

PINNER PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 23th September 2010 at the PADCA Hall Minuted by : Jackie Simeone

1. Present:

Tony Cash (Acting Chairman), Viv Cooper (committee member), Sue Cash (committee member), Jackie Simeone (committee member + minute taker), Mark Waters, Greta Waters, Tim Hood, Simon Cash, Bev Meyler, Denise Clark (committee member), Marco Ball, Stuart Berry, Chris Berge, Emma Berge, Arnold Glickman

2. Apologies:

Bob & Mary Holness, Simmon Hill, Keith Bayross, Terri Bloch, Cliff Meyler, Margaret Burns, Shannon Browne, Anne Leake, Sheila Owen, Chris Cooper, Nita Mistry, Zoe Feasey, Sean Geelan, Pauline Aubrey

3. Matters Arising: None.

4. Officers Reports:

The reports of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, with Accounts, were read and are attached.

5. Election of Officers:

The Election of Officers took place as follows:-

Bob Holness will remain as President

Simon Cash was elected as Chairman
(proposed by Tony Cash and seconded by Stuart Berry).

Viv Cooper was elected as Treasurer
(proposed by Tony Cash and seconded by Tim Hood).

Jackie Simeone was elected as Secretary
(proposed by Tony Cash and seconded by Sue Cash)

Tony Cash and **Cliff Meyler** were re-elected as Auditors
(proposed by Tim Hood and seconded by Stuart Berry).

Emma Berge & Stuart Berry were elected onto the committee
Proposed by Stuart Berry, seconded by Sue Cash
Proposed by Steve Feasey, seconded by Denise Clark

The remaining members of the Committee were all re-elected.
(**Sue Cash, Denise Clark, Chris Cooper, Mark Waters**)

Many thanks to Tony for stepping into the breach!

6. Financial Matters:

Tony reported that there would be no change to the cost of subscriptions or tickets. Teas & coffees should remain the same, and the programs to be raised to £1 due to the planned improvement of the quality. Agreed.

7. Forthcoming Season:

Small Family Business is the first production, and it should work well with the new rostra.

February's production of Steel Magnolias will be cast in November, and to be directed by Steve Feasey. Simon Cash will be directing Dealer's Choice in May and is looking to perform this in the middle of the hall, which means raising the seating area - again making good use of the new rostra. This will, however, mean we will lose a few seats. The rostra is very flexible and can be used for both stage and seating requirements as necessary. Challenges coming up in the productions include running water and hairdryers!

8. Social and Fundraising:

Many thanks go to Mark Waters and Tony Cash for arranging the theatre trips during the previous season, and eyes are peeled to see what the theatres have to offer for the forthcoming season. The usual quiz night will be planned for late January, and following the success of the summer bbq at Simon's, another will be scheduled for the summer. Also on the cards is a trip to Scarborough to see an Alan Ayckbourn play. A provisional date of 4 June has also been set for the Pinner Players 75th Anniversary, and more news on this will be provided nearer the time. The much coveted Thespian Golfing Trophy will be up for grabs in the next tournament, and details on this will be announced shortly.

Sue Cash confirmed that the Ladies that Lunch outings were continuing to be a big success, and a special Christmas lunch has been booked for Wednesday 15 December @ Cafe Rouge in Ruislip (sorry gents, ladies only). Denise Clark suggested an alternative spin on this for ladies that cannot attend these lunches due to work commitments, so perhaps a Ladies that Dine could be on the cards – watch this space.

9. Any Other Business:

Tim Hood raised the question of whether the Staging Fund will be held in the memories of both Dennis Kimbley & Tracey Berge, which was confirmed. A further question was raised querying whether there were any regulations about performing in the middle of the hall, and Tony confirmed we can have any configuration of seats that we like. Only possible glitch is that with the new rostra, it will take longer to set up and take down and therefore, a practice run is planned during the Sunday rehearsal in October to time this. We may also need to replace the carpet, but again, this will be checked on the practice run.

