

LTG Minutes 78th AGM, 28 June 2025

Royalty Theatre, Sunderland



National Committee members:

Nick Morley	Chair	Sinodun Players, Wallingford
Jo Matthews	Past Chair	The Questors Theatre, Ealing
Debbie Hibberd	Vice Chairman	Rugby Theatre
Anne Gilmour	National Secretary	The Questors Theatre
Brian Stoner	Treasurer	Bingley Little Theatre
Mike Smith	National Liaison Officer	Durham Little Theatre
Aleyn Lester	Public Relations Officer	Venture Theatre, Ashby (co-opted)
Caroline Chapman	N Region Secretary	Royalty Theatre, Sunderland
Jackie Blackwood	C Regional Secretary	Crescent Theatre, Birmingham
Ralf Togneri	S Regional Secretary	Kelvin Players, Bristol
Emyr Rhys-Jones	Representative Committee Member	Theatr Fach, Llangefni
Sarah Clarke	Representative Committee Member	Harborough Theatre
Ali Warren	Representative Committee Member	Wharf Theatre, Deizes

1. Nick Morley opened the 79th LTG AGM at 14:53 at Royalty Theatre, Sunderland. At the request of Nick Morley, delegates remembered with a round of applause those who had died during the year, especially Tom Williams, Chesil Theatre, Patricia Clough, Bingley Little Theatre and Margaret Whitehouse, Hall Green Theatre. All had been longstanding members of LTG and all are Honorary Associates of the LTG.

a. **Theatres attending** – there were **36 theatres attending** as follows:

Archway Theatre; Barn Theatre; Bingley Little Theatre; Bolton Little Theatre; Carlisle Green Room; Caxton Theatre; Chads Theatre; Chesil Theatre; Criterion Theatre; Doncaster Little Theatre; Durham City Theatre; Grove Park Theatre, Wrexham; guide bridge theatre; Halifax Playhouse; Hebden Bridge Little Theatre; Highbury Theatre Centre; Ilkley Playhouse; Joseph Rowntree Theatre; Kelvin Players; Little Theatre Cleadon; Medway Little Theatre; Oldbury Rep; People's Theatre; Progress Theatre; The Questors Theatre; Royalty Theatre, Sunderland; Rugby Theatre Society; Sinodun Players, Corn Exchange; Southport Little Theatre; South London Theatre; Studio Theatre, Salisbury; Theatre in the Hut, Wayfarers Drama Group; Theatr Fach, Llangefni; Venture Theatre, Ashby; Westovian Theatre Society; Wharf Theatre.

Anne Gilmour noted that **apologies had been received from LTG Reps from 55 Member theatres**. These were: Altrincham Little Theatre; Bournemouth Little Theatre; Brighton Little Theatre; Carver Theatre; Chester Little Theatre; Chorley ADOS; Company of Players (Little Theatre (The)); Cotswold Playhouse; Courtyard Theatre; Crescent Theatre; Dewsbury Arts Group; Dolman Theatre; Dunstable Rep Theatre Club (The Little Theatre); Folkstone-Hythe (Tower Theatre); Formby Little Theatre; Geoffrey Whitworth Theatre; Green Room Theatre, Wilmslow; Guild of Players, Theatre Royal, Dumfries; Hall Green Little Theatre; Harborough Theatre; Herne Bay Little Theatre; Lace Market Theatre; Lancaster Grand Theatre; Lantern Theatre (Dilys Guite Players); Leicester Little Theatre; Little Theatre, Torquay (TOADS); Louth Riverhead Theatre (Playgoers Soc); Macclesfield ADS; Mary Wallace Theatre (RSS); Maskers Theatre Company; Miller Centre; Moulton Theatre; Nantwich Players; New Venture Theatre; Nomad Theatre; Norbury Theatre; Oast Theatre, Tonbridge; Oasthouse Theatre (Rainham Theatrical Soc); Penrith Players Theatre; Plaza Theatre; Preston Playhouse; Priory Theatre; Queen Mother Bancroft Theatre; Robin Hood Theatre; Stevenage Lytton Theatre;

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Stockport Garrick Theatre; Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre; Summerseat Players (Theatre Royal); Sutton Arts Theatre; Talisman Theatre; Teddington Theatre Club; Thame Players; Tower Theatre, Stoke Newington; Wickham Theatre Trust - Theatre 62; Workington Playgoers Club (Theatre Royal).

