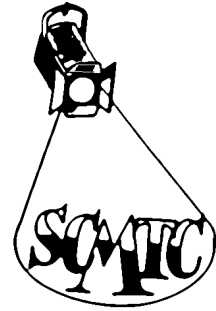


# NOTES



**Sutton Coldfield  
Musical Theatre  
Company  
Limited**

## Chairman's Notes...

Better late than never! For those who've been waiting patiently for this edition, my apologies. I've had an EGM, an AGM, my 50th birthday and a holiday in New York to contend with!

Oh well, it's all been dealt with now so back to normal (I hope).

The Best Of Times completed its run in May. Congratulations to Cast & Production Team for their efforts (and see page 2 review). As reported since, we didn't achieve our financial goals for the show and have made an anticipated loss around £2,500. Basically, we failed to sell enough tickets. Following the losses of our 2000 shows, Barnum and Mack & Mabel, we now have to pull all the stops out to recover from this difficult situation.

I think TTN Y II will be the show to put us back in a profitable state. We have the biggest cast I've seen for many years, and this should boost our ticket sales as long as every member takes responsibility to sell their minimum 10 tickets.

We have also set up a number of new committees following the EGM, including a Ticket Committee who will meet regularly to monitor ticket sales and look for new ways of encouraging everyone to sell more tickets.

At the AGM, the new Board were elected. Thanks to Ray, Diane & Maggie who stood down. I'm sad to see them go. However, it's a welcome

back to Roger Dykes and Pam Somers who I'm pleased to see back on the Board. We need their experience to support the remainder of the Board in working hard to recover from our current difficulties.

Roger will take over from Ray as Hon. Secretary. Pam will take on the role of Production Director, as she is keen to learn about the production side of the business. This will release Mark Symonds, our Vice-Chairman, to take over Promotions—a mammoth task that will require support from the Promotions Committee he is setting up.

Late breaking news is that Meg Griffin has resigned from the Board, and I am now looking for a replacement Board Member (see page 3)

We'll be performing in Sutton Town Hall for the next 18 months (see page 5) and with new Production Team members, so there is a lot for us to get to grips with. Please support us as best you can.

We're close to announcing the October 2002 show, so watch out for the next edition of NOTES in November for latest news.

I hope you've all had a great Summer, and are now ready to wind up to TTN Y III! Take my advice—save some energy for the Medley at the end...

Dave Bardell, Chairman

**Volume 5, Issue 3  
August 2001**



### Inside this issue:

<i>Chairman's Notes</i>	1
<i>Best of Times</i>	2
<i>TTNY II Cast</i>	2
<i>New Board</i>	3
<i>Meg Griffin</i>	3
<i>New members</i>	3
<i>New Board Member</i>	3
<i>Social Events</i>	4
<i>100 Club Winners</i>	4
<i>Stars</i>	5
<i>Patrons note</i>	5
<i>Asset Audit</i>	6
<i>Rehearsal venue</i>	6
<i>Patrons Gift card</i>	6
<i>Oliver! dates</i>	6
<i>EGM / AGM</i>	6
<i>Stop Press</i>	7
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	7

## The Best Of Times —What the Press Said...

## TTNY II—The Cast



Congratulations to those below who have been cast into the main parts for our next production, *This Time Next Year II*, or *TTNY* as we know it.

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Ron Bradshaw      | Paul Lumsden     |
| Brenda Bradshaw   | Nikki Dowd       |
| Peter Black       | Mike Turner      |
| Rowena Black      | Lynne Hill       |
| John Ackroyd      | Dave Bardell     |
| Janis Ackroyd     | Jane Smith       |
| Alfred Black      | Wiley Bowkett    |
| Betty Black       | Wendy Edmunds    |
| Martin Ackroyd    | Ben Adams        |
| James             | Stephen Cowdrill |
| Alice Ackroyd     | Amy Dowd         |
| Christine Ackroyd | Emma Rainsford   |
| Robbie Bradshaw   | Steve Davis      |
| Luigi de Palma    | tbc              |
| Heavy I           | Terry Ash        |
| Heavy II          | Mark Tuckwell    |
| Doris             | Terri Bardell    |
| Joyce             | Pat Fletcher     |
| Vera              | Heather Adams    |



For those who weren't around, this is the sequel to our 1998 production *This Time Next Year*. This hugely successful show was written by two members of the society, Dave Hill & Barry Small (aka Hilsma Productions).

