



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



I AM WRITING THIS A FEW DAYS before Christmas and am mindful of the fact that you will not receive it before the festive season. I hope therefore, that you all had a very happy, healthy and merry time and my best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

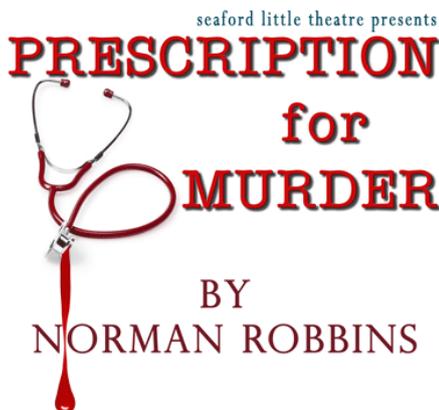
The Theatre had another record breaking production with ***Make Way For Lucia*** directed by Mary Young. This witty comedy was well received by our audiences and apart from some minor box office mishaps, (NOT THE THEATRE'S FAULT), everything went smoothly.

After some initial problems with casting, ***Prescription For Murder***, directed by Margaret Kennedy is now firmly in rehearsal. Regretfully, I shall be unable to see it. Along with Alan Lade and our student actor, Samuel Nunn we are all appearing in Lewes Little Theatre's production of Mike Leigh's ***2000 Years*** which almost coincides with our own production. Should anyone think we are deserting Seaford, all of us are merely returning the many favours in casting etc, that Lewes on occasion does for us and is just a temporary secondment.

Meanwhile the Theatre has received a visit from the Mayor of Seaford at the 'Get Vocal' end of term concert. This is a school of dance and singing that uses the Theatre Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings.. We are also expecting in March of the New Year, a weeks production by a professional Company who will be performing Henrik Ibsen's Wild Ducks.

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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - ***PRESCRIPTION FOR MURDER*** by Norman Robbins



THE OPENING PRODUCTION FOR 2010 is a tense and gripping thriller directed by Margaret Kennedy that will not only put you on the edge of your seat, but leave you dangling there!

The play revolves around the hectic work and home life of Doctor Richard Forth, a man who seems to have a charming but deadly way with many of the women he comes into contact with, including his pretty new wife, Barbara. As the plot unfolds, and Barbara's health worsens, it seems the outcome is cruelly inevitable. . .

Despite some initial casting difficulties, Margaret has pulled together a team that includes Lindsey Holledge, Marilynne Sharpin, Trish Drown, John Hamilton, Susan Everest, newcomer Andrew Harvey and the welcome return of Eric Reynolds, which will provide just the sort of entertainment to banish those winter blues.

The show opens on Friday 12 February and runs through to the following Saturday 20 February, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 13 February at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and patrons, as usual, are available from 16 January at **Living Words Bookshop, Place Lane, Seaford**. Please note this is open all day on Saturday.

Postal applications are also available and should be sent to:

David Backhouse, 62 Stafford Road, Seaford, BN25 1UA

They must be accompanied by a cheque made out to '**Seaford Dramatic Society**' and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If the position you request is not possible the nearest available seats will be sent.

The ticket prices are £7 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £6 each for the Saturday matinee.

For general enquiries regarding this production ring Ted Kennedy (01323) 894938

A Murder Mystery Evening will precede this, so you can see that we are all going to be busy in the New Year..

Nobody appreciates more that I do the extra strain that all these activities puts on our hard working band of volunteers so, ONCE AGAIN, I am asking for people to increase the numbers of our hard pressed band. I am told that we are very short of able bodied men who are capable of climbing ladders, lifting fairly heavy pieces of scenery, furniture etc.. Come and join in every Wednesday evening at the Theatre, a little time spent painting and doing all the other myriad jobs that have to be done, and then enjoy a well earned drink and gossip at the pub afterwards. As well as the above we still need people for Front of House duties. A chance to put on your best bib and tucker and take charge of our Theatre while the show is in progress, (you will meet some very interesting people!)

Looking back at this it is beginning to look like the classified ads. Sorry. But, we do need more people in these positions so your help would be very much appreciated. However, if you are that rare animal an actor,(either sex), you are wanted too. Same thing applies, just turn up Wednesday or Monday and Thursday evenings.

Thank you, all of you, for all the things that you have done for the Theatre in 2009. Half of them I probably will never know about, because that's the sort of people you are.

A rather large blonde male is nuzzling my neck and putting his warm tongue in my ear, which means that it is time for my Golden Retrievers' walk. Once again a very Happy, prosperous New Year to each and every one of you. May Good Fortune be yours in 2010.

Alan G. Bavel

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

I would like to wish all members a very Happy New Year.



