

## Mid-Year Greetings From Your Councillor

What a busy year you are all having. I have visited almost 30 societies since the beginning of the year and many more to come. Your productions continue to amaze with their professionalism and vitality.

I look forward to meeting even more of you and watching your exciting productions.

## Celebration of 2018 Day

A great day was spent at the Electric Theatre in Guildford. All together during the day nearly 300 people attended. The splendid workshop run by Sue Sampson was extremely well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated and, also those who just watched. By popular request she will be returning next year so look out for the opportunity to book your place.



Staines Musical Theatre Group, Woking Amateur Operatic Society, Worthing Musical Comedy Society, Sevenoaks Players, Guildburys Theatre Company, Guildford Opera Company, Creation Theatre and Chichester AOS otherwise known as CAOS Musical Productions entertained us at intervals during the day. They performed in great style with the minimum of rehearsal time on the stage.



We were delighted to welcome our President, Jacquie Stedman who spent the day chatting to everyone and later gave her address and presented the prizes for the Programme & Poster Competition. The AGM went without a hitch in under 30 minutes and in between the presentation of Awards and Accolades there were more inspiring performances - all short but very sweet.

The afternoon concluded with a spirited rendering of 'Flash Bang Wollop' from "Half a Sixpence" by CAOS!

A very special thank you to all those who, in any way, contributed to the success of the day. We are already planning for next year.

**Awards in the South East – What are the awards for and how are they awarded?** Here in the south east we have two types of annual award. The Accolades of Excellence which are awarded by the Regional Representatives for productions in their district. They have at least three to award each year - one for a musical, one for a play and one for a pantomime. Depending upon the number of societies in a district there may be more awards. The Regional Rep decides upon the best of each category within their district based on what they have seen and reported on during the

year. In addition to the Accolades, there are Regional Awards for Best Youth Production (one for the east and one for the west of the region), Best Drama, Best Modern Musical (post 1978), Best Traditional Musical (pre 1978), Best Gilbert & Sullivan, Best Opera, Best Pantomime and Best New Show. These awards are for shows throughout the region and the final decision is mine following advice from my regional reps, reading all their reports and plus my opinion if I have seen the show. Occasionally a society will nominate themselves for an award if they think it is particularly good. In that case I look at the report from the Regional Rep and discuss it with them. It is always worth inviting me to one of your productions, and, if I am available, I would be delighted to attend. In addition you can also invite the Regional Youth Advisor if it is a youth production.

**In summary no visit, no report, no award!**

In addition to the Regional Awards & Accolades, there is the Programme and Poster Competition which all societies can enter whether they invite the Regional Rep to a show or not. 5 copies of posters and programmes are needed to be sent to the rep or myself by the middle of January 2020 for entry into the competition for 2019. The competition is judged by a panel of Regional Reps according to the criteria set down in the national competition rules which can be found on the NODA website. Following request from societies we will display the winners of this year's competition at the Celebration Day for everyone to see the standard of publicity material. If there is space we will display other years' winners as well.

If there are any other matters you would like me to address in relation to the Celebration Day please email me at [kay.rowan@noda.org.uk](mailto:kay.rowan@noda.org.uk)



**Celebration of 2019 Day – next year**

**A date for your diary Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at The Electric Theatre, Guildford**

**Would your society like to entertain us? - then contact [pauline.surrey@noda.org.uk](mailto:pauline.surrey@noda.org.uk) for more information**

**Workshops, traders' stands, preloved music and much more**



## Regional Affairs

Your reps have been getting used to using new email accounts this year so that they can separate their private lives from their NODA persona. Please can everyone use their NODA emails which like mine have [forename.surname@noda.org.uk](mailto:forename.surname@noda.org.uk) Any problems do let me know.

We have welcomed a new Regional Rep to District 1 – Mid Sussex – Mark Hall. We wish him and his societies great success.

Here he introduces himself.....



*I have been performing for over 25 years and have been lucky enough to perform with a plethora of companies across Sussex over the years including Brighton Theatre Group, Southwick Players, Adur Theatre Company, CAOS Musical Productions, New Southern Musical Productions, Worthing Musical Comedy Society and Rainbow Productions to name a few. Previous notable credits include, Moonface Martin (Anything Goes), Bad Idea Bear and US Brian (Avenue Q), Cogsworth US (Beauty and the Beast) Ratty (Wind in the Willows), Herr Zeller and US Max (The Sound of Music), Fenner US (Bad Girls), Teddy US (The Full Monty), Jonas Fogg (Sweeney Todd), Terry (Fawlty Towers), Peter Pevensie (The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe), John Perks (The Railway Children), Ensemble (Ragtime) alongside many pantomimes and concerts.*

*I have both directed and musically directed for several years and previous notable credits include Avenue Q, Made in Dagenham, Oliver!, The Jungle Book, Ring of Roses, Young Sherlock Holmes and the Case of Dick Whittington's Cat, Treasure Island, with many more shows and concerts.*

*I learnt the piano from the age of four and have been playing ever since. I have composed and recording original soundtracks for previous productions and am currently working on a film score for several short films in post-production.*

*Family life has dictated that, for the time being, I cannot commit to rehearsals - yet I couldn't bring myself to disassociate from the theatre entirely so I made enquiries with NODA as to whether I could offer any assistance."*



**Summer School** [www.noda.org.uk/summerschool](http://www.noda.org.uk/summerschool)



WILL YOU BE A MEMBER OF THE CLASS OF 2019?

When: Saturday 27 July to Saturday 3 August

Where: Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre

Courses: The wide range of courses both performing and non-performing ARE ALMOST FULL. Take a chance book now!!!

## Long Service Awards and Things

Have you been treading the boards or shifting scenery for many years? Why not treat yourself to a long-service award? You will need the form signed by a committee member of your society. Margaret Coltman, our Long Service Awards Secretary is waiting to hear from you.

Further details at: <https://www.noda.org.uk/awards>

**Members** We welcome the following new and returning societies and individual members to the SE Region and hope they enjoy all the benefits of belonging to an organisation that has the vision to inspire amateur theatre

### SOCIETIES

**Barn Theatre Club**

**Pranksters Theatre Company**

**Peaslake Players**

**Wings Youth Theatre Group**

**United Players**

**Shepperton Players**

**Woking Youth Theatre**

**Rye Players – rejoined after short break**

### Individual member:

**Elaine Burns**

*(I apologise in advance for any errors or omissions.)*

# NODA SE – Newsletter – June 2019

*noda*

Be inspired by amateur theatre



## **FINALLY .....**

During the past few months several questions and queries have come my way. Please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my reps if you have a problem. We may be able to help or know someone who can!

I have been privileged to attend some fantastic show this spring and very much look forward to seeing many more during the remainder of the year. The standard just seems to go up and up.

**Kay Rowan SE Councillor – [kay.rowan@noda.org.uk](mailto:kay.rowan@noda.org.uk)**

**The information we send out should to be shared with ALL your membership.**

