



BLOCNotes January 2019

Editor: Dennis Elslander

The BLOCNotes Archive is also on-line, see

<http://www.bloc-brussels.com>

BLOC cannot accept responsibility for non-receipt of BLOCNotes by e-mail due to technical problems

BLOC DIARY			Updated: 23-01-2019
Dates	Time	Event	Location
28-03-2018	20:00	BLOC's 2019 Annual General Meeting	De Bosuil, Exhibition hall
23+24+25+26 May 2019	20:00 + 14:30	The Sorcerer	De Bosuil
15-06-2018	TBC	The Sorcerer After Show & End-Of-Season Party	De Kam
15-09-2019	12:30	BLOC Annual BBQ	De Kam

BLOC 2019 Annual General Meeting On Thursday 28th March 2019 at 20:00 G.C. De Bosuil, Exhibition room

Only paid-up 2019 BLOC members are entitled to vote so renew your membership on time

BLOC's Membership Fee 2019

A new calendar year has started and this means we have renew our BLOC membership or become a member :-)

As a performing member the fee for each person is 40 Euros.

If you are a non-performing member the fee is 20 Euros.

Both membership type fees are for 2019 calendar year.

The account is BLOC and the account number to pay to is: BE54 3101 7807 3797. In your payment please mention your name and 2019.

The fee is for every member of 16 years and older. Only paid-up BLOC members are entitled to vote at this year's Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.).

DEADLINE NEXT BLOCNotes: 15th February 2019

Dear BLOCNotes Reader!

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

The 2019 calendar has already started to fill. Auditions for The Sorcerer have been held and soloists cast. There were three or four candidates for each rôle which made casting a challenge for Angela, Tony and Lionel. There was a good turnout for chorus auditions too and it was envisaged to have 8 or 10 in each voice part. Inevitably not every auditionee could be chosen but the organising production team lead by Barbara, JennyF and Alex are recruiting for the various production departments so there is every chance of being part of the show if you want to be. Rehearsals are starting and first task is to learn the music before any blocking. The set is designed, a backcloth ordered and the building will start end March.



We've held our first committee meeting of the year and discussed the forthcoming AGM and the November show. There are two viable show offers for November 2019: Cole Porter's Kiss Me Kate set in the late 1940s and directed by me (*Christmas Carol, My Fair Lady, Oklahoma*) and the Abba guys' Chess set in the 1980s directed by Rachel Bateman (*Pajama Game, Crazy For You*). MD for either/both is Steven DeMesmaecker or Vivienne McKay and choreographer for both would be Jean Emmett. The music for each show is memorable but very different: classic versus rock opera. The committee is reviewing the music for both and reading the scripts so decision time is 6th February.

As for the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 28th March 2019, for the moment the only person stepping down is me – so there is one certain vacancy out of the 7 positions. All the other 6 are putting themselves up for re-election. Ideally the next chairman, honorary secretary & honorary treasurer should be picked from the current committee who have experience of how the club functions, but they don't have to be.

Ideally there should be some of you out there who would like to serve on the committee as ordinary members who put your names forward so that we have some choices and can vote. Attached to this blocnotes is a brief description of the jobs to be done to make the club work (they don't actually have to be done by a committee member however.....indeed, some are carried out by members not on the committee).

Serving on the committee is a commitment for a year, till the next AGM, and doesn't preclude you from auditioning for a role in a show. It's fun. All our committee members in the past few years have been involved in some way with the show in hand, both on and off stage and we've worked in harmony as a team, picking up the ball and running with it when necessary.

I hope to see you all at some time soon – at De Kam or at De Bosuil. Remember – if you aren't in a show, there is always someone from BLOC to have a drink with in Koen's bar on Tuesdays or any day of the week(end) now, even during day time!

So.....see you at De Kam? DIANA x

p.s. thank you to all who said lovely things about Oklahoma and who said encouraging things about my broken wrist which is mending slowly – still can't do handstands yet but then, I never did before the break, deuh.....



Brussels, 29 January 2019

Dear Member of the Brussels Light Opera Company,

The 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Brussels Light Opera Company (BLOC) will be held at De Bosuil, 1 Witherendreef, 3090 Overijse on Thursday 28th March 2019 at 20h00.

Please find attached the following papers:

- Nomination form
- Proxy form

Any paid up BLOC member who wishes to stand for one of the seven Committee posts (Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and four Members) should ensure that his/her completed nomination form, is in the hands of the Executive Secretary by 20h00 on Thursday 31st January 2019. According to Article 9.5 the list of candidates will be attached to the notice calling for the General Meeting. The notice with the final agenda will be sent at least 15 calendar days beforehand. This deadline is necessary to allow time for the printing of ballot papers, should these be necessary. The same deadline and transmission procedure also applies to any motions that paid up members may wish to put to the Meeting.

