



Players Patter No 202 - Oct 2022

www.HaslemerePlayers.com

Treasurer's Report

As reported at the AGM, it's been a strange time with COVID having an impact on the last three year's accounts, 2019-20 when Legally Blonde had to be postponed just before we went into our first official lockdown, 2020-21 when we couldn't do any shows at all and 2021-22 when we managed Show Stoppers and, finally, the long awaited Legally Blonde but then Kipps had to be postponed due to COVID. With costs for shows split over more than one year and sometimes duplicated it's been very difficult to produce any sort of sensible year-on-year comparison.

The 2021-22 year produced a loss of £10,385. We needed to do some essential maintenance to remove some overgrown trees at the back of the studio at a cost of just over £5,000 and we also recorded a loss on Kipps of £4,975 as we have costs in this financial year but no revenue. Legally Blonde recorded a small profit (not forgetting that costs for the show have been split over three financial years) as did Show Stoppers. A big thank you to Mary-Lou and her team at the wardrobe who generated over £1,000 from costume hire. Despite all of this, cash reserves remain healthy.

The new financial year brings new hope as things start to return to normal. We managed to bring Kipps to the stage in late June/early July, we have Anything Goes coming up in October and then Kinky Boots in March 2023. If you're not involved, please support your fellow members by coming along to watch and promoting the show to family and friends.

Mike Byrne Treasurer
(mb.hp.treasurer@gmail.com)

Chairman's Letter

Thank you to everyone who came along to the AGM and Picnic on 28 August. We were a small but perfectly formed group and following the AGM, had a lovely afternoon sitting in the sun with our sandwiches and cakes provided by the committee.

This, of course, brings me on to the committee. All officers and committee members stood for re-election other than our Vice Chairman, Fiona McGregor who continues as a member of our social sub-committee. Thank you Fiona for all your hard work over the last few years and Hannah Lucas, our queen of social media, who is now treading the boards in her new home town of Cambridge. Thanks to Hannah who's taught us so much over the last couple of years. We hope we can continue to draw on your expertise!

Alex Boughton will continue in her role as chair of the show selection sub committee but has also agreed to act as Vice Chairman for the coming year and we have also been joined by Carolyn Lane and Clare Nisbet who will be working together on marketing our shows, such an important aspect of the committee's work. Already new initiatives are taking shape!

As your committee, our role is to keep the society running smoothly, do our utmost to make decisions that are in the best interest of the society and to represent you, our members. We'd love to have more people involved as part of our sub-committees to ensure we're doing that effectively so if there's an area of the committee/society that particularly interests you or where you have knowledge or skills that would be of value, please do get in touch.

ANYTHING GOES fast approaches and along with it a very ambitious set designed by director Adrian Stent. Construction has been underway for some time now but there is lots of painting to be done so please do get in touch with Hamish (donaldson@haslemere.com) if you're able to help. No prior painting skills are required, just come armed with enthusiasm.

We are also looking for people to join our backstage team for the show to be involved in manoeuvring the aforementioned scenery and our front of house team to provide the essential ushers for each performance so again, do get in touch if you'd like to be part of the team (backstage: chairman@haslemereplayers.com, front of house: graham.ferris@aol.co.uk).

As you may have seen in our recent social update, sent by email, we have taken the decision to postpone our Winter Ceilidh as we realised we'd rather foolishly planned this for the same evening as the final performance of the Thespian's play, The Game's Afoot which wasn't the best plan for either society. As you'll now have the evening free do get your tickets booked and go along (<https://tickets.haslemerehall.co.uk/sales/genres/theatre/the-games-afoot>) to this rip roaring murder mystery.

Then, of course, get your tickets booked for the fabulous **ANYTHING GOES** which will be on from Tuesday 25 to Saturday 29 October

(<https://tickets.haslemerehall.co.uk/sales/genres/theatre/anything-goes>). We have an excellent cast and production team and this really is a show not to be missed. Please do encourage friends and family to join us.

You'll find further details of our 2023 shows **KINKY BOOTS** and **CALENDAR GIRLS** elsewhere in the newsletter.

