

STAGEW



SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER

Issue 22 - April 2025

our next production : **BOSTON MARRIAGE** by *David Mamet*

The next play at Seaford is ***Boston Marriage***, a comedy of manners by that master of sparkling dialogue David Mamet, directed by David Parton.

This scintillating comedy takes its name from a 19th century American euphemism that brushed the idea of lesbian relationships – especially ones in the upper echelons of Boston society – under the social carpet.

The two main protagonists - Anna, who is kept by a married man, and Claire - have been an item for many years, but the ménage à deux has recently undergone an interruption. The play opens with the unrepentant return of Claire, who is not seeking a return to the status quo, but instead wants her former companion's help in gaining the affection of an innocent lady of tender years – much younger than either of these two mature 'women of fashion'.

Their brilliant badinage is thrown into



sharp contrast by the shrewd and direct language of Catherine, the young parlour maid, who makes up with native sharpness of mind and tongue, what she lacks in sophistication.

The verbal sparring of each of these three characters keeps this play zipping along with pace and humour. Add in an emerald necklace, the ownership of which is under contention and an unfaithful husband/father, and this delightful comedy is brought to a chastened but satisfying conclusion.

It features the talents of Sue Williams as Anna, Emily Feist as Catherine and the debut at Seaford of Denise Evans as Claire.

The show opens on Friday 6 June 2025 and runs through to the following Saturday 14 June with matinées only on both Saturday 7 and Saturday 14 June. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm.

Tickets are on sale now at all our usual venues.

*** CONTAINS SOME STRONG LANGUAGE ***

Don't forget there is a special offer of two tickets for the price of one on the first night - 6 June

(subject to availability)

FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION SEE PAGE 8



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Sue Williams

HELLO EVERYONE. My thanks to all who came to the AGM in March. It was lovely to see such a great level of interest in how the theatre is running along. All members are part of this team and so many of you do so much to ensure that we continue to be an important part of Seaford life.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that after what seems like a very long time our application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation is on the point of being submitted to the charities' commission. I had an email this morning (April 10) to say that the solicitors have "diarised" this to be done as soon as possible. So our hard work is at an end and now all we have to do is pay the solicitors' fees! Unfortunately, like everything else in the world, nothing is for nothing. So we must continue to produce plays that are not only valuable in themselves but also bring good ticket sales.

Our fundraising for essential theatre repairs has been very successful, with various grants and fundraising initiatives contributing to our being able, we hope, to have the work completed this year. For details of fundraising please see the website, the latest event being Mandy Crnkovik's "Dec-cluttering" sale which has attracted record donations and promises to be a great success on Saturday.

Three new officers were voted in at the AGM: Ray Cox and Phil Armstrong have now replaced Jon Terry who has stepped down as Lettings Officer after working for us over several years. This job is not an easy one, and involves not only liaising with hirers but

ensuring that the theatre is ready for them and then returned to us so that we can carry on with our own activities. It is good to have two people undertaking this work. Thank you, Ray and Phil.

The other new officer is Tanya Baxter who has taken over the vital role of Treasurer. Tanya has a financial background and has been able introduced to her new job by our outgoing Treasurer, David Hallett. Our thanks to him, and we wish Tanya well (and lots of luck) with this demanding task.

Mention must again be made of our wonderful, colourful garden. We are grateful to Simon Fox and his wife for their continuing work. You will have noticed several new rose bushes and we are asking any of you who would like to dedicate one in memory of somebody to identify the bush, provide a small plaque and put £50 into our fundraising pot. Please inform either myself or our Social Secretary Debbie Cox if you wish to do this. BACS payment to be made to:

Seaford Little Theatre

AC No: 42227878 Sort Code: 40 20 06 with your name and "dedication" as a reference.

And finally...we are celebrating our 80th birthday this year. What a milestone! We are having an informal get-together for members on Saturday 2 August to mark this anniversary. Debbie Cox is giving further details elsewhere in the newsletter.

Enjoy the summer.

Sue





Debbie Cox
 Tel: 07596709044
 Email: coxdeb8@gmail.com.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



Firstly a huge thank you to Tanya and Mandy who have both organised and run two of our social events.

Thank you too for those of you who help and contribute to our raffles. We are truly grateful. Teamwork works.

The weekend featuring the Diablos was really popular and Chris Nieto wants to return on his own to do a Neil Diamond tribute sometime later this year. Tickets sell out super fast, so let me know if you are keen and I can keep a note to avoid disappointment.

This year we are celebrating our 80th Anniversary. Sue and I are thinking along the lines of a nice relaxed celebration - a glass of bubbly and slice of celebration cake made by Tanya.



Perhaps we could all bring along some food to share. We can reminisce over the archives and enjoy memories of those dear to us. In Sue's words we can tell ourselves 'Well done for 80 years!'

Hopefully the weather will be fair and we can also enjoy our beautiful garden. Date 2 August.



A relaxed picnic is another super idea that has been suggested by Gail. We can incorporate our craft sale and a few other ideas into this event as well. Of course there will always be the option of eating at a table inside.

Roland has also suggested a few ideas which may involve smaller gatherings in the coffee lounge. Social events don't have to be large scale. I will do my best to help facilitate these events, so please have a go. We all have different tastes, hobbies and ideas. If something doesn't work, it really doesn't matter.

