



Players Patter No 164 - July 2014

Treasurer's Report

At the recent AGM I was delighted to announce that we had generated a surplus of £258 for the year ending 30 April 2014. Whilst this may seem a small amount, this was a very pleasing result as we had incurred costs of over £3800 for maintenance of the studio windows and our new website, and so to break even at all was a real achievement.

As our costs continue to increase, it remains more difficult than ever to break even on shows - highlighted by a number of local societies closing, merging or reducing the number of shows they put on each year. However, I am pleased to say that the Players remain in a stable financial position, which allows us the flexibility of choosing shows that appeal to members and audiences whilst maintaining and attracting a very high standard of members.

Following the recent AGM, I am stepping down as Treasurer but am happy to be handing over the role to Arry Burwood. Arry can be contacted on arabellaburwood@gmail.com. I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people who have helped to make my role considerably easier - Pam for her help in collecting show fees, Linda for her help in collecting patron and member subs, Hamish for his support with our accounting software and Vicki for her support of me as Treasurer but also for her outstanding leadership of the society.

Sally Barr, Treasurer

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Chairman's message

Wow! This really is an exciting time....we have so much going on!

Firstly, an absolutely massive thank you to Jonathan Foster and everyone involved in this year's **Show Stoppers – Memories of the Movies**. Jonathan and family put such an extraordinary amount of work in to the production and were rewarded with an unequivocal success. The numbers were well chosen and Jonathan had put a great deal of thought into every aspect of the show, from who should sing each number, to what they should be wearing, to the fabulous backdrops....different for each scene.....making thoroughly good use of the hall's new projector and bringing an aspect not previously seen to each number. The whole show was a feast for the eyes and ears. Thanks must also go to Mary Coyte and Mary-Lou Knox....I hate to think how many costumes they had to find, with almost 50 in the cast and many in 8 or 9 numbers but somehow they managed it.....proving yet again how lucky we are to have such an extensive and well-maintained wardrobe. Added to that, there is the bonus of making a surplus!! I'm sure you will all be pleased to hear that Jonathan has agreed to direct again next year so watch this space for news of **Memories of the Movies – The Sequel**.

We had a great turnout for the read-through for **The Producers** and you will find details of the cast for the show on the website and elsewhere in the newsletter. This promises to be a thoroughly enjoyable show for both cast and audience. The writing is sharp and witty, with some hilarious one liners and there really is something for all ages (obviously we don't actually have any little old ladies so will need extensive make-up!). If you would like to be in the show please do get yourself along to rehearsal ASAP.

The AGM took place on Tuesday 17 June and there were a few changes to the committee. Sally Barr stood down as treasurer having taken on the role for a further 4 years. Sally has been an excellent treasurer and has done a superb job of controlling our expenditure and keeping the books in order. She has also been a huge support to me as chairman and a great sounding board so I am delighted that she has agreed to remain on the committee, in a marketing role. The finances will move to the safe hands of Arabella (Arry) Burwood who, during her time on the committee, has handled everything

Copies of the latest Players Patter are always available on the web site:

www.HaslemerePlayers.com

Chairman's message (continued)

we've thrown at her with calm and efficiency which I've no doubt will continue in her new role. We also say goodbye to Racheal Rhodes and give a warm welcome to Christopher Lloyd and Bill Hudson.

On the social side of things, about 30 people came along to the Karaoke evening on Saturday 14 June at the King's Arms, Fernhurst. Organised by Susanna Lloyd, with the karaoke run by her two sons, Charlie and Jonathan, the evening was a great success. The pub provided generous helpings of lovely food which was followed by some of Susanna's legendary chocolate cake! As always, do let us know if you have any suggestions for social events.....any excuse for a get-together. The next date currently in the diary is the **Annual BBQ**, which this year is being very kindly hosted by Jane McMichael and family, on the afternoon of Sunday 31 August. Whilst we can accommodate a few people who turn up on the day, we really do need people to commit to booking their ticket in advance so we can make sure we have just the right amount of lovely, scrummy food. For tickets please contact Susanna Lloyd (susanna@familylloyd.net) or Mike Byrne (mike_sarah.byrne@sky.com) or telephone Pamela Depledge on 01428 605237. We look forward to seeing you there.



Until the next time.....

Vicki Gavin

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Social Report

A huge thank you to Susanna Lloyd and family for arranging and supporting last month's Karaoke evening. It fully lived up to expectations and we made some money for the Society too. The next social event is the Summer BBQ.

