



Players Patter No 172 - Feb 2016

www.HaslemerePlayers.com

Treasurer's Report

I'd barely put my pen down from writing my last treasurers report when I get a note from Linda asking me for another one so this one will actually be very short as I really don't have a huge amount new to report as it has been a fairly quiet few months between shows.

Sister Act is only six week away now and every indication suggests this is going to be a cracking show and tickets are predicted to be very popular so please do get in touch with the box office at Haslemere Hall (www.haslemerehall.co.uk) Tel: 01428 642161 and book your tickets now so as not to be disappointed. The box office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm and on Saturday from 10am to midday. You can also book online via the Haslemere Hall website.

Arabella Burwood, Treasurer

HASLEMERE FESTIVAL CHOIR CONCERT

to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

On 22nd April the Haslemere Festival Choir will be getting together again for a concert to celebrate the 90 years of the Queen's life. This will take the form of choir numbers and readings for each decade. There are quite a few Players singing in the concert so do make a note in your diary and come and support us. It should be a fun evening with something for everyone.

22nd April at St. Christopher's Church at 7.30 p.m. Entry is free with a retiring collection and a cash bar at the beginning and end of the evening.

HELP NEEDED FRONT OF HOUSE

If anyone can help Front of House, please could you contact Pamela on 605237. She needs helpers for each night and don't forget you get to see the show free!

Chairman's Message

Well, what a busy time it's been! No sooner was Christmas over that we were back to the grindstone rehearsing for **Sister Act**. The enthusiasm for the show from both the production team and cast has been extraordinary and has, no doubt, fueled the ticket sales, which are going exceptionally well. We won't get ahead of ourselves and utter the words "sell out" (oops, I just did!) but it's certainly heading in that direction. The show is on from Tuesday 15 to Saturday 19 March (early, due to Easter).

Posters will be going up very shortly and we already have a wonderful pull up banner at the Haslemere Hall encouraging all visitors to buy their tickets. Some of the cast performed at the Beating Hearts Fundraiser, at the Haslemere Hall on Saturday 13 February, in support of the British Heart Foundation, arranged by Alice Manville, a member of both Players and Thespians. It was a wonderful evening which included performances from past members, Will Keith, Emily Swatton and Will Forde, all of whom are now working in the theatre professionally, and a preview of two of the numbers from **Sister Act** which went down a storm with the audience. The evening, compered by Tony Creasey and Tim Manville raised over £2,000 for the charity. Alice will also be running the 2017 Paris Marathon in aid of the charity so if you'd like to donate, you can do so online at www.justgiving.com/Alice-Manville1/.

Pamela Depledge is arranging the Front of House team for the show so if you are able to help, please do get in touch either by email on pameladepledge@talktalk.net or by phone on 01428 605237.

Following on from **Sister Act** we have the final part in the Jonathan Foster **Show Stoppers – Memories of the Movies** trilogy which promises to be great fun for cast and audiences alike. The read through will take place on Tuesday 22 March at the school with evening performances on Friday 10 and Saturday 11 June and a Saturday matinee. Do get in touch if you'd like to be involved.

Our October production will be Singin' in the Rain. Many of you will remember that this was our March 1998 production and this time the show will, once again, be directed by Hamish Donaldson and MD'd by Bob Cantan. They will be joined by Jessi McCluskey as choreographer. Hamish insists on including a "Gosh Factor" which last time was real rain. I'm led to believe that this will feature again.....but what else can we expect? More elsewhere in the newsletter.

On the social scene, we have the inter-society quiz coming up, hosted by FAOS, on Friday 26 February. If you'd like to join the team or just come and support, please contact Arabella Burwood who is making the arrangements. (arabellaburwood@gmail.com)

Hope to see you all at **Sister Act!**

Vicki Gavin, 68 Victoria Way, Liphook, Hampshire. GU30 7NJ 01428 727144 vickigavin@btinternet.com

**Sister Act
15th – 19th
March 2016,
Haslemere Hall**



The multi-award-winning musical production SISTER ACT

tells the same story as the popular 1992 film starring Whoopi Goldberg. This exhilarating show is bursting with joyous, upbeat songs and dazzling dance routines - guaranteed to get your feet tapping and your hands clapping. It is a feel-good show that audiences of all ages will enjoy.

