



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012**

**Minutes**

**Held on 24 September 2012 at 8:00pm**

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**1. Apologies for absence**

Margaret Burns, Sean Headley, Sean Geelan, Mary & John Hulse, Pauline Aubrey, Anne Leake, Tim Hood

**Present**

Mary Holness (President), Simon Cash (Chairman), Jon Grunewald, Sue Cash (Committee Member), Tony Cash, Orla Beardwell, Raymond Freed, Felicity Brown (Committee Member), Simmon Hill, Viv Cooper (Treasurer), Jackie Simeone (Secretary & Minute Taker), Bev Meyler, Cliff Meyler, Jane Willis, Steve Feasey, Terri Bloch, Emma Berge, Mark Waters, Greta Waters, Katherine Sayer, Tom Grady

**2. Minutes of the meeting of September 2011**

Approved

**3. Matters arising** (not otherwise on the agenda)

None

**4. Officer's Reports**

- a) Chairman's Report (see attached)
- b) Secretary's Report (see attached)
- c) Treasurer's Report (see attached)

**5. Election of Officers**

The Election of Officers took place as follows:-

**Mary Holness has agreed to be our President**

**Simon Cash** was re-elected as Chairman  
(proposed by Jon Grunewald and seconded by Tony Cash).

**Viv Cooper** was re-elected as Treasurer  
(proposed by Tony Cash and seconded by Felicity Brown).

**Jackie Simeone** was re-elected as Secretary  
(proposed by Mark Waters and seconded by Steve Feasey)

Steve Feasey was nominated onto the Committee by Mark Waters, seconded by Katherine Sayer.

The remaining members of the Committee were all re-elected.

**(Sue Cash, Emma Berge, Mark Waters, Michele Jenkins)**

**Tony Cash** and **Cliff Meyler** were re-elected as Auditors  
(proposed by SC and seconded by JS).

## 6. Financial Matters

### a) *Ratification of Subscription*

Current prices are £20 (full), £10 (student) £5 (friend). The proposal for these prices to remain the same for another year was agreed.

### b) *Ticket Prices*

Agreed for that prices should remain the same for another year at £9.

### c) *Programme Prices*

To remain the same price of £1.

Proposal to serve the interval coffee & biscuits in china cups and saucers and raise the cost to £1. Concerns were put forward regarding the additional washing up involved and possible escalation of noise. Agreed to trial this at the November production.

## 7. 2012/2013 Productions

The proposed season of Present Laughter (November) Jerusalem (February) and The Odd Couple (May) posed an unexpected problem with regard to procuring licences. Simon reported issues both for the forthcoming season and for last season ; any Ayckbourn & Noel Coward plays were not available with little explanation as to why, which has resulted in the decision to bring forward The Odd Couple to November and move Present Laughter to May in the hope that a license will be available. Many thanks to Tony for agreeing to this and we hope his golf will not suffer adversely. Simon Cash and Steve Feasey take the lead roles ably supported by Jonathan Clark, Jon Grunewald, Cliff Meyler, Tim Hood, Katherine Sayer and Zoe Feasey. This was, of course, first performed some 30 years ago with our Lady President resplendent in the role of Pauline – not to mention a young Tim Hood.

Simon will direct Jerusalem in February after it wowed him in the West End and luckily has managed to obtain a licence for this. Should we not be able to go ahead with Present Laughter in May, the reserve will be Losing Louis and Sue Cash will direct either.

We are hopeful of good attendance at the castings, especially for Jerusalem as a large number of people are required.

Lessons learnt from the above include checking that licences are available for plays earlier in the year. Next season is well balanced, but with slightly fewer female roles than usual.

A little more regarding Jerusalem.. although this play has won many awards, it is a very modern play dealing with, amongst other things, drugs, smoking and bad language. We opened the door with Dealers Choice with the latter, where we braced ourselves for potential negativity, but the audience loved the play and no complaints were received regarding the language, so we're opening the door a little further this time. There will, of course, be a warning to the audience when they contact the box office for tickets.

