanny. Who is it?

NANNY — Well don't tell anyone, but it's Kurt - the only nice man on the Council.

P.GIRL — Why mustn't I tell anyone?

NANNY — He doesn't exactly know himself yet!

P.GIRL — (Laughing) Why Nanny you are setting your cap at him. I remember him and he is nice. Listen! Do you hear that music?

(ENTER SOME OF CHORUS& KURT)

NANNY — I wonder who is playing it, I know of no one around Hamelin who can play like that.

P.GIRL — It is lovely music. It makes me want to dance.

Girl — I do too

CHORUS — And I, and I

Here comes a stranger.

(ENTER PIED PIPER FOLLOWED BY CHILDREN. DANCE)

1ST CHILD — THAT WAs fun

2ND CHILD — Who are you please

3RD CHILD — And where do you come from?

P.PIPER — I am the Pied Piper and I come from beyond the mountains.

1ST GHILD — What lovely music you play.

2ND GHILD — It is so jolly

3RD CHILD — Much better than the Burgomaster playing his flute.

NANNY — Hush child

KURT — Are you here to stay or just passing through?

P.PIPER — I will stay for a little while. I am not usually wanted for long where ever I go.

3RD CHILD — Don't people like you then?

P.PIPER — I didn't mean that. No, when I go anywhere I do what is necessary and then move on.

~~P.GIRL~~ — ~~(Aside) What a strange man he is - and yet - I like him.~~

KURT — We will be having dancing in the streets as part of a celebration. Will you play for us.

P.PIPER — I will be gladto help.

KURT — Good. Please come to the Council Chamber today and we will make all arrangements (Moves to exit)

NANNY — Oh may I walk with you. I want to ask your advice about a legal matter, and you are so clever about such things.

KURT — Of course, I will be happy to assist you Nanny.

NANNY — Please call me HILDEGARDE (EXIT ALSO CHORUS)

4TH CHILD — Will you play us another tuen please?

3RD CHILD — But don't get us dancing this time, I'm tired

1ST CHILD — You are always tired.

2ND CHILD — Or hungry (THEY ALL LAUGH)

P.PIPER — Hush children. Iwon't play for you, but I will teach you a song.

~~4TH CHILD~~ — ~~What is it about?~~

SONG " GILLY GILLY" (ENTER MOTHER)

CRIPPLE CHILD — I wish I could have danced when you were playing

P.PIPER — Never mind. Maybe if you are very good I can help you walk properly one day.

MOTHER — How dare you raise the child's hopes like that

P.PIPER — Miracles sometimes happen

MOTHER — We have seen the finest doctors in the land and they say SHE will never walk.

P.PIPER — I would like to help him/her.

MOTHER — We all would but not by promising something that can never be. Be off with you and leave him/her alone.

P.PIPER — Very well (HE EXISTS FOLLOWED BY ALL EXCEPT THIRD CHILD. THIRD CHILD HESITATES, OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO DECIDE SOMETHING THEN GOES TO CRIPPLE)

3RD CHILD — Here you are, have my gobstopper to cheer you up. I've only licked it a few times (EXIT)

CRIPPLE — Mother why did you send the piper away.

MOTHER — Because it is wrong to make promises you can't keep

CRIPPLE — But he is nice and makes such jolly music. EXIT

(LINE TO SONG MY MOTHER. EXIT)

(Comedy gag here with Dame, Comic (Possibly Nanny, Kurt) HORSE

(ENTER SOME OF THE CHORUS)

GIRLS

The rats are attacking again.

They are so bold now they are taking the food from our lips.

What can we do?

KURT — Send a deputation to the Council Chamber at once. I will do all I can for you (ALL EXIT)

(ENTER KING RAT)

KING RAT — (Laugh) They won't get the better of me and faithful followers (Another laugh) (EXIT)

POSSIBLY DANCE IN NO1

SCENE II
(The Council Chamber)

(BURGOMASTER SEATED AT TABLE ALSO COUNCILLORS)

BURGOMASTER — I think the festivities should have something really outstanding as a climax.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — Oh yes yes most certainly.

