**MDG Committee Nominations for 2021/22**

The following nominations have been received

**Chairman - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Samantha Partridge**

Proposed by: Emma Zuccaro

Seconded by: Beth Monroe

The 2020-2021 period that I have been in post as Chairman has been a challenging time for our group with the disappointing position of not being able to get the group on the stage and performing. I have however worked hard with the committee to ensure we have had a weekly forum to express our creative juices through our weekly online script readings. These have gone from strength to strength and by adding in themes and additional members of the script searching team this regular forum will continue as we slowly come out of hibernation and return to normality. Whilst these sessions were created due to the pandemic we have learnt that the group have a real appetite for experiencing new scripts and enjoy reading them out loud so I will continue to sponsor this weekly event if I remain as chairman - and hope to make this more social in 2021 & 2022 once restrictions allow.

I am pleased that our commitment to strengthen our financial position has been achieved through the hard work of the committee, and we will continue this work into the new committee year. My ambition is to have MDG in a healthy financial position so that we can return to our regular portfolio of 3 - 4 productions each year. We certainly have directors and scripts lined up ready to support this ambition - we just need the $$ in the bank!

Over the next committee year I would like to expand our use of technology and expressing ourselves as a group through our social media channels. Using channels such as YouTube, Instagram and Blog/Vlogs to keep our members and community updated on MDG news & events and entertaining them along the way.

As Chairman I will also work with the community, other community groups and local councillors to protect our Desborough Theatre and continue to push our Save The Desborough Theatre campaign.

**Secretary - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Maggi Jinks**

Proposed by: Bob Bottle

Seconded by: Chris Mower

I have had a lot of involvement with the committee during my time with MDG in various roles, sometimes at short notice. It is always a challenging but rewarding thing to do. I believe that the role of Secretary requires accuracy, tact and diplomacy, along with the ability to supply support to committee and members alike. Along with this I hope that my previous experience will contribute to the growth of MDG through good times and bad.

**Treasurer - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Carol Hennessy**

Proposed by: Jenny Evans

Seconded by: James Yates

I have sadly had little to do in my time so far as Treasurer, but hope the succinct reports I have provided to members have been helpful. I would be happy to continue in my role and hope to have more work to do as performances restart.

**Facilities Director - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Bob Bottle**

Proposed by: Maggi Jinks

Seconded by: Kristina Perkins

During the current year at Waldeck House I have concentrated on the reorganisation of the set into a smaller storage space so that we could cease the lease on unit 4.

My proposal for continuing in this role is to support MDG with the search for new premises as the lease on Waldeck House is coming to a close. Should the search for new premises not be successful then I propose to organise the removal of all the MDG resources from Waldeck House prior to the cessation of the lease. I do not underestimate the size of such a task and the support of the members will be essential.

I would also like to ensure that any future facilities are safe for our members and for the storage of our props, costumes and set.

**Production Director - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Kristina Perkins**

Proposed by: Maggi Jinks

Seconded by: Bob Bottle

After a difficult year we are now gradually easing back into planning productions and stabilising the Guild, after a fraught time during lockdown. My contribution to the group includes making sure all of our productions are kept to a professional standard, we have a secure base, and that we give opportunities for all our members to be part of this journey and enjoy taking part.

There are many bridges still to cross and my enthusiasm to bring MDG to a safe place remains constant.

**Skills Development Director - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Chris Mower**

Proposed by: Bob Bottle

Seconded by: Maggi Jinks

As we are all aware the past year and a half has put a major crimp on any sort of group projects. I had originally planned to carry out some sessions on Zoom/Google but after reviewing the possibilities it became clear that it wasn't a viable alternative.

I have secured some of the most respected players in their field to come and give a talk on stage lighting, set design, and sound production. These are pencilled in for later this year provided that there are no further lock-down problems.

I am also working on a series of ad-hoc talks by members-to-members giving an insight into the various aspects of their particular speciality. This is currently a work in progress but the first part, "The Stage Manager" is almost complete and to be released shortly

**Public Relations Director - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Emma Zuccaro**

Proposed by: Samantha Partridge

Seconded by: Ann Croft

I would like to stand for the publicity role within the MDG committee and combine this with the fundraising role that I already hold as I feel the two roles go hand in hand.

I will continue to research funding grants that can enable us to continue performing.

I am a team player who is always willing to get involved and get the job done. My main objective is for MDG to continue onward and upward entertaining the town of Maidenhead and surrounding areas. I look forward to working with the different medias and raising the profile of MDG keeping us in the forefront of people’s minds when it comes to Local Theatre

**Artistic Director - 1 candidate**

**Nominee: Matthew Filmore**

Proposed by: Samantha Partridge

Seconded by: Emma Zuccaro

I first performed with the MDG 20 years ago. During that time I’ve been involved as a performer, committee member, writer, and director. In my early years the Guild offered me a lot by way of mentorship and guidance; I’ve been afforded opportunities to be involved in some truly special productions and be creative with some truly talented individuals. I know I wouldn’t have achieved what I have done, not that that is much, without the support of the society.

Now feels the perfect time to give something back. The Guild is an exceptionally important society in Maidenhead; the only one standing still regularly producing plays. The last year has taught us that there is still a real demand for theatre. People have missed being involved; on stage, back stage, directing, lighting, sound engineering, costuming, and the rest. We need to continue the excellent work the Guild has achieved over the past few years by bringing the world of true DRAMA to the people of Maidenhead.

If I am elected my aim would be simple. I want to see us producing three regular productions a year; a comedy, a drama, and THE local pantomime. I want to see the programme supplemented by Festival productions, as well as regular React productions and play readings. I want the programme to provide opportunities to people of all levels and abilities. In the role of Artistic Director, it would be my aim to ensure we have a ready supply of plays, directors, actors, and creatives at hand to keep producing. I would also seek to offer a supportive, mentoring hand, similar to that which I received many years ago, to bring productions to stage.

For me, theatre has always been about giving people the opportunity to come together with like minded individuals to create, experiment, play, and achieve, whilst having a lot of fun along the way. I would be honoured to be given the opportunity to play my part in this over the coming year.