



ROYAL
TELEVISION
SOCIETY

LONDON CENTRE

Notice of Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 25th May 2021, 1:00pm

To be held on Zoom:

The link will be sent via email to members signing up 24 hours in advance.

RTS London Centre - Forty Fifth Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

Minutes of Forty Fourth Annual General Meeting held on
Wednesday 27th May 2020

Annual Report & Accounts 2020

Election of the London Centre Committee Members

AOB

Nomination Form for Centre Committee

MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting of the RTS London Centre were held virtually on Wednesday 27th of May 2020 at 6:30pm via Zoom. In the Chair: Philip Barnes, Chair of the RTS London Centre.

1. Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd May 2019

- Accuracy: The minutes of the 43rd London Centre AGM were agreed by all members present subject to amending a typo on the minutes of the 42nd AGM regarding the date of the meeting.
- Matters Arising: There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.

2. London Centre Annual Report for 2019

- The report had been circulated with the Notice of the Meeting via email by the Hon. Secretary, Damien Ashton-Wellman, and further copies were made available for download by members on the RTS website.
- Philip Barnes, the Centre Chair, reported that the London Centre had held 12 public, free-to-attend events in 2019, with the Student TV Awards making 13 in total. These took place at a variety of venues including Atos, Channel 4 and the University of Westminster.

3. Hon. Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet

- The Hon. Treasurer, David Thomas, presented the Centre Accounts for the 2019 financial year, which had been circulated in advance to members.
- David Thomas reported that the main sources of expenditure for the year had been on the production of evening lectures and the Student TV Awards, including filming, as has been the case in previous years.
- He went on to note that the RTS London Centre bank account had been successfully closed and that the Centre had switched to the centralised RTS Head Office purchase order system on SAGE.

4. Election of Committee Members

- Nominations to the Hon. Secretary, Damien Ashton-Wellman, and Deputy Hon. Secretary, Terry Marsh, were received for David Thomas, Lettija Lee, Terry Marsh, Daniel Cherowbrier, and Carol Owens, in addition to himself.
- All nominated members were elected nem con.

5. Election of Independent Examiner

- The Hon. Treasurer, David Thomas, noted that the London Centre is no longer required to elect an external auditor at future AGMs due to the Centre switching to a centralised purchase order system on SAGE.
- David Thomas raised a vote of thanks for David Turner FCA, of the firm of Johnsons Chartered Accountants in Ealing, who had served as the Centre's external auditor ahead of the Centre's Accounts being folded into Head Office during the 2020 financial year. This was seconded by Kristin Mason and agreed unanimously by those on the AGM call.

6. Any Other Business

- No other items were presented.

The meeting was closed by the Hon. Secretary at 6:45pm

**RTS LONDON CENTRE
CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

The year saw the London Centre move much of its programme of events online and launch the RTS London Podcast. In total, it hosted 17 events, as well as helping (with RTS Yorkshire) to organise two outings for the RTS Nations and Regions Quiz. Four of these 19 events were held in person, the remainder were online.

The Centre held 13 events in 2019 and 14 in 2018. It partnered with a variety of organisations throughout the year, including Deloitte, The Children's Media Foundation, the RTS Archives Group, Access:VFX, the DTG, the IET, IBC and the DPP. Online reach for the events was in excess of 19,000 streams — 18,300 views on YouTube and 865 downloads of the newly launched RTS London podcast.

The year started conventionally enough with “Are the kids alright? The future of children's TV” at the University of Westminster. The next two events were part of a short series of events held at Deloitte: “The future of TV” looked at how technology and audience behaviour might shape TV over the coming decade, while “The future of the BBC”, chaired by Roger Bolton, looked at the challenges facing the corporation. “Protecting our TV heritage” in March was the centre's final in-person event of the year. The Student Television Awards were live streamed in the week before the first lockdown. May's “Standing out while staying in” was a joint panel session with Access:VFX. In the same month, “Lockdown TV: What people watch”, with contributions from Barb and ThinkBox, was the centre's first pre-recorded session.

In early June, the Centre joined with the DTG for “Lockdown TV tech”. The following week, it put the spotlight on Sky Arts' *Portrait Artist of the Week*, with a panel that included presenter Joan Bakewell and channel head Phil Edgar-Jones. At the end of the month, the centre celebrated the 60th anniversary of the opening of Television Centre with a programme combining rare archive footage, recollections from Philip Schofield and cameraman Roger Bunce, and the participation of the BBC's head of history, Robert Seatter. It was the year's most popular event for the centre, with more than 6,600 views to date.

In July, “It's all about the sound” featured an interview with the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award at the RTS Craft & Design Awards, sound supervisor Michael McCarthy. At a live YouTube session in August, “AI in lockdown: An indie's innovation”, Arrow Media International revealed how it had been using artificial intelligence to source footage for shows. September saw “And they say engineers are boring!”, a guided online tour through the history of broadcast TV tech from the inimitable Norman Green.

In October, the Centre looked at the IBC's Accelerator programme. “How to survive in streaming”, in October, included panellists from London, Germany and the US, and was followed by “2020 Vision: The view from the DPP” a month later. The programme of events for the year concluded with a session on Channel 4 show *Flirty Dancing*, hosted by super-fan Gaby Roslin.

