



# Players Patter No 204 - Feb 2023

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

## Chairman's Message

Excitingly the evenings are getting lighter and we're starting to see the first new shoots of Spring. Even more excitingly, we've been nominated for a NODA Award in the category "Best Traditional Musical" (pre-1978) for our production of **ANYTHING GOES**. Huge congratulations for director Adrian Stent, MD Lizzie Hales, Choreographer Georgie da Silva and everyone involved both on and off stage. Let's all keep our fingers crossed for a win!!

Preparations continue for **KINKY BOOTS** and let me tell you, the Sex is most definitely in the Heel....or so the song says. Sadly, our wonderful director Howard has had to step down but has been replaced by the equally fabulous Jamie O'Donnell who is busy putting the cast through their paces. As a recent RADA graduate and professional actor he's making sure everyone is ready to "Raise You Up" (another song reference for those who aren't familiar with the show). Add to that Justin at the keyboard and we have a winning team and a brilliant show on our hands. Tickets for the Friday night are already limited so get yours booked....you really don't want to miss this extravaganza. <https://www.haslemerehall.co.uk/theatre/kinky-boots/>

The Winter Ceilidh at Grayshott Village Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> February was a huge (if slightly poorly attended) success and everyone who came along had a great time. Our caller, Peter Donaldson, was superb and got everyone up dancing from the start of the evening and other than a short stop for chilli jacket potatoes, the dancing continued throughout the evening. Thank you to everyone who came along, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did and will encourage others to join us next time round. Arran and the social team aim to organise events that members and friends will want to attend and enjoy so if we're not quite hitting the right note, it would be great to get suggestions from members about activities or events you'd like us to arrange.

Those of you who have been members for some time will remember **PROJECT 2000**, the massive undertaking to raise **£40,000** to buy the lease on our wonderful studio where we store our costumes and scenery and where lots of the

magic our audiences see on stage happens. We now have the equally daunting challenge of raising a minimum of **£25,000** for essential work at the studio so, enter stage left **PROJECT STUDIO 25**.

Work has already started in the form of a lovely new door at the main entrance to the studio, fitted by McGregor's Design & Build but there is much more to come. A requirement of our lease is to block off the door between the studio and the nursery but the door in question is also the nursery fire escape so a large part of the task will be to build a new emergency exit at the side of the building. Hamish and Gary have been working hard negotiating with the landlord, the nursery and their surveyor and a firm of architects to come up with a suitable solution but with building regulations having to be met and work having to be approved, we will be looking at a cost in the region of £25,000. Various project names were suggested (we all loved Mary Coyte's suggestion of the *The Great Escape* but were concerned it might sound like a fund raiser for the committee to have a break in Tenerife!) but we have settled on **PROJECT STUDIO 25**. We hope this conveys what it's for, how much we need to raise and by when. Look out for it as it's going to be getting a lot of mentions and we really need the support of our members to achieve it.

Plans are under way for this year's **SHOW STOPPERS, A Journey of Love** with Kim Seymour's programme taking us through all the ups and downs of relationships. Rehearsals will start on Tuesday 28 March straight after **KINKY BOOTS**. We're also really excited that our October show will be **CALENDAR GIRLS** – which welcomes Alex Boughton as director, along with Lizzie Hales as MD. What an exciting year ahead!

That's all for now other than to say get those tickets booked for **KINKY BOOTS**. It's such an uplifting story and the cast are working their socks off! <https://www.haslemerehall.co.uk/theatre/kinky-boots/>

Vicki Gavin  
[chairman@haslemereplayers.com](mailto:chairman@haslemereplayers.com)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

TICKETS, TICKETS, TICKETS, BUY, BUY, BUY,  
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TICKETS, BUY,  
TICKETS, TICKETS, TICKETS, BUY, BUY, BUY!!

A simple tune and one that I hope will remain in your minds until you have bought your tickets to Kinky Boots and sold a whole bunch more to your friends and family! Not only is this show going to be an absolute cracker but frankly, we will need the cash too!

Vicky references in the Chairman's report that we have a significant fund raising project called Project Studio 25 and we need all of your lovely help to raise the funds required for the Studio refurbishment. However, in a small charity business like ours, all the money is essentially one! We can raise funds through selling out shows and we can also lose funds if they are poorly attended.

You all know by now that we have had a run of fantastic (award nominated) shows that, largely due to the pandemic, have seen smaller audiences than they should have and that have cost more than they otherwise would have. This has taken its toll on the finances and we really need to turn that back around.

When you and all of your friends see Kinky Boots, you will realise that with the costuming and the set it is not the cheapest show to put on. The team are digging deep and finding all kinds of novel ways to minimise costs and pay for certain bits and pieces themselves, but we want a near sell out to put us in the financially safe zone and to begin to pay towards Project Studio 25. For that, we hope it will attract new audiences in addition to the wonderful people that come and see us on a regular basis.

TICKETS TICKETS TICKETS.... BUY BUY BUY!!!

Our Ceilidh Fund Raising event took place earlier in the month and raised just about £400 for the society. Local, fun, dancing, laughing, great organisation, good friends, good food! This event should have been a hall filler and could have easily raised double the money it did, but sadly the attendance was not what it could have been. I'll say no more, other than a BIG thank you to Arran and the rest of the Committee that were able to support that evening along with Peter (the caller) who along with the attendees made it a night to remember.

TICKETS TICKETS TICKETS

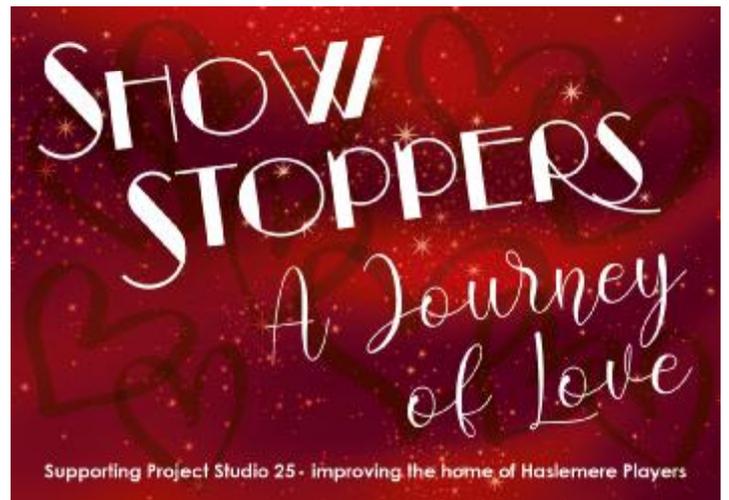
My first show in this society was Scrooge back in 2009 and here I am 14 years later, sat in my dark office counting money and moaning about not having enough! But people, this is for a good cause... I LOVE this society and how much joy it has brought to my life. 14 years ago I was in awe of Carolyn Beaumont's beautiful voice and the energy that Andy Boughton brought to the stage. 14 years on, I find Caro lending me high heel shoes and

doing my make-up for Kinky Boots, and see Andy Boughton hobbling across the hall in a pair of knee high red patent leather boots!!! What is not to love!

BUY BUY BUY

So one last plea using words from Kinky Boots itself... "YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND"....the next time you think you might stay in and watch a bit of telly rather than going to the show or a social ...Change your mind, you could change our world!!

Mike Byrne Treasurer  
([mb.hp.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mb.hp.treasurer@gmail.com))



### Showstoppers: A Journey of Love

**Thursday 1st June, Friday 2nd June, Saturday 3rd June at 7.30pm.**

This wonderful romp through musical theatre favourites will take you on a journey through all the stages of love and romance from Going Courtin' (Seven Brides for Seven Brothers); to Get Me to the Church On Time (My Fair Lady); to Timeless to Me (Hairspray); and all the familiar ups and downs of relationships in between. Guaranteed to bring a smile to your face and love to your heart with toe-tapping tunes and all the magic of the musicals.  
At Haslemere Hall, £18.50

### Note from Alex

Are you a secret musical genius waiting to be an MD? Or a super organised individual who likes to put their skills to Production Manager? Or maybe you've got dozens of shows under your belt on stage, and now you'd like to try your hand at directing or choreography?

If you are interested in being considered for a role on a production team in the future, we'd like to hear from you! Please drop an email expressing your interest to Alex Boughton ([alexandraboughton@hotmail.com](mailto:alexandraboughton@hotmail.com)) letting us know which roles you'd like to be considered for, and a few brief words detailing your experience and anything else you feel we should know.



## GRAPEVINE NEWS OF MEMBERS

We welcome a number of new members to Kinky Boots: Emily, Emma, Jonny, Kyrie and Lewis. We hope you are enjoying rehearsals and being part of the team. If any of you have any news to pass on, please do let me know ([linda@haslemere.com](mailto:linda@haslemere.com))

### Social News

In our next Newsletter we will be giving you details of the date of the AGM and summer BBQ

### Calling all ushers

We will be needing 3 or 4 ushers for each performance of Kinky Boots. If you feel this is something you could do, please could you let Pamela Depledge know on [pameladepledge@talktalk.net](mailto:pameladepledge@talktalk.net) You will be given instructions from the Front of House Manager for that performance.



### Dates for Your Diary

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 21 – 25 Mar | <b>Kinky Boots</b> at Haslemere Hall                            |
| 27 - 29 Apr | <b>Around the World in Eighty Days</b> with Haslemere Thespians |
| 24 - 27 May | <b>Return to the Forbidden Planet</b> with Grayshott Stagers    |
| 1 – 3 June  | <b>Show Stoppers</b> at Haslemere Hall                          |
| 24 – 28 Oct | <b>Calendar Girls</b> at Haslemere Hall                         |

*Contributions to the Newsletter to  
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