Please be aware that there is no quorum necessary to hold an AGM. So the vote will take place as foreseen.

Only paid-up members of the Company may stand for election or propose a motion, or vote at the A.G.M. This letter is being sent out to the previous members of 2018 by reminding them to renew their membership for 2019 by paying either € 40 (for members of the cast 2019) or € 20 (for members of the production team 2019). There is no membership fee for those aged under 16 throughout 2019. BLOC's account no is BE54 3101 7807 3797. Ballot papers will be distributed to those present at the A.G.M.

Paid up members unable to attend the A.G.M. may vote by proxy, **one proxy vote per paid-up member** (BLOC Statutes 2016), in which case they should complete the attached form and give it to their proxy (another BLOC member), who must show it to the Presiding Officer at the A.G.M.

If to date you have not paid your **2019 membership**, please do so before the A.G.M.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at 20h on Thursday 28th March 2018 at De Bosuil.

Yours sincerely,

Dennis Elslander
Executive Secretary
Mobile: +32473997809
E-mail: dennis.elslander@telenet.be

B.L.O.C. ASBL, 10, rue Jul Merckaert, 1030 Bruxelles
Numéro d'entreprise: 418 248 063 & ING: BE54 3101 7807 3797

COMMITTEE TASKS

The committee of 7 meets once a month. Committee Jobs in alphabetical order:

1. CHAIRMAN: ensures the committee runs smoothly, and all aspects of the club function well, runs meetings, occasionally takes minutes, attends all club events to the extent possible, and helps to pick shows for BLOC to perform, ensures suitable stage directors, musical directors, rehearsal pianists, show producers, etc. are found and recruited in a timely manner to ensure that all the elements of a show – artistic and practical are managed in a professional way. Diplomat. Carer.	
2. HON.SECRETARY: establishes agendas for committee meetings, takes minutes and gets them distributed in a timely manner; organises the Annual General Meeting – in terms of sending out notifications, agenda, nomination forms; ensures the BLOC Statutes are kept up to date, ensures BLOC information is kept up to date in the Moniteur belge and on the BLOC website.	
3. HON.TREASURER: keeps the books and pays the bills checks & organises rights, licences and contracts. Advises on show budgets, draws up the Annual Report & Accounts with projected provisional budgets for year ahead for the Annual General Meeting, ensuring these are audited in time for the AGM, keeps track of membership fees..	
<i>Some of the following tasks are carried out by the committee, some by regular BLOC members:</i>	
4. ACTS liaison – notifies BLOC dates for ACTS calendar, attends their meetings	
5. Ad Hoc Artistic Committee: should regularly meet as small team of musical theatre buffs together to maintain & update lists of possible future shows for BLOC in order to <i>recommend ideas to the committee for their decision-making.</i>	
6. Archivist: keeps the BLOC Archives up to date.	
7. BLOCNotes Editor: writes, collates, edits material for the monthly newsletter	
8. Box Office/Ticketing: runs the box office for shows – or finds suitable people to do so.	
9. Costumes: liaises with the teams in charge of BLOC costumes and keeps an inventory of what we store in Overijse Storage	
10. Equipment Officers: ensure that all BLOC equipment – music stands, pianos, etc. are maintained and stored efficiently and safely. Oversees storage for set building, properties etc. Tracks the Overijse keys (currently with Rousseaux, Jolly, Kelly) and ensures inventories kept up to date for set items, props. Tracks what is kept elsewhere (e.g. St. John's, etc.).	
11. Membership: welcomes new members and ensures membership for show participation is kept up to date (40 euros for performing members/20 euros for non performing members/free for under-16s)	
12. Publicity & Social Media: liaises with designers, printers for posters, flyers and programmes. Updates the Twitter and Facebook pages for BLOC. Liaises with Radio X for interviews re shows, updating social media – Facebook and Twitter – and ensures BLOC information is shared with other groups	
13. Social Secretaries: suggests/organises BLOC events (in particular the annual BLOC BBQ in September), books space for social events, liaises with caterers, performers, checks contracts for these	
14. Theatre liaison: books space for performances and rehearsals, theatres, checks contracts	
15. Website: updates the BLOC website regularly (Webmaster)	

Would you like to be on the Committee and/or help with one of the other functions?

Please inform your Secretary, Dennis Elslander, by e-mail as soon as possible before Saturday 16th February 2019.

E:mail: dennis.elslander@telenet.be.



