

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting held on
31 October 2011

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright, Gerald Eyers, Mark Wall, Pauline Perrin, Gordon Scott, Alan Hooley, Sharon Edmonds, Ken Edmonds, Doreen Grant, Elly Milln, Graham Brown, Norman Cowell and The Mayor of Wells

1. **Apologies**, Elly Milln, Graham Brown, Gordon Scott, Sharon Edmonds, Norman Cowell

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting agreed**

3. **Matters Arising**

- Improving pit and orchestra area - **AH ongoing**
- An Alternative heating system - further enquiries made by RJW for another company - Wheeler's of Westbury. This was for air conditioning in the auditorium area with an initial estimate of £6,750- **RW** some building work needed. We could apply to the City Council for a grant. Agreed to also look into water heating system as additional heating for the auditorium. **RW** to ask them to return to give detailed quotes. **RW ongoing**
- Bar repainting and consideration of change of curtains to blinds - **SE & MW** in hand
- Outside bar door repairs (Angelo) - **MW ongoing**
- Smoke curtain - Mendip District Council have given permission to remove the fire safety curtain - **RW & GE** to inform GB and Dave Papworth to see if a team can be arranged to remove the old equipment (probably after Panto).
- Box Office - **RW** wrote to **CS** as agreed. Outstanding points relate to ticket exchanges and sponsorship information - **RW** discuss various options, **RW** to return a brief to **CS**. Discuss again at next meeting.
- Paper for the billboards - **GE** Posters now bought online. **MW** to make billboards to fit.
- Purchase of new rehearsal piano -**GE & Sheila Ross ongoing. see correspondence below.**
- Lighting desk and window replacement - **MW & GB ongoing**
- Photographs for shows - **GE** to talk to Lisa Willetts
- Solar panels - **GS** the committee decided to end these enquiries.
- Annual car park clear up - **RW** done, and thank you to all involved
- Emergency Lighting in Bar and Emergency Exit in auditorium by wheelchair exit had stopped working - **MW** in hand

4. **Correspondence**

- Gordon and Sue have written expressing their thanks for the surprise presentation made to them at the Murder Mystery Evening. They were extremely touched.
- Norman Cowell has made an offer of a piano keyboard to the society. **GE** to give the details to Sheila.

5. Treasurer's Report - PP

- Brenda Bly - final figures give a surplus of £506.44. Well done everyone.
- Programme advertising **KE** to look into arrangements and invoicing.
- Online subs payments? **RW** to check with Chris Spray if this can be done through the website. Would it also be possible to print the car part tickets this way?

6. Membership

- New Members - Anita Beesley - Ordinary. approved
 - Molly Hall - Child. approved
 - Rosie Boulton-Roberts - Child. approved
 - Jolyon Doyle - Child. approved
- Patrons - **EM** all in hand
- **Dinner Dance** dates and arrangements - **25 May 7pm** for 7.30pm start, formal dress code, possibly buffet meal, possibly subsidised, keep speeches to a minimum, final details to be considered - **AH**
- **AGM Friday 11 May 2012**
- Youth Theatre - **MW** asked if the Youth Theatre is to continue next year. **GE** to ask Sarah for dates.
- Many thanks to Nick, Vicky and team for the amazing Murder Mystery Evening. A huge amount of organisation and work went on creating such a successful evening. Thanks.
- **Carnival Curry** on Friday 11th November - details on the board
- **Show launch and Mulled wine** evening on Wed 21st December

7. Publicity

- Mailing list card - **KE** ongoing
- Banner - possible sponsorship by H W Signs - **KE** ongoing
- Margaret Rice has asked that publicity should be kept flowing to the Tourist Information Office, particularly the supply of trifolds - **RW** Trifolds are kept in the foyer, please help yourself.

8. Theatre Renovations

- Back door - done just needs weather proofing **MW**
- Down pipe - doing - **MW** (Angelo)
- Light in workshop - doing - **MW** (Angelo)
- Stage Halogen light needs replacing - **GB**
- Agreed to put code lock on the front door and remove the crash bar **MW**

9. Production/trifold/hire

- **Robin Hood** - 10-17 Dec 2011 written by Vicky Orman, Director - **Tina Evers**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Choreographer - **Kim Fisher** (adults) **Ella Upham** (children) **SM** - **Charlie Watkins** and **Catherine Tucker**, Lighting - **Graham Brown**, Sound - **Pete Ross**, Make-up - **Helen & Julie Makin**, Producer - **GE**, Prompt - **Freda Brown**, Costumes - **Sarah Briton & co**, Rehearsal schedule **done**, Budget **done**, Ticket Price is £9 & £7
- **Two one act plays - 23-25 February 2012 - The Last Bread Pudding** (2M, 4W+1) by Nick Warburton and **Last Tango in Little Grimley** (2M, 2W) by David Tristram. Directors **MW & DG**, Producer - **?**, **SM** - **?**, Set design/ASM - **?**, Programme and Publicity - **?**, Costumes - **?** Lighting -