Tony Cash announced that PADCA have in their possession an architect's rough plan to extend the hall by circa 12 ft to give room for rolled out raked seating. There are also plans to extend the area behind the stage to either make a larger stage area or more storage room. Formal planning and approval will take time to come to fruition, but it is encouraging to know that at least things are in motion.

Sue Cash mentioned that there were 10 parts less on offer this season, and we need to encourage people to stick around if they are not offered roles. Simon Cash reported that both himself and Stuart have been talking about doing something extra in the summer, eg., "One Act" festivals, but this does need someone to take ownership and run it.

Steve Feasey and Arnold Glickman raised the issue of whether the newsletter could be emailed rather than posted, and also suggested some sort of "Members Column" to be open to members who can advertise or include anything relevant to PP. To be discussed in the next committee meeting.

The platform was then taken up by Mark Waters, re discussions the committee had undertaken surrounding the roles/criteria of Vice Presidents and Honorary Members. Firstly, he proposed that Chris Berge should be made an Honorary Member due to the enormous support he has provided to both Tracey and therefore to the club itself, for which we are extremely grateful and appreciative – this was warmly received and of course unanimously agreed.

Secondly, he proposed a member for Vice President..someone who has given a lot more than the stated criteria of 15 years outstanding service, and who has gone far beyond the call of duty many times. Please see attached report for full details, but this is, of course Sue Cash who has throughout the years been the glue of the society, and is always such a welcoming figure to both existing and new members, and the society would not have reached where we are without her dedicated enthusiasm and hard work. This proposal was seconded by everyone in the room!

We ended the meeting on this high note, which closed at approximately 9:15pm.

Chairman's Report 2010

I make no excuse that the chairman's report this year is briefer than and not as entertaining as in the last few years, as the year was overshadowed by losing Tracey our chairman during the last play "The Queen and I". Tracey had an inimitable style of reporting which I could never emulate.

From a "plays performed" perspective PP's had another successful year, with 3 diverse and challenging offerings played to full houses, meaning that all 3 plays made a profit (even Charlie's Aunt with the second highest costs ever, ah the large costume plays of Sue) Not that profit should be the only measure but more critical acclaim, and enjoyment should, in my opinion, be the yardstick.

Between Seasons Greetings, Charlie's Aunt and The Queen and I, there were 36 acting roles on offer, filled by 28 different actors and actresses (obviously therefore 8 were in 2 plays.) And importantly 8 new acting members and 3 new backstage staff. A great year from a membership perspective.

Season's Greetings directed in his own inimitable style by Mark Waters, had them rolling in the aisle, a production that ran the full gamut of sex, drunkenness, Literary works and of course puppetry skills. A set decorated lavishly in the Christmas spirit and props par excellence (who could forget the drumming bear!)

Charlie's Aunt, a large cast, costume extravaganza from Sue with no less than 4 new members, a tribute to Sue's directing skills and patience. They said it couldn't be done, but it succeeded magnificently.

And lastly "The Queen and I" when we lost our own Queen, Tracey. I can't 'speak highly enough of Felicity the Director and the brave cast (of which 4 were new members), especially Nicki, who pulled off a successful production of a very different kind of play that we are used to doing. The whole team, backstage and front of house included must have our admiration.

I must give special thanks to our President Bob Holness and his wife Mary, who despite ill health has continued to be a very supportive President; you might like to know that the catch phrase "give us a P Bob" was voted number 1 in a recent poll. Our thanks also to our vice presidents for their continued support including our "active" Vice President for stepping into the breach temporarily.

The back stage, front of house, programme designers and publicity people etc are thanked at after show parties so a blanket thank you to all of them.