The original story, centred around a Holiday Camp in the '60's, finished with the Black & Ackroyd families winning free holidays to Majorca—their first trip abroad.

See what happens when they get there. Lots of sun, sand & songs from the era. And bring your dancing shoes for the Medley at the end—you'll be dancing in the aisles!!

## The New Board 2001/2002...



From Left to Right:

Julie Callaghan  
 Mark Symonds  
 Keith Dovey  
 Dave Bardell  
 Pam Somers  
 Meg Griffin  
 Sam Green  
 Roger Dykes  
 Marian Whitbread

### Meg Griffin...

It is with sincere regret that I have to report that Meg Griffin has resigned from the Board for work and family reasons. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her efforts, in particular, her contribution to the Company wardrobe and Member communications.

She will be sadly missed.

### New Board Member...

The company's Constitution states that the Board should consist of 4 Officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary) and between 2—4 members.

Having discussed the loss of Meg, the Board unanimously feels that we cannot operate effectively without the full complement of Directors, so I would like to offer the opportunity for someone to join us.

### Welcome to new members...

Many congratulations to those new members who have joined us for TTYNI I. They were all successful in completing their auditions and are now full members of the Company:

Daniel Bardell  
 Lisa Cowdrill  
 Paul Cowdrill  
 Stephen Cowdrill  
 Emma Mosedale  
 Gemma Phillips  
 Linda Pringis  
 Jenny Smith

We each have specific roles / responsibilities, and the new Director needs to be aware that we expect them to put real effort into their role. In return, I can assure you that there is considerable satisfaction in seeing ideas put into action, and understanding what goes on in putting on a Show, more than simply appearing on stage.

We have contingency plans to cover Meg's responsibilities of wardrobe and communications until we get a new member.

If you are interested in being considered for Treasurer, Communications Director, Social Director in particular, then please contact me. If we receive multiple applications, the Board will discuss a selection process and let everybody know what is happening.

## Bonus Ball...

The latest fund-raising scheme is a weekly Bonus Ball competition. At £1 a go, you can choose a lottery number from 1-49 and if your number is drawn as the bonus ball on the Saturday draw, you win 50% of the takings. Rollovers will become interesting!

You can book a regular, weekly number if you'd like (assuming it hasn't already been taken).

If not at rehearsals, contact Sam Green for details.

## Car Rally...

**Sunday, 2nd September** is the date for the SCMTC Car Rally. Starting at 1.30pm behind St. James' in Mere Green, Glyn Adams' latest Treasure Hunt will be a fun afternoon out for everyone.

It will cost £3 per adult, £1.50 per child collected at the start of the Rally. Bring along friends if you would like to.

Remember, cheats never prosper but everyone is determined to beat Paul Lumsden who was the winner at the last one!!

## 100 Club—Latest Winners...

Please contact Marian Whitbread on 01283 791573 if you'd like to participate. It only costs £11 per year to join. 3 Prizes every month, with special £50 star prize in November & May.  
Thanks for your support!!

### Apr 2001

**£50**

**£25**

**£15**

**£10**

Mike Castree

Mrs. Maskall

Sarah Clarke

### May 2001

**Margaret Mallett**

Rosemary Baynes

Mrs. Hopley

Dee Amos



### Jun 2001

**£25**

**£15**

**£10**

George Baynes

Roger Bywater

Mike Castree

### July 2001

Sam Green

Lindsey McCarty

Jim Finch

## After Show gifts...

As agreed at the AGM, there will no longer be any collections & presentations to the Production Team on last night.

We shall instead honour those people who have worked on the show as friends, rather than members of the Company.

I trust this meets with everyone's agreement.

## Wardrobe...

Meg has kindly offered to keep our growing wardrobe at her house until we manage to make new arrangements.

If you have space available which is suitable to keep our stock of costumes safe and dry, then please let any Board member know.

## Wwwere on the web...

Guess who had a Digital Camera for his 50th birthday?

