



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Dennis Picott

DEAR FRIENDS, as ever one production has ended and another has already begun. *The 39 Steps* concluded with several full houses. Our audiences certainly seemed to be enjoying themselves and I send heartfelt thanks to the large team of people who helped Wendy and I with this challenging production.



Our next production, *In Praise of Love*, directed by Margaret Kennedy, is already into rehearsal and I am looking forward to seeing this moving play brought to life on our stage by its excellent cast.

Thanks to the speedy and substantial work done by members of the workshop team in digging and preparing the ground, the materials to build our new workshop shed have arrived and I believe that, as I write, construction is starting. Our Theatre continues to progress in many ways thanks to the hard work of its members.

Dennis.

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

I am now at the age when I must prove that I'm just as good as I never was

Rex Harrison

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION – *IN PRAISE OF LOVE* by Terence Rattigan

Sebastian Cruttwell is an egotistical literary critic with Marxist sympathies. His wife Lydia, is an Estonian refugee whom he rescued in a marriage of convenience after the war to secure her a passport. Their relationship, particularly on Sebastian's part, seems volatile, boorish, and febrile, which is never more evident than when around both their son, Joey, a Liberal supporting would-be playwright or their close friend, Mark, a rich and successful author of trashy novels. But beneath their thin veneer, the family is concealing an awful secret; Lydia is fatally ill.

This drama, loosely based on the relationship between Rattigan's friend, Rex Harrison, and his terminally ill wife, Kay Kendall, lays bare the potentially destructive power of self-denial, as each of the protagonists attempts to shield both themselves and each other from the emotional trauma that they need to face up to and, in particular, the awful English vice of 'a refusal to admit to our emotions.'

It has a cast of four, Sue Shephard as Lydia, Alan Lade as Sebastian, John Hamilton as Mark and Christyan James as Joey and is directed by Margaret Kennedy. This powerful, critically acclaimed play was one originally chosen by Cathryn Parker, who sadly died in 2016, and it is dedicated to her memory

The production opens on Friday 27 July 2018 and runs through to the following Saturday 4 August with a matinée only on Saturday 28 July. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and friends of the theatre are available in advance



from Friday 29 June 2018 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



SLT SCHOOL REPORT

Due to poor attendance the No 4 Speakeasy Party on 23 June has been cancelled Back of the class. However on a positive note we are committed to bring the very best social events we can offer. Any suggestions you have will be gratefully received, so put your thinking caps on. You are more than welcome to participate by leading a social event. Lets work together as a team to achieve a glowing result.

Now on to the good news. A big thank you to everyone who baked cakes, made lemonade and helped us raise money for local charities at our Coffee Morning Charity Event.

Special thanks to Cicely, Diane, Debi, Alan, Sylvia, Linda, Ken, Kate and Phil Armstrong for helping make the day a great success. And, of course, an extra big thank you to everyone who came along to support and boost the coffers of those worthwhile charities.



SATURDAY 4 AUGUST



In Praise of Love Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production *In Praise of Love* . 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 5 AUGUST

Theatre Clean Up *Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm*

All cast and crew members of *In Praise of Love* 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 11 AUGUST

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

Just as B.G.T. has reached its finale we are preparing to make this year's *Seaford's Got Talent* even more amazing than before. More talent, more thrills, more spills, more fun, more prizes and, er, more profiteroles!

We've booked a people carrier from Kensington cabs, and ordered buckets, spades and kiss-me-quick hats from Amazon, however we can't actually promise that the newly weds (the Duke and Duchess of Sussex), her maj the Queen, or H.R.H {High Rise Hipster-wearing) Simon Cowell will be able to visit Seaford due to their hectic schedules. But ... LETS GIVE IT ALL WE'VE GOT! Remember this is all just for fun, so lets enjoy ourselves. And if nothing else come along for the magnificent BBQ. If you are attending please let me know ASAP if you will be taking part or just spectating.



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

EMAIL BOOKING - ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you book your tickets by email could you also provide a telephone number and a possible alternative date. This is in case the date you request is not available and will enable our representative while at Redgolds to find you a suitable substitute.

And to re-iterate from the last newsletter:

After the tickets are booked by email they are held at the Box Office until the required day.

If it is at all possible for them to be picked up and paid for at Redgolds in advance of this we would be very grateful however, if this is not possible, we would ask that all tickets are collected and paid for at least 30 minutes before curtain up. That is by 2pm for a matinée and 7.15pm for an evening performance.

We ask you to do this in order to prevent a lot of excess queueing in the limited space at the theatre door and consequent unfortunate delays to the start of the production. Your co-operation is much appreciated. Thank you.

TO BRENDA CLIFFORD WITH ALL OUR BEST WISHES

We have just heard that Brenda Clifford has unfortunately had to go into hospital. Our thoughts go out to her and to Alan and we send them all good wishes from everyone at the theatre, especially the workshop crew, for a full and speedy recovery.



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: 21 SEPTEMBER 2018** ◀

Taking Steps



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 May we read Rattigan's *Separate Tables*, and in June the script of *Murder on the Nile*, the Agatha Christie murder mystery for our November production was the choice. Looking ahead *Caught in the Net*, a Ray Cooney comedy, is the play for Tuesday 3 July and Peter Shaffer's *Black Comedy* is the read for Tuesday 7 August. We have *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Plaza Suite* lined up for the autumn.

Everyone is welcome to play readings on the first Tuesday of every month 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



WE CAN HELP YOU TO HELP US



The wardrobe team are always on the lookout for appropriate jewellery and accessories for any play, particularly those of a period nature, although even those of the more recent past are sometimes hard to find. As a result they are constantly roaming around the town's charity shops, looking for anything that might be suitable.

And this is where we could be of mutual benefit to anyone who might be having a clearout and maybe thinking of discarding their old bits and pieces. Contact us first to see if there is anything we might be able to use in our productions. In particular we are always in need of accessories for the men; cufflinks, tie pins or clips, rings and watches, especially analogue ones.

If you have anything you are able to donate to the wardrobe, and thereby give it a new lease of life, please contact Deborah Lade on 01323 492177 or by email on debilade@btinternet.com

ITS STILL ALL HAPPENING



Progress on the workshop so far



The bare interior of the workshop

Following on from the report in the previous newsletter, we are pleased to tell you that progress on the new workshop has proceeded apace. The concrete base has been laid and the external structure has now been built. We have also had the electrician in and he has laid the initial cabling to provide power. A new set of double doors has been installed on the west elevation and, now those are in place, we will get a set of steps built to give us proper access from the workshop to the stage. In the interim the new building will also provide temporary storage during the upcoming damp-proofing.

HELP NEEDED

This damp proofing will start on Monday 20 August, and before it can take place the dressing rooms and the green room will need to be cleared of everything and moved into the new workshop. This is obviously quite a mammoth task, so we are looking for plenty of volunteers to help shift things in that week before. If you can offer your assistance in whatever way possible please contact me so that I can compile and co-ordinate a list. Email: mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk Tel: 01323 492177

Finally, the new camera system which we mentioned last time has also proved a great success providing wonderfully clear pictures to the cast and crew during a production.

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: Thursday 9 August 2018 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre
 Production dates: 9 - 17 November 2018

A well known plot based on the famous novel Death on the Nile. This murder mystery in three acts is set aboard a river cruiser on the Nile with all the usual suspects on board.

CHARACTERS	
BEADSELLERS X 2	any age or sex
STEWARD	young man
MISS FFOLIOT-FFOULKES	older snobbish lady
CHRISTINA	niece of Miss ffoliot-ffoulkes. any age
SMITH	male, socialist. any age
LOUISE	French maid for Kay. any age
DR BESSNER	German male doctor. any age
KAY	wealthy socialite. any age
SIMON	Kay's husband. any age
CANON PENNEFATHER	Priest and 'uncle' to Kay. older man
JACQUELINE	ex-lover of Simon. any age

Scripts are available from me. Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script. Alternatively the audition pieces only can be downloaded as pdf's for printing by visiting the audition page on our website.

AUDITION PIECES	
BEADSELLERS, STEWARD & MISS FFOLIOT-FOULKES	Pages 8 - 11
CHRISTINA & SMITH	Pages 12 - 13
LOUISE	Pages 73 - 74
DR BESSNER	Pages 49 - 51
KAY & SIMON	Pages 20 - 21
CANON PENNEFATHER & KAY	Pages 33 - 35
JACQUELINE & CANON PENNEFATHER	Pages 38 - 41

Rehearsals will start from Thursday 16 August but please note, they will **NOT** just be on Mondays and Thursdays. Once again you can see and download the full rehearsal schedule by visiting the audition page on our website.

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.

Garry Fowler Tel: 01323 658354 or 07803294626 Email: garryf1505@sky.com