



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Dennis Picott

DEAR FRIENDS, *In Praise of Love* is now completed. We had another fine production with some truly excellent performances. Now we look forward to *Murder on The Nile* and I can report that rehearsals are well



advanced. Garry Fowler has assembled an excellent cast, and we can see already that the set and costumes will be magnificent, so our audiences will be in for a theatrical treat.

It's also that time of year when the Little Theatre Annual General Meeting comes rolling around again, (further details available in this newsletter) so please make a note in your diaries and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Friday 26 October.

Dennis.

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

I'm so wrinkled I can screw my hat on.

Phyllis Diller

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION – *MURDER ON THE NILE* by Agatha Christie

Christmas is rapidly approaching, so naturally our minds all turn to thoughts of murder at this festive time. Which is why Garry Fowler is bringing the popular Agatha Christie mystery, *Murder on the Nile* to the Little Theatre this November.

It is late summer, 1937, and the perfect time for a break. The paddle steamer, *Lotus*, is about to embark from Shellal in Egypt on a leisurely trip up the Nile to Wadi Halfa with a small group of diverse and intriguing characters. Surely nothing could possibly go wrong to mar this tranquil and relaxing cruise. Well, nothing that is, apart from the fact that one of the passengers is plotting a horrible murder.

This play by Agatha Christie was adapted from her original novel of the same name and was subsequently made into a hugely successful film featuring her stock character Hercule Poirot. This production, however, is using the original play script, so don't expect to see the luxuriant moustaches of that fastidious Belgian detective on show, as he wasn't in it. There are, though, more than enough other personalities in this drama to will keep you entertained and mystified to the end.

It has a cast of thirteen, Alan Clifford, Trish Richings, Peter Barnes, Josie Hobbs, Jenny Humphries, David Hallett, Sue Shephard, Dennis Picott, Clare Forshaw, Christyan James, Alan Lade, Andrea Lowe and John Hamilton and director, Garry Fowler, promises to immerse you in a completely different world as soon as you step through the theatre doors.

The production opens on Friday 9 November 2018 and runs through to the following Saturday 17 November with a matinée only on Saturday 10 November. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinée 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 12 October 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 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



Thank you to everyone who attended the Seaford's Got Talent BBQ this year and the brave, talented, foolish souls who took part in the competition. Let's also not forget the hard-working team that prepared and cooked the food, controlled all the clever techie lighting and sound stuff, counted the votes, cleared up everything afterwards, and generally ran around like headless chickens (apparently a possible entry for next year's contest will be Ray and his bonce-less Bantams) to make this day a huge success. Roll on next year!

MONDAY 29 OCTOBER

Tea & Toast Charity Coffee Morning Special

Seaford Little Theatre from 10.00am

NEW EVENT Join us for breakfast when we will be serving hot buttered toast with a selection of spreads and fine tea and coffee. There will be a nominal fee of £1 and all contributions will go to Macmillan Cancer Support



SATURDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Autumn Walk (in memory of Kath Kennard)

Meet Seaford Little Theatre at 10.00am or Star Inn, Alfriston at 12.00 noon



NEW EVENT Gill Watson and her mum Kath enjoyed country walks as part of their role as Social Secretaries, so as the present incumbent I thought it would be fitting to revisit this event in honour of Kath. Autumn is a beautiful time of year to enjoy our countryside and then relax in a traditional country pub.

So why not join Gail Armstrong, Ray and myself to walk from Seaford Little Theatre to the Star Inn at Alfriston (approx 4 miles)? Of course if the walking is not for you, you can always meet us there (there is a car park at the top end of Alfriston) for the drinkie part. Afterwards we will walk back to Seaford, although if you've had enough there is a bus service available.

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Murder on the Nile Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **Murder on the Nile**. 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 18 NOVEMBER

Theatre Clean Up

Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm

All cast and crew members of **Murder on the Nile** 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 15 DECEMBER

Playing With Fire Xmas Retro Disco

Seaford Little Theatre 7.30pm



Another date for your diary. Come and re-live your youth (or somebody else's) with music from the 50's to the 80's with the popular Playing With Fire Disco. A chance to let your hair down (if you have any) and strut your funky stuff (if the arthritis will let you). Dressing up is an optional but highly recommended part of the evening and should be embraced at any given opportunity. Entry fee is £8.00 which includes a buffet with puds, a music quiz and a free raffle. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS although there will be an opportunity to buy wine by the bottle. **Warning:** there may be flashing lights and smoke effects, so with luck we might set the alarms off again. Let me know any dietary requirements.

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

PROGRAMME FOR THE NEW SEASON

The programme for 2019 is as follows:

- ▶ 8 - 16 February **OLD ACTORS NEVER DIE, THEY SIMPLY LOSE THE PLOT** by Lynn Britney, directed by Peter Barnes
- ▶ 10 - 18 May **THE THRILL OF LOVE** by Amanda Whittington, directed by Dennis Picott
- ▶ 26 July - 3 August **THE GOD OF CARNAGE** by Yasmina Reza, directed by Margaret Kennedy
- ▶ 30 - 31 August **A LITTLE VAUDEVILLE SHOW** directed by Graham Tubb
- ▶ 08 - 16 November **ON GOLDEN POND** by Ernest Thompson, directed by Trish Richings



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 DECEMBER 2018** ◀

Photos from the set of
In Praise of Love
taken by Andrew Parkinson
www.rememberingwhen.co.uk

Praise In Deed



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 August we enjoyed reading Peter Schaffer's **Black Comedy**, in September it was **Arsenic & Old Lace**, and in October it was **Plaza Suite**, by Neil Simon. There will be no play in November due to dress rehearsals for **Murder on the Nile**, so the next play reading will be **The Thrill of Love**, which is our May production. That will be read on December 4.



