

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting held on
10th November 2008

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright, Gerald Evers, Mark Wall, Gordon Scott, Lisa Cope, Terry Delaney, Alan Hooley, David Papworth, Chris Spray, Jenny Hailes, Doreen Grant, Tina Evers and The Mayor of Wells, Mrs Christine Borastero

1. Apologies

Apologies received from (**TE** and **JH** went to a Panto rehearsal at 8.30)
Absent **AH, DG**

2. Minutes of Last Meeting agreed

3. Matters Arising

- Funding application to Wells City Council for Foyer glass door **RW** ongoing
- Foyer Development **RW, MW, AP, JH**. **RW** has sent out notice to all the members re decoration in January. **CS** and Norman Cowell are dealing with the box office changes - clearing the plastic shields and making secure the monitors etc. **JH** to look further at the interior design and decoration.
- Child Protection guidelines **DG** ongoing
- Database and website development **CS** ongoing
- First Aid FOH person **RW** ongoing
- Maintenance and New Projects checklist updating **GE and MW** ongoing
- Audio Systems assessment and recommendations (mikes, amps and speakers and cable) **DP** has made the start on detailing some possible developments to the current system, improving it and bringing it up to date. This includes a sound mixer and better links with the pit, lighting box and SM position. Costs and a system plan to follow. **DP/CS** with Bob Rogers and Graham Brown. The committee had general concerns over the need for these improvements and the importance of making the right choices for the future. ongoing
- Cyclorama repair **MW** ongoing
- Improving pit and orchestra area **AH** ongoing
- Costume Day report and wardrobe improvements **RW, TE, MW** A good and productive weekend sorting and thinning down the costumes. Keys now with Kate and Sue. Some high rails are in and other storage boxes are on the way. Lighting is needed. **MW** to investigate with NR Bishop
- Club Night review **RW** good evening with positive feedback
- Lighting wiring - a professional assessment **DP** There is a growing concern over the quality and state of the present stage lighting. **DP** suggested a rough estimate for improvements might be over £12,000 to bring the wiring and sockets up to date. The committee agreed to look into this further by getting a professional report on our present system. **TD** to contact Peter Magor (WSM) and ask if he would be willing to assess the system and produce a report. The report should include 'essential', 'desired', 'required' and 'advisable' aspects as well as an opinion as to future developments say 10years. We will need to get several quotes and investigate possible grants - lottery or otherwise. **RW/TD**
- Fliers for Patrons publicity and applications **LC** has been looking at ideas and presented these to the committee. It was agreed that she should meet with **TD** and **GE** to develop the concept and come up with a firm proposal for the next meeting. Ideally we would like to get these out to patrons before the beginning of January **LC** ongoing

4. Correspondence

- Request from Robbie Burns re Murder Mystery Night **RW** and **GS** meet with Mr Burns to discuss his proposal. It was agreed not to pursue this further. **RW** to respond
- Bishop's Palace lunch pass! **GE** anyone interested see **GE**
- Charity Commissioners return completed- **GE**
- Letter from **PULSE** – the maintenance of heaters (5) including the boiler annual service is due in Feb. Agreed to continue **RW** reply to say yes.

5. Treasurer's Report **GS**

- JTR – gross £3920 spent £2406.27 giving £1514.23 surplus. Well done to all.
- Telephones – **CS** is investigating line rental

6. Membership

- **Carnival Curry Night 14th Nov** (Hot dog vendor will be paying 'rent' direct to Wells Carnival Club, they then pass it on to us.)
- **Dinner Dance – Sat 9th May 2009** – Venue tba – **AH**. ongoing
- **David Beach Presentation Evening – Friday 20th March 2009**
- **Cinderella Awards Evening – Saturday 16th May 2009**
- **AGM** has been set for the **22nd May 2009**
- **Launch night for My Fair Lady - Tues 30th Dec, 7.30–9** then plus mince pies and mulled wine!
- **Membership levels** – CS has brought together information as part of the database developments, this raised some anomalies – particularly regarding 'social members' and their insurance cover while working backstage, and the need for all members of a production team to be 'members of the theatre'. **RW** to investigate insurance. **CS** ongoing. Details to be amended/ firmed up before the New Year.
- The following new memberships were accepted;
Marion Gobin – ordinary

