

Issue 93

April 2007



THE GRAYSHOTT STAGERS'

# Newsletter

## Chairman's Note

Well spring is truly sprung, and it aint 'arf 'ot Mum!.....at least for the time of year. It also means that our musical is almost upon us. After a shaky start we now have a wonderful show, and I can't over-emphasise the importance of persuading as many people as possible to come and see it. Everyone concerned has put in a tremendous effort and it would be great if all that work was well rewarded.

The One Act Play evenings in February were a huge success, as anyone who went will know; very amusing plays, great food, slick organisation, full houses, and a profit of almost £1400! The treasurer was smiling for weeks! Well done to all concerned, especially the catering and waiting crew.

We have now chosen the Autumn play; Betty Penny will be producing *Party Piece* a very funny play by Richard Harris (*Outside Edge*, *Stepping Out*, etc). Dates and details elsewhere in this newsletter.

It seems premature to mention next year's musical before this one is over, but please make a note that it will be *Cowardy Custard*, a revue style show featuring the words and music of the Master himself, Noel Coward. More details later.

Finally, it is with sadness that we say goodbye to Diana White and John Belton, respectively the secretary and caretaker of the Haslemere Hall, who are leaving after about 20 years service. They have always been helpful and friendly to our society when we have taken our shows "down the hill", and we wish them well for the future.

See you all at *Carousel!*

John

## Membership News

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March Rachel Charters married Richard Griffiths in St. Alban's Church. It was a fine day and a lovely wedding. Jennifer looked wonderful, as did Rachel and Abigail (bridesmaid) who also sang beautifully during the ceremony. We send them our very best wishes and congratulations.

Mary Coyte occasionally hears from Curtis Dabek who is well and currently touring the US with a group performing a couple of Gilbert & Sullivan operas.

Those of you who know Graham Ross, one of the helpful young rehearsal pianists for previous productions such as *Windy City*, *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Grayshott 69* (*Oklahoma*) may be interested to know that last year he won the National Youth Choir of Great Britain's composition competition with his piece *Come to me in the silence of the night*, which was premiered in April by the choir, broadcast on BBC Radio 3, and is now published by Novello & Co. While at Cambridge University he co-founded the Dmitri Ensemble, who are proving very successful. Concert dates will be included in the future.

If we have overlooked anybody or any event, apologies, please let us know.

Melanie

## Party Piece

I am pleased to be directing the Autumn play this year. For our choice we have turned once again to Richard Harris whose *Outside Edge* and *Stepping Out* have proved so successful in the past.

*Party Piece* is set in the adjacent back gardens of a pair of Victorian terraced houses in West London. It is the night of Michael and Roma's fancy dress house party. A barbecue is planned and the evening looks set to be a lively one until a string of hilarious disasters including a distinct lack of guests, a burning garden shed and a marauding zimmer frame threaten to jeopardise the whole event. The situation is further complicated by the arrival of Michael and Roma's indomitable neighbour, Mrs Hinson, with her son and his second wife.

This fast-paced, very funny play has parts for **three men** and **four women** and will be a rewarding challenge to all concerned. I look forward to a good attendance for the read through on **Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** and subsequent auditions on **Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2.30pm**. Make a note in your diary now!

Betty Penny 01428 604084

## Bits and Pieces

### Murder Mystery Evening

The evening will be held on a Saturday night (date to be announced shortly) at Grayshott Village Hall. It will be free to the membership, but will be on a "bring your own picnic" basis where you provide your own food and drink. (You can make it as simple or elaborate as you like!)

Space will be limited, but places can be booked through Jane Sargeant. A local group from Fleet will be providing the entertainment and there will be a raffle of luxury prizes on offer. A bottle of champagne will go to the table closest to solving the murder!

This will be a great opportunity for all Stagers to have fun and not have to 'work' on the evening. So get ready to dig out your deer-stalker hat, violin and pipe!

07818422250  
jane.sargeant@grayshottstagers.co.uk

**DON'T FORGET  
BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW**

★ ★ ★ *Carousel* ★ ★ ★

10-12 May Grayshott  
19-19 May Haslemere

*Cowardy Custard* is being performed by the graduates of GSA at the West End Centre in Aldershot on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Jane Sargeant. Tickets are £10 (£8 concs.)

07818422250

jane.sargeant@grayshottstagers.co.uk

## Dates for your Diary

### 2007

03-05 May, Haslemere Hall

10-12 May, Grayshott Village Hall

17-19 May, Haslemere Hall

31 May-02 June, Haslemere Hall  
Hall

12-16 June, Farnham Maltings

11 July, Grayshott Hall Common Room

21 July, Grayshott Village Hall

12 September, Grayshott Small Hall

19 September, Grayshott Hall Common Room

26 September, Grayshott Hall Common Room  
tion

29 September, Grayshott Village Hall

03-05 October, Haslemere Hall

06 October, Grayshott Village Hall

23-27 October, Haslemere Hall

22-24 November, Grayshott Village Hall

### 2008

22-23 February, Grayshott Village Hall

April/May, Grayshott Village Hall

May, Haslemere Hall

10 September, Grayshott Small Hall

Haslemere Thespians' *Habeas Corpus*

*Carousel*

*Carousel*

Haslemere Players' *Music*

FAOS's *Anything Goes*

*Party Piece* Readthrough

*Party Piece* Auditions

AGM

February Plays Readthrough

*Cowardy Custard* Presenta-

February Plays Auditions

Haslemere Thespians' *A Month of Sundays*

*Cowardy Custard* Auditions

Haslemere Players' *My One and Only*

*Party Piece*

February One Act Plays

*Cowardy Custard*

*Cowardy Custard*

AGM



[www.grayshottstagers.co.uk](http://www.grayshottstagers.co.uk)