

EGTG Committee Meeting
28th October 2025

Present: Adelle Ansara, Alexander Cook, Hannah Bradley Croall, Martin Foreman, James Gray, Claire Morand, Kate Stephenson

Apologies: Claire Wood

- 1. Apologies and Approval of September Minutes**
- 2. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**
- 3. Medea**
- 4. 2026 Productions**
- 5. Membership Report and Gala Night**
- 6. Medical Roleplaying Sessions**
- 7. Treasury Report**
- 8. Comms Report**
- 9. Buccleuch Place**
- 10. SCIO**
- 11. Home Street**
- 12. Any Other Business**
- 13. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

1. Apologies and Approval of September Minutes

Claire Wood sent her apologies. Alex approved September's minutes and Adelle seconded them.

2. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

It was noted 47 tickets had been sold so far, with healthy numbers for the Thursday and Friday performances in particular. With four weeks to go this is roughly in line with how Baba was performing. A code for group bookings has been set up and it will be checked if this has been implemented. The date for Tuesday's performance on the website was noted to be wrong and will be corrected.

Adelle reported that her design for the programme was nearly completed. Jac contributed Director's Notes and most of the actors had supplied headshots. A discussion was held regarding the number to be printed, and costings for between 100 and 300 will be assessed. Sponsorship is settled with Front of House to collect donations for Scottish Autism. Committee members will submit their availability for this duty. Production Manager Lois will also be asked whether a relaxed performance is still going ahead. Kate volunteered to take the dress rehearsal photographs.

3. Medea

A readthrough date of 2 December and audition dates of 7 and 9 December have been pencilled in. James and Eirini are going to meet to time the current version of the script

and then Eirini will make edits. The edited script will then be submitted to the committee for comment. Following the readthrough and auditions a meeting will be arranged with Michael Mulligan, Hannah, and Kate at Home Street with regard to set, costumes, and other production matters.

4. 2026 Productions

With regard to Daisy Pulls It Off, Kate reported that the Augustine is not available but that Hill Street Theatre is. There is no ticket cut but EGTG would have to sell the tickets themselves. Kate's preferred dates are for get-in to be Saturday 25 April, Tech and Dress Sunday 26, and performances Monday 27-Friday 1 May. A discussion was held regarding the financial feasibility of five performances. A question was raised regarding the likelihood of an audience on a Monday, and the prospect of preview pricing was suggested. As it will be a flat fee for the theatre booking, Kate will book for the week and determine subsequently the number of performances. With regard to auditions and rehearsals, as there is a big cast Kate noted she would like ten weeks. Provisional dates for auditions are the week starting 26 January and rehearsals 16 February, with a potential table-read on 12 January, with these to be confirmed.

With regard to Dead Souls, Hannah's preferred venue is the Grand Pianodrome in the St. Oswald's Centre in Bruntsfield. She has emailed them for rates. The backup is the Roxy. Her preferred performance week is the first week of November, with get-in 1 November, although 8 November would do too.

With regard to the Fringe productions, it was noted that the committee is once again very regretful that the rights to Eureka Day were unavailable. Alex offered an alternative, pitching Chekov's The Bear, with the following arguments: it is public domain, Chekov is a substantive name, its 45-minute length is very suitable for the slot, the play's singular setting is well-suited to the Royal Hepburn Suite, and having a small cast of three makes it more doable. It fits EGTG's style, has big bombastic characters, and fits the space left by Eureka Day. After Alex recused himself, the committee discussed his proposal and it was agreed unanimously to accept it.

With regard to the productions for next year in general, it was agreed that the proposed "production packs" for directors should be available sooner rather than later. The sample artwork submitted for the gala reveal night is judged to be excellent, with just a couple of minor adjustments needed.

5. Membership Report and Gala Night

Membership is down to 56.

Alex will be going to the Argyle Cellar Bar to pay the deposit on 1st November. The membership email and invite has gone out. He has a short list of what he would like with regards to props and costumes from this year's productions and will send Kate a list of these to fish out from Home Street. Closer to the date he asked for help with regard to providing a photo montage of the productions as his Mac does not run

Powerpoint. Kate volunteers to organise this. Claire Morand requests the invoice for the venue.

