

BERMUDA MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY (BMDS)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 17th October 2019

Daylesford Theatre - 6:00pm

Executive Members Present:

President	Nicola Flood
Vice President	Kim Day
Vice President	Barbara Jones
Vice President	Owain Johnston-Barnes
Treasurer	Ashley Mitchell
Secretary	Theresa Hall
Drama Chair	Robbie Godfrey
Music Chair	Lisa Maule
Bar Chair	Sandy Amott
General Member	Liz Knight
General Member	Vicky Anderson
General Member	Valerie Butterfield-Wallbank

Apologies:

Sandro Cavaliere – Premises Chair
Charlie Grainge – General Member
Deborah Pharoah-Williams – General Member
Don Jolliffe
Evelyn McGregor

General Members Present:

A list of the 44 members in attendance is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.

The President called the meeting to order.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes

On a motion made by Bob Legere, seconded by Peter Profit and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18th October 2018 were approved.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

3. President's Report

- 3.1 Nicola Flood, President of the Society, presented her report, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.
- 3.2 Nicola Flood reported that the Executive Committee had unanimously voted to grant John Ross an Honorary Patron Membership.

4. Reports of the Standing Committees

- 4.1 Drama– Robbie Godfrey indicated that his detailed report would be posted to the BMDS website. In addition the following was discussed:
 - it was acknowledged that the previous year's drama programme had been aggressive and that it had been problematical to secure sufficient volunteers to have a full team supporting and producing some shows. The suggestion to plan shows in the following year spreading those requiring larger sets was made, as well as streamlining shows where sets from a previous show could be used.
 - it was also suggested that experienced and skilled volunteers could act as mentors and encourage interested members to shadow them, thereby making it less daunting for someone new to embark as a volunteer and assist with a show.
 - Robbie thanked Will Kempe, Rebekah Nebard and the others on his Drama Committee for all their help and support and Liz Knight for all her work keeping the archives up-to-date.
- 4.2 Music – Lisa Maule presented her report, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.
- 4.3 Premises – Kim Day presented Sandro Cavaliere's report, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.
- 4.4 Bar –Sandy Amott presented her report, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.

5. BMDS Charitable Trust Report

Adrian Lee-Emery then presented the report from the BMDS Charitable Trust, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes

6. Treasurer's Report

- 6.1 Ashley Mitchell presented his report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st May 2019, a copy of which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.
- 6.2 It was explained that some shows were not showing any income on Schedule 2, as although some expenses had been incurred during the period, the income was not received until after the end of the financial year.

- 6.3 It was noted that the income detailed as being from the Daylesford Singers, should have in fact been detailed as being from Wine, Women & Song. It was agreed that this would be accurately reflected in future years.
- 6.2 On a motion by John Ross and seconded by Adam Gauntlett and carried unanimously the Audited accounts for the period ended 31st May 2019 were accepted.

7. **Executive Committee**

- 7.1 Nicola Flood advised that the following incumbents whose 3 year term expired at the AGM were willing to stand for a further three year term. As no nominations were put forward the following candidates were deemed to be elected:

Vice President	Owain Johnston Barnes
Secretary	Theresa Hall
Music Chair	Lisa Maule
Bar Chair	Sandy Amott

- 7.2 Nicola Flood further advised that one General Member position was also expiring but that Liz Knight was not standing for re-election. Christine Whitestone was willing to stand and as no other nominations were put forward, she was deemed to be elected.
- 7.3 The position of Premises Chair was also vacant following the resignation of the current incumbent, Sandro Cavaliere. Derek Keeping had indicated a willingness to stand for election to complete the remainder of the term. As no nominations were put forward he was deemed to be elected.
- 7.4 It was confirmed that the 2019 elected Executive Committee would therefore be:
- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| President | Nicola Flood |
| Vice Presidents | Barbara Jones, Kim Day, Owain Johnston-Barnes |
| Treasurer | Ashley Mitchell |
| Secretary | Theresa Hall |
| Drama Chair | Robbie Godfrey |
| Music Chair | Lisa Maule |
| Premises Chair | Derek Keeping |
| Bar Chair | Sandy Amott |
| General Members | Vicky Anderson (Social), Christine Whitestone (Archives), Val Butterfield-Wallbank, Deborah Pharoah-Williams, Charlie Grainge |

8. **Amendment to the Constitution of the Society**

It was explained that there was an anomaly between between The Bermuda Musical and Dramatic Society Act 1950, and the Constitution whereby The Act refers to a “Committee

of Management”, and the Constitution refers to an “Executive Committee”. In order to align these 2 documents an amendment was required to Clause 7(1) of the Constitution of the Society.