? Props - ? Prompt -? Rehearsal schedule **TBA**, Budget TBA Ticket price TBA. Rehearsals start on Monday 9th January and will cover a period of 6 weeks. Anyone wanting to take part in Sound of Music should give the plays a miss. Intro and casting Thursday 17th November

- **The Sound of Music 16-21 April 2012** Director - **Gill Kerton**, MD - **Darren Kerton** - Choreographer - **Kim Fisher**, Producer - **Vicky Orman**, SM - **Chris Spray**, Set design/ASM - **Catherine Tucker**, Programme and Publicity - **Katy Biggs and Mark O'Callaghan**, Costumes - **Kate Hathway, Leslie Roach & Sophie Kerton**, Lighting - **Adam Killey and Rob Rogers**, Props - ?, Prompt - **Sue Kerton**, Rehearsal schedule **TBA**, **Budget TBA and meeting to follow up**, Ticket price £12 and £9 TBA, no concessions Friday and Saturday. The full cast to be auditioned.
- **Youth Theatre Production - June 2012 - The Wiz**. This production has been postponed but Sarah Neale wishes to take this on as soon as her health will allow.
- **Animal Farm July 4 to 7 2012**. Director **Lois Harbinson**, Producer - ?, SM & Set design - **Catherine Tucker**, Programme and Publicity - ?, Costumes - ? Lighting -? Props - ? Prompt -? Rehearsal schedule **TBA**, Budget TBA Ticket price TBA.
- **A Little Night Music Sept 5 to 8 2012** - Director **Lois Harbinson**, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Producer? Programme and Publicity - ?, Costumes - ? Lighting -? Props - ? Prompt -? Rehearsal schedule **TBA**, Budget TBA Ticket price TBA.
- **Panto - December 15 to 22 2012**. Anyone interested? **RW** will direct if no one else comes forward.
- **Spring Show 2013?**
- **Spring 2016** - Ken Edmonds has suggested that we consider 'Kiss Me Kate' as this is the 400th year after Shakespeare's death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year. **Ongoing**.

10. Training

- Mamma Mia Music Workshop on 20 November 9am-6pm; see Ann Beechey for details

11. Show Reviews

Top Hat - The Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Irving Berlin's celebrated score features such classics as *Cheek to Cheek*, *Let's Face The Music & Dance*, *Isn't It A Lovely Day To Be Caught In The Rain* and *Top Hat, White Tie & Tails*. Beautiful sets, lavish costumes and sensational dancing will sweep you off your feet in this stunning new musical comedy. Stared Tom Chambers. Great! **GE**

Half a sixpence - Strode, an interesting production with a strange 'Frank Spencer' spin for the Kipps character. **KE**

One Man Two Guvnors - Theatre Royal, Plymouth, by Richard Bean, based on *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni in the National Theatre's new version of the classic Italian comedy farce - sex, food and money are high on the agenda. Spoilt by some poor use of stooges, starred James Cordon **RW**

Sweeney Todd at Chichester, with Michael Ball and Imelda Staunton and many other excellent actors. It was very well staged with trucks rolling in and out as required, it was very realistically bloody as was to be expected and considering it was a matinee the two leads gave very energetic performances. **GS** (by letter and similarly for next 2 reviews)

We are Three Sisters, Northern BroadSides at the Tobacco Factory. This was the Bronte sisters longing for London, written in the style

of Chekov's Three Sisters. A very interesting concept, with minimal staging and strong acting from this Halifax based group. **GS**
Grief a new play by Mike Leigh. A National Theatre production , at TRB last week. Set in 1958, the stage is populated with repressed unhappy souls with a bit of light relief from friends visiting the family. A horrific climax, not seen but well imagined. A nice solid box set with stairs.**GS**

12. Any other Business

- We appear to be a favourite site for visits by tramps and the ostensibly homeless. Please keep an eye on the situation. Let RW, MW or GE know if there are increased problems.
- Kim's dance & exercise class should be back on after Christmas. Dates to be confirmed.
- KE asked if all responsibilities on the committee be limited to a 4 year term. It was agreed that except for the secretary and treasurer it is healthy to have a change of committee members. All committee members can choose not to stand for election each year.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 28th November 2011 and then Monday 9th January 2012

The meeting finished at 9.45, thanks for your attendance.