3RD COUNCILLOR — That seems to be a good idea. Aut)

~~4TH COUNCILLOR~~ — It all depends on what you were thinking of having

BURGOMASTER — An address by a leading citizen - say myself.

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — Excellent excellent

3RD COUNCILLOR — Well -

FUSSY COUNCILLOR — I think I can hear the Grand Duchess arriving (He gets up looks to side) Yes yes she is here (almost

dan e. with excitement)

BURGOMASTER — Pray calm youself Fritz. Return to your place I will welcome her.
(ENTER GRAND DUCHESS)

BURGOMASTER — Ah your Grace we are so delighted to welcome you back to Hamelin.

G.DUCHESS — I am happy to be back Burgomaster.

BURGOMASTER — (Picking up large piece of paper) We [illegible] leading citizens -

G.DUCHESS — Whilst I appreciate you being pleased to have me back, I didn't come to be bored by long speeches.

BURGOMASTER — (non-plussed) I - I -

G.DUCHESS — I understand you wish to discuss plans for some merry-making.

F.COUNCILLOR — Yes indeed - our dear Burgomaster has a very nice programme all worked out.

G.DUCHESS — Let me see whether I approve
(ENTER 2ND COUNCILLOR)

BURGOMASTER — You are very late for this meeting

KURT — My sincere apologies, especially to you your Grace, but I was unavoidably detained.

BURGOMASTER — What could possiblly -?

KURT — Rats!

BURGOMASTER — How dare you!

KURT — I mean the plague of rats has become such a menace that something must be done. The townspeople are sending a deputation here.

BURGOMASTER — What do they expect us to do? We aren't ratcatchers.

KURT — Why not offer a reward to whosoever can rid us of the pests.

BURGOMASTER — But we can't afford to.

G.DUCHESS — Rubbish. You can afford to have some sort of carnival for my return. This is far more important.

F.COUNCILLOR — How much - the reward - what do you think Burgomaster.

BURGOMASTER — Oh 50 guilders will be ample.

G.DUCHESS — Nonsense. The rats must be costing the town a great deal in lost grain and damage. Make it a really good reward - say. 1000 G

BURGOMASTER — Very well your Grace
(ENTER ALARIC, LISA, ELVIRA, ALEXIA)

G.DUCHESS — Ah, this must be the deputation

ALARIC — Yes your Grace, we want some action.

ELVIRA — Our children are frightened.

ALEXIA — We are all frightened

ELSA — Please help us.

G.DUCHESS — A reward is being offered for ridding the town of the menace.

(ENTER PIED PIPER)

P.PIPER — I will deal with the rats for you.

BURGOMASTER — Good. How do you propose to do it my man.

P.PIPER — I have my plans

BURGOMASTER — Really, I think we should know what you intend doing. We are offering a large sum of money.

G.DUCHESS — Don't be so patronising! Providing he gets rid of the rats it doesn't matter how he does it (To P.Piper) I hope you will be successful.

P.PIPER — I am sure I will.

KURT — How soon will you have the town clear.

P.PIPER — By the time the carnival is at its height, I guarantee there won't be a rat left in Hamelin.

ALEXIA — That is wonderful (General delight)

Now we can really celebrate this evening.

F.COUNCILLOR — But will everything - do you think - after all it takes time

KURT — Stop blathering or we will never start the fun. Let's check over the arrangements (TABS DURING THIS) No1

FRONT OF TABS - POSTMENS DANCE. END ON. ENTER NANNY.

NANNY — Are you delivering tickets for the carnival tonight

CHILDREN — Yes Nanny

NANNY — Good, Off you go then (THEY EXIT) It is a good thing we haven't got a 4d. and 5d. post here in Hamelin!

(ENTER KURT. HE PACES BACK & FORTH. HE DOESN'T SEE NANNY)

NANNY — Now to get his interest (She drops her hanky in front of him. He walks past it two or three times. Evenutally sees it, picks it up, looks round, see Nanny)

KURT — Is this yours Nanny?