So be careful what you do because I may sneak up on you sometime and take a photo and publish on the website and in NOTES!

I can see Mike Castree shaking with fear as he has made frequent compromising appearances in the past...

## Ben Harris...

If you manage to go and see the tour of Beauty & The Beast this year, take a second look at the character of Gaston.

For those longer standing members of the Company, Ben Harris joined the company with Pam Somers' son, Nick, and appeared in a couple of our shows. (He has a new stage name, Ben Harlow)

Congratulations to another ex-SCMTC star!

## Daniel Turner...

Having reported that Daniel has won a scholarship at the Italia Conti academy in our last issue, Daniel has now been faced with the withdrawal of his financial grant and is struggling to raise the necessary funds.

Unfortunately, the Board are unable to offer any support to Daniel's predicament.

If anyone has any ideas, or knows a wealthy benefactor then please contact Mike Turner.

I sincerely hope that Daniel resolves this terrible situation and is able to take up his wonderful opportunity.

## Note to Patrons...

By now you should have received your new Membership Card, if you renewed in April. For your information, we have now introduced an October renewal date for new patrons who join between May and September.

We have scrapped the Programme Voucher, so could you please remember to bring your Membership Card with you when you come to see our Shows. You will need to show this to our Front-of-house staff in order to receive your free Programme(s), and to visit the VIP Lounge.

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Dykes.

## Asset Audit...

Thanks to those people who turned up to clear out the barns at Marian Whitbread's.

It took only an hour and a half to chuck out the rubbish (along with some fond memories of Godspell, Guys and Dolls, Chess etc).

This was followed by a barbeque (including a spectacular bonfire!) and thanks to Marian & Rob for providing the facilities.

## New Rehearsal Venue...

We have had to change location for Tuesday rehearsals as our dancers rehearsal room was taken over by a horde of judo black belts!

We shall be rehearsing at St. Edmund Campion School, Sutton Road, Erdington from now on.

Heading into Birmingham past the Yenton crossroads, turn 2nd left into Holly Lane and the entrance is on the left.

## Patrons Gift Card...

Launched at the AGM, we hope the Patrons Gift Card will become a favourite gift for family & friends.

With designs to cover Birthdays, Anniversaries & Christmas, we believe that the card will help us raise even more Patrons to the already impressive list.

Individual membership costs £10 pa, couples £15 pa.

Contact Sam Green or Sheila Dykes for info.

## Oliver!...

As we have been let down badly by The Friary School in Lichfield, who have cancelled our booking in May 2002, we have had to make alternative arrangements for our 2002 shows. This has meant we have had to change dates.

Oliver! will now be performed at Sutton Town Hall on 18-22 June 2002.

Our October production also moves to Sutton Town Hall on 29 October—2 November 2002.

## EGM, 15th June 2001...

Thanks for all your ideas at the EGM in June. We are working on producing a Member Survey based on what you told us, to assess which ideas we will pursue. We are planning to re-release with the next issue of NOTES in November.

The important point was for every member to understand that the Board needs your personal commitment and contribution to these ideas to enable the Company to grow and recover from our current financial difficulties.

## AGM, 13th July 2001...

Minutes are reproduced for your reading.

Many congratulations to Ray Harrison who stood down from the Board, having been a member of the Company for 45 years.

We presented Ray with a silver plate to commemorate his service to the Company over the years. We wish him all the very best and hope he enjoys a peaceful retirement from the Company.

## **Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company Limited**

---

Dave Bardell, Chairman  
4, Herringshaw Croft  
Sutton Coldfield  
West Midlands  
B76 1HT

Phone: 0121 241 8658 / 07813 822725  
Email: [dpb@scmtc.co.uk](mailto:dpb@scmtc.co.uk)  
Web: [www.scmtc.co.uk](http://www.scmtc.co.uk)



**SUTTON COLDFIELD**  
**MUSICAL**  
*Theatre Co. Ltd.*

### *The Board of Directors*

**Chairman:** Dave Bardell  
**Vice-Chairman:** Mark Symonds  
**Hon. Treasurer:** Keith Dovey  
**Hon. Secretary:** Roger Dykes

