



## **AGM 2025**

### **Chairman's Report April 2024 to March 2025 and beyond**

This report is for the financial year (FY) up to March 2025, our 12<sup>th</sup> year, having launched in April 2013.

I would like to give a big thank you to all those who contributed so positively to those activities we ran during the FY.

- **Events**

Once again, we held our regularly monthly “Second Tuesday” events. Events are usually run by volunteers, perhaps our members or our friends from show business and beyond, who share their expertise and experience with attendees. Helen, our Events Secretary will present a report later.

We see these regular events as a way of maintaining the STC community throughout the year, and providing an entry point for new members too. They continue to be free to members and £5 for non-members.

- **Productions**

‘God of Carnage’ which was unavailable last year, returned in 2024, after we failed to get a licence for ‘The Birthday Party’, Gabe’s suggestion for 2024! While an artistic and organisational success, audiences were low.

Our second show ‘Accidental Death of Anarchist’ was actually performed just at the start of the current FY. Once again held at a school venue, Woodmansterne, it was an artistic and commercial success. Well done to all involved.

For our next show we are proposing a comedy spoof of ‘The Hound of the Baskervilles’ to be performed for the Streatham Festival in October. Watch out for announcements!

One perennial problem for us is finding an audience for shows. While we make great use of online publicity and free listings to spread the word, our audiences remain primarily those connected with the production, and few hard-core members. Occasionally, others from our mailing list or local people do come along, and enjoy the occasion.

The other problem remains finding local venues to stage shows which are practical, available and affordable. Practical in terms of facilities (like lighting) and capacity; available for get-in, rehearsals and performances; and affordable so that we don’t waste money.

- **Members and Friends**

We welcome members from a diverse range of ages and backgrounds - some are completely new to theatre and several have made their stage debut with STC. Others have

amateur and professional experience which they share with others through our activities. We keep our annual subscriptions low - still £10 after 12 years - and don't charge participation fees as most other groups do.

New memberships have been fewer recently, some of this due to the fact that we've produced fewer shows, as people often join to take part. Not every participant stays on once their membership expires.

Our online community is kept in touch through our email list, our website, Facebook/Instagram and X.

Terry, our Membership Secretary, will report more shortly.

- **Finances**

We will have a full report from Liz our Treasurer shortly.

As a non-profit organisation we don't plan to make a profit! Any income goes into running our activities, with surplus going into our reserves to support us over any future bad patches.

In an ideal world, subscriptions would cover our fixed costs (like insurance) and income from tickets would cover production costs plus leave some over for events and other activities. In practice there's some "swings and roundabouts" here, but it all works out in the end.

- **Moving on**

We are constantly looking ahead to our future programme of productions, and welcome proposals. While open to any kind of production, we need shows which we can realistically deliver given our constraints in venues, budgets and availability of participants and audiences! We also need directors/producers to drive forward these ideas and turn them into reality.

We would like to stage 2 to 3 productions a year and to maintain a rolling programme for the next few shows, but getting back into rhythm post-COVID has been very slow.

We continue the regular second Tuesday events, which are important to maintain an ongoing community. We are always open to suggestions for events, and for volunteers to run them!

- **Conclusion**

In conclusion, I'd like to express great thanks to everyone who provided support and encouragement from all around Streatham, and all those who have volunteered their time and expertise to stage our shows and run our events programme. Plus of course our committee, members, patrons, followers, and audiences and anyone I've left out.

Finally, a special mention to Terry Wynne who has left the committee having been a founding member.

Our thanks go to regular volunteers Esh and David who are always willing to help with our activities.

Volunteers for committee and other roles are always welcome!

***You have all continued to help put theatre into Streatham. Thank you***

**David Harvey**

Chairman, AGM 2025