



Annual General Meeting

**Brampton Church Hall
Church Road, Brampton, PE28 4PF
7.30 pm on Monday, 4 February 2008**

The Club is currently very successful, thanks to the efforts of a large number of people. Those efforts are co-ordinated by the committee, so it's important we have an effective, active committee.

Will you help the Club to go from strength to strength?

Whether you're a long-standing member, or new to the Club, think about standing for the committee.

WHAT DOES THE COMMITTEE DO?

The committee currently consists of Michael Black (Chair), Carol Wadey (Vice-chair), Ronald Stevenson (Treasurer), Caroline Harbord (Secretary), Ray Livermore (HYT rep), Mark Lamberth, Richard Meredith, Ann Monk, John Morgan, Kat Sexton and Pete Welsh.

The committee is collectively responsible for:

- mounting at least two productions a year. Each production involves:
 - choosing a play and director from those submitted
 - organising auditions and rehearsals
 - making sure a production team is in place to deal with costumes, make-up, sound, lighting, set-building, props, publicity, etc
- organising play readings, workshops and other dramatic and social activities
- promoting interest in drama and in the Club locally
- promoting co-operation and good relations with other local organisations, including drama groups, Huntingdon Town Council, the Commemoration Hall and Huntingdon Community Liaison Group

The officers' main specific responsibilities:

Chair

- ensuring the smooth running of the Club and of the committee
- chairing committee meetings
- representing the Club in relation to other local organisations

Vice-Chair

- chairing committee meetings in the absence of the Chair

Secretary

- taking and circulating the minutes of committee meetings

Treasurer

- keeping the Club accounts up to date
- paying invoices
- drawing up an income and expenditure account for each production
- drawing up an income and expenditure account and balance sheet for the year
- collecting membership subscriptions

Various committee members (including officers) are individually responsible for:

- writing, editing and circulating 6-8 newsletters a year
- sending other communications to Club members
- replying to enquiries from potential members and other organisations
- publicising productions
- maintaining the website
- maintaining a database of members and supporters
- maintaining a database of potential audience members
- booking venues for rehearsals, performances and other activities
- storing Club assets that can't be kept in the Commemoration Hall basement



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CHAIR'S REPORT ON THE LAST 12 MONTHS

PRODUCTIONS

- March: ***Joking apart***, a black comedy by Alan Ayckbourn. Directed by Ronald Stevenson, assisted by Jacque Spencer. Produced by John Morgan.
- June: ***A murder is announced***, adapted from Agatha Christie's novel by Leslie Darbon. Directed by Kelly Mason, assisted by Carol Wadey. Produced by John Morgan. Performed in Warboys and at the Medway Centre, Huntingdon.
- November: ***Jane Eyre***, adapted from Charlotte Brontë's novel by Willis Hall. Directed by Michael Black, produced by Ann Monk. The Thursday night performance raised nearly £1,000 for the Mayor of Huntingdon's charities. 19 performers, total audience about 390, both of which must be Club records.

In all three productions there were actors and backstage people who were new to the Club.

The Club's policy of encouraging people with little or no experience of directing to try their hand, with support from a more experienced director, was very successful in both *Joking apart* and *A murder is announced*.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Theatre visit to Cambridge to see Alan Ayckbourn's *If I were you*
- *Much ado about nothing* on DVD
- Club represented at Huntingdon civic service
- A stall at the Unity in the Community event organised by Diversity Forum Huntingdonshire
- Theatre visit to see *A murder is announced* in Cambridge
- Reading of excerpts from *The admirable Crichton* and *You can't take it with you*
- Garden lunch party at Ronald's
- Theatre visit to London to see Michael Burrell starring in *The woman in black*
- Party at Caroline's
- Dramatised reading of Alan Ayckbourn's *Bedroom farce*, directed by Carol
- Christmas dinner at the Black Bull, Brampton
- Club represented at Huntingdon civic carol service
- Voice workshop, led by Vicky Welsh