The Committee of Tracey, Mark, Chris, Sue, Denise (wonderful AOB) and Simon and especially the Treasurer Viv and Secretary (lap top in hand) Jackie have done a wonderful job this year, and have been very supportive to me in the last brief 3 months. Sadly we say good bye to Nicky and wish her the best of luck in Madrid, but happily as we will see later we welcome her sister Emma to keep the younger point of view prominent, not to mention the Berge input.

Talking of Berge input, the committee have decided to make Chris Berge an Honorary member of Pinner Players in recognition of his unsung support to Tracey and his generosity in enabling us to have a scenery and staging fund (in memory of Tracey and the Kimberley's) that virtually covers the whole of the rostra purchase (more in the Treasurers report).

Chris, Thank you for everything.

So that is the end of the acting Chairman's report, and it's goodbye from him and hello to him.

The best of luck Simon in you new role as Chairman and may you continue to lead us through more enjoyable and successful years

Tony Cash (Acting Chairman)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2010

TREASURERS REPORT

The accounts for the year show that overall we made a surplus of £2187.53. This was mainly due to increased surpluses on the year's three productions.

Firstly, general expenses incurred in maintaining the theatre company amounted to £1193.20 made up AGM expenses £33.00, subscription to the publication Amateur Stage £40, flowers, gifts & tributes £80, general postage in mailing newsletters £310.80, insurance premium £357.49, miscellaneous expenses £151.47, PADCA annual subscription £25, photographic expenses for our publicity board displayed in the hall during public performances £17.75, PPL licence to enable us to play recorded music £58.81, the write off of redundant programme covers £55, general stationery expenses £44.32 and lastly web site expenses £19.56.

Our income in the year amounted to £3380.73 comprising of bank interest £117.30, general donations £135, hire of the stage lights in the hall £65, rebate from PADCA £102.15, quiz evening a net of £124.96, members subscriptions £925 and lastly the net surplus from our three productions in the year £1911.32.

In the light of these results, the committee is not proposing any increase in member's subscriptions for next year.

Moving on to these productions, the November 2009 play Season's Greetings cost £2868.31 to stage and we received a total of £3842.76 from ticket sales, programme advertisements, sales of programmes, coffee, ice cream and script monies from the cast. This production was a box office sell-out, although the hall normally seats 420 over the three nights we actually managed to squeeze in 431 somewhat cramping the technical staff at the back. Overall surplus on this production was almost a record at £974.45

The February 2010 production of Charley's Aunt cost £3756.39 to stage and we received a total of £3882.50 from ticket sales, programme advertisements, sales of programmes, coffee, ice cream and script monies from the cast. Once again the play was a complete box office sell-out with 434 seats sold. Technical staff at the back were even more cramped this time. Overall surplus on this production was £126.11

The May 2010 production of Queen & I cost £2899.74 to stage and we received a total of £3710.50 from ticket sales, programme advertisements, sales of programmes, coffee and ice creams. In view of the low cost of scripts it was decided not to levy a charge for these from the cast. Again this production was a box office sell-out with 430 seats sold. Overall surplus on this production was £810.76

There was no capital expenditure incurred during the year.

I should now like to come to the Scenery & Staging Fund. This fund was set up initially in the memory of the late Doreen & Dennis Kimbley in 2008 and to date we have received £1900 in donations. This year we have suffered the tragic loss of our Chairman, Tracey Berge and her family very generously wished to give all donations in her memory to Pinner Players. As a result we extended the scope of the fund to include the donations in respect of Tracey as well. In total we have received the very large amount of £3961 in Tracey's memory making the gross total in the fund £5861. During the year we incurred a small expenditure of £100 in new wooden rostra so the fund stands at year-end with £5761.

Although outside the scope of these accounts, this month we placed an order for new modular rostra to cover the entire stage and this will cost £6567.16 including delivery. At the same time we are also transferring an amount of £806.16 into the fund from our general account to fully cover the cost of this purchase.

