



Newsletter

Summer

2016

Welcome to the first of our occasional newsletters to keep you in touch with what's happening at Stewartby Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society.

This is an electronic newsletter which can be delivered automatically to your email inbox or downloaded from the website. To sign up go to www.saods.org.uk, scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your email address. We promise that we will not use your email address for any purpose other than the delivery of the newsletter.

Currently in production for November 2016 is Gilbert and Sullivan's "Patience", also titled "Bunthorne's Bride". Following the auditions on Sunday 12th June the cast is



Colonel Calverley: *David Crew*

Major Murgatroyd: *John Epton*

Lieutenant The Duke Of Dunstable: *Charles Mills*

Reginald Bunthorne: *Colin Jones*

Archibald Grosvenor: *Stephen Hoath*

Mr Bunthorne's Solicitor: *Peter Stephens*

Lady Angela: *Margaret Snape*

Lady Saphir: *Carol Urwin*

Lady Ella: *Margaret Magee*

Lady Jane: *Linda Bowen*

Patience: *Bex Badham*



The producer is Gordon Hodges assisted by Carol Wallman. The Musical Director is Alana Thackray with Pam Rogers and Brian Caves as rehearsal pianists.



Rehearsals to date have featured magnificent singing, amazing dancing and an awful lot of stumbling, mumbling and hilarity!



Patience was first performed by the Society in 1953 and since then in 1959, 1974, 1984, 1997 and 2007. In the next newsletter there will be a look back at those earlier productions.

Charity Donations

The committee has agreed to donate £500 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance and £500 to Kidney Research in support of their excellent work.



Eric Caves

In June this year Eric Caves died at the age of 93. The text, below, is taken from the tribute given at his funeral service.

Eric Samuel Caves was born and lived in Lower Shelton Road, Marston. After leaving school Eric became an Office Boy at the London Brick Company, and he was also a runner for the Home Guard. During the war he served in the photographic section of the RAF.

He often spent his leave with family in Manchester and through his cousin Olive he met his future wife Joan. They met in a theatre watching the show Can-Can. Eric married Joan in Salford, Manchester on the 5th July 1947, so they had been married nearly 69 years.

After leaving the RAF he returned to work at the London Brick Company, rising to become Chief Cashier, where he was known for his meticulous and correct handling of the finances. Since leaving the forces he has always belonged to the Royal British Legion and every Remembrance Day Service he read out the names of the fallen soldiers. When Eric retired from LBC he volunteered for nearly 20 years at Bedford Hospital.

Eric and Joan joined Stewartby Operatic Society in 1989 and stayed with the society for 20 years until 2008. Eric helped back stage with the scenery and Joan was wardrobe mistress. They were also stalwarts who made the tea and coffee at every rehearsal and it was acknowledged that Eric made the best cup of tea ever. When they retired from the society they were sorely missed by everyone as they were such a lovely, helpful, friendly pair.

Our thoughts and sympathies go to Eric's widow, Joan, and his family. The Society has made a donation of £100 to The Royal British Legion in his memory.

Roxton Concert

In May a group from the Society led by Shirley Hale and accompanied by Brian Caves performed a concert of selected Gilbert and



Sullivan songs at and in aid of Roxton Congregational Church. We helped to raise over £280 towards the cost of roof repairs.

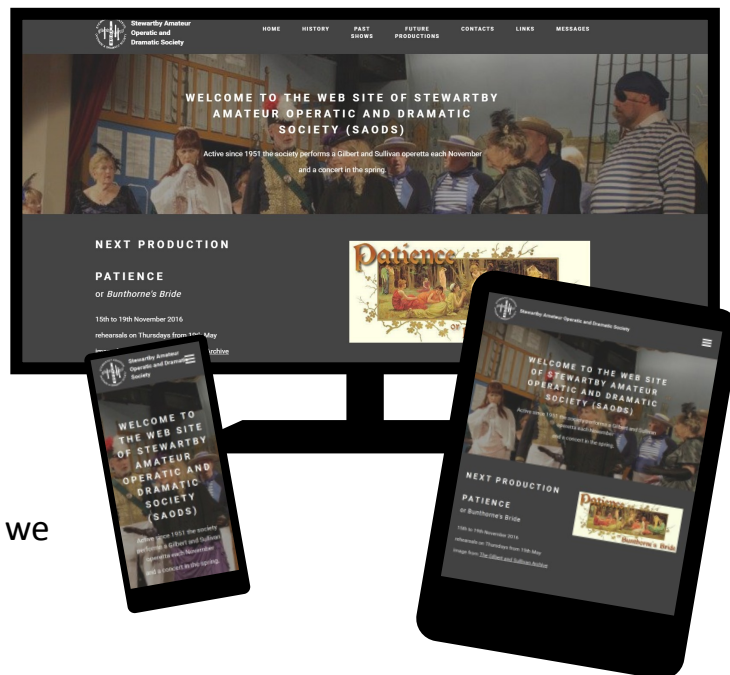
photos by Richard Hull

Have you seen the new website?

Now re-designed for easy viewing on a computer, a tablet or a smart phone the Society's website contains many pages of general information and photographs as well as video clips and photographs from past shows. Go to www.saods.org.uk and have a look.

For those of you who are users of social media we are also on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stewartbyoperaticsociety



Grand Jumble Sale

The next jumble sale will be held at Houghton Conquest Village Hall on Saturday 1st October. That gives you plenty of time to clear out a few cupboards and leave some space for your next purchases!

Online ticketing

New for the 2016 production of *Patience* you will be able to buy tickets online as well as through the usual sources. Ticket prices will be the same however you buy them but, as with many online booking services, there will be a processing charge added.



If you are interested in booking and paying for your tickets by this method go to the Stewartby Operatic website at www.saods.org.uk, go to the FUTURE PRODUCTIONS page and follow the instructions there. Once purchased you can choose to print your tickets at home or have them posted to you (for an extra charge).

Please don't get too excited about this! The tickets for the November production of *Patience* are not yet available.

To stop receiving the newsletter please send an email to website@saods.org.uk with the word UNSUBSCRIBE as the subject.

If you wish to suggest items for or make contributions to future newsletters or to comment on this newsletter please email website@saods.org.uk.

Information about Stewartby Operatic Society can be found at our web site at www.saods.org.uk and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stewartbyoperaticsociety. Queries about tickets should be sent to boxoffice@saods.org.uk. Any other queries should be sent to information@saods.org.uk.

