

Please reply to: Secretary 19 Burford Crescent Wilmslow SK9 6BL
phone 01625 525794
secretary@greenroomwilmslow.org.uk



11 July 2026

Dear Green Room member

We are pleased to invite you to join us for the Green Room Theatre **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, which this year will be on **Monday 3 August**, at **7.30pm** at the theatre. Doors (and the bar) will be open from 7pm. We do hope that you will be able to come along; please note earlier times on this occasion. I am including minutes from last year's AGM, and there is an agenda below. Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2025-26 will be presented on the night.

Nomination sheets are included with this mailing, on which you can **propose or second existing or new officers** in the following roles.

President / Chairman / Vice-chairman / Hon Secretary / Hon Treasurer
/ Theatre Director / Artistic Director / Registrar

Those elected in these positions become the charity's trustees. You are welcome to nominate people for – or second - any of the officer posts listed above.

In addition, can we encourage you to suggest **new committee members**, please, as it is vitally important for us to try to get new people involved? Nominees must be full members of the Society and any nominations, with seconders, should be made only with the consent of those proposed. You can post these sheets back to me (contact details above) or phone me, or make nominations by email, provided you have agreement from those concerned, and provided that your email is copied to anyone named therein. Nominations must reach me no later than Friday 24 July.

Denise Soussi
Honorary Secretary

AGENDA FOR THE EVENING

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval of Minutes from 2025 meeting
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Chairman's report
- 5 Treasurer's report and Presentation of Accounts
- 6 Membership fees – as previously - full: £38; social: £18
- 7 GR Youth Group
- 8 Motions for discussion:
Any additional motions for discussion should be submitted to the Secretary in writing before Monday 27 July 2026
- 9 Election of officers
- 10 Presentation of Sheila Hine Award
- 11 100 Club draw
- 12 Any other business

WILMSLOW GREEN ROOM SOCIETY
85 CHAPEL LANE
WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE SK9 5JH

Registered Charity no 1153665

NOMINATION SHEET FOR OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY 2026-2027

Current postholders 2026 - 2027	NEW NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY
<u>PRESIDENT</u> David Reynolds			
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS</u> Pat Barrow Jacque Bilsborough Celia Bonner Diana Boswell Belinda Coghlan Sonia Dykstra Sue Offer Steve Williamson			
<u>CHAIRMAN</u> Paul Lewis			
<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u> Matthew Smith			
<u>HONORARY SECRETARY</u> Denise Soussi			
<u>HONORARY TREASURER</u> Charlie Cook			
<u>ARTISTIC DIRECTOR</u> Victoria Johnson			
<u>THEATRE DIRECTOR</u> Bruce Williams			
<u>REGISTRAR</u> Carys Jones			
<u>HON SOLICITOR</u> <i>** Post vacant</i>			

Vacancies are marked with asterisks; names crossed out are of people no longer standing again

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**NOMINATION SHEET on which to suggest NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS
2026 – 2027**

current	NEW NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY
<u>THEATRE MANAGEMENT</u> <u>Bruce Williams</u> (Chair) Diana Boswell John Coghlan Fenella Fowkes Alan James Ian Kennedy		<i>en bloc</i>	<i>en bloc</i>
<u>PLAY AND STAGE</u> <u>Victoria Johnson</u> (Chair) Helen Bingle Tracy Burns Belinda Coghlan Charlie Cook Clare Lewis Jean Rogers Matthew Smith		<i>en bloc</i>	<i>en bloc</i>
<u>PUBLICITY</u> Shan Bristow Richard Barraclough Anne Cichocki Gill Jones Chris Hills Hilary Pinnock Denise Soussi		<i>en bloc</i>	<i>en bloc</i>
<u>SOCIAL</u> <i>Vacant</i>			



Present: Paul Lewis, Denise Soussi, Mark Jephcott, plus 28 other members attending

