

Issue 86

May 2005



THE GRAYSHOTT STAGERS'

# Newsletter

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## Chairman's Note

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*Holiday Snap* will be presented in three weeks' time. This play is very funny, and I am sure that everyone who sees it will say that they haven't laughed so much in ages. That is certainly true of the cast and the others who have been at rehearsals. Tony Harris has written about the play elsewhere in this newsletter. The Box Office is now open at Grayshott Books in The Square, Grayshott, or give Thelma a call on 01428 605194.

The presentation meeting for *Me & My Girl* will be on Wednesday 8th June, in the Common Room at Grayshott Village Hall. This is a great show, with plenty of great songs, and quite a lot for the chorus to do. A large cast is going to be needed so please try to come along.

Further to the suggestion made at the last AGM regarding the possible distribution of the newsletter by electronic means, and my request in the last newsletter for members to let me know if they would be prepared to receive this by email, I have had a grand total of two responses. This issue is, by way of experiment, being sent electronically to all members for whom I have email addresses, as this will save substantially on paper, printing, and postage costs. If anyone receiving this by email would prefer to receive a printed copy, please let me know and it will be done.

The Mid Hants Railway 'Watercress Line' are holding a 'Victorian Extravaganza' on Saturday & Sunday, 1st & 2nd of October,

and they have invited Grayshott Stagers' members to take part by being Victorians during the weekend. Their letter states:

*"We thought it would be exciting to invite local residents, who enjoy acting, to have fun travelling on the Steam trains and to be involved in the event whilst helping to set the scene for our visitors."*

*"If you were able to offer some of your members' time for free, we could provide complimentary rail tickets and vouchers for tea and coffee during the event."*

If anyone is interested in taking part, on either or both of the dates, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can let them know.

### Postcard Piece

Heather & I visited Las Vegas in April, and what I can tell you is that it is quite amazing, and unlike anything that we had ever seen before. We didn't hit the jackpot in the casinos, so we had to come back to work, but I can certainly recommend it as a place worth seeing. We also took in a coach trip to the Grand Canyon, crossing the Hoover Dam on the way. This took all day, about 15 hours in fact, but was well worth the time. While we were in Las Vegas, Heather tried 'Eggs Benedict' for the first time, and, from what she said, I got the feeling that she was less than impressed!

Tony

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## ONE ACT PLAYS

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Last Friday I went along to Grayshott Village Hall to see Grayshott Stagers put on two One Act plays, and to enjoy the meal that they lay on during the interval.

The first play was *The Janna Years*, by Gillian Plowman, telling the story of a group of people living, for various reasons, in Bed & Breakfast accommodation. I particularly enjoyed the performance of newcomer Helen Laver - a talent to watch out for in the future - and there was good work from the rest of the cast, Simon Coyte, Katy Boddington, Peter Davies, and Barbara Netherwood. The play was directed by Betty Penny.

The second play was *Split Ends*, by Frank Vickery, telling a rather improbable story featuring a very slim girl who eats enough to feed an army three times a day, and a balding man who ends up wearing a newly born kitten on his head, mistaking it for his wig. A strong performance here from Susannah Meadowcroft as the lisping, hungry Susan, and good work from Alan Stone, Mary Terry, and Adam Coyte. The play was directed by John Hilder.

The meal provided between the two plays was worth at least the price of the ticket on its own. Consisting of Prawn Cocktail, Beouf Bourguignon and Lemon Meringue Pie, it was a feast, and far better than one might have expected on such an occasion. All in all, Grayshott Stagers certainly know how to put on a good evening's entertainment, and I would recommended anyone to get along to see their shows.

Walter Plinge

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## Holiday Snap, 19-21 May



We started rehearsals for Holiday Snap at the end of January even though for a few weeks we were not successful in totally casting the play. We were also very sad when Barbara Netherwood was forced to withdraw through illness just after the One Act Plays in February. We were very fortunate that, almost as soon as we had this news, June Hegarty attended a rehearsal just to do some reading in and prompting and ended up taking over the part of Celia!