There is a big challenge with getting a caravan in the woods on stage, but we do enjoy a challenge!

## **8. Social & Fund Raising**

The Christmas party will be held following a rehearsal and the date is looking likely to be Friday 14 December. There will be an extended bar and nibbles and party games will be available.

The Quiz Night will be held in the New Year and hopefully we will have a snow-free day this time. Steve suggested we tweak the format to keep things fresh and this will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

The first theatre trip of the season will be to see Watford Theatre's production of Lost in Yonkers in early October which Mark has kindly arranged.

Due to rain stopping play for the second year running, there are plenty of vouchers to be used up at the Regents Park Open Air Theatre – perhaps a day could be agreed to all meet up in August to see The Sound of Music.

We can also look forward to the summer BBQ event at Simon's in late August.

All information on these and other events will be uploaded to the website or circulated by email or in the newsletters as required.

## **9. Any Other Business**

None reported.

Meeting closed @ 9pm, followed by Raymond Freed's superb documentary of the making of Entertaining Angels which was enjoyed by all – many thanks go to Raymond for all his work with this.

## **Chairman's Report**

### **Productions**

Three very different plays were performed, resulting in a recording breaking year both financially and with regards to parts on offer; 40 parts available over the full season compared to last year's 25. The aim is always to offer 25-30, so 40 was excellent.

10 new members were used over the 3 plays – two of whom, Jane Willis and Jonathan Clark, have come back for more, which is excellent news and we hope they all stay with us for a long time to come.

#### *Pygmalion*

November's period drama was very much a family production. There were families from the houses of Cash, Maguire and Feasey and it was lovely to see the children and parents alike enjoy themselves. The large cast of 19 made it a very vibrant and well received production enjoyed by all. A good backstage crew was on hand to swap the sets around and had as little as 2 minutes to accomplish this, so everyone involved had to be quick, slick and it was a wonder no-one was knocked flying in the rush. The wonderful set and costumes were designed by Katie and all looked amazing. Sue did a fantastic job directing 19 adults and children over 4 acts with two intervals and she still had her sanity at the end (just about) – well done!

#### *'Allo 'Allo*

There were some wonderful performances during this play – who could forget Sheila as le Clerc and Emma as Lieutenant Gruber.. even Nigel was persuaded to make his debut on stage. Felicity, ably assisted by Stuart, directed this very funny play over 4 nights, which resulted in the most financially rewarding play ever. Well done to all involved on this hugely entertaining February production.

#### *Entertaining Angels*

Well received by the audience this play was relatively unknown to end the season on, but managed to engage the audience on several levels thanks to the strong cast giving excellent performances. A big set challenge including a tree, shed and stream was met head on and was no match for the resident set designer. The final effect, complete with panoramic backdrop, plants and shrubs kindly lent by a local nursery, was visually stunning and gasps & wows were drawn from audience members as they walked into the hall. Superbly directed by Mark Waters this was indeed a triumph.

### **Thank You!**

There seemed to be a more or less a semi permanent back stage crew pretty much throughout the season; lighting by Chris Cooper, who rose to some interesting challenges. Sound by Simmon Hill who also faced some interesting noises such as lawnmowers. Stage Management was Nigel Ludbrook for the first two and Simon for the last one. Props were Jane McMorro & Brenda Crann who will be taking a year out for personal reasons for the coming season, and their shoes will be hard to fill.

Terri Bloch, ably assisted by Max on the box office, which included the 4 nights of Allo Allo.

Publicity Michael Strudwick for the lovely colourful brochures and to Stuart Berry & Nigel Hewitt for put the programmes together.

The small army of people who help out in different roles, including front of house, set changing and set builds/take down – what a great team.

Thanks to Raymond who produced a wonderful diary of events from the casting of Entertaining Angels to the final production – wonderful keepsake.

