



## Players Patter No 155 - July 2012

### Treasurer's Report

As reported at the recent AGM, it gives me great pleasure to announce a surplus for the financial year May 2011 - April 2012 of £1161 which, considering some of the costs we have incurred during the year, is quite an exceptional result. Both Show Stoppers (2011) and Oliver! generated a healthy surplus which offset some of the high, but expected, staging costs for Beauty & the Beast. Our general costs for the year had increased on the previous year, particularly relating to running costs for the studio; however our fund raising efforts were superb allowing us to generate an overall surplus. There are many people who have contributed to the financial success of the society throughout the year but I would particularly like to thank Debbie Bowyer and Mike Byrne for their organisation of the Auction of Promises which raised an incredible £1300.

As a member of the Committee and with my Treasurer hat on, I am delighted to be part of a society that can entertain local audiences with exceptionally high quality performances, and still remain financially sound. Many thanks to everyone involved during the year!

Please can I remind you that all subscriptions are now due following the AGM and I would be grateful if you could send them to Linda Donaldson our Membership Secretary. Her address is: Edgecombe, Hill Road, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2JN.

Sally Barr, Treasurer  
01428 641719 [sal\\_barr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sal_barr@yahoo.co.uk)

### Chairman's message

Well, here we are at the start of another year with the new committee primed and raring to go!

**Jubilee Show Stoppers** was a great success with both evening performances being sold out and an audience of 80+ for the matinee. We went with a traditional cream tea for the afternoon and a "posh" ploughman's followed by Apple Pie and Cream for the evening. Thank you so much to everyone who helped with putting out food, in particular Amanda McCluskey, Jane Clayton and Mark Waters who all came along on both nights and the entire Foster family who all stayed until the bitter end helping with the clearing up on the Friday night. I hope the chickens enjoyed their own version of the posh ploughmans!

The show itself went down very well (whether that was aided by the excellent bar takings we shall never know!) and thanks must go to everyone involved – the cast, wardrobe, musicians William Godfree, Allie Duguid and Leo Hilson, Jennie Budden for organizing FoH and everyone who helped waitressing or on the bar. No doubt Sally will have mentioned it in her report but I was delighted by the result of around £1,500 surplus.

Onwards and upwards.....up a mountain actually.....and we're in to **Sound of Music**. We had some exceptionally good auditions from the children on the morning of Sunday 17 June and I know the audition panel was just sorry that any of them had to be turned away. Along with the adults we have ended up with a fantastic cast and auditions are already well under way. We are looking for parents to support the production by taking it in turns to stay to the children's rehearsals so if you are asked please do be prepared to help out. We will also need matrons for the week of the show although this should be a much more straightforward task than Oliver!!

The AGM was held on Tuesday 19 June where we had a few changes to the committee. Lisa Bailey and Jane McMichael stepped down from the committee and Arabella (Arry) Biddle was voted on. Since then we have persuaded Jane to continue so she has been co-opted back on.

One of the issues raised at the AGM was that of patron subscriptions – how much should patrons pay and what should they get in return. Our income from patron subs has gone down quite substantially in the last couple of years so a few changes were in order. The committee has now discussed the issue of patrons and is proposing a patron subscription of £20 per

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[www.HaslemerePlayers.com](http://www.HaslemerePlayers.com)

## Chairman's message (continued)

person. I know that some may argue that this is expensive as a means of keeping up to date with the society without being an acting member but we still have non-acting membership available at just £5 for the year. This still ensures you are kept up to date with society 'goings on' and are obviously welcome at all society social events. Patrons will continue to appear in the programme and will also be invited to join us from drinks at the pre-show VIP reception on the Wednesday of show week.

An issue I brought up in my speech at the AGM was concerning help from members of the society. Of course, I realised after the event that I was probably preaching to the converted so... for those of you who aren't yet converted... during the months prior to Show Stoppers I put out pleas for help with the food for the show in no less than 4 newsletters and received absolutely no response. This was not only a disappointment but also a huge worry. As it turned out, on the night, people did come forward for which I am very grateful but it would have been so reassuring to have known in advance that help would be on hand. I know there's always a temptation to sit back and think "oh, somebody else will do that" but we need you! We've just had an excellent year both artistically and financially.... Show Stoppers brought something different to the traditional music hall, Beauty & The Beast set us all sorts of new and exciting challenges and Oliver! can only be described as a resounding success... thanks must go to each and every person involved. However, if we're going to continue to be successful we need each and every person to do their little bit.... however small. So please, next time you see a request for help..... just think "Hmmm.... maybe I'll give them a hand". We really look forward to hearing from you!! For now though, here's to another enjoyable and successful year.

