



# BLOCNotes

## May 2017

**Editor: Dennis Elslander**

The BLOCNotes Archive is also on-line, see  
<http://www.bloc-brussels.com>

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### A word from our Chairman, Diana Morton-Hooper

**Dear BLOCNotes Reader,**

The late lawyer, playwright and broadcaster, John Mortimer, once said upon reaching the grand old age of 80 that time seemed to go so fast, he felt as if breakfast happened every half an hour. Time flies when you're having fun and so it seems to me these days. It feels like only yesterday we were taking the last curtain call for Christmas Carol.....and here we are only just a few weeks away from curtain up on HMS Pinafore.

I am informed that the hornpipe alone is a thing to behold and when I have stood outside the Grote zaal and heard the BLOC chorus voices soaring in harmony, it has shivered me timbers! Marie and Lionel have been drilling their performers to give audiences a rollickingly good Gilbert & Sullivan treat. But what of the production team? Alex and Barbara are working hard as producers - show runners I think it's called in showbiz - on all the admin details - the programme, the ticket sales, booking rehearsals, organising logistics as well as remembering their moves as cast members. Philip, Marie & Co. have finished building the set - a very credible 19<sup>th</sup> century ship - and Janet Gray is now putting on the paint to make it not just credible but amazing (Remember how she brought the Christmas Carol structure to life?) Tonia is letting out here, squeezing in there, as she and her team have been modifying/creating some colourful costumes from the BLOC wardrobe. Don't know about props but with Andrea in sourcing charge I have no doubt they will look authentically nautical! We're running our own bar at De Bosuil again which is A Good Thing. Ticket sales with our new ticketing system are beginning to take off (albeit slowly) so.....if you haven't yet booked a seat, don't delay! Please. Here's the link to our new box office programme <https://www.mus-ticket.de/new/app/Shopping?ref=shp669346870&n=BLOC&plang=2>

Thursday is looking good, tho the Sat Matinee is a bit thin on the ground - there are some lovely little restaurants near De Bosuil so lunch & show or show & supper would make a good Saturday outing. Just saying.....

Jeanette's dance workshops have now started with about 12 participants which is as we had planned. So far so good. Some of you have expressed regret that they are being held on HMSP rehearsal nights - but, dear readers, that's the whole point: they are for those not involved in the current show so that they feel part of BLOC and can come and socialise on the same night after rehearsal. Koen is always very welcoming in his bar and happy to see familiar BLOC faces. There will be a lot of dancing in the November show so Jeanette's workshops may continue after HMSP as a regular feature and November show choreographer Jean will be happy to see new dancing confidence in BLOC Crazy for You auditionees....

Now that 2017 is taken care of, I'm looking ahead to 2018 and the spring show which will be performed in a new venue on Tervuren Square. There are a couple of shows/show ideas on the table but now is the time to let the committee know what you all might like to do after Crazy for You. Don't hesitate to write and let me know

See you at De Kam!

Diana x

**DEADLINE NEXT BLOCNotes:  
25th June 2017 (last before summer holidays!!!)**

# BLOC DIARY

Updated: 14-05-2017

Dates	Time	Event	Location
25-04-2017 till 23-05-2017	Tuesday 20:00	Dance lessons by Jeannette Marino	De Kam
1/4-06-2017	20:00 & 14:30	H.M.S. Pinafore	De Bosuil
13-06-2017	20:00	Introduction to "Crazy For You"	De Kam
19+20+25-06-2017	20:00 & 14:00	Crazy For You AUDITIONS (BLOCNotes FLASH with details will be sent shortly)	De Kam
10-09-2017	12:30	Annual BBQ	De Kam
23/26-11-2017	20:00 & 14:30	Crazy For You	CC Auderghem
February 2018	TBC	25th Anniversary De Kam	De Kam

## BLOC's Membership Fee 2017

As a performing member the fee for each person is 40 Euros for the current calendar year. In your payment please mention your name and 2017.

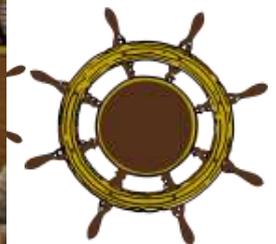
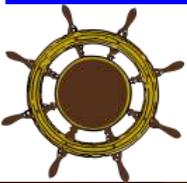
If you are a non-performing member the fee is 20 Euros for the current calendar year.

The account is BLOC and the account number to pay to is: BE54 3101 7807 3797.

