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Merlins is situated just across the memorial gardens from the church. For the past six years it has been run by Chris, Cynthia, and Howard Sykes who have earned a growing reputation for their imaginative menu and wine list.

The restaurant is OPEN:
<u>Evenings</u>

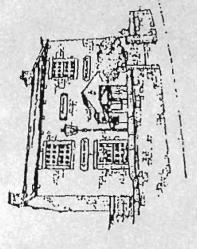
Monday to Saturday from 7.00pm

<u>Lunchtimes</u>

Thursday, Friday & Saturday
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It is adviseable to reserve a table for an evening meal. The table is then yours for the evening.

We will open to suit you for any function we can cater for.



A la Carte Menu
Basically European style, changed seasonally and supported by "Specials" which include exotic fish when available.

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Gilbert and Sullivan were amongst the oddest couples whom fate has brought together. Gilbert, described as being craggy and tousled in appearance, was both cantankerous and a self-opinionated. He quarreled with just about everyone he met and seemed happiest when he was taking someone to court, even Sullivan and the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. Sullivan, on the other hand, was considered handsome and was always smartly turned out and his charming manners gained him great popularity even among royalty.

This unlikely combination of Gilbert, the writer of the witty librettos, and Sullivan the accomplished would-be serious musician, produced a series of operettas which not only acclaimed at the time but have retained their popularity for over a century.

Gilbert was the master of inventive and witty verse on satirical targets which range from the peerage and Aesthetic movement to women's rights and the Victorian cult of japonaiserie. Sullivan was well able to match this brilliance with a flow of melody which, when appropriate, caught the patter rhythms of the words and sometimes, showing an acute sense of parody. poked fun at established operatic convention.

Sullivan had already begun to establish himself as a composer before he worked with Gilbert and had several orchestral, choral and operatic pieces to his name. Their first collaborative venture, Thespis, in 1871 ran only for a month in London. Four years later their skit on the legal system Trial by Jury, earned them the success that was to continue through to the production of The Grand Duke in 1896. In 1877 Richard D'Oyly Carte formed a company for the express purpose of presenting operettes by Gilbert and Sullivan. The Pirates of Penzance was first performed in 1880.

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CAST

Pirate King	Richard Beilby
Samuel (his lieutenant)	Laurence Driver
Frederic (a pirate apprentice)	Christopher Kates
Ruth (a pirate maid of all work)	Josie Clement
Sergeant of Police	Kris Hopkins
Major-General Stanley	John Peet
Major-General Stanley	
	Marti Clement
Mabel	Marti ClementManda Clement

Chorus of pirates

David Wortley, David Whitwell, Jack Barrit John Lubonski, Ian Atherton, George Healey Tom Fleming, Sean Troth, Malcolm Cox Robert Westhead.

Chorus of police

David Wortley, Patricia Kates, David Whitwell, Ian Atherton, Malcolm Cox, Maresa Whitwell

Ladies Chorus

Chaperones:

Joan Ayres, Anne Goss, Christine Haigh, Brenda Scrivener, Jennifer Cox, Patricia Kates Anne Fox, Maresa Whitwell,

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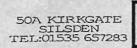
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