NANNY — (Surprised) Why yes fancy me losing my hanky like that. Would you like to keep it?

KURT — No thank you I have one Nanny.

NANNY — Don't forget the name is Hildegarde.

KURT — I won't

NANNY — Will I be seeing you at the carnival this evening.

KURT — I don't see why not. I expect you will see everyone in Hamelin.

NANNY — That wasn't quite what I meant (EXIT)

KURT — I wonder what's the matter with her (EXIT) Not open

SCENE III - HAMELIN

Background music. General hustle and bustle. JOHANNES IS ON STAGE SLIGHTLY P.S.

PAT — Have you heard? The Pied Piper is going to get rid of the rats
(P.GIRL ENTERS P.S.)

DIANA — Well I'm glad to hear that. Why, when I put the food on the table at lunchtime, they had taken the lot before we could even sit down.
(JOHANNES & P.GIRL BUMP INTO EACH OTHER)

JOHANNES — I am so sorry - oh -

P.GIRL — Please Johannes forget that you are a shepherd and I am a lady, and lets have a good time this evening.

JOHANNES — Very well Gretel (REMATE) We will join in the fun

SONG JOHANNES, P.GIRL AND CHORUS - "Just around the Corner"

JOHANNES — There is a fair down the road. Would you like to go.

P.GIRL — Rather, I love the merry-go-rounds and swings (EXIT)
(ENTER LOTTIE) CARNIVAL DANCE

LOTTIE — Pied Piper or not I've come prepared to deal with the rats myself.
(Rats appear from either side of stage. Lottie turns, they go. She moves O.P., the rats on P.S. enter. She moves P.S, the first rats go and O.P.rats enter. Finish with Lottie stamping and they disappear). RATS CHASE
(ENTER ROD & SIMON)

SIMON — Why look who is here Dottie Lottie.

LOTTIE — Oh why don't you go and crawl back in the woodwork.

ROD — Now Lottie don't be like that. We have come to take you to the fair.

LOTTIE — Have you really? Well maybe I'll call a truce for today, but I can't go yet. I want to make my cottage look nice for the visit by the Duchese this evening.

SIMON — We will help you.

ROD — ~~Wixxxxx~~ As long as we don't have to work too hard.

LOTTIE — Will you clean the windows.

ROD — X TRESSLE / PLANK Yes Lottie, anything to oblige.

LOTTIE — Here is a bucket. You two get on with the windows, I will polish the brass (action). Why you haven't done the corners.

ROD — It doesn't matter you only look through the middle (CHASE, TRIP, CONTENTS OF BUCKET OVER AUDIENCE. EXIT)

ENTER KING RAT & RATS.

K.RAT — They think they are going to get rid of you my little beauties

RAT — Can they do it master?

K.RAT — Of course they cannot. Who is all-powerful?

RAT — You are master.

K.RAT — And don't forget, humanbeings have no magic powers - I have evil ones.

RATS — Evil, evil.

RAT — How are they going to try to drive us away?

K.RAT — I only know that Piper fellow thinks he can do it.

RAT — What are we to do master?

K.RAT — Just stand firm - he can't beat me (EXIT RATS SQUEALING "EVIL EVIL" AND K.RAT)

ENTER CHORUS IN SMALL GROUPS

KAREN — The rats are still here. I wonder when the Piper is going to do something about them.

ANNETTE — If he is to keep his word he must act soon.

ALARIC — Let us not spoil the gaiety with talk of them.

JANICE — Listen I can hear the Piper playing now.

(ENTER PIPER, HE CROSSES STAGE FOLLOWED BY SOME RATS, OTHERS COME FROM ALL DIRECTIONS AND FOLLOW)
ENTER K.RAT

K.RAT — Why are you following the Piper?

RAT — Master, we have to, the music makes us go with him.

K.RAT — Come back, come back.

RAT — We cannot.

