

## IES PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEETING

### MINUTES: 20 December 2021 7.00pm, Warehouse Theatre

Attendees: Malcolm, Lucy, Leanne, Sally, Brian, Maddie

Apologies: Paula and Dave

- Minutes from last meeting noted and signed as a correct record.
- Lucy Driver elected as Chairperson, Leanne agreed to take the minutes for tonight's meeting. Irene and Mick will be invited to join the committee, having one vote as a pair.
- **Review of Tom's Midnight Garden:** the committee congratulated the team. The director enjoyed the experience but made the following points:
  - Auditions had lowish attendance and casting proved to be difficult with some doubling up.
  - Parents agreed to do hair and make-up and the director carried out producer role.
  - All the cast enjoyed taking part with good teamwork in evidence.
  - The set worked well and good feedback was received from audiences although numbers were lowish (COVID may have played a part in this and committee felt that Tuesday evening may have been one night too many);
- The PR adjudication was felt to have been a bit harsh and some comments made were not backed up – the committee felt the outcome represented nit picking.
- **Moving Forward:** the committee decided to reinstate a formal budget for all productions.
- A recruitment drive is needed for new cast members.
- A Directors' Meeting will be combined with a social: 27 January 2022.
- Irene has suggested play readings are held, the committee agreed, and these will be scheduled to take place alongside social events.
- **A Review of the Comedy Night:** went down well on the whole and box office takings were good. Bar takings yet to be confirmed but card sales were good. There are 2 more such evenings booked in for 2022 and the committee agreed to leave these in place.
- **The One Acts:** after some discussion the committee decided to go with *Murderous Intent* as the 3<sup>rd</sup> play because it fitted in well with the other 2 selections, rehearsals can be conducted via Zoom/Teams and the production can be filmed for distribution if the theatre is shut down due to COVID.
- The Wednesday evening will be dropped for the one acts.
- Lucy is very concerned that her one act will not be able to be produced in the timeframe should another lockdown be imposed.
- The committee decided to move the one act play offering to later in the year if a lockdown is imposed.
- **Autumn Slots** in the Programme: we have some submissions from Irene for these; the One Acts can be moved to this time of year and *Yellow Sands* can be moved from the summer to the autumn. *The 39 Steps* and *A Bolt from the Blue* were chosen as the main autumn offerings.
- **Theatre Bookings 2022:** there have been some notable cancellations due to uncertainty around COVID.
- *Jersey Boys* is selling well so far; *Around the World in 80 days* a bit slower - we are on a 70/30 split for this production.
- Kathakalee will be asked to quote dates for 2023.
- 2022 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Warehouse Theatre and the committee agreed to try and produce a special programme edition; ideas to be discussed at future meetings and Brian to lead.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING;** 7 Feb 2022, 7 pm, WT.