

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



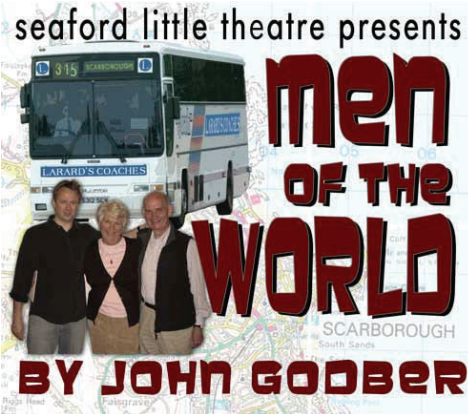
THINK IT WAS SAMUEL GOLDWYN who once said 'When I hear the word culture, I reach for my gun.' Well, the good citizens of Seaford and our customers didn't agree with that and flocked to see our latest production, **The Day After The Fair**, achieving a very impressive 80% seats sold. As the Director, Margaret Kennedy, had stepped into the breach late in production planning, this was even more reason to celebrate. The set was one of our best and the dressing was one of the most detailed and comprehensive I have ever seen at Seaford. All congratulations to the construction team and back stage workers, led as usual by the indomitable Gill Watson and Dorothy Hemsley.

After my plea for some more directing talent last Newsletter, two have now joined the Company. I don't know whether this was anything to do with me or mere coincidence, but I am pleased all the same and look forward to using their talents in the 2010 season. Talking of which - in 2010 we, as a Theatre, will have reached the staggering anniversary of 65 years of providing live theatre in Seaford. Having spent all my working life watching theatres open, survive for some months, even years, and then 'go dark', ie. close, I never cease to marvel at this figure.

Consequently I would really like to mark this milestone in a very positive and memorable way. I would like to hear from **you** - the membership - of any ideas you may have. Preferably something we will remember in years to come and be able to look back on. A

Chairman's words continue on page 2

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - **MEN OF THE WORLD** by John Godber



THIS VERY FUNNY AND CHALLENGING PLAY, directed by Stella Dench, features a cast of three and a role call of fifteen, with each of the cast playing several different characters. Three drivers, Frank, Stick and Larry, whilst waiting at their coach station, reminisce in a forthright, hilarious and very frank way about an earlier trip they made down the Rhine to Heidelberg and the assorted passengers that went with them. Those of you previously familiar with the work of John Godber will already know you are in for a theatrical treat, and those of you who have never seen his work before can rest assured that this is one of Britain's top observational playwrights doing

what he does best. With an experienced cast of Jon Terry, John Hamilton and Tricia Pape and the steady hand of Stella at the helm, I recommend you get your tickets sooner rather than later, before they sell out.

The show opens on Friday 24 July and runs through to the following Saturday 1 August, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 25 July at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and patrons, as usual, are available from 27 June at **Living Words Bookshop, Place Lane, Seaford**. Please note this is open all day 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 £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 Dianne Guyatt (01323) 491906

Chairman's words continued from page 1 ...

plaque perhaps? Or a display of some kind? Everything will be considered, I promise you.

Rehearsals are now underway for John Godber's hilarious comedy, **Men Of The World** directed by Stella Dench. Godber's work is usually groundbreaking and innovative, his sub-text exploring, through comedy, the different facets of various characters and their effect on each other. Widely admired, I look forward to seeing you at the production performances.

Alan G. Bavel

DRAMA WORKSHOP - 16 MAY - REPORT BACK

12 members attended this course led by Anne Payne, a Drama Lecturer and Youth Theatre Organiser. The theme was **How To Survive On Stage** and was a fun afternoon involving discussion and a menu of improvised activities which provoked much thought and laughter. All who attended agreed it was a worthwhile exercise and it is hoped that this will just be the first of many similar workshops to come. Watch this space!

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of An (Honorary) Thespian

If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, we could have paradise in a few years.

Bertrand Russell

JOB VACANCY - MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Unfortunately, due to other commitments, Mary Young is no longer able to continue in her role as Membership Secretary for the Little Theatre and so we are looking for someone to step into her shoes. If you feel you could take on this important role, or would like to know more about what is required, then please get in touch with Mary on 01323 894304, mob: 07765202270 or email: young-q4@sky.com.

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of A Thespian

People who reach the top of the tree are only those who haven't got the qualifications to detain them at the bottom.

