



Players Patter No 174 - June 2016

Treasurer's Report

For those of you who were not able to attend the AGM I am delighted that I can report a healthy surplus for the society for 2015/16 of £4,500.

Showstoppers *Memories of the Movies Part II* in June 2015 was an extremely successful production which made a surplus of £1,763. Ticket sales were good, money was saved on postage and wardrobe costs and money was saved again by Vicki doing all the food.

How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying posted a disappointing result and a rather undeserved loss of £2,941. We only managed to sell 736 tickets - well below our target. Savings were made on the wardrobe and scenery. The lack of ticket sales had a knock on effect on the raffle and programme sales and I think we should probably be relieved that the financial damage was not greater.

Sister Act posted a commendable surplus of £2,037 which was absolutely brilliant. I know that Howard and the cast, the committee and the production team worked really really hard to promote the show from very early on and with ticket sales of over 1,500 it was a huge success. We made the decision to hire in costumes for *Sister Act* to lend a professional edge to the show although it did increase our wardrobe costs significantly. We recouped some of the costs by increasing the amount of advertising space in the programme.

Moving on to general income and expenses and our surplus this year has come about partly due to an unexpected rebate from Thames Water of £830. This rebate was entirely due to Sally's hard work. As we need new skylights in the studio passage we have decided to put this money aside to pay for these this year.

We were very lucky to have two donations last year amounting to just short of £2,000. Both donors wish to remain anonymous but the money was used to purchase more microphones and I thank the two donors very much indeed

Patron subscriptions were up slightly on last year and members subscriptions down marginally but due to the donations we received and my determination to make the

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Chairman's message

It with great pleasure and some trepidation that I write my first Chairman's message.

I want to start by thanking Vicki for everything that she has done during 16 years on the committee. I have witnessed at first hand all the hard work that Vicki has put in and the innumerable questions that she has dealt with, even when she was heavily concentrating on other things, such as coordinating cast and scene changes as Stage Manager or plating a Show Stoppers meal for 120 people! It is going to be very hard to achieve the standards that Vicki has set. She has, metaphorically, left very large shoes to fill and I am sure that you will all join me in thanking Vicki for all her work and leadership over the past 16 years.

Whilst Vicki looked back over the past year in her speech at the AGM, I am going to look forward to the coming year.

1. The Summer BBQ will be on Sunday 7 August 2016 at Susanna and my house in Fernhurst.
2. Our next Show is *Singin' in the Rain*, 25-29 October 2016, which is being directed by our President, Hamish Donaldson. An exciting (or is that an excitable) principal cast has just been announced. Jessi has started the tap lessons and she is being very patient and supportive with us first timers!
3. Our Spring Show is *The Wizard of Oz*, 21-25 March 2017, with Mary Coyte directing. A chance for some younger people to shine and some technical wizardry!
4. *Show Stoppers* next year, 2 & 3 June 2017, is going to be directed by Kim Seymour. Her theme is "Around The World".
5. And, looking way ahead to our autumn show next year, we are going to put on *Godspell*. The dates for this are 24-28 October 2017.

I can't finish my first message without a special mention of some our members.

First we say goodbye to Bill Hudson who is returning to the USA. He has been an enthusiastic and talented performer and I am personally very sorry to see him leave. I am forever hopeful that he may come back to visit us soon.

I also want to congratulate those members whose talents have taken them on to greater things:

1. Sam & Rebecca Ryan, who are starting their second year and their first year respectively of a three-year Professional Diploma in Musical Theatre at the Brighton Academy. Sam will be appearing in their production of *Rent* in July.

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Treasurer's Report continued

most of Gift Aid, the rebate we received was well up on the previous year. I am continuing to try and update the Gift Aid mandates – if you have not completed one or if you are not sure if you have completed one please ask me and I will check for you. Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from the Players website. Linda continues to collect the membership and patron subs. To reduce the amount of paperwork for both Linda and myself if any of you can pay your subs by BACS or PayPal it would be very much appreciated. I might just add a thank you to Linda for all her hard work with the membership subs.

Please try and pay your show fees promptly. I must make a special mention to Darcy Dog, our four legged friend from Showstoppers last year who actually paid her show fee without even being asked – I hasten to add that we were not going to ask her to pay a show fee but she volunteered because she so enjoyed being in the show. After eight weeks of rehearsals the show fee increases so there is every incentive to take the pain early on and pay up! There is always a PayPal show fee tab on the website or you can pay by BACS or you can give Pamela or myself a cheque or cash. Again, like Linda, a special mention and thank you to Pamela for dealing with the show fees and remaining so patient!

A special thank you also to the wardrobe ladies, Mary Lou, Mary and Sue who all work very hard to both promote the costume hire side of the society and also to clothe everyone for the shows with as little expenditure as possible. Our costume hire figures were particularly impressive last year – well up on the year before and this was due to their hard work alone.

The props team also always put in terribly frugal receipts for their show expenditure for the props and these savings do make a huge difference to the show costs so thank you Steph and Alison for being so aware!

I'd just like to say a big thank you to Sally as always who counter signs all the payments that are made from the accounts and also continues to provide advice and assistance when something comes up that floors me. Thank you to Hamish who is very helpful with the end of year accounts and providing the Trustees' report for the Charity Commissioners and a very fond farewell and thank you to Vicki who has been a tower of strength and support to me both as a committee member and now as Treasurer. You really will be very missed indeed.

