

Stagers' Spotlight



May 2023

Chair's Message

Welcome to the May edition of Spotlight. As both Chair and co-director of our upcoming musical it is a very busy time at the moment but as always, I find breath-taking, the effort and dedication that people in the society put in, to bringing our shows on to the stage. There are so many people involved in what I am reliably informed is one of the most complicated shows we have ever put on.

Whilst there is only one set, it does involve an airlock and a set of automatic doors. The costume team have sourced Starship crew uniforms, contrasted them with more organic looking outfits for the people coming up from the planet, and even built a robot costume. We have sound effects, videos, smoke and even musicians on stage – this spaceship is after all powered by rock and roll!

The cast are all raring to go and practising their lines, the songs and the groovy dance moves. It has been a real pleasure to work on this show with everyone and all we are missing is you! So buy your tickets today and let all your family and



friends know that they should also come and see this wonderful show! (Even if I am a little biased!)

Don't miss out, book today:
<https://thelittleboxoffice.com/grayshottstagers/>

Joe, Chair

Membership News

We have heard from her family that Judy Lee, one of our Honorary Life Members, is now in a nursing home in Haslemere, having moved from Grayshott.

Judy would be pleased to receive visitors. If anyone would like to go to see her do get in touch with me:

jennifer.charters@grayshottstagers.co.uk.

Jennifer



So, what's the deal with Return to the Forbidden Planet?

Our upcoming May musical, Return to the Forbidden Planet by Bob Carlton, is a fabulously quirky show, which won the Olivier Award for Best New Musical for 1989/90. It brings together three exciting elements that are strong individually, but when you put them together they become quite incredible.

First take some of the best-known Rock and Roll classics from the 50's and 60's that are sure to get your toes tapping and have you bopping along. From Great Balls of Fire to Good Vibrations, Gloria, She's Not There, It's a Man's World and so many more, this show is packed with songs you know and love and the way that Rob Miller has got the cast rocking is sure to put a huge smile on your face. Especially when they are bought to life with some classic disco dance moves thanks to choreography from Laura Musco. It will be one big

party and you will have to try very hard not to get up on your feet and start boogieing along.

Then we have the plot, which is based on The



Tempest by that master story teller William Shakespeare. In fact, it is often billed as "Shakespeare's forgotten rock and roll masterpiece"

and the script really enjoys taking Shakespearean language and twisting well known quotes in knots, so see how many you can spot!

Finally, all of this takes place in a classic science fiction setting. You will join the crew as they



➤ travel on board a spaceship to a strange new world – the bridge has been bought to life as 'old fashioned future tech' thanks to the hard work of the backstage crew.

➤ Rivets have been made, the captain's chair is ready for his guitar, the view screen has been set up and the airlock is ready

to open

➤ meet Ariel, the robot creation of a mad



scientist – well him and Heather Legat who has been scavenging metal scrap to bring our android to life, complete with wheels so they can roll everywhere and

➤ try to survive many dangers including a meteor storm and attacks from a mysterious tentacled monster. This dangerous entity has been created by Jack Lovelock in virtual space, before Jill Levy helped it reach its tentacles into this dimension. No one is safe!

The shields are up, the scanners are activated and we have picked up that comedy, excitement and even a touch of romance are incoming, so be sure to join us for an evening where the entertainment will be out-of-this-world, when you come onboard the GSS Albatross and together we all Return to the Forbidden Planet!

All tickets are less than £15 and you can see each spectacular performance at Grayshott Village Hall from 24th to 27th May 2023 starting at 7.30pm each night.

Get your tickets right now from our Box Office:

<https://thelittleboxoffice.com/grayshottstagers/>



The Grayshott Stagers Summer BBQ – Sunday 2nd July

This is your cue to join us for our annual summer BBQ on Sunday 2nd July at 1:00pm, which Ruth Wilbraham is kindly hosting in Hindhead.

All members, friends and family are welcome. Cooked food will be provided at a cost of £5 per person. You will need to bring your own drinks and something to sit on. Also, if you would like to contribute a salad or dessert to the buffet, that would be most helpful.

Please rsvp to Ruth by 25th June to confirm your attendance and advise her of any dietary requirements by emailing ruth.wilbraham@grayshottstagers.co.uk





noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

NODA SE Celebration Day - 11 June

NODA South-East Region's annual Celebration Day will be held on Sunday, 11th June at the Electric Theatre, Guildford. The provisional programme for the day is below. (The question marks are not mine! They relate to performances by societies who have yet to confirm.)

9.30 Registration Begins – Traders Open

10.00 Workshops with Tori Eglin & Owen White based on "If Only You Would Listen" from "The School of Rock" - It's the song about children trying to get their parents to listen to them - it is an opportunity for both young cast and not so young. By kind permission of The Really Useful Company. Booking early advised. Please email graham.botterill@noda.org.uk with your name and society name.

12.15 Performance of scene from "If Only You Would Listen" from "Thee School of Rock" – audience welcome

14.00 South East AGM – address by The President Nick Lawrence followed by presentation of awards for the Programme & Poster Competition

14.45 Spot On – ???

RATs (Rainham Amateur Theatrical Society) - scenes from the Vicar of Dibley

Centrestage Productions Youth Theatre - ???

15.15 Presentation of Accolades of Excellence for Districts 1-9 & 19, together with Regional Awards for: Best Youth – East, Best Drama, Best New Show (including media), Best Pantomime & Best Compilation Show

16.15 ELOS - excerpt from "The Hunchback of Notre Dame"
Sevenoaks Players –???

16.30 Presentation of Accolades of Excellence Districts 10-18, together with Regional Awards for: Best Youth – West, Best Modern Musical, Best Traditional Musical, Best Opera, Best Gilbert & Sullivan

17.30 Encore Youth – ???

17.45 Close

Among the awards presented will be our own Accolade of Excellence for "Come On, Jeeves". We're in District 18, so expect it to be quite late in the afternoon.

Please let me know by 31st May if you plan to attend (barry.levy@grayshottstagers.co.uk). If you want to participate in the morning workshops, email Graham Botterill of NODA separately on his own address given above.

Barry Levy

"Crazy For You" - £20 Ticket Offer from NODA

With a riotously entertaining book by Ken Ludwig and overflowing with glorious Gershwin melodies (including Someone to Watch Over Me, I Got Rhythm and They Can't Take That Away from Me), this large-scale production (at the Gillian Lynne Theatre in London's Drury Lane) boasts 17 orchestra members and an incredible 34 strong cast. It's a joyful celebration 'blessed with ingenious, sparkling choreography from Susan Stroman, which sends you out on a high from the joy of music and dance' Financial Times. The original production of Crazy For You won several Tony® and Olivier Awards, including Best Musical.

Directed and choreographed by multi-Tony® and Olivier award winner Susan Stroman, this spectacular production transfers from a sell-out season at the Chichester Festival Theatre. Starring Charlie Stemp, the Olivier-nominated star of Half a Sixpence and Mary Poppins, as Bobby, Carly Anderson, star of Wicked as Polly, and Drama Desk Award winner Tom Edden as Bela Zangler.

Exclusive offer for NODA members (that includes Stagers members):

Tickets reduced to £20 (usually up to £75)

(Offer valid for performances from 26th June - 20th July 2023. Offer valid on a section of seats, usually up to £75. Subject to availability.)

Book your tickets at:

<https://noda.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=bd82c6d16b9f0b237211038d1&id=a9b3d684ba&e=6c43ed6454>

Barry Levy



What Our Friends Are Doing

Haslemere Players www.haslemereplayers.com
"Show Stoppers - A Journey Of Love" 1-3 June at Haslemere Hall. Travels through a lifetime of romance from the musicals.

"Calendar Girls - The Musical" 24-28 October, based on the 2003 film, with musical score by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth.

Tickets from www.haslemerehall.co.uk

Haslemere Thespians

"James and the Giant Peach" by Roald Dahl, 30 June - 1 July (matinée on the 1st) performed by Thespians "Next Generation" at The Royal School, Farnham Lane, Haslemere.

Tickets from www.haslemerethespians.co.uk

"Hay Fever" by Noël Coward, 5-7 October at Haslemere Hall, directed by David Greenwood.

Tickets from www.haslemerehall.co.uk

Farnham Amateur Operatic Society (FAOS)

www.faos.org.uk

"Raise The Roof", 15-17 June at Church on the Heath, Fleet. A night of the best melodies from the last century of popular music. Proceeds go towards vital repairs to their storage.

Tilbourne Players www.tilbourneplayers.org.uk

"One-Act Play Summer Evenings" on 5 and 7 July at the Tilford Institute. Three original plays by local playwright Alan Goodchild. Tickets include cheese and wine!

Churt Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

www.cadsonline.co.uk

"Waiting In The Wings" by Noël Coward is the autumn production. Auditions and other details will be announced on their website.

Barry Levy



There's barely a month until the curtain goes up for Raise the Roof! Join us on 15th - 17th June at Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath, Fleet. Join us for a riveting romp through popular music from 1900 to 2023. We'll have medleys, solos, duets, small groups and company numbers to entertain you. In an evening packed with variety, you'll experience everything from Music Hall to The Beatles, Rodgers and Hammerstein to James Bond themes and wartime nostalgia to current West End hits.

Help us to protect our set and staging equipment so that we can continue to bring professional quality amateur theatre to Farnham and the surrounding communities. All proceeds from the performances will go towards renovating our new storage facility.

Tickets are now available for the evenings of Thursday 15th, Friday 16th and Saturday 17th of June from:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/faosmusicaltheatregroup>.

This site also has full details on how to find the venue (Church on the Heath)

Best wishes from your Friends at FAOS



24th-27th May: Return to the Forbidden Planet - Stagers

Box Office

1st-3rd June: Showstoppers - *Haslemere Players*

15th-17th June: "Raise The Roof" - *FAOS*

2nd July: Stagers Barbecue, see above for more information




Grayshott Stagers:

28th June: School for Influencing Scandal Presentation Readthrough

8th July 2.00pm Auditions: School for Influencing Scandal

5th and 7th July: One Act Plays - *Tilbourne Players*

23rd to 25th Nov 2023: The School for Influencing Scandal - *Stagers*

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