

Stagers' Spotlight



April 2020

Hello treasured members,

This is a strange time for all of us and very surreal.

As I hope you are all aware and have seen through our updates in March we made the decision to cease rehearsals for our May 2020 musical HONK! It was a hard decision, especially for me as the director. You take ownership of your show and want it to be a success. I am pleased though that HONK! has not been cancelled, merely put on hold until May 2021 hopefully with the original cast. We hope that our November play directed by Ellis Nicholls will be unaffected by COVID-19.

As a society and nation we are all still adjusting to this way of life. For me as a teacher my role has gone from being constantly on my feet, talking all day and with no time to grab a cuppa to one sat at a computer trying to teach via emails to parents, with online work where I can drink and visit the bathroom freely (a real luxury for a teacher). I am fortunate to live next door to my parents, so borrow their dog from the garden for Hazel and I to walk ensuring we go outside daily. We are also blessed to live in the countryside where we can go on some amazing walks while keeping to social distancing rules.

During this time cabin fever does start to set in, please remember to check in on friends, particularly those who live alone. We are fortunate to live in an era where technology makes connecting with friends effortless. In this newsletter you will find some tips for staying in contact. I will be trying to teach mum WhatsApp this week as her friend wants her to join a group chat.

I hope all our members and their families stay safe and healthy.

Helen Coyte – Chairman

CAN YOU NAME ALL 20 MUSICALS

- 1 
- 2 (S) 
- 3 
- 4 
- 5 (W) 
- 6 
- 7 
- 8 
- 9 
- 10 
- 11 
- 12 
- 13 
- 14 
- 15 
- 16 
- 17 
- 18 
- 19 
- 20 

November 2021 Production

We are pleased to announce that in November 2021 we will be doing a celebration of 70 years of Grayshott Stagers. Mary Coyte will be making her directing debut for Stagers (hard to believe I know, but Mary has never directed for the Stagers in all her years as a member.) and Lizzie Hales will be overseeing musical numbers in the show. Over the next year Mary, Lizzie and the committee will be coming up with ideas of songs, sketches and memories to include in this celebration. So your task is as members old or new, to please share your favourite Stagers moments or funny anecdotes. I will then start sharing some of these in the newsletters in the run up to the show. Send them to coyte.scouts@gmail.com

To get you started here is one of mine.

Now I am sure I have many memories of watching Stagers shows growing up, although I am never sure which shows I saw at the Haslemere Hall were Players or Stagers ones as up until the early 2000s Stagers musicals would do a week in Grayshott and then a week in Haslemere. I did my first Grayshott show in 2001 when they needed children to be in Oliver. Mum took me along, as did many of our members who had children of the correct age at the time. I was cast as the workhouse assistant (I was a little too plump to be an orphan only being fed gruel), part of Fagin's gang and the Long song seller in 'Who Will Buy?', which was sung by the teenage members and Laura Musco to keep us in check. As the teenagers of the cast Karen Musco, Alex Boughton, Will Forde and I would have revision sessions in between rehearsals and performances for our Year 9 SATS, huddled in the shed with soot on our faces testing each other on the anatomy of a plant. I am pretty sure as soon as our parents weren't watching or were on stage the books were thrown away and mischief began!

Members News

Congratulations to Jeremy Legat and his fiancé Ian on their engagement at Christmas.

The Musco family had a virtual celebration with friends and family via video call on 4.4.20, which should have been Karen's wedding day, but due to the current situation has had to be postponed until next year. Karen, Sam, Brooke and Rory enjoyed the day with cards, flowers, and cake. They were even showered in confetti by their lovely neighbours using confetti cannons so not to breach social distancing rules.

What great way to celebrate in these difficult times. Congratulations and all the best for the big day next March.

Staying In Touch

We hope you have been able to stay in touch with your friends and family through any of the online tools which are now available, from social networks like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, chat tools like WhatsApp or video conference calling like Zoom or Google Hangouts but if you need any help making those connections please contact via Jennifer 01428 605635 and we will do what we can to help.

Virtual Quiz

Abi White has kindly offered to run a virtual quiz via Zoom video conference. The quiz will be Wednesday 15th April at 8pm.

We will send out further details of how to take part in the quiz at the beginning of next week.

Remember to save the date!

ANSWERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Phantom of the Opera | 11. Hamilton |
| 2. South Pacific | 12. Cats |
| 3. Wicked | 13. Blood Brothers |
| 4. Sound of Music | 14. Sunset Boulevard |
| 5. West Side Story | 15. Chess |
| 6. Carousel | 16. Legally Blonde |
| 7. School of Rock | 17. Cabaret |
| 8. The Lion King | 18. Dirty Dancing |
| 9. Book of Mormon | 19. Dreamgirls |
| 10. Chicago | 20. Les Miserables |

Live Theatre Online

Here is a list of sites you can access live theatre, from the comfort of your home:

www.youtube.com/theshowsmustgoon

Every Friday for 48hr an Andrew Lloyd Webber Musical is available to watch.

www.youtube.com/user/ntdiscovertheatre

Every Thursday for a week a show from the National Theatre is available to watch.

www.broadwayhd.com/

You can get a 7 day free trial to watch Broadway shows online.

*After 7 days you will be charged

www.digitalconcerthall.com

Live Orchestral Concerts from the Berlin Philharmonic

www.hampsteadtheatre.com/

Live plays streamed by Hampstead Theatre.

www.bbc.co.uk/arts

Culture in Quarantine on the BBC

www.willowsmusical.com/

Wind In The Willows live stream. Music and lyrics by Stiles and Drewe who also wrote HONK!