It was therefore proposed by Bob Legere, seconded by Adrian Lee Emery and carried unanimously that the Constitution of the Society be amended by the alteration of clause 7(1) to read as follows:

“The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a committee of management entitled the “Executive Committee” consisting of the Officers, the respective chairmen of the Standing Committees and five other persons (to be known as “General Executive Members”), all of whom shall be elected at annual general meetings of the Society or appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Paragraph. No person shall be eligible to serve as a member of the Executive Committee who is not a Voting Member.”

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 Sheilagh Robertson thanked the President, Nicola Flood, on behalf of the Membership, for her continued and appreciated work for the Society. Sheilagh also indicated that it had been encouraging to have 12-15 students from Cedarbridge attending the dress rehearsal for Veils and participating in the associated workshop. It was suggested that it might be a good way to encourage student participation at BMDS by inviting them to dress rehearsals.
- 9.2 John Ross enquired about plans for the 75th anniversary of BMDS in 2020. Vicky Anderson indicated that it was already being worked on.
- 9.3 Adam Gauntlett asked if any Shakespeare productions were scheduled for the upcoming year. Robbie Godfrey advised that it was being considered, but that a producer and department heads would need to be in place before anything could be confirmed.
- 9.4 Hilda Matcham enquired if all participants of Daylesford Singers and Wine, Women & Song were BMDS Members. It was advised that whilst membership was encouraged, it was not a pre-requisite to participation so as not to limit the talent available to the Society.
- 9.5 Peter Profit thanked all those who had been involved in Pride Bermuda. He further enquired if there was a Life Membership category available. It was agreed the Executive would consider this at their next meeting. Additionally, he suggested BMDS may wish to consider an annual Masquerade or Halloween Party. Vicky Anderson agreed to give this some consideration for 2020.

There being nothing further to discuss, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Members present at the Annual General Meeting of the Bermuda Musical and Dramatic Society
17 October 2019

Andrea Kulmala
Mary Brier
Adrian Lee-Emery
Jennie Lamerton
Victoria Anderson
John Dale
Clive Dakin
Coral Dakin
Barbara Jones
Sandy Amott
Kurt Birrer
Sheilagh Robertson
Deborah MacKenzie
Carol Birch
Sally Browne
Robbie Godfrey
Chris Bryan
Angela Gilmour
Nicola Flood
Christine Whitestone
Hilda Matcham
Maureen Mitchell
John Ross
Adam Gauntlett
Ashley Mitchell
Derek Keeping
Kim Day
Kate Dyme
Glen Flood
Theresa Hall
Liz Knight
Robert Duffy
Bob Legere
Thomas Smith
Val Smith
Debby Correia
Peter Profit
Owain Johnston-Barnes
Tracy Beach
Jean Bird
Diana Cadorin
Siobhan O'Sullivan
Deanna Smith
Lisa Maule

TOTAL 44

2019 Presidents Report

Members and Executive Committee I would like to welcome you to the 2019 Annual General Meeting for the Bermuda Musical & Dramatic Society.

To begin tonight's meeting, I'd like to acknowledge the loss of several BMDS members and supporters of the arts in Bermuda over the past year with a moment of silence to remember and to reflect on the lives of the following individuals: Jocelyn Troake, Cotty Outerbridge, Pamela Darrell

Now, thank you all for coming out tonight to support your society..... I am happy to report that the social side of the society is alive and thriving. I would like to welcome all our new members and I sincerely hope you get much enjoyment and satisfaction of being a part of BMDS.

