

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Dennis Picott

DEAR FRIENDS, I'm writing less than a week after the final performance of *The Thrill of Love*, and I look back with pleasure and pride. Pride in the incredibly hard working team who made the production possible, it was a huge pleasure to work with them all. I do feel some small disappointment that our audience numbers over the week could



have been a lot better, but I am pleased that the feedback from those who did see it has been mostly positive.

Our next production *Not Now Darling* is already in rehearsal under the expert direction of Gary Fowler, and I know he has gathered a cast of many talented actors, so I am looking forward to being thoroughly entertained.

Break a leg everybody.

Dennis.

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thesians

Youth is a wonderful thing. What a crime to waste it on children.

George Bernard Shaw

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION – *NOT NOW DARLING* by Ray Cooney & John Chapman

The next production at Seaford is an unapologetic return to the non-PC world of the late 1960's.

Not Now Darling comes from the successful and prolific pens of Ray Cooney and John Chapman and is directed by Garry Fowler, who brought us the sell-out *Murder on the Nile* last year.

This huge West End hit is a fast paced, very funny farce set in the elegant Mayfair fur emporium of Bodley, Bodley & Crouch, where Gilbert, one of the trio of owners, is hoping to arrange a discrete assignation with his latest conquest, Janie, while his wife is on holiday. Unfortunately circumstances conspire to ensure that the course of illicit love does not run smoothly and confusion reigns supreme.

Once again we are pleased to have another couple of debuts at Seaford with the introduction of Amanda Alexander in the role of Janie, and Debbie Cox (a behind the scenes stalwart) as Miss Whittington. Alongside them are a number of Seaford regulars: Lee Coleman-Powney, Jenny Humphries, Mary Young, Alan Lade, Dug Godfrey, Trish Richings, Alan Clifford, and Clare Forshaw.

The production opens on Friday 26 July 2019 and runs through to the following Saturday 3 August with matinées only on Saturday 27 July & Saturday 3 August. 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 either Saturday.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and friends of the theatre are available in advance from Friday 28 June 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 Pondsde 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 Liz & Len Treglown 01323 492821

SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Well done and thank you to all the brazen braniacs who took part in our quiz, particularly the overall winning team, Clueless, who, after a closely fought contest which resulted in a dead heat with The Doris Daze, took the prize in a tie break. I haven't had that much excitement since the elastane broke on my lycra tights. As always I am also very grateful and indebted to our impressively dexterous catering team. Now on with more dates for the coming weeks.

SATURDAY 20 JULY

Another Little Theatre Kath Kennard Walk **Meet at Arlington Reservoir at 10.00am**

On our last walk we defied Storm Hannah and set off from The Furlongs, Alfriston and meandered along the Old Coach Road to Alciston, and in no time we were embracing the colourful countryside (but thankfully not each other). On this occasion it was Leona who introduced us to edible wild plants, with Dug 'Bear-All Grylls' and myself relishing the culinary charms of 'Jack-in-the-Bush' (or was it 'Jack-in-the-Box?').

Dug also experienced stormy turbulence, but fortunately we found a handy port-a-loo. Once inside he thought Alfriston was having its first earthquake, but it just turned out to be Ray, giggling like a schoolboy, trying to tip it over. Apparently Dennis went to the same school but he was much better behaved and did a strong line in apples for teacher. Meanwhile Rose and I, with our woolly hats pulled down over our ears, were fighting the wind like a pair of 1920's flappers. And all the time Stuart supplied us with wildlife titbits from his font of knowledge.

After a brief detour to the serene Alciston church, via the medieval dovecot, we returned to Alfriston and a tasty lunch in the rear garden of The Apiary.

For our next walk we will be doing a circuit around the countryside adjacent to Arlington Reservoir, taking in some of the upper reaches of the Cuckmere River. The walk will last approx 2 hours, starting and finishing in the same place followed by refreshments in Berwick.



SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

Not Now Darling Wrap Party



There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **Not Now Darling**. 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 4 AUGUST

Theatre Clean Up **Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm**

All cast and crew members of **Not Now Darling** 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 17 AUGUST

Seaford's Got Talent & BBQ **Seaford Little Theatre from 1.00pm**

Once again join us for the best talent show in the country, alongside our annual BBQ. 2017 was big and brilliant, 2018 was even bigger, betterer and brillianter. So 2019 should be more biggerer, more bettererer and more brillianterer. Start planning your act now and get practicing. And remember, it's all just for fun, so come and have a go. You are among friends. You certainly don't have to be talented - remember Bananadrama! Nuff said.



SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

The Mighty MacMillan Coffee Morning **Seaford Little Theatre 10.00am - 2.00pm**



Firstly a humongous thank you to everyone who took part in our Easter Fun & Fundraiser, supporting Leukaemia Care. We raised a delightful £290. And because you did such a brilliant job, we are doing it all over again, this time in support of MacMillan Cancer Support. There will be live music and singing from The Silverdales and Vocal Repertoire, as well as stalls, tombola, raffle, biscuit decorating, adult craft and much more. Once again if all you noble bakers (or nifty Morrisson's shoppers - you know who you are) can slip into your best pinnies and start cracking, whipping and beating to provide us with plenty of edible goodies, it would be a great help. We also need volunteers to get involved with the nitty-gritty too, so please come forward and support Deborah Lade and myself.

FUTURE DATES:

Playing with Fire Xmas Disco - Saturday 14 December.

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



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,

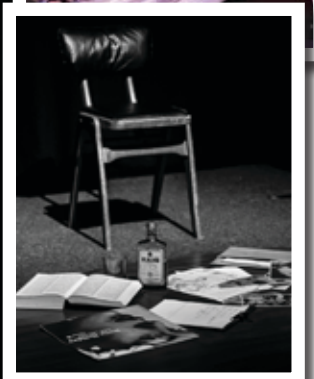
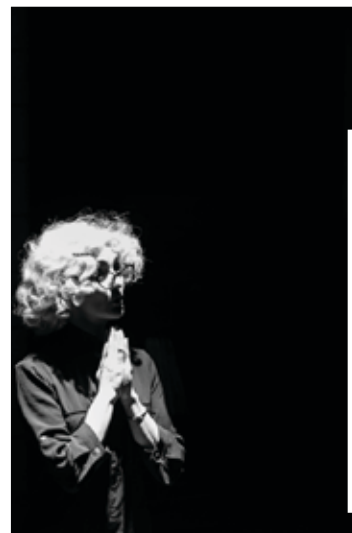
Seaford

BN25 3EH



▶ **Copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter: 20 SEPTEMBER 2019** ◀

Licence to Thrill



JOB VACANCY - FRIEND'S SECRETARY

After 10 years at the helm, our Friend's Secretary, Cicely Ridley, has decided it is time to call it a day and let someone else take over the role. So we are putting out a request for someone to take over the post from next year. In order to give any prospective volunteers an idea of what is required, here is a brief resume.

The Friend's Scheme offers the opportunity for regular audience members to save money on tickets as well as help support the theatre.

The Friend's Secretary deals with new applications from prospective Friends of Seaford Little Theatre and all renewal matters for current Friends.

All applications are acknowledged and the appropriate information sent.

Records are kept of any necessary details, ie. home address, contact telephone number or email address and subscription paid.

The Secretary banks all monies received and informs the Treasurer of totals involved.

Each Friend receives a Voucher for the 4 productions for each year and these are currently delivered by hand or posted with the relative Newsletter.

For more information and examples of the current forms used please contact Cicely or Stuart Ridley
Tel: 01323 899344 or Email: s.ridley302@btinternet.com

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 June we read **Rebecca** by Daphne du Maurier, always a popular and dramatic favourite. For our next reading on July 2 we have **A Murder Has Been Arranged** by Emyln Williams followed by **Thriller of the Year** by Glyn Jones on August 6. We are still sourcing plays for future readings, so we will keep you informed of these nearer the time.

Everyone is welcome to our 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



A LITTLE BIT OF VAUDEVILLE PRODUCTION MEETING



Don't forget the planning/production meeting for **A Little Bit of Vaudeville** which takes place at the Little Theatre on Saturday 29 June at 2.00pm. Anyone who wants to support this popular and fun event, which takes place on Friday 30 & Saturday 31 August 2019 and helps to raise funds for a worthy charitable cause is more than welcome to attend. The more the merrier.

