

When Andrew Rees approached Carol Rieley with an offer to organise a concert of operatic music to raise funds for the Motor Neurone Disease Association she gladly accepted. Never having before worked as an impresario she had no idea of the 6 months of work and stress involved. However everything worked out well, the concert being almost a complete sell-out and nearly £4000 was raised.

**Opera Live**  
In aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association  
**Clair Hall, Haywards Heath**  
November 26th 2006  
Bar: 7pm Performance: 7.30pm  
Join us for a Gala Evening of popular opera classics

Jo Appleby, Soprano formerly with 'Amici Forever'  
and Andrew Rees, International Tenor

also featuring Louise Armit, Andy Rupp and Andrew Quartermain (Piano)

Tickets £10 - available from Clair Hall  
**Box Office 01444 455440**

FIGHTING MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE



Lousie Armit Andrew Rees Andy Rupp Jo Appleby

Below is the press report which appeared in the following week's Mid-Sussex Times

## Night at the opera is a pure delight

OPERA LIVE! was the name of the show and that summed up the evening perfectly at Clair Hall on Sunday.

Excellent singers and musicians gave a premier performance for a packed house. Not a microphone in sight...it was pure delight.

The evening for a most worthy cause - the Motor Neurone Disease Association - brought together the superb voices of Andrew Rees, Jo Appleby, Andrew Rupp and Louise Armit.

They were accompanied impeccably by Andrew Quartermain on piano. He also shared the stage with

cellist Pavlos Carvalho, whose late arrival provided the only bit of tension on a carefree night.

The short wait was well worth it as Carvalho left the audience spellbound with Chopin's Nocturne in C minor. Poor Pavlos had hoped to play Le Grand Tango but the vital piano part had somehow found its way to Ireland instead of Haywards Heath. No matter, its replacement Hungarian Rhapsody went down a treat.

There were some wonderful duets from the singers with the Andrews Rees and Rupp performing Bizet's Pearl Fishers and Jo and Louise

giving their all with Bacarolle from Offenbach's Tales of Hoffman.

The solos were equally enthralling. Andrew Rees's powerful O Sole Mio, Andrew Rupp's tear jerker The Little Boy That Santa Forgot and Jo Appleby's beautiful Song to the Moon.

But Louise Armit's Voi che Sapete summed up the real meaning of the evening. She dedicated it to her first music teacher who had died of Motor Neurone Disease.

Neil Wallis

*Pictured from left: Louise Armit, Andrew Rees, Andrew Rupp and Jo Appleby.*