While the social side of BMDS continues to grow, the same cannot be said of the theatre side. Our numbers are dwindling when it comes to volunteers for the production side of our society. We struggle to get Producers, set builders, set painters etc. The executive committee and I have discussed, at length, how we can encourage people to join in behind the scenes. Despite sending out repeated requests for help in DIVA, it's the same 10 or 15 people that volunteer. We are at a crossroads, do we increase the price of our drinks and pay people to build and paint our sets? Do we cut down on the number of productions we are doing? Do we operate as a bar with a theatre? Not as a theatre with a bar? Please offer any suggestions that will increase our backstage numbers to our secretary Theresa Hall by email to bmdssecretary@gmail.com. Her details can also be found on the noticeboard in the bar.

Now, I need to thank Andrea Kumlala for her hard work and diligence in keeping our membership list up to date. She works silently behind the scenes and without her continued dedication we would be lost. Thank you Andrea.

Financially we continue to thrive and that is in no small part due to Ashley Mitchell, our treasurer, and our bookkeeper Sally Browne who have been diligent again this year in watching our finances. Ashley will fill you in shortly on the financial details of the Society, and answer any questions you may have.

I would like to thank Sandy Amott for all her hard work and dedication to BMDS over the last year, and I would also like to thank her innovative and enthusiastic committee that support her, along with all the folks that open and stock the bar, Kevin Blee for depositing the bar take, all the volunteer bartenders and Adam Gauntlet for the thankless task of doing the bar Rota month after month. We will continue to improve processes whenever and wherever possible. If you have any suggestions for Sandy and her team, or how we can further improve our bar, please touch base with Sandy or any of the bar committee. Sandy will comment further on bar activities in the bar committee report.

Our social program continues to flourish as, yet again, a result of the tireless efforts of Vicky Anderson and the folks that have stepped up to assist her. Vicky's imagination and energy, in keeping up the social scene at Daylesford is enviable and impressive to say the least. I would also like to thank Lisa Maule, for the continued success of our musical evenings and Wine Women and song. Also thank you to Tommy Ray for his wonderful Jazz Nights, and last but not least the sound techies for making these musical night possible. Lisa will read the music report shortly.

I would like to thank Sandro for looking after our old lady, Daylesford but I am afraid it became just too much for him. Derek Keeping has offered his interest in stepping into these very big shoes and as an effort to assist him we are in the process of setting up a team to help lighten the load. We are committed to upgrading our infrastructure and can report that we have a state of the art camera system now in place, our WiFi has been upgraded and Derek is working on our sound system in the bar area.

Getting things posted to the web and keeping our web page generally up to date is going to be one of their top priorities and I would like to thank Debby Corriea and Suzanne Holshouser for agreeing to help with the website. I would also like to thank Kim Day and Val Butterfield-Wallbank-Smith for volunteering during their busy lives by sending our Divas to keep us informed – thank you ladies.

I would like to thank the current committee of the Charitable Trust, Adrian Lee-Emery, Carol Birch, Phil McIntosh, Kevin Blee and Jennifer Campbell. We are lucky to have such a dedicated team that work to raise funds for the

Trust bursary programme - Adrain Lee Emery will give us more detail in his upcoming report

Liz Knight has stepped down as the head of our archives team and I would like to thank her for bringing our archives up to speed. She has worked tirelessly behind scenes trying to protect all our archives and her attention to detail has been invaluable to the society. Since she got involved over 18,000 pieces of data and documents have been added to the BMDS website archives - thank you so very much Liz. I am pleased to announce that Christine Whitestone has offered her interest in the position. Liz has had a wonderful team assisting her and I would like to recognize them and thank them on behalf of the Executive Committee for their time and assistance, in no particular order

Steve Watts, Deb MacKenzie, Margot Cox, Marian Thomas, Janet Simpson, Tommy Smith, Paul Lowry, Gavin Wilson, Connie Dey, Evelyn MacGregor, Bruce and Annette Hallett, Jan Quinn, Richard Fell, Don Jolliffe, Nicola Flood, Voorhees Joell, Kevin MacDonald, Anthony Rynne, Mark Hamilton, Peter Profit, Theresa Hall, Sandy and Jim Amos, Lorraine Beasley, Janice Howell, Sally Browne, Sandro Cavaliere, Adria Hollis Russo, Ellen Jane Russo and Stephen Notman. Posthumously: Jean Hannant and Ora Bainbrid

