

The Theatrical Guild
118th Annual General Meeting
23 September 2010 held at
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London WC2

MINUTES

CONFIDENTIAL

Members Present:

Miss Phyllida Law (Vice-President)
Miss Belinda Lang (Chairman)
Miss Tilly Tremayne (Deputy Chairman)
Miss Biddy Hayward (Treasurer)
Miss Karen Nichols (Chief Administrator)
Mr. Robert Fisher (Horwath, Clark Whitehill)
Mr. Darren Ager (Charles Stanley & Co.)

Miss Jan Carey
Mr. Michael Carling
Miss Pandora Clifford
Miss Jane How

Miss Issy van Randwyck
Miss Stella Richards
Miss Liz Robertson

Mr. Robert Ashby
Mr. Leo Andrew
Mr. Jason Barnes
Mr. A. K. Benett-Hunter
Mr. Barry Brown
Mr. Laurie Butcher
Miss Lyndsay Dedman
Mr. Richard Durden
Mr. Andrew de Rosa
Mrs. Brenda Edelstein
Mr. David Edelstein
Miss Serena Evans
Mr. Roger Fox
Mr. Paul Gane
Mr. Kim Grant
Rev. Simon Grigg
Miss Caroline Hughes

Mr. Maurice Huggett
Miss Thelma Holt CBE
Mr. Christopher Ishermann
Miss Merelina Kendall
Miss Josie Kidd
Miss Rosalind Knight
Mr. Iain Mackintosh
Miss Gillian McCutcheon
Miss Alexandra McGurk
Mr. Terence Patmore
Mr. Noel Rees
Mr. Edwin Shaw
Mr. Philip Tann
Mr. Peter Thomas
Mr. Andrew Visnevski
Miss Sue Walker
Miss Joanna Watt

Minute 01: **Notice convening meeting**

Chairman, Miss Belinda Lang, convened the 118th Annual General Meeting of The Theatrical Guild, welcoming the members of the Guild.

Minute 02: **Apologies received.** Apologies were received from:

Miss Polly Adams	Miss Gabriella Lloyd
Miss Cathrine Bailey	Mr. David Long
Miss Jill Baker	Miss Joanna Lumley
Mr. Peter Baldwin	Miss Joanna McCallum
Miss Eileen Battie	Miss Janet Macklam
Mr. Christopher Beard	Mr. David Marsland
Mr. Paul Bennett	Miss Patricia Maynard
Mr. Mark Bentley	Miss Jane Mellow
Miss Caroline Blakiston	Mr. Russell Miller
Miss Isla Blair	Miss Jane Morgan
Mr. Nickolas Bromley	Mr. Matthew Morgan
Mr. Osmund Bullock	Mr. Michael Napier-Brown
Lady Cass	Mr. John Nettleton
Miss Fleur Chandler	Miss Jane Norman
Mr. Martin Clark	Mr. Richard Pasco CBE
Mr. Richard Cottrell	Miss Denise Coffey
Mr. Roger Davenport	Miss Anne Perry
Miss Joanna David	Miss Barbara Penney
Mrs. Mary Davis	Mrs. Ann Redington
Miss Meg Davis	Miss Sheila Reid
Mr. Brian Ellis	Mr. James Roose-Evans
Mrs. Miranda Fellows	Mr. John Rowe
Miss Marsha Fitzalan	Mr. Brian Russell
Miss Barbara Flynn	Mr. David Savile
Mr. Mark Fox	Mr. Bob Service
Miss Ursula Gayler	Miss Lucy Scott
Miss Su Gilroy	Sir Donald Sinden CBE
Miss Lizzie Goulding	Miss Margaret Spencer
Mr. Harry Gostelow	Mr. John Spurling
Mr. Philip Guthrie	Miss Patricia Starr
Miss Elspet Gray	Miss Virginia Stride
Mr. Richard Hanlon	Miss Lene Strøbech
Miss Linda Hibberd	Miss Julia Sutton
Miss Vilma Hollingbery	Miss Annie Taylor
Miss Isabella Hymes	Miss Sophie Thompson
Mr. Ralphel Bryan Jago	Miss Jane Thornton
Miss Beki Kirby	Miss Jenny Topper
Mr. Bernard Krichefski	Miss Margaret Tyzack OBE
Mr. Freddie Lees	Miss Joanna Wake
Miss Barbara Leigh-Hunt	Ms. Paulene Webber
Mrs. Annabel Leventon	Mr. Jeffry Wickham
Miss Julia Lintott	Miss Bay White
Miss Pauline Loraine	

Minute 03: **Minutes of the AGM held on 23 September 2010**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 September 2010 having been circulated, were taken as a true and proper record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

Minute 04: **Chairman's report**

The Chairman's report was as follows:

Miss Lang thanked The Theatrical Guild's recently retired Chair, Miss Liz Robertson for all her hard work during her four year term of office. She paid particular tribute to Miss Robertson's restructuring of the Executive Committee. Working parties to cover fundraising, beneficiaries, legacies and donations and finance and administration had been formed. This had enabled all committee members to become more directly involved in the current and long term planning of The Theatrical Guild which was proving to be extremely successful. Miss Lang had asked the following Committee members to speak in greater detail after the formal business of the AGM had been completed.