Social events don't even have to be based in the theatre, perhaps a nature or a history walk or a get together locally might be an option. I remember Gill telling me about a social picnic on the beach.

We really need more members to be proactive to flourish. So what are you waiting for... I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you for your continuing support, Debbie

SATURDAY 14 JUNE

Boston Marriage Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **Boston Marriage**. 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 15 JUNE

Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm

All cast and crew members of **Boston Marriage** to please attend and clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The set will need to be dismantled and costumes, props etc. sorted and returned and the Theatre cleaned through.

TEA & TOAST COFFEE MORNINGS



Tea and toast is still going tickety boo. A lively get together on the first Monday of the month .

Thanks to Gail and Phil who keep the toast from burning and the tea from getting cold. And thanks to all those of you who help tidy up.

Eat and drink all you like - just £2. Supporting the Raise the Roof fund.

CLARE'S QUIZTIME - 28 JUNE

Dust off your brainboxes for another jolly quiz evening this June. Clare Penfold, ably assisted by her glamorous assistant Sharon, wants to put your knowledge to the test and have a splendid time in the process:

PENFOLD'S PUZZLING, PROBING, QUIZ NIGHT



SATURDAY 28 JUNE 7.30PM

SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE

**ENTRY FEE £10 PER PERSON
(MAX TEAM SIZE: 6)**

**MAGNIFICENT RAFFLE WITH PRIZES DONATED BY SHARON
PLUS OTHER GAMES ON THE NIGHT
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN FOOD AND DRINK
ALL PROCEEDS TO THE ROOF FUND**



**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE OR FOR MORE DETAILS:
CONTACT CLARE ON: CLARE.PENFOLD@ICLOUD.COM**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2025



If you haven't paid your membership fees for the coming year yet, then please make use of the form below to get them renewed. Membership runs for a calendar year, alongside the season's productions, from January to December. Once completed either hand the form in at the theatre or send it direct to the address below.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Name(s)

--	--

Address

--

Phone No(s)

--	--

Email(s)

--	--

Membership Fee
(tick one)

Adult

Student

I/We wish to renew my/our membership of Seaford Little Theatre for 2025.

The membership fee for 2025 is £15 per person

Please return this form either having paid via the BACS system (see below) or with the appropriate amount attached (cheques payable to Seaford Dramatic Society) to:

Membership Secretary, 4 Steyne Road, Seaford, BN25 1HA

Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Tel: **07856 939436**

Our preferred method of payment is by BACS which is simple to set up via your bank. If you choose to pay in this way please use the following details:

Give your name as the payment reference

Make the payment to:

Account Name: The Seaford Dramatic Society

Account number: 42227878

Sort Code: 40 20 06





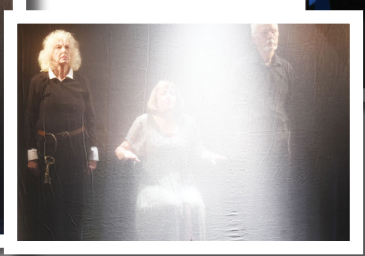
Photos from the set of
Machinal taken by Andrew
Parkinson

Like Clockwork

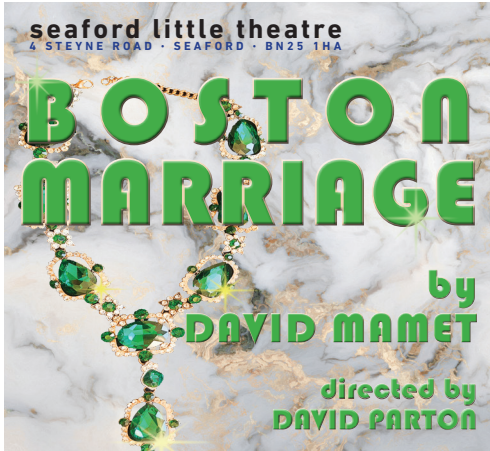


***Machinal with
Kirsty Turner,
Roland Boorman,
Simon Fox,
Marilynne
Sharpin, Katie
Clammer, Sandy
Truman, Raymond
Tongue, Josie
Hobbs, Trish
Richings, Ann
Allan, Debbie Cox
and Alan Lade.***





BOOKING INFORMATION



The ticket prices are £11.00 each for the tiered seats and £10.00 each for all other seats.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and Friends of the theatre are available at our box office:

SEAFORD TOURIST OFFICE,

37 Church Street, Seaford, BN25 1HG

Telephone Enquiries & Booking:
(01323) 897426

Email: seaford.tic@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

We also have an on-line booking system via TicketSource. This can be found at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/seaford-little-theatre or through our website, address below.

Please note a small booking fee applies to all on-line sales. Unfortunately, due to the way in which the system operates, this facility cannot be used when exchanging Friend's Vouchers. These must still be presented at the Box Office as usual.

Postal applications should be sent to:
Diane Guyatt, 31 Pondsye Court, Sutton Drove, Seaford, BN25 3ET

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

Could you also provide an alternative date in case the the one you request is sold out.

TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE ON THE OPENING NIGHT!
(subject to availability)

Tickets for this production on sale now



Contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Send your pieces to:
newsletter@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk



For an on-line version of this newsletter and lots of other information visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website:
www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Potential copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter:
18 JULY 2025