



Annual General Meeting

**Brampton Church Hall
Church Road, Brampton, PE28 4PF
7 pm on Wednesday, 23 February 2011**

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of last AGM (*24 February 2010*)
- 3 Matters arising (*not elsewhere on agenda*)
- 4 Chair's report on 2010, and plans for 2011
- 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*)
- 8 Checking of accounts
- 9 Subscription for 2011
- 10 AOB



Annual General Meeting 2011

HUNTINGDON DRAMA CLUB, 2010

For the last four years we've been putting on three productions a year. It's provided plenty of opportunities for members to be involved in a production, and has brought in large audiences.

The drawback is that all the energies of the most active Club members go into the three productions – and planning, booking rehearsal space and other jobs have to be done even before the previous production has reached the stage.

Many of us enjoy the other, less time-consuming, Club activities, such as workshops, play-readings and social events. Without them, we risk losing people who aren't acting in, or directing, the current production. I hope more people will be willing to organise these.

All three full-length productions in 2010 were very successful, with positive feedback from the audiences and good reviews from the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) representative. You can read these on the Club's website.

The Importance of Being Earnest

Our spring production, in March 2010, was of Oscar Wilde's popular comedy, which the Club previously performed in 1996. Sarah Ward directed, with support from Ronald Stevenson, and John Morgan produced. Several of the cast were new to the Club.

Colour camera

The Club bought a colour camera last spring, which Huntingdon Youth Theatre installed in the Commemoration Hall. This is intended to feed to the monitor in the dressing room, and to record performances. Unfortunately, though, the sound is distorted. We're still working on the problem.

Characterisation workshop

Caroline Harbord led a Characterisation workshop in April, based on what she had learnt at a drama summer school. Everyone attending found it highly enjoyable and very useful.

St George and the Turkish Knight

We were asked to revive this traditional mummers' play at the Town Council's mediaeval banquet in the Commemoration Hall in June.

True to the anarchic spirit of mummers' plays, we replaced the bugle with a very topical vuvuzela – which raised a laugh, even if it didn't score highly for musicality.

Port Out, Starboard Home!

Our July production was the world premiere of a comedy by Richard James, a Club member over twenty years ago. I directed and John Morgan produced.

Despite being unknown, and by a playwright who isn't yet a household name, it attracted sizeable audiences and was very well received. The spontaneous applause when the homophobic bigot got his comeuppance was a delight! Richard James was very complimentary about the production, and it also made a profit.

Lunch in the garden

Once again, Ann and Mike Monk hosted a lunch party in their garden. The good company and food (and entertaining greyhounds) more than made up for the rather nondescript weather.

The Happiest Days of your Life

November's production was of the comedy by John Dighton. It was Richard Meredith's directorial debut, and Ann Monk produced. The Club had put this on previously in 1951, three years after it was first performed in the West End. Yet again, we had very good audiences and made a profit.

This was the first time that we didn't sell tickets at the Card Gallery. However, more and more people are buying online, or phoning the Club to have tickets booked online for them. We're fairly confident that ticket sales haven't been harmed by the change. We're absorbing the booking fee ourselves, so as not to deter people from buying online.

Publicity

Happiest Days... was the first production of recent years that we couldn't publicise through the Arts Diary: this was axed by the District Council, so we were no longer able to reach the 1,500 people who chose to receive it because of their interest in the arts.

Play reading

In November we planned a play reading using the Club's library of scripts. Sadly, this had to be cancelled because of lack of support.

Christmas dinner

No such fate befell the Christmas dinner, held at the Black Bull, Brampton, in December. Sharon, the landlady, made sure this was a very good evening; Jeanette took over from Carol as secret Santa's little helper; and we had some brilliant entertainment from Vocal Academy, an 11-man barbershop quartet (using the last word loosely) that includes our own Bob Pugh.

Spring 2011 – A Doll's House

Looking ahead to this year, our March production will be **A Doll's House** – the first time the Club has ever put on one of Ibsen's play. Ronald Stevenson is directing, and I'm producing.

As always, please get involved in one way or another, to make sure this production is up to our usual high standard.

