



# STAGEW



## SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER Issue 5 - December 2020



*Merry Xmas Everyone  
With love and best wishes for a very Happy  
Christmas and a healthy New Year from  
all our members to all their friends at  
Seaford Little Theatre*



### SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE SURVEY



Thank you to everyone who responded to the recent survey. The consensus of opinion, as you might hopefully expect, is that everyone has missed the plays at SLT and also the sense of occasion. As one person said *'every time I drive or walk past, I remember some great evenings and hate this gem being dark.'*

The majority of our members would be willing (although not happy) to observe all requirements in order to safely watch and hear people treading the boards again.

It was also interesting to read that although almost everyone enjoys the core fare of Comedy, Drama and Thrillers - not everyone is enamoured of Farces.

So thank you once again to those of you who took the time to reply and we will do our best to be back with you as soon as possible in 2021.





# THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

*Margaret Kennedy*

**H**ELLO EVERYONE. After watching all those disaster movies and thinking, gosh that must be awful, we have suddenly found ourselves slap bang in the middle of one ourselves, so now we know how truly awful it is.

They say you really don't appreciate something until it's not there, how very true. Not being able to meet up with you over a coffee and a chat, at rehearsals, or generally at Social Events, has left a big hole in my new life of solitary confinement.

We should have met up at the end of October for the AGM, but by a stroke of foresight (or serendipity), we had agreed to change our financial year to an annual one, so we get an extra few months on our subs, and the AGM will now be at the end of February on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Who knows we might be able to have it at the Theatre, socially distanced of course, otherwise it will be on Zoom. Speaking of which,

the Zoom quizzes are going well, but the playreading is off for the moment.

Good news about one of our newer members, Paula Woolven, who played the daughter Chelsea in *On Golden Pond* last November. She has won Fundraiser of the Year at the BBC Radio Sussex and Surrey's **Make A Difference Heroes Award**. Well done, Paula!

On a sadder note we were so very sorry to hear of the death of Trish Riching's husband, Dave. Our hearts go out to her at this sad time and we send her all our love and support.

As I do to all of you, have as happy a Christmas as you can manage and may we each have a healthy and less restricted New Year.

Love, Margaret



## Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

**The theatre is a place where one has time for the problems of people to whom one would show the door if they came to one's office for a job.**

*Tennessee Williams*

**My only regret in the theatre is that I could never sit out front and watch me.**

*John Barrymore*



**Debbie Cox**  
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# SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Roger Trace has continued to co-ordinate online quiz nights for all those interested and has provided a variety of entertaining evenings with the help of various enthusiastic members. He has drawn up a schedule for the coming weeks and the details can be found below.



The dates for the following quizzes via Zoom have been arranged:

**Monday 21st Dec - Christmas Quiz/Party with Karen & Roger**

**Thursday 14th Jan - General Knowledge Quiz with Cheryl & Julian**

**Thursday 28th Jan - General Knowledge Quiz with Tanya**

**Thursday 11th Feb - Film & TV Quiz with Julie**

Updates/reminders will be issued 1 week before each scheduled quiz via e-mail and Facebook. If you wish to attend, please contact Roger on [r.trace@sky.com](mailto:r.trace@sky.com)

If people still want the quizzes to run beyond the 11th Feb, we shall continue every fortnight thereafter. If you would like to run a quiz, please let Roger know. Thank you to all members who have been supporting these very enjoyable evenings and for the members running each quiz. Let's hope it's not too far in the future when we can go back to "live" social events in our lovely Little Theatre.

*best wishes, Debbie xx*

## ROGER AND KAREN'S MOUNTING MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE



Me and Karen have set ourselves a challenge to raise money for the *Rays of Sunshine*, a national charity that brightens the lives of seriously ill young people by granting wishes and providing ongoing support in hospital and within the community. This is the current year's chosen charity of the Foresters Friendly Society, to which we belong.

Because fundraising has obviously been limited due to Covid, we were trying to think of different ways of raising money and eventually we decided to climb to the top of Mount Everest! Well, not the actual mountain, but the 29,030 feet equivalent of climbing on walks over the Seven Sisters. My watch tells me how much we have climbed and at present we have reached 8,471 feet. The weather has been kind to us and we are aiming to finish by my big birthday at the end of February.

To date we have raised £618 and a huge thank you to all who have supported us so far. If anyone feels able to sponsor us, they can do so by a money transfer to the following account:

**Foresters Friendly Society 2559, Sort Code 20-12-75, Account 90113905**

Please put your surname/Everest as the reference and 100% of the money will go to the charity. We will update you on progress in the next newsletter. Thank you, Roger.