The fee is for every member of 16 years and older.

## BLOC Committee: Committee Meeting

Due to the preparations for H.M.S. Pinafore and some Committee members being away, the first Committee meeting after the 2017-A.G.M. will be held after the performances. The bullet points will appear in the BLOCNotes of June 2017.





Brussels Light Opera Company  
proudly presents:

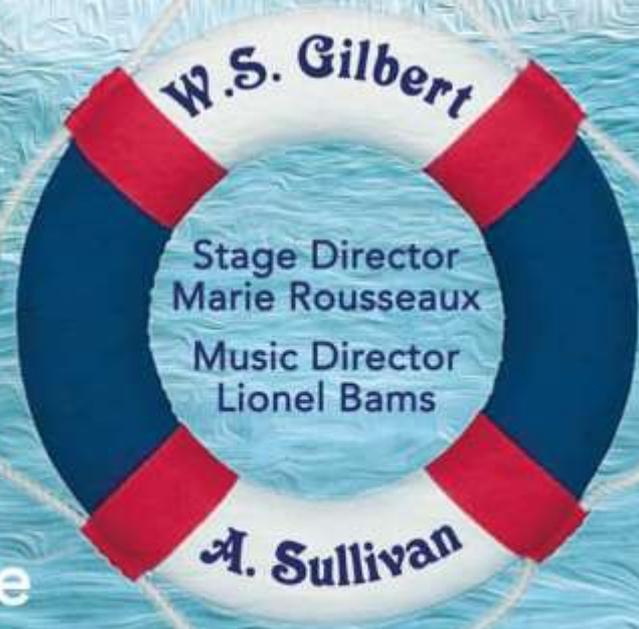
# H.M.S. Pinafore

❖ *The Lass that Loved a Sailor* ❖

Box Office is OPEN!

Book your tickets quickly.

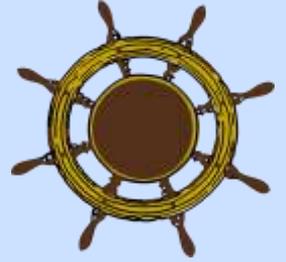
1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
De Bosuil Cultural Centre  
[www.bloc-brussels.com](http://www.bloc-brussels.com)



# *H.M.S. Pinafore*

## *Captain's log, 8th May 2017.*

### *Report from the bridge:*



Rehearsals are now full run-throughs and three times a week!

In less than a month, my gallant crew, ladies and young ones will be on stage performing, some for the first time, some since they were "young and charming".

The different teams are busy, ensuring a smooth and aesthetic running of the show: from backstage (SM and crew, hair, make-up, props, lighting, set building, set painting) to Front of House (ushers, programmes, bar), from on stage (chorus) to down stage (orchestra).

Time flies when you're having fun and I think that we all had fun during our rehearsals, well I certainly did. And when I felt I was a bit confused and confusing, I can count on some more experienced members of the cast to discreetly advise me, guide me and also to reassure me.

As this is my last report, I take this opportunity to thank all of you for embarking with me in this exciting and wonderful adventure.

What a great team and what a great crew!  
*Captain Marie*

## **DANCE WORKSHOP**

**Where?** Paarse Zaal, De Kam Cultural Centre

**When?** 20,00 to 22,00 hrs every Tuesday starting on 25 April 2017 till 23 May 2017

**Who?** Any BLOC member who wants to learn a few dance steps and have lots of fun !

Jeanette Marino is going to run a dance course for BLOC Members after Easter in order to teach basic dance steps in different styles.

It doesn't matter if you think you can't dance or have no rhythm – come along and have a go. We will start off on the first week with basic musical theatre dance steps and learn a simple routine.

Each week will be a different style or genre of dance. Please wear comfortable and suitable clothes to move in! Ladies – it will be better if you wear a full skirt (knee length) but you can wear leggings underneath. Also re : shoes – any type of gym shoe is fine.