Vicki Gavin

chairman@haslemereplayers.com

News from the Studio

Following on from our success at the Lion Green car boot sale, 5 of us set off at a rather unsociable hour for the car boot sale at Country Market.

This turned out to be a great success as we not only cleared our remaining surplus stock but also made some money for the society. One of our customers asked us what we were raising the money for and we replied, "SPACE!" This has eased the situation at the Studio slightly but we still need more room and therefore plan another sale in the spring.

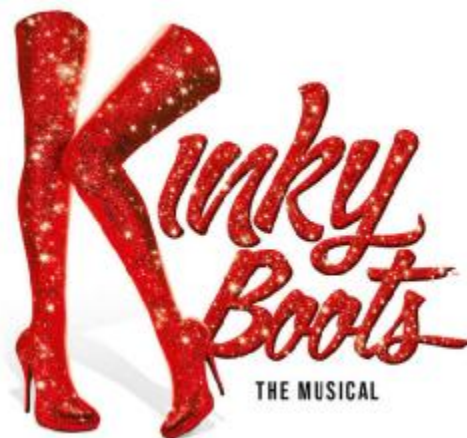
Thanks to Clare, Vicki, Alex and Andy for their help. As ever, we welcome anyone who would like to assist with this important step in keeping the wardrobe in optimum condition.

Hiring for Goodwood and other functions such as a re-enactment of a 1920s golf match, a pirate party and Agatha Christie style Murder Mystery parties, has kept us very busy. It's a great success story but very time consuming so hiring to members of the public, other societies and our members has been temporarily suspended to enable us to concentrate on our own Anything Goes.

Phoebe Repp whose help in the Studio, both for the show and for the hiring out has been immeasurable, is returning to university next week. We wish her well in her final year and hope she will come back to work with us in the Christmas holidays.

Mary-Lou

maryloucrombie@gmail.com



AUDITION INFO

Please come along to find out all about the show!

Director:	Howard Bicknell
Musical Director:	Justin Luke
Presentation Evening:	Tuesday 1 November, 7.30pm, Haslemere Hall Annexe
Audition Rehearsals:	Thurs 3, Tue 8 and Thurs 10 Nov at the Players Studio
Auditions:	Sunday 13 November, 7.30pm , Has Hall (PLEASE NOTE TIME)

YOUR COMMITTEE 2022-23

Following the AGM on 28 August, your committee is as follows:

Hamish Donaldson, President
Vicki Gavin, Chairman
Pamela Depledge, Hon. Secretary
Mike Byrne, Hon. Treasurer
Alexandra Boughton, Vice Chairman and Show Selection Sub-Committee Chair
Verity Foster, Programme Advertising and Show Selection Sub-Committee Member
Mary-Lou Knox, Wardrobe Custodian
Carolyn Lane, Marketing Sub-Committee Member
Clare Nisbet Marketing Sub-Committee Member
Jane McMichael, Membership Secretary
Arran Treacher-Evans, Social Sub-Committee Chair

In addition to the main committee we are lucky to have additional support from:

Tony Creasey, Show Selection Sub-Committee member
Linda Donaldson, Newsletter Editor
Graham Ferris, Front of House Organiser
Fiona McGregor, Social Sub-Committee member
Gary Moorshead, Studio Coordinator
Steph Ridler, Props Custodian and Wardrobe
Adrian Stent, Website Manager, Show Selection Sub-Committee member and Haslemere Hall Trustee

More information about their roles and how to contact them can be found at

<https://www.haslemereplayers.com/meet-the-team/>



ANYTHING GOES

Music & Lyrics by Cole Porter Book by PG Wodehouse & Guy Bolton

Haslemere Hall

25 - 29 October

DIRECTOR: Adrian Stent
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Lizzie Hales
CHOREOGRAPHERS: Georlie daSilva

Haslemere Players proudly supporting oakleaf



SHOWSTOPPERS 2023.

The dynamic duo of Kim Seymour and Justin Luke are very excited to be returning to direct **SHOWSTOPPERS 2023**. The theme is along the lines of "Girl meets boy"



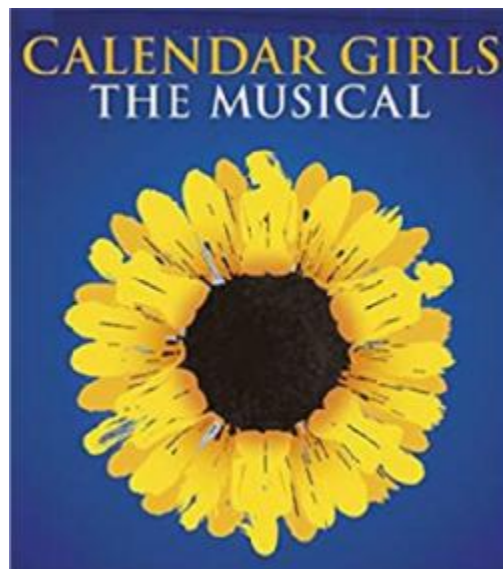
(or boy meets girl, girl meets girl, boy meets boy - we are very inclusive that way and probably need to think of a better title!). The idea is that we will follow a couple through meeting (Going Courtin' - Seven brides for seven brothers); dating (Mix Tape - Avenue Q and Been a long day - How to succeed); falling in love (All I ask of you - Phantom and People will say we're in love - Oklahoma); a proposal (An old fashioned wedding - Annie get your gun); their wedding (Get me to the church - My Fair Lady

and Flash Bang Wallop - Kipps); starting a family (Negative - The Waitress and Theodora - Hamilton); overcoming tragedy (Take off your mink - Guys and Dolls and The Letter - Made in Dagenham); and into older age (Timeless to me - Hairspray and Still - Titanic). With some lovely other songs to help us tell their story along the way.

Our leads will change through each song but always dressed in the same colours to help the audience follow along. The great thing about this is that it will give everyone, of every age, a chance to shine; from our whippersnappers though to our more mature members ("recycled teenagers" as my grandma used to say). There will be the usual mix of big chorus numbers, small groups, solos and duets.

Rehearsals will begin after Kinky Boots (End of March). We look forward to seeing you there!

Kim Seymour, Director
kimchivers@hotmail.com



Calendar Girls 24-28 October 2023

While we have several exciting shows coming up before we get to this one, I'm here to tell you a little more about our October 2023 show: *Calendar Girls the Musical*. This very funny, heart-warming musical is written by Tim Firth with music and lyrics by Gary Barlow.

Calendar Girls the Musical, which like the 2003 film was based on a true story, follows the story of best friends Annie and Chris, and a group of members from the Knapely Women's Institute. Following the death of Annie's husband John, Chris wants to purchase a comfortable sofa for the visitors' lounge in the hospital where he was treated, and in order to raise funds hits upon the idea of printing a WI calendar featuring their members discreetly posing nude! Her proposal is initially met with great scepticism and horror, not only by the WI members themselves but by the wider village including their husbands and mortified teenage children. Eventually Chris convinces ten women to participate in the project with her, and wins over the wider community. They enlist one of the hospital workers, an amateur photographer named Lawrence, to help them with the calendar.

The show has 18 named parts (of various sizes, requiring different ages and genders). It's a story about love, loss, friendship and community, and quintessentially British in its humour and feel. Think rolling hills, bunting, Victoria Sponge, wheelbarrows, jam, village halls, prize vegetables, and of course Sunflowers!

Alex Boughton
alexandraboughton@hotmail.com

If you receive this newsletter by post and would be happy to receive it by email, please send an email to linda@haslemere.com

SOCIAL CALENDAR

September

Kipps! The New Half A Sixpence DVD Night

Clare Nisbet (one of our newest members on the committee – welcome!) has very kindly agreed to host a *Kipps! The New Half A Sixpence* DVD evening at her house at 18 Huron Drive, Liphook GU30 7TZ on Saturday 24 September at 7pm – curtain up (one last time!) at 7:30pm. Whilst all are welcome, there is obviously a limitation on space so if you would like to attend then please get in touch with us at social@haslemereplayers.com - Spaces will be given out on a first come first serve basis and address details will be shared with those attending.