Lastly, to the balance sheet, the net worth of the company at the beginning of the year was £12281.02 to which this year's surplus of £2187.53 has been added together the £5761 in the Scenery & Staging fund making a final total £20229.55. This is represented by a total of £19926.35 in our bank accounts, capital item valued at £85.20 and two payments in advance referring to next year of £218.

In summary, thanks to our very loyal audience we have well covered our production costs and as a result the committee is not recommending any increase in ticket price from the current £8 per seat for next year. However, we have improved the standard of our programmes with glossy covers and the inclusion of photographs which does increase the cost of printing. Currently, income from FOH programme sales does not cover the cost and as a result the committee is proposing an increase in the charge for programmes from 50p to £1 going forward. The current charge for FOH tea/coffee will remain at 50p and the charge for ice creams will remain at £1 each.

Finally, my usual thanks to all the Directors for keeping to their financial budgets and to the box office for consistently squeezing a "quart into a pint pot".

Vivian Cooper
Honorary Treasurer

September 2010

Secretary's Report

Although this has obviously been a challenging year for Pinner Players, both in terms of the current economic climate and due to the sad loss of some long standing members, including of course our own dear Chairman, we came through with 3 fine and very successful productions, seeing the faithful Pinner Players audience staying with us during these belt tightening times.

Some of us enjoyed various trips to the theatre culminating in the usual summer event at the Open Air Theatre in Regents Park. Many thanks to Mark & Tony for organising such good trips.

Going back to last year, we had the Christmas party at Tracey's where amongst other events, a game of charades was held, and boy did the competitive streak rear its head amongst the two teams.. as ref, I think I would've been safer stood between two hungry lions..!

The ever popular Quiz Night was held in February, with the MC being Steve Feasey who certainly put our brains to work with some very interesting and challenging questions. The hearty ploughmans supper was very welcoming and filling, and a good night was had by all. My memory fails to recollect the winning team, and upon asking Tony, received the reply of "I'm not sure, but we came second!"

The summer play readings were very enjoyable and well attended – several people turned up for the first time, and commented afterwards on what a lovely bunch of people we were (just proves what good actors we have, eh!).

There was also a summer BBQ which Simon kindly hosted at his house for members and their families, and looking resplendent in a fetching pinny, he deftly cooked up all our grub to perfection, so we thank him and Cindy of course, for opening their house to us – it proved to be a lovely "season opening" event actually as it was held in late August, and enabled people to get together and discuss the summer and forthcoming events etc.

Over the coming year, we have the PP 75th anniversary dinner to look forward to, and there are ears to the ground to see what the theatres have to offer – including a possible trip to Scarborough. If anyone has any suggestions either for outings or perhaps workshops we could run, please do let myself or any member of the committee know, and we'll be happy to look at these, as input from members is so important and essential to get the best out of the group – we hold regular committee meetings, 11 of which were held last year.

Finally, at the time of going to press, we have 108 members on the books, and I have received numerous emails and phone calls from prospective new members, out of which we have had a few new people join us this year which is very encouraging as we enter the new season.

Citation for Sue Cash being made Vice President of Pinner Players 2010-10-27

During the year, the committee, under the Chairmanship of Tracey, discussed the subject of Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Members. It was decided that a definition of someone who could be made a Vice President would be “a member who had given more than 15 years **outstanding** service to the Company”.

One person who fits this description on all counts and more, is of course *Sue Cash*.

- Committee member from 1973 to the present day (37 years)
- Chairman for 2 x 10 year stints (20 years)
- Treasurer for 2 years
- Acted in or directed over 90 plays
- Keeper of the costume store

..and something seldom talked about, but has kept the company in good health – over 20 members on the current members list were brought in by Sue, not to mention many others who have “passed through”.

I could go on, but all I need to say is..

It gives me great pleasure to propose Sue Cash to be an Active Vice President for her unstinting service and time she has given to the company.

