



Players Patter No 186 - Dec 2018

www.HaslemerePlayers.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

I think everybody will agree that our autumn production – CHESS – was of a very high standard indeed. Because this is a high calibre show that is still put on relatively frequently by professional touring companies the royalties were quite a bit higher than normal and consequently, looking at the current figures, it is unlikely that the production will make a profit. However, I think it is very important that this does not detract from all the hard work that went into putting the show on, the very professional level of singing from the lead roles, the diligence of the wardrobe and scenery departments, both ensuring that our costs were kept to a minimum in those areas and the enjoyment that the cast had both during rehearsals and show week. Our tickets sales were not particularly adventurous which is disappointing given the outstanding critique that NODA gave the show. Despite its poor financial outlook I still think that everybody involved in CHESS should be very proud of the show they put on. Next up is The Gondoliers – we pay no royalties on this so can hopefully make a nice tidy profit to ensure I am able to give a cheery and upbeat report on the finances of the Haslemere Players at our AGM next summer!

Happy Christmas and New Year to all – yes its that time of year again.... goodness it comes around quickly doesn't it!

Arabella Burwood, Treasurer

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If you are receiving this Players Patter by mail and would be happy to receive it by email, please send an email to linda@haslemere.com

Chairman's Message

So the gloomy winter is now descending upon such that many of us only see our homes in daylight at the weekend. However, participation in a society like the Haslemere Players should bring us many rays of sunlight to see us through, working together as a team to make the society thrive and building friendships on the way.

The twist and turns of politics and relationships were well demonstrated in Hamish Donaldson's production of Chess. The protagonist and the topic of debate may differ, but maybe not much has changed in the intervening forty years! The show was well received and the cast, our fellow members, enjoyed being a part of it. It was lovely to welcome new members and I hope we will see them on stage with us again very soon. Congratulations to all involved, whether on stage or behind the scenes.



We are now into our third week of rehearsal of The Gondoliers, directed by Andy Boughton, supported by Mandy Boughton as choreographer and Justin Luke as musical director. What a fabulous team, who are going to bring their artistic style to the show. They are supported by a talented and multi-

disciplined production team who will make sure that everyone and everything is in the right place and the right time. Please watch out for any calls for assistance and help where you can.

It is now about four weeks until Christmas, and my last letter to you for this year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Please do get in touch if you would like to be more involved with the Society.

Best wishes Chris

Chris Lloyd

SOCIAL REPORT

Mince pies & carols evening

On Tuesday 18th December we will be holding our annual Carols, Mince Pies and mulled wine evening. This is for all members, not just the ones in 'The Gondoliers'. Come along to meet the cast and enjoy an evening with your friends in the Players. The first part of the evening is a rehearsal; the carols and entertainment begin at 9 pm. This year it is up at The Grove Resource Centre.

Haslemere Players Burns Supper & Ceilidh on Saturday 2nd Feb



A really fun evening which includes a delicious Burns Supper of Haggis, Neeps and Tatties with Cranachan for dessert (vegetarian option available)

7.15pm on Sat 2nd Feb 2019 at Grayshott Village Hall (aiming to finish by about 10.30pm). Dancing 7.30 - 8.30pm then supper, then dancing again 9.15/9.30 -10.15pm ish)

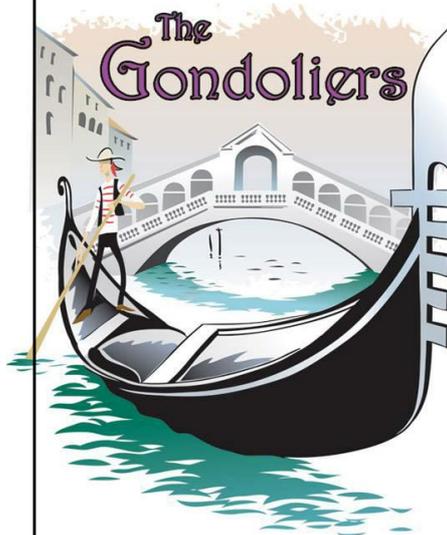
Live Music and Scottish Reel Dancing provided by our professional caller.

BYO Wine/Refreshments. Dress - Tartan, Kilts, Sporrans.