For more information about the course or any other questions, please contact : Jeanette Marino on [Jeanettemm7@gmail.com](mailto:Jeanettemm7@gmail.com)

# Crazy for You - 23 -26 November 2017 @ Auderghem CC

Stage Director: Rachel Bateman. Musical Director: Vivienne MacKay. Producers: Lawrence Kelly & Dennis Elslander

*Crazy for You is a romantic comedy musical with a book by Ken Ludwig, lyrics by Ira Gershwin, and music by George Gershwin. Billed as "The New Gershwin Musical Comedy", it is largely based on the songwriting team's 1930 musical, Girl Crazy, but incorporates songs from several other productions as well. Crazy for You won the 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical. In 2011, Regent's Park Open Air Theatre did a revival of Crazy for You as part of the 2011 Summer Season. The show charts the troubled love story of Bobby, son of a wealthy New York banking family and frustrated Broadway hooper, and Polly, daughter of the proprietor of a failing theatre in Deadrock, Nevada. Sent to close the theatre down, Bobby falls for Polly and, in the guise of Zangler, a Hungarian impresario, decides to save the theatre by putting on a show. Mistaken identities, heartbreak, happiness and a wealth of memorable tunes, including I Got Rhythm, They Can't Take That Away From Me, Nice Work If You Can Get It and Embraceable You all feature in this exhilarating celebration of the great Broadway musicals.*

## CHARACTERS

Polly Baker — postmistress in Deadrock, Nevada; "All American Girl"

Irene Roth — New York society debutante

Patricia Fodor — Eugene's sister

Bobby Child — young man from New York in love with musical theatre

Bela Zangler — an established NY theatrical producer

Eugene Fodor — an English tourist

Everett Baker — Polly's father

Lank Hawkins — saloon proprietor in Deadrock, Nevada

Mother (Mrs. Lottie Child) — Bobby's business-oriented and controlling parent

Perkins — Mother's business assistant

Chauffeur — for Mother's limousine

Tess — dance director; Zangler's favorite

Patsy — showgirl with high speaking voice

Mitzi — a principal dancer

Elaine/Louise/Susie/Betsy/Margie/Sheila/Vera — follies girls

Moose — member of Cowboy Trio

Mingo — member of Cowboy Trio and of Male Quartet

Sam — member of Cowboy Trio

Harry — member of Male Quartet; Bartender

Junior — member of Male Quartet; card player

Wyatt — member of Male Quartet; card player

Billy — card player

Pete

Custus — (doubles as Perkins)

Jimmy

Stage Manager of New York theatre

Stage Hands

4 Show Girls

2 Lackeys for Zangler

3 Mother's Directors

## MUSICAL NUMBERS:

"K-ra-zy for You" (from *Treasure Girl*) – Bobby

"I Can't Be Bothered Now" (from *A Damsel in Distress*) – Bobby, Follies Girls

"Bidin' My Time" (from *Girl Crazy*) – Cowboy Trio and Cowboys

"Things Are Looking Up" (from *A Damsel in Distress*) – Bobby

• "Could You Use Me" (from *Girl Crazy*) – Bobby and Polly

"Shall We Dance?" (from *Shall We Dance*) – Bobby

• "Entrance to Nevada" – Follies Girls and Cowboys  
"Someone to Watch Over Me" (from *Oh, Kay!*) – Polly

"Slap That Bass" (from *Shall We Dance*) – Bobby, Pete, Patsy, Tess, and Chorus

"Embraceable You" (from *Girl Crazy*) – Polly and Bobby

• "Tonight's the Night" ≠ – Chorus

"I Got Rhythm" (from *Girl Crazy*) – Polly and Chorus

• Entr'acte

"The Real American Folk Song is a Rag" (from *Ladies First*) – Cowboy Trio and Chorus

• "What Causes That?" (from *Treasure Girl*) – Bobby and Zangler

• "Naughty Baby" ≠ – Irene, Lank, Cowboy Quartet

"Stiff Upper Lip" (from *A Damsel in Distress*) – Eugene, Patricia, Bobby, Polly, and Chorus

"They Can't Take That Away from Me" (from *Shall We Dance*) – Bobby

"But Not for Me" (from *Girl Crazy*) – Polly

• "But Not for Me" (Reprise) – Polly  
New York Interlude (*Concerto in F*)

"Nice Work If You Can Get It" (from *A Damsel in Distress*) – Follies Girls, and Bobby