SATURDAY 20 FEBRUARY

Prescription For Murder Wrap Party

There will be the usual 'Wrap' Party on the last night of our latest play. Please, as usual, bring some food and whatever you want to drink to celebrate the success of yet another production.

SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY

Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm

All cast and crew members of **Prescription For Murder** to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props etc., will need to be returned and need to be sorted beforehand and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal at a local hostelry.

ADVANCE NOTICE – PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY – NOT TO BE MISSED

SATURDAY 22 MAY

Murder Mystery Supper Evening Seaford Little Theatre from 7.00pm

As part of our 65th Anniversary celebrations we are presenting a **Murder Mystery Supper Evening**. This is an invitation to dine with the Captain in the Dining Salon of the SS Titania. The SS Titania is setting out on her maiden voyage in 1928 across the Atlantic to America and in honour of this momentous occasion the Captain has arranged a Cocktail Party and 3 Course Dinner on board ship and has invited many of the rich and famous to join him at his table. But amongst those rich and famous a murderer has also come aboard and it is up to you to listen to the facts and sort out the clues to help solve this heinous crime.

This is Dinner Theatre at its most fun and with each course the clues are played out by the characters on stage.

Further details of this event will be published in our next Newsletter together with the price for what I am sure will be a most enjoyable evening (probably £15 per ticket). I ask you to book early as seating will be limited. Payment will be requested at the time of booking and a numbered Dinner Ticket will be issued. We would also ask you to please dress in your best 1920's attire, your most stunning frock or your best suit.



**For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information
Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk**

SOCIAL COMMITTEE continued . . .

FURTHER ADVANCE NOTICE

GALA PERFORMANCE FOR 65TH ANNIVERSARY PRODUCTION AND SUPPER

This event will take place on Saturday 20th November after **Move Over Mrs Markham**. Again a best bib and tucker evening. Ticket price, to include Supper, has yet to be decided.

LITTLE THEATRE WEBSITE



As I hope many of you will already have noticed, following on from the AGM agreement to purchase more webspace, I have completely redesigned the Theatre website, addressing many of the aesthetic aspects I was unhappy with, whilst at the same time adding and enhancing some of the features.

Amongst these is an expansion of the theatre archives page, and here is where I need some help. For each of our past productions I would like to include details such as a cast and crew list, a poster or programme cover, a set photo and any press reviews. Some of these items are already available, but many are not, so I am making a plea to anyone who might have kept their own archives or scrap books to please get in touch using the details at the bottom of this page.

Any material you have would be very welcome. All items used would only need to be borrowed long enough to be scanned into my computer and then safely returned, and you could then sit back and bask in the warm glow of knowing you had made a contribution to the historical content of your favourite theatre website. Thanks.

Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians

I am not young enough to know everything.

Oscar Wilde

DRAMA WORKSHOP - 31 OCTOBER



The second of Ann Payne's drama workshops - **Facing The Audience** - saw an enthusiastic group take part in a series of exercises dealing with *Voice, Relaxation* and *Characterisation*. The two and half hours flew by as we tried a variety of breathing techniques, vocal calisthenics and the theory and mechanics of building a character.

Ann is an experienced teacher and everyone who turned up agreed it was a lot of fun and very worthwhile and something that all of us, whatever our acting ability, could benefit from. I am sure that Ann will return with some more for us in 2010, so why not add an extra item to your resolution list now and make a point of attending next time. There are tea and biscuits too. I managed to get a jammie dodger AND a hobnob, and I didn't have to fight anyone for them either (well, only John Hamilton and, to be honest, he was a bit too easy).

BEST WISHES FROM ALL AT SLT

For those of you who haven't heard, Gill Watson's mum, Kathleen Kennard, had the misfortune to suffer a stroke just before Christmas, but thanks to the TV campaign FAST, Gill was able to recognise the symptoms and take quick action to get her to hospital.

Kathleen, who has been a very active supporter of the Little Theatre for many, many years, both on stage and behind the scenes, is now back home and recovering under Gill's tender care. I am sure we would all like to give Kathleen and Gill our love and best wishes and hope for a speedy recovery in the New Year

Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians

Reality is something you rise above.

Liza Minnelli



For those of you who know how to write, contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Send your pieces to:

Email: mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Snail Mail: 25 Sherwood Road,

Seaford

BN25 3EH

Deadline for next edition: **13 MARCH**



APPEARING ON THE MAPP



When she blows in my ear I just want to follow her anywhere

Tricia Tries Out Some Of Her Behavioural Training Techniques On Margaret



She's a great wee woman - and getting smaller all the time!