K.RAT SHAKES FIST. CROWD LAUGHS, K.RAT STAMPS.

K.RAT — You will be sorry. Wait and see (EXIT)

NANNY — Look the Piper is leading the rats into the Weser river

MATILDA — What a good way of getting rid of them.

ALARIC — Come STEFAN how about a song.

JEAN — Yes we always like to hear you.

R Mike (SONG. CROWD APPLAUDS, SOME EXIT, ENTER BURGOMASTER & OTHERS)

BURGOMASTER — Very, good, very good. You seem to be having an enjoyable time

LISA — Yes we are very happy.

BURGOMASTER — (ASIDE TO FRITZ) Remind me to increase their taxes.

ALEXIA — The piper has destroyed the rats.

FRITZ — How did he - what method - where are they?

NANNY — He played a tune and every rat in Hamelin followed him and then plunged into the river.

(ENTER PIPER & EXIT CHORUS)

P.PIPER — (To Burgomaster) I have done as I promised, and now if you please my thousand guilders

BURGOMASTER — But all you did was play a tune.

P.PIPER — No matter how I did it, I rid Hamelin of the pests.

BURGOMASTER — You surely don't think we are going to pay 1,000 guilders for what you did.

FRITZ — The rats are dead now. We saw them sink.

BURGO — What's dead cannot come to life.

P.PIPER — I will give you one last chance. If you don't pay up you will always regret it.

BURGO: — Don't you threaten me. No we will not pay 1,000 guilders. Take 50 and do your worst.

P.PIPER — Very well (HE STARTS TO PLAY. CHILDREN COME FROM ALL SIDES, DANCE ROUND HIM AND THEN HE LEADS THEM OFF O.P. AS THEY GO CRIPPLE CHILD ENTERS P.S.)

CRIPPLE — Wait for me, oh please wait (COLLAPSES - CRIES) (ENTER ILSA GRISELDA & ELVIRA)

ILSA — My child suddenly ran away from me and wouldn't come back when I called.

GRISELDA — So did mine

ELVIRA — And mine (ENTER CRIPPLE O.P.)

GRIPPLE — Please help me to go with the others.

JEAN — What can have happened.

NANNY — They are all following the Piper just as the rats did.

ALEXIA — I can't move to follow them

OTHERS — Nor I

ELVIRA — But why is he taking the children?

PAT S. — Because these two were too mean to pay him his reward.(THEY EXIT

MatILDA — Surely he won't lead the children into the river

NANNY — No, look, they are going over the bridge towards the Koppelberg. Well they can't climb over that.

GIRLS { Look there is an opening in the side of the hill.
And they are all going inside TABS No1

CRIPPLE — I am the only one who is left behind apart from the babies.
(ENTER MOTHER)

MOTHER — Why are you crying?

CRIPPLE — Because the Piper wanted all the children to follow him and I couldn't because of my leg.

MOTHER — For the first time I can be glad. If you weren't lame I too would have lost my child. LINES TO SONG R.Mike

~~ALARIC — We must think of a scheme to get the other children back~~

FRONT OF TABS. shot B/O

SCENE IV - INSIDE THE HILL

3RD CHILD — What I think is awful is that I've lived for years and haven't done anything.

5TH CHILD — Oh yes you have. You've broken all the glass in my father's greenhouse, put a snake in my desk at school and got tar all over the floor in the classroom.

3RD CHILD — Well it's not my fault they tarred the road. Anyway, if I didn't have to waste time going to school I'd probably be famous by now

6TH CHILD — My dad says you are famous now. He says everyone for miles around know you -

5TH CHILD — And they know trouble is coming when they see you.

3RD CHILD — If I could do a brave deed I bet they would put up a statue to me - dozens of statues (ENTER P.PIPER)

P.PIPER — Now children are you having a good time?

6TH CHILD — Yes we have had lots of fun.

4TH CHILD — But when are we going home?

P.PIPER — Don't you want to stay here and just enjoy yourselves?

1ST CHILD — Well it is nice here but we want to go home.