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

THEATRE WORKS



The new side doors and steps



Part of the battered but undefeated green room

Once again a lot of work has been carried out on our theatre over the last few months. The entire fabric at the rear of the building, in the green room and dressing rooms, has undergone a much needed damp proofing treatment, which will give us peace of mind for many years to come. This has obviously involved a lot of disruption in order to facilitate the works, but we are slowly endeavouring to get everything back into place and also using it as an opportunity to reconsider the overall layout and use of space in this area.

This has also meant however, that progress on our workshop has taken more of a backseat, although the building itself has provided a useful and vital storage space for any items that had to be temporarily moved away from the rear area. In conjunction with this, a set of steps has now been built outside the new side doors, so access has been vastly improved and we have been able to use this side area to some extent on the latest set build.

Going forward, once the back rooms are returned to normal, we will carry on and finish off the workshop and bring it into full use, thereby, hopefully, reducing the general mess and disruption a set build inevitably incurs. There are also plans to improve the overall landscaping around the theatre, as time and funds permit, and also an exciting new design for the outside of the building to help advertise our presence. Finally we will be having some remedial repairs done to the flat roofs. Be still my beating heart.

This would also be an appropriate moment to praise all the hard work carried out by the resolute band of volunteers who enabled, by their hard graft, to get everything shifted so that these repairs could be carried out. And, alongside this, to give a mention in dispatches to everyone in the workshop crew which works so hard throughout the year to get our sets ready for each new production. They are, quite literally, behind the scenes, but every bit as important as those that strut and fret their hour upon the stage and then are heard no more. (Although, it has to be said, some of the workshop are not averse to a bit of strutting and fretting on a Wednesday evening, when the mood takes them. And it usually does.)

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

It's a funny old world, a man is lucky to get out of it alive.

W C Fields

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 16 October 2018 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre
 Production dates: 8 - 16 February 2019

A contemporary fast paced farce with a cast of 6 females & 5 males. It's a truly daft journey into the world of eccentric luvvies that provides some of the best comic roles for senior actors. Set in a retirement home.

| CHARACTERS | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ANN THOMPSON | The administrator of Mount Home for retired theatricals – Female 40's+ |
| WALTER NEVILLE | Retired bit-part actor, gay but not played camp, military bearing – Male 70's+ but can vary age. |
| PHYLLIDA SULLIVAN | Retired actress, first ex-wife to Edmund Sullivan – aged 70- known as Phyl and the leader of the women. |
| JULES SULLIVAN | Retired actress, second ex wife of Edmund S. Aged 60+ bohemian and flirtatious. Known as Jules |
| REBECCA SULLIVAN | Retired actress, third ex wife of Edmund S. Aged 60+ - slightly scatty known as Becca. |
| MARCIA | Housekeeper, very chatty and obsessed with actors. Female Any age |
| DANNY STILLER | Retired actor, very neurotic and timid. Used to be very confident – even arrogant. Male age 60+ |
| MIKE MOLINSKY | A vicious, unhinged but comical Russian gangster, sharp dresser – Male aged 30+ |
| EDMUND SULLIVAN | Still appears in major movies, very confident and charming and has a long history of seduction and adultery. Male aged 60+ |
| DMITRI | Non speaking part, large menacing bodyguard to Mike, Male Any age. (No need for audition just speak with me directly if interested). |
| IRINA | Glamorous but menacing Russian woman of uncertain age. |

Scripts are available from the theatre (coffee lounge). Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script.

| AUDITION PIECES | |
|---|--|
| ANN THOMPSON | Pages 1 -3 'Mmm, we don't have any rules here' |
| WALTER, THREE EX SULLIVANS & MARCIA | Pages 4 'Leave it to me ladies' – bottom of page 6. |
| EDMUND SULLIVAN | Pages 23 - 24 |
| DANNY & WALTER | Pages 27 - 29 |
| THREE EX SULLIVANS, WALTER, DANNY & EDMUND | Pages 33 'Well if it isn't the witches.' - page 37 'Well I should say' |
| MIKE MOLINSKY | Pages 39 Mike enters - page top of 45. |
| IRINA & DANNY | Pages 58 'Why do you keep following me?' - Page 60. |

Rehearsals will start from Monday 19 November and for the first two weeks we will rehearse Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. We will then resume to the usual two rehearsals per week on Mondays & Thursdays.

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.

Peter Barnes Tel: 01323 896244 or 07977802605 Email: peterjbw87@gmail.com

SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Seaford Little Theatre will be held at The Little Theatre, Steyne Road, Seaford, on Friday, 26th October 2018 at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 27th OCTOBER 2017. (Copy available for inspection at The Little Theatre).
3. Chairman's Report
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report
5. To vote on:
Any other resolutions to be given to the Hon. Secretary 14 days prior to the meeting.
6. Election of Executive Officers of the Management Committee.

Chairman:
Vice-Chairman:
Hon. Treasurer:
Hon. Secretary:
Premises Manager:
Friends' Secretary:
Membership Secretary:
Social Secretary:
Public Relations Secretary:

