

COSMOPOLITAN PLAYERS – AGM Tuesday 20th August 2024

Chair's Report

A very warm welcome to you all

At last year's AGM I presented my report on behalf of the Management Team. This year I am presenting my report as I complete my first year as Chair of the Society. Unfortunately, whilst it has been a year when we have not been able to put on any productions, we have managed to keep the Society afloat with various activities.

As reported at last year's meeting we did agree to participate in the LeedsCAN Open Day at the Carriageworks, which took place on the 2nd November when we had a stall highlighting past productions of the Society and advertising future activities. We were one of a number of societies who participated and overall the day was very well received by those who attended but unfortunately it was not as well supported by the general public as it was hoped it would be. As this was the first venture of its kind, lessons were learned from the experience and it is hoped that LeedsCAN will support another similar day in the future in which the Society will be able to share. The Society hosted a very successful Christmas 'Do' here at the Carriageworks which was well attended, and a good time was had by all.

At the start of the new year, as we were not rehearsing for a production it was agreed that we would hold a series of play readings. These were held throughout January and February in venues at both the Playhouse and the Crowd of Favours public house in the city centre. Everyone who attended these sessions enjoyed the evenings and it is hoped that something similar can be arranged again. A big thank you goes to Carolyn for organising these sessions. We are in fact hoping to set up another series of these play readings/ 'spotlight' evenings again before the end of the year.

After making a decision that the Society would only produce one play in 2024 it was agreed that we should put on a production of 'Waiting for Gateaux', flyers for which have been made available for you today. Gillian Myers has been appointed as Director for the production, the play has been cast and rehearsals are well under way. The production will be performed here in The Studio at the Carriageworks from the 17th to the 19th October and I do hope that you will come along and see what promises to be a humorous and entertaining production.

As was mentioned in my report last year the Committee was tasked with updating the Society's Constitution. We held an Extraordinary General Meeting in May this year when the revised Constitution was put before the membership and the final version has now been adopted and is available on the Society's website.

The LeedsCAN Awards take place at the beginning of September but as we have not put on any productions in the last year we have no nominees to put forward for any of the awards. We do however send our good wishes to everyone who has been nominated and look forward to the success of the evening.

Before I close I would just like to say a big thank you to all the members of the Committee for their support over the past year, without whose commitment, support and dedication, we would not be where we are now. I would also like to thank Bryan who keeps us on track with the website and our loyal Society members for their continuing support, and for paying their subs.

We look forward with anticipation to a successful production of 'Waiting for Gateaux' in October, and to a positive future for the Society.

My sincere thanks to you all.

Report prepared by Elaine Jackson, Chair of Cosmopolitan Players, Leeds and presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Tuesday 20th August 2024 at the Carriageworks Theatre.

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