### **Rostra / Raised Seating**

This is the first year which we've used rostra as raked seating at the back of the hall. It has made such a huge difference for both for actors and audience. Although without its teething problems, a structured approach was adopted and Viv created a simple to follow "how to" document so anyone can assemble. We have also acquired some additional storage space in the form of renting a garage in Northwood Hills (Joel Street) which is already filling up fast and the hunt is on for some suitable shelving to utilise the space to its full potential. It is envisaged that most of the props, set dressing and items of furniture will be stored

there. An inventory will be held on what is there, and it is hoped it will be a useful addition. New speakers were kindly donated by Viv which will be very handy.

As we all know, sadly our much loved President Bob Holness passed away this year. Over 20 PP members attended Bob's moving and memorable funeral which was a wonderful tribute to his life and works. Mary has graciously agreed to take over the role of President, and its lovely to see her here tonight – thank you Mary.

In general committee business, Jon's been keeping the website updated with all the good stuff. Tim does a fabulous job with the newsletters to keep everyone informed and many thanks go to the Secretary, Treasurer and the committee members for all their support this year. We say farewell to Stuart as he steps down from committee life, and thank him for his valuable contribution and extend a warm welcome to Steve.

**Simon Cash**  
**Chairman**

**September 12**

## **Secretary's Report**

We've had another good year socially, starting with the Christmas Party, followed by the ever popular Quiz Night in January, which was won by.. yes, you've guessed it.. Tim's Team – well done! There have been various theatre outings, including Spamalot in Aylesbury, another washed out Regents Park open air theatre event due to the rain, but the good old British spirit was still rampant, and I am informed there was a rather jolly visit to the fish & chip shop where everyone dried out, swapped stores and a teeny weeny bit of alcohol as consumed.

A few of us whet to a wigs & make up demo given by the former Head of Wigs & Makeup at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-on-Avon, which proved very interesting with demonstrations on members of the audience – even though we all knew it was fake, a collective gasp arose when she slit the throat of a willing volunteer and blood seeped down the neck. Some aspects were definitely not for the faint hearted.

Another regular event that seems to be taking off is the poker games night which is rumoured has 4am finishes..

The summer play readings were as enjoyable as ever, and bought some new faces and a returning one too (Lindy Petts). Many thanks to the hosts who kindly gave up the use of their houses for these fun evenings.

The 3rd Pinner Players BBQ was held at Simon's, and was well attended. The weather was good, the food was great and the company could not be surpassed .. many thanks go to Simon & Cindy for hosting this popular event, and we look forward to next year.

We have 110 members currently; over 70 of which are full members together with 25 Friends, 7 Vice Presidents, and 1 President. Our last season welcomed a handful of new people, and we hope they stay with us for years to come.

Coming up is the Christmas party, details of which are yet to be confirmed. Still being looked into is the Ladies that Dine and a theatre trip to the West End to name a couple and as always, suggestions for workshops & social trips are always welcome.

This concludes the Secretary's Report!

**Jackie Simeone**  
**Secretary**

**September 12**

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2012

This has been a most interesting financial year, we made a lot of money and we spent a lot of money. We have achieved the highest annual surplus in the annual accounts in my eight years' reign as Treasurer, and secondly we achieved the highest surplus on a production.

Starting at the beginning, at the year end we finished up with a record overall surplus of £2187.54. Our total receipts came to £3890.13 made up bank interest of the massive sum of £3.34, Donations at £155, hire of the stage lights to the Hatch End Flower Arrangement Society of £50, Rebate from PADCA on our usage of Pinner Hall was £97.38, the overall net surplus on our three productions this season was £2534.41 and members subscriptions amounted to £1050.00

