



# BLOCNotes December 2011

**Editor: Dennis Elslander**

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

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



## A word from our Chairman, Ken Woollard

Since the AGM unfortunately cancelled out the possibility of a Christmas social event – my fault entirely for messing up my dates – it was great that so many turned out and that the evening ended in something like Christmas fashion with glühwein and a wonderful spread of eatables. Along the way members came up with great suggestions about the membership fee (our €15 is trivial in comparison with what other groups charge), our neglect of the social networks, the possibility of more, smaller shows and our urgent need to attract younger members (surprise/shock of the evening was that 85% of our membership are over the age of xxxxxxxx!). How to do that was the question. According to one member, the Twenties age group were happy in the pubs and clubs of Brussels and possibly culturally unclubable.

How can we spread the word there and, perhaps, in the conservatories of Brussels and Antwerp?

So we built to what was the high point of the evening. After questioning why BLOC seemed to have abandoned the Gilbert and Sullivan tradition the society was founded on, Diana Morton-Hooper offered to direct a G&S in 2013. Considering the experience and passion Diana brings to a production this is a priceless offer. It reflected the positivity of the whole evening.

What I had to offer was the news that we are to be allowed to present *Beauty and the Beast* in November 2012. The Disney Corporation must have deemed us fit to premier their show this side of the channel. We are a worthy musical group. No, we are more than that. We are the only English-speaking group currently presenting musicals in Belgium and our quality is indisputable, even if we were only to be judged on our latest two shows. But we do need more young people!

Ken Woollard

### New Committee after the 2011 AGM:

Chairman: Ken Woollard; Secretary: Nicholas Heenan, Treasurer: Brian Flynn

Committee members: Paul Manterfield, Dennis Elslander, Jeanette Marino, Martin Webber

BLOC DIARY			Status: 08/11/2011
Dates	Time	Event	Location
6-12 May 2012	TBC	Contrasts	De Bosuil
18-25 November 2012	TBC	Beauty and the Beast	Auderghem

**DEADLINE NEXT BLOCNOTES: 28th January 2012**

# CONTRASTS

BLOC is pleased to announce an introductory evening and forthcoming auditions for its next production *Contrasts*, which will take place on 09-12 May 2012 at De Bosuil Cultural Centre, Jezus Eik.

The **introductory evening** for those interested to take part in the show will be held on **Tuesday 17 January 2012 at 20h00**, at De Kam Cultural Centre, Beekstraat 172 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem. Everyone is welcome to attend; in particular prospective new members.

Anyone wanting to spend a little time over Christmas getting familiar with the music so far selected for this show is invited to contact [auditions@bloc-brussels.com](mailto:auditions@bloc-brussels.com)

## Founder member Peter Barker-Jones

Our founding member and Honorary Chairman Peter Barker-Jones informs the BLOC members of his change of address. His new address is:

Mr Peter Barker-Jones  
Flat 2  
7, Chichester Terrace  
Brighton  
BN2 1FG  
United Kingdom  
Phone: +44 (0)1273 698162

**Editor's Note:** this message is published at the specific request of Peter Barker-Jones. Normally BLOCNotes does not publish this sort of

GOOD LUCK

to ALL involved in  
Hello Dolly!

with best wishes  
from your extremely  
proud President,  
Peter



\_\_\_\_\_  
(Peter Barker-Jones)

## A FOND FAREWELL

BLOC would like to join with the other amateur dramatic groups in Brussels in sending its best wishes to Diane and Paul Gray as they begin a new life in Alcester in the UK.

Since arriving in Brussels in the early seventies they have been stalwarts of the amateur dramatic scene, in particular with the ECC, BSS and BLOC. Both have sung with BLOC on many occasions as well as Diane helping with hair and Paul with set construction. They also held various positions on the BLOC Committee.

We would like to wish them many more years of active retirement.



As one of the key global hubs for politics and business, Brussels is home to a massive international community and for the last five decades, one publication has been their bible – The Bulletin.

For almost fifty years The Bulletin has been the leading magazine for the international community in Belgium. Catering for a cosmopolitan and active readership, it provides indispensable information on politics, business, lifestyle and culture in Brussels and Belgium. The Bulletin assembles an expert panel of editors and contributors to offer readers high-profile interviews, in-depth features, trustworthy reviews and razor-sharp columnists covering everything from business and politics to travel, food, fashion, design, multimedia and much more.

After an extensive redesign, The Bulletin is back with a brand-new look, a brand-new website and a renewed focus on everything the international community needs to know about what is happening in the capital of Europe. Published every two weeks, The Bulletin is packed with exclusive interviews, expert analysis and your definitive guide to lifestyle & culture in Brussels and Belgium. From politics to culture, business to travel, food to fashion, if it's happening and you need to know about it, you'll find it in The Bulletin.

As a member of BLOC, we would like to offer you a three issue free trial to The Bulletin in order to familiarize yourself with it.

In order to benefit from this exclusive offer, go to [www.thebulletin.be/BLOC](http://www.thebulletin.be/BLOC)

**Hello  
Dolly!**

**Pictures from this magnificent BLOC show can be found via the BLOC website under “Past Productions”, 2011 “Hello Dolly” and then “Pictures”. Go and have a look. There are many pictures from several photographers.**




## What's on???

ATC [www.atc.theatreinbrussels.com](http://www.atc.theatreinbrussels.com)  
 BATS [www.batsantwerp.be](http://www.batsantwerp.be)  
 and 0495/31.76.87 or [BATS\\_tickets@yahoo.com](mailto:BATS_tickets@yahoo.com)  
 BSS <http://shaksoc.com/> -  
 for tickets: <http://tickets.shaksoc.com/> or 0475.59.27.03  
 ECC [www.theatreinbrussels.com](http://www.theatreinbrussels.com) or 0477/40.87.04  
 ETCetera <http://www.europantheatreclub.eu/>  
 ITG <http://www.irishtheatregroup.com> or 0475/58.54.62  
 Kam Klub [www.kamklub.be](http://www.kamklub.be), <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Wezembeek-Oppem-Belgium/Kam-Klub/60518989581?ref=ts>  
 or Dave Skinner (tel. (h) 02.767.74.49, (w) 02.296.24.82,  
[david.skinner@ec.europa.eu](mailto:david.skinner@ec.europa.eu)

The website for all the main groups in Brussels is:

<http://theatreinbrussels.com/portal/>

 The English Comedy Club presents

Lies,  
class judgments,  
concealed emotions,  
repressed passions,  
Bournemouth, 1954.

# SEPARATE TABLES

by  
Terence Rattigan

Directed by  
Diana Morton-Hooper



29 February, 1 - 3 March 2012, 8 pm

Matinee - 4 March 2012, 3 pm

7 - 10 March 2012, 8 pm

Warehouse Studio Theatre  
69a rue Waelhem  
1030 Schaerbeek

15€ & 13€ (members)  
Tel: 0487 252 748

[ecc.theatreinbrussels.com](http://ecc.theatreinbrussels.com)

## The Brussels Bookswappers Club,

a social network of booklovers, meets once a month  
between 19.30h – 21.30h at 'Les Enfants Terribles' - a lively café/restaurant, 190 chaussée de La Hulpe in 1170 Boitsfort - to swap books.

The Club has a page on Facebook with more details on the next meetings.

## KAM KLUB

Please check their website for the next KamKlub

<http://www.kamklub.be/>