

### **O Dear, O Dear, O Dear**

**You wanted to know more about Ljiljana Gasovic, the famous Balkan soprano and you've found yourself at the jokes page.**

You surely qualify for a chocolate frog or, if you are familiar with the Grand Duchy of Pfennig-Halbpennig, to eat a sausage roll!

But you probably want to go back to the FAQs. [Go back to them.](#)

*But if you are curious, then here's the place for operatic furphies, quirks, disasters, mishearings and malapropisms, and you are welcome to log in and contribute - but keep it clean.*

Here are a few to give you a flavour.

- A certain Anna Glawari in the second act of *The Merry Widow*, at the appropriate time announced, "Ladies and Gentlemen, Valenciennes will now sing 'Vilia'!"

- A tenor, when castigated by the conductor for coming into early in the final Act of *La Traviata*, remonstrated "It was her fault. She died too soon." The response, "My good man, no opera singer ever dies too soon!"

- Misprints in vocal Eisteddfod programmes: "'Tis done, I am a bridge" and "Is life a book?"

This page is dedicated to Joseph Furphy, the water cart owner in Melbourne at around the time Water-Cart Bayly was doing a similar thing in Gilbert and Sullivan's London. His motto was "Water is natural, wine is of the devil. Come and have a drink of water." He gave his name to Furphies, unlikely stories with just a hint of probability!

Log in to contribute.