

STC AGM 14th June 2022

Events Report 2021 – 2022

Thank you, David, for the introduction to the events programme in your report.

Our monthly Second Tuesday workshop and events programme continued to be part of the distinctive Streatham Theatre offer in 2021/22. Many of you will recall that the Second Tuesday events programme began right at the beginning when STC was established in 2013. It has remained central to our community access ethos and our determination to offer something different; I recall early conversations amongst founder members; we were clear we were not to be a typical amateur theatre group where only a limited number of experienced actors could enjoy the benefits of the group by treading the boards in a limited number of productions.

The events programme provides access to regular workshops on all things stagecraft and a chance to dip in and have a go. Over the years, it has included play readings, technical workshops, a showcase for directing and writing, historical talks, and opportunities for improvised and unrehearsed performance.

In April 2021, after a full year of monthly workshops on zoom, we were hopeful of meeting face to face once again. Sadly, due to Lockdown restrictions continuing, our stand-up comedy, performance poetry, and Musical Hall talk all remained online events.

Happily, by August 2021 the interval was over and we met again at Vinters to read *A Feast of French and Saunders*, a selection of comic scripts by Dawn and Jennifer. As has often been the case, the reading was not only fun and social, giving people who might not consider themselves up for a traditional audition, the chance to have go at reading scripts in a friendly space; it led to our hilarious Streatham Festival show – *A Sketchy Cabaret* in October.

As the year progressed, the events programme saw some old favourites return. These included production secrets in David's *blood and gore stage effects workshop*, our well-established new writing showcase; *Streatham shorts* in September, our end of year festive review *Streatham's Got Talent* in December and a selection of Greek, pantomime, and sci-fi play readings.

Whilst online workshops continued to be popular, numbers attending once we returned to in - person events have in general been a little lower than previous years. This is perhaps as consequence of people making decisions about socialising after the pandemic.

I've personally had great fun and many challenges planning and promoting the Events Programme. My thanks to everyone I've managed to persuade to lead a workshop, compere an event or give a talk. You really are talented bunch and should be very proud. Streatham has got talent for sure.

After 8 years as Event's Secretary, I've decided it's time to hand over to someone new. I'm sure there is someone within the STC membership with some new ideas, contacts, and enthusiasm to continue this important part of STC's stagecraft offer. Thank you.

Helen Mason, Events Secretary 2014 - 2022