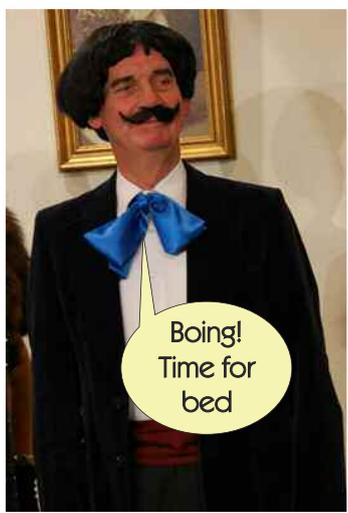
It Was Only When They Stood Up That Alan Realised Quite How Short Kay Was

Photos From The Set Of *Make Way for Lucia*
Taken By Andrew Parkinson

Alan G Was Quite Pleased With His Marilyn Monroe Impression Until Tricia Offered A Small Criticism

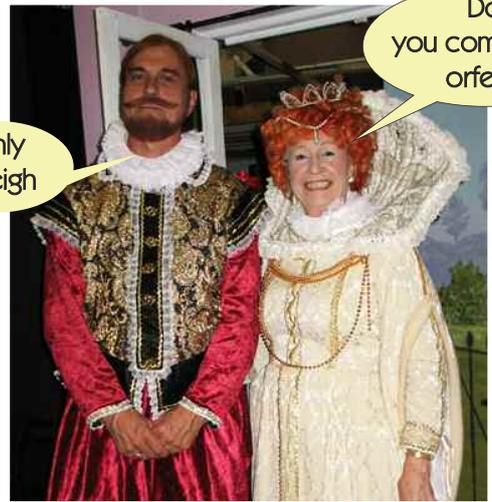


I'm afraid she didn't usually keep the moustache, Mr B



Boing! Time for bed

For Some Reason Every Time John Appeared Everyone Thought Of The Magic Roundabout



Only Raleigh

Do you come here often?

Alan Tries To Hide His Disappointment At Sylvia's Chat Up Line



Me? 'Ow?

Jack Ponders How Best To Break It To Stella That She Has Come Out With A Cat Draped Over Her Head

Ayup, like as not as maybe, did he eckerslike?



Not Many Of The Cast Realised That Hazel Had Previously Starred As Martha Longhurst In Coronation Street

AUDITION NOTICE - *FISH OUT OF WATER* by Derek Benfield

Audition: Monday 22 February - 7.30pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 30 April - 8 May 2010

Director: Alan G Baker

The peaceful, romantic atmosphere of a sun—drenched hotel on the Italian Riviera is shattered by the arrival of Agatha Hepworth, a determinedly outspoken widow, and her timid spinster sister, Fiona Francis. Agatha crushes all protests as she rounds up the hotel guests into communal games and other healthy pursuits, her unflagging spirit of togetherness invading the private lives of the other characters with riotous results. All the ingredients of package holidays - late flights, double bookings, foreign food, wine tasting and love affairs - provide an evening of uproarious and innocent fun.

I look forward to directing this comedy by an acclaimed writer. It should be a lot of fun.

CAST

Audrey Hubback	Playing age 35/50 - severe, upper class
Marisa	Playing age 20/30 - pert,flirty and forward.
Brigadier Hubback	Playing age 50/60s - jovial, ex—Army officer
Agatha Hepworth	Playing age 50/60s - loud, cheerful self confident
Fiona Francis	Playing age 45/50s - apprehensive, nervy.
Julian Whittle	Playing age 20s - bright young man.
Mario Marcello	Playing age immaterial - Italian - falls in love with Agatha.

Scripts are available at the Theatre. The audition is on 22nd February at 7.30pm. Anyone not able to make this date please let me know and I will audition you separately if you wish.

ALAN G. BAKER 01273 58687

SUE'S SUBS REMINDER - MEMBERS ONLY

At the very well attended AGM (you were right. Gill, cheese and wine **ARE** a good incentive) Sue Shephard was elected to the role of Membership Secretary to relieve some of the burden on Mary Young. Being a nice considerate group of people, I am sure that you all want to ensure that Sue's transition into this new role is made as easy as possible. So, bearing this in mind, why not add to your vast catalogue of resolutions for the New Year and get your subs paid up straight away. Just make out a cheque for £10 (payable to *Seaford Dramatic Society*) and pop it in the post today. This is clearly good value for money (compare the cost with other local groups) and will leave you with a warm glow of satisfaction. Sue's address is:



Sue Shephard
14 Cornfield Road
Seaford
BN25 1SP

Tel: 01323 892209
Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

In this way you can not only continue to be a member of one of the best local theatre groups around and keep on receiving this magnificent newsletter, but you will also make Sue's day. (She doesn't get a lot of post and can often be seen staring forlornly out of the window at the postman as he fails to come up the garden path.)