

EGTG Committee Meeting
28th August 2025

Present: Adelle Ansara, Alexander Cook, Hannah Bradley Croall, James Gray, Kate Stephenson.

Apologies: Martin Foreman, Claire Morand, Claire Wood.

- 1. Apologies and Approval of July Minutes**
- 2. Fringe Productions**
- 3. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time**
- 4. 2026 Productions**
- 5. Buccleuch Place/Rehearsal Spaces**
- 6. Comms Report**
- 7. Home Street**
- 8. SCIO Update**
- 9. Membership Report**
- 10. Any Other Business**
- 11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

1. Apologies and Approval of July Minutes

Martin and the two Claires sent their apologies. Adelle approved last month's minutes and Alex seconded them.

2. Fringe Productions

Both productions went very well. *The Virtuous Burglar* sold 358 tickets and was a sell-out for three nights of its run, *The Children* 200 tickets. Both productions came in under budget. *The Children* incurred a small loss of £25, largely due to a higher rights cost, and *The Virtuous Burglar* made a profit of £2500.

Both productions were well reviewed by AllEdinburghTheatre, and *The Children* also received two additional highly positive reviews from other publications including *Starburst*. It was noted it was good to see such wider coverage.

Thanks were extended to Alasdair Smith and Jac Wheble for providing transport for the get-in and strike, and to members of the committee for assisting. Filling up the Front of House rota was made easier by members of each production contributing to the other's, and this was judged to be a good precedent to follow in the future. Everyone involved seemed to enjoy themselves, and overall this year's Fringe was judged to be a great success – congratulations were offered to all involved.

3. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

Auditions went well, with Jac able to cast from those who attended. The cast list has already been shared on social media and will be disseminated further by the

newsletters. Jac has the keys for Buccleuch Place. An extra four scripts are needed for cast members: at a cost of £12 per script cheaper alternatives are being sought given the production has already fulfilled the quota the rights holders require for script purchases.

4. 2026 Productions

Two proposals had been received so far, but several more are anticipated, including from committee members. October 5th is pencilled in as the date in which the committee will get together to discuss submissions, at 4pm. Thinking further ahead, Hannah will share with the committee members the list of plays EGTG has produced over the years.

5. Buccleuch Place/Rehearsal Spaces

Martin attended the Graduate Association's EGM on July 31st, in which said organisation voted to disband. This process will take place in September and it was judged that it would probably take several months to complete. However, clarity on this point is needed as it relates to EGTG's usage of Buccleuch Place: rehearsal space is needed until the middle of November for *Curious Dog*. Hannah will contact the university's Estates team and Alumni office to try and get a more exact date. It was suggested that contacting the Women's Group, who have also been using Buccleuch Place, would be useful, to see if they have any cognisance regarding the potential deadline for access and to ascertain their future plans.

6. Comms Report

The number of followers on Instagram is now over 450, with an aim to try and reach 500 by the end of the year. Engagement is strong when cast members and the production team are tagged; there was a notable disparity between the two Fringe shows given *The Virtuous Burglar*'s cast were largely on social media but those in *The Children* were not. Likewise, the cast announcement for *Curious Dog* did very well. Adelle will continue to post a mixture of videos and pictures as available, both for upcoming productions but also past shows, as these latter seem to garner a good level of engagement as well. It was noted that both the university archives and Margaret Marr have a plethora of material from decades gone past which would be good to incorporate in such posts.

7. Home Street

It was noted that, following the Fringe shows, Home Street was left in a state of some disarray, with sets and props not put away. It was suggested it be requested that a representative from each show come along to the next Home Street morning to help tidy things away. Kate has already written a guide as to how to treat Home Street, and it was agreed all future productions should be made aware of this document. As an aside, it was also noted that this document should be part of a wider directors' pack to be issued to all future directors, with details on, for example, what EGTG have found works for comms/working with Adelle on promotional content.

With regard to PAT testing, for the Fringe shows the Tool Library proved to be the solution for props needed, and were extremely amenable. It is again noted that the power tools should be checked before the end of the year, and that Jac may need some electrical props for *Curious Incident*: Michael Mulligan will be asked again if use could be made of Jane's machine to do these.

8. SCIO Update

A solicitor has been engaged and James has been put in contact with her. She has not mailed since August 8th; if by September 8th there is still no further contact he will chase her up.

9. Membership Report

There are currently 62 active members, a slight decline attributable to some of the *Baba* cast not renewing their membership. Alex will coordinate with Jac to make sure all *Curious Incident* cast members are signed up.

With regard to announcing next year's season, Alex put forward a proposal for a larger-scale event than has been held in the past. After surveying members at various rehearsals and researching possible venues, he suggested a costume party could go down well. This would aim to achieve several aims: it would create a greater community cohesion between members of different productions and the wider membership itself, include people who might otherwise be somewhat transitory in their participation, provide plenty of social media material, and in general be an investment in EGTG's communal spirit. Taking into account the cost of the venues he has surveyed, he also suggested a small profit was a realistic possibility. This was judged to sound an excellent suggestion; he will draw up a more detailed proposal for the committee to study.

10. Any Other Business

It was important to put on record how devastated everyone in EGTG was to hear of the death of James Hay. James was one of the two performers in this year's SCDA entry, *Being Norwegian*, playing Sean with a superb mix of heart, sincerity, and perfectly-judged comic timing. The news came as a huge shock to us all, and our hearts go out to his friends and family.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting was set to take place on Wednesday 24th September at 7pm.