General expenditure during the year amounted to £1702.59. This comprises of AGM expenses of £33.00, write off of a piece of sound equipment £47.91, Floral tribute of £40, Garage storage rental for 4 months £261.81 and Insurance £382.16. General postage at £126 was slightly higher this year as we purchased a stock of second class stamps prior to the increase in April 2012. Miscellaneous expenses came to £330.72 which includes expenditure on sound cabling and loud speaker safety loops of £171.38, a new teapot for FOH £22, spanners for bolting together the audience seating sections £17.14, new badges for the FOH staff £64.80, a new supply of plastic cups for FOH teas and coffees £17.00 and lastly club membership at COSTCO £38.40. The annual subscription to PADCA was unchanged at £25, the PPL licence £66.22 and Social activities £305.43. This last item includes the company subsidy to the three after show parties of £233.43, a couple of unsold tickets to a value of £59 on a theatre trip to the Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury to see a production of Spamalot and lastly £13 fee for a session on make up and wigs. General stationery expenses amounted to £43.78. Unfortunately this year, the Quiz evening made a loss of £40.56 due to the heavy snowfall that arrived in the afternoon which made travelling very difficult, thanks to all of those who made it in the evening. The entrance fees came to £216, proceeds from the raffle £67 – hire of Pinner Hall was £175, raffle prizes £64 and the cost of food was £84.56.

This year we purchased staging panels and legs to create four rows of tiered audience seating at the rear of the hall at a cost £6850.89. It has resolved the visibility issue for our audience seated towards the rear of the hall which has so much of a problem for many years and in my view has added considerably to the appearance of the hall. The cost was taken directly from our accumulated fund, this is the total of all the surpluses from previous years, and therefore does not show as an accounting item in the Income & Expenditure account. There was no other capital expenditure in the year.

Moving now to the seasons productions, the first was Pygmalion in November last year. This production cost £3782.11 to put on and realised £4261.62 in show receipts. Ticket sales amounted to £3834.00 equating to a paying audience of 426 or an average of 142 per performance. This was the first production using the new audience tiered seating and the increase in ticket price from £8.00 to £9.00 agreed at last years' AGM. The surplus on the production was £479.51

The second production was 'Allo 'Allo in February this year. Because of the popularity of this play, we were advised by Samuel French that it was likely to be a sell out so in anticipation of that we extended our usual run of three public performances to four. The production cost was £4030.05 to put on and we sold out all four nights giving show receipts of £5608.30 equating to a paying audience of 140 per performance. The surplus on the production was £1578.25 which is certainly an all time record in my memory.

The third and last production was Entertaining Angels in May this year. This production cost £3239.90 to put on and realised £3716.55 in show receipts. Ticket sales amounted to £3315.00 equating to a paying audience of 128 per performance. The surplus on the production was £476.65  
Our thanks must go to the local garden centre who supplied the lot of the garden foliage free of charge.

In summary therefore, the total surplus on all three productions this season amounted to £2534.41, once again due to 'Allo 'Allo and is an all-time record.

No increase in ticket prices is proposed for next year but we do plan to trial the use of the hall china cups and saucers in place of plastic cups for FOH teas/coffees and increase the price from 50p to a £1 which will bring this into line with the charge we make for programmes and ice creams, both of which are currently £1 each. If this trial is successful then it will save the cost of everlastingly buying plastic cups and holders.

Moving on to the Balance Sheet, we have assets of £10132.56 represented by £9400.36 in our two bank accounts and some payments in advance amounting to £732.30 relating to next year. These are the licence and scripts for our November 2012 production *The Odd Couple* and the licence application for next February's production of *Jerusalem*. These will show as charges in next years' accounts.

Although we have had a very good season financially this year, we realistically cannot expect the same for next year. We have embarked on a quite large financial cost in renting the garage in Northwood Hills and this will cost us some £700 in a full year. Coupled with this it is unlikely that we will generate the same level of production surplus as this year so the financial expectation for next year will be nearer to a break even or a slight surplus. As always, any deficit or surplus is wholly dependent on ticket sales which in turn are dependent on the audience perception of the popularity of the plays that we elect to perform.

I have looked at members subscriptions which have not increased since 2008 when they were increased from £15 to £20 per full membership and have decided or perhaps been persuaded not to recommend an increase for the coming year. However, I feel that we should keep a reasonable nest egg in the bank for any future infrastructure investment and should not have this nest egg diluted by possible deficits. Therefore, I or my successor will keep a watching brief on our financial fortunes and review the member subscription rates accordingly at the end of the coming year.

Lastly, as always my thanks to everyone for making my role that much easier, all the ticket sellers and in particular to Terry Bloch who always manages to sell almost every available seat for each performance.

**Vivian Cooper**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

**September 2012**

# PINNER PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

YEAR TO THE 31st AUGUST 2012

## PRODUCTION ACCOUNT

	Production A Pygmalion November 2011	Production B Allo 'Allo March 2012	Production C Entertaining Angels May 2012
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>			
Banner	48.00	48.00	48.00
Costumes & Wigs	556.99	291.26	7.50
Depreciation	5.33	5.33	5.33
Furniture	432.00	212.70	0.00
Hire of Hall	500.00	500.00	500.00
Hire of Lounge	853.34	811.00	724.00
Hire of Store	50.00	50.00	50.00
Lighting	351.00	347.64	304.14
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	3.95
Postage - Leaflets	36.00	77.94	90.00
Printing - Leaflets	207.20	207.20	207.20
Printing - Programmes	140.00	154.00	145.00
Poster handbill distribution	0.00	0.00	30.00
Properties	63.25	263.07	0.00
Royalties	216.00	316.00	228.00
Scripts	160.01	190.00	118.39
Set Builders expenses	43.70	50.00	39.40
Transport expenses		35.02	71.23
Set Construction & Dressing	62.00	386.48	560.16
Sound	57.29	84.41	107.60
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3782.11</b>	<b>4030.05</b>	<b>3239.90</b>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Advertisements	90.00	120.00	90.00
Box Office	3834.00	5034.00	3315.00
Coffee	-4.38	54.30	26.55
Ice Creams	75.00	96.00	92.00
Programmes	177.00	214.00	153.00
Scripts	90.00	90.00	40.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4261.62</b>	<b>5608.30</b>	<b>3716.55</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS</b>	<b>479.51</b>	<b>1578.25</b>	<b>476.65</b>

# PINNER PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31st August 2012

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENSES	2012	2011	INCOME	2012	2011
AGM Expenses	33.00	33.00	Bank Interest	3.34	4.34
Anniversary Dinner		797.70	Donations	155.00	180.00
Capital items w/o	47.91		Hire of lights	50.00	50.00
Flowers/Gifts/Tributes	40.00		PADCA rebate	97.38	99.08
Garage storage rental	261.81		Productions	2534.41	1132.00
General postage expenses	126.00	77.75	Quiz Evening		216.85
Insurance	382.16	367.91	Subscriptions	1050.00	1095.00
Miscellaneous expenses	330.72	140.92	Miscellaneous receipts	0.00	20.00
PADCA Subscription	25.00	25.00			
Photographic expenses	0.00				
PPL Licence	66.22	63.06			
Quiz Evening	40.56				
Social Activities	305.43	187.72			
Stationery expenses	43.78	42.25			
Transfer to Scenery/Staging Fund	0.00	734.60			
Website expenses	0.00				
Surplus/Loss in the year	2187.54	327.36			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3890.13</b>	<b>2797.27</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3890.13</b>	<b>2797.27</b>

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Balance b/fwd from previous year	63.90	85.20	Depreciation	15.99	21.30
			Balance c/fwd to next year		63.90
			Balance written off this year	47.91	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63.90</b>	<b>85.20</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63.90</b>	<b>85.20</b>

## TIERED SEATING

New Rostra - Hall	6850.89
Balance Sheet	-6850.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

Accumulated fund	14795.91	14468.55	Barclays Bank Current Account	4759.72	2898.92
Add Surplus in year 2011/12	2187.54	327.36	Barclays Bank Business Account	4640.64	11456.38
Less Tiered seating	-6850.89		Capital Items	0.00	63.90
			Petty Cash	0.00	5.00
			Payments in advance	732.20	371.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10132.56</b>	<b>14795.91</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10132.56</b>	<b>14795.91</b>

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

*AH Cooper*

Honorary Auditors

*M L Charles*

Date 18 September 2012