## THEATRE WORKS IN PROGRESS



The additional works have continued apace at the theatre. Following Frank's magnificent brickwork at the rear of the toilet block, the lean-to has been completed with flooring, roof and custom made doors, and the set doors have all been stored inside.

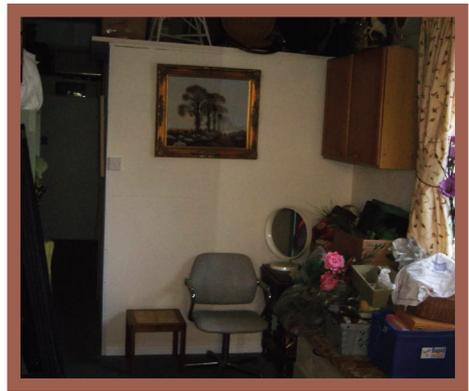
The extension has been completed on the men's dressing room and this has been decorated and fitted out including new laminate flooring which we acquired for nothing.

Two new, sturdier tormentors have been built and fitted either side of the stage, both stage right and stage left passages have been redecorated and the workshop sink has been given a facelift.

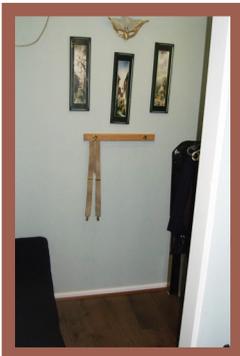
Finally the stage lights have been cleaned and Pat-tested, the props and set furniture have been re-organised and the green room toilets have undergone a bit of a make-over.



*The newly completed lean-to*



*The dressing room extension*



*Inside the extension*



*The sparkly workshop sink*



*One of the new tormentors*

In addition to all this, new material has been purchased (thanks to a generous bequest from Ray Boynton an avid supporter of SLT for many years) to replace the old black tabs which were in a bit of a sorry state, and this will be made up into new black curtains by Garry Fowler, who is a dab hand with a thimble, an overlocker and some crimping shears.

## A PAT ON THE BACK FOR PAULA

As mentioned by Margaret, a huge well done to Paula Woolven as the winner of the Fundraiser Award at the BBC Radio 2020 **Make a Difference Heroes Awards**.

Paula, who was in **On Golden Pond**, has been at the forefront of fundraising for many local charities in Sussex over the years as the founder of the Havens Community Hub, providing support, resources and partnership working opportunities to community organisations and residents of the 'Havens' and surrounding towns and villages in East Sussex.



You can find out more about the Havens Community Hub and all the excellent work they do on their website:

<https://www.havenscommunityhub.co.uk/>

There is a short clip about Paula and the award on the BBC Radio Facebook page which you can find here:

<https://fb.watch/2aaSe-BBPj/>

And, as her recent stage husband, I feel I am modestly qualified to also bask in some of the reflected glory of her award. That's how these things work, don't they?

## RAY'S A SMILE

The shy and retiring Ray Cox is now back home and, as you can probably imagine, quietly convalescing following the operation to replace his hip with a shiny, new and improved version.

Now if we can just do the same for the rest of him ...



## PENNY FOR THEM



As you may already know, Penny Cockell our Membership Secretary will be moving away in the New Year and will therefore be giving up her duties, so, during the transitional period and until a new person can be formally elected into post, David Williams has agreed to step into the breach and work alongside Penny to cover the role.

In the meantime a big thank you to Penny for all her work on the Committee and in the Society, and best wishes for her future plans.



# SLT ARTISTIC ACTIVITY AREA



Yes, it's time to fire up the little grey cells again with our popular puzzle page.

This month we are challenging you to **Spot the Difference**.

On the left are two famous paintings, *The Monarch of the Glen* by Landseer and Caravaggio's *Salome with the Head of John the Baptist*, alongside two identical copies which are the same in every respect apart from some slight differences.

See if you can spot what they are.

Allotted time: 3 years



And our thanks this time must go to the creative talents of Edward Patchouli-Oil from Chyngton who has sent in a photo of the cake he has baked that is the spitting image of his father, Colin. Well done, Ed.

All we can say is that if it really is the image of your father, then he must have an oil painting in his attic which is absolutely beautiful.



*Contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Send your pieces to:*  
**[newsletter@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)**

**Potential copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter:**  
**20 MARCH 2021**