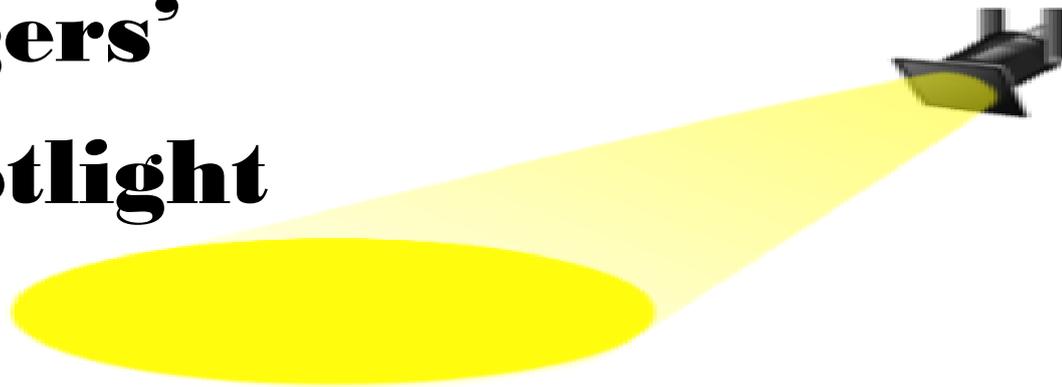


Stagers'

Spotlight



November 2020

Chair's Message

Welcome to the November edition of *Spotlight*. I can't quite believe that it has only been a month since I last wrote - so much has happened. The leaves are falling from the trees, the clocks have changed and the nights are drawing in. Sadly, these changes have brought with them another lockdown. I hope you and those you love are safe and healthy and that you are finding ways to stay emotionally connected whilst being socially distant.

During lockdown the committee and others are moving forward in planning next year's productions, whilst considering how the virus could change what we are hoping to do. We remain optimistic but, realistically, we will not start to get a picture of what will be possible until early December when we begin to see what a post-lockdown world looks like.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we adapt to the ever-changing circumstances and we promise to keep everyone in the loop as much as possible but we will all need to be flexible in the coming months.

Since the last *Spotlight* we have also experienced Halloween and Bonfire Night but perhaps most importantly the Stagers' Quiz. It was great to see so many members there and a big thank you to Helen Coyte for being our quiz master.

Finally, I would also like to thank everyone involved in helping to get this new format *Spotlight* out to you all. From the people who write the updates to those who proof read the final version before it comes to you, it really is a team effort. I would however like to ask you all to join me in giving an extra special thank you to Ruth Wilbraham who is compiling and designing *Spotlight* following each committee meeting to bring you all of the latest news

Go well.
Joe

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 18th November: 7.30pm



Honk! cast Read-through

(Zoom)

Saturday 5th December: 7.45 for 8.00pm

A Stagers' Cornucopia

(See below for details)

Wednesday 16th December:

February One Acts Read-through

(See below for details)



Missing the thrill of live theatre, we have found these links to shows online which may be of interest

www.broadwayhd.com/
Cirque du Soleil

[Full Musicals on-line](#)

<https://stage2view.com/>

<https://www.wisechildrendigital.com/>

[Southwark Playhouse](#)

You're invited
to celebrate...

A STAGERS' CORNUCOPIA

Saturday 5th December - 7.45 for 8pm

Zoom (details to follow)

***Bring your choice of party piece -
monologue, sketch, song, what-you-will.***

***Or ... just pour a glass, sit back and
watch.***

A Stagers' Cornucopia

A quick reminder that it's less than 3 weeks to the "Stagers' Cornucopia", an evening of on-line entertainment comprising a series of live performances by Stagers members on Saturday evening, 5th December (7:45 for 8 pm). (Zoom connection link / instructions to follow.)

We're inviting members to participate by performing a "party piece" of their choice, which could be any of (but not limited to) the following:

- A monologue
- A poem
- A song
- A sketch
- A drama scene

If you'd like to perform in the Cornucopia, please send details of your proposed piece (or pieces!) to barry.levy@grayshottstagers.co.uk by Saturday 28th November. That will give us time to plan the evening and put together a varied programme. Your chosen piece ideally shouldn't last more than around 5 minutes, and could involve more than one person living in the same household.

And if you just want to sit back and watch, just make a note of the date and we'll see you there!

Membership News

Along with countless listeners to Ken Bruce's show on Radio 2, we'd like to congratulate Alan Walker on his 90th birthday; only Ken said "Happy Birthday" on the correct day, October 26th.

Alan and Marian Walker, both Patron members of the Stagers, have been active in the Society for years; although not as long as the 61 happy years they have been married, raising two daughters and being much loved by an ever-increasing extended family.

Unable, due to the Covid restrictions, to celebrate this special birthday with a large family gathering, several celebrations were held. As one of their daughters reported to Ken: "Due to these unprecedented circumstances, we will be joining him, to celebrate, on different, specific days during this week. No more than six of us at any one time!"

So it's 'many congratulations' from Stagers, Alan. May the year to come see all your family back together in one place again and we hope you enjoy that family gift of the picture of all the cars you've owned 'down the ages'!

February One Acts

Things are progressing slowly but steadily with regards to the One Acts. The Play Reading sub-committee is reading through and shortlisting a number of plays ready to choose a programme in the next month.

There is however still a little time if you would like to submit a play for consideration. We are currently looking mostly at 'feel-good' shows that we could put on in a socially-distanced manner with no more than five parts.

In the coming weeks we will also be contacting those who have expressed interest, in order to confirm our directors. Again, if you are interested there is still time (just), so let us know.

Finally, we have been planning the read-through, which will function as the audition for the One Acts.

We are unsure yet if we will be able to hold it in person or will need to do it virtually but we do know it will happen on **Wednesday 16th December** so mark that date in your diary if you would like to attend and be considered for a part