

THE VIEW FROM THE NEW CHAIR



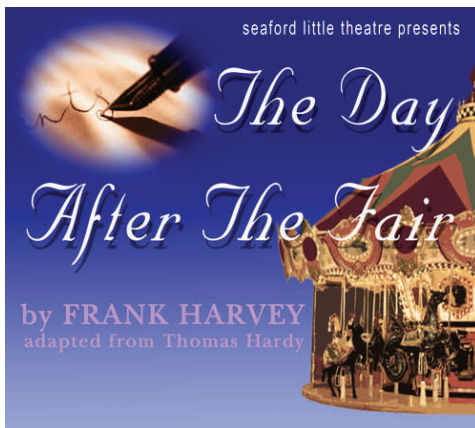
ANOTHER OPENING, ANOTHER SHOW. A resounding success with *The Odd Couple* for the Theatre with 97% seats sold. Congratulations to all the cast headed by Sue Shephard and Jenny Humphries, and to the backstage crew lead by Gill Watson as Stage Manager, who had to cope with an enormous amount of props, stage dressing and swift changes. Modesty forbids any comment on the Direction, except to say that I fully enjoyed the whole process and that the 'Oscar' occupies pride of place on my desk.

Which brings me on to the Theatres' desire to have Assistant Directors working on each production, in order to have fresh blood available to us as Directors in their own right. Directing a play is a deeply fulfilling and creative exercise. It is not just a matter of arranging players so that they can all be seen by the audience, but interacting with the cast to ensure that characterisation and interpretation of text is fully realised in each player. Imagination and innovation are constantly in use in adapting productions to our own stage. This can sometimes mean ignoring the script and inventing situations to suit our own demands. All in all a very rewarding job both mentally and creatively. So let's hear from anyone who thinks they can do this, (Yes - you can!).

Alternatively if anyone wishes to know more, please contact me or anyone on your Committee. If enough people are interested, perhaps a workshop on Directing would be an idea – I hope to hear from you.

Alan G. Baker

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *THE DAY AFTER THE FAIR* by Frank Harvey



BASED ON A SHORT STORY by Thomas Hardy and adapted for the stage by Frank Harvey, this play concerns Anna, a young servant girl, who meets an attractive stranger from London at the local fair. Their romantic encounter subsequently changes more than just their own lives in this compelling and bittersweet drama. Directed by Margaret Kennedy, the production features Lindsey Holledge as the servant girl and the return to Seaford of Stephen Cowles, as her romantic encounter! Aply supported by some of the Little Theatre's finest actors, this period piece is one that is definitely not to be missed.

The show opens on Friday 1 May and runs through to the following Saturday 9 May, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 2 May at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and patrons, as usual, are available from 4 April at **Living Words Bookshop, Place Lane, Seaford**. Please note this is open all day on Saturday. Tickets for the general public are available from 14 April. This is due to the bank holiday.

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

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

SATURDAY 24 APRIL

Sign of the Times Devonshire Park Theatre

I have 11 tickets for **Sign of the Times** at the Devonshire Park Theatre on Friday 24 April at 7.45pm. We will be sitting in row 'E' in the stalls. Cost £19.25. This play is written by Tim Firth, the writer of **Calendar Girls**, and stars Stephen Tompkinson of **Ballykissangel**, **Drop the Dead Donkey** and **Wild at Heart** fame. Please contact **Gill** as soon as possible if you wish to see this production. Payment when booking please.

SATURDAY 9 MAY

The Day After The Fair 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.



REMINDER - SATURDAY 6 JUNE

Progressive Dinner 6.30pm

We are hoping to stage a Progressive Dinner on Saturday 6 June. We need volunteers who are prepared to cater the different courses. If you are interested in coming to this event and/or catering please let me know by **1 May at the latest**. If I can get this event off the ground I will advise everyone as to where their starting point will be. I will need at least 3 hosts/hostesses for this. Cost will be approximately £10. Please contact **Gill** on 01323 895225.



