

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting to held on
11 March 2013

COMMITTEE

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

1. **Apologies** Alan Hooley, Doreen Grant, Graham Brown,
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** agreed
3. **Matters Arising**
 - **Improving pit and orchestra area** - Arts Council Grant application - **RW** - reasonably good news, letter received means that we can apply for up to £15,000; we can start preparing detailed plans but also that we will need to think how we might go about fund raising the extra £5,000 (or more if budget estimates are not accurate!). The detailed application needs to be put together during the next 12 months, with a view to do the works within 2 years. Look for fund raising options. NC suggests we apply to Viridor (Somerset Waste Partnership). Agreed to share the project with the membership at the AGM, record ideas and suggestions and then form a working group to see the project through, possibly with a members survey and newspaper article. **MW** suggested it would be good to take another look at our long term plans for renovation, repair and maintenance.
GE to email membership with AGM agenda to raise awareness.
 - **Finishing the bar** - new TV, general lighting and 'performance' lighting bar **GB, GE ongoing**
 - New **sound system** - **GB & Rob Rogers - ongoing**
 - New **till/cash register** - The Bar Till is ready for use and a number of bar staff are trained, many thanks to AH for his work on this. We need a new set of 'public' bar prices to put on display (PP to do) It was also agreed to purchase a second Till - this would be sensible at this stage and give long term benefits. **MW** to investigate housing the Tills within the bar structure.

- The Theatre **Security Policy** will be complete by end of March 2013 **AH-ongoing**
- **Website - RW & CS - RW** has produced some proposals and will talk to CS about tweaks to the website and other changes i.e. making the format 'touch' friendly, and particularly more directly intuitive when booking.

4. **Correspondence - none**

5. **Treasurer's Report - PP**

- Little to report. Accounts will be going to the accountants soon ready for the AGM
- S W Partnership now charges, we need to make a paper return predicting our annual use. PP to talk to CS and complete the form.

6. **Membership**

- **New members** - 5 new child members for Beauty and the Beast
- **Civic night** on 22nd April - **LJ**. Blue School catering, as last year. Tickets are ready to be sent out. LJ will manage the front door and register Patrons and Life Members as they arrive. All others will be asked to go directly into the Rehearsal Room (before the show)
- **Dinner Dance** - May 10th 2013 - AH spoke to Mark Tobin who is Operations Manager at the Swan Hotel. They have agreed a buffet menu similar to last year (£20.50 per head). We agreed to subsidise this event to the tune of £2.50 per head (as in previous years) making the cost per person to our members £18.00. The entertainments agency has upped its prices to £300.00 this year so Alan has returned to hiring Guy Johnson. He is a little cheaper at £275.00 and we have not seen him for over 3 years now. Theatre to subsidise the entertainment fee.
- **AGM** - 24TH May 2013
GE to make arrangements and write to Mayor.
 Reports:
 Past and Forthcoming Productions - Sharon Edmonds,
 Youth Theatre - Sarah Neale,
 Theatre Improvements - RW to include stage/ pit proposals led by MW and GE
 Entertainment and Social report - Alan Hooley
 Catering arrangements - nibbles & wine Sharon & Ken

7. **Publicity**

- Anything Goes banner ready to go up, Billboards are up.

8. **Theatre Renovations**

Maintenance report as in 3 above

9. **Production/Trifold/Hire**

- **Anything Goes - April 22 - 27 2013 - GE** directing and producing; **TE** - choreography, **Judi Neale** - Tap Choreography, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Programme & Publicity - **Vicky Orman**, Stage Manager - **David Papworth**, Costumes - **Louise Baker & Clara Bosque-Wiberg**, Lighting - **Rob Rodgers**, Sound - **Graham Brown**, Props - **Lesley Ricketts & Jill Stone**, Make-Up - **Helen & Julie Makin**, Prompt & AD - **DG**, Rehearsal Schedule - **Agreed**, Budget - **Agreed**, Ticket Price - **£12 & £9 no concessions Friday or Saturday**
- **May 29 - June 1- Youth Theatre Show - Beauty & The Beast.** **Sarah Neale** - Directing, **Nicky Hann** - Assistant Director and Producer, **Graham Brown** - Stage Manager, MD - **Sheila Ross**, Choreography - **Sarah Neale & Harriet Durston**, Programme & Publicity - **Sarah Kendall**, Lighting - **Adam Killy**, Set design - **Catherine Tucker**, Props - **?**, Prompt - **DG**, Make-Up - **Daisy Nicholson-Layley plus team**, Costumes - **Oonagh Michelmores**, Rehearsal Schedule - **Agreed**, Budget - **Agreed**, Ticket price - **£12 & £10**, Sponsorship - **Two sponsors £600**.received
- **July 3 - 6 2013 - Mort** by Terry Pratchett - **KE** Directing, Producer - **Vicky Orman**, Stage Manager - **Charlie Watkins**, Costumes - **Sarah Briton**, Lighting - **Pete Ross**, Sound - **Adrian Mitchell**, Props - **Lesley Ricketts**. Budget - **Agreed**, Ticket Price **£9 and £7** first reading 30th April, auditions 2nd May
- **July 26 and 27 - Endgame - April 11th-** Introductory reading, a workshop production to be stage for members only. Producer - **DG**. Director - **Maria Olteanu-Furze**, 26th and 27th July 2013. Other details to follow.
- **September 11 - 14 2013 - Pajama Game** - **AH** Directing, **Sheila Ross** - MD, **Carol Applegate** - Choreography, Lighting - **GB**, Stage Manager - **?**, Budget - **TBA**, Ticket price - **TBA**, Rehearsal Schedule - **TBA**

- **October 23 - 26, 2013 - 'Rumours'** by Neal Simon - **DG** director, MW - set design. Waiting for Samuel French to confirm licence/royalties
- **Pantomime - December 14 - 21 2013** - need a director and title - Sharon Edmonds to investigate.
- February 2014 - Two One Act Plays - **LH**
- **Spring 2014** - To be decided - show? Directors?
- **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**

- **NODA** summer school on the board, **RW** to email members with details.

11. **Show Reviews**

- Calendar Girls, STRODE, - very good, KE, SE
- Steptoe and Son - Kneehigh theatre company, Bristol Old Vic. Enjoyable, but difficult to accept the portrayal of iconic characters by actors who did not quite fit the same shape! Unless you had not seen the original. LJ

12. **Any Other Business**

- David Beach Awards (Presentation Evening 9 March 2013) Results below, congratulations to all involved.
Best M/D - Sheila Ross - Little Night Music
Best Supporting Role - Judi Neale as Elsa in Sound of Music
Highly commended - Best Female Lead - Kate Lynch in ALNM and
Adjudicator's Award - Von Trapp Children
- Cinderella Awards 11 May 2013
- Car parking - request from David Appleby buy a parking ticket? £420. RW to reply
- **Night on the town Wells.** Thursday 12th September 2013. Mark Tobin (Swan Hotel) is the co-ordinator for this hugely popular event. **AH** suggested we should target this for new members. Unfortunately it falls on the Thursday of our show Pajama Game. We have supported this event over the last few years, if anyone wishes to take on coordination this year please talk to Alan. **AH**
- **MACMILLANS.** **AH** suggested there might be some support from our charity with that of Macmillan's'. It was

agreed that we should concentrate our efforts supporting our own aims as a charity before getting involved with another.

13. **Date of next meeting - Tuesday 9 April 2013**
AGM - 24 May and then Monday 24th June