**Member:** Marian Whitbread  
**Member:** Pam Somers  
**Member:** Sam Green

**Minutes Secretary:** Julie Callaghan

### *STOP PRESS*

### *Calendar of Events*

**TTNY II**  
**Sutton Town Hall**  
**23rd to 27th October 2001**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
**Sutton Town Hall**  
**16th December 2001**

**CHRISTMAS CABARET**  
**Whittington Golf Club**  
**19th December 2001**

**ANNUAL DINNER DANCE**  
**Fairlawns Hotel**  
**5th January 2002**

**OLIVER!**  
**Sutton Town Hall**  
**18th—22nd June 2002**

**Autumn Show 2002**  
**Sutton Town Hall**  
**29th October—2nd November**  
**2002**

**SUTTON COLDFIELD MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD NO FRIDAY, 13 JULY 2001**

**Board Present:** Dave Bardell, Chairman  
 Mark Symonds, Vice Chairman  
 Ray Harrison, Company Secretary  
 Keith Dovey, Treasurer  
 Meg Griffin, Member  
 Maggie Jackson, Member  
 Sam Green, Member  
 Diane Worland, Member  
 Marian Whitbread, Company Secretary Elect  
 Julie Callaghan, Minute Secretary

**Members Present:** See attached list

The Chairman welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 8.50 pm.

<b>1)</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
	Brian & Margaret Mallett, Hiedi Cresswell, Sheila Pearson, Sally Baxter, Ben Adams, Emma Rainsford, Mike & Marilyn Castree, Alison Gibbon, Lyndsey McCarthy, Judith Dovey, Debbie Middleton, Paul Lumsden.
<b>2)</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2000</b>
	The Minutes were read out by Ray Harrison. They were accepted as a true record and proposed by Barry Small and seconded by Sam Green.
<b>3)</b>	<b>SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT</b>
	<p>Sam Green gave a report on behalf of the Social Committee. Sam advised members that following the EGM there had been a lot of different ideas "in the pot" to be considered for social and fund-raising. The recent audit followed by the BBQ had been a great success with thanks to Marian Whitbread for her assistance and hospitality on the evening. Glyn Adams had volunteered to organise a car rally later this year. Sam would be introducing a fundraising "Bonus Ball" game.</p> <p>Sam also advised members of the introduction of the "Patrons' Gift Token" – to be bought and given to prospective new Patrons on their birthday, Christmas, anniversaries etc.</p> <p>Nikki Dowd asked whether there were gift vouchers for tickets for our shows. This was considered to be another good idea to be looked into.</p> <p>Terri Bardell reminded everyone about the Dinner Dance at The Fairlawns Hotel on Saturday, 5 January 2002.</p>

	Sam Green explained about the Red Robin Awards, particularly for the newcomers, and reminded members to give any ideas or suggestions to the Social Committee.
<b>4)</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b>
	<p>To summarise, the Chairman mentioned <i>Barnum, Mack &amp; Mabel</i> and <i>The Best of Times</i> and the disappointing financial results of the shows, despite the high ticket sales.</p> <p>Following the EGM a Member Survey would be conducted to enable all the points raised to be considered by the Board – this was due out in August/September 2001.</p> <p>Thanks to the Board were expressed for their hard work during the year. Also, thanks to Sheila Dykes who had finally hung up here headphones! However, Sheila would be continuing her important role in raising more Patrons.</p> <p>The Chairman went on to thank Maggie Jackson, Diane Worland and Ray Harrison for all the hard work and commitment they had given the Board over the years.</p> <p>Particular appreciation was expressed to Ray who had been one of the original Board Members when Sutton Operatic became a Limited company in 1978. Ray was Chairman of the Society from 1981-1984. The Chairman wished to thank Ray, on behalf of the Society, for the contribution he had made to the Society over the years and presented Ray with an engraved silver plate.</p>
<b>5)</b>	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b>
	<p>The Treasurer distributed the end of year accounts to members and ran through them page by page.</p> <p>The Accounts showed that we had made a loss on <i>Mack &amp; Mabel</i> of £3,169 and <i>Barnum</i> of £3,927. The Treasurer pointed out that we were still afloat at present but the importance of selling tickets early and getting the money in as quickly as possible was of paramount importance to our cash flow situation.</p> <p>Roger Dykes pointed out that in the past we have had to pay Lichfield Civic's hire charges after the show but this time as we are at Sutton Town Hall they will ask for payment six weeks before the show.</p> <p>Rachel Gibbon made a suggestion that why not ask members to pay for their tickets 28 days after they have purchased them not 28 days after the show had finished. The Treasurer thought that this, in theory, was a good idea but putting this into practise and policing it would be difficult. However, if members could please bear in mind the importance of getting ticket money in as early as possible. As soon as tickets were handed over to family and friends ask them to pay.</p>

