

# STAGE



## SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER

Issue 7 - July 2021

### our next production : **MIXED DOUBLES**

Well, it's only been eighteen months of life-altering events, but we are finally ready to put 50p in the meter and turn the lights up on a new production.

Our first show back on stage is **Mixed Doubles**, a series of duologues and monologues by some of the most well-respected playwrights in Britain, in what is described as '*an entertainment on marriage*'

Featuring pieces by John Bowen, David Campton, George Melly, Alan Owen, Harold Pinter, James Saunders and Fay Weldon, each piece is an independent play in its own right but the whole sequence, linked by a series of wickedly anti-authoritarian monologues written by George Melly, adds up to an amusing, if acid picture of the progress of married life from honeymoon to cemetery.

It was chosen as an ideal production to put a smile back on people's faces after the recent stresses and strains of the pandemic, as well as enabling rehearsals to take place comfortably throughout lockdown, and has been directed by Garry Fowler, and Sue & David Williams

The show opens on Friday 20 August 2021 and runs through to the following Saturday 28 August with a matinée only on Saturday



21 August. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinée will start at 2.30pm.

Audience members should be aware when booking tickets that, although restrictions have been lifted, in the interests of public health, we will still be operating some form of social distancing and putting other safety measures in place.

More specifically any seats booked whether singly, in pairs or in groups, will automatically have

any seat immediately next to their bubble made void to provide some separation. On entering the theatre we would request that all audience members follow the instructions of Front of House regarding passage to seats and that face masks be worn at all times (unless medically exempt). There **will** be an interval but this will be kept to a minimum as a comfort break, and there will be no refreshments provided apart from water.

The theatre itself has undergone a recent thorough deep clean, and we will continue the sanitisation process both before and after each performance. Hand gel dispensers will also be available at various points.

Although this makes for some minor inconvenience, the safety of our audience is paramount and we hope you will bear with us and come and enjoy this entertaining show.

**FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION SEE PAGE 4**



# THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

*Margaret Kennedy*

**H**ELLO EVERYONE. It is so good to be back at the Theatre rehearsing responsibly and preparing the building to welcome our audiences back safely.

When rehearsals started they could only happen in small bubbles, which is why *Mixed Doubles*, a series of monologues and duologues, was chosen. Unfortunately this meant there could be no interaction between cast members, and not the close teamwork we had been used to. However regulations have now been relaxed, but we are still taking care.

A big thank to all those who have contributed to our ventilation fundraising - £1000 to date. I will be making a donation myself in memory of my late husband, Ted, who was Front of House

Manager for all plays over 9 years. However much more will be needed as we have had no income since February 2020, apart from some members subscriptions and these generous contributions. And expenditure, of course, has continued. As well as the little jobs that needed doing we have completely updated our backstage facilities, and our boiler, fire extinguishers and smoke alarms all still need servicing, now for a second year. Meanwhile, outside, the grass has continued to grow! So if you wish, and are able to make a donation, however small, please contact Jon Terry at [treasurer@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)

Finally, I look forward to seeing you all from the stage again soon.

Love, Margaret



## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:



At last we are able to plan productions. Thanks to those who have already renewed their theatre membership but there are still a few outstanding, and if you haven't already renewed could I ask you to do so now?

The subscription is £10 per person and can be paid by cheque or by bank transfer. Please send your cheque to The Membership Secretary, Seaford

Little Theatre, 4 Steyne Road, Seaford, BN25 1HA.

For the BACS transfer, the bank details are:

Account name SEAFORD DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Account number 42227878; Sort Code: 40 – 20 – 06.

David Williams

Membership Secretary

Email: [memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)

## AUDITION NOTICE

# FARNDALE AVENUE'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL

David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin, Jr.  
Very loosely based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

**Audition Date: Tuesday 31 August 2021 - 7.30pm**

**Seaford Little Theatre**

**Production dates: 3 - 11 December 2021**

In a festive mood, the ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society mount another assault on the classics with their stage version of A Christmas Carol. They enthusiastically portray a dizzy array of characters from the Dickensian favourite (and a few which aren't), engineer some novel audience participation while bravely contending with an intrusive PA system and (a real Farndale first) rap their vocal cords and feet around two original, show-stopping songs.

Scripts will be available from Garry (07891 691341) or at the theatre. Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script.

Rehearsals will normally be Mondays & Thursdays (subject to discussion). A full rehearsal schedule will be available in due course.

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

**Garry Fowler**

Tel: 01323 658354 or 07803294626

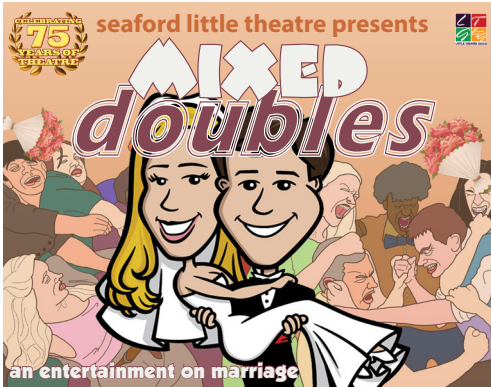
Email: [garryf1505@sky.com](mailto:garryf1505@sky.com)

### CHARACTERS

<b>THELMA</b> <i>Playing Ebenezer Scrooge</i>	She is a quick tempered Prima Donna in her late 40's
<b>MRS REECE</b> <i>Playing Tiny Tim, Fred's wife, A Gentleman, Mrs Dilber, The Ghost of Yet to Come</i>	She is elegant and bossy in her 50's
<b>MERCEDES</b> <i>Playing Bob Cratchit, Belle, A boy</i>	Phlegmatic yet dogged, not young
<b>GORDON</b> <i>Playing Mrs Cratchit, Jacob Marley, The Ghost of Christmas Past, Mr Fezziwig, Half of the Ghost of Christmas Present</i>	Long suffering Stage Manager. Frozen-faced and monotonous when acting. Age immaterial
<b>FELICITY</b> <i>Playing Half of the Ghost of Christmas Present, Fred, Little Fan, Old Joe</i>	Nervous, well meaning incompetent actress in her 20's

Ages are only an indication and can be flexible and subject to change

# BOOKING INFORMATION



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

Tickets are available from Friday 30 July 2021 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](mailto:seaford.tic@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)

Unfortunately, because we have had to await decisions over the relaxation of

lockdown, on this occasion we have not been able to operate our usual advance booking system. (Friends will have already been contacted separately).

We also have an on-line booking system via TicketSource. This can be found at:

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/seaford-little-theatre](http://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. 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 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.

**When booking please note the additional safety precautions outlined on Page 1**

**Tickets for this production on sale from  
Friday 30 July 2021**



*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:  
15 OCTOBER 2021**