At last count this morning, our number of members was 546 with 180 awaiting renewal, this is down from last year, mostly due to non-renewals, even though we are seeing new faces around Daylesford. Therefore, may I encourage you to remind your friends who have not yet renewed their membership to please do so as soon as possible. BMDS relies heavily on our member fees and with that in mind, may I also ask that if you know of frequent visitors to our bar who are not yet members to please ask them to join our ranks.

Oh, and just in case you are wondering, all this scenery behind us is a gift from G and S after Mama Mia and will be used in the panto build, so I would like to thank them for it.

It would be remiss of me not to warmly thank the present Executive Committee - I could not have done this job for the past year without their support and encouragement. I assure you that the members of the executive who have served and continue to serve have difficult and time-consuming positions (along with full time jobs!) and they do not take their

responsibility to the society lightly. They all volunteer, not just to fill a seat, but to add their passion for the theatre and their various levels of expertise to our very dedicated executive. Please be sure to recognize the level of commitment they bring to their positions and that the decisions made on your behalf are made from one goal – to do what is best for the society as a whole.

I end my report by informing you all that the Executive Committee unanimously decided to make John Ross an Honorary Patron of BMDS as a small token of our appreciation for all that he has done over many, many years for BMDS. Well done John, you thoroughly deserve it.

Nicola Flood
President
17th October 2019

BMDS Drama Report

October 2018 to October 2019

Teddy, the Lost Dog by James Burn (Dec 6th to Dec 15th)

Although the December presentation of “Teddy” at City Hall was a very worthy production with some exciting technical achievements and some excellent performances by new blood, it is important that we take a very honest and objective look at why it was not a financial success. We recognize that it was a very bold choice of show in lieu of a traditional pantomime. Teddy was a Bermuda story that was brought to the stage by Bermudians and ex-residents for whom Bermuda remains very much in their hearts. Whilst we as an organization very much want to support home-grown writing, it turned out to be a hard sell to our punters despite the relatively low-cost ticket price of \$35 for a City Hall show. Post-mortem examination revealed some key learning points, as follows:

1. Our audiences want to see a traditional pantomime at Christmas time.
2. The Christmas show is our biggest money-making production and we need to treat it very responsibly.
3. With hindsight, the script was still in the “workshop phase” and perhaps needed some further rounds of editing before being taken to a venue like City Hall.

Absolutely Murder by Guernsey LePelley (April 17th to April 27th)

Who doesn't like a good 'Whodunnit'? Clearly, very few. This relatively unknown piece practically sold out before opening night. Produced by Rebekah Nebard and Directed by Debby Correia, this production introduced some newcomers to the BMDS stage who worked alongside some of our well-seasoned actors with aplomb. This was Debby's first full-scale production as Director and her level of commitment (mirrored by all involved in the production – there were over 100 of them) was obvious. The set was intricate in construction (9 members formed the construction crew) and detailed in its dressing (16 members picked up a paintbrush alongside the lead set painter and set dresser). Lighting and Sound were expertly designed by BMDS Charitable Trust bursary recipient Ryan Day. Ryan's work is already at a highly professional standard and much was gained by those who worked alongside him. Post-mortem reports suggested that ambition might have exceeded practicality with this production and it is important to recall this learning point for the future. The overriding concern here is that people rapidly get burnt out and are then not available to assist with future productions (see *Veils* below). Two key points arise from this: firstly, that we need to expand our skill-base (currently, we are relying too heavily on just a handful of stalwarts) and we need to keep our productions to a sensible size.

