



## TONBRIDGE SCHOOL

### **The Parents' Arts Society Chair's Statement April 2022**

#### **The Programme: Michaelmas 2021 to Summer 2022**

Events are advertised termly again, online only. We have noticed following the pandemic that company lead times are shorter so we may have to advertise some events half termly. We continue to offer zoom events free of charge and have no plans to change this. It has proved to be extremely popular with our membership. We have also reduced the number of events being offered. Events in the Michaelmas term did not sell as well as we had hoped, we felt our membership was reluctant to venture back into London particularly so we tailored our Lent term events accordingly and had a positive response.

Summer Ball (Saturday 25 June 2022) preparations are well underway. We are expecting 490 parents and staff.

#### **Finances:**

We have £166,000 in both accounts but this includes £58,000 Ball tickets. We are hoping to break even on the Ball.

#### **Membership**

Past Parents still make up the majority of our event attendees (47%) with current parents making up 37%.

#### **Committee Members**

Sadly Carolyn Lawson left in January but I am thrilled that Sarah Merriman will be joining us to take over Carolyn's role in May 2022. Sarah was a very active Committee member for many years and has a wealth of event management. She is a very keen TSPAS member already and very excited about this role. She has had three boys at Tonbridge, the youngest is now in Lower Sixth. We have three new Committee members, Eric Siebert, Sarah Metcalfe (both Year 2) and Robyn Mannix (Novi). Annie Carr Hill, Sally Hudson and Lucy Dickinson will be leaving at the end of the Academic year.

#### **Future Challenges and Priorities**

We are seeing more confidence in our event attendance this term so we will look to increase our events for the Michaelmas term. I am keen to recruit at least one staff member and three more committee members.

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