

Wells Operatic Society Limited
Minutes of the meeting on
Monday 23rd April 2018 at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE

Richard Wright (Vice Chair), Pauline Perrin, Ken Edmonds, Graham Brown, Lyn Jones, Sharon Edmonds, Mike Scammell, Niamh McGrogan, Gerald Evers, Adam Lanfranchi
The President, the Mayor of Wells, Cllr John North.

Welcome to Adam

Apologies – Sharon Edmonds, Cllr John North, Graham Brown, Mike Scammell

1. Minutes of the last meeting – agreed

2. Matters Arising

- a. Theatre Handbook. **RT** is happy to continue this work. ongoing
- b. Rotary initiative to purchase and locate a number of defibrillators in the city. **GE** – ongoing
- c. Booster seats. **KE**. **PP** will look at the ones at the cinema.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. Enquire about smart meters – **PP**, not really sensible or affordable at the moment.
- b. Cleaner – **PP** Sandy has now stopped, but arranged with Hazel Moger to take over. A huge thank you to Sandy for all her years of hard work and support.

5. Membership

- a. New members – Marcia Hein, Richard Hein, Mark Caney, all agreed Ordinary membership.
- b. Patrons leaflet. **LJ** - ongoing
- c. Civic Night – **LJ** – Lyn will prepare the canapes, volunteers are needed to serve – Tina, Gerald
- d. Theatre News / What's On sheet – **SE**
- e. Fundraising ideas for new seating.
 - **Talent Show** – New dates to be identified. This event has been postponed to a future date. Thanks to all those who made preparations especially Tessa Munt.
 - **Review and Sketches** this event will probably not go ahead.

6. Publicity

- a. All arranged for Little Shop of Horrors

7. Theatre Renovations

- a. Stage and Pit development. **RW** – Nick Furze is not well at the moment and has had to withdraw from the subcommittee DC, RW and KE are still involved, no others. The general feeling was that the committee has lost momentum and that it has probably run its course. At their next meeting they will consider any cosmetic, low cost improvements.
- b. PAT testing **MS** - ongoing
- c. Cleaning the bar carpet – **PP – TLC in Radstock have made an excellent job.**
- d. PP, Catriona and Doreen have spent some time clearing lots of old papers and files from the upstairs dressing room. Thank you.
- e. New signs and billboards at the front of the theatre and on Chamberlain Street. **RW** DB Paul invoiced for work £600. Waiting for planning permission.
- f. Auditorium heating system. **RW** – sent a letter to Pulse on the 28th March, we are waiting for a reply.
- g. Tree – yellow line edge. **Mark Wall** will do the work. **GB** to look for a sign 'do not park'. ongoing
- h. Wardrobe floor. An extension to the 'hats' area in the wardrobe was agreed. GE to talk to Mark Wall and cost. **GE** - ongoing
- i. Chamberlain Street doors. Long term damage plus wear and tear means these doors need replacing. We need doors that lock from the inside and outside, but also are fitted with a crash bar.

GB to investigate. Costs to follow. Possibly look at suppliers for new wooden doors. Ongoing. Add sign to pull. Ongoing.

- j. Disabled seats, sale and position within the auditorium. **KE** – ongoing
- k. Rehearsal Room curtains. Agreed and will go ahead soon. **GE**

8. Productions/Hire.

Hires in April, May and June 2018. See Bar Calendar for details. The person responsible is in bold.

Regular dance hires SWSD x2, Small Steps x 2 - **GE**

Liberty Choir - **GE**

Little Shop of Horrors rehearsals – **Nick Barlow**

Wells Comedy Festival – **GE, LJ and MS**

BOVTS - **GB**

Oscar Wilde performance by Peter Gilchrist, supported by the Rotary – **GE, RW, bar KE & NM**

