

# Information for New Members

## Welcome to Quarry Bank Operatic Society

As new members you will undoubtedly have questions about how we run the society and what is expected of you. This information sheet is a brief overview of what we do, when and how. It will also detail what you need to do and the commitment we expect from acting members.

## The Rules

Every Society is required to have a set of rules which members have to follow and are a requirement of the Charities Commission (we are a registered charity). You should have had a rulebook on becoming a member and it is advisable for you to read this (If you don't have one please speak to Wendy Spencer our membership secretary).

There are also rules and guidelines set by the committee regarding participation in shows that are in addition to the official rulebook. These are:

- Each member is required to sell at least 10 tickets for the main show in September. If you do not manage to sell 10 then you will be invoiced for the difference.
- If you miss 3 consecutive rehearsals you will not be allowed to take part in the show as it is felt you will have missed too much to catch up. (Extenuating circumstances maybe taken into account)
- You will not be able to participate in the 1st round of auditions for the main show until you have performed on stage for us in at least 1 show. (If parts go to a second round then these are open to all members)
- Rehearsal material is provided by the society, however we do ask that a contribution is made to the cost of hire, usually between £5-£10.
- If you cannot attend a rehearsal for any reason you must contact a member of the production team as soon as possible. If necessary they will then have sufficient time to alter their plans for that rehearsal. A calendar will be provided at the start of rehearsals for members to write in any holidays they have booked. Please ensure this is completed as this makes rehearsal planning more effective.

## The Shows

As a company we rehearse for 2 shows a year.

- "Gotta Sing Gotta Dance" – You might also hear it called "The 3 night show" as we perform for 3 nights only. This show is usually held at the Cornbow Theatre in Halesowen and is an informal concert where the audience are seated on round tables with light refreshments provided. The show itself is a mixture of song and dance numbers chosen by the Production Team from a wide variety of musicals or films. It is a difficult show for performers as there are generally a lot of words to remember so a lot of hard work and commitment is required.

General Rehearsal Schedule - Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October</b>	x	All	x	x	x	x
<b>November</b>	x	All	x	Principals	x	x
<b>December</b>	x	All	x	Principals	x	x
<b>January</b>	x	All	x	All	x	x
<b>February</b>	x	All	x	All	x	x
<b>Show week</b>	All	All	Dress Rehearsal	Performance	Performance	Performance

- “The Main Production” – This show is chosen by members from a shortlist put together by the Management Committee by a vote at our AGM in January.  
This show runs for 5 performances in the last week of September from Tuesday to Saturday. The show is performed at Netherton Arts Centre in Northfield Road.  
Auditions

The Audition date is set by the Management Committee at the first meeting of the new year following the AGM. It is generally a Saturday towards the end of March so all prospective auditionees need to bear this in mind when making other arrangements. People auditioning will be set excerpts from the show to learn by the production team and are distributed approximately 1 month before auditions. The production is cast by an audition board consisting of the Producer, Musical Director, Choreographer, Chairman and an Independent Representative.

If a part is not cast after 2 rounds of auditions then the committee reserves the right to invite an outside performer to take the part.

Performing on the main production requires a large investment on behalf of the Society in terms of cost. (Average cost per performer can be around £300 depending on the show) Therefore 100% commitment is required and people should take note of the rehearsal schedule below before committing themselves.

<b>General Rehearsals - Main Production</b>							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
March	x	All	x	x	x	x	x
April	x	All	x	Principals	x	x	x
May	x	All	x	Principals	x	x	x
June	x	All	x	Principals	x	x	x
July	x	All	x	Principals	x	x	x
August	x	All	x	All	x	x	x
Sept	See Below	All	See Below	All	See Below	See Below	See Below
<b>Run-up Week</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Technical (but need to be available)</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Band Call (am) First Dress (pm)</b>
<b>Show Week</b>	<b>Full Dress Rehearsal (pm)</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>"Get Out"</b>

### Useful Contacts

If you have anymore questions regarding anything to do with the society and the productions please ask a member of the committee who will be only to glad to answer your queries. Alternatively please ring one of the numbers below.

Producer	Janet Kirkham	01384 560954	
Musical Director	Richard Ganner	01384 898809	7880570727
Choreographer	Gillian Raybould	01384 560950	7891477376
Secretary	Diane Ganner	01384 359146	
Chairman	Doreen Nicklin	01384 567651	