

Shenfield's Summer Spectacular 2017

'HOT MIKADO'

This was a splendid show, thanks to Louise Byrne, the inspired Director; Ian Southgate the music-man and his band and a brilliant cast. The show, set in the 1940s, with music to suit and clothing to match, sticks very much to the G & S story, but is brought 'up to date' by the 'hot' music & language. A simple set, using steel decking to give different levels, enhanced by two huge drapes of the Sun & Moon - made by our Wardrobe Mistress, Sue Bridger - made this a most effective performance area.

The three little maids - Yum Yum played by Libby Watts; Pitti Sing by Kate Smith & Peep Bo by Rachel Watson were outstanding & their trio raised a storm of applause. Katisha, the spiteful, devious, manipulative femme fatale was superbly played by Kerry Cooke. Jack Lloyd, in his first main lead role as Nanki Poo, was a handsome, lyrical wand'ring minstrel; he & Libby complimented each other very well. Mobile, supple & energetic Alli Smith was the perfect Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner; Lloyd Bonson took on the huge role of Poo Bah, Lord High Everything Else [& had to learn all their parts. . !]; and Jamie Fudge was an entertaining, tuneful noble lord Pish-Tush. The Mikado was played magnificently by a newcomer to our Society, Iain Johnson, & we hope he stays!

As ever, the chorus was terrific, coping with the Lindy Hop & tap numbers & never letting the quality of the singing diminish.

We were also presented with an Award for Best Chorus for our show 'Oklahoma'!

'Betty Blue Eyes'

This will be our Big show & will be performed at the 'Queen's Theatre' Hornchurch from Wednesday 7th to Saturday 10th February 2018. Flyers are available, so collect some & start the distribution to your family & friends! The Director will be Sarah Barton & the MD will be Rob Miles.

Betty Blue Eyes is a pig! The show is set in post-war 1947, and the pig is the cause of controversy within the small town. The hierarchy want to cook the pig for their celebration of the engagement of Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, whilst the rest of the town has 'Spam'. It promises to be a super show, with great music, many 'character' parts & lots of laughs.

Intro Night will follow the AGM on Wednesday 6th September at St. George's. Please put this date in your diary NOW!

Jenny Lockhart

It is with great sadness that we tell you of the death of Jenny Lockhart, who had been ill for a long while.

Jenny was a Vice President and had been a stalwart member of the Society for many, many years and had also been on the Committee. She was a determined character & was a force to be reckoned with on the stage; always sure of her lines and never out of tune. I found her to be most helpful, when I came as a newcomer, and she put me in my place quite often, as I was often unsure where I was going.

We send our deepest condolences to her family; she will be missed. The funeral will be held at Hutton Village Church - All Saints at 11:30am on Wednesday June 28th, followed by a wake at 'Brentwood Theatre.'

Les Wade

Sadly, we heard today of the death of Les Wade, younger brother of our former 'permanent' MD, Vic Wade. Les was an Honorary Life Member, who had performed on stage for many years and had also spent several years on the Committee as the Society's Treasurer. He had been unwell for a long while and sadly, passed away in the Nursing Home, where he lived.

Our sincerest condolences will be sent to his family.

Dates for your Diary:

Sarah Nuzum, our Social Secretary, has organised a **Garden Party** to be held at Annette's in Stock on Sunday, June 25th, and it's only **£6:00** entry! For this you get cream tea & a chance to buy something fantastic at our renowned 'Auction of Useless Things' & take part in silly games. - [Sorry, that should have read UseFUL things] Also, a cake competition will also be held - so grab the flour & eggs & get mixing! £ 1:00 entry

Sometime in July - a very Special Lady reaches a Special birthday!

Meirwen -We wish you a very 'Happy, Happy Birthday' - in advance - with love from all your friends in Shenfield Operatic Society xxx

Costume store - clear-out: Saturday September 2nd 2017

Please volunteer your help - the more people we have, the more we get done. Just give your name to any Committee member or to Annette.

AGM & Intro Night on Wednesday 6th September at St. George's 7:45 for a start at 8pm.

****** There will be places available on the Committee, so **please** think about it & volunteer your services.

Remember - without a Committee, the Society can't function!

'A Private Function' Quiz Night will be taking place on Saturday, November 11th - so watch out for further details!

Despite the heat, Sarah has booked the **Christmas Do!** It's on Wednesday December 20th at De Rougemont Manor & will cost £35pp. This will include a 3course meal, $\frac{1}{2}$ bottle of wine, DJ & singer. A £10 deposit to secure your place is needed by Thursday 29th June. You can pay via the SOS account or directly to Sarah, who can be contacted on sarahnuzum@yahoo.co.uk

If there is anything you would like putting into the next Newsletter, which will come out after the AGM, please let me know on:

secretary@shenfieldoperaticsociety.co.uk

Many thanks - enjoy the Summer break!

Lynne