Summer BBQ on Sunday, 31st August from 12.30

This year the summer BBQ will be held at Jane McMichael's house, Woodpeckers, Church Lane, Haslemere GU27 2BJ. The theme will be The Producers, our autumn show. For fun come as a Stormtrooper, Bavarian peasant or even as Hitler! There will be a pool so remember to pack your swimming costume along with something to drink and a chair or blanket.

There will also be a fun table quiz to test your brain cells with a prize for the winner.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £3.50 for children and are available from Susanna Lloyd (susanna@familylloyd.net) or Mike Byrne (mike_sarah.byrne@sky.com).

Inter-Society Quiz

On Friday, 28th November the Players will be hosting the Inter-Society Quiz. Details of the venue, etc. to follow in the next Newsletter.

Michael.Byrne2@Sodexo.com

Or 07710 551787

The Studio

Please can all members note that no costumes, props or scenery are to be removed from the studio without first having agreed it in advance. For costumes you should contact Mary-Lou Knox or Mary Coyte, props Steph Ridler and scenery Hamish Donaldson or Adrian Stent. We have a valuable resource so it's important that we keep a record if items are lent to individual or other societies. Thanks for your help.

Vicki

Haslemere Hall Volunteers

You probably know that the Haslemere Hall receives almost no annual grants from Waverley BC, although Waverley do help with capital projects (like the new roof).

What this means is that the Hall depends on Volunteers to act as ushers and man the bar, particularly for cinema performances.

If you would be able to give even a modest amount of time, say once a month, to help as a volunteer please email richard@haslemerehall.com



GRAPEVINE News of Members

Firstly, congratulations to Alex Boughton who will be playing the lead in Camberley's production of Guys and Dolls which will take place at the beginning of November.

Also congratulations to Phillip Elliott on the birth of little Amber who was born in the middle of May.

And many congratulations to Gary and Luan (our scenery and stage management team who have got engaged.

Sadly, news has reached us of the death of Ted Willis, a talented singer and actor for the Players from 1961 to 1975. As well as several leading G & S roles, he played the lead in White Horse Inn in 1967 (the one and only time a Players' show had a BBC producer) and was a charismatic King Arthur in Camelot in 1968. He was also Captain Von Trapp in the first Sound of Music with his new wife, Jenny (whom he met in the Players) playing Liesl. His last performance with the Players was as Colonel Pickering in My Fair Lady in 1975 before they moved to Norfolk where sadly he suffered with Alzheimers during the last years of his life.

It is with great sadness that I also have to report the death of Tony Siddle on 8th May. Tony first joined the Players for Show Boat in 1975 and two years later played his first major part as Perchik in Fiddler on the Roof. His last show with us was in Hello Dolly in 1990. Although Tony was a Player, he was also a long-time active member of the Grayshott Stagers and went on to marry Audrey (Gearing) also a Grayshott Stager and a frequent director for them. Tony was a kindly, soft-hearted, gentle man with a great sense of humour and he will be very much missed, not only by his family, but by all who knew him.

The Producers

October 21st to 25th

Director Hamish Donaldson,
MD Robert Cantan
Musical Staging Angela Cantan

We have a very strong cast for The Producers:

Main Principals

Max Bialystock	Tony Creasey
Leo Bloom	Tim Spindler
Franz Liebkind	Christopher Sadler
Roger DeBris	Jonathan Foster
Carmen Ghia	Bill Hudson
Ulla	Carolyn Lane
Hold Me Touch Me	Debbie Bowyer

Roger's Entourage

Brian, Set Designer	Peter Lucas
Kevin, Costumes	Andy Armitage
Scott, Choreographer	Mike Byrne
Shirley, Lighting	Hazel Hawkeswell

Additional Parts

Mr Marks	Adrian Stent
Judge	Andrew McNeillis
Usherettes	Verity Foster
	Samantha Ryan

Rehearsals are well under way (weigh?) For this exciting (PG) show. Ticklets will be on sale soon at the Hall box office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sunday 31st Aug	Players BBQ at Woodpeckers, Church Lane, Haslemere
Tue 21st – 25th Oct	The Producers in Haslemere
Tue 28th October	Read-through of Fiddler on the Roof
20th-22nd Nov	The 39 Steps by the Grayshott Stagers
28th Nov	Inter-Society Quiz

Linda Donaldson editor

Any comments, suggestions and articles very welcome

Linda.haslemere@btinternet.com

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If you get this newsletter through the post and would be happy to receive it by email please send an email to donaldson@haslemere.com Many thanks