

**Wells Operatic Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the meeting on**  
**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 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

1. **Apologies** Mark Wall, Doreen Grant, Elly Milln
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** agreed
3. **Matters Arising**
  - Improving pit and orchestra area - **AH ongoing**
  - An Alternative heating system for the dressing room and workshop area - RJW to write to identified heating engineers to request a free site survey and opinion - **RW ongoing**
  - Bar repainting - **SE ongoing**
  - Outside bar door repairs - **MW ongoing**
  - Regulations relating to smoke curtain - **RW** - the fire officer informs us that we must carry out a risk assessment; this was done and all agreed to remove the fire safety curtain. **RW** to make the final check with local authority to agree this before any work starts.
  - Photographs for future shows - **RW**. Lisa Willets has been taking some photos, with Erik, for Brenda Bly.
  - Box Office - improvements to tickets; back up system - follow up. RW and GS have been working with Chris Spray to fine tune the new system. NC suggested that with the increase in online booking we could look to reduce the opening hours of the Box Office. **NC** will monitor the situation during Brenda Bly and any changes will be published in the next Trifold. CS has offered to add an additional part to the box office programme to allow for re-sales and returns. **GS** to ask CS for a quote for this work.
  - Box Office - PayPal and VAT element of ticket costs - **GS & PP ongoing**
  - Paper for the billboards - **GE** to look for suppliers
  - Purchase of new rehearsal piano - **GE & Sheila Ross ongoing**
  - Lighting desk and window replacement - **MW ongoing**
4. **Correspondence**
  - Letter from Louise Deplae (Oxfam) thanking us for the use of the theatre free of charge for Oxfam Quiz Night (they made £237). They would like to hire the room on November 6<sup>th</sup> for another quiz evening. **GE** to add to calendar and invoice.
  - Email received from Trudy Dyke (NODA rep) encouraging members to log into the NODA website (you will need our membership number which is 00002047).
5. **Treasurer's Report - PP**

- Final figures for Our Country's Good - show a small profit of £133, this is very good when the attendance was so low.

## 6. Membership

- New Members - Harriet Collins, Ordinary Membership
- Patrons - update - **EM** The latest trifold has been posted
- BBQ on Sunday Very successful about 30 attended, many thanks to AH
- AGM & DD? Dates - **AH** ongoing

## 7. Publicity

- The Publicity Guide update - **RW & KE** done
- Triangle July flier £25 done
- Mendip Times costs - ¼ page £232 To consider in the future
- Discussion about using the website to generate 'reminders' of forthcoming shows. **KE** to talk to Chris Spray and probably produce a 'Would you like to join our mailing list' card to collect information and increase our email circulation.

## 8. Theatre Renovations

- Solar panels **GS** ongoing
- Divers' leaking roof - they have offered to supply materials and do the work RW and MW have spoken to them and agreed that this should go ahead. Committee approved.
- Annual Car park clear up 30th October. All welcome!

## 9. Production/trifold/hire

- **Brenda Bly - The Teen Detective 14 - 17 Sept 2011 - Director - AH, MD - Sheila Ross, SM - David Papworth, ASM - Catherine Tucker, Assistant Producer - Doreen grant, Lighting - Graham Brown, Choreography - Carol Applegate, Make Up - Helen and Julie Makin, Prompt - Anne Beechey, Costumes - Sarah Briton , Rehearsal schedule done. Budget done, Ticket Price £10 and £8**
- **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, ASM - Catherine Tucker, Lighting - Graham Brown, Sound - Pete Ross, Make-up - Helen & Julie Makin, Producer - GE, Prompt - Sue Scott, Costumes - Sarah Briton & co, Rehearsal schedule done, Budget done, Ticket Price is £9 & £7**
- **Feb 2012 Two one act plays - February 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2012 - MW & DG directing, titles and team to be arranged. Budget? Rehearsal Schedule? First Reading October 3rd**
- **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 - ?, Lighting - Adam Killey, Props - ?, Prompt - ?, Rehearsal schedule TBA, Budget TBA, Ticket price £12 and £9 tba?, no concessions Friday and Saturday. It was agreed to audition the full cast.**
- **Youth Theatre Production - 30<sup>th</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012 - The Wiz. Director Sarah Neale. Other details to follow.**
- **July 2012 - play July 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> 2012. Anyone interested? Lois Harbinson will direct if nobody else comes forward. Other details to follow.**

- **A Little Night Music Sept 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> 2012** - Director **Lois Harbinson**, MD -**Sheila Ross**, Producer - ? Other details to follow.
- **A Play** October 24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> 2012. Anyone interested?
- **Panto - December 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012**. Anyone interested?
- **Spring 2016** - Ken Edmonds has suggested that we consider 'Kiss Me Kate' as this is the 400<sup>th</sup> year after Shakespeare's death. Other Shakespeare productions might also be considered for this year. **Ongoing.**

## 10. Training

- Singing workshop organised by Anne Beechey, Sunday Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 10-4pm cost £300 + expenses. It was agreed to charge members £10 a head. Details are on the notice board.

## 11. Show Reviews

**Cymbeline** - Black Chair productions, at Stogumber. Excellent cast of 7 reduced 'shotgun' Shakespeare productions. A mix between Romeo & Juliet, and Hamlet. Watch out for Taming of the Shrew at The Brewhouse, Taunton. Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. GE

**This Happy Breed** - Noel Coward, Theatre Royal Bath. Written in 1939 this play reveals a very different Coward; an extremely engaging story of a humble family living in Clapham, whom we follow from 1919, shortly after the father of the family returns from the trenches, to June 1939, as another world war looms. Excellent GE and GS

**Henry 4<sup>th</sup> part 1 and part 2** - v good, an afternoon and evening at Bath Theatre Royal. GS

**A midsummer night's dream**, Wells Community Theatre, some volume lost at times. Enjoyable.

**The Madness of George III** - Bath TR. Excellent and exhausting performance by the lead. GS

**NODA summer school** - Warwick University. A really enjoyable and exhausting week, highly recommended, singing and learning Sondheim. PP

**Singing in the Rain** - Chichester - excellent, with lots rain and an abundance of sell-out matinee performances. GB

**Everyman theatre** in Cheltenham worth having a look. GB

## 12. Any other Business

- RW - Bishops Palace are asking about costumes hire - we do not
- RW - TG Pollard are asking about sponsoring the pantomime. RW to go back to them with some details and options.
- Old lighting stands should be stored in the 'Muppet box'. GB
- New projector to be stored in the Box office store. **GB**

## 13. Date of Next Meeting

**Monday 26 September 2011 then Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October**