

Issue 81

October 2003



THE GRAYSHOTT STAGERS'

Newsletter

Chairman's Note

It was reported at the AGM that the committee had been looking into ways to increase ticket sales for our shows. Many different suggestions have been put forward, the ones we are implementing now are as follows: There will be a matinee in Grayshott for our forthcoming production of *Copacabana*. This means that there will be seven performances rather than the usual six. The plan is to market the matinee specifically to parties, perhaps from schools and nursing homes. Members of the committee will be visiting various groups to tell them about the show.

It has long been thought that ticket sales for our Spring musical suffer through the show's close proximity to Easter and to May Day Bank Holiday. Easter can also be a problem when holidays clash with rehearsals, and particularly when, as happened with *Annie Get Your Gun*, the Easter holidays are so late as to interfere with the performances. With effect from 2005 we have decided to move our musical to the first two weeks of December, the play will be presented in the Spring, but later than our usual end of April dates. In another attempt to boost audience numbers, tickets will be on sale much earlier than usual. Tickets for *Copacabana* will be avail-

able to members from Monday 17th November 2003; that is the day of the technical rehearsal for *A Chorus of Disapproval*. Tickets will then go on sale to the general public on Thursday 20th November, at the performances of *A Chorus of Disapproval*, and will be actively marketed to the audience. It is our intention that tickets for *Cabaret* be available during the performances of *Copacabana*, etc..

Now for the bits that are nothing to do with Grayshott Stagers - perhaps I should call it the 'Postcard Piece' Heather and I spent two glorious weeks in the Caribbean in August; that is apart from the two days that I spent indoors suffering from sunburn. One of the highlights (for me) was that there was a Satellite TV in the bar, so although the Hungarian Grand Prix was run at 8am local time, I was there drinking coffee!

Indianapolis in the rain was extraordinary. Whilst it rained hard at one end of the circuit, all I felt was a few spots. What really surprised everybody was how cold it was. The people sitting next to me, from Liverpool, asked me whether I knew the rules for racing in snow. Next year this event will be in June, so I shall be packing factor 45 sunblock!



One-Act Play Supper Evening



27th & 28th February 2004

The read through for the two plays that have been chosen for next February took place on September 17th and was well attended.

The chosen plays are both comedies— *Easy Stages* by N.J. Warburton and *What's for Pudding* by David Tristram. The casts are as follows:

EASY STAGES (director: Teresa Marsh)

Gerry	Stage Manager	40-50 years
Martin	Stage crew	any age
Alice	Stage crew	30's
Patsy	Stage crew	30's
Gill	Stage crew	any age
Sid (non-speaking)	Stage crew	any age, either sex
Kate	Producer	any age

WHAT'S FOR PUDDING (director: Peter Read)

Jack)	Married couple	30-45 ish
Mary)		30-40 ish
Ted)	Married couple	30-45 ish
Maureen)		30-40 ish
Dennis	Neighbour	any age

The **auditions** for these plays will be held on **27th October at 7.30pm** in the Common Room at Grayshott Village Hall. If you are interested in auditioning, please let me know and I will let you have the audition pieces you require.

One of the plays may be chosen for the Haslemere Drama Festival to be held on April 1st or 2nd, so auditionees should also be available for these dates.

Please get in touch with me, either by phone on **01428 605046** or by e-mail on marian@grayshottstagers.co.uk, if you would like to audition, help backstage or help in the kitchen for this event - we need YOU.
Marian



Copacabana

29 April - 01 May 2004 & 06 May - 08 May



Copacabana is now in progress under the watchful eyes of Tony Creasey - Director, Edward Roberts - Musical Director and Megan Farrington - Choreographer.

On Saturday October 11th the auditions took place and were well attended, with both auditionees and an audience!

The cast is as follows:

Tony/Stephen	Nick Creaser
Lola/Samantha	Alisa Creaser
Conchita Alvarez	Julia Harris
Sam Silver	Tony Harris
Rico Castelli	Wayne Richardson
Gladys Murphy	Teresa Marsh
Hoover Commercial Girls	Vicki Gavin
	Laura Musco
Copaboy	William Forde
	Richard Milla
Copagirls	Carolyn Beaumont

We are in need of more Copagirls and Copaboy. So, if you would like to strut your stuff at the 'Copacabana' then please do let Tony and Edward know.

