

**Wells Operatic Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the meeting on**  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7.30pm**

**COMMITTEE**

Richard Wright (Vice Chair), Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Graham Brown, Mike Scammell, Niamh McGrogan, Gerald Eyers, Adam Lanfranchi

**Apologies** – Gerald Eyers, Lyn Jones, Sharon Edmonds

**1. Minutes of the last meeting**

**GB** questioned buying of paint from previous minutes. Discussed and clarified; Graham to buy paint. Ongoing.

**2. Matters Arising**

- a. Theatre Handbook. **RT** is happy to continue this work. It is 85% complete, a draft version will be circulated before the end of the month so that we can consider it in the November meeting.

**3. Correspondence**

Letter from Jackie; she will be withdrawing as FoH. Has found staffing FoH very difficult as numbers of volunteers to help has dwindled. **RW** is confident Sally has taken a lot of this under her wing. Please can we source volunteers for tea/coffee/sweets and programme selling.

**GB** asked if Jackie has shared list of volunteers with Sally? **RW** will request when responding to Jackie with thanks for her efforts. More volunteers needed across the board - **NM** to send call out via email (with request for bar stock supervisor) and **SE** to add call to newsletter. Hirings may need to be scaled down; could ask Comedy Club to help find volunteers for their hirings. **PP** suggested Sally be trained as Bar Supervisor.

Discussion around streamlining roles e.g. selling programmes at sweet stand; offering tea/coffee elsewhere to reduce numbers of volunteers needed. Agreed to do this when/where possible depending on show.

Thank you card sent from **KE**'s nephew for allowing him to film at the theatre.

**4. Treasurer's Report and Box Office**

- a. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), that came into effect on May 25, 2018. Nick Barlow says there is little for us to change, but will make sure everything is correct on the website **PP** to remind.
- b. Merry Wives: small profit made, well done Richard.

**5. Membership**

- a. New members – Panto? **PP** two new members - 1xchild 1xadult (EPritchard) **NM** to find proposer & seconder for EPritchard
- b. Patrons leaflet. **LJ**
- c. Theatre News / What's On sheet – **SE KE** will remind
- d. **AGM – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**
- e. **Dinner Dance – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June** at Wells Golf Club - **NM**
- f. New bar stock supervisor – any offers of help pass to **MS** please.

**6. Publicity**

**KE**: All in hand for panto. Banner ordered.

**RW**: contacted Norman to determine how best to inform non-digital members/patrons of box office opening. Norman suggested one person, but that he had been in touch with the journal for 'What's On'. **KE** has sent in an article to the journal already.

KE confirmed that he is organising publicity for all shows.

## 7. Theatre Renovations

- a. PAT testing **MS** ongoing RW to contact Tony Scraggs to find out about in house testing
- b. New signs and billboards at the front of the theatre and on Chamberlain Street. **RW** Cllr John North has supported application and there is the opportunity for representation. RW cannot represent so opened to committee for anyone available; NM has rehearsal; KE & AL may not make it in time; PP & GB not available. **RW** to ask Jess to arrange for WLT not to be heard before 6:30pm so AL can attend. **AL** to check and confirm with **RW**.
- c. Auditorium heating system. **RW** meeting Pulse on 19/10/18 to determine how to improve system.
- d. Tree – yellow line edge. **GB** to order paint and sign. Ongoing.
- e. Chamberlain Street doors. **GB** has been given name of company to do work and has called twice. Contact has been made but no appointment as yet. **AL** may be able to use a contact to quote for work as well and will get in touch with them.  
As regards break in, **RW** meeting with Valley Windows for quote. Has contacted insurance company and will share letter with PP.
- f. Moths in the wardrobe. **SE** has had a quote of £125 + VAT plus £50 per room. Is waiting for other quotes to come in.
- g. We will need a new wardrobe mistress. **NM** to ask Louise Sansam and, if not, Sandra Marshall.
- h. **AG** has changed fuses in circuit box.
- i. Buzzing light in the auditorium **NM**. **GB**: this is ongoing and will need repair - all lights will need to be replaced with LEDs long term. **GB** will continue to investigate.

## 8. Productions/Hire.

**Hires in October, November and December 2018.** See Bar Calendar for details. The person responsible is in bold.

Small Steps x 2 - **GE**

Cosmo group – **GE**

U3A walking group - **GE**

Aladdin rehearsals – **SE**

The Muddy Choir – **Owbeon**

Horses! Horses! – **Owbeon** sold out

Comedy – **Sally T**

Rudge Motorbike sale – **GE/Dick Makin**

Floral Art - **GB**

NM: have been unable to secure 9-5 licence for Spring show 2020. Would like to apply for 2021. Agreed. Presented 'Big Fish' to committee for Spring show 2020. Discussed and agreed.