Open Story Tellers – **Owbeon (Sarah Briton)**

Wells Cathedral School - **GE**

WSPA – **GB**

- **7-10th March 2018 – London Suite** by Neil Simon. Review – Really great, fun and happy show, 4 good sketches and fun by all.
- **May 15th (Tuesday) -19th 2018** (with a 3pm Matinee on Sat 19th i.e. 6 performances) – **Little Shop of Horrors**. Rights received. Director and Producer – **Nick Barlow**, Choreography - **Eden Simpson**, MD – **Kelly Simpson**, Rehearsal pianist – **Stephen Shears**, SM – **Mark Wall**, Head of Greek Chorus – **Kate Lynch**, Lighting – **GB**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costumes – **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props - **Vicky Orman, Jo Scammell, Mike Scammell, Sandra Marshall**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Artwork – **Katy Biggs, Plant** – **NB, Adrian Mitchell and GE**, Budget – **agreed**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **£12 & £10**, Rehearsal schedule –**done**. FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**.
- **Wednesday 6th June** BOVTS West Country Tour. **The Mill on the Floss** by George Eliot, adapted by Helen Edmundson. 70/30 split. **Tickets go live on**
- **September 19th -22nd 2018** William Shakespeare's **The Merry Wives of Windsor** Director – **RW**, Lighting - **GB**, Mediaeval Musician - **Jonathan Weeks**, Costumes – **Louise Baker**, Stage manager – **Charlie Watkins**, Properties – **Pat Watkins**, Choreography – **Tina Evers**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, FoH manager – **ST**, Budget – **agreed**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **£12 and £10**, Rehearsal schedule – **agreed**, **Tickets go live on**
- **December 15th-22nd 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 – **?**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, Props - **Vicky Orman**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule – **tba**. FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on**
- **March 2019** – **NM** to contact membership to ask for support
- **May 13th-18th 2019** – **Fiddler on the Roof**. Rights received. Director – **Lois Harbinson**, Assistant Director – **Adam Lanfranchi**, Producer - **Graham Brown**, MD – **Sheila Ross**, Choreography - **Eden Simpson**, SM – **Charlie Watkins**, Set Designer – **Emma Russell**, Lighting – **GB**, Sound – **Adrian Mitchell**, Costumes - **Louise Sansam**, Prompt – **Freda Brown**, **Props - ?**, Make up – **Helen and Julie Makin**, Budget – **tba**, Publicity - **KE**, Ticket Price – **tba**, Rehearsal schedule –**tba**, FoH manager – **Sally Trayhurn**. **Tickets go live on**
- **September 2019** – Any ideas?
- **Spring Show 2020** – **NM** is looking at directing **9 to 5: the Musical**, Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton. Nick Creaser has offered to produce. Rights to be investigated. **NM** to present the show to the committee for discussion.

9. Training

Bar and FoH training to continue as needed.

10. Show Reviews

Frozen. Theatre Royal Haymarket, London. Suranne Jones and Jason Watkins. A play about retribution, remorse and redemption, Frozen explores the interwoven lives of three strangers as they try to make sense of the unimaginable. Really great, dark and intense, incredible, **NM**
Take That - **The Band** – fab show really great, technical show really great fun if you like Take That.
RW

Harrogate – **The thing that came from over there** – Captain Scott and the Antarctica expedition. Great acting and lots of character changing took a while to get going, Funny. Gonzo Mouse t] Travelling Group. **RW**

4.48 psychosis ROH. The first opera to be based on the work of Sarah Kane, 4.48 Psychosis by Philip Venables is a setting of Kane's final play, a bitter and lyrical meditation on the nature of clinical depression, haunted by the fact that Kane killed herself shortly after its completion. 6 singers, orchestra above them, played in a white box. **LJ**

Re-animator the Musical (film) crazy scientist reanimates corpses. American musical stage-play based on the film **Re-Animator** which was adapted from the stories by H.P. Lovecraft. First performed in 2011. **AL**

11. Any Other Business

NM – DD was a great success, we plan to go back to the Golf Club again. There was a feeling that we should return to a May / June slot. 8th June 2019 has been pencilled in.

RW – Our neighbours have reported that they have seen children / intruders running on the Theatre roof. RW to investigate deterrents.

LJ – asked that the Theatre billboard is left up for after LSH for the Comedy festival.

AL – it will be useful to improve the background screens used for programme photos. AL to investigate costs and storage.

12. Date of next meeting 4th June and then 16th July