Set amid the swinging nightclub scene of the 1940s, the production follows the song's narrative, about the entangled lives of three characters and how it leads to love, jealousy and murder.

There is plenty for the chorus to do and get involved with in this steamy, colourful show. With great Manilow tunes to sing and tap your toes to, rehearsals should be great fun. The first rehearsal is on December 10th, when everybody will be able to get together and meet those they don't already know.

Don't forget this is a great opportunity, just like we all thoroughly enjoyed staging the unknown show *Windy City*, this will be the first time that this show has been performed in the immediate area by an amateur group. You also get the chance to do an extra performance with this musical as there will be a matinee performance in Grayshott hall on 1st May.

Just a note...

For any of you who are interested, the Epsom Players are presenting *Copacabana* at the Epsom Playhouse between 28th October and 1st November. Call the box office on 01372 742555.

So, please do come along and join in.

If you are interested in working backstage then please contact Melanie Tyrrell on 01428 643352 or at mel@grayshottstagers.co.uk.

Dates for your Diary

2003

27 October, Grayshott Village Hall Common Room
20-22 November, Grayshott Village Hall
05 December, TBA
19 December, Grayshott Village

2004

27-28 February, Grayshott Village Hall
03 April, Churt Village Hall
01-03 April, Haslemere Hall
29 April-01 May, Grayshott Village Hall
06-08 May, Haslemere Hall
08 September, Grayshott Small Hall
25-27 November, Grayshott Village Hall

2005

25-26 February, Grayshott Village Hall
12-14 May, Grayshott Village Hall
01-03 December, Grayshott Village Hall
08-10 December, Haslemere Hall

February One Act Plays Auditions
A Chorus of Disapproval
Inter-Society Quiz
Carol Singing



February One Act Supper Evening
Wild West Barn Dance
Haslemere Thespians One Act Festival
Copacabana
Copacabana
Annual General Meeting
Cabaret

February One Act Supper Evening
Full Length Play
Me and My Girl
Me and My Girl



Things you will probably never hear in the theatre!

THE ORCHESTRA:
 We're not too loud the cast are too quiet
 The drummer is just being himself
 At time does the bar open?
 At do you mean there is no bar???
 The drinks are on us!!!

STAGE MANAGER:
 We were ready to go hours ago
 Yep plenty of time for another dress rehearsal
 The comms are working perfect!
 That scene change worked well!
 Thanks... but as you know "I Don't Drink"

The show is running within budget!
 The stage crew are such understanding people!
 The orchestra are a little too quiet!
 That scene change didn't work too well!
 Thanks... but as you know "I don't drink"

STAGE CREW:
 We'll be in the first thing in the morning
 Set designer is such understanding people!
 What a fantastic show this is
 Of course you're not in the way
 Thanks... but as you know "I don't drink"



THE ACTOR:
 Maybe my big scene should be cut a little? What do you think?
 No please... lets not talk about me and my part.
 I love the costume... it makes me look so tall and slim
 That's ok I can do that myself
 I'd like to say a big, big thank you to my fellow cast members,
 lights, sound, and stage crew... without them the show would not go
 on and I would not look and sound so wonderful. Enough about me...
 drinks all round!!! But before I go... Mr Stage manager what time
 would you like me to come and help clean up in the morning???

LIGHTING:
 If you don't like the gels we put
 in we can change them all
 It's ok stand there we'll move the
 light to spot you
 All lights ordered are here and
 working
 Oh bother... the lighting PC has
 just crashed
 Thanks... but as you know... I
 have to get to bed early tonight

SOUND:
 This buildings acoustics are great
 If there isn't room for me I can manage to
 the sound from the car park
 Such wonderful voices... so easy to mix
 Doesn't the bar have a wonderful selection
 drinks and at such reasonable prices!
 Thanks... but as you know... oh go on the

SET DESIGNERS:
 That worked out exactly as we planned it
 It could be our fault we got the colours wrong... nothing to
 do with the lighting
 You might well be right about the way it looks
 So many helpers... so much time
 Thanks... but as you know "I don't drink"