The Sorcerer

An Original Modern Comic Opera
by W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan



23rd - 26th May 2019

De Bosuil Cultural Centre

Live Orchestra!

Love in a teapot!

www.bloc-brussels.com



THE SORCERER

Off we go ... !

Following two very successful audition sessions, we are now thrilled to announce that we have a full cast of principals and chorus members for BLOC's forthcoming show "The Sorcerer", which will take place at De Bosuil from 23rd to 26th May 2019.

We were very encouraged by the overwhelming response to our call for auditionees and, even though it made our task of choosing the cast more difficult, we are more than delighted with the outcome.

The first read- and sing-through took place on Monday 21st January at De Kam and we were super-impressed by the enthusiasm and talent of the chosen principals. The Lowes left on a high!! 🎵 🎵 🎵

We are now drawing up the rehearsal schedule and looking forward to the music rehearsals with Lionel Bams, our Music Director.

Barbara Bauer, our Producer, has been working extremely hard putting together the Production Team, and offers of help have already been received; but please don't hesitate to contact Barbara if you'd like to assist in any way - we are always grateful for extra hands!

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre (an elderly Baronet)	Konstantin Wöbking
Alexis (his Son)	Paul Gosme
Dr. Daly (Vicar of Ploverleigh)	Dennis Eislander
Notary	Jeremy Thomas
John Wellington Wells (of J.W. Wells & Co., Family Sorcerers)	Thomas Landsbert-Noon
Lady Sangazure (a Lady of Ancient Lineage)	Jane McBride
Aline (her Daughter - betrothed to Alexis)	Rosie Lewis
Mrs. Partlet (Sir Marmaduke's cleaning-lady)	Annika Norström
Constance (her Daughter)	Beatriz Ferraz

CHORUS OF VILLAGERS AND HOUSEMAIDS

Avril Anderson	Alan Gray	Carol Piquemal
Mark Arnett	Janet Gray	Giulia Quarta
Thomas Arnett	Arachine Horn	Joshua Rogers
Barbara Bauer	Maitreya Horn	Stephen Sadler
Marta Braun	Vratko Jaron-Kohari	Barry Salter
Umberto Braun	Alex Just	Lily Scott
Lluis Bronsoms	Julia Just	Amina Skhiri
Sophie Caisse	Hanna Karska-Vandiest	Lara Timmermans
Alison Copner	Samuel Kenrick	Marc Tonnon
Hannah Copner	Aimee Lawrence	Marii Valjataga
Pamela Corbisier	Emily McCoy	Appo van der Wiel
John Douglas	Henk Meijerink	Sherry Vosburgh
Nadia Douglas	Sophie Mersch	Denise Wicken
Vilma Eskelinen	Marco Michelon	
Filipa Ferraz	Sara Paulamäki	

Look out for another up-date in the next edition of BLOCNotes.

"Ring forth, ye bells!"



Angela and Tony Lowe
Stage Directors

Over the bright blue sea ...

Sing G&S in Brussels

invites you to a

SING-ALONG AFTERNOON

on Sunday, 24th February 2019

starting at 14:30

at the De Bosuil Cultural Centre, Jezus Eik,
1 Witherendreef, 3090 Overijse.

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

H.M.S. PINAFORE

COME AND JOIN IN THIS FRIENDLY SING-ALONG. ENJOY THE WITTY DIALOGUE.
WATCH ENTERTAINING VIDEO-CLIPS. AND ENJOY THE "H.M.S. PINAFORE" TEA PARTY!

More information at singgasbru@gmail.com.

You can also find us on Facebook. To cover costs, a small charge of €5 will be made.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU ON BOARD!

GREEN PARROT PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS



SHREK The MUSICAL

BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

BOOK AND LYRICS BY
DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE

MUSIC BY
JEANINE TESORI

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY
DREAMWORKS THEATRICALS AND NEAL STREET PRODUCTIONS

22 - 26 MARCH 2019

Many BLOC
members take part
in this musical:
let's support them

W: HALL WOLUWE

TICKETS AND INFO
[HTTP://GREENPARROTPRODUCTIONS](http://GREENPARROTPRODUCTIONS)

PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (EUROPE) AND AUTEURS BUREAU ALMD BVBA



de kam

de kam is een organisatie van de Vlaamse Staat

NEWSLETTER: **UITGE-
KAMD**

De Kam has a monthly newsletter: Uitgekamd. It is published in Dutch but there is an English, French and German version. If you're interested in receiving newsletter electronically, you have to register via De Kam's website.

Here is the link: <http://dekam.be/en/newsletter>