Arabella Burwood, Treasurer
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Copies of the latest Players Patter are always available on the web site:

www.HaslemerePlayers.com

Chairman's Message continued

2. Tim Spindler is starting a two-year Professional Acting course in September, also at the Brighton Academy.
3. Zac Rasulian who will be starting a one-year foundation course at the Academy of Live & Recorded Arts
4. Abi Rogers will be starting a three-year musical Theatre Course at Italia Conti Theatre Arts.

Special mention goes to Jessica McCluskey who will be appearing in Stepping Out alongside Amanda Holden and Tamsin Outhwaite. They start a short UK in October before opening in the West End in February 2017.

Congratulations to all of them.

I would therefore like to close by thanking you for allowing to serve you as chairman and by once again thanking Vicki for handing over the Society in such good shape.

Christopher Lloyd 07713 251999
christopher@familylloyd.net

Social Report

This year's annual BBQ Event will be held at the home of Christopher and Susanna Lloyd on Sunday August 7th from 12.30 p.m. Their address is Heart's Delight, 21 Midhurst Road, Fernhurst GU27 3EJ..

Tickets are available from Susanna Lloyd (susanna@familylloyd.net), via the Players web-site (Paypal) or any member of the Committee - £7.50 for Adults and £3.50 for children to cover all food costs.

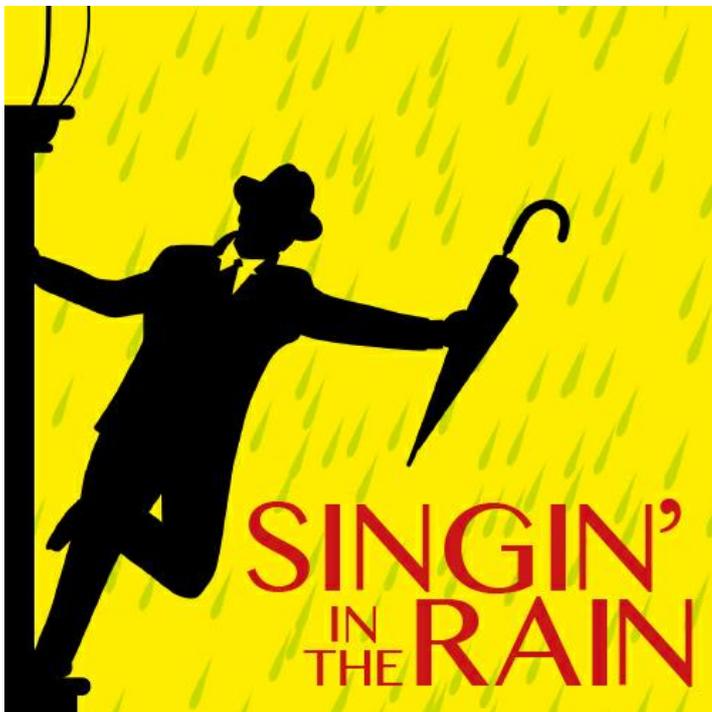
A sumptuous array of food will be provided. All you need to bring along is something to drink and a chair or blanket to sit on....

Let me know if you need more information.

Best wishes, Susanna.



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GRAPEVINE News of Members

On Sunday, 3rd July Doreen Wylde will be celebrating her 90th birthday! Doreen's involvement with the amateur stage has lasted just about all her life. She met her husband, Bill, in Sunderland where they were both involved in operatic and grand opera groups before they finally moved to Godalming. They decided to join the Haslemere Players and both appeared in the chorus of White Horse Inn directed by the BBC producer, John Hobbs, in 1967. Following many lead roles, the chance came to produce in 1973 with the Sound of Music. Since then she has produced over 30 shows for us and in 2002 she became eligible for her Gold Bar signifying 50 years of service to the amateur stage. How fortunate we are that so many of those years have been devoted to the Haslemere Players.

Secondly, CONGRATULATIONS to Hamish who celebrated his 80th birthday on 13th June.

We have held the auditions for Singin' in the Rain and the principal cast is as follows:

Don Lockwood (our hero)	Peter Coxon
Cosmo Brown (his side kick)	Peter Lucas
Kathy Selden (his reluctant girl)	Rachel Perkins
Lina Lamont (with the unusual voice)	Jo Richardson
RF Simpson (Owner of the Studio)	Andy Boughton
Roscoe Dexter (Film Director)	Mike Byrne
Lina's voice coach	Hazel Hawkeswell
Don's voice coach	Debra Allen
Chief Villain (silent movies)	James Woodley
Dora Bailey (radio commentator)	Debbie Bowyer
Zelda Zanders	Lucinda Loveland
Lady in waiting	Jenny Manville

The remaining parts will be cast from the company.

Remember that Tap practice is on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. before the rehearsal proper starts at 7.30 p.m. Let me add that Jessi is amazingly good at teaching us to tap.

Unless told otherwise, rehearsals are up at the School. Come and join us for this fun show (and the real rain).

Hamish (Director)
Robert (MD)
Jessi (Choreographer)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sun 7th Aug	Players Summer BBQ at the Lloyds house, 21 Midhurst Rd, Fernhurst
7th & 8th Oct	And Then There Were None by the Haslemere Thespians
25 - 29 Oct	Singing in the Rain
1st Nov	Read through Wizard of Oz
17 - 19 Nov	Ghost Writer by Grayshott Stagers
24 - 28 Jan	The Beggars Opera by Farnham AOS

If you have an email address,
please send an email to
linda.haslemere@btinternet.com
It will help save postage