7. Publicity

- Website and box office phone number to be put on the back of the banner –**TD**
- 9th Dec **TD** link member of PACT meeting
- Link with Cheddar Male Voice Choir re Les Skidmore concert **TD** ongoing
- **TD** asked the committee to remind all producers and directors to liaise with him over advertising and publicity

8. Theatre Renovations

Only those listed in matters arising

9. Production/trifold/hire

- **Sleeping Beauty** 13-20th Dec 08 Dir – **Gill Kerton**, Choreography – **TE**, Child Choreography –**Sarah Neale**, SM - **CS**, Lights- **Graham Brown**, MD - **Russell Collins**. Budget agreed. Ticket prices at £8, £7 and £6 Rehearsal Schedule done. Request by Gill Kerton to increase budget for costumes and lighting by £100 for each. Gill Kerton has been dealing with Local Authority (SCC) licensing forms for the children.
- **My Fair Lady** 20-25th April 2009 – Dir - **Lois Harbinson**, Prod - **GS**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, lighting – **Simon Blaymires**, SM - **DP**. Wednesdays & Friday with some Mondays and Weekends as required. Tickets £10 & £9 **Budget to be agreed**
- **May 2009 'Tess of the d'Urburilles BOVTS - GS**
- **Seussical the Musical** 4th-6th June 2009 'Little Theatre Youth production' 7 –18yrs. Dir & Chor - **Sarah Neale** MD - **Russell Collins**, SM - **CS**, lighting - **Bob Rogers**, Producer – **Gill Kerton**. Rehearsal Schedule agreed (Sundays and Tues.) Starts in Jan 2009. There should always be enough adults present, no bar during reh. Tickets £9 & £7 **Budget to be agreed**
- **Play** 15th-18th July 2009. The dates for this have now moved to 8-11th July **RW** will look at putting something on in this slot but **anyone interested should contact the committee**.
- **Good Gods**, musical 9th-12th Sept 2009 by Ken Edmonds –rehearsal schedule booked in. **Budget to be agreed** Tickets £10 & £8 tba
- **Play** 21st -24th Oct 2009. **Anyone interested should contact the committee**. GE to consider a title
- **Panto** 12th-19th Dec 2009 – Dir - **Chris Briton**, title to follow – Possibly Treasure Island (aka A Vast Behind) Vicky, Katie and Chris are writing, Choreography – **Sarah Neale**, need **SM** and **MD**, title & rehearsal schedule to follow. **Budget to set. Tickets price?**
- **Spring Show 2010 – The King and I?** **Other suggestions to the committee** asap. MD?
- **Sept 2010** - Little Lights up part 2? A One Act Play could be second half at another time. **Tbc**
- **Yearly show budget** – **GE** the proposed show budgets were discussed and agreed – below

2009	My Fair Lady	£640.00	8%
	Play - July	£960.00	12%
	Good Gods	£1,200.00	15%
	panto	£4,400.00	55%
	Sussical the Musical	£800.00	10%
	Running cost per annum	£8,000.00	

10. **Training**
ntr

11. **Any other business**

- The committee had a request by Adam Lanfranchi to observe audition process for My Fair Lady as part of his training and development at the Academy in Bristol. request denied
- DP has found out that a press button key pad would remove some of the security on the white upvc back door. nfa
- The committee are becoming increasingly aware of the large number of people who have the current back stage door code. Code to change in January. Committee to consider who should have the code.
- H&S cupboard now in the workshop **CS** thanks
- Panto raffle? GE to investigate

For future meetings

- Theatre Hand Book.
- Adjudicator/Awards Book.
- CS membership

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 1st December and then Tuesday 13th Jan. 2009

The Chairman thanked the committee for their attendance. The meeting finished at 9.50