

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL AMPS AGM**

Held at

**NFTS, Beaconsfield**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 11am

This document is a résumé of the meeting.  
A full recording of this meeting is available to Members

**Present:-** J.Hayes, J.Olive, I.Sharroch, G.Hartstone, C.Trussler, P.Hodges, C.Wood, J.Rudling, S.MacRae, E.Constantini, Martin Trevis, D.Durkins, E.Joseph, R.Slater, J.Devlin, C.Miller, E.Chilton, N.Rice, L.Cotter, J.McCann, J.White, S.Bysshe, S.Bishop, Peter Desbois, J.Bains, C.Copland, J.Vale, D.Stephenson, A.Wilson, P.Musgrave, R.Walker, N. Brown, C.Singh, B.Baird, M.Gerard, M.Adelman, C.Broad, B.Hickin, C.Wilson, A.Widgery, J.Rodda, B.Simmons., P.Davies, J.Betteridge, D.Simpson, M.Taylor, J.Bennett, S.Fish, M.Johns, T.Parris, B.Blamey, M.Wellman, B.Barringer, C.Derbyshire, A.Wilson, V.Roberts, J.Blunt, C.Roberts

**Apologise:-** T.White, S.Hayes, A.Kenridge, D.Weinriech, J.Evans, P.Heigham, I.Sands and C.Richardson

**SM Attendees:** Ambient, RFS, HHB, Raycom, Audio Engineering

**Guest:** Meg Theakson, The Hearing Dogs Trust Representatives and Nordic Clothing

The current Chairman Peter Hodges opened the 2015 AMPS AGM and read out the Fire Alarm Evacuation process as part of the Rules and Regulations of the NFTS.

Copies of the AGM 2014 minutes were handed out amongst the Members and PH asked for approval of the minutes and signed them in accordance with the Constitution.

**Membership Report – full report can be found on the AMPS website**

John Rudling took to the stage and presented the Membership Report to the audience.

Jan 2014/Feb 2015 – 68 new members

Full 28

Affiliate 1

Associate 6

Supplementary 19

Student 13

Honorary 1

4 have decided to leave AMPS Association

422 active members to date (including Feb 15 applicants)

Membership have waived the joining fee that was put in place – this makes for easier administration

New members now receive a Membership Welcome Pack – with advice about AMPS business and useful tips

John then thanked everyone that has helped him move in to the Membership Secretary role since Pat stood down. Thanks to Sandy, Shelly and Pat

## **Treasurers Report – full report can be found on the AMPS website**

Colin Broad took to the stage and presented the Treasury report to the audience

Colin advised on an abnormality in the report (UK Screen have taken our subscription several times this year). This is to be rectified with a refund from UK Screen

The accounts show a slight loss this year, due to changes within the Association. The Administrator, Shelly, has been an additional cost but, within the past months, her employment has proved to have helped AMPS run more smoothly and efficiently. This is seen as a positive move.

The plan is to keep Membership subscription the same for the next 1-2 years. The Treasurer is anticipating the funds held on account will drop slightly but not so much that we would be unable to continue. Once the fund balance drops to approx. £10k Council will consider increasing the subscription by an appropriate amount. Costs for this year include the redesign and relaunch of the new website. If you wish to have a look at the full details please contact Colin directly who will be happy to send you a copy of the file. The Treasurer is currently investigating a new accounting package as currently all details are kept on an excel file. Colin will have more to report at the next AGM.

## **Chairman's Report**

Peter started his report saying that this past year has been very busy for Council with the number of changes and Shelly coming on board. Hopefully it is now settling down and starting to run smoothly and as it has been a turbulent few months he expressed his thanks to the current Council Members.

An EGM was held in October due to a requirement to update the Constitution.

One amendment was to limit the number of terms that a Council Member could serve. This was to encourage new members to consider standing for Council in order to introduce fresh thinking and ideas to Council. The amendment was passed and to conform with the new Rule Peter Hodges and Simon Bishop will stand down as of this AGM.

Peter thanked Simon for all his hard work and time served on the AMPS council. He also thanked Brian Hickin, ex Administration Secretary for his hard work and loyalty to AMPS and wished him well in his new home down in Brighton. Brian and Shelly worked hard to complete a full hand over and it brought home to us all how much Brian had contributed to the Association over many years.

A final thank you went to Sandy MacRae for all the hard work and effort he puts into the maintenance of all the AMPS email Groups/Notifications etc. Over Christmas there was an issue with the Emailing System and Sandy worried tirelessly during the holiday period to resolve the problem

Late last year Council came to the conclusion that the current Website was no longer meeting AMPS requirements and it was decided that we look for a new designer. Matthew Gough kindly helped with this search and work is ongoing in the background to create new AMPS website.