• "Bidin' My Time" (French Reprise) – Cowboy Trio

• "Things Are Looking Up" (Reprise) – Everett

• Finale – Chorus

# SYNOPSIS OF CRAZY FOR YOU

## Act 1

Backstage at the Zangler Theatre in New York in the 1930s, the last performance of the Zangler Follies is wrapping up for the season and **Tess**, the Dance Director, is dodging the advances of the married Bela Zangler. **Bobby Child**, the rich son of a banking family, is backstage hoping for an audition with **Mr. Zangler**. Bobby performs "*K-ra-zy for You*," but fails to impress Zangler after landing on Zangler's foot during the final flourish of his dance routine. Dejected, Bobby heads outside where he's met by **Irene**, the wealthy woman to whom he has been engaged for five years, and then by his **mother** who demands that Bobby carry out a piece of banking business for her: to go to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose on a rundown theatre. As the women argue over him, Bobby imagines himself dancing with the Follies Girls and joins them in a rousing rendition of "*I Can't Be Bothered Now*." Brought back to reality, Bobby decides to escape to Nevada. When he arrives in Deadrock, it's clear that the gold-mining town has seen better days. The men, who are cowboys, sing "*Bidin' My Time*" in a long, slow drawl. **Everett Baker** receives a letter from New York warning of the bank foreclosing on the Gaiety Theatre. The only woman left in this forlorn town is Everett's daughter, the spunky **Polly Baker**, who vows to get even with Bobby Child if she ever meets him. **Lank Hawkins**, proprietor of the town's Saloon, argues with Everett, trying to convince him to let him buy the theatre before the bank takes it but the stubborn old man refuses to give up the theatre on the memory of Polly's mother being the star of all the theatre's old shows. Bobby enters the town almost dying of thirst, and falls in love with Polly at first sight, not realizing who she is, and expresses his excitement in "*Things Are Looking Up*." Lank isn't pleased to see a rival for Polly's affections. Bobby finds himself in quite a bind: if he forecloses on the theatre he will lose the girl of his dreams. Inspired, he comes up with the idea of putting on a show to pay off the mortgage. Polly agrees to this plan until she finds out who he is and suspects a trick. Bobby and Polly are both heartbroken, but Bobby decides to put on the show anyway... disguised as Mr. Zangler. Polly, deeply hurt, expressed her loneliness in "*Someone to Watch Over Me*." A few days later, ten Follies Girls on vacation from The Zangler Follies appear like a mirage in the desert. Bobby has asked them to help stage a spectacular show in Deadrock. When the men of Deadrock see the girls, the sleepy town becomes very lively. Lank Hawkins continues to express extreme dislike for the show, threatening to shoot Bobby. Rehearsals for the show aren't going well and the Cowboys in particular are terrible dancers (!!). Bobby changes all that in the course of one rehearsal with the song "*Slap That Bass*". Meanwhile, to Bobby's dismay, Irene arrives, threatening to expose Bobby's charade. Polly has fallen in love with Bobby's impersonation of Zangler and expresses her love for him with the song "*Embraceable You*." Opening night arrives, with everyone in high hopes ("*Tonight's the Night!*"). Sadly, everyone is disappointed to find that the only people to arrive are Eugene and Patricia Fodor, British tourists writing a guidebook on the American West. What starts out as a disappointment changes into the realization that the show has galvanized the once-sleepy town, making it lively and spirited. They celebrate with a spirited rendition of "*I Got Rhythm*" while the real Zangler stumbles unnoticed into the town, almost dehydrated and collapses, just as the scene ends.