Veils by Tom Coash (May 30th to June 8th)

Veils was chosen for two main reasons; firstly, it is an excellently well-crafted story (written by an ex-resident member) which explores feminine issues inside modern Islam; secondly, it would appeal to a broader cross-section of our community and promote racial and cultural diversity within our audiences and ultimately (it is hoped) within our membership. The play was very sensitively directed by Sheilagh Robertson and it introduced two wonderfully talented performers to our stage as well as stepping up our technical prowess. The production was not without its challenges, however, as we rode into the proverbial valley without a bona fide Producer leading the charge and a lack of volunteers to head up the various departments of our traditional production model. It was necessary, therefore, to engage in some comprehensive streamlining which resulted in a minimalist and abstract set, simplified staging & special effects (although what was achieved was nothing short of remarkable) as well as the consolidation of lights, sound and projections onto a single software platform called Q-Lab. Like so many other productions that we put on for reasons other than financial success, the show opened to a limited audience but had a second week of sold out performances once word about this wonderful show had spread. In terms of our goals stated earlier, it was a great delight to see burkas, hijabs and niqabs dotted about the auditorium each night and we established a good connection with Patricia Pogson-Nesbitt and her Cedarbridge-based Noire Youth Theatre group who then attended one of Tom Coash's playwriting workshops which we hosted at the theatre.

Private Lives by Noel Coward (July 18th to July 27th)

Mr. John Mitchell, one of the original composers of the Broadway musical *The Drowsy Chaperone*, was brought in to direct our presentation of Coward's famous play with Jennie Lamerton as Producer. John made a number of bold choices by setting the piece in the modern era, with the incorporation of modern technology (projecting onto the set a real-time text conversation, for example) and having the actors speak in modern dialect whilst remaining faithful to the original script. Audience feedback on the production as a whole was extremely positive (it pretty well sold out from opening night) but the aforementioned choices caused some prolonged discussions, much to the delight of the Drama Committee since this is the purpose and beauty of theatre. On the technical side, all worked according to plan but, as always, there were some takeaways and most prominent of all was the realization that we have the option of using Q-Lab when we are short-handed but for this production we had designers and crew that wanted to remain a part of the production by running the sound and lighting desks separately in the traditional way. It is important that all producers are cognizant of this flexibility going forward. *Private Lives* came with a relatively large set; however, this was simply created with reusable modular panels and with minimal new-build or single-use materials.

Killing Carlisle by Owain Johnston-Barnes (September 26th to October 5th)

I'm sure we're all familiar with Owain's talent for writing from his numerous successes with *Famous for Fifteen Minutes* and we were delighted when he approached us with two original feature length play scripts. Both of these were read over four evenings in the theatre in late

2018 and Owain was able to get some valuable feedback from players and audiences for some further editing. The Drama Committee felt that of the two, *Killing Carlisle* was near production-ready and we decided to support Owain further by taking it to full production in September with Jennifer Campbell as Producer and Carol Birch as Director. The set from *Private Lives* was able to be reused with only a few minor alterations at very minimal cost. This with some very skillful set dressing made the inheritance of this set very difficult to detect. The piece was extremely well supported by audiences in spite of concerns that its unavoidable show dates overlapped with another popular show at City Hall. *Killing Carlisle* on the BMDS stage was a great success and we sincerely hope that Owain can use it to spring-board his writing to the greater heights that it richly deserves.

Other Notable Events of 2019:

24 Hours to Curtain

Not the Newlywed Game

Video Game Tournament

Wine Women & Song (see music report)

Lighting design workshop by Ryan Day

2 Playwrighting Workshops by Tom Coash

Coming up:

- *Christmas Pantomime: Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs* by Stuart Morrison (Dec 5th to Dec 14th)
- *Keeping up Appearances* by Roy Clarke (Feb 20th to Feb 29th 2020)
- *Famous for Fifteen Minutes* (March 26th to April 4th 2020)

Robbie Godfrey

Drama Chair

Music Report AGM October 2019

Members have been able to participate in and enjoy listening to a range of musical performances and activities this year!

Hoot Nights and Jazz Cabarets have been enjoyed throughout the year and have both provided performance opportunities for those who just wanted to 'test the waters' to experienced professional entertainers. Thanks to Tom Ray and friends for giving up their time to entertain and back up local talent (including youth players this year) and to those who set up and provided refreshments.