P.PIPER — I'm afraid you can't just yet. You see some of the people in Hamelin are greedy and mean and broke their word. I want to teach them a lesson so I am keeping you here.

3RD CHILD — Well we are feeling a bit bored.

P.PIPER — Is there anyone in Hamelin you particularly like

2ND CHILD — Lottie the Burgomaster's Cook.

4TH CHILD — Reed the

P.PIPER — Very well I will get them here for you

CHILD — Oh good

1ST CHILD — Can you do everything in the world?

P.PIPER — No there is one thing I can't do which I'd like to do.

5TH CHILD — Tell us about it

R.MIKE — SONG - "If I could talk to the Animals"& dance

P.PIPER — Your frieds should be arriving soon

(ENTER COMICS)

LOTTIE — What are we doing here?

ROD — I don't know. I was working and suddenly found myself at the foot of the hill

LOTTIE — Why hello children are you all alright

6TH CHILD — Yes thankyou

P.PIPER — I've brought you here for company for the children

SIMON — That will be nicer than cooking for Fussy Fritz.

PIPER — Now you children are missing school while you are here aren't you?

3RD CHILD — Yes, that's the best part of being here.

PIPER — Well I don't intend letting you get behind with your lessons, so we will make a start now.

TONY — I can ask them some questions.

PIPER — Very well. Now children sit round and pay attention.

TONY — Why did the tomato blush

CHILDREN — We don't know

TONY — ~~Why~~ Because it saw the salad dressing

" — Here's another one. What do you get if you cross a sheepdog with a jelly?

5TH CHILD — With a jelly?

TONY — Yes. Do you know?

CHILDREN — No

1ST CHILD — Tell us please. What do you get if you cross a sheepdog

LOTTIE — That wasn't quite the sort of thing the Piper meant. I think I had better be teacher. You sit over there. (THEY MOVE TO SEAT WITH ONE LEG AT END AND OTHER LEG SOME DISTANCE FROM END)

3RD CHILD — (BECKONS CHILDREN WHO ARE IN "FARAWAY PLACES") Come on, let's go and explore other parts of the hill. We don't want to wear out our brains do we? (THEY EXIT)

ROD — I thought you said it would be better here than in Hamelin. Now we've got to think!

LOTTIE — What with?

TONY — Now Lottie don't show off just because you once managed to finish a junior crossword.

SIMON — She only managed that with the help of a dictionery.

LOTTIE — Now pay attention. ~~Which are the harvest months?~~

SIMON — (STANDS UP, THE SEATS TIPS, ROD ON TO FLOOR) I know ~~December, January and February.~~

LOTTIE — ~~Whoever told you that?~~

SIMON — ~~My brother. He is a plumber~~

LOTTIE — ~~Can you tell me how you spell 'neat'?~~

CHILD — ~~N E A T~~

LOTTIE — ~~Good. What does it mean~~

SIMON — (STANDS UP. REPITITION OF BUSINESS, BUT ROD NOW SITS IN SIMONS PLACE) ~~It means without soda!~~

LOTTIE — You must stop playing about. ~~Can you tell me what happens when the human body is immersed in water?~~

ROD — (STANDS UP BUT SEAT DOES NOT TIP) ~~The phone rings~~ (TURNS TO SEE WHY SEAT HASN'T TIPPED. NOW IT DOES AND HITS HIM)

ENTER PIPER

PIPER — I think the best way for you to learn about countries is ~~to show you some of them~~

3 DANCES — (DUTCH, BRAZILIAN, JAPANESE DANCES, THE LATTER FINISHES IN U.V.)

SCENE V - HAMELIN

MUSIC OFF P.S. — SAD & DOLEFUL DANCE

ENTER JOHANNES & KURT

JOHANNES — We must do something

KURT — Yes, Hamelin is a sad town without the children. Look here comes Lady Gretel and Hildegarde. Let's see if we can work on some sort of plan (ENTER GRETEL AND HILDEGARDE)

~~GRETEL~~ — Johannes, Kurt, have you heard anything from the Piper?