Miss Robertson – Future Fundraising Events including the Theatrical Guild being the adopted charity for Whatsonstage.com in 2011.

Miss Brenda Edelstein – The First Night Riders 2010 and 2011

Miss Jane Howe – Beneficiaries

Miss Tilly Tremayne - Calendars and Notebooks

Miss Lang announced the sad news the Guild's much loved President, Miss Wendy Toye, had died on the 27 February 2010. The Guild had decided to honour Miss Toye's memory by planting a tree on her birthday (1 May 2011) at Denville Hall. All those who wished to attend would be most welcome.

Miss Lang announced that the Executive Committee had invited Miss Phyllida Law to be the new President and was delighted that Miss Law had accepted. We are also fortunate to have two new members of the Executive Committee - Miss Brenda Edelstein and Miss Pandora Clifford.

Miss Lang thanked Miss Hayward for instigating a new financial reporting procedure.

Miss Lang also reported that the writer and theatre critic, Mr. Michael Coveney, had very kindly contributed to a booklet on the work of the Guild. This would be published and circulated very soon.

Miss Lang drew special attention to the magnificent commitment of the First Night Riders who had raised over £12,000 for the Guild on a sponsored ride round 18 theatres in the UK. Another fundraising event which had proved to be very successful and great fun was the regular West End talent show

'Phoenix's Got Talent'. This was a regular monthly event where individuals working in the theatre were able to perform in front of professional actors and directors. The final would take place at on the 9 February 2011 at the Criterion Theatre. Miss Lang urged everyone to come along as it was to be a very enjoyable evening.

Everyone were encouraged to visit the stalls at the back of the bar to buy calendars, notebooks, Miss Law's book and a wonderful range of jams for Christmas presents. Proceeds from the sale of these items would go to the Guild.

Miss Lang concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for coming along. An invitation was made to all to stay for tea and sandwiches.

Minute 05: **Balance Sheet & Accounts for year ending 31 December 2010**

Robert Fisher on behalf of Crowe Clark Whitehill, the Guild's accountants and Independent Examiners, made a short presentation of the accounts.

Firstly, he reported that this was probably the 25th occasion on which he had made a presentation to the Guild. He also informed the meeting, based on the Guild's archives, that one Henry Battams, a founder of his present firm, signed the Guild's accounts in 1903.

On the accounts he reported that income had fallen by £48,000 as compared to 2008 as fundraising and legacy income had reduced.

Charitable expenditure had reduced by £17,000 such that the Guild had £32,000 less net income in 2009 than 2008 and that the deficit for the year, before investment transactions, had increased from £3,000 to £35,000.

The good news was that the Guild had realised profits of £17,000 on investment transactions and that the value of its investment portfolio had increased by £133,000 at December 2009. Thus overall the Guild's funds had increased by £115,000 over the year.

Mr Richard Durden proposed the adoption of the balance sheet and accounts for the year ending 31 December 2009 and this was seconded by Miss Thelma Holt.

Minute 06: **Report from Stockbrokers Charles Stanley & Co.**

Miss Belinda Lang, Chairman introduced Mr Darren Ager of Charles Stanley & Company. He reported that The Theatrical Guild's portfolio at the year-end [2009] stood at just over £1m up from just over £845k the previous year: representing a gain of approximately £146k, or over 17%. If we account for the income generated, the total return was 24.31%.

As predicted, the forecast income fell by just under 5% to £54,700. However, we are now looking at a figure of £56,700 for the current year following good dividend increases from a number of the companies within the portfolio. The FTSE 100 Index, despite considerable volatility, stands at virtually the same level since the start of the year.

In conclusion, despite the problems we face, we are of the opinion that we won't have a double dip recession and, as such, we would expect that our investments will build upon the gains seen last year.

Minute 07: **Election of members to the Executive Committee for year 2010/2011**

The List of Members who had offered themselves for election to the Executive Committee was read and proposed by Mr Kim Grant

Miss Jan Carey	Miss Belinda Lang
Mr. Michael Carling	Miss Barbara Penney
Miss Pandora Clifford	Baroness Issy van Randwyck
Mrs Brenda Edelstein	Miss Stella Richards
Miss Serena Evans	Miss Liz Robertson
Miss Bidy Hayward	Miss Tilly Tremayne
Miss Jane How	

this was seconded by Mr Roger Fox.

Minute 08: **Any other business.**

There being no other business the Chairman, Miss Belinda Lang concluded the Annual General meeting, thanked everybody for their support and asked the members to join the guests who would be arriving very shortly.