Over the last 12 months we have been publishing an electronic newsletter, which has been very favourably received and our thanks go to Tony Andrews, our editor, for compiling great content and interesting articles each month. We look forward to working with Tony on these newsletters and other AMPS requirements in the future.

We also issued two printed journals in 2014 and we are actively working with Tony and others to create a journal for later in 2015. Peter requested of the membership that if anyone has any articles or interesting tip/tricks or pictures they feel would be suitable for the Journal to please contact either Admin or Tony directly as he is always grateful to receive any material

AMPS has been collecting donations for this year's charity "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf".

This charity was the first that AMPS chose to support many years ago at the suggestion made by a previous Chairman of our Association, the late Tim Blackham. A year ago AMPS was very sad to learn that Tim's widow, Hilary, had passed away. As an Honorary Member she was a wonderful asset to AMPS and will be sadly missed at the Pinewood screenings where she generously ran the raffle. Upon this sad loss her friends Meg and David Theakston, kindly came forward to offer their help to run the raffles to ensure that collecting for our charity could

still continue.

The MPC Screening Theatre is unfortunately no longer accessible but Anna Sulley has managed to secure screenings at Warner Brothers De lane Lea in Soho, which, hopefully, will become a more used venue.

Halo

Presentation on Loudness – how it applies to TV and Film

David Arnold Presentation and Talks

November – Demo of a Dolby Atmos Mix at De Lane Lea

April – Sounds Design Graduate Awards was attended by AMPS Members

AMPS is now an Associate Member of JAMES. Occasionally JAMES looks for Assessors and any member feel they could contribute they are encourage express their interest to Dennis Weinreich or Eddy Joseph.

In January, AMPS had a stand at the BSC Expo Pinewood, and also shared a stand with APRS and IPS at BVE in February. The next BVE show is in a few weeks and Peter has requested that should anyone like to offer their help and time at this event please contact him directly. You can also request a ticket for this event through the BVE website

SoundPro was also represented by AMPS and was very well attended by Sound professionals

There were several amendments made to the Constitution at the EGM held in Oct 2014

Members of Council can now only serve a maximum of two consecutive terms allowing for at least a year to elapse before further eligibility.

Council can now conduct AMPS business, voting procedures and elections utilising whatever current and future methods of communication it deems appropriate, including paper and electronic formats.

AMPS 25<sup>th</sup> Celebration took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> October at the Cinema Museum – this was a great event and attendance was high. It was also a great opportunity to present the first AMPS Award to Chris Munro at the event. Two further awards were given to Brian Hickin and Pat Heigham for their long service to AMPS

There are now two Social events held monthly, one in Bristol and the other in Central London. For those who wish to attend please look out for the notifications. If you would like, or can suggest, a social event in your area please get in contact with Admin.

Peter announced that he will be standing down this year as Chairman and expressed that it has been an honour to serve AMPS Chairman and his intention to contribute to the running of AMPS were he can.

### **AMPS Website Launch**

Presented by Matthew Gough

Matthew presented an overview of the new AMPS website to the membership.

With the rapid changes in IT and website design the AMPS website is now undergoing a revamp.

The membership were given the opportunity to complete a survey and the comments received have been given consideration and implemented into the new look website where appropriate.

- \* More articles/reports/interviews
- \* More modern look
- \* Availability Section
- \* Events calendar

### **The main updates**

High Security aspect set into the website

Updated AMPS Front Page look  
Breaking News Ticker Section  
Membership Profile (fully updatable by the member)  
Sustaining Members Section  
Extensive Website Search Engine  
Forum (running alongside Connect)

The new website is fully changeable by the Administrators (rather than the web designer) and which allows the Administrators to change content on a daily basis or as and when required. Waiting time for updates will be considerably reduced and allows for wider input from members.

Work is in progress to allow for Jotform to be integrated into the back end of the new website which will speed up the application process.

#### A MESSAGE FOR ALL MEMBERS

Please can you ensure that all your details are correct and up to date! This will be of considerable help with the administrative changes as your contact details/CV's and any other information will transferred to the new website and needs to be accurate before the GO LIVE launch.

If you have any ideas, comments or wants for the new website please forward your requests for consideration.

#### **Results of the nominations**

The following have been elected to join AMPS Council 2015 with effect from this AGM.

Chris Munro  
David Lascelles  
Jennie Evans  
Rob Walker  
Dennis Weinreich

The new Council will sit for the first time in March and will elect a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Co-opts

#### **Charity**

AMPS were proud to present our cheque for £1,000 to the Hearing Dogs Trust.

Representing the Trust, Deborah expressed her gratitude and gave AMPS a splendid certificate in recognition of our ongoing support. She was accompanied by a young dog currently undergoing training and gave a short talk on the objectives of the Charity and to the variety of facilities to which our donations would be applied.

