

Minutes of the 34th A.G.M. of The Torrington Players held at The Plough On Wed. 17th July 2014.

Present: Jean Evans- Loude (Chair), Christine Spry (Treasurer), David Rowe (President) Pauline Allen (Min Sec.), Frank Allman, Tony Easton, Bill Grainger, Stephen Puttick, Hilary Taylor, Ros and John Wehner.

Apologies: Andrea Allman, Kathy Childs, Stef Easton, Chris Keeley, Richard Pitt, Joyce Ridgwell, Carol Ryan, Di Slugget.

Mins. of A.G.M. held on 18.07.2013 were agreed and signed.

Matters Arising.

The personal contact to the membership was shown to be beneficial.

There were positive responses from the community about our production of O.W.A.L.W.

1. Welcome and Chair's Report- Jean E.L.

Jean welcomed those present which was followed by a short period of reflective thought, to the memory of Jean Tyler.

In her report Jean noted that the membership had changed and no longer supports social or more formal gatherings but this was not an issue as The Players had enjoyed an exciting year.

'Female Transport' had brought a new director, members and opened to a wider audience, but perhaps should only have been presented for 3 nights instead of 4.. The production was recognised by the Wilfred Roe N.O.D.A. award for stage decor.

Steve P. reported that the award presentation evening was very enjoyable. There were 12 nominations for the award from 600 societies. The award was on display at the meeting and a signed certificate will be on view at The Plough.

The T.P's were now on facebook and this too had brought new membership.

The Mummers Plays did not take place as Neil F. had commitments to 'Female Transport'.

The touring production of 'Talking Heads' was also well received and greatly enjoyed by those involved, although liaising with venues and publicity needed to be more organised.

Bill G. reported that this had been Jeans 'last piece'. Although this had been performed a few years ago it was refreshing to revive the production giving members different opportunities.

Bill G. organised a quiz night which was successful and £180 was donated to the British Legion. Another Quiz Night is planned to be held at the Howe Concert Hall. ,

'Oh! What a lovely War', our Autumn production for 2014, will be directed by Robert Barber and his partner Jan Baker. This will be a community event with associated displays. The Thurs.evening performance will be provided by young people based on local research for the time of WW1. This event will be directed by Debbie Kent and Robert B. and involve youngsters from Primary and Secondary schools, to reflect the period and people from the local parishes at the time of WW1, through music, drama, dance and readings.

A community singing group will be arranged to provide extra voices for some of the songs during the performances of O.W.A.L.W.

Pat Kivlin and John Butler from Bideford will help design and with others construct the set.

Events have been successfully arranged by a sub committee known as The War Council. This has included tea parties at the local villages of Langtree, St. Giles and Little Torrington, where offers of help and new members have promoted the production.

Other events included a performance of 'Every Mother's Son', a Barn Dance and the involvement of Happy Cakes to provide sumptuous refreshments. The shops and businesses of Torrington will also become involved during the week of 11.11 2014 for our production.

All this anticipation is will provide the next few months with interest and excitement for The Torrington Players.

Tony E. proposed that £1 from the sale of each ticket or donations from programmes or raffle should be given to The British Legion from the performances of O.W.A.L.W. This will be discussed by the committee.

Thanks was given to Jean for her work as Chair over the past year.

2. Treasures Report- Christine Spry

A statement of Income and Expenditure Year Ending 13th July 2014 was presented by Christine (see separate sheet).

Christine explained that there had been a loss of £1522.38 on the year, mainly on the production of 'Female Transport', due to changes in roles during the production. In future members wishing to have a script will be asked to make their own purchases. A small loss on 'Talking Heads' was also incurred.

Further discussion ensued about asking members to pay a fixed sum if they have been chosen to take part in a production, this would include the cost of a script. It was felt that this was generally a process adopted in larger organisations. Jean E.L. said she would discuss this with Ian Goodenough.

All those involved in a production should be a member of the T.Ps for organisation and insurance requirements.

The accounts will be audited A.S.A.P.

Thanks was given to Christine for all her work with these accounts.

Election of President

David Rowe was nominated and it was agreed unanimously that David should continue in this role with thanks for the past year.

Election of Officers

All the present officers agreed to stand again:

Chair- Jean Evans Loude

Treasurer- Christine Spry

Min. Sec.- Pauline Allen

This was agreed by everyone

Committee members nominated:

Bill Grainger, Steve Puttick, Hilary Taylor

This was all agreed.

Re-election of Honorary Members

This would continue in perpetuity- all agreed

Legacy from Jean Tyler

The amount raised from the sale of Jean's books was £220. Stef. and Tony E. proposed on 6th June that 2 microphones to help back stage communications should be purchased for The Plough, (see separate sheet.)

Much later further proposals were received,

Financing touring productions, by Bill G.

Purchasing make-up, by Chris Keeley

It was agreed that that the members with these proposals should submit their details in writing. All members of the T.Ps. would be asked to provide their opinions and the committee would make the final decision.

Jean E.L. said that Jean Tylers family would like the remainder of her books sold and the profits to be shared between T.P. and The Plough. The books will be placed on the bookshelf in The Plough and money will be recorded as donations in the accounts and not included as a specific legacy.

Jean E.L. will write to the family of Jean Tyler.

A.O.B.

Bill G. has a P.A. system which he no longer requires and would like to offer it to the T.P. for £300.

This system has been used already in our past productions and has been very useful. All agreed that this system should be purchased.

The meeting ended at 8.45p.m. and was followed by refreshments and a thoughtful improvised WW1 themed entertainment. Thanks was given to all those who attended and contributed to the meeting.