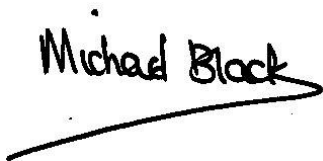
We've generally been able to have a banner on the ring road, which is a good source of publicity. But we need to intensify our efforts, to make sure we continue to build up our audiences. And of course that's a major behind-the-scenes activity that requires people to do it.

St George and the Turkish Knight – yet again

Like the Turkish knight, who's brought back to life, the mummers' play can't be kept down. This time, the Town Council has asked us to perform the play in Market Square on St George's Day – 23 April.

Thanks

I'm very grateful to the committee, without whom the Club wouldn't exist. Thanks, too, to other Club members who have helped in one way or another – we really need more people willing to do the less glamorous jobs, like selling programmes, painting scenery, putting up posters or booking rehearsals. Carol Wadey, who was one of those wonderful people who did whatever was needed, moved to Sussex last summer. We'll certainly miss her.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Black". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Michael Black, Chair, Huntingdon Drama Club
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Minutes of AGM

Wednesday 24th February 2010, 7.15 pm
Church Hall, Brampton

Present: Michael Black, Caroline Harbord, Carol Wadey, Ronald Stevenson, John Morgan, Ann Monk, Kat Sexton, Kelly Mason, Steph Hamer, Dean Laccohee, Phil Green, Scott Hutchison, Sarah Ward, Tony Burrin, Katie Hickey, Martin Straus, Mark Hebert, Neal Dench, Chris Topham, Kirsty Pickering.

Apologies: None

1. **Minutes of last AGM:** Agreed - proposed / seconded JM / SH
2. **Matters arising** None.
3. **Chair's Report:** MB circulated a report (attached)
4. **Treasurer's report:** KM circulated a report (attached). Opening balance was £3,103, closing balance was £2,735.
5. **Election of Officers**
 - 5.1 Chair
Michael Black proposed / seconded by RS / MS. Carried.
 - 5.2 Vice Chair
Ann Monk proposed / seconded by JM / CT. Carried.
 - 5.3 Secretary
Phil Green proposed / seconded by SH / CW. Carried.
 - 5.4 Treasurer
Caroline Harbord proposed / seconded by JM / RS. Carried.
6. **Election of committee**

Ronald Stevenson, Scott Hutchison, Kelly Mason, John Morgan, Kat Sexton, Kirsty Pickering, Carol Wadey. Carried.
7. **Checking of accounts**

RS volunteered.
8. **Subscription for 2010**

£12 proposed / seconded by JM / KM. Agreed.
9. **AOB**

CH, 24th February 2010

End of Year Accounts 2009/10.

Production Income.

Separate Tables.	£2,737.80
Absent Friends	£2,038.16
And Then...	<u>£3,474.65</u>
Total Production Income	<u>£8,250.61</u>

Other Income

Subscriptions	£240.00
St George Dinner Perf	£9.00
Raffle Prize Refund	£5.00
Xmas Meal Payments	<u>£121.50</u>

Total Other **£375.50**

Income For IOBE

Tickets £46.00

Total Income £8,672.11

Opening balance

13/02/09 £3,103.12

Closing balance

15/02/10 £2,735.80

Club loss £367.32

Production expenditure

Separate Tables	£2,484.47	£253.33
Absent Friends	£1,952.82	£85.34
And Then...	<u>£2,164.57</u>	£1,310.08
Total Production Exp	<u>£6,601.86</u>	
Less cost paid pre 13/2/09	£328.50	
Less exp paid not cashed	£180.00	

Total. **£6,093.36**

Other Expense

Clifford-Brown		
Flats (Flats.)		£2,058.50
NODA (Insurance)		£190.63
Samuel Peyps (Xmas meal)		£121.50
M.Black Web Mania Fees		£25.86
M.Lambert (TV)		£20.00
A.Monk Garden Party		£25.00
G.Mackay (Workshop)		£25.00

Brampton (Income) £324.32

M.Black (Post/Admin) £4.87

Total Other **£2,795.68**

IOBE Exp

Hunts Forum (hall hire)	£16.00
M.Black (print/script/CD)	<u>£134.67</u>
Total IOBE	<u>£150.67</u>

Total Expense £9,039.71

Club Loss £367.60

Paid out not cashed

Hunts Forum (IOBE) £48.00

R.Stevenson (Burns Night) £24.54