

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



HELLO EVERYONE. This time I have two successful shows to report – or perhaps I should say three! *The Browning Version* and *Fumed Oak* stood out for the quality of the acting as well as the skilful direction of each piece. Together they made a popular and rewarding evening's entertainment. Thanks to Margaret Kennedy, Mary Young and both casts.

The "Little" Seaside Revue which came under the SeafordLive! banner in September was enormously enjoyable and we owe debts of gratitude to Graham Tubb (Director and master tap-dancer!), Rosemary Kemp (a most inspiring and encouraging piano accompanist), the visiting Wave Tap Ensemble (who lifted everyone's spirits), and all enthusiastic participants. Not forgetting the memorable backdrop of Seaford beach huts expertly painted by Alan Lade. Graham and Rosemary have agreed to do the honours again next year, so that's something to look forward to.

Any of you who have been inside the theatre recently will have seen its newly plastered walls. We have finally bitten the bullet and had major work done to damp-proof the building. Our new decorations were beginning to look sad far too soon after they had been done, and the paint in the auditorium was starting to bubble and flake away. A damp proof course has been injected into the walls and we have ensured that we have enough air bricks to keep up the necessary ventilation at ground level and below. The work comes with a 20 year guarantee so ... money well spent!

Now we look forward to Dennis Picott's production of *Straight And Narrow*, from 9-17 November, which promises to be a sharply-observed and very funny comedy. A good note on which to end the season.

Continued on page 2 ...

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - ***STRAIGHT AND NARROW*** by Jimmie Chinn

seaford little theatre presents



WE CLOSE THE SEASON with the West End hit comedy *Straight And Narrow* by Jimmie Chinn, directed by Dennis Picott, who is making his directorial debut at Seaford.

Bob and Jeff have been a very contented couple living happily together in their nice Brighton home. But now their cosy domesticity is threatened by a personal crisis in Jeff's life. If only they could be left alone to resolve things, everything might be OK, but, unfortunately, they also have to contend with Bob's family! This comes in the shape of his two somewhat dysfunctional sisters, Lois and Nona, and their husbands, and, worst of all, the domineering life force that is Bob's mother, Vera. As far as Vera is concerned, all Bob needs is the love of a good woman. She has no idea that the straight and narrow is not for her only son!

Featuring five talented new faces to Seaford, Trish Richings, Andrea Lowe, Becky Robinson, James Collins and Martin Adams, together with the equally accomplished but more familiar ones of Garry Fowler and Peter Barnes, this very funny comedy will help you to banish away those winter blues.

The show opens on Friday 9 November 2012 and runs through to the following Saturday 17 November, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 10 November at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and friends of the theatre, as usual, are available in advance from 12 October 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 Dianne Guyatt (01323) 490397

Before that, the AGM will take place at the theatre on Friday 26 October. You will have received the notice with your newsletter this time. Please remember that all nominations, together with seconders, should be received by Mary Young (Hon. Secretary) in writing before the meeting. Her email address is young-g4@sky.com. For those without a computer please send to the theatre: Seaford Little Theatre, 4 Steyne Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 1HA for Mary's attention.

Just a few things to add that might be described as "The Small Print":

Proxy voting can be made at the meeting by fully paid up members on behalf of fully paid-up members. Those unable to attend the meeting who would like to vote by post can obtain postal voting forms from Mary. Membership runs from 1 November each year and can be paid at any time after the AGM closes. All payments received before the AGM starts are for the current year only.

With my very best wishes, **Sue Shephard**

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 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 November, and Tuesday 4 December. The plays for these dates have yet to be decided but will probably be readings of plays which will be part of our season next year. When known, notices will be put up in the Coffee Lounge and Foyer and the next Newsletter. Attendance fee, to include Coffee/Tea and biscuits, will be £1 per head.

FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

Seaford Little Theatre AGM *Seaford Little Theatre*

The Annual General Meeting of Seaford Little Theatre will take place on Friday 26 October at 7.30pm at the Little Theatre. Cheese and Wine will be served at the end of the meeting. Please make the effort to attend and contribute to the running of your theatre.

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Straight And Narrow Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, of our latest production ***Straight And Narrow***. 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 18 NOVEMBER

Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm

All cast and crew members of ***Straight And Narrow*** 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.

PROGRAMME FOR THE 2013 SEASON

THE PROGRAMME FOR the new season is as follows:

15 - 23 February	THE TITFIELD THUNDERBOLT by Phillip Goulding, directed by Margaret Kennedy
10 - 18 May	THE CEMETARY CLUB by Ivan Menchell, directed by Cathryn Parker
26 July - 3 August	PACK OF LIES by Hugh Whitemore, directed by Ian Clegg
8 - 16 November	DEATH IN HIGH HEELS by Christianna Brand, directed by Angie James

We also hope to be staging another revue for SeafordLive! in September 2013. Theme **A 'Little' Trip ...**



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: 28 DECEMBER



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

SOMEBODY OUT THERE LIKES US

The following was received from one of our regular audience members, Wallace Street:

“Dear ‘Theatre Group’

I have been meaning to write to you for some time now to tell you how much my wife and I, in addition to our friends, enjoy your productions at the ‘Little Theatre’. We have attended many of your plays over the years and congratulate you for the excellence of your proceedings. The last performances of ‘The Browning Version’ and ‘Fumed Oak’ were simply wonderful.