SATURDAY 4 JULY

Fish & Chips & Bingo Nite Seaford Little Theatre 7.30pm

We are planning a Fish & Chip Supper and Bingo Nite with a few Quiz questions thrown in for good measure - something new on our agenda. This to be held on Saturday 4 July @ 7.30pm at the Little Theatre. The cost for this event will be £7 which will include a Fish & Chip Supper, cost of Bingo Cards and Raffle entry. Please bring your own drink.

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST

Theatre Clean Up Working Party Seaford Little Theatre from 10.30am

We plan to open up the Theatre from 10.30am on Sunday 2 August in order to give the Theatre a late spring clean. There is a lot of sorting out to do, the wood store being one such area. With the amount of plays we put on each year we do not seem to get the time to carry out these essential jobs. Refreshments will be provided for the volunteers so PLEASE come along and help. Tony Gibbs organised our last 'clear out' which was the Green Room area and it certainly looked a lot better after his, and his volunteers hard work. Please ring Gill if you are able to come along as it would be useful to know how many willing hands there are out there.

Social News continues overleaf...



GOT ANY items for the newsletter? News? Views? Articles? Litigious Gossip? Then don't be shy, send it to me. Your choices are:

- 1 You can e-mail me on seaford.littletheatre@virgin.net.
- 2 If you have a PC put it on disc (WORD format)
- 3 A typed or hand written piece

My address is 25 SHERWOOD RD SEAFORD BN25 3EH

- 4 If you are not allowed to use sharp instruments then you can ring me on (01323) 492177 and dictate it over the phone.

I can also make use of photos (good quality, various poses)

NB. Deadline for contributions to next edition is

JUNE 6

MORE SOCIAL NEWS



Lifeboat Trip

I have to apologise with regard to the proposed Lifeboat Trip. I have been advised by the Coxswain of the Lifeboat that it is not standard practice to take the general public out on the Lifeboat (health and safety issues) but they sometimes do this by way of a thank you to people in Fund Raising Organisations who have made donations to the RNLI. As compensation I can organise a group tour of the Lifeboat Station where they will also show a Video should anyone still be interested - any day but Sunday. There is of course a Shop where items can be purchased which all helps toward the upkeep of this very essential service.

REMINDER - Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings at the Theatre

MONDAY MORNINGS have picked up, I am pleased to say, and the Theatre will still remain open from 10 am to approximately 11.30 am for those who want to drop in for a cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and a chat. We would still like to see more members at our **WEDNESDAY WORKSHOP EVENINGS** from 7.45 pm till 10 pm. If you can handle a paintbrush we would love to see you and if you can do any carpentry you are worth your weight in gold.

REMINDER SEAFORD LIVE! '09 - SEPTEMBER 12 TO 20

I have had a very good response from members who wish to participate in this year's event. I shall call a meeting in early June so a programme can be discussed and decided upon. We are planning a WWII theme and we are getting involved in the action on Saturday 19 September.

"Your Theatre Needs You"

If you wish to participate in this 'one off' extravaganza, and join in the fun, please contact: **Sue Shephard** on 07788 461375, **Mary Young** on 01323 894304 or **Gill Watson** on 01323 895225. Ideas for the content of this 'one off' evening would be appreciated and your own talents welcomed. Let's be seen to be doing something different and for Charity.

URGENT - SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Social Committee needs new members. Gill and Stella are retiring at the end of the Theatre's financial year and replacements need to be found **urgently**. Ideally the Committee should consist of 6/7 members. Your current Committee are:

Gill Watson	01323 895225	Kathleen Kennard	01323 895225
Stella Dench	01323 891994	Vida Turner	01323 898876
Brenda Hanham	01323 492486	Alan Clifford	01323 492486

Many of us have been on this Committee since God was a boy and would now like a break.

Please let any of the above Committee know if you wish to become a Social Committee member. The Social activities are a very essential part of Seaford Little Theatre and some new blood with new ideas would be most welcome.