	The accounts were then accepted as a true record and proposed by Rachel Gibbon and seconded by Terri Bardell.
5)	<b>APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS</b>
	The Treasurer asked that Gravestock & Owen continue to be our Auditors. This was proposed by Dave Hill and seconded by Diane Worland.
6)	<b>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</b>
	The Chairman confirmed that Diane Worland, Maggie Jackson and Ray Harrison were stepping down and would be replaced by Marian Whitbread, Pam Somers and Roger Dykes. All in favour.  A separate vote for Roger Dykes as Honorary Secretary was conducted. All in favour.
7)	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>
	<i><b>Dave Bardell</b></i> - the Chairman advised members of the recent developments with regard to <i>Oliver!</i> next year. Although we had made a firm booking 18 months ago with The Friary School in Lichfield to perform <i>Oliver!</i> there next May we had just received a letter from them to advise that we will be unable to perform there and there was also a good chance that we would not be able to perform there in October 2002. Roger Dykes explained that the reason given had been due to scheduling exams and other activities happening at the School during this period.  At present we were looking into performing <i>Oliver</i> w/c 16 June 2002 at Sutton Town Hall and the October show would be w/c 28 October at Sutton Town Hall. These dates and venue were still to be finalised.  <i><b>Meg Griffin</b></i> wished to point out that 10-13 year old children could be affected with their exams during the new dates for <i>Oliver</i> .  <i><b>Nikki Dowd</b></i> suggested a fundraising and social idea of a “Murder Evening”. She knew of a venue and it would be a case of getting a script together. Nikki Dowd volunteered to look into this.  <i><b>Barry Small</b></i> wished to congratulate the Chairman on SCMTC’s excellent Website, which the Chairman had put together and regularly updated.  <i><b>Barry Small</b></i> wished to highlight a problem with the “Get Out” after shows. After the last show at 11.30 pm there was little crew, a member of the audience and children on stage helping with the “Get Out”. This was considered to be totally unacceptable and particularly dangerous with regard to the children. There was an insurance issue here that needed to be addressed.  In future it was agreed that Pam Somers, as the new Production Director, would put together a list of people who would commit themselves to help with the

“Get-In” and/or “Get-Out”.
<i><b>Meg Griffin</b></i> wished to point out that if people could be given particular responsibilities for the “Get-In” and “Get-Out”, as people can feel like a “loose-end” not knowing what to do or how to help. More organisation was required.
The <i><b>Chairman</b></i> confirmed that the Board would be considering an idea raised at the EGM whereby a new member would be given a “Buddy” to look after them (or an “Old Bidy” if Diane or Pam were involved!).
<i><b>Sheila Dykes</b></i> wished to remind members of the importance of trying to get new sponsors and if any new members had any contacts the Board would be pleased to hear from them.
<i><b>Terry Ash</b></i> asked whether a new President had been considered yet. The Chairman said that we hadn’t moved any further on this point and although it was traditional to have a President it wasn’t a necessity and until a suitable person came along then we would have to wait. The Chairman asked again for members’ ideas to let a Board Member know.
<i><b>Diane Worland</b></i> reminded the Chairman of the need to discuss with members the subject of giving presents after shows.
After discussing the topic with members it was finally agreed that in future presents would only be handed out to non-members of the Society who gave their time up freely. There would be a formal collection and a presentation on stage after the show. Members and the Production Team would not get presents.
<i><b>Mark Symonds</b></i> asked for members wishing to help with promotions to speak to him afterwards.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.