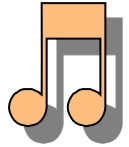




MONMOUTH MUSIC THEATRE



(Formerly Monmouth Operatic Society 1988 - 2005)



National Operatic & Dramatic Association
Registered Charity No. 254640



No: 36

Edited by
Sheryl Westoby

Autumn / Winter 2020 Newsletter

PRESIDENT - MR COLWYN SILLMAN

www.monmouthmt.co.uk

<http://www.facebook.com/monmouthmusictheatre>

Dear members and friends,

What a strange year we have all had. Things are different everywhere. Unfortunately our society was unable to perform “Carousel” as the pandemic affected all aspects of life over the world and our committee had to make a very difficult decision, but it was the right decision. The show had to be pulled with only a matter of days to go.

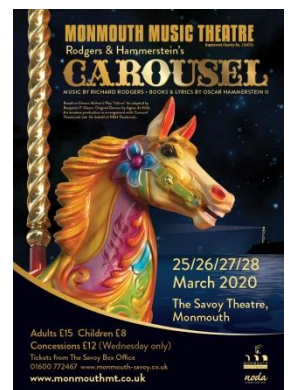
The Covid virus has wreaked havoc in everyone’s lives. The theatre/arts world has taken a tremendous knock and we are by no means out of the woods yet.

When the time is right, MMT will “rise like a phoenix from the ashes”. With the recent announcement of a vaccine, let’s now look forward to a brighter future ahead of us.

We hope it won’t be too long before we can all meet and celebrate together, but in the meantime please keep safe, take care of yourselves and look after others.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas.

Steve Brettle, Chairman.



Your MMT Committee will continue for 2020/2021

- Chairman** Steve Brettle
- Vice Chairman** Dominique Walker
- Secretary** Jane Bryant
- Treasurer** Chris Godwin
- Show Secretary** Lynda Foster
- Membership Secretary** Sheryl Westoby
- Publicity Officer** Gay Rogers
- Other Committee Members**
 - Diane Webb
 - Johnny Goddard
 - Lizzie Nicholson
 - Katie Ellis



"We are working in the background to keep the society alive!"



OUR NEW PRESIDENT

We are delighted to announce that Colwyn Sillman has been invited to become honorary President of Monmouth Music Theatre. He has accepted the position and a presentation was made to him in October.

Colwyn has had a long career as a music teacher and conductor stretching back to the early 1960's. He has taken prestigious teaching posts in Vienna, Paris and HMSG and was indeed our musical director for many years. Thank you Colwyn.



Monmouthshire Beacon Press Release:

Monmouth Music Theatre elects new President

From left to right MMT production secretary Lynda Foster, receives her award from Steve Brettie; Mr & Mrs Colwyn Sillman with chairman Steve Brettie and far left, Colwyn Sillman, new president presenting award to Steve Brettie

Also pictured is MMT Production Secretary, Lynda Foster who was awarded her NODA medal for 25 years continuous service. The NODA award for Stage and Technical Management 2019 was awarded to our own stage team and presented to Steve Brettie, Chairman MMT.

MONMOUTH Music Theatre is delighted to announce that Colwyn Sillman has been invited to become honorary President of MMT. Colwyn has had a long career as a music teacher and conductor which began in the early 1960s. He has conducted Newport Choral Society and a local Gilbert and Sullivan Society in Bristol and founded and directed the Lower Machen Festival which has recently celebrated it's 50th anniversary! He has taken prestigious teaching posts in Vienna, Paris and HMSG and has been the theatre's Music Director for many years.

NODA AWARDS CELEBRATIONS

Earlier in the year we received a letter from Dee McIlroy with the NODA District 3 nominations for 2019. To be NODA nominated for Regional or District Awards is an honour.

NODA nominations 2019 were: –

Best Production – “Guys and Dolls” & “Iolanthe”

Best Individual Performance – Johnny Goddard as Sky Masterton, “Guys and Dolls”

Best Stage Management and Technical – “Iolanthe”

Congratulations to everyone involved in these 2 productions.

We are pleased to report that MMT won the award for Best Stage Management and Technical for “Iolanthe” and this award was received by Steve Brettle on behalf of his team.



Steve is pictured here with Lynda Foster (show secretary) who was awarded her 25 years membership badge by the society.

**In addition there was a Special Achievement Award
for Outstanding Contribution to Music Theatre
and this went to our very own**

Helen Stidolph

Congratulations!



**Helen being presented with her well-deserved award by
Dee McIlroy (Noda Representative)**

Other Society News:

Look who won our Christmas Raffle last year!



It could be YOU this year!

The Committee members have decided to continue the tradition and put together a Christmas hamper!

Obviously, selling tickets for it this year is not possible, so Lynda will put all society members' names 'into a hat' and a lucky member will win it!

The hamper will be put together by Dominique and precautions will be taken to make sure that a 'safe' hamper is delivered.

Everyone who received an email from Dom via Lynda on 25.11.20 will be included in the draw.

Good luck everyone!



We would like to send our best wishes to
Katie Ellis
and trust she is making a speedy recovery.





Christmas Jumpers



Now we are starting to think about the festive period - those Christmas jumpers will be coming out and Louise has had a great idea!

Take a photo of yourself in your Christmas delight and send it to her. Louise's idea is to make a montage of photos received and put it on Facebook. The best jumper gets a prize. It's a bit of fun and hopefully we'll be able to get enough of you/us all to make a splash of colour on Facebook to remind everyone (and us all!) that we belong to a great society.

If you would like to support this idea, please send your photo to Louise.
The closing date is Tuesday 15th December 2020
 The winner will be told by phone and then it will be announced on Facebook!

Her email is below:

loobylou_miller@hotmail.com

Buying Christmas Gifts On Line

Please use Easy Fundraising to raise funds for MMT as well

*Sign up to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> - takes less than 2 minutes -
 install the easyfundraising donation reminder - takes less than 30 seconds - and
 feel good about raising money by not doing anything!!!!👍*

Register for www.easysearch.org.uk

Every time you search on the internet, MMT will receive a donation.

Please put these addresses into your "Favourites" and use them!

**Remember: Fundraising
 Finances our Productions!
 THANK YOU**

Please send any information, photos, memories of past MMT productions to Louise at loobylou_miller@hotmail.com

Louise is posting nostalgic memories on our Facebook page to cheer everyone up during our difficult times.

For example:

Name That Show! 😊





“Ding Dong the Bells have Chimed!”



We have had two MMT weddings this year.

Massive congratulations to Mr & Mrs Nicholson-Wigg



and

Mr & Mrs Lydford-Wells.



We wish you all the very best!

It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing of
Keith Wrightson.
Our thoughts are with Margaret and her family at this very sad time.

We welcome any relevant contributions to our newsletter. Please send any items you wish
to be included to:-

Sheryl @ shez.westoby@btinternet.com

Have you any fundraising ideas?

Please inform the committee - we must continue raising funds to enable us to put on these
great shows!



FOLLOW US
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FACEBOOK!

VISIT

<http://www.facebook.com/monmouthmusictheatre>



If you no longer wish to receive MMT Newsletters please reply to this email
with the subject heading UNSUBSCRIBE. Thank you.