October

Players Winter Ceilidh

Unfortunately, it is now time for some sadder news. We have decided to postpone our Winter Ceilidh until early in the New Year – details to follow soon so stay tuned! Those who have already booked a ticket will automatically transfer to the new date when confirmed. If you are not able to attend the new date then we will issue you with a full refund.

The Game's Afoot

Never fear though – every cloud has a silver lining and we strongly encourage all of our members to go and support our friends in the Haslemere Thespians who are putting on a production of Ken Ludwig's *The Game's Afoot* which has been described as 'a great show guaranteed to keep you laughing and guessing until the final curtain'. Curtain up is Thursday 6 October and runs to Saturday 8 October and features many familiar faces! Tickets are available from the Haslemere Hall at <https://tickets.haslemerehall.co.uk/sales/genres/theatre/the-games-afoot>

Let's drum up some support for not just our friends who always show up in their numbers to support our productions, but also for the local theatre community as we all recover from a tough 2 years together!

Shrek

Between the 11 – 15 October, our very own Emma Lumb (Anne in *Kipps! The New Half A Sixpence* and Pilar in *Legally Blonde*) will be performing in the The Portsmouth Players adaptation of the hit musical *Shrek!* Tickets are selling very fast so don't forget to book your tickets now to avoid disappointment. Tickets start at £16 for children and £18 for adults and are available at <https://www.kingsportsmouth.co.uk/whatson-event/shrek-the-musical-the-portsmouth-players/>

Anything Goes

As you will all already know, our next production is *Anything Goes* and rehearsals are well underway (and looking fabulous!) for performances on Tuesday 25 – Saturday 29 October. We would love to see all our lovely members and supporters there as it's always great to see lots of familiar faces in the audience so let's help make this smash hit show a sell out! Tickets are available from the Haslemere Hall at <https://tickets.haslemerehall.co.uk/sales/genres/theatre/anything-goes>

November

I, AmDram

On Thursday 3 November a production called 'I, AmDram' is coming to the Farnham Maltings on its tour of the Southeast. This production is described as 'A hilarious ode to all things amateur dramatics.' It is an award-winning one-woman show that includes sections which might be reminiscent (might being the key word of course!) including painfully long black-outs whilst the set is changed and occasional swears from off stage when they forget to turn some-one's mic off! Tickets are just £15 for this short, 1 hour production so there's plenty of time for a good catch-up with old and new friends afterwards. If this tickles your fancy, then please register your interest at social@haslemereplayers.com so we can try and organise a group booking.

December

Christmas Party!

Yes, it's almost that time of the year again I can hardly believe it too! Keep your eyes peeled for details of the upcoming Christmas Party as they will be announced very soon!!

Gosh, there's a lot going on! With that in mind – we are looking for 2-3 social bunnies to set up a Social Sub-Committee to assist with the planning and organising of events throughout the year. If you love events planning or just organising in general, then get in touch at social@haslemereplayers.com and if that isn't tempting enough... there's biscuits involved!!

Well, that's a rap, as they say, for now and we look forward to hearing from you and seeing you all soon!

Contributions to the Newsletter to

Linda Donaldson



GRAPEVINE NEWS OF MEMBERS

We are sad to report the death of Margaret Gunston. Margaret was a member of Players for 7 years from 1957. She played many roles for the Haslemere Thespians and, in 1977 played Queen Elizabeth I (riding side-saddle) in the combined Players/Thespians Pageant to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee

Here is a photo of your wonderful Anything Goes scenery-making crew. From left to right they are Dirk Koopman, Hamish Donaldson, Gary Moorshead, Ray Noad, Derek Bishop and Jonathan Mason.



Dates for Your Diary

Sat. 24 Sept

25 – 29 Oct

6 – 8 Oct

11 – 15 Oct

24 - 26 Nov

24 - 28 Jan 23

21 – 25 Mar 23

Kipps DVD evening 7.30 p.m. at Clare Nisbet's house in Liphook

Anything Goes in Haslemere Hall

The Game's Afoot by Haslemere Thespians

Shrek by Portsmouth Players

Come On, Jeeves by Grayshott Stagers

Sweeney Todd by Farnham Operatic

Kinky Boots by Haslemere Players