The Wine, Women and Song ladies entertained members in the theatre on two separate occasions this year. Both were successful events and with no overheads, provided a profitable income for the Society. We were pleased to welcome back Matthew Ross, who dazzled us with his trumpet skills and to be able to showcase our Choralographer, Charlotte Morrell. 5 talented teenagers provided the backing band and sound support.

Dressed in all the colours of the rainbow, the ladies also represented the Society performing Queen songs in the bandstand for Pride, which drew a large and diverse crowd.

Melodies and Mimosas (the smaller, travelling singing group) were kindly hosted by Tom and Heather Conyers and were **again** able to raise over \$2,500 for the Charitable Trust, thanks to the generosity of those who enjoyed an afternoon of singing. They were accompanied by Cormac Sagurs on drums and featured past Scholarship winner Shona Maule as guest soloist. Thanks to Kevin, Adrian and both Carols for keeping the guests refreshed throughout the afternoon.

As part of the booth upgrade, the sound equipment has been tidied and an invoice created. With performances by Wine, Women and Song, Daylesford Singers and an external musical all in the pipeline we hope that these improvements will facilitate better sound quality and enable more musical events to be enjoyed in the theatre in future.

It has been a pleasure to serve you as Music Chair this year and I look forward to continuing to keep live music part of the M in BMDS!

Lisa Maule, Music Chair



Bermuda Musical & Dramatic Society

Facilities Report for AGM - October, 2019

Good Evening Exec and Members of BMDS:

The position of facilities chair is one of varying, and far-reaching, responsibilities. Generally speaking, it covers everything to do with the property, building, and the systems contained within.

The property consists for a parking lot and a unique building having 2 parts. A mixture of a 100-year-old home used for a bar & tables, kitchenette, changing rooms and casting couch on the second floor, and exec offices on the third; And a newer part, with a foyer/box office area, patron washrooms, a theater, and workshop\paintshop. Both parts have their challenges and needs.

Projects completed during the year (Oct to Oct)

The Annex building got a new door, better ventilation, a ramp with a hand rail for easy moving of the BBQ's and new shelves.

The Camera System was upgraded and expanded and includes remote viewing and monitoring. The footage is also easily provided to the authorities, should the need arise.

The theater roof and foyer roof were inspected and washed clean, some patches and mending also occurred.

The main roof of the old building was fully repaired, repainted and sealed

The basement sump pumps went through some challenges, as the old building sits below sea level and is frequently receiving the area's grey water.

In Closing:

In April of this year, I decided to step down from this role, due to the sheer amount of time and effort this role requires of me. At the same time, I recommended that a property management firm, overseen by the facilities chair, be engaged to manage this property. I still feel that is the way to go.

Thank your attention.



Sandro Cavaliere
Premises Chair, IT and Security 2018/2019

BAR REPORT
BMDS AGM – 17th October 2019

Madame Chairman, fellow Exec. Members and fellow Members —

I would like to once again offer a big thank to the two bar committees at BMDS. They make my life so much easier!! The first being, “The Bar Committee” consisting of myself, Alan Brooks (Brooksie) , Jennifer Campbell, Christopher Bryan, Sally Browne, Keren Lomas, Charles Doyle and Adam Gauntlett. The Bar Committee has wonderful meetings at which we discuss bar matters, ordering stock, etc. Also, a special thanks to Adam for scheduling our bartenders each month and training new ones when required. These are thankless jobs. Thank you also for JennO who places the bar orders and for Brooksie who is always available to let our suppliers in to deliver our booze. Billy is amazing! Thank you Billy! Need I say more.

The second committee being, “The Bar Opening Committee” which consist of, myself, William Armstrong, Alan Brooks (Brooksie), Kevin MacDonald and new comers Hilda Matcham, Bob Legere and Thom Farrow. Without these people, the bar would not open! They keep our bar functional Monday to Fridays. I must also thank Shawn Angiers and Deborah Joell for all of their hard work and commitment while on this Committee.

Also, I must thank all the Bartenders who volunteer their services bartending once a month. It is greatly appreciated.

We had an easy run again this year with our application for applying for our liquor licence. Our Secretary, Theresa, had all the minutes, list of members, etc., etc. that were needed, all ready to roll. Our application went in on time and everything was smooth sailing after that.

