

# Stagers' Spotlight

June 2024

## Message from the Chair

Hello Stagers,

The curtain has come down for a final time on the Grayshott Stagers' show for May 2024 and it is fair to say that 9 to 5, the Musical has been a resounding success. The reactions from the audience every night were electric and the feedback has been brilliant:



*"Full of entertainment with humour and food for thought"*

*"We laughed in all the right places and were thoroughly entertained."*

*"This is a great show! You can't help but smile throughout the show and leave singing those songs!"*

*"Brilliant show, we loved it. Well done to everyone involved for all your hard work and dedication."*



You can see more of them on our [Facebook page](#) and we were also really pleased with the [NODA review linked here](#) that the show received. Not only was it a show well received by audiences and enjoyed by those who took part, it was also one of those rare events - a Grayshott Stagers' musical which made a profit. In fact, this is only the 5th musical in 25 years of Grayshott Stagers' history to sell more than 400 tickets.



Huge congratulations to Laura and Rob; thank you for providing the direction that created something really special. Well done to all of the cast and thank you to everyone who was involved in supporting the show, you can see a full list of acknowledgements later in this newsletter.



Now our attention is turning to our next show. This year's November play is Alan Ayckbourn's comedic Absurd Person Singular directed by Steffen Zschaler and you can find out more at the presentation evening which will be held on

Wednesday 26th June at 7.30pm in the Grayshott Village Hall Studio.

There are so many ways that you can get involved in this production. If you fancy joining the cast then auditions will be held at 2.30pm on Saturday 6th July in the Grayshott Village Hall, Main Hall. If instead you would prefer to stay behind the scenes, there are lots of ways you can help - whether that is building scenery, sourcing props or costumes, or helping with sound or lighting - to find out more contact the Production Manager - Kate Buxton:  
[kate.buxton@grayshottstagers.co.uk](mailto:kate.buxton@grayshottstagers.co.uk)

Set in three kitchens over three Christmases, Absurd Person Singular is a satire of the early 1970s get-rich-quick culture and charts the relentless rise of the socially-aspiring Hopcrofts. It remains prescient, even grimly prophetic but, above all, hilarious as it shows the behind the scenes disasters across the series of Christmas parties.

Hopefully you will find the perfect way to get involved.

Go well,  
Joe, Chair

PS. Don't forget to RSVP to the Stagers' summer BBQ on Sunday 7th July, and I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

## Absurd Person Singular

Presentation Evening: 26th June 7:30pm The Studio.  
Auditions: 6th July 2:30pm Main Hall

If you are unable to attend the presentation evening but would like information about auditions please email [kate.buxton@grayshottstagers.co.uk](mailto:kate.buxton@grayshottstagers.co.uk)



## Membership News

### Marian Walker

Many of you will already be aware that Marian Walker, a very much valued Patron member of Stagers, sadly died on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

She had been nursed at home for a while and died peacefully on the day following her birthday, when her home had been filled with cards and flowers.

Our thoughts go out to Alan and the rest of Marian's family.

Marian first joined the Stagers in 1980 for "Calamity Jane" and had been an active member ever since, contributing to our productions in many capacities. We shall be circulating a Tribute to her, so please send any thoughts and memories to [secretary@grayshottstagers.co.uk](mailto:secretary@grayshottstagers.co.uk).

The funeral will be held at Greenacres, Heatherley Wood GU35 8LA on Tuesday 2nd July at 1pm. Family flowers only please.

## AGM - Save the Date!

The AGM will be held on 11th September in the Studio. As usual this is a well presented round up of the year with a chance to catch up with fellow members. Why not consider joining the committee? It is a great way to be involved with the society and there are currently places available.

## BBQ

**7th July 2024 1:30pm**



This is your cue to join us for our annual summer BBQ on Sunday 7th July at 1:30pm. Ruth Wilbraham is kindly hosting in Hindhead. All members, friends and family are welcome. Cooked food will be provided at a cost of £6 per person. You will need to bring your own drinks and something to sit on. Also, if you would like to contribute a salad or dessert to the buffet, that would be most helpful. RSVP to Ruth by 26<sup>th</sup> June of your attendance and advise her of any dietary requirements by emailing [ruth.wilbraham@grayshottstagers.co.uk](mailto:ruth.wilbraham@grayshottstagers.co.uk)

## NODA

### NODA SE Celebration of 2023

You will have seen in our April issue of *Spotlight* the notice of NODA's annual day of celebration at the Electric Theatre in Guildford on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

Founded in 1989, NODA is currently celebrating 125 years of support to amateur theatre. Although this year the Stagers was not due to receive an award, I attended in the afternoon for the SE Region AGM, Presentation of Awards and the Performances of excerpts from the productions of seven different societies. It was a real pleasure to sit back and enjoy being entertained by each one of the theatre groups, all performing to very high standard. However, I was particularly thrilled by Centrestage Productions Youth Theatre, presenting a selection from their recent production of *Les Miserables*. If I closed my eyes, I could have been listening to the voices of West End performers! These young people deserved their standing ovation.