Mark Waters

PINNER PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31st August 2010

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENSES	2010	2009	INCOME	2010	2009
Additional depreciation	0.00	770.18	Bank Interest	115.50	308.06
AGM Expenses	33.00	31.50	Donations	135.00	125.00
Amateur Stage	40.00	0.00	Hire of lights	65.00	50.00
Flowers/Gifts/Tributes	80.00	25.00	PADCA rebate	102.15	0.00
General postage expenses	310.80	147.96	Productions	1911.32	1003.50
Insurance	357.49	344.12	Quiz Evening	124.96	93.32
Makeup & session	0.00	251.95	Subscriptions	925.00	966.00
Miscellaneous expenses	151.47	103.49			
PADCA Subscription	25.00	25.00			
Photographic expenses	17.75	17.85			
PPL Licence	58.81	57.56			
Programme covers stock w/o	55.00	0.00			
Stationery expenses	44.32	76.71			
Website expenses	19.56	0.00			
Surplus/Loss in the year	2185.73	694.56			
TOTAL	<u>3378.93</u>	<u>2545.88</u>	TOTAL	<u>3378.93</u>	<u>2545.88</u>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Balance b/fwd from previous year	113.61	1178.39	Depreciation	28.41	1064.78
			Balance c/fwd to next year	85.20	113.61
TOTAL	<u>113.61</u>	<u>1178.39</u>	TOTAL	<u>113.61</u>	<u>1178.39</u>

SCENERY & STAGING FUND

New Rostra	100.00		Balance b/fwd from previous year	1900.00	450.00
Balance c/fwd to next year	5731.00	1900.00	Donations	3931.00	1450.00
	<u>5831.00</u>	<u>1900.00</u>	TOTAL	<u>5831.00</u>	<u>1900.00</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Net Worth b/fwd from yr 2008/9	12281.02	11586.46	Barclays Bank Current Account	2744.31	862.05
Add Surplus in year 2009/10	2185.73	694.56	Barclays Bank Business Account	17150.24	12734.74
D & D Staging Fund	5731.00	1900.00	Capital Items	85.20	113.61
 			Petty Cash	0.00	41.12
			Stock in hand - Programme Covers	0.00	55.00
			Payments in advance	218.00	374.50
TOTAL	<u>20197.75</u>	<u>14181.02</u>	TOTAL	<u>20197.75</u>	<u>14181.02</u>

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge, these figures represent a true statement of the accounts of Pinner Players Theatre Company.

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Auditors

Date

PINNER PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

YEAR TO THE 31st AUGUST 2010

PRODUCTION ACCOUNT

	Production A	Production B	Production C
	Seasons Greetings	Charleys Aunt	Queen & I
	November 2009	March 2010	May 2010
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Banner	46.00	47.00	0.00
Costumes & Wigs	41.36	627.19	237.81
Depreciation	9.47	9.47	9.47
Furniture	82.00	499.38	0.00
Hire of Hall	500.00	500.00	500.00
Hire of Lounge	776.00	781.67	649.67
Hire of Store	50.00	50.00	50.00
Lighting	299.50	293.50	298.50
Miscellaneous	16.90	0.00	49.00
Postage - Leaflets	115.99	95.94	96.00
Printing - Leaflets	206.90	207.05	207.05
Printing - Programmes	135.00	140.00	140.00
Programme Covers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Properties	94.44	98.28	45.95
Royalties	249.00	0.00	255.00
Scripts	125.50	144.38	32.00
Set Builders expenses	26.90	39.55	40.00
Set Construction & Dressing	81.85	172.98	225.23
Sound	11.50	50.00	64.06
TOTAL EXPENSES	2868.31	3756.39	2899.74
<u>INCOME</u>			
Advertisements	90.00	90.00	90.00
Box Office	3448.00	3472.00	3440.00
Coffee	20.76	37.00	30.50
Ice Creams	110.00	94.00	66.00
Programmes	94.00	99.50	84.00
Scripts	80.00	90.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	3842.76	3882.50	3710.50
NET SURPLUS	974.45	126.11	810.76