



## THE VIEW FROM THE NEW CHAIR



Hello everyone. By the time the SLT newsletter is delivered in January, Christmas will be a distant memory, but as I write this on 23 December it is looming horribly close! I hope that as you read this you can look back on a happy time.

As at today's date, however, I must first of all "sign in" as your new Chairman. I shall make a few mistakes no doubt, but I've got some wonderful stalwarts round me to help ease my way into the job. Only today I received an important reminder from Alan Baker about the charity commission annual return and I've already

benefited from help offered by Mary (Secretary) and Margaret (Treasurer). I shall do my best. We all can be very proud of our little theatre which is looking beautiful – a great place to put on our productions, and what a success we had with the last one! Well done to Samuel and the cast for *Key For Two*. It brightened up several gloomy November evenings.

Now we can look forward to what I am sure will be a hilarious and professional rendition of *Habeas Corpus*, one of Alan Bennett's finest, to be directed by Gini Comyns. Seaford is in for a treat.

A final note: Those of you who haven't yet renewed your membership please do so immediately. Some readers of this letter will not receive another one - unless they renew by the end of February. And if anyone sees a cast member lurking in the green room without having joined, please give them the friendliest dig in the ribs. For the time being I remain the membership secretary, so

continued on page 2 . . .

## OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *HABEAS CORPUS* by Alan Bennett

seaford little theatre presents



BANISH THE WINTER BLUES with this celebrated and riotous comedy from the prolific pen of Alan Bennett, in which the sexual frustrations and mores of middle England, in the guise of the lascivious Dr Wicksteed and his dysfunctional family from Hove actually (and their assorted friends and acquaintances), are laid bare.

Directed by Gini Comyns and featuring new faces to Seaford, Cathryn Parker, Ann Mabey, Lauren-Nicole Little and Chris Wears, alongside the slightly more familiar and lined old faces of Tony Bannister, Margaret Kennedy, Adrian Bowd, Lindsey Holledge, Damian Sutton, Chris Church and Alan Lade, this fast paced deconstruction of the classic farce sparkles with witty prose and verse, as the permissive society is taken to task on a spare set that allows the audience's imagination to roam free.

The show opens on Friday 10 February 2012 and runs through to the following Saturday 18 February, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 11 February at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and patrons, as usual, are available in advance from 13 January 2012 at our box office:

**Sussex Eyecare Ltd, 9 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1LS.** Please note this is open until 2pm 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 £8 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £7 each for the Saturday matinee.

For general enquiries regarding this production ring Stuart Ridley (01323) 899344

contact me at [memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk) or give your sub. directly to Margaret Kennedy who will let me know so that I can rush a membership card to you.

With my very best wishes, *Sue Shephard*,  
your Rookie Chairman

## NEW SIGNS OF THE TIMES



AS MANY OF YOU MAY already have noticed in your travels around Seaford, the Little Theatre is now officially on the map.

Following considerable negotiations over many months, Lewes District Council have finally consented to brown direction signs being put up in three different locations, to assist anyone new to the town in finding us.

Congratulations are due to Sue Shephard, who has persevered with this application despite some setbacks, and has finally been rewarded.

So next time you are out doing some shopping, while away some of the drudgery and tedium by keeping your eyes peeled for our brand new signs!

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### PLAY READINGS - FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH (unless stated otherwise)

*Coffee Lounge Seaford Little Theatre from 7.30pm*

Further Play Readings have been organised and they will take place in the Coffee Lounge at the Theatre at 7.30 on Tuesday 6 March 2012 to read ***Witness For The Prosecution*** by Agatha Christie, Tuesday 3 April 2012 to read ***Time And Time Again*** by Alan Ayckbourn and Tuesday 1 May 2012 to read ***Wild Goose Chase*** by Derek Benfield. There will **NOT** be a Play Reading in February as final rehearsals for ***Habeas Corpus*** will be taking place. Attendance fee, to include Coffee/Tea and biscuits, will be £1 per head.

### SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY

***Habeas Corpus*** Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, of our latest play ***Habeas Corpus***. Please, as usual, bring some food and whatever you want to drink to help celebrate, with the cast and crew of the production, after what I am sure will be another success.



### SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY

***Theatre Clean Up*** Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm

All cast and crew members of ***Habeas Corpus*** to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props, furniture etc. will need to be sorted, put away and returned as necessary and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal at a local hostelry.

Your continued support is needed at all our Social events and productions in order to keep the Theatre running, so please make a note in your diaries now of the dates of forthcoming Productions and Social Events.

***Wishing all our members and patrons a very happy new year.***

*Gill Watson*



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](mailto:mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)

Snail Mail: 25 Sherwood Road,

Seaford

BN25 3EH



Deadline for next edition: 24 MARCH

**For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information  
Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on [www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)**

## YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

FOLLOWING THE AGM IN OCTOBER, the Seaford Little Theatre Committee is as listed below:

President (Life)	Val Shepherd
Chairman	Sue Shephard
Vice-Chairman	Mary Young
Treasurer	Margaret Kennedy
Secretary	Mary Young
Membership Secretary	Sue Shephard
Premises Manager	Gill Watson
Front Of House Manager	Vacant
Social Secretary	Vacant
Patron's Secretary	Cicely Ridley
Additional Members	John Hamilton
	Penny Cockell
	Brenda Clifford
	Tricia Pape
	Sandra Haynes

If there is anyone who would like to volunteer for either of the vacant posts, the Committee would be pleased to hear from you.

*Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians*

**You're never too old to become younger.**

*Mae West*

## GOING ELECTRONIC



IN AN EFFORT TO DO OUR bit for the planet, future newsletters, where possible, will be sent out via email. Many of you will have already received this edition in that fashion, but if you didn't and have an email address that it can be sent to, then please pass it on to the editor for next time. You can reach me at:

mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Aside from the obvious, the other advantage of an electronic newsletter is that you can have it in full colour and a better resolution.

*Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians*

**What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.**

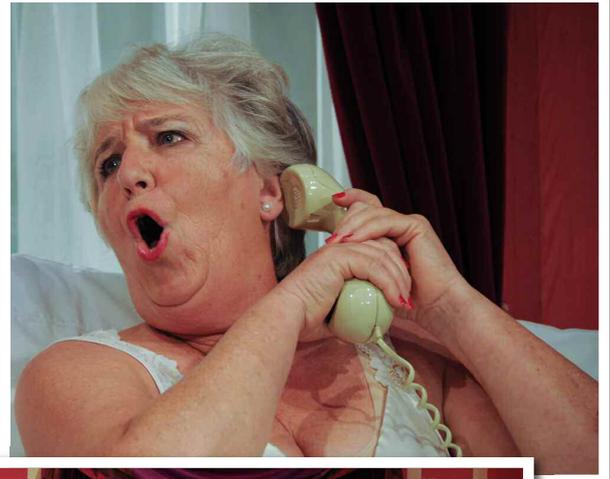
*Oscar Wilde*

## MEMBERS ONLY BIT - (NB. NOT PATRONS)

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR Seaford Little Theatre, which was due in November, is a paltry £10 (£5 for students). It is easy, at a time when lots of other things are going on, to have your renewal slip your mind, so here is a gentle reminder that those subs are now due. Your membership secretary, Sue Shephard, will be pleased to hear from those of you who have fallen into this category, obviously enclosing the appropriate amount. If not, then as from February, your membership will be considered lapsed and you will no longer receive this newsletter or be entitled to early booking on tickets.

You can reach Sue here: Membership Secretary  
14 Cornfield Road  
Seaford  
BN25 1SP  
Telephone: 01323 892209 Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

# THE KEY TO SUCCESS



Photos From The Set  
Of  
*Key For Two*  
Taken By Andrew  
Parkinson



## AUDITION NOTICE - **HOBSON'S CHOICE** by Alan Bennett

Audition: Friday 20 January 2012 - 7.40pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 11 - 19 May 2012

Director: Stella Dench

Henry Hobson, widower and boot shop proprietor, dominates his employee, Willie Mossop, and teases his daughter Maggie on her being past the marrying age. Maggie retaliates by marrying Willie, a master boot maker and turns the meek and mild Mossop into a force for Hobson to reckon with.

An ageless and classic comedy, set in Salford, Lancashire in the 1880's.

### CAST

Alice Hobson	<i>Hobson's daughter</i>
Maggie Hobson	<i>Hobson's daughter, with a strong business acumen.</i>
Vicky Hobson	<i>Hobson's daughter</i>
Albert Prosser	<i>A lawyer. In love with Alice</i>
Henry Horatio Hobson	<i>Curmudgeonly, prosperous self-made owner of a boot and shoe store. 50+</i>
Mrs Hepworth	<i>Well-to-do upper class older lady and customer of Hobson</i>
Timothy Wadlow	<i>Tubby</i>
William Mossop	<i>Timid, and unassuming, doesn't appear too bright, but a Master boot maker. In love with Maggie</i>
Jim Heeler	<i>Hobson's friend. Local grocer. In love with Vicky</i>
Ada Figgins	<i>Weak, poor spirited girl. Maggie's rival for Willie.</i>
Fred Beanstock	<i>Respectable son of a respectable tradesman.</i>
Dr MacFarlane	<i>A domineering Scotsman 50+</i>

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Scripts are available from me.

Anyone who cannot make the audition date and is interested in a part then please contact me and I will arrange an alternative date for you.

### Stella Dench

TELEPHONE: 01323 891994

EMAIL: millie1925@btinternet.com

### READINGS

Opening Act 1 to bottom page 5 ( Hobson's entrance) Alice, Maggie, Vicky and Albert Prosser

Bottom page 6 to bottom page 8 ( Mrs Hepworth's entrance ) Mrs Hepworth, Hobson, Maggie and Will

Page 12 to 14 Maggie and Will

Page 14 to top page 16 Ada Figgins entrance to Ada's exit

Page 17 from Hobson's entrance to end of Act 1 Maggie, Vicky, Will and Hobson

Opening Act 4 Wadlow, Jim Heeler to Hobson's entrance

Page 54 Dr MacFarlane, Jim and Hobson to Maggie's entrance