- 1 **Apologies:** Sue Johnston, Steve Williamson, Lorna Kong, Sue Hinde, Shan Bristow, Charlie Cook, Mike & Norma Rogerson, Al & Fenella Fowkes, Val Middleton-Egan, Dave Midgley, Ian Kennedy, Victor Hassan, Caroline Lucas, Chris McClory, Caroline Melliar-Smith, Ian Cole, Di James (19)
- 2 Minutes from 2024 (circulated) – Matters Arising - none
- 3 **Approval of minutes from 2024:** proposed Bruce Williams, seconded Peter de la Wyche
- 4 **Chairman's report:** Paul paid tribute to those members who had died during the past season – Sue Mooney, Val Watkinson, John Chidgey, Jeremy Cleverley and Peter Janes. He gave formal thanks to the three GR officers who were now standing down: Lorna Kong as Vice Chairman, Mark Jephcott as Treasurer, and Celia Bonner as Artistic Director, commenting on their various valued contributions to the smooth running of the Society.
He gave a resume of the year's productions, which had all achieved audiences of over 95%. Thanks given to the casts and backstage crews involved, not least John and Belinda Coghlan for their construction of the impressive Titfield Thunderbolt engine. Directors, casts and backstage members had all received recognition from NODA and from GMDF.
The season had been the 100th year of the Green Room Society, marked by an initial production and Gala Night for members and guests for **Present Laughter**, plus a Centenary Dinner Dance at the Alderley Edge Hotel (attended by 60 people). There had been a coach party of members and friends to the RSC for a production of **The Merry Wives of Windsor**.
Considerable progress had been made on the extension building behind the theatre, thanks to the theatre maintenance team and the work of Ian Kennedy in managing contractors and supplies. The Executive Committee were already discussing the implications for the GR of Martyn's Law (re measures to deal with possible terrorist activity).
He thanked all members, committees and volunteers for their continuing support.
- 5 **Treasurer's report and Presentation of Accounts:** Mark thanked Al Fowkes for his work as Independent Examiner of the accounts, in getting them ready for presentation. Mark would be standing down as Treasurer, where his role had been primarily to pay invoices and attend to book-keeping. Mark reported the annual income for 2024-25 was just under £63,000, with each production now generating around £7,000 (well up from some years past). Outgoings had been £72,127, including around £10,00 spent on productions and £30,000 so far on building work. Money in the bank was approximately £101,000. Copies of full figures were circulated. Copies of the breakdown for figures relating to plays to be circulated to members separately.
Approval of the accounts was proposed by Pat Barrow, seconded by Anne Cichocki.
- 6 **Motions for discussion**
 - i. that the ventilation/aircon system in the theatre be reviewed, as the current fan is noisy. Paul will raise this for discussion at an Executive meeting
 - ii. that the AGM in future be earlier in the year, in July. Paul advised that this would be considered, along with revising the dates for the financial year for GR accounts.

7 **Election of officers:** Denise read out the nominations, all proposed and seconded, as follows: confirmed in post: Paul Lewis as Chairman, David Reynolds as President; Pat Barrow, Jacque Bilsborough, Belinda Coghlan, Sonia Dykstra, Sue Offer, and Peter de la Wyche as Vice Presidents, with new VPs – Diana Boswell, Celia Bonner and Steve Williamson. John Chidgey's name was added as a VP nominee to record his wish during his final illness. Matthew Smith would be the new Vice Chairman; Denise Soussi re-elected as Hon Secretary; Charlie Cook to be the Hon Treasurer; Victoria Johnson would take on the role of Artistic Director; Bruce Williams to remain as Theatre Manager; and Carys Jones to be the Registrar. The position of Hon Solicitor was still vacant. The Executive committee would confirm members of sub committees, nominated en bloc from names put forward.

8 **The Sheila Hine Award:** David Reynolds observed that in his time the Society had had three venerable Presidents, Mabel Evans, Margaret Savaage, and Sheila Hine – in whose name an award is given each year in recognition of special achievement for the theatre. The presentation was made to Ian McBride for his long service to the theatre, in plays (from 2009) and as overseer of the bar and membership responsibilities.

9 **100 Club draws:** The draw to be postponed as not everyone had had the chance yet to renew their memberships.

10 **Any other business:**

- Celia advised that preliminary work involving GR actors was in progress on a new Adrian Battersby AV 'film'
- Members were asked to leave sufficient time when asking Richard to put information on-line as 'instant' responses were not possible
- Jacque Bilsborough took the opportunity to say how much she had gained from involvement at the GR over the years, in pleasure, opportunities and friendship. Congratulations given to her as she had recently celebrated her 90th birthday
- David gave a vote of thanks to Paul for conducting the meeting with charm, wit and humour.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm.