

STAGEWORLD



SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER

Issue 14 - May 2023

our next production : *TWELFTH NIGHT* by William Shakespeare

The Bard comes to Seaford Little Theatre as we stage our first ever Shakespeare production, *Twelfth Night*, directed by David Parton.

In this celebrated romantic comedy Viola is shipwrecked on the coast of Illyria having lost contact with her twin brother, Sebastian, whom she believes to be drowned. She comes ashore and disguises herself as Cesario, a young man, to enter the service of Duke Orsino. The Duke is convinced that he is in love with the Countess Olivia, who is mourning the recent death of her brother. As a consequence she refuses any entertainment, or accept love or marriage proposals from anyone until seven years have passed. Duke Orsino makes use of 'Cesario' as an intermediary to profess his passionate love to Olivia but she, however, falls in love with the messenger, setting her at odds with her professed vow. In the meantime, Viola herself has fallen in love with Duke Orsino. So, in true Shakespearean fashion, we have Viola who loves Duke Orsino, Duke Orsino who loves Olivia, and Olivia who loves Viola disguised as Cesario. What could possibly go wrong?



Meanwhile, in a separate comedy sub-plot, several other characters, including the drunken and debauched Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek, the fool Feste and the servant Maria, all conspire to prick the pompous façade of Olivia's arrogant steward, Malvolio.

This renowned production, full of Shakespeare's sparkling verse and language is often ranked as one of the greatest plays ever written.

Under the sure and experienced hand of director David Parton, it features performances from Darren Heather, Dennis Picott, David Hallett, Jasmine Ramsay, Peter Linsdell, Tim Telford, Sandy Truman, Josie Hobbs, Mike Truman, Raymond Tongue, Alan Lade, Sue Williams, and Angie Wright.

The show opens on Friday 2 June 2023 and runs through to the following Saturday 10 June with matinées only on both Saturday 3 and Saturday 10 June. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm.

Please note that we are trialling two matinees for this production, on the first and last Saturdays.

FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION SEE PAGE 8



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Margaret Kennedy

WELCOME FRIENDS to this new era we've moved into. No longer Elizabethans, now Caroleans.

To celebrate, apart from our Coronation festivities, details elsewhere, we are about to perform our first proper Shakespearean production of *Twelfth Night* (*The Farnsdale Macbeth* was more of a spoof). David Parton has assembled a very experienced team, so we're in for a treat.

As we were with *Aurelia*. Many thanks to Trish Richings for taking over Direction, relinquishing her small part for which I was the lucky recipient. It was a happy team, cast and crew working well together.

Later the Theatre was filled again for the quiz, hired and organised by Julie Pettitt, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all our members present.

At the end of my last letter I encouraged more members to volunteer for the Theatre jobs they might not have tried yet - to challenge themselves and to see a production from a different angle, because what we need is a pool of at least 3 people to cover each job. Front of House as Manager or Steward; Lights and Sound operators; Stage Managers, Assistant Stage Managers, Prompt and Wardrobe; Set builders too. This allows regular members to take a break!

But no response. Back in 2004 a previous Chairman made a similar appeal with exactly the same result. So in the next Newsletter I wrote this:

My recent plea for help went unheeded; possibly because:

There were four people called Everybody, Nobody, Somebody and Anybody

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it

Everybody was sure Somebody would do it

Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it

Somebody got angry about that because Everybody was asked to do it

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done"

If anyone, or even everyone, feels inspired, please let me know ASAP, specifying which position you'd like to have a go at.

Until then

Love, Margaret





Debbie Cox
Tel: 07596709044
Email: coxdeb8@gmail.com.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



The year moves on apace even if no-one has told the weather. Congratulations to Julie Pettitt for another excellent quiz recently and thanks to everyone who turned out to support and take part. In the meantime here are some prospective dates for the coming weeks.

SATURDAY 10 JUNE



Twelfth Night Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **Twelfth Night**. 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 11 JUNE

Theatre Clean Up

Seaford Little Theatre from 1.30pm

All cast and crew members of **Twelfth Night** 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.

SUNDAY 13 AUGUST

Seaford's Got Talent - now with added chips

Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm

This year's event will take place on a Sunday and in a change to the catering we have arranged for *The Village Chippy* to join us. So you will be able to purchase what you want (and when) during the afternoon. Nothing to do with the melted Workmate or when Ray set light to the BBQ 'Onest Guv'nor! Please bring your own refreshments. As a result there won't be a charge for SGT but any donations for the theatre's upkeep would be gratefully received.



If you want to be part of the talent please remember it's not a competition, it's just for fun, so don't expect a set of sauce pans or Pyrex dishes as a prize. I do still have a pair of rejected hotel slippers left over from last year, so there will definitely be a raffle.

Watch this space for news about a Karaoke night with Jenny and later a Retro Disco with Keith Johnson. We encourage all members to get involved with our social events, either to assist or run your own. If I can do it anyone can.

For all events please let me know ASAP if you will be attending. For further details 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



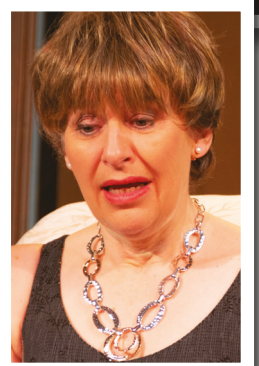


Photos from the set of
Aurelia
 taken by Andrew Parkinson
www.rememberingwhen.co.uk

Oh Really Eh?



*Aurelia with Lesley Drew,
 Margaret Kennedy, Lee
 Coleman-Powney, Tanya Baxter,
 Anne Mabey, and Peter Barnes.*



AUDITION NOTICE

ENCHANTED APRIL

by Matthew Barber, directed by Trish Richings

Audition Date: Wednesday 14 June 2023- 7.30pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 1 - 9 September 2023

The play follows four dissimilar women in the 1920s who leave their rainy, grey environments to go on holiday in Italy. Mrs. Arnott and Mrs. Wilton, who belong to the same ladies' club but have never spoken, become acquainted after reading a newspaper advertisement for a small medieval castle on the Mediterranean to be let furnished for the month of April. They find some common ground in that both are struggling to make the best of unhappy marriages. They also reluctantly take on the waspish, elderly Mrs. Graves and the stunning but aloof Caroline Bramble to defray expenses. The four women experience interpersonal tensions but eventually come together at the castle and find rejuvenation in the tranquil beauty of their surroundings, rediscovering hope and love.

As there is a play-reading the week before, scripts will not be available until after that date. If you would like to know more about the play or any of the characters please call or email me.

CHARACTERS - all ages are relative

LOTTY WILTON	<i>a Hamstead housewife</i>
MELLERSH WILTON	<i>her husband, a solicitor</i>
ROSE ARNOTT	<i>a Hamstead housewife</i>
FREDERICK ARNOTT	<i>her husband, a writer</i>
CAROLINE BRAMBLE	<i>a socialite</i>
ANTONY WILDING	<i>an artist</i>
MRS GRAVES	<i>a London matron</i>
CONSTANZA	<i>an Italian housekeeper</i>

Rehearsal days will usually be Tuesdays and Thursdays with extra nearer the production date if needed. A full rehearsal schedule will be available in due course.

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

PLAY READING - ENCHANTED APRIL by Matthew Barber

There is a play reading evening specifically for those who are interested in coming along to read in or listen to **Enchanted April** by Matthew Barber. This will take place on Monday 12 June 2023, 7.30pm at Seaford Little Theatre.



For more information about the play and the characters please see this audition page. All who attend who want to read in will get an opportunity to do so.

I look forward to seeing you on that evening. Thank you, Trish.

TEA & TOAST COFFEE MORNINGS



Our Tea & Toast mornings continue this year taking place on the first Monday of each month (excluding bank holidays) starting from 10.00am, with a nominal charge of £1. Eat and drink as much as you like. If it is during the run of a play, the date will be rescheduled. The next Tea and Toast will be in August (I can't do July)

A big thank you to Phil and Gail who toast, boil, wash and iron like billy-oh and to everyone else who gets stuck in with the washing up and clearing away.

This year we are collecting for the Lifeguards, chosen by Gill, which all agree is a really worthy cause, so please continue to show your excellent support each month.

THANK YOU



Dear Staff of the Little Theatre,
Please thank for your help when I had a fall on the way to the theatre to see Aurelia, and many thanks for the glass of wine that the gentleman gave to me. It certainly helped me through the performance which I was able to enjoy. I spent the next day in Eastbourne A&E and will hopefully have my last appointment there next week. I have still got numerous visits to the dentist to go!
Yours sincerely,
P Blaber

There was an unfortunate accident during the run of Aurelia when one of our audience members had a fall as she was negotiating the entrance path in poor weather. Fortunately our Front of House leapt into action and were able to at least enable her to see the performance.

We have now received a nice letter of thanks which reads as follows:

Dear Staff of the Little Theatre

Many thanks for your help when I had a fall on the way to the theatre to see Aurelia, and many thanks for the glass of wine that the gentleman gave to me. It certainly helped me through the performance which I was able to enjoy. I spent the next day in Eastbourne A&E and will hopefully have my last appointment there next week. I have still got numerous visits to the dentist to go!

Thanks again

Yours sincerely, P Blaber

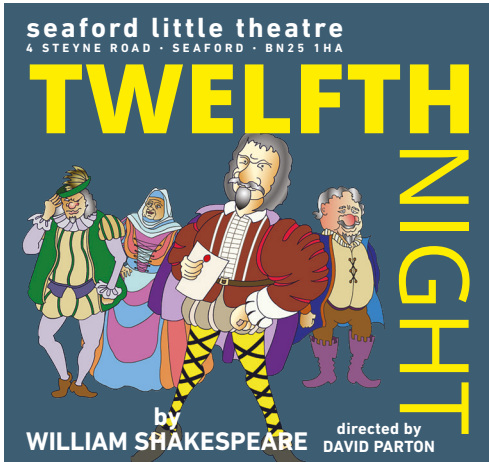
Well done to all involved. you know who you are.

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thesians

Art is not about perfection. It about perception.

Niloy Roy

BOOKING INFORMATION



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

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. Unfortunately, due to the way in which the system operates, this facility cannot be used when exchanging Friend's Vouchers. These must still be presented at the Box Office as usual.

Postal applications should be sent to:

Diane Guyatt, 31 Pondsye 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.

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

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

Tickets for this production on sale now



Contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Send your pieces to:

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

Potential copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter:
14 JULY 2023