Sister Act tells the hilarious story of Deloris Van Cartier, an American nightclub singer and wannabe disco diva, whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a mob crime murder committed by her boyfriend. Under protective custody she is hidden in the one place the Cops are sure she won't be found – a Convent!

Disguised as a nun, she finds herself constantly at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and the suspicious watch of Mother Superior. The choir nuns, learning that 'Sister Mary Clarence' has a background in music, elect her to take over as Choir Director. She accepts and helps them find their own inspirational voices, culminating in charismatic, musical performances which breathe new life into the choir, church and community – but in doing so, blows her cover.....

A night of entertainment and a Haslemere Players production you will never forget!

Bookings can be made through the Haslemere Hall Box Office, Bridge Road, Haslemere, GU27 2AS, Tel: 01428 642161, or email boxoffice@haslemerehall.co.uk.

Opening hours Mon - Fri 9am to 1pm; Saturday 10am to 12 noon. Further details are also available on www.haslemerehall.co.uk and www.haslemereplayers.com

**The Haslemere Players
Theatrical Quiz Night**

Saturday 16th April

7.30pm

Fernhurst Village Hall

Home cooked supper and bar

Tickets £12.50

[Tickets will sell fast book your tickets now!
susanna@familylloyd.net](mailto:susanna@familylloyd.net) or 07551 008929

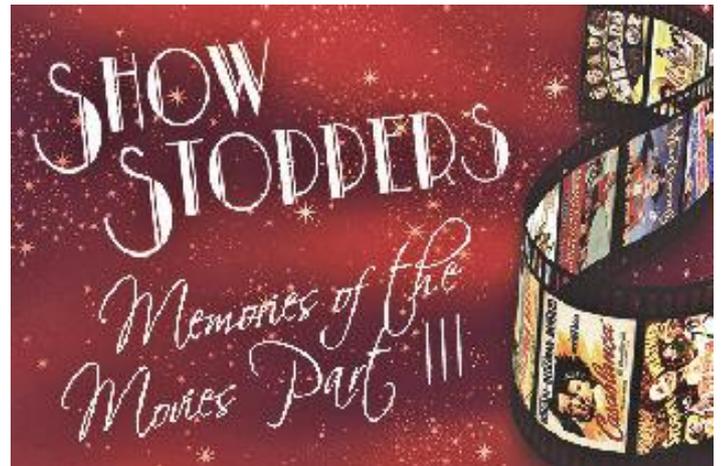
Teams of 6 - come as singles or as a team.



**Show Stoppers 2016 –
Memories of the Movies Part III**

Come and join us for **Show Stoppers – Memories of the Movies Part III**. The final instalment of this exciting trilogy will be directed by Jonathan Foster with Justin Luke as musical director.

In a programme packed with show stopping songs, all of which have featured in films, there will be solos, duets, small groups, dance numbers, and seven diverse chorus numbers. We have got a fabulous programme so come and join the fun!



The presentation evening will be in the Studio, on **Tuesday 22nd March at 7.30pm**. The show itself will be performed on **10th and 11th June**.

If you would like to be involved either on stage or as part of the choreography team we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with Jon at: jcpdvfoster@tinyworld.co.uk

Howard writes:

I can't express my thanks and gratitude to the cast of Sister Act for working so hard to bring this incredibly challenging musical to where we have got. The sound is divine, the quality sublime and the dedication of everyone to make this a huge team effort is wonderful. I am thoroughly enjoying the experience and loving seeing the characters leap from the book to the stage to animate this feel good, fabulous, must be seen musical. Thank you everyone.

Saturday 20th February saw the Nuns on a walkabout around Haslemere with some filming taking place, cast photographs being taken and a couple of spots in Alice Manville's Beating Hearts variety performance at the Haslemere Hall to give you a small taster of what's to come.