We have introduced a few new items to the bar this year which seem to be doing very well. If there is a particular beverage that you would like to see behind the bar, let us know and we will see if it would be viable behind the bar.

We had the “Sugar Tax” introduced this year!! And with the annual government increase as well as the “Sugar Tax”, drink prices had to be increased. Everything went up a dollar except wine which did not increase at all.

In summing up, I would like to thank all of you as Members for patronising our bar. We need you to bring your friends and to drink. Got to get our profits up and make Ash a happy man!!!

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas Holiday and, notice I didn't say “Happy Holidays”!, and a Happy and Healthy and, of course, Prosperous, NEW YEAR!!

Thank you!

Sandy Amott aka PG
Bar Chairman

BMDS Charitable Trust Report 2019

The BMDS Charitable Trust continues its mission to award sponsorships and bursaries to Bermudian students studying various aspects of Theatrical Arts. Since inception in 2001 the Trust has distributed approximately \$395,000 to more than 40 different students. Most of these funds are attributed to the annual Famous for Fifteen Minutes Playwriting Festival. Although a scheduling conflict did not allow the Famous Festival to occur in 2019, the Trust is grateful to the BMDS Membership and our sponsor, Washington Properties, for their support in the past, and hopes it will continue at the next Festival scheduled now for late March – early April 2020.

In 2019, the ninth year that the bursary has been listed on BermudaScholarships.com, the Trust received 11 applications for bursaries. As a result of the successful 2018 Famous Festival (which raised approximately \$18,000) and other generous donations and contributions (details of which will be explained later in this report), the Trust awarded 5 Bursaries of \$5,000 each to the following individuals:

RYAN DAY (for the third time) who is entering his third year of his BA (hons) degree in Lighting Design at the Royal School of Speech and Drama in the UK.

JADIYAH BAILEY (for the third time) who is now starting a Post-Graduate MA Dance: Creative Dance Education at the University of Salford in the UK.

ANGELIS HUNT who is entering a BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre degree course at the University of West London in the UK.

LAUREN MENDES who has appeared in a number of BMDS productions and is now entering a BA in fine Arts degree at Concordia University in Montreal.

LESLIE TUCKER who is entering a BM in Music Education at the University of North Carolina.

In addition to these Bursaries, the Trust also donated \$3,000 to the Bermuda School of Music's Bursary programme.

To update you on last years recipients we share the following:

Ryan Day continues to study at Central as noted above, and the results of his studies cannot be more clearly demonstrated than the lighting of the recent G&S production of Mamma Mia, certainly the best ever lighting design produced by a Bermudian in Bermuda.

Shona Maule received her First Class Honours degree from The Guildford School of Acting.

Mikaela Kawaley-Lathan continues her studies for a BA (Hons) degree at the University of British Columbia.

Natacha Kneeland-Lloyd continues to enjoy her studies at Humber college in Toronto, where she continues to expand her horizons in Stage Management, in particular.

Aside from the approximately \$18,000 from the Famous Festival 2018 referred to earlier, other income to the Trust included:

\$2,600 from BMDS Members through the Daylesford tip jar and donations at membership renewal time,

\$2,500 from a small concert put together by Karen Stroeder, Lisa Maule, and Shona Maule with a wonderfully talented group of singers and musicians generously hosted at the home of Tom and Heather Conyers,

\$250 raised at Workshops presented by Ryan Day and our friend Tom Coash,

\$750 from Sun Life Financial for our entry in their annual Christmas Tree decorating Competition, and our thanks to Deborah Mackenzie for guiding many other BMDS members in this project,

And finally, a very generous private donation from Martha Ferguson through the Friends of Bermuda Community Foundation and another from Nicole Valadao.

For a number of reasons the Trust has changed its financial year-end from August 31 to May 31. Copies of the Trust's Financial Statements, when final and available, may be obtained by emailing bursary@bmds.bm.