Two leading lights of the London Centre – Arthur Pigott and Rick Rickards – sadly died in April. Both were made RTS Fellows in 1987, when the Society celebrated its 60th anniversary. Arthur Pigott (1922 – 2020) joined the Society in 1972 and was heavily involved in the work of the London Centre committee. For six years, he assisted the director of the RTS Television Engineering course held at the IBA in Knightsbridge. He was made an RTS Fellow for his contribution to the RTS London Centre and the engineering course.

Rick Rickards (1928 – 2020) served on the London Centre from its inception and was Chair from 1985 to 1989 when he also served on the RTS Council. He remained an active member of the London Centre committee until 2009 and was made an RTS Fellow for his contribution to the technical advancement of television in 1987.

Phil Barnes
Chair
RTS London Centre

**RTS LONDON CENTRE
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2020**

Early in 2020, the COVID pandemic and first lockdown moved the London Centre's activities online, and financial activity was drastically reduced. The RTS decided that this very quiet period, that few expected to run into 2021, would be an ideal time to carry out the already planned move to a centralised financial system. Under this system, regional centres no longer have their own bank accounts and their Treasurers now interface directly with the centralised system SAGE. Centres also no longer receive block grants from the RTS, but instead issue purchase orders and authorise payments to be made by the RTS for these and for various expenses. These purchase orders are made against an agreed budget. Our traditional Profit and Loss Accounts have therefore been replaced with reports generated by SAGE.

A copy of the Summary End of Year Financial Report for 2020 is attached to this Annual Report (Appendix One) but, because the new system came into operation during the year, no variances against budget have been reported. In reality the circumstances of 2020 would have made any comparisons with budgets agreed before the pandemic meaningless. A budget for 2021 has been agreed with the Society.

David Thomas
Hon. Treasurer
RTS London Centre

ELECTION OF THE LONDON CENTRE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nominations are invited for the Committee of the London Centre. In accordance with the rules, candidates must be nominated by two Centre members and such nominations, together with brief personal details, must be received by the Hon. Secretary of the Centre before noon on Tuesday 25th May 2021 (Appendix Two).

Centre Committee 2020

Philip Barnes | Centre Chair, Carol Owens | Vice-Chair, David Thomas | Hon. Treasurer, Veronica Newson* | Deputy Treasurer, Damien Ashton-Wellman | Hon. Secretary, Terry Marsh | Deputy Hon. Secretary, Norman Green*, Aradhna Tayal, Nick Radlo, Ainsley de Silva (retired December 2020), Tonia Page, Daniel Cherowbrier, Kristin Mason*, Lettija Lee, Liz Cooke (co-opted March 2021)*, Rosemary Smith.

* retiring by rotation but eligible for re-election.

APPENDIX ONE

Profit and Loss Statement

Financial Activities For London Centre	Month Dec Actual £	Year To Date Dec Actual £
Total Income	0	0
Room Hire	0	1,579
Hospitality (Event Food & Drink)	0	11
Technical Equipment (AV)	0	300
Awards and Certificates	0	1,122
Filming	0	100
Couriers and Delivery	0	75
Travel (Committee)	0	15
Travel (Other)	0	45
Accommodation & Subsistence (Other)	0	130
Total Events Expenditure	0	3,377
Net Event Income (Expenses)	0	(3,377)
General - Sundry	0	12
Bank Charges - NatWest	5	60
Total Centre Expenditure	5	72
Net Profit (Loss)	(5)	(3,449)

Events - Year To End

	Awards Student Awards Dec - YTD AST Actual £	Early Evening Events Panel Discussions / Lectures Dec - YTD EPD Actual £	Total Dec - YTD TOTAL Actual £
Total Income	0	0	0
Room Hire	0	1,579	1,579
Hospitality (Event Food & Drink)	0	11	11
Technical Equipment (AV)	0	300	300
Awards and Certificates	1,122	0	1,122
Filming	0	100	100
Couriers and Delivery	75	0	75
Travel (Committee)	15	0	15
Travel (Other)	0	45	45
Accommodation & Subsistence (Other)	0	130	130
Total Expenditure	1,212	2,165	3,377
Net Profit (Loss) per Event	(1,212)	(2,165)	(3,377)

APPENDIX TWO

NOMINATION FOR THE RTS LONDON CENTRE COMMITTEE 2021

Nominations are invited for the Committee of the London Centre.

In accordance with the rules, candidates must be nominated by two Centre members and such nominations, together with brief personal details, must be received by the Hon. Secretary of the Centre before noon on Tuesday 25th May 2021.

The election of Committee members, who serve for three years, will take place at the RTS London Centre Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday 25th May 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The link and password will be sent to all members 24 hours in advance.

The personal information provided by the candidates will be available at that meeting.

NOMINATION FOR THE ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY LONDON CENTRE COMMITTEE 2020-23

Name	<input type="text"/>
Full address	<input type="text"/>
Mobile	<input type="text"/>
	I consent to being nominated for the London Centre Committee
Date	<input type="text"/>
Proposed by	<input type="text"/>
Seconded by	<input type="text"/>

Please also provide brief personal information such as occupation, area of expertise and other details, which may be of interest to members.

Please return this completed form by email to rtslondon@rts.org.uk