The costumes are being created for us and promise to be sensational.

It's a great way to shake off the winter blues so book your ticket now to give everyone something fabulous to look forward to in the Spring.



GRAPEVINE NEWS OF MEMBERS

Christmas brought news of Tony Krauze. I am delighted to announce that he and Alison got married in a quiet ceremony in June.

Christmas also brought news of Graham and Sheila Maguire (he was Tevye in our first production of *Fiddler on the Roof*) who are moving back to Grayshott after many years in Sark.

Some of you may have noticed the name of the Producer in the last episode of *Downton Abbey*. It was Chris Croucher who appeared with the Players in *Me and My Girl* in 1998! How extraordinary that both he and Peter Barber's son should have been involved in the same TV series! Fay has kindly written a few lines about Chris.

"Chris was brought up in Liphook and attended Bohunt School. His father, Michael, is currently Chairman of Liphook Parish Council and he and his wife, Jenny, have also appeared as extras in several episodes of *Downton*. According to the *Haslemere Herald*, Chris was full of admiration for the whole cast and backstage crew who he described as one big happy family."

While on the subject of members who have gone on to great things, we see that Lucy Prebble (who wrote *Enron*) was in the company for *The Wizard of OZ* in 1992.

We have just heard of the sad death of Angie Hilder a few days ago. Whilst a long-standing member of Grayshott, Angie did also appear with us in *Oklahoma* in 1972 and has 'read in' with husband John at auditions for us on many occasions. I know you will all join in sending our thoughts to John and his family. There will be a service of thanksgiving at St Mary's church, Bramshott on Thursday 3rd March at 12 noon, preceded by a private cremation with family only. Cheerful dress preferred - no "stage blacks"! Also no flowers please, any donations to Cancer Research UK.

Inter-Society Quiz

The Inter-Society Quiz is, this year, being hosted by Farnham Amateur Operatic Society (last year's winners). We have a team lined up to represent the Players, and if you would like to go along and support our team the event is being held in the United Reform Church Hall, South Street, Farnham, GU9 7QU on Friday 26th February 2016 at 7.30pm. Please contact Arabella (01428 606868)

Newsletter edited by Linda Donaldson

Singin' in the Rain

Our Autumn show this year is *Singin' in the Rain*. It is another very exciting show with a large cast and plenty of minor roles.

As I said in the last Patter, it will require the whole company to learn to tap dance (we provide the lessons) but we do put the more gifted dancers at the front.

It is also quite a challenging show in two more respects: we have to have real rain and we have to shoot a number of black and white film sequences.

Do come to the **read-through on May 24th** in the Annexe, Haslemere Hall, to learn all about it. Yes, May 24th is in the final stages of *Showstoppers* (thank you Jonathan) because we can't afford to lose the week of the date change.

Best wishes, Hamish

PS we have a lamp post...



Dates for Your Diary

Friday 26th Feb	Inter-Society Quiz at Farnham URC
Tues 22nd March	Read-through of Show Stoppers in the Studio
Sat 16th April	Players Quiz Night
Friday 22nd April	Queen's 90th Birthday Concert
Sat 23rd April	Queen's 90th Birthday Carnival Procession and Tea Party
Tues 24th May	Read-through Singin' in the Rain in the Annexe, Haslemere Hall
25th to 28th May	Acorn Antiques the Musical by Grayshott Stagers
26th to 28th May	A Streetcar Named Desire by Haslemere Thespians
Fri 10 & Sat 11 June	Show Stoppers
14th to 18th June	Brigadoon by Farnham Operatic
Tues 21st June	Players AGM in the Annexe
Sun 19 June	Singin' in the Rain Principal auditions
Tues 25-Sat 29 Oct	Singin' in the Rain in Haslemere Hall



Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

Haslemere is marking the Queen's 90th Birthday with a Concert on 22nd April and, on 23rd April -St Georges' Day, a Carnival Procession from Lion Lane to the High Street followed by a Giant Tea Party in the High Street. The Players are thinking of putting in a float - watch this space or tell Vicki if you have some good ideas...