JOHANNES — No Gretel. We want to talk it over with you and try to decide on some action.

~~GRETEL~~ — I've told my Mother what happened and she is coming here today to give the Burgomaster a piece of her mind.

HILDEGARDE — A good thing too, although it won't get the children back (ENTER BURGOMASTER)

BURGOMASTER — Ah good morning to you, a lovely day is it not?

(JOHANNES, HILDEGARDE & GRETEL TURN AWAY FROM HIM)

KURT — It was (ENTER GRAND DUCHESS)

GRAND DUCHESS — Where is that monster

BURGOMASTER — Ah you mean the Pied Piper

GRAND DUCHESS — No I don't, I mean you Burgomaster. It is because of your greed and meanness that all the children have gone from Hamelin, maybe never to return.

BURGOMASTER — I - I - did it to save the town money

GRAND DUCHESS — More likely to line your own pickets. However, I will deal with you later. Go and join your accomplice Fritz while we try to undo your mischief (HE EXITS, ENTER CRIPPLE)

CRIPPLE CHILD — Good morning Lady Gretel, Nanny, Oh good morning your Grace

ALL — Good morning Odile

GRAND DUCHESS — Good morning child. You should be happy to still be here in Hamelin. Why are you so sad?

CINDY — Because my friends have all gone. Is there no way I can join them?

KURT — I'm afraid not Odile

JOHANNES — Wait. That might be an idea

HILDEGARDE — You mean the Pied Piper might appear again if he knew there was another child here.

JOHANNES — Yes, and if we could once talk to him -

~~GRETEL~~ R — He might release the children

G.DUCHESS — One thing must be done. We must have the 1,000 guilders to give him as soon as we see him. Kurt go to the Burgomaster and tell him I command him to give you the money at once. If he doesn't he had better leave Hamelin immediately.

KURT — Very well your Grace (EXIT)

JOHANNES — Now Odile we want you to help us. Will you please?

ODILE — Can I really help?

~~GRETEL~~ R — Yes if you will

ODILE — Of course I will. I didn't think I could be much use.

HILDEGARDE — You can be very useful dear.

JOHANNES — Now I suggest that when it is getting dusk tonight we take Odile quite close to the Koppelburg. We will keep out of sight while she goes forward a little way alone, calling out to the Piper

G.DUCHESS — And then?

JOHANNES — Then when he comes out of the hill we can give him the money and apologies for the Burgomaster's behaviour, and may be he will let us have the children back.

G.DUCHESS — Johannes I am proud to know you, and I can see why Gretel is so fond of you.

JOHANNES — Your Grace!

G.DUCHESS — Don't be bashful Johannes, We will meet again later (SHE EXITS)

HILDEGARDE — Come Odile you need to get some rest before this evening (THEY EXIT)

JOHANNES — I hope the Piper will release the children

GRETEL — He will, I am sure. You know -

R.MIKE. SONG "Everything you Dream is Possible"

ENTER KURT

KURT — I have told the Burgomaster to bring the money here as soon as he can

JOHANNES — Good. Now all we can do is wait for dusk.

GRETEL — Why can't we go now?

KURT — We would be too easily seen. We want to keep out of sight until the Piper comes out of the hill.

JOHANNES — We will meet here half an hour before dusk. Come Gretel I will take you back to the castle (EXIT)

(ENTER HILDEGARDE)

HILDEGARDE — Kurt Odiles mother doesn't want to let her comewith us this evening.

KURT — But without the child we are helpless.

HILDEGARDE — I know. Will you please talk to her.

KURT — I'm waiting for the money - still it won't hurt the Burgomaster to wait for a minute. (EXIT)

ENTER K.RAT

K.RAT — Ah maybe I have a chance to make a neusence of myself (~~EXIT~~) But first I'll tell you a story (SONG

~~R.MIKE~~

ENTER BURGOMASTER AND FRITZ

FRITZ — Where can he - not in sight - I wonder where?

