

ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY MIDLANDS CENTRE

Minutes of AGM 2019 held on Thursday 12th December 2019 at BBC The Mailbox, Birmingham.

Attending : Caren Davies (Chair), Dorothy Hobson (Vice Chair), Becky Jones Owen (Hon Sec), Jenny Wilkes, Teresa Bogan, William Gallagher, Sindy Campbell, Anita Ramdharry, Kully Khaila, Roz Laws, Jayne Greene (as Administrator).

1. Welcome and apologies
 - Apologies were received from Will Bassett (Hon Treasurer), Isabel Clarke, Yasmine Cash, Sonia Matharu, Sarah Trigg, Terry Stanton.
2. Minutes of the 2018 AGM
 - The minutes were signed by CD as accurate
3. Matters arising
 - There were no matters arising
4. Chairman's report
CD gave the following report:

RTS Midlands has had another very busy and exciting 12 months!

We're proud to retain our position as the largest RTS centre outside of London and we will continue to work hard in 2020 to ensure we represent the vibrant Midlands broadcast community and inspire and help young people to enter the industry.

By the end of this year we will have done 14 events - this year we focussed on doing slightly fewer events but making them bigger and better and we have more than achieved this.

Over the last 12 months we have come into contact with over 2000 people. We have done some events on our own, some in partnership with academic institutions and broadcasters and some with partner organisations. We have worked hard to establish good working relationships with venues making our events more cost effective.

RTS Midlands quick-stepped into the year with our 'Strictly Masterclass' at BBC Birmingham with star dancer Giovanni Pernice and his celebrity partner from the 2018 series Faye Tozer, Judge Shirley Ballas and Executive Producers Sarah James and Louise Rainbow who revealed all the secrets from the Strictly ballroom to a packed audience. The year just got better and better – Sir Lenny Henry put his name to a unique student award for us, legendary TV presenter Nick Owen hosted our quiz and David Harewood captivated another packed house to talk about his illustrious career including his documentary 'David Harewood: My Psychosis and Me'.

As if that wasn't enough in October we held the Premiere of the new ITV2 comedy Zomboat! which was set in Birmingham. We were joined by the four main cast members, plus the writer and producer for a masterclass hosted by Ayo Akinwolere after the screening.

In October we held our second Careers Fair, at Edgbaston Stadium which attracted over 900 young people.

Our glamorous awards ceremony took place at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham on the 29th November with 375 people from the Midlands broadcasting industry coming together to celebrate the achievements from the past year.

We were delighted that this year's Baird Medal recipient was a very humble Barbara Slater OBE.

Also on the day of the awards, Dorothy Hobson, Vice-Chair hosted a masterclass with TV drama legend Mal Young at the IET which was a huge success.

To finish off this busy but productive year we partnered with BBC Birmingham for a fabulous masterclass organised by Teresa Bogan and delivered by Steven Knight. The event was to celebrate Steven's latest project, a three-part adaptation of A Christmas Carol - a highlight of BBC One's festive schedule. Over 100 people attended including students from University of Worcester, Dudley College and BCU.

We have worked hard again to maintain and develop relationships with HEFE across our region and are proud that we have the most student awards entries outside London.

We already have a full and exciting calendar of events planned for 2020, we will continue to keep the Midlands TV community firmly on the map.

Thank you all for your continued hard work and support.

5. Review of the financial accounts
 - A full report was not available at this time but CD confirmed we had kept within our budget last year and that our budget request for 2020 had been approved by Head Office.
6. Committee membership including election of new Committee members
 - Sarah Trigg was made a full member of the committee.
7. Any other business
 - There was no other business. CD closed the meeting and thanked all those who attended.