Hope to see you there.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS FOR THE REST OF 2019

- ▶ 30 - 31 August **A LITTLE BIT OF VAUDEVILLE** directed by Graham Tubb
- ▶ 08 - 16 November **ON GOLDEN POND** by Ernest Thompson, directed by Trish Richings

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

I wouldn't like to die on stage. I'd settle for room service and a couple of dissipated women.

Peter O'Toole

THE DAISY CHAIN - SEED SWAP

We all know how important it is to support our natural environment and foster wildlife, as well as our own health and well-being. So with that in mind we thought we would try a little something.

It is a simple idea that everyone can get involved in. You don't have to be particularly green-fingered or even own a garden. If you just have a window box you can do your bit. Simply gather any seeds from a plant, pop them in an envelope with the plant name written on it, as well as your name and any message you might want to add for the person who will be on the receiving end and then drop the envelope into the theatre for my attention, Debbie Cox. That's all there is to it. I will have a box ready for the seed envelopes to be displayed/left in, so that anyone can help themselves.

Any surplus seed envelopes will also be used to raise money at future fund raisers. And any cash taken in this way will be donated to The Daisy Chain Project, a local Sussex based charity supporting victims of domestic abuse.



And don't forget - if there is an event that you would like to run or a charity you would like us to highlight or raise money for then don't hesitate to get in touch: Debbie Cox, Mob: 07596709044 or Email: coxdeb8@gmail.com. I am happy to support you like an old, faithful hound. (I will not wear a collar and lead though).

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 9 July 2019 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre
 Production dates: 8 - 16 November 2019

This is the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-eighth year. Norman is a retired professor, nearing 80, with heart palpitations and failing memory - but still tart tongued, observant and eager for life as ever. Ethel is ten years younger than her husband and the perfect foil for Norman. She delights in all the small things that have enriched and continue to enrich their long life together. They are visited by their divorced, middle-aged daughter and her dentist fiancé, who then go off to Europe leaving his teenage son Billy behind with Norman and Ethel for the summer. The boy quickly becomes the 'grandchild' they have always longed for. Norman revels in taking Billy fishing and thrusting good books at him, he also learns some lessons about modern teenage awareness, and slang, in return. This is a truly beautiful play and I am very much looking forward to what lies ahead for me, the production team and cast.

CHARACTERS	
NORMAN THAYER JNR	late 70's - On the one hand he is boyish, humorous and grand, while on the other he can become moody and forgetful.
ETHEL THAYER	10 years Norman's junior - Energetic, and knows how to manage Norman's moods. Wife of Norman.
CHARLIE MARTIN	40's - big, smiley, happy personality. A laugher! The postman.
CHELSEA THAYER WAYNE	40's - daughter of Norman and Ethel. Athletic, tanned, humorous.
BILL RAY	40's - dentist and fiancé of Chelsea and father of Billy. Attractive and well dressed. Good sense of humour.
BILLY RAY	in the play he is a 13/14 teenager, son of Bill, but I am willing to look at 15/16 year old. Flippant, but only to cover his awkwardness. Eager, bright, and with bad posture.
TELEPHONE OPERATOR	Never seen - any age

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

Rehearsals will normally be Mondays & Thursdays. A full rehearsal schedule will be available in due course.

AUDITION PIECES	
OPERATOR & NORMAN	Page 9 from beginning to page 10 "I'll call you back"
NORMAN & ETHEL	Page 10 from Norman "look at you" to end of page 12. And page 62 from "you're trying to kill me" to page 63 "well you succeeded "
ETHEL, NORMAN & CHARLIE	Page 20 from "Yoo Hoo" to bottom of page 22 "Thank you nurse"
CHELSEA, BILL, NORMAN, ETHEL & BILLY	Top of page 34 to page 35 "No I'm just going to sit here"
NORMAN, BILLY & ETHEL	Page 41 "Dad, I paddled a canoe" to end of Act One.
CHELSEA, CHARLIE & ETHEL	Page 54 "morning" to page 55 "Okay"
NORMAN, BILLY, CHELSEA & ETHEL	Page 51 "guess what, it's raining" to bottom of page 52.

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.

Trish Richings Tel: 07948 382530 Email: pixie59@btinternet.com