

Minutes of EGTG Committee Meeting – 9 February 2022 via Zoom

Present: Angela Harkness Robertson
Alma Forsyth
Hannah Bradley Croall
Martin Foreman
James Scott
Wendy Brindle
Siobhan McGovern

1. Apologies were received from Alastair Smith, Claire Wood and Beverley Wright.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. **Home Street:** Anji confirmed that the clear out scheduled for 19 and 20 February (11h00 to 16h00) will go ahead. She has received offers of help and Michael Mulligan will draw up a list of things to do. Hannah's offer to sand and repaint the front door was accepted, with Martin providing paint. After the clear out Anji and Martin will designate an area for items required in *Hay Fever*.
4. **Wardrobe:** The aim is to get rid of at least 1/3 of the stock. Anji, Hazel and Kate have already identified vintage pieces which are too fragile to be worn on stage and Kate is looking to sell them through her professional contacts.
5. **Publicity:** The Committee discussed how to alleviate some of the tasks which have gradually devolved to our publicity officer, Hannah. The Newsletter in particular consumes a considerable amount of time and it was, therefore, agreed that Martin would take over the mailing list, which he will need in any case if role of Membership Secretary is confirmed. He and Hannah to explore how to automate the process while still complying with GDPR requirements.
6. **Hay Fever:** Martin confirmed that cast and crew had been finalised. He asked for clarification on ticketing, bearing in mind that the Roxy will be dealing with this. We agreed that our proposed scheme of 'Friends' and 'Members' should be in force before sales open and noted the methods available to make an annual payment, including Pay Pal, bank transfer or standing order.
7. **AGM:** Because of an unavoidable delay in receiving the accounts, the date was put back a month to Monday 21 March, 19h30, at the Graduate Association premises, 18 Buccleuch Place. It was agreed that David, as treasurer for the period in question, would be asked to prepare the agenda by 20 February, thus giving the required notice of one month before the meeting.
8. **StagEHd:** Hannah reported that the venue agreement had been signed after reassurance from the venue regarding some of Hannah's concerns. She was now awaiting the return of signed copy in order to apply for the entertainment licence. The venue had been visited by Hannah and Craig to examine technical possibilities. Performances have been agreed in principle and Michael will adapt his Fringe contracts to be used for StagEHd.
9. **rock:** EGTG's entry to StagEHd is a new play by Claire Wood and, in her absence, Alma described its theme and concept. Auditions to be held at BP on 22 and 26 February, keeping in mind whatever Covid rules might apply at that time. This led to a discussion on how best to conduct the auditions – eg time slots, sign-in sheets.

10. **Merchant of Venice:** Having been unable to obtain a satisfactory reply from the RSC about the summer programme at the Dell, its outdoor space, Anji has concluded that we will probably not be participating this year. However, a proposed weekend of performance in August at the Dunbar Battery, an open-air venue by the sea, looks certain to go ahead. For the Fringe production, auditions will be held in April with rehearsals beginning on 22 May. It is planned that Alma will take a rehearsal on speaking and understanding Shakespeare to ensure that the cast are all approaching the text in the same spirit. *M of V* is to have the early evening slot at the Fringe, with 18h30 to 20h00 being favoured and *Bloody Women*, our second show, starting at 20h30 – to be confirmed. Wendy will register our shows at the Fringe office when the process opens. It was noted (with no surprise) that the cost of our venue, The Royal Scot Club, has increased.
11. **Departure of David and Chris:** As both have given unstinting service to EGTG over many years, Anji suggested that those who wish to contribute to a gift for each should email her.
12. **AOB:** Bearing in mind the EGTG's wish to be inclusive, Anji has been researching how to provide BSL signing for one show per production. Unfortunately the cost is prohibitive (£500 per performance). She will, therefore, approach Creative Scotland with a view to obtaining funding for each production.

With many of our number involved in rehearsals, finding a date for our next meeting was quite challenging.

The next meeting will be held **via Zoom on Sunday 6 March at 19h00.**