

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Dennis Picott

DEAR FRIENDS, From my lofty perch I can look back with great satisfaction at a very successful November production. *Murder On The Nile*, was sold out before the first performance, something I can't personally remember happening before. Audiences certainly seemed to leave our theatre entertained and happy. I can speak personally for the cast and crew, we had great fun throughout rehearsals and performance. Thanks must go to Gary Fowler who directed with his usual mix of organisation and humour.



Thanks also to the team who worked so hard to transform our theatre into a very passable imitation of an Egyptian bazaar.

Looking forward to our February production, *Who's Who?* by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall, it is well into rehearsal and is directed by Margaret Kennedy. Something for us all to look forward to in the New Year.

It only remains for me to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and theatrical New Year.

Dennis.



OUR NEXT PRODUCTION – *WHO'S WHO?* by Keith Waterhouse & Willis Hall

Our opening play for 2019 is the Keith Waterhouse & Willis Hall comedy of errors *Who's Who?* This fast paced and frenetic production from the writers of *Billy Liar* is directed by Margaret Kennedy and provides the perfect antidote to any post Christmas blues.

Mr Black and Mr White are both staying at a faded, labyrinthine Brighton Hotel, where they are each planning to have an extra marital liaison. The two men have deeply opposing ideas about how best to maintain a happy home life while carrying on their clandestine affairs, and this is immediately put to the test when a wife and a girlfriend arrive. Chaos, confusion and imminent disaster follows as the pair dash about trying to cope with the situation, using their own particular philosophy to escape their inevitable fate.

And that's just the first Act! After the interval they are given the opportunity to try again, as time resets itself and roles are reversed, allowing for the alternative point of view to be tested. Which is best: always lying or always telling the truth? The only way to find out is to come along and see for yourselves.

The production features an all star cast with Jon Terry as Mr White, Steve Cowells as Mr Black, Andrea Lowe as Miss Brown and the return of Tanya Baxter as both Mrs White and Mrs Black.

The production opens on Friday 8 February 2019 and runs through to the following Saturday 16 February with a matinée only on Saturday 9 & Saturday 16 February. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm.

Please note that this season we are trialling having two matinées (on the first and last Saturdays), with no evening performance on that final Saturday.



Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and friends of the theatre are available in advance from Friday 11 January 2019 at our box office:

**REDGOLD OPTICIANS,
32 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1ND.**

Please note that Redgolds are not able to take any bookings over the telephone. They have very kindly given their services as a place where tickets can be purchased in person, but they are also a business and we would respectfully request that anyone wishing to make enquiries about tickets should only do so using the number below.

Postal applications should be sent to: Diane Guyatt, 31 Pondsdyde 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 request is not possible the nearest available seats will be sent.

It is also possible to reserve tickets by email for collection and payment on the door. Send your application to:

tickets@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Please provide your name, address and telephone number and state how many seats you require and for which performance. **Could you also provide an alternative date in case the position or date you would like is not available.**

Again if the position you request is not possible the nearest available seats will be reserved.

The ticket prices are £9.00 each for the tiered seats and £8.00 each for all other seats.

For general enquiries regarding the next production please ring Ray & Debbie Cox 07984280067

SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Firstly a very happy and healthy New Year to you all. We are ready and raring to go when it comes to social activities for 2019. SLT is the place to be, so take full advantage of your membership and join us in a range of exciting events this year to suit everyone's taste.

To start with a huge thank you to (in alphabetical order) Alan, Carol, Cicely, Debi, Diane, Gail, Keiran, Phil & Ray for their invaluable and tireless support. And, of course, a great big thank you to everyone who attended our social calendar in 2018. Without you it would have been like BBC1 at 5.15pm on a weekday afternoon. Pointless. Now on with dates for your crisp new diaries.

MONDAY 28 JANUARY

Tea & Toast Charity Coffee Morning Special

Seaford Little Theatre from 10.00am

Join us again for breakfast when we will be serving hot, buttered toast with a selection of spreads and fine tea and coffee, but with a Burn's Night twist. Haggis on deep fried bread anyone? Och, aye, just a wee joke ... There is a nominal fee of £1 and all contributions go to Macmillan Cancer Support



SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY

Who's Who? Wrap Party



There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **Who's Who?**. 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 17 FEBRUARY

Theatre Clean Up

Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm

All cast and crew members of **Who's Who?** to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props etc., will need to be returned and to be sorted beforehand and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal.

SATURDAY 2 MARCH

Another Little Theatre Kath Kennard Walk

Meet Itford Farm (along the A26) at 10.00am



Overdone it on the mince pies and turkey? Feeling flabby and unfit? Then set your fitbits, embrace your New Year's Resolution and meet us for another walk in the fine Sussex countryside. After the success of our last walk in November we will be exploring the trails around the River Ouse and Telscombe Village, finishing at The Courtyard Cafe by Itford Farm for refreshments. The walk will last approx 2½ hours, starting and finishing in the same place. Once we know numbers we will organise transport to make sure everyone can get there and back again. Alternatively there is a train station at Southease.

So why not join Alan Lade, Gail Armstrong, Ray and myself as we stroll away the pounds. Of course if the walking is not for you, you can always meet us there for the refreshments part. We expect to get back to the cafe for 12.30pm.

FRIDAY 8 MARCH

Home drive

Seaford Little Theatre 6.00pm

NEW EVENT Forget on-line and video games, you can't beat a proper board game for entertainment and a laugh with friends. Homedrive is similar to a beetle drive and is fun and simple to do. Bring along your own food and drink for this one. There is just a nominal entry fee of £1.



FUTURE DATES:

Seaford's Got Talent - Saturday 11 August, Playing with Fire Xmas Disco - Saturday 14 December. And if anyone is interested in bowling at Barcombe later in the year then please let me know asap so I can book up.

For all events please let me know ASAP if you will be attending. For further details about any of the Social activities, or if you have any comments/suggestions please contact me, Debbie Cox, on 07596709044 or email at coxdeb8@gmail.com. Thank you for your continuing support.



I look forward to hearing from you soon, Debbie

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

Old florists don't die, they just make other arrangements.

Nigel Rees



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*

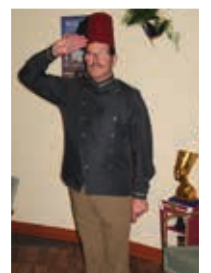
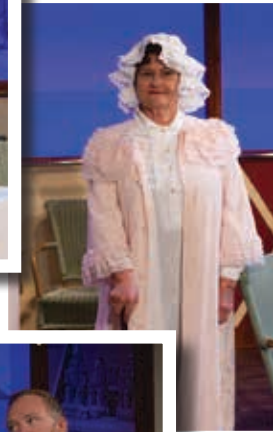
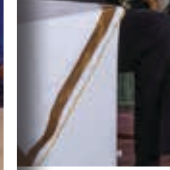


▶ **Copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter: 22 MARCH 2019** ◀



Photos from the set of
Murder on the Nile
taken by Andrew Parkinson
www.rememberingwhen.co.uk

Walk Like An Egyptian



PLAY READING GROUP

We always look forward to welcoming new members to our play reading sessions on the first Tuesday of the month at 19.30 in the Coffee Lounge. There is a nominal charge of £1 for refreshments.

In January we read the funny, poignant and moving **On Golden Pond**, our November production, and prior to that the play for May, **The Thrill of Love**, by Amanda Whittington, which dramatically portrays the real-life story of Ruth Ellis. There will be no reading in February due to dress rehearsals for **Who's Who?**, so the next play reading will be **Not Now Darling** which is our July production. That will be read on March 5.

Everyone is welcome to play readings and so are your suggestions for plays, which are subject to availability. For more details please contact Mary on 07891691341 or young-g4@sky.com



PROP & COSTUME SALE

SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE
CLEARANCE
SALE

On Saturday 20 April, Easter Saturday, Seaford Little Theatre will hold its first Prop and Costume Sale. We are in the process of refurbishing our Green Room and have years of excess stock, furniture and costumes that can no longer be held in our small theatre.

The average garage sale offers unique trinkets from the life of a neighbourhood family. Multiply that a few times, and it starts to come close to the accumulation of things by Seaford Little Theatre over the decades.

Apart from experimental theatre, rarely does an audience expect to see a totally empty stage with naked actors prancing about (not on a full stomach, please). Obviously the performers normally get most of the attention, but their craft and performance would be incomplete without suitable props. From simple

objects and costumes, to elaborate sets and equipment, props are a vital part of the live theatre experience. But there is only so much we can retain and keep in storage, so it is time for a Spring Clean.

Between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Easter Saturday our surplus costumes, shoes, jewellery and set decorations will be on clearance at affordable prices. Come along and have a rummage and see what you can find.

PROGRAMME FOR THE NEW SEASON

Following difficulties with some of the plays selected for the new season, the programme for 2019 has been amended as follows:

- ▶ 8 - 16 February **WHO'S WHO?** by Keith Waterhouse & Willis Hall, directed by Margaret Kennedy
- ▶ 10 - 18 May **THE THRILL OF LOVE** by Amanda Whittington, directed by Dennis Picott
- ▶ 26 July - 3 August **NOT NOW, DARLING** by Ray Cooney & John Chapman, directed by Garry Fowler
- ▶ 30 - 31 August **A LITTLE VAUDEVILLE SHOW** directed by Graham Tubb
- ▶ 08 - 16 November **ON GOLDEN POND** by Ernest Thompson, directed by Trish Richings

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

When people tell you how young you look, they are also telling you how old you are.

Cary Grant

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership fees for 2019 were due, as always, on 1 November so, if you haven't yet done yours, please make use of the form below to get them renewed, and send it direct to Membership secretary, Penny Cockell. Thanks.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____

I/We wish to renew my/our membership of Seaford Little Theatre for 2019. I/We enclose our subscription fee.

Membership fee for the coming year is £10.00 per person (students - £5.00 p.a.)

Please return this form with the appropriate amount (cheques payable to Seaford Dramatic Society) to:

Penny Cockell (Membership Secretary) 30 St Crispins, Seaford, BN25 2DY

Tel: 01323 897517

Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

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

Audition Date: Tuesday 22 January 2019 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre
Production dates: 10 - 18 May 2019

This gripping drama tells the story of Ruth Ellis, the nightclub manager who in 1955 shot and murdered her womanising lover. She became the last woman to be hanged in Britain. This play explores the truth behind the headlines, romance, obsession and frustration.

CHARACTERS	
RUTH ELLIS	A Nightclub Hostess age 20 to 30
JACK GALE	A Detective Inspector age flexible
SYLVIA SHAW	A Nightclub Manageress age 30 to 50ish
VICKIE MARTIN	Hostess/Model/Actress age 20 to 30
DORIS JUDD	A charwoman 20 to 30ish

Scripts are available from the Director, Dennis Picott (contact details below). Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script.

Rehearsals will start from Monday 18 February 2019 at 19.30pm and will normally be the usual two rehearsals per week on Mondays & Thursdays. A full rehearsal schedule will be available at audition.

If you are interested but unable to attend the audition date, please contact me so that I can arrange an alternative. If you are able to help behind the scenes, I would also be very pleased to hear from you.

Dennis Picott Tel: 01273 515647 or 07960 698140 Email: dennisandwendy@talktalk.net

AUDITION PIECES	
RUTH & JACK	Page 83 'we already have a conviction' to Page 85 'morbid things aren't they?'
JACK & SYLVIA	Page 8 start of Scene 3 to Page 11 'cut and dried case.'
VICKIE & SYLVIA	Page 13 'excuse me' to page 15 'leave a number dear I'll let you know.'
SYLVIA, DORIS & RUTH	Page 31 'you stay for the drayman' to page 33 'strong and sweet '
VICKIE & DORIS	Page 43 'You're a funny thing aren't you?' to Page 45 'so I've heard.'

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

I don't believe in the afterlife, although I am bringing a change of underwear.

Woody Allen

A LITTLE BIT OF VAUDEVILLE



At the end of August 2019 I am directing what I call my 'fly on the wall' entertainment again. We all had such fun last time! Rehearsals will start from about 6 August until the show opens on Friday 30 to Saturday 31 August. Rosemary Kemp will be our Musical Director as before and will help us all with our numbers.

I would very much like performers who have enjoyed being in my past shows to be a part of this, and would also welcome any others who would like to join the company and who enjoy singing, dancing and acting.

We only have a short rehearsal period, but as we say 'On with the Show!' Please let me know if you want to participate.

Graham Tubb