6. Medical Roleplaying Sessions

Hannah has met with the organiser of these events at the University of Edinburgh, Louis Resnick, and actors would be required for 25th February and 8th April. There would be four two-hour sessions, and actors would also be required for a handful of rehearsals. While it was agreed that EGTG's involvement would nurture a good relationship with the University, concern was raised regarding the amount of time expected from the actors without remuneration. A potential payment of £50 plus lunch was suggested and Hannah will go back to Louis to request this. Interest will be surveyed via the members newsletter.

7. Treasury Report

EGTG's Treasurer Claire Wood being absent, Treasury Assistant Claire Morand stepped in with a report. She had prepared a complete preliminary breakdown of the costings for next year.

With regards to specific productions, it was suggested that perhaps the directors' budgets could be raised to £250. It was noted that programmes come from this budget too. Costings for scripts were provisionally set at £50 for non-Fringe, £75 for Fringe. Hilary Spiers will be paid an honorarium of £100 for Sweet.

For non-Fringe productions, a publicity budget of £50 was judged about right. With regard to paying for social media publicity Adelle noted she would like to experiment with the first production of the season, *Daisy Pulls It Off*, to monitor its efficacy. A couple of strategies to do this were suggested. Publicity for the Fringe is a different beast, as online competition against the large shows is almost impossible: for those productions physical marketing is judged to be the most efficacious.

It was also suggested that investing EGTG's money in a savings account would produce some more income than it is currently generating.

Because of her move back to France, Claire Morand will need to tender her resignation due to the demands of the new bank account needing all addresses to be UK-based. She will still attend meetings as an observer but will not have a vote. Hannah noted this was the first time in eight years on the committee she had seen such a proposed budget and offered the committee's collective appreciation and thanks to Claire for all the work she has done on it and as Treasurer in general. This was unanimously accepted.

8. Comms Report

Adelle reported she had attended Curious Incident rehearsals and taken some pictures. She noted how much attention "Toby the Rat", a puppet in the production, gets every time he is posted. There will be a ramp-up of posts in the next couple of weeks and Rosa

from the Roxy has been in contact asking for publicity material to show on their platforms which Adelle will supply. It was noted that it was a great pleasure to receive such marketing assistance from the Roxy and was gratefully received.

9. Buccleuch Place Status

Hannah reported she had been in contact with the Estates Department and they are unaware of the current arrangement with the building. As such, the latter will get in touch with the Women's Group to try and ascertain what the existing agreement is. There was more of a sense of optimism that the space will continue to remain available, or that another could be provided, although EGTG might be liable to contribute to running costs such as electricity if the latter proves to be the case.

10. SCIO

James reported that the lawyer has been in touch and will be contacting the ex officio trust members shortly. They estimated the transfer of Home Street could be completed by the end of November.

11. Home Street

Kate reported there was a productive clearing session last week. The main area is looking good but the upstairs still needs work. The back leak is still a concern and, as winter approaches, will be monitored. The PAT-testing is budgeted for next year; if Curious Incident needs anything doing the Tool Library will be available. She also noted the back alley is becoming rubbish-strewn and dangerous, making for a potential fire risk. Michael Mulligan will go and talk to the businesses who are the most probable culprits. It was also noted the fire extinguishers had not been tested since 1988 and the emergency lighting at the back needed fixing.

12. Any Other Business

The prospect of regular script readings was raised. There have been several submissions over the past few months. This was seen as potentially a long-term prospect, but it was agreed to schedule the first three or four and see how they go. It is noted that the scripts will need to be pre-read, with Martin volunteering but noting another one or two committee members should do so as well. It was suggested that Medea the first in December, then the three submissions the group has received in January through March. Sweet was also suggested as possible and Hilary will be asked. Synopses of the plays will be prepared and disseminated via the newsletters.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for 4 th December at 7pm.

[Following a discussion over email, the next meeting was subsequently rearranged for 13th January 2026.]