Many Thanks,

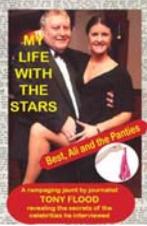
Yours Sincerely,

Wallace Street

”

Thank you to Wallace for his kind comments. Don't forget that you can also leave comments about any of our productions (or anything else) on our website guest book or our Facebook page.

TONY FLOOD - MY LIFE WITH THE STARS



BY PUBLIC DEMAND, My Voice Publishing have produced a new extended e-version of Seaford Little Theatre member and Evening Argus theatre critic and journalist Tony Flood's sizzling celebrity book 'My Life with the Stars - Best, Ali and the Panties', which is packed with revelations and anecdotes concerning a galaxy of show business and sports stars he has interviewed.

You can obtain the e-version for £5.03 or the paperback for £8.99 on Amazon. Or you can get signed copies at a special discount price of £6.49 POST FREE by going to www.celebritiesconfessions.com

THE STELLAR STELLA

AS MOST PEOPLE ARE NOW AWARE, Stella Dench took the sensible decision, a few weeks ago, to move closer to her son, Neil, in Cambridgeshire. Unfortunately it all happened at quite short notice, but we still endeavoured to give her a good send-off and say goodbye. Stella has sent the following note to say thank you to all her friends at SLT:



“My dear Friends,

It would take too long to answer all your lovely cards you have sent to me. I have had so many!! So please accept this general big ‘Thank You’ I shall keep and treasure them always. I have settled down in my new flatlet quite well and feel much happier now I am close to my family (only two miles down the road), but I miss Seaford, the Little Theatre and all my friends so much!! I don't know what to do with myself now I don't have workshop or rehearsals to go to. Fortunately I've had the Olympics to watch, which has filled me with pride. We are doing so well! Well my dears, my address is at the top of this card - please keep in touch and don't forget us old thespians.

Love to all, Stella X”

The card (which includes her new address and phone number) is on the noticeboard at the theatre.

A LOAD OF KNITS

A NEW KNITTING GROUP IS being set up in Seaford and will be meeting at the Little Theatre soon:



Join the Knit and Natter group this season to knit or crochet some winter warmers.

All levels welcomed, from total newbies to experienced knitters.

Starting the 1st Wednesday in December (05/12/12) @ 7.30pm (and held every 1st Wednesday in the month thereafter unless there is a play in production) at Seaford Little Theatre, Steyne Road, Seaford, BN25 1HA

Please contact Debi Lade on 01323 492177 or email: debilade@btinternet.com for further details.

ANOTHER SIGN OF THE TIMES

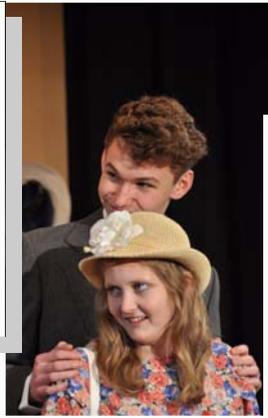
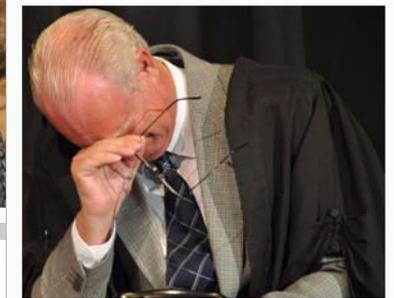


WE HOPE YOU HAVE ALL had the opportunity to stop and admire the magnificent new sign over the main entrance to the Theatre, especially when it is lit up at night.

This is all due to the great generosity of our President and founder member, Valerie Shepherd and her husband Ted. Many thanks from all of us for their kind gift.

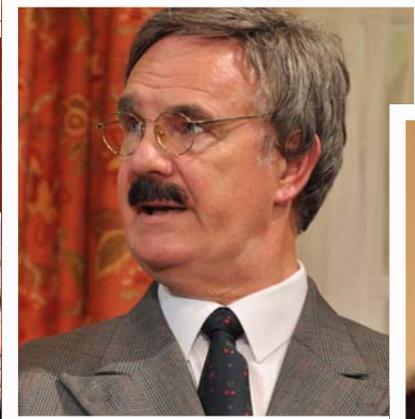
A Version Therapy

Photos From The Set Of
The Browning Version
taken by Andrew Parkinson



Oaky Doaky

Photos From The Set Of
Fumed Oak
taken by Andrew Parkinson



AUDITION NOTICE - ***THE TITFIELD THUNDERBOLT*** by Phillip Goulding

Audition: Tuesday 30 October - 7.30pm
Seaford Little Theatre
Production dates: 15 - 23 February 2013

Director: Margaret Kennedy

Adapted from the 1953 Ealing comedy film about a group of villagers who, finding that their branch railway line is about to be axed, decide to buy and run the railway themselves in spite of the proposed competitive bus service.