Anne noted that **34 LTG Members** had not responded either with an acceptance or apologies to her emails about the LTG National Conference.

Announcement of proxy holders – there were none although some LTG Reps had delegated the voting role to another member of their theatre who was attending the conference.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 78th AGM held at Sutton Arts Theatre 22-23 June 2024. The minutes were proposed by Caroline Chapman and seconded by Debbie Hibberd and approved.

a. **Matters arising from the Minutes** – there were none.

b. **Chairman's Report** – Nick noted that his report was on the webpage which he hoped delegates had read and there were two issues he wanted to comment on. First the **LTG Yearbook**. He noted that Anne had to send out a number of reminder emails and he asked delegates to ensure that their theatre responded to Anne's emails even if the response was 'we have not yet got the figures'. This ensures Anne knows you have received the email. Second, with the unanimous vote of the National Committee, I can announce we have a new Hon Associate. An Hon Associate is someone who has done sterling work for the LTG and I would like to announce that Mike Smith has been made the latest Hon Associate. (Applause).

3. Treasurer's Report – Brian noted that the Accounts were on page five of the LTG Yearbook 2024-2025 and showed a surplus of £7,300 and total assets of £55,666. He noted that individual headings are broadly in line with expectations. Expenditure was a little higher due to more travelling by the National Committee and the increase in the level of capped expenditure to encourage those on the committee to attend meetings. The other increase was mainly due to holding the Intimacy workshop and a small increase in the cost of publishing the LTG Yearbook.

a. Brian noted that the membership income continued to grow but the surplus in the current year will not be as great as this year. Brian thanked those who pay promptly but there are still a few LTG Members who still have not paid despite regular reminders.

b. Brian noted that these figures had been reported to the Charity Commission. Brian offered his thanks to Sandra McGuire for efficiently auditing the accounts and to the National Committee for their care over expenditure. There were no questions.

4. Approval of Accounts as printed in the LTG Yearbook 2023-2024 – Brian proposed that the accounts were accepted. They were agreed and seconded by **Eddie Redfern** and unanimously approved.

5. Election of Officers – Nick asked that holders of the roles confirm they were content to be elected for another year. These were Hon Sec, Anne Gilmour, confirmed; Treasurer, Brian Stoner, confirmed; NLO, Mike Smith, confirmed.

a. He noted that Aelyn Lester had come forward to fill the PRO role formerly held by Kevin Spence. Sarah Clarke was standing down as the Central Region RCM and Suzanne Swan from

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Rugby Theatre had agreed to stand for the role. Delegates confirmed they were content to agree all these appointments *en bloc* and they were passed unanimously.

6. **Appointment of Auditor** – Brian proposed that Sandra McGuire be reappointed as Auditor and this was approved.

7. **Resolutions** – there were none.

8. **Future Conference Dates**

a. *National Conference: 2026* – 15 – 17 May, the Crescent Theatre, Birmingham.

c. *Regional Conferences 2025*

d. *N Region:* Lancaster Grand, Lancaster: 10 – 11 October.

e. *Central Region:* Lace Market Theatre, Nottingham 1 November.

f. *Southern Region* – Cotswold Playhouse, Stroud, 4 October.

Nick thanked Anne for her work and Jo for her work as past chair and he noted that from tomorrow Jo Matthews would return to the National Committee for another year, co-opted as the Youth Festival organiser and Aelyn Lester would be formally become a member of the National Committee as the PRO.

9. **AOB** – none

The AGM closed at **15:06**