- **September 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 2018** William Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* – Review. (GE - great show, funny, good pace and some wonderful performances, well done to all) Echoed by various people (general public and members). Some feedback was that musician could have been seen more; RW
- **December 15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 2018** – Panto *Aladdin*. Director - **Sharon Edmonds**, Producer and writer – **Vicky Orman**, Choreography – **Janice Holwill**, MD – **Nick Barlow**, SM – **Sarah Galton**, Lighting – **GB**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costumes – **Vicky and Jane**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props - **Vicky Orman**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Budget – **agreed**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **£12 & £9**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**. FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on 20th October.**
- **March 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2019** – *The Opposite Sex* by David Tristram. Director – **KE**. Stage manager – **MS**, Lighting – **GB**, Costume - **KE**, Prompt - **?**, Properties - **?**, Ticket Price – **£8**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**. FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**
- **May 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2019** – *Fiddler on the Roof*. Rights received. Director – **Lois Harbinson**, Assistant Director – **Adam Lanfranchi**, Producer - **Graham Brown**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreography - **Eden Simpson**, SM – **Emma Russell**, Set Designer – **Emma Russell**, Lighting – **GB**, Sound – **Adrian**

**Mitchell**, Costumes - **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props – **Lesley Ricketts**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**

- **Sept 18-21st 2019** – **Anne of Green Gables** by Lucy Montgomery, Director - **Bobby Bass**, Producer – **NM**, Stage manager – **Charlie Watkins**, Lighting - **GB**, Prompt – **FB**, Budget - **tba**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**
- **Dec 14<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> 2019** - **Wind in the Willows** by Fellowes, Drew and Styles, Director - **Kate Lynch**, Assistant Director – **?**, Producer – **Alisa Creaser**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreography - **?**, SM – **Chris Spray**, Set Designer – **Mark Wall**, Lighting – **?**, Sound – **?**, Costumes - **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **?**, Props – **?**, Make up – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **?**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**
- **March 2020** – any ideas?
- **May 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2020** – **Big Fish** John August/Andrew Lippa Director – **Niamh McGrogan**, Assistant Director – **?**, Producer – **Doreen Grant**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreography – **Eden Simpson**, SM – **?**, Set Designer – **?**, Lighting – **?**, Sound – **?**, Costumes – **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props – **Jo Scammell and Vicky Orman**, Make up – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **?**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**
- **September 2020** – **The Tempest**. Director - **Jon Sansam**
- **Dec 2020** - any ideas?
- **March 2021** - any ideas?
- **May 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2021** – **9 to 5** Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton. Director – **Niamh McGrogan**, Assistant Director – **?**, Producer – **Doreen Grant**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreography – **Eden Simpson**, SM – **?**, Set Designer – **?**, Lighting – **?**, Sound – **?**, Costumes – **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props – **Jo Scammell and Vicky Orman**, Make up – **?**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **?**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on?**
- **September 2021** - possibly **And Then There Were None** Director - **AL**

## 9. Training

Bar and FoH training to continue as needed.

## 10. Show Reviews

**PP & RW**: *The Height of the Storm*. Excellent set, great show. Older cast - at 87 yo Eileen Atkins was amazing!

**AL & RW**: *Shakespeare in Love*. Really enjoyed it - not a big fan of the film but really enjoyed play. Great play, but blocking was off. Set was a rotating stage within a stage but unfortunately didn't work at times. Well acted and clever.

**RW**: 5 plays in 2 weeks! The above plus *Dracula* at Everyman Theatre. Really well done. Dark and eerie. Sound & lighting excellent but computer broke during half time. Had to do it manually after half time but clearly working socks off behind the scenes - the show must go on! Very melodramatic.

*Salt* Burton Taylor Studio @ Oxford Playhouse. One woman show. Didn't like it - all about racial discrimination and one woman's experiences. Felt like a lecture and preaching to the converted.

*Winter's Tale* at Globe. Wonderful. Dropped a polythene model of an oriental style bear - a little odd. Interesting costume - Grecian style and modern day. Really well done. Diction was strangely bad - Leontes' speech was difficult to hear at times which was disappointing. Good use of silence.

**GB**: saw rehearsal of *Muddy Choir* at WLT. Very good and well done.

## 11. Any Other Business

**RW**: Email from Doreen. Alison Coles (was in London Suite) has requested to borrow costumes for Street Theatre production of *Steel Magnolias*. NM referred to previous committee decision to say no. RW queried agreement to lend to members and some WLT members are in the show. Agreed that as members are in production and if Doreen is agreeable to oversee, while ensuring it is clear that this is a favour so as not to establish a precedent, then agree. Not to be given key. **RW** will suggest Doreen and Alison can come on Friday while he is here.

**KE**: Name plates are in and on the auditorium seats.

**GB:** Phoebe Rees award. 4 nominations and Lydia Stobie-Owen won Best Performer 21 and under for The Crucible. AL has nomination certificates to be copied for theatre records. **AL** will email group and ask to borrow certificates.

**12. Date of next meeting Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Nov at 7.30pm, then Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019**