Vicki Gavin

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**LOST PROPERTY** – Hamish has a very nice blue anorak which was left in the Hall. It looks almost new and is a size 160/88 (whatever that may be!)

## 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](mailto:richard@haslemerehall.com)

## Social Report

### Committee Changes:

First of all a BIG welcome to the new members of the Players Social team. Mike continues in his role and is now supported by both Jane McMichael and Angela Jones. Together we hope to put together some excellent fun and fund raising events for the society throughout 2012 and 2013.

In brief, we have the following events coming up.....

Monday 26th August	Players Summer BBQ
Monday Sept 17th	Billy Elliot Theatre Trip
Saturday October 13th	Inter-Society Quiz
Christmas 2012	Christmas Meal Event

### Summer BBQ Event Sunday August 26th from 12.30 pm. Tickets £7.50 for Adults and £3.50 for Children to cover all food costs.

This year's summer BBQ will again take place at Hamish & Linda's house on the hill. This year the event will be themed to the **Sound of Music** which Hamish is directing. For fun come as a **Nun** or a **German soldier** or if you are feeling particularly brave you can put on your **Lederhosen!** You'll find some excellent food, a swimming pool warmed to perfection, a table quiz and to keep with SoM theme we are planning a **yodeling competition. Venue is Edgecombe, Hill Road, Haslemere GU27 2JN (01428 644473).**

### Theatre Trip to see Billy Elliot with our very own Rebecca Ryan

Angela Jones is organising a trip to London to see Billy Elliot. We are coordinating the trip with the days when our very own Rebecca Ryan (**Annie 2010**) will be starring as a ballet girl. The date for this is Monday 17th September and please contact Angela Jones for tickets (**01428 723752**)

### Inter-Society Quiz

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October this year Haslemere Players will be entering a single team of 6 people into the inter-society quiz held this year by the Grayshott Stagers. We have a few people already in mind to build our crack quiz team but we are missing some sporting expertise. If you would like to take part and you think you are a mind-bank of useful information then please let me know and I will try my best to include you in the team.

([Michael.Byrne2@Sodexo.com](mailto:Michael.Byrne2@Sodexo.com)) or **07710 551787**

### Christmas Meal Event

This is not confirmed yet, but we certainly are considering organising a bit of a Christmas get together. As soon as we have had a chance to firm this idea up a little I will write to let you all know.



## GRAPEVINE News of Members

Congratulations to Angela and Robert Cantan who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on 5th April.

Leanne and Clive Osgood's baby is due literally any day now so we shall have to wait until the next Newsletter to report if it is a girl or a boy.

### The Sound of Music

October 23rd to 27th  
Director Hamish Donaldson,  
MD Robert Cantan  
Choreographer Lisa Bailey

We have a very strong cast for the Sound of Music:

Maria	Rebecca Lucas
Von Trapp	Edward Roberts
Elsa	Carolyn Beaumont
Max	Mark Waters
Mother Abbess	Vicki Gavin
Sister Sophia	Lisa Bailey
Sister Margaretta	Fiona Cullis
Sister Bertha	Sam Ryan
Frau Schmidt	Angela Cantan
Franz	Peter Lucas
Liesl	Lucy Moore, Ellen Oxenham
Rolf	Ben Johnston
Friedrich	Brandon Hamilton
Louisa	Hannah Lucas, Lucy Pollock
Brigitta	Annie Vann, Issy Hughes
Kurt	Monty Vann
Marta	Daisy Bedford, Sophie Brownbill
Gretl	Emma Stent, Matilda Shapland
Admiral Schreiber	Richard Tytler
Herr Zeller	Howard Bicknell

Rehearsals are well under way (weigh?) and we will be running Act I on Thursday 16th August if you would like to come along to the School and see how we are doing.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 27th Aug	Players Summer BBQ at Edgecombe, Hill Road
Mon 17th Sep	Billy Elliott Theatre Trip
4th – 6th Oct	Great Expectations by Haslemere Thespians
13th October	Inter-Society Quiz
23rd-27th Oct	The Sound of Music
30th October	Read-through Calamity Jane
22nd – 24th Nov	Calendar Girls by Grayshott Stagers
22nd – 26th Jan	Guys & Dolls by Farnham Operatic

### Costume Hire

As many of you know, our Studio is a haven of wonderful costumes and accessories that not only clothe our own shows but are also hired out to other Societies, Clubs & Individuals.

Our team of volunteers, headed up by Mary-Lou, Mary Coyte Doreen Wylde et al, are always happy to spend time helping you but there is a direct cost involved with offering this service. We are therefore nominally increasing the hire charge to £15 per costume to other societies and individuals and introducing a small charge of £5 for members. Hire charges are now payable upon collection of the costumes not on return.

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](mailto:donaldson@haslemere.com) Many thanks