

Issue 98

February 2009



THE GRAYSHOTT STAGERS'

Newsletter

Chairman's Note

Well, the merry Ho! Ho! Ho!s have faded away, the decorations are back in the attic, little green needles are still coming out of the carpet and we must now find some comfort and joy amidst the gloom and despondency. Fear not – your society has much to be involved in and to look forward to in the coming months!

Firstly though, we must congratulate Shirley Jelliss and her cast and crew on an excellent production of *The Odd Couple* (female version), which entertained audiences last November. Audience numbers were again a bit disappointing but, nevertheless, we turned in a very useful profit of £493. A huge thanks to all involved.

In December the Stagers took a stall at the Christmas Fair in the Village Hall with a view to raising funds towards the cost of our musical. Brezetta seized the initiative with her usual enthusiasm and soon amassed an array of gifts and general items of interest to sell, all of which were generously donated from far and wide. The picture shows the stall in all its glory with Brez and helpers Angie, Barbie and Judy. In addition, Lynne Mitchinson and June Hegarty reprised their face-painting skills and the joint effort resulted in a handsome profit of £250. The Fair was very well attended and an added bonus was a visit and impromptu address from the stage by Joley Richardson and her mother Vanessa Redgrave.



The One Act Plays are fast approaching, with the casts deep into rehearsal and the supper tables booking up quickly.

Tony Creasey and Doreen Wylde plunged into rehearsals for *Spend, Spend, Spend* as soon as *The Odd Couple* was over and are skilfully organising a large cast who are beginning to sound as if they should be in a Hovis or John Smith advert! The sturdy flat vowels of Yorkshire are echoing around the village hall as they get to grips with the accent of Viv Nicholson's home county. This vibrant, gutsy show is proving to be challenging, interesting and enjoyable and we can all help to ensure it's success by selling as many tickets as possible. These are now on sale, just contact Peter Budd on 01428 605464, or pete.lynthorpe@gmail.com and get the best seats now!

Looking further ahead, we have chosen *Improbable Fiction* by Alan Ayckbourn for our November Play. Directed by Brezetta Thonger, it is an unusual comedy with interesting challenges for the cast. More about this in a future Newsletter, but check the dates in the Diary section.

Since our last newsletter, we have introduced our monthly social evening at the Fox and Pelican which has proved to be very successful. However, the majority of those attending tend to be the "usual suspects", so watch out for the reminders, make a note in your diaries that it takes place on the second Monday each month and come along and have a laugh and a chat.

I'll leave you with a story about George Bernard Shaw, who received a cable from an enthusiastic actress with the message "Am crazy to play St. Joan". Shaw cabled back "I quite agree".

John

Don't forget to come along to the Fox & Pelican in Grayshott on Monday 9th February 8pm to support the Society Pub Night.



Membership News

Since the last newsletter we have welcomed new members Katie-Jane Bevan, Alan Kaighin, David Landau and Jessica McCluskey, who are all in the cast of *Spend, Spend, Spend*. Elizabeth Chester and Jo Boughton have become Patron Members.

We say a big 'Congratulations' to Danny and Alex Yates (nee Legat) on the birth of Samuel Robert on December 24th.

The Dobsons and George Streeter are well and send best wishes to everyone.

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

Melanie

We also congratulate our hard-working secretary who has just achieved a Masters degree with Distinction in Heritage and Museum Studies - well done Mel! John

Bits and Pieces

STOP PRESS: tickets for the February One Act Play Evenings have now sold out

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee would like to announce the following events—put the dates in your diary.

1. A Skittles Evening, to be held on Monday 9th March, 2009, at The Woodcock, Beacon Hill, Hindhead. Ticket Cost. £10.00 to include a Carvery Meal (Vegetarians will be catered for). Start 7.30p.m.
2. A Casino Evening, to be held at Grayshott Village Hall on September, 26th 2009. More details will follow through the Summer.

SPEND, SPEND, SPEND

In light of the speed with which the tickets have sold out for the February One Act Play Evenings (3 weeks before opening night), make sure you get your tickets for *Spend, Spend, Spend* early.

For advance bookings contact Peter Budd:

01428 605464
pete.lynthorpe@gmail.com

Don't miss out

Dates for your Diary

2009

09 February, Fox & Pelican, Grayshott
20-21 February, Grayshott Village Hall
09 March, The Woodcock, Beacon Hill
24-28 March, Haslemere Hall
22-25 April, Grayshott Village Hall
21-23 May, Haslemere Hall
09-13 June, Farnham Maltings
08 July, Common Room
25 July, Grayshott Village Hall
09 September, Small Hall
16 September, Common Room
23 September, Common Room
26 September, Grayshott Village Hall
26 September, Grayshott Village Hall
17 October, Grayshott Village Hall
27-31 October, Haslemere Hall
19-21 November, Grayshott Village Hall

Society Pub Night
February One Act Play Evenings
Skittles Evening
Haslemere Players' *Sweeney Todd*
Spend, Spend, Spend
Haslemere Thespians' *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*
FAOS' *Oliver!*
Readthrough *Improbable Fiction*
Auditions *Improbable Fiction*
Annual General Meeting
Readthrough *February One Act Play Evenings*
Presentation, 2009 Musical
Auditions *February One Act Play Evenings*
Bond Casino Night
Auditions, 2009 Musical
Haslemere Players' *Scrooge*
Improbable Fiction



www.grayshottstagers.co.uk