



NEWSLETTER – December 2005

Future Plans:

Diary dates:

Friday 16.12.05 @ 7.30 pm - WTC

Patrons Evening
Pianist – Martin Cleave
Further details below

27th January 2006

Rehearsals start for G&S concert
See web site for programme and schedule
(Web details later)

Performances G&S concert

18.3.05 Mayors Charity - Council Chambers - Bromley
25.3.05 Pratts Bottom Village Hall @ 7.30
1.4.05 Hayes Village Hall @ 7.30

Next Opera

**This is decided to be The Magic Flute (Dent translation)
Spring 2007 venue to be confirmed**

Eastern Promise Concert

The feed back on this has been extremely good, comments from it being the best concert we have done, to excellent programme content, excellent soloists etc. We know ourselves that there were a few blemishes and lessons to be learnt, however the public perception of us is very pleasing. We were paid £200 by Harris Hospicare for putting on the concert, they made their own profit besides this and overall between the two concerts be made a profit of around £250 - £260. The ticket sales for United Reformed Church were better than anticipated at 80 tickets, but unfortunately the costs were higher than normal.

It is therefore apparent that we cannot afford to do a “stand alone concert” and always need to do at least 2, one of which pays a large amount towards the cost of rehearsals etc.

G&S Concert (including some rarely performed items).

Dates as stated above. MD is still not finalised for this.

Rehearsals are on 27/1, 3/2, 10/2, **17/2, 24/2**, 3/3, 10/3, 17/3

With the exception of 17/2 & 24/2 (in bold) these will all be at WTC. 17/2, & 24/2 not confirmed yet.

Graham Copeland who is the concert co-ordinator and a G&S authority, is compiling the programme, and it will be an opportunity to learn some rarely done G&S and Sullivan (without Gilbert) pieces. Because of this we are going to open up to non members who may be happy to have the opportunity to sing these rare pieces, help boost our chorus, and perhaps even decide to stay, so if you know any-one who would like to take part, please let Graham know on 020 8777 4413.

In the meantime please can you let Graham know whether you intend to take part (see Plea from committee later in this newsletter).

Fund raising: This is going well but we need to keep up the same pace to raise enough money before mounting another opera, but we are on target. Please support the fund raising activities.

Patrons Evening 16th December 2005 @ 7.30

As most of you know, this is a party evening, with spontaneous entertainment. Your chance to perform something you fancy doing, and a chance for the Patrons to make requests and see us with our hair down. Please bring a pile of music, and be ready to sing anything. This is a free evening and so a raffle helps to offset the expenses.

Donations of raffle prizes please contact Adrian 020 8464 2298,

Donations of Mince pies please contact **Anita 020 8464 6859.**

It would be helpful if you could let Carole/Adrian know if you are planning to come.

Membership Secretary:

Adrian Pope has agreed to be the Membership Secretary, therefore any enquiries about membership changes of address, phone number or E mail should be addressed to him. We will try to arrange new members auditions at the next rehearsal. Please find attached a members list. If you find your name is included in the lapsed members section, this means you have not paid your subs for this year.

Please send the subs to the Treasurer.

PLEASE KEEP THIS MEMBERS LIST FILED AWAY SOMEWHERE SAFE FOR REFERENCE this saves you having to ring Graham or Adrian and Carole to get your chum's contact details.

A Plea/Moan from the committee.

We are sure you will agree that those who organise events put in a lot of hard work. Their work is made much harder and frustrating by the lack of response when asking whether you plan to take part in any event. It also means that Sally and Alastair do not know how much music to Prepare and inevitably puts up our costs. For those of you who have E mail (and around 98% of the membership have), it is very little trouble to hit the reply button and say yes or no.

Therefore, the committee have decided that, in future, those who have not indicated their intentions to the event organiser, will not have music provided for them and will have to do their own photocopying. N.B. Telling your chum to pass the message on is not an option, chums often forget, or pass the message on when it is too late.

We also need to know if you are unable, to attend a rehearsal or to be in all of the performances.

Even an "I'm not sure at the moment" is better than nothing.

Thank you to the 2 or 3 who do normally reply.

Items for Newsletter:

If you have any newsworthy items you wish to include in the Newsletter please let me know. We won't include large adverts or handbills for other performances, these can go on the notice board, but a brief mention could be made.

What would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Website: Graham is working hard on this and the Opera Nova Web site should be free standing in the near future on www.operanova.org.uk

Until that time it can be found under West Wickham's site:

<http://www.wvos.org.uk/> click on links/opera nova and there you should find us.

It is planned to have photos and contact details of the members of the committee their positions or the functions that they perform so you know who to contact if you have a query.

It is also planned to have dates and details of forthcoming events and rehearsals, so you can look this up if you are unsure.

Carole Pope