

# WESSEX GLYNDEBOURNE ASSOCIATION

## Update – September 2018

Since the last Update we have enjoyed two recitals. Claire Barnett-Jones, this year's Wessex Award winner, gave an enjoyable performance in May which featured Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder in the first half, followed by a range of songs by five women composers, which opened our eyes (and ears) to how neglected such repertoire is in current recital programmes. Claire has gone on to have several cover roles at Glyndebourne this summer, and we look forward to watching her career develop. In July at Beaulieu we had once more a highly talented quartet from the Glyndebourne Festival chorus, with a varied repertoire which included not only a fine selection of operatic arias, ranging from Handel to Donizetti but also songs by Duparc and Ravel; the French theme continued in the second half with works by Massenet, Delibes and Charpentier amongst others. Once more the group was most ably accompanied by Matthew Fletcher

The Glyndebourne Festival season has again won critical praise, particularly for its splendid revivals of Handel's *Giulio Cesare* and *Saul*, as well as a brand-new and highly-acclaimed *Vanessa* by the American composer Samuel Barber. We look forward to seeing the Touring Company's performance of Massenet's *Cendrillon* at Glyndebourne on October 28th, when we shall be presenting the Wessex Award in the afternoon to this year's winner, whom we will be selecting shortly. Then it's off to Woking once more on November 20th, this time to see the Touring cast in the well-received production of Verdi's *La Traviata*. Over 70 of us will be seeing the Massenet and nearly 60 the Verdi, a very good turnout.

The final event for 2018 has now been announced. Roderick Kennedy, Artistic Director of Dorset Opera, is already well-known to some of you as the company is quite local and has established a strong reputation for its annual opera festival each July. A two week workshop is conducted to bring together a company from scratch, with singers early in their careers seasoned by some more experienced artists. This past July they put on Massenet's *Le Cid* and Puccini's *La Bohème*, and won critical acclaim from no lesser a figure than Rupert Christiansen, who reviews for the Daily Telegraph. Roderick will talk about the challenges and opportunities this approach creates, and their plans for 2019.

We are working hard on our own 2019 programme, and booking for the first events of the year will be in the next Update, which we hope to send later in October along with details of the 2019 Glyndebourne programme and the opportunity to enter the ballot for tickets.

### ***In House on Saturday 8th December at 12.00 noon.***

As described above, Roderick Kennedy will talk about the aims and accomplishments of Dorset Opera. As usual, a buffet lunch with wine will be served after the talk.

### ***Lunch at Glyndebourne on 28th October***

To facilitate payment, instead of collecting cash on the day, we would ask those members attending *Cendrillon*, and wishing to have lunch with the group, to include in their booking £18 each (a slight increase over last year). If attending the performance but not joining us for lunch, please delete the indicated number on your booking form, and inform us if not otherwise booking.

**Please book on the accompanying form (£17 for members, £20 for guests). All applications to Mrs Brigid McManus, 23 Little Hayes Lane, Itchen Abbas, SO21 1XA together with a stamped addressed envelope - no staples please!**

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## Booking Form – September 2018

Date	Event	Place	Price/ Ticket	No. of Tickets	Sub- Total
Sunday 28th October	Lunch (if attending <i>Cendrillon</i> )	Glyndebourne	£18		
Saturday 8th December 12 noon	In-House talk by Roderick Kennedy “Running the Dorset Opera company”	Itchen Abbas Village Hall	£17 for members - £20 for guests		
				<b><u>Total</u></b>	

Member’s Name .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone .....

Email address (if not already provided) .....

Amount of enclosed cheque .....

(Cheques to be made payable to: Wessex Glyndebourne Association)

**Please return this form to: Mrs Brigid McManus, 23 Little Hayes Lane, Itchen Abbas, SO21 1XA together with a stamped addressed envelope - no staples on cheques, please!**