Tickets £15.00 per person with limited availability which can be purchased in advance via paypal @haslemereplayers.com

THE GONDOLIERS

As I ponder life walking the dog and toddling off to the doc to get my flu jab, my idle thoughts repeatedly return to our next production, "The Gondoliers". Did I really think, when accepting the invitation to direct it, that it would be a straightforward show to stage. Did I persuade myself that not a great deal of imagination will be required to direct it, that I could follow the tried and tested directions of a thousand previous productions the world over? That was never going to be the case and now I find myself tinkering with lines and creating script to find new ways to retain the best of G&S and at the same time put in fresh ideas and energised action to complement the music. The upshot of this for me has been a garden remaining completely covered in unraked leaves and no time to watch 'Strictly' night after night after night afterforever!!!! So there are good aspects to my situation.



Justin, Mandy and I have taken great encouragement from the quality and numbers of the cast so far assembled. We've recruited 14 of 16 named characters, bringing with them plenty of talent and experience, as well as an enthusiastic chorus of 18. This is really pleasing and provides us with strong base on which to build an excellent show.

Rehearsals are going

well, despite the challenges of the weather, illness, social events and work commitments associated with pre-Christmas. It's not quite too late to join in if the fancy to do so takes you. You will receive a very warm welcome.

Andy

Cast List

Marco	<i>Not yet confirmed</i>
Giuseppe	Alan Thornhill
Gianetta	<i>Not yet confirmed</i>
Tessa	Alex Boughton
Duke	Jon Foster
Duchess	Vicki Gavin
Casilda	Becky Lucas
Luiz	Peter Coxon
Don Alhambra	David Greenwood
Antonio	Peter Lucas
Francesco/Otto	Sacha Blackwood
Giorgio	Adrian Stent
Pedro	David Impiazzi
Fiametta	Hannah Lucas
Vittoria	Chloe Nash
Giulia	Carolyn Lane
Inez	Elizabeth Chester

SHOW STOPPERS 2019

This year's Show Stoppers, to be called An Evening of Love, will bring a full spectrum of intimate relationships and the many stages we go through with our favourite songs to show romantic love, the challenges we all face, the loss we experience, the discovery of self-love, and the need for quality friendship, all stitched together with a generous amount of comedy. There will be something for everyone!

Music from La La Land, Oklahoma, Into the Woods, Rent, Hamilton, Phantom of the Opera, Evita, The Greatest Showman and more...

Lucy Loveland



GRAPEVINE NEWS OF MEMBERS

We send our best wishes to **Anthony Ramsden** who suffered a stroke a week ago. He has now been transferred from Frimley Park to Wisley Ward at the Royal Surrey, but asks for no visitors just yet.

We also report the death of **Betty Haslam** a couple of weeks ago. Betty was briefly our NODA Area Rep.

Mary Coyte writes:

My thanks go to everyone who joined me to celebrate the presentation of my 50 years' Service Award from NODA. It was lovely to see you all and a special thank you to everyone who performed in the Cabaret, which was fantastic!

Thank you also for the lovely gifts and messages of congratulation I received. Being part of the Haslemere Players has been a very enjoyable part of my 'Amdram' life and I look forward to being involved in many more productions with you in the years to come.

Hope to see you in the not too distant future.
"Break a Leg"

*Contributions to the Newsletter to
Linda Donaldson
linda@haslemere.com
(Please note new email address)*

Christmas Cracker

Don't forget that this year's Christmas Cracker Carol Concert will be held in the Haslemere Hall at 7.30 pm on Saturday 15th December. It is a fun evening for audience and massed choir. Tickets are £10.50 (£5.50 for children) from the Hall (01428 642161) and include mulled wine and mince pie.

As before the Players will be supplying members of the choir and sketches so there are plenty of people to support. But do book soon.



Dates for Your Diary

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| 15 December | Christmas Cracker in Haslemere Hall |
| 18 December | Players Carols, Mince Pie and Mulled Wine evening 9 pm Annexe |
| 2 February | Players Burn's Night |
| 11 – 19 Jan | Cinderella by Haslemere Thespians |
| 22 – 26 Jan | Fiddler on the Roof by Farnham AOS |
| 15 & 16 Feb | Grayshott Stagers One-Act Plays |
| 26 – 30 March | The Gondoliers in Haslemere Hall |
| 2 April | An Evening of Love Show Stoppers Presentation Evening |
| 31 May – 1 June | Show Stoppers in Haslemere Hall |
| 22– 26 Oct | Evita in Haslemere Hall |