THEATRE ARCHIVES

One of the lesser known but important jobs at the Theatre is the maintenance of the societies Archives, containing the details, programmes, photos etc. of each of our productions. These have been undergoing an overhaul for many months now, but more work is necessary to get and keep them up to date, so Margaret Kennedy would like to hear from anyone who thinks they could help with this worthwhile job on a Wednesday evening. If you feel you could spare the time please ring Margaret on 01323 894938 for more details.

Odds & Sods



I CAN NEVER REMEMBER, DOES RED MEAN DEBIT OR CREDIT?

NO, THE NATIONAL LOTTERY IS NOT IN THE FTSE 100

BUT THE NICE MAN FROM NIGERIA SWORE TO ME THAT HIS DEAD UNCLE HAD £6,000,000 TO GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND ALL HE NEEDED WAS OUR BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER AND SORT CODE

A Leaked Photo Shot Of The Last Northern Rock Board Meeting Goes Some Way To Explain Where Things Might Have Started To Go Wrong

Photos From The Set Of *The Odd Couple* taken by Andrew Parkinson



HE GAVE ME A ONE-TWO IN THE OLD BREADBASKET, FOLLOWED BY A NICE ROMANTIC RIGHT HOOK

Trish Tells Susan About The Time She Went On A Date With Henry Cooper



TEE HEE, THEY'LL NEVER SPOT ME HERE

Tricia Demonstrates Why She Was Never Very Good At Hide And Seek



YOUR SKIN IS LIKE MILK

WHAT, WHITE AND CREAMY?

NO, FULL OF FATTY DEPOSITS

Stephen And Alan Share A Brief Tender Interlude



THIS CUSHION IS MAJESTIC AFTERGLOW OF SUB SAHARAN DROMEDARY BY AILING TWILIGHT. IT IS NOT BEIGE!

Jenny Gets A Bit Upset When Her Interior Design Skills Are Criticised

AUDITION NOTICE - *MEN OF THE WORLD* by John Godber

Auditions: Monday 11 May - 7.30pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 24 July - 1 August 2009

Director: Stella Dench

Preparing for a mystery trip to Scarborough, three coach drivers pass the time remembering other trips particularly the one up the Rhine to Heidleberg. These three actors take turns in re-enacting the assortment of passengers on the trip from the dotty complainers to the three retired miners looking for a bit of excitement in their old age! As Sissy says "It's better going somewhere at 79 than going nowhere!" A touching often hilarious play full of Godber's perceptive view of 'men of the world'

CHARACTERS

Larry	ageing male driver
Frank	middle-aged female driver
Stick	middle-aged male driver

These three also play:

Sissy old lady 79, Doris old lady 80, Jean ill lady 79, Wally retired miner 68, Len retired miner 70, Brian retired miner 67, Harry retired miner 72, Dot recovering from heart surgery, Martin middle aged man, May - Martin's Mum, Mollie posh ex shop owner, Connie posh ex shop owner, Raymond gay bell boy, Clive gay bell boy, Dolly club act

Stella Dench

01323 891994

Scripts are available from the Theatre when it is open. Should the audition date be inconvenient please contact me, so I can arrange an alternative.

DRAMA WORKSHOP - AN INVITATION

As requested at Seaford Little Theatre AGM.

We have the services of a Drama Lecturer and Youth Theatre Organiser, Anne Payne, to present us with a short course of acting activities.

"How to Survive on Stage"

Saturday, 16 May from 1.30 to 4.30pm.

Come and join the fun! Learn more about working with others on stage.

Cost: £2.50 for members (including tea & biscuits)

Details and booking from Mary Young - 01323 894304

JOB VACANCY - FRONT OF HOUSE

Unfortunately, Ann Harvey is no longer able to continue in her role as Box Office Manager for the Little Theatre and so we are looking for someone to step into her shoes. This is a vitally important post as Front Of House is where all our audience get their first impression of the Theatre and can set the tone for their evening's enjoyment. If you feel you could fulfil this important role, or would like to know more about what is required, then call Mary Young on 01323 894304

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