Peter Ustinov



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

SEPTEMBER 26

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

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

REMINDER - 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 £8 which will include a Fish & Chip Supper, cost of Bingo Cards and Raffle entry. Please bring your own drink. Donations of raffle prizes would be much appreciated.



SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

Men Of The World 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 - 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 and to clear props etc, after the production of **Men Of The World**. 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. 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 and we also need to know how many to cater for.

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 and if there are any more of you out there who would like to join us please let us know - the people to contact are listed below . 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, it is not too late to get involved and join in the fun, please contact: **Sue Shephard** on 07788 461375, **Mary Young** on 01323 894304 or **Gill Watson** on 01323 895225. We have now worked out a programme for this event which is going to involve songs, sketches and monologues.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

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.

As I am standing down at the end of October, a new Social Secretary will be required and Stella is also standing down which leaves an opening on the Committee. Please contact any Committee Member if you wish to stand as a Social Committee Member before the AGM which will be at the end of October.

Many Thanks, Gill Watson

Fair Enough ⁴



Lindsey Resorts To Desperate Tactics To Get A Part At Her Next Audition



And So Does Steve Cowles

MMMMFF!
BUT I'M
NOT EVEN
THE
DIRECTOR

Photos From The Set Of *The Day After The Fair* taken by Andrew Parkinson



♪ OHHHH, I WENT DOWN TO THE SUPERMARKET TO GET MYSELF SOME CHOPIN, BUT FORGOT TO TAKE MY LISTZ ♪

Susan Practises Her Musical Solo For Seaford Live! '09



YES, I'M AFRAID 1ST PLACE WENT TO A WHELK

I WUZ ROBBED!

Stephen Newberry Reacts Badly When Steve Cowles Reveals He Only Came 2nd In *MR BEAUTIFUL BEARD OF SEAFORD 2009*



THIS IS THE MOST RADICAL DIET I'VE EVER SEEN

Ann Is Stunned To Find Lindsey's Decapitated Head On The Hall Table



BUT DON'T THEY REALISE WE ARE THE TALENT?

Lindsey Is Upset After Mary Lets Slip The Last Chocolate HobNob Was Eaten By Stage Management

AUDITION NOTICE - MAKE WAY FOR LUCIA by John Van Druten

Audition: Monday 10 August - 7.30pm
Seaford Little Theatre
Production dates: 13 - 21 November 2009
(Rehearsals start: 27 August)

Director: Mary Young

E.F. Benson's hilarious novels (on which this play is based) written in the 1920's and 30's, of the war for social supremacy between Lucia and Miss Mapp in the small coastal town of Tilling are quite well known from the television series, portraying wit, irony and gentle mocking humour.

Hitherto, Tilling's doyenne has been Miss Mapp; Lucia is the supreme poseuse who peppers her speech with Italian phrases she doesn't understand, and for whom the word 'defeat' exists in no language. So when Lucia rents Miss Mapp's house for the summer and her confidante Georgie joins her, the battle lines are drawn as the two ladies engage in an art exhibition, a garden fête and evenings of musica.

CHARACTERS

Miss Mapp	a somewhat aggressive woman 40 +, full of curiosity and resentment.
Mrs Emmeline Lucas (Lucia)	something of a phoney, she believes wholeheartedly in her poses and acts and is gushing and artificial, but shrewd and determined. 40+
Major Benjamin Flint	a soldier like huffing puffing man of about 50.
George Pillson	40+ but trying to look younger, he is Lucia's "best friend" and is under her influence being pleasant and likeable.
Godiva Plaistow	50ish friend of Mapp and Lucia, who talks in short rather telegraphic sentences.
Grosvenor	a very correct parlour maid 30+.
Mr Wyse	older gentleman with perfect manners.
Mrs Wyse	older lady to match above.
Rev Kenneth Bartlett	40+ vicar with Scots accent.
Mrs Bartlett	40+ little woman with a squeaky voice.
Signor Cortese	any age, florid Italian musician.

This is a big cast with some lovely cameo roles, so we need lots of you to join in please. Anyone who cannot make the audition date, please contact me and I will arrange an alternative if possible.

Scripts will be available at The Little Theatre. I can be contacted on 01323 894304, 07765202270 or by email: young-g4@sky.com

Please let me know if you are available to help in any capacity – your theatre needs you and I look forward to hearing from you!

Mary Young