"I found its dottiness an almost constant pleasure. For collectors of cherishable English comedy, the enjoyable chaotic show is a real find. First Class." *Daily Telegraph*

The play has 14 characters, but has been written to be played by a cast of 5, 3 men and 2 women. It will also be a huge challenge, not only for myself, but for the behind the scenes people who will be more of an essential part of this play than they usually are.

CAST

Lady Edna	doyenne of the Village
Sam Weech	vicar
Joan Weech	his niece and barmaid at <i>The Pig and Whistle</i>
Vernon Crump	Bus competitor
Harry Crump	his son, in love with Joan
Clifton	Platform Manager
Miss Coggett	attractive actress with bad Welsh accent
Blakeworth	Town Clerk
Dan	a scruffy old fellow
Mr Valentine	wealthy
Mr Clegg	Railway Inspector
Mr Ruddock	Ministry of Transport
Mrs Bottomley	passenger
Sgt Wilson	policeman

The above are all the characters in the play. If performed by a cast of only five these would be divided as follows:

Lady Edna Chesterford

Joan Weech / Clifton / Miss Coggett

Sam Weech / Mr Blakeworth

Vernon Crump / Mr Valentine / Mr Clegg

Harry Crump / Dan / Mr Ruddock / Mrs Bottomley / Sgt Wilson

The first named are the main parts and the others fit in when they are not on!! Obviously the smaller parts are only cameos and could be played by others - except Harry and Sgt Wilson - but it would be funnier if they are the same actor! Oh yes, they also all have to sing the *Ferroequinologist's Lament* at the beginning and end of the play as well as involve the audience in the proceedings.

There are 9 scenes in the first Act and 7 in the second - the time is 1952

Because of the doubling I am not arranging formal audition pieces. Scripts will be with me. PLEASE read and return asap for the benefit of others and definitely return by the audition date - **Tuesday 30th October @ 7.30pm**. If you can't make that date an alternative can be arranged.

Margaret Kennedy

EMAIL: margaretkennedy@talktalk.net

TELEPHONE: 01323 894938

SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Seaford Little Theatre will be held at The Little Theatre, Steyne Road, Seaford, on Friday, 26th October 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 28th October 2011. (Copy available for inspection at The Little Theatre).
3. Chairman's Report
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report
5. To vote on:
Any other resolutions to be given to the Hon. Secretary 14 days prior to the meeting.
6. Election of Executive Officers of the Management Committee.

Chairman:
Vice-Chairman:
Hon. Treasurer:
Hon. Secretary:
Premises Manager:
Friends' Secretary:
Social Secretary:
Public Relations Secretary:

ALL NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY THE HON. SECRETARY **BEFORE** THE START OF THE MEETING.

7. Election of Management Committee Members (4): 2 Vacancies.
(Rule 8. Management. a. (ii) Four other members of the Society elected for 2 years, two of whom shall retire annually in rotation.), John Hamilton, Penny Cockell and Brenda Clifford have a further year to serve.
There are two vacancies.

ALL NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED **BEFORE** START OF THE MEETING.

8. To close the A. G. M.
9. Questions and discussion. (Notice to be given to the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer **Prior** to the commencement of the meeting.)

Mary Young (Hon. Secretary), (01323 894304 or young-g4@sky.com) or Margaret Kennedy (Hon. Treasurer) 01323 894938

Wine and Cheese will be provided for members at the close of the meeting.

OCTOBER 2012

MEMBERSHIP FEES



MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR are due, as always, on 1 November, so why not eradicate a couple of feathered, winged, bipedal, endothermic, egg-laying, vertebrate animals with a single, large boulder - attend the AGM and hand over your subs at the same time. Your Hon. Treasurer or Membership Secretary will be very pleased to receive your fees after the meeting and can issue you with a brand, spanking new membership card there and then. Job done!

Seaford Little Theatre
Nomination Form for the Election of Officers and Management Committee
at the AGM on 26th October 2012

✂

Nominee for the post of *	.....
Name	.....
Nominated by	.....
Seconded by	.....

✂

Nominee for the post of *	.....
Name	.....
Nominated by	.....
Seconded by	.....

✂

Nominee for the post of *	.....
Name	.....
Nominated by	.....
Seconded by	.....

✂

Nominee for the post of *	.....
Name	.....
Nominated by	.....
Seconded by	.....

Please make sure the Nominee is willing to stand before proposing them.

*Posts are: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Membership Secretary, Patrons' Secretary, Premises Manager, Social Secretary, Publicity Secretary and members can be nominated as Committee Members.

PLEASE RETURN TO THE HON. SECRETARY, MARY YOUNG AT THE THEATRE BEFORE THE AGM OPENS AT 7.30.PM. ON 26TH OCTOBER, 2012