BURGOMASTER — He will be here soon

FRITZ — The money - it seems a pity -

BURGOMASTER — Yes Fritz 1,000 guilders between us would have been useful, but if we don't give it to them the Grand Duchess will banish us and then what would we do?

R.MIKE SONG "~~Money is the Root~~" "Pick a Pocket"

FRITZ — Still no sign - when will Kurt?

ENTER K.RAT

K.RAT — Ah gentlemen I have been sent to collect the money from you

BURGOMASTER — Queer looking friends Kurt goes in for

FRITZ — Is it - do you think - is he really alright?

BURGOMASTER — I should think so. He seems to know all about it. Here you are (GOES TO HAND OVER BAG OF GOLD - ENTER KURT)

KURT — (TO K.RAT) Oh no you don8t my fine fellow. Be off with you (EXIT K.RAF IN RAGE) All of you

ENTER CHORUS, HILDEGARDE, MOTHER

MOTHER — Are you sure my child will come to no harm?

KURT — We will protect Odile with our lives

MOTHER — And you really think that this way we may get the rest of the children back.

KURT — Indeed I do

OTHER MOTHER — Then Odile can go with you

CHORUS — HOORAY (SONG "MEET THE SUN HALF-WAY"

Lights ~~Shutters~~ CLOSE

Finish No1 CLOSE

SCENE VI - NEAR THE KOPPELBURG

Enter Odile, Johann, Gretel, Kurt, Hildegarde (P.S.)

JOHANN — Good girl Odile, we are almost there.

GRETEL — What happens now?

KURT — First we must persuade the parents who are following us to keep away.

HILDEGARDE — Alaric will help, they take notice of him.

KURT — That is a good idea (calling into P.S.wings) Alaric (Enter Alaric P.S.)

ALARIC — Yes Kurt?

KURT — Will you tell the good people of Hamelin who are following us they must keep out of sight.

JOHANN — Otherwise our plan will surely fail.

ALARIC — They are anxious about their children.

GRETEL — So are we, that is why we ask them not to get so close.

ALARIC — Very well (EXIT) (P.S.)
(HILDEGARD LOOKS AT KURT, HE NODS. SHE GOES TO ODILE)

HILDEGARDE — Now Odile we are going to keep out of sight behind those rocks/bushes while you stay here and call to the Piper (EXIT GRETEL & HILDEGARDE)

ODILE — Yes Nanny.

JOHANN — Do not be afraid, we are close by to look after you.

ODILE — I am not afraid. I am enjoying being useful (EXIT JOHANN)

KURT — Just give us time to get out of sight (EXIT KURT. ODILE WATCHES THEN TURNS AND MOVING SLOWLY TOWARDS O.P.CALLS)

ODILE — Please Mr.Pied Piper where are you? I want to join my friends - I am very lonely in Hamelin (ENTER PIPER)

PIPER — Hello Odile. I'm sorry I had to take your friends away but the people did not keep their promise and must be punished. The children are all safe and happy (ENTER KURT)

KURT — It was not the fault of the people of Hamelin that your reward was not paid. They have sent me here now with the 1,000 guildere (ENTER HILDEGARD, GRETEL, MOTHER, JOHANN AND OLD WOMAN)

MOTHER — Please may the children come home? (OTHERS ENTER A FEW AT A TIME)

ALL — Please let them

OLD WOMAN — We miss them so.

PIPER — I think it a wonderful thing that in trying to get the young ones back, the old, the young, the rich and the poor have all played a part. Because of this the children shall return home this evening. As for the money, take it back and use it for the many things which are needed in Hamelin.

KURT — Thank you a thousand times.

PIPER — As for you young lady, I once said I might help you to walk if you were good. You have been a good brave girl. Throw away your crutches and walk to your Mother.

ODILE — I cannot

PIPER — You can Odile. Now do as I say. (SHE DROPS CRUTCHES, TAKES A STEP THEN ANOTHER THEN RUNS TO MOTHER)