## Act 2

In Lank's saloon Bobby is professing his love to Polly. Unfortunately, she is still in love with the man who she thinks is Zangler. Bobby is about to convince Polly that he has been impersonating "Zangler" when the real Zangler stumbles into the saloon looking for Tess. Zangler finds Tess, but refuses her request to produce the show. Tess storms off, Zangler, now drunk after being disgusted by the town, bemoans his fate. Bobby, dressed like Zangler, reels in to drown his sorrow over losing Polly. Drunk and depressed, the two men act as mirror images of each other, and lament their lost loves in "*What Causes That*." The next morning, Polly sees the two Zanglers and realizes what has happened. She slaps Bobby and leaves in a huff, while the townsfolk prepare for a meeting at the theatre to discuss what to do with the show. Irene comes to Bobby in one final attempt to make him go back to New York with her, but Bobby rejects her, and states his love for Polly. Immensely frustrated with Bobby, Irene seduces Lank in "*Naughty Baby*". The townsfolk are all now gathered at the theatre. Bobby is all for trying the show again, while Polly disagrees. The Fodors counsel the dejected townspeople to keep a "*Stiff Upper Lip*," which includes a parody of the barricade scene from *Les Misérables* but by the end of the song, only Polly, Everett, Bobby, and Tess still think the show should continue. Everyone but Bobby and Polly leave the theatre; Bobby prepares to leave for New York, professing that his memories of Polly will never fade in "*They Can't Take That Away from Me*." Polly realizes, too late, that she does love Bobby, and after he leaves, laments her loss in "*But Not For Me*." Meanwhile, Bela Zangler decides to put on the show as a favour to Tess; the two seem to be in love once more. Although he had been planning to cast Bobby as the lead, he makes Polly the star of the show after learning that Bobby has left for New York. Six weeks later, Bobby is still thinking of Deadrock as he works for his mother's bank. For his birthday, Mrs. Child gives him the Zangler theatre (Zangler has used all his money on the show in Deadrock). While initially ecstatic, Bobby realizes that his love for Polly is worth more in "*Nice Work if You Can Get It*," and leaves for Deadrock with Mrs. Child to pursue her. Meanwhile, Polly has decided to leave for New York to look for Bobby, who enters Deadrock just after she leaves. After learning that Polly has left to find him, he leaves the stage to "wash up" before driving back to New York to catch her. Bobby's mother and Irene (who is now married to Lank) notice each other, and start an argument. Everett notices Mrs. Child, and falls head-over-heels in love with her, as shown in a reprise of "*Things Are Looking Up*." His affections are reciprocated, and immediately afterwards, Polly re-enters with Custus, one of the cowboys. Custus is trying to give Polly a ride to the station, but his car has run out of gas, and she has missed the train to New York. Together the townspeople concoct a plan, and Polly and Bobby are finally reunited in the "Finale."

**As Some Day It May Happen  
(I've got a little list)  
from The Mikado  
(Sing G&S in Brussels: GLOBAL G&S DAY 2017)**

As some day it may happen that a victim must be found  
I've got a little list - i've got a little list  
Of society offenders who might well be underground  
And who never would be missed - they never would be missed!

There's the pestilential nuisances who write for auto-  
graphs -  
All people who have flabby hands and irritating laughs -  
All children who are up in dates, and floor you with 'em  
flat -

All people who on shaking hands shake hands with you like that -  
And all third persons who on spoiling tête-à-têtes insist -  
They'd none of 'em be missed — they'd none of 'em be missed!

**CHORUS**

He's got 'em on the list — he's got 'em on the list;  
And they'll none of 'em be missed — they'll none of 'em be missed.

There's the tenor serenader whose high B is a disgrace -  
And the piano organist - I've got him on the list! -  
And the people who eat peppermint and puff it in your face -  
They never would be missed, they never would be missed. -

There's the idiotic president who wants to build a wall  
Who boasts of groping ladies and who acts just like a fool. -  
And then there is the theatre goer with a hacking cough -  
And his neighbour with the mobile who forgot to turn it off! -  
And that leading personality, the rabid Brexitist -  
I think you get my gist, I sure she'll not be missed!

**CHORUS**

He's got 'em on the list... —  
There's the people who rewrite these songs with versions they contrive -  
The exhibitionist, I too am on the list!

And the people who cause accidents when texting while they drive -  
The careless motorist, I don't think he'll be missed  
And apologetic statesmen of a eurosceptic kind -  
Such as — What d'ye call him — Thing'em-bob, and Nigel... Never-mind,  
And 'St— 'st— 'st— and What's-his-name, and also, You-know-who —  
The task of filling up the blanks I'd rather leave to you.

But it really doesn't matter whom you put upon the list,  
For they'd none of 'em be missed — they'd none of 'em be missed!

**CHORUS**

You may put 'em on the list — you may put 'em on the list;  
And they'll none of 'em be missed — they'll none of 'em be missed!