*Jennifer Charters*

## What Our Friends Are Doing

### FAOS (Farnham Amateur Operatic Society)

[www.faos.org.uk](http://www.faos.org.uk)

Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein", Farnham Maltings, 11-15 June.

### Haslemere Thespians Next Generation

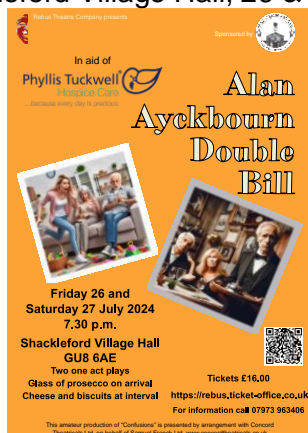
[www.haslemerethespians.co.uk](http://www.haslemerethespians.co.uk)

"Matilda Jr" by Dennis Kelly and Tim Minchin, The Royal School, 21 & 22 June.

Tickets from [www.haslemerehall.co.uk](http://www.haslemerehall.co.uk)

### Rebus Theatre Company [www.rebus.ticket-office.co.uk](http://www.rebus.ticket-office.co.uk)

"Mother Figure" and "Between Mouthfuls" by Alan Ayckbourn, in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care, Shackleford Village Hall, 26 & 27 July.



## Imagine That Productions

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

"The Wizard of Oz" based on the 1939 film, Haslemere Hall, 22-24 August.

Tickets from [www.haslemerehall.co.uk](http://www.haslemerehall.co.uk)

Haslemere Players [www.haslemereplayers.com](http://www.haslemereplayers.com)

"The Addams Family", Haslemere Hall, 29 October - 2 November.

Tickets from [www.haslemerehall.co.uk](http://www.haslemerehall.co.uk)

*Barry Levy*

## Dates For Your Diary

**26th June:** Absurd Person Singular Presentation Evening 7:30pm The Studio.

**6th July:** Absurd Person Singular Auditions, 2:30pm Grayshott Village Hall - Main Hall

**7th July:** BBQ Social

**11th September:** **AGM** - The Studio, Grayshott Village Hall.

**21st - 23rd November:** Absurd Person Singular, Grayshott Village Hall

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This edition of Spotlight was compiled by Kate Buxton.





**Thank you to everyone that helped with the show.**

<b>Director &amp; Choreographer</b>	<b>Laura Musco</b>
<b>Musical Director</b>	<b>Rob Miller</b>
<b>Stage Manager</b>	<b>Ellis Nicholls</b>
<b>Backstage Team</b>	<b>Members and Friends of Grayshott Stagers</b>
<b>Sound Enhancement</b>	<b>Steve Georgii</b>
<b>Lighting</b>	<b>Rowan and Graham Lonsdale</b>
<b>Wardrobe Mistresses</b>	<b>Mary Coyte, Laura Musco</b>
<b>Wardrobe Assistants</b>	<b>Susie Gow, Heather Legat</b>
<b>Costumes Provided By</b>	<b>Grayshott Stagers, Haslemere Players and cast</b>
<b>Dressers</b>	<b>Mary Coyte, Val Shears</b>
<b>Hair, Wigs and Make-up</b>	<b>Chris Brennan, Pauleen Dowsett and cast</b>
<b>Props Coordination</b>	<b>Diana Lovelock</b>
<b>Set Design</b>	<b>Jill Levy</b>
<b>Set Construction</b>	<b>Jill Levy, Stephen Penny, Duncan Gill, John Guppy</b>
<b>Prompts</b>	<b>Caroline Thompson, Angela Jones</b>
<b>Front of House Manager</b>	<b>Jackie Bearman</b>
<b>Bar Manager</b>	<b>Tony Legat</b>
<b>Ushers, Bar and Raffle</b>	<b>Members and Friends of Grayshott Stagers</b>
<b>Publicity Coordination</b>	<b>Buff Cooper, Joe White, Barry Levy, Tony Legat</b>
<b>Publicity Design</b>	<b>Sara Wilson-Soppitt</b>
<b>Photography</b>	<b>Peter Sillick</b>
<b>Programme</b>	<b>Sara Wilson-Soppitt</b>
<b>Programme Advertising</b>	<b>Jennifer Charters</b>
<b>Box Office Manager</b>	<b>Ruth Wilbraham</b>
<b>Production Manager</b>	<b>Barry Levy</b>
<b>Business Manager</b>	<b>Stephen Penny</b>