OTHER NEWS

- Ken Beaton, who was the Club president for many years, died at the age of 93.
- As usual, Club members have also been active in other drama groups, such as Brampton Park Theatre Club, Shakespeare at the George, SIMADS, Buxom Wenches of Huntingdon, Panto 89, and several others.
- The Club continues to be represented on the Huntingdon Community Liaison Group and the Commemoration Hall Trust.
- The Club donated six profile lamps to the Commemoration Hall, in memory of Jack Hyde.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Mark Lamberth produced excellent newsletters during the year, with plenty of photos and varied articles. Several people wrote for the newsletter, including Richard James, a past member who is now a professional actor. In addition, a lot of emails were sent to members and supporters.
- John Morgan has continued to keep the website up to date. It had hundreds of hits during the year, and 22 people contacted the Club through the website – including ones from the Netherlands and the USA.

COMMITTEE

- The committee has continued to work very hard and effectively. There have been no changes in its make-up.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- Prompting workshop, led by Michael Burrell. March.
- *Cold Comfort Farm*, by Paul Doust, adapted from the novel by Stella Gibbons. Directed by Mark Hebert and produced by John Morgan. 3-5 April, in the Commemoration Hall.
- *Hay fever*, by Noël Coward. Directed by Valerie Gerrard. July.
- Autumn production: 6-8 November, in the Commemoration Hall. Play to be chosen soon.

Michael Block



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AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of last AGM (*20 February 2007*)
- 3 Matters arising (*not elsewhere on agenda*)
- 4 Chair's report on the last 12 months, and plans for 2008
- 5 Treasurer's report
- 6 Election of officers
 - 6.1 Chair
 - 6.2 Vice-Chair
 - 6.3 Secretary
 - 6.4 Treasurer
- 7 Election of committee (*at least 3 ordinary members.*
NB: HYT representative is appointed by HYT)
- 8 Appointment of auditor
- 9 HYT report
- 10 Subscription for 2008
- 11 AOB



Minutes of Annual General meeting

February 20th 2007, 8.00 pm
Brampton Church Hall

PRESENT: Michael Black, Peter Welsh, Caroline Harbord, John Morgan, Kat Sexton, Ronald Stevenson, Ann Monk, Chris Topham, Richard Meredith, Annie Welsh.

APOLOGIES: Carol Wadey, Rachael Orchard, Mark Lamberth, Michael Williamson, Ann Monk, Bob Pugh, Jeanette Brown, Emma Fisher.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Agreed to be an accurate record. Proposed by RS, seconded by PW.

MATTERS ARISING (*items not elsewhere on agenda*): It was reported that it is now much easier to find the drama club online through search engines and that we have recruited new members as a result. Several members commented on how the website has been transformed by JM over the last year.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Was distributed around the group.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: All covered within the Chair's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: RS reported that the profit from *Move Over Mrs Markham* was £547.11 and that the current bank balance stands at £3512.00 as at the end of December. The accounts will be audited before the end of the tax year. JM asked if a contribution could be made to new lighting at the Commemoration Hall and it was agreed that this would go to the committee for consideration.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

JM proposed MB for Chair, seconded by CT.
MB proposed CW for vice-chair, seconded by AW
KS proposed RS for Treasurer, seconded by PW
KS proposed CH for Secretary, seconded by RS
All duly elected.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE: The following were voted on to the committee as ordinary members: AM, ML, KS, RM, PW, JM.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR: Richard Allen was agreed to be the auditor for the last two years' accounts.

HYT REPORT: RL sent a report that there is now a membership of 34 with 10 regular leaders. In 2006 *Peter Pan* was successfully staged and in 2007 they will be performing *Blood Brothers* and *The Thwarting of Baron Bollingrew*. The Youth Theatre has just celebrated their tenth anniversary.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2007: This will remain at £10.

AOB: There was no AOB raised.