# The Brussels Bookswappers Club

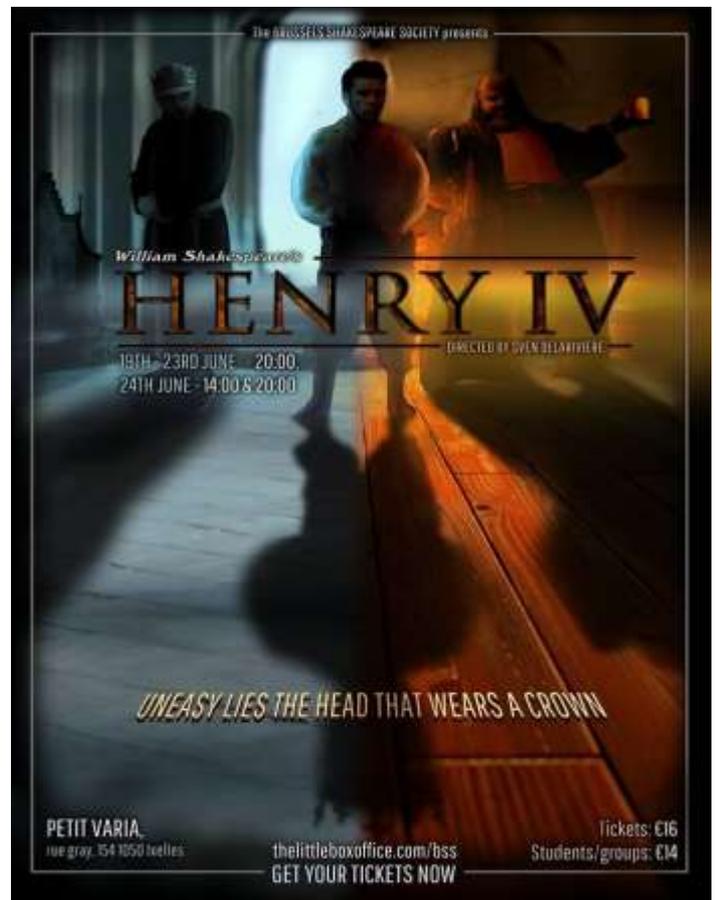
Special Bookswap with workshops for children & adults focusing on Japanese culture

Wednesday 24th May 2016  
From 19:30 till 21:30

Le Chapelier Fou  
190, chaussée de La Hulpe  
1170 Watermael-Boitsfort

What? Books (fiction, non-fiction, children's books, comic strips, ...),  
DVDs & CDs ... in all languages welcome

STIB - MIVB: Bus 17 and Tram 94  
Info: [brusselsbookswappersclub@gmail.com](mailto:brusselsbookswappersclub@gmail.com)



## The Staging Post De Kam

172 Beekstraat, Wezembeek-Oppem

Summer Show Sat. 24th June at 8pm

featuring selected short-acts  
and the popular group

### "Babes In The Grass"

14eu, 8eu for students

[www.TheStagingPost.net](http://www.TheStagingPost.net)



Show-goers are invited to attend Mike Kirrane's

## "De Kam Courtyard BBQ" at 18:30

6eu, please bring some salads and/or deserts



Reservations are required for both events, payments made at the gate  
For reservations send an email to [KamReservations@gmail.com](mailto:KamReservations@gmail.com)

**MOZART & Co**  
Mozart  
Rutter  
Brisi

**Orchestre du XXIème Siècle**  
sous la direction  
de Philippe Lambert

Manon Dohzé - soprano  
Simon Drachman - percussions  
La Brussels International Singers

**21/05/2017**  
**16h00**

Eglise Saint Géry - Warandepoort, 2 à 1030 Bruxelles P.A.F. 22€



Un concert atypique mêlant les genres

L'orchestre, sous la direction de Philippe Lambert, interprétera l'ouverture de *L'Idéaliste* de Mozart.

S'en suivra la création mondiale du *Concerto pour percussions et orchestre* du jeune compositeur belge Gwenaël Brisil. Celui-ci sera interprété par le soliste Simon Drachman.

Enfin, le concert se clôturera par le sublime *Magicalmix* de Rutter. Manon Dohzé, soprano, sera notre invitée, accompagnée par le Brussels International Singers.



informations et réservations

0497 87 13 63 - [brusselsintsingers@gmail.com](mailto:brusselsintsingers@gmail.com)



# CONCERT

in aid of Charity

(Raising funds for research into children's cancers)

**SATURDAY JUNE 17th**

**17:00hrs**

at the **New Theatre in Tervuren**  
GC de Warandepoort, Markt 7B

**A MUSICAL (EARLY) EVENING WITH**

**Nigel Ward**  
&  
**Friends**



**Tickets: €12.50**

Contact: Nigel Ward 0476/451450, [wardiesway@gmail.com](mailto:wardiesway@gmail.com)

*A Wilde Night Out*

*A Woman of No Importance (abridged) & The Impotence of Being Frank*



Warehouse Studio Theatre  
Rue Waelhem 69a, 1030 Brussels  
Tickets - €15  
<http://thelittleboxoffice.com/ecc>

16-20  
May  
2017

**Don't forget  
to book your tickets  
for BLOC's  
H.M.S. Pinafore**

**Website:  
[www.bloc-brussels.com](http://www.bloc-brussels.com)**