We are starting our planning for the 2020 Famous Festival, which will be held from March 26th – April 5th next year. We look forward to the participation and support of BMDS and its Members. The script deadline will be in January, and details of this plus audition and performance dates will be available soon

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees of the BMDS Charitable Trust - Kevin Blee, Carol Birch, Jennifer Campbell, Adrian Lee-Emery and Philip McIntosh who thank you all for your continued support of Theatrical Arts students in Bermuda

BMDS: Treasurer Report for 2019 AGM

1. Statement of Operations

The Society made a net loss of \$68,836 for the year ending May 31, 2019, in comparison to a net profit of \$29,343 for the same period in the prior year. This represents unfavorable financial performance of \$98,179 year on year, primarily driven by a decline in revenue and increased significant one-time repair and maintenance expenditures.

Revenues*Production Revenue*

The Society's revenues declined by approximately \$60,000 to \$200,000 for the 2018/19 fiscal year, primarily due to a decrease of circa \$44,000 in net profit generated by panto. Ticket sales fell by \$25,000 year on year noting the public's lack of appetite for an original musical versus a more traditional pantomime. In addition, the cost of producing the show increased approximately \$20,000 given the difficulties associated with putting on an original musical. The Board have analysed and learned from this past years panto performance and are hopeful that a return to a more traditional show for the upcoming holiday period will provide a significant financial uptake.

Full details of the musical and dramatic financial information can be found on schedule 2, page 11, of the audited financial statements. A couple of points to note with the schedule is that up-front expenses were incurred for Veils and Private Lives, shows that took place after our fiscal year end, and therefore no revenue has yet been associated with these performances. In addition, there were some expenses from Yes Prime Minister that fed into the current fiscal year despite the performance being held in 2017/18. Lastly, to highlight the performance of the Daylesford Singers, which has proven to be very popular during the year resulting in a positive contribution on production net revenue.

Other Revenue

Membership revenue remained fairly consistent from the prior year, and the Board continue to explore ways to grow our membership base, while ensuring regular guests are encouraged to join.

The society's rental of the car park to Estera and Appleby generated additional revenue of \$8,000 during the year in accordance with our revised agreements.

Lastly, the bar had another strong year attributable in large part to the hard work of the social and bar committees. A decrease in the profit margin of bar sales was circa 3% as a result of the rising cost of inventory, contributing to a \$7,000 decline in net bar sales overall.

Daylesford Expenses

Repairs and maintenance, the largest contributor to expenses, increased approximately \$25,000 year on year. Large one-time expenditures were required for upkeep of our aging premises, of note over \$15,000 was spent on stairwell and kitchen exhausts, a new door for the annex, and repairing the roof, ceilings and walls, along with \$12,000 to repaint the roof. Significant maintenance and repairs were needed to our air conditioning units during the year, giving a rise in associated costs of over \$5,000. Unfortunately, these costs cannot be avoided and are essential in maintaining a safe and suitable surrounding for the Society's activities.

Of the remaining expenses, the majority are consistent year on year, with the exception of an increase in utility and land tax rates for a combined unfavorable impact of approximately \$15,000.

BMDS: Treasurer Report for 2019 AGM**2. Statement of Financial Position****Cash**

Despite the significant downturn in the Society's financial results for the year, our cash position at May 31, 2019 remains largely unchanged from the prior year. The Society's operating activities for the year generated \$21,775 as detailed on page 6 of the financial statements, while capital investment in lighting/sound equipment and new security cameras totaled \$24,425.

Other Assets

Other asset balances to note include an increase in prepayments as the City Hall theater rental for panto has been secured through 2021.

Liabilities

On the liabilities side there is no significant movement year on year, payables of \$31,000 relate to the normal course of business on which the Society is current.

Summary

In summary, the Society's working capital balance of \$214,000 displays the Society's continued strength of liquidity and prudent management. Going forward, we will continue to invest in both the theatre and its equipment, along with the premises, for the good of the Society and its members. Despite a disappointing financial year, we expect to bounce back in fiscal 2019/20 with a strong financial performance driven by exciting productions and social events. Many thanks to the exec, sub committees and volunteers who drive the society, and all the members for their continued support.

3. Questions

The floor will be opened to tackle any of the audience's questions.

Sincerely,

Ashley Mitchell