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A word from our Chairman Ken Woollard

Between Leuven and the Dutch border lie our favourite cycle routes, through all the woods and fields of Hageland and Limburg. It's the summer and, with our wonderful holiday in New Zealand well behind us, it'll be the smaller pleasures of garden and countryside that we enjoy in July and August. If the weather is as good as it has been, then Belgium is a beautiful place to be.

And, yes, the summer break is here! But it's all the better for knowing that *Hello Dolly!* is safely launched, with a superlative cast* and a wonderful production team. This is a happy show with lots of buoyant music and some hilarious as well as romantic scenes. We wish Adam and Steven, Elizabeth and Jeanette and the cast great pleasure as well as hard work during the rehearsal period and look forward to a fantastic show in November.

The end of season 2010-2011 seems a good time to pay tribute to the backstage, front-of-house and bar personnel, and those who more permanently keep us supplied with costumes, properties, scripts and scores, and those who provide for our social events, barbecues and parties. My personal thanks to the very hard-working committee and to those who have worked to extend the BLOC image into the Brussels and Flemish communities. It is important for BLOC to extend its horizons and to welcome both members and audience from the wider world.

If you have the time and interest, please join us in making BLOC and its productions run smoothly. We would happily suggest where you can help most.

Have a wonderful holiday and come back ready to enjoy what BLOC has to offer in 2011-2012.

Ken Woollard

BLOC DIARY			Status: 14/03/2011
Dates	Time	Event	Location
11-09-2011	TBC	<i>Opening season BBQ</i>	De Kam
21-10-2011	TBC	The London Quartet	De Bosuil
24-27 November	20.00 & 15.00	<i>Hello Dolly</i>	Auderghem Cultural Centre
17-12-2011	TBC	<i>Christmas party</i>	De Kam

DEADLINE ARTICLES NEXT BLOCNOTES: 25th AUGUST 2011
NO BLOCNotes in July and August!!!

The Threepenny Opera

Pictures from the show can be found on the following website:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=DennisElslander&target=ALBUM&id=5616939554160514385&authkey=Gv1sRgCLy05a-xusPQKg&feat=email> (in case you have problems with this link, e-mail your editor)



Many thanks to everyone who auditioned and contributed to making the auditions exciting and the choice difficult.

The casting is as follows:

Dolly Levi	Lisa Armetta		
Horace Vandergelder	Brian Flynn		
Cornelis Hackl	Jonathan Oakey	Ernestina	Marjolein Gabel
Irene Molloy	Sarah Watts	Ermengarde	Jane Rudy
Barnaby Tucker	Sam Thomas	Mrs. Rose	Sheila Hewitt
Minnie Fay	Joanna Hennon	Rudolph	Dennis Elslander
Ambrose Kemper	Yann Tixhon	Judge	Charles Boucher

Ensemble:

Christina Cooper, Lise Floris, Annie Asmanidou, Laura Serassio, Avril Anderson, Caroline Budden, Valerie de Coninck, Barbara Bauer, Patricia Rudy, Helen Wincott, Josephine Draycott, Hanna Karska, Marjolein Gabel, Patricia de Greben, Sheila Hewitt, Chloe Eeman, Carol Lam, Sharon Norton, Jennifer Cain, Sari Saarenpaa, Marie-Laure Wybauw, Rachael Bateman, Amanda Hicks, Solveig Jaspers, Pamela Meisel.

Charles Bouchard, Oliver Wright, Peter de Schepper, Bart Bakker, Sydney Schreiber, Martin Webber, Peter Mountain, Nick Heenan, Dennis Elslander. Nathan Boydell, Ken Woollard, George Rahim, Barry Salter, Alfred Farha.

BLOC and De Bosuil
Jointly present

The London Quartet
at De Bosuil,
Jesus-Eik
Friday 21 October 2011
@ 20:00

Followed by a musical reception
(more in the next BLOCNotes)

BLOCNotes June 2011

Ladies Choice

Come and listen to our luscious ladies
Singing songs from the shows!



When: 23, 24 25 June 2011 at 8.00 pm
Where: De Kam Cultural Centre
Prices: € 10 Adults € 8 children under 16 yrs
Info: tickets.ladieschoice@gmail.com

Editor's Note: This show features many ladies from BLOC and ... a single gentlemen... How did he do that???

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Free food for all paid-up BLOC Members !!!

BLOC's SUMMER BARBECUE 2011

FOOD. (catered BBQ - Delicatessen Vanhoudt)

DRINKS.. (at our well known De Kam Bar)

FUN.... (of course)

SUN..... (we hope)

**When : Sunday 11 September 2011
12.30 PM**

**Where : Cultural Centre "De Kam"
Beekstraat 172
1970 Wezembeek-Oppem**

13.00 PM BBQ food served. (catered, so be there !!)

HELPERS NEEDED: please contact your social secretaries:

Peter De Schepper: peter.deschepper@gmail.com

Dennis Elslander: dennis.elslander@telenet.be

Bar helpers: contact Kjeld Jensen: Kjeld.Jensen@AriesConsult.com

RUDDERLESS

Since Rob Messik's arrival at the British School in Tervuren three years ago, the audience can always expect something unusual from one of his productions. How could he have persuaded the school to allow a production of John Ford's *'Tis Pity (She's a Whore)* and to get audiences of sensitive parents and cynical students to watch a blood-stained Jacobean tragedy about incest with such fascinated attention: partly through the commitment of a wonderful student cast, partly because it was so different and set in traverse, with the audience on both sides of the action, close enough to experience the full horror of the protagonist's final appearance, carrying in his hands the heart of his beloved.

So to *Rudderless*, a junior production, very different from *'Tis Pity*, and written by Rob himself. Every drama teacher must, at some time, have scripted a play for lack of any suitable printed text. But this was special:



"The events shown in *Rudderless* are true ... sort of. History shows us that for a considerable period of time in cities along the coast of what is now Belgium and Holland, residents deemed "difficult" would be rounded up for what can only be described as a unique form of population control. All those who were considered as being mentally ill, dangerous or just plain disliked were stuck on board a rotting and decaying ship, towed out into the North Sea and left to drift."



Well, that doesn't sound like a bundle of laughs, either. But actually it was. With the students playing a range of crazy, larger than life characters, their misfortunes became a wonderful evening's entertainment and with a happy and significant ending. One boatload take charge of their frightful ship and sail it to the edge of the world in search of a peaceful country that will accept them. A beautiful country appears gradually on the backdrop. The castaways turn and wave as they sail towards it, and the end title comes up, "And they all lived happily

ever after!" What a wonderful fantasy and a quite remarkable combination of serious subject and lusty presentation!

Ken Woollard

BLOCNotes welcomes articles on unusual aspects of theatre in Brussels, and adverts for upcoming productions.

KAM KLUB – SATURDAY 18 JUNE 2011

If you have a sense of humour and enjoy music come along to *De Kam* on Saturday 18 June for the **first ever production of...**

THE WAND OF MAGIC

This is a stage musical written by Dave Monkcom and Dave Skinner, two local musicians/writers/comedians, based on an initial idea by Marjolein Klun. The story is a wacky combination of the Sound of Music, Harry Potter and Mary Poppins and takes a sideways look at today's mobile phone culture, against a background of magic, nuns and rock and roll.

Production is in the expert hands of Marjolein, who has put together a **cast of excellent singers and energetic performers** (*Editor's note: many well known to BLOC: so let's support them*). Tears of laughter should ensure that there will not be a dry eye in the house.

The show starts at 8.00 p.m. It will be hosted by the *Kam Klub*, at 172, Beekstraat. 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem, so there will be an hour or so of varied musical entertainment before performance of the musical begins. Before that there is an optional barbecue out in the old Flemish courtyard starting at around 6.30 p.m.

Entrance charge: €8 for the show, or €15 for show AND barbecue.
(Children under 12 pay €5 for the show and get the barbecue free).

**As we are expecting a big audience for this event YOU NEED TO RESERVE
BOTH FOR THE SHOW AND THE BARBECUE**

by emailing kamklub@hotmail.com. **(Kam Klub regulars please note!)**

THE GREAT GIRAFFE QUIZ 2011 WILL TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 25th!

Join your Quizmasters Andy Fisk & **George Biesmans** for a fun evening for a good cause!

Does your team have what it takes to win?

Where? St John's School - Drève Richelle 146, 1410 Waterloo (*directions to the quiz room will be signposted in the main car park*)

When? Saturday June 25th, 7.30 pm – 10 pm

What? Sit-down quiz with light food and drinks There will also be a Tombola with great prizes.

Who? This will be a family quiz, so older kids are very welcome ... and might give you an edge!

All proceeds on the night will go to the Giraffe Project

Teams limited to 6 players maximum.

Teams can be formed on the night.

Entry fee of 5 Euros per person.

Please note – SPACE IS LIMITED

Please email Andrew.fisk@telenet.be or georgebiesmans@hotmail.com to register your team if you have one, or just to let us know you're coming, so we can plan our numbers!

And ... if you have a prize to donate to the tombola, it will be more than welcome as it will increase the fun – and it's all for a good cause!

Member's news

BLOC Member **Celia Perry** recently had to undergo urgent medical treatment. Celia has been very active with our society both on and off the Committee. While in hospital, BLOC delivered flowers to her.

Presently she stays with a friend at 92, rue le de la Station in 1410 Waterloo.

You are welcome to visit her at any time of the day.

We wish Celia and her family all the best.

INTERNATIONAL GILBERT & SULLIVAN FESTIVAL

When? 30th July till 21st August 2011

Where? Buxton, England

ATTENTION to BLOC MEMBERS:

Performing in SavoyNet's "The Mikado" on Wednesday 10th August will be **Celia Perry** and **Kate Lowe** (Chorus) with **Angela Lowe as Katisha**.

Helping behind the scenes will be **Alice Perry (Assistant Stage Manager)** and **Ian Perry**.

Details of the Festival can be found:

<http://www.gsfestivals.org/> .

The London Quartet

at De Gentse Feesten, Sunday 17th July 2011 @ 22:00

F. Laurentplein, Ghent (*followed by Rosemary Ashe a superb British musical singer*)

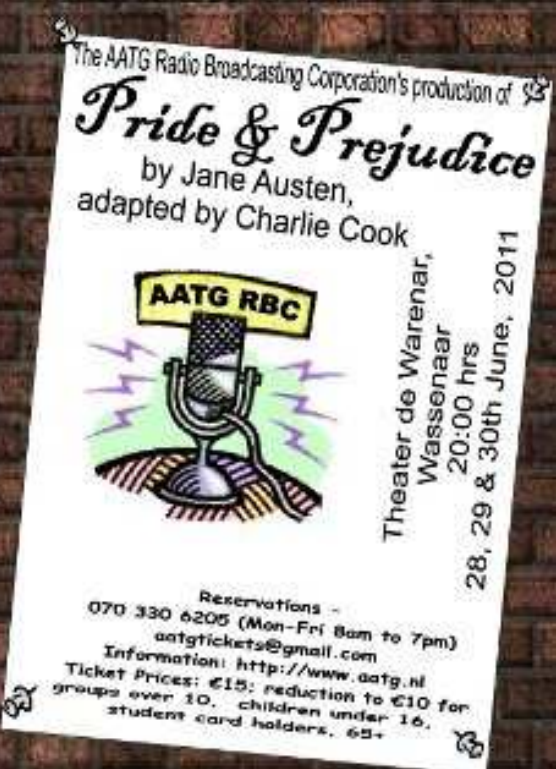
<http://www.gentsefeesten.be/content/london-quartet-uk-humoristische-capella-zo-17-juli-om-2200-u> www.thelondonquartet.com

What's on???

ATC www.atc.theatreinbrussels.com
BATS www.batsantwerp.be
and 0495/31.76.87 or BATS_tickets@yahoo.com
BSS <http://shaksoc.com/> -
for tickets: <http://tickets.shaksoc.com/> or 0475.59.27.03
ECC www.theatreinbrussels.com or 0477/40.87.04
ETCetera <http://www.europeantheatreclub.eu/>
ITG <http://www.irishtheatregroup.com> or 0475/58.54.62
Kam Klub 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)

The website for all the main groups in Brussels is:
<http://theatreinbrussels.com/portal/>

The AATG Presents:



« Pride & Prejudice »

by Jane Austen, adapted by Charlie Cook
Directed by Louise Grütter

"It is a truth, universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a large fortune must be in want of a wife..." So begins one of Jane Austen's best loved novels, *Pride and Prejudice*. And as any actor knows it is also a truth, universally acknowledged, that every great performance needs an appreciative audience...

The newly formed 'AATG Radio Broadcasting Corporation' is thrilled to announce a live radio broadcast, in front of a real live studio audience at the Warenaar Theatre, of Charlie Cook's adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*. We invite you to enjoy an evening of literary culture and sophisticated entertainment.

You will meet a myriad of colourful, eccentric and, in some cases, just plain odd characters that make up the community that is the AATG-RBC.

Characters such as our very own Colyn Furth, who plays Mr. Darcy, Tina the nervous, over-enthusiastic first time producer, a rocking nun, Mr and Mrs Fouquet and, naturally, the village vicar. Come and experience Jane Austen as you never have before!

When and Where???

Performance dates: *Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th June 2011*. Curtains up at 20:00.

Location: Cultureel Centrum De Warenaar Kerkstraat 75, 2242 HE Wassenaar

Ticket sales: 070-3306205 (Monday - Friday, 8am-7pm), aatg@aa-service.nl

(Editor's Note: starring BLOC members John and Jenny Hall and their daughter Jo)

The Women's Choir DIE CHORYFEEN

Invites you to its **annual summer** concert on

Friday 24th June 2011 at 19:00

FREE ENTRANCE

Where? Friedrich –Elbert-Stiftung, 38, rue du Taciturne, 1000 Brüssel

(Editor's note: BLOC member BARBARA BAUER takes part in this concert)

The Brussels Choral Society

are singing in Beethoven's 9th (Schiller's "Ode to Joy")

at Beloeil at 10.30 pm on August 27

This is during the **Musicales de Beloeil festival**. Followed by lavish fireworks...