Rehearsals have been great fun and I am very pleased with the strength of my team and how hard the cast are working, particularly on a number of occasions when we have been short. They all seem to get on well together which always helps. Latterly we have been joined by Barbara with an excellent array of props, and Marian who, as well as her other duties, is prompting.

There's no way that our audiences will be allowed to fall asleep during our performances because on every page, if not every line, there's something funny going on. The double-booked love-nest holiday villa, the arrival of one Mother-in-Law and one wife and the eccentric, drinking, holiday Rep all add to the chaos. I urge you to get your tickets soon and to encourage as many friends as possible to join you.

If our audiences have as good a time watching Holiday Snap as the cast and production team have had during rehearsals, we are all in for a good night - and we shall be aching with laughter!

We look forward to seeing you.

Tony Harris

Tickets are available **NOW**  
from Grayshott Books, The  
Square, Grayshott.

## Membership News

Since the last newsletter we have welcomed new or re-joining members Simon Coyte, Adam Coyte and Jacqueline Scarrot, two of whom were in the cast of *The Janna Years* and *Split Ends*.

Sadly, we have recently lost two long standing members of the society.

Barry Penny passed away on Sunday April 24th in King

Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst. Barry, of course, was a founder member of the Grayshott Stagers, and was Chairman for many years.

Dick Little died in The Royal Surrey County Hospital on Thursday March 17th. Dick had been an active member of the society for over forty years.

There will be more about Barry & Dick, and their contributions to the Stagers, in the next newsletter.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### 2005

19-21 May, Grayshott Village Hall  
26-28 May, Haslemere Hall  
08 June, Grayshott Hall Common Room  
14-18 June, Farnham Maltings  
26 June, Haslemere Hall  
07 September, Grayshott Village Small Hall  
21 September, Grayshott Hall Common Room  
01 October, Grayshott Village Hall  
06-08 October, Haslemere Hall  
25-29 October, Haslemere Hall  
01-03 December, Grayshott Village Hall  
08-10 December, Haslemere Hall

### 2006

24-25 February, Grayshott Village Hall  
18-20 May, Grayshott Village Hall  
06 September, Grayshott Village Small Hall

Holiday Snap  
Music Hall, Haslemere Players  
Me and My Girl Presentation  
South Pacific, FAOS  
Me and My Girl Auditions  
Annual General Meeting  
February One Act Play Read-through  
February One Act Play Auditions  
The House of Dracula, Haslemere Thespians  
42nd Street, Haslemere Players  
Me and My Girl  
Me and My Girl



February One Act Supper Evening  
Spring Play  
Annual General Meeting



### *South Pacific*

FAOS are presenting *South Pacific* at the Maltings from 14-18th June. The cast includes Paul Tapley, Alex Legat, Kevin Sampson and Dave Sillet—all of whom have been known to tread the boards at Grayshott. Please get in touch with the Social Committee if you would like to form a group, or call the box office on 01252 726234.



### *Centenary Music Hall*

This year's Music Hall celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Haslemere Players in songs and sketches. Tickets are £9 on Thursday 26th May and £10 on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th May. The cost of the tickets includes a light supper. If you would like to make up a table with other Stagers, please contact the Social committee. Otherwise, tickets are available on 01428 641719.

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## **--Just For Fun--**

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### **Theatrical Logic?**

In is down, down is front  
Out is up, up is back  
Off is out, on is in  
And of course-  
Left is right and right is left  
A drop shouldn't and a  
Block and fall does neither  
A prop doesn't and  
A cove has no water  
Tripping is OK  
A running crew rarely gets anywhere  
A purchase line buys you nothing  
A trap will not catch anything  
A gridiron has nothing to do with football  
Strike is work (In fact a lot of work)  
And a green room, thank god, usually isn't  
Now that you're fully versed in Theatrical terms,  
Break a leg.  
But not really.

