

## **Minutes of the Wash up Meeting held on Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012, 7.30pm at the Thrapston Plaza.**

### **Present**

Liz Treacy, Jess Bass, Shirley Haynes, Prue Goss, Pat Garton, Bill Maycock, Sarah Jones, Ryan Wright, Miranda and Neil Case, James Ager, Martin Picken

### **Apologies**

Viv Corbishley, Eppie Anderson, Bryn Wright, James MacWilliam

### **Reports**

#### **Director**

Very pleased with the play, expressed thanks to all who took part.

#### **Treasurer**

A preliminary balance sheet had been produced, showing a profit of over £1000 once the payment of £450 from the freemasons had been received. It was pointed out that there were still a small number of invoices yet to be settled.

#### **Stage Manager**

There was still a shortage of set builders, recruiting new people was proving difficult. A register of skills available within the existing membership was suggested- Martin to e-mail the members

Swapping jobs around for future plays was suggested, to enable team members to become familiar with more than one role.

Detailed information regarding the set was required earlier. Better planning should help in this matter, with a production meeting and timetable for set build asap after auditions.

Buildbase had been very helpful with materials, and had lent the hinges for the swing doors free of charge. It was suggested that we offer them some complementary tickets for a future production.

#### **Marketing/ Ticket Sales**

There had been insufficient tickets printed to cope with the demand.

Online bookings had been a problem as there had been a fault with the computer system.

The Treasurer had difficulty balancing ticket sales with money collected. She suggested numbering tickets to make them more traceable.

Buntings Deli had found that being sole agent for tickets was difficult, although they were happy to continue selling tickets provided there was another outlet.

It was agreed to return to using the Plaza Box Office, with Pat as Box Office Manager. Cast tickets could then be dealt with through the Box office. Buntings would continue to sell tickets as well.

Viv had listed some omissions from the programme;

No author, director or producer mentioned

No date

It was decided that programmes should be proof read before printing in future.

#### **Front of House**

Ryan noted that the tea and coffee counter got very congested at times, and there were several 'near misses' with cups of hot tea. He suggested that serving teas from a long table in front of the kitchen would help.

### **Archive**

Shirley requested material from the play for the archive.

It was also suggested that much of the archive material could be scanned onto computer disc, to enable the archive to be retained in case of damage to, or in, the store room. Martin to e-mail members to ask for volunteers.

## **Committee Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, Thrapston Plaza**

### **Present/ Apologies**

As for Wash-Up.

### **Minutes of Previous meeting**

(Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2012)

Accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman.

### **Matters Arising**

None

### **Correspondence**

A letter from the Mayor, Eddie Sewell, had been received, expressing thanks for his complementary tickets.

### **Treasurers Report**

Pat was still waiting for bank statements to arrive.

### **Play Readings**

Three readings had already taken place, with at least two more planned.

However the Committee felt it was necessary to choose a play for the autumn so that it could be cast before the summer holiday season. With this in mind, 'A Murder is Announced' was chosen. Martin to contact Lisa Punter to confirm she was still willing to direct, and to ask for a date for auditions, the number of books required, a cast list and brief synopsis. Also to email the membership to ask whether they intended to audition. Dates for production were confirmed as Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>-Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

Sarah confirmed the next play reading was due to take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June at the Bridge; 'When We Are Married' by JB Priestley.

The Bridge was also booked for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July, although the play had not yet been decided. It was hoped that a play for Spring 2013 could be chosen before rehearsals for 'A Murder is Announced' begin.

### **Freemasons Evening**

The Thursday evening performance sold to the Freemasons had not been popular with the cast or backstage team, due to the smaller number in the audience compared with

the other nights and the perceived limited response from them. Some members were also unhappy about the lengthy interval. In view of this it was decided that we should not repeat the arrangement next year.

### **Any Other Business**

#### **Charter Fair**

It was felt that although the human fruit Machine at last year's Charter Fair had been popular, it had not significantly raised the profile of the society or led to an increase in membership. Liz proposed that we should not book a stall for this year, and this was agreed.

#### **Donation**

Ryan suggested that the society should give a donation in memory of Kieran Carter's grandmother, whose funeral took place during the week of the play. Pat queried whether this was allowed in the current constitution, but after checking it was confirmed that donations for philanthropic or charitable purposes could be made. A sum of £100 was agreed, and Liz volunteered to write an accompanying letter.

#### **TADS Centenary**

Sarah reminded the committee that TADS celebrate their centenary in 2013, and suggested that we mark the occasion with a party at the Plaza, inviting former members and friends of the society. She also suggested acting a few excerpts from some of our more popular plays. As this would require a lot of organisation, it was decided that a sub-committee should be formed at the AGM.

#### **Chairs for Plaza**

Liz proposed that we should look into replacing some of the chairs at the Plaza. As she had recently joined the Plaza Management committee, she agreed to make enquiries regarding the likely cost.

#### **Jess Wedding Gift**

Jess thanked the society for the money that she and Sean received for their wedding gift.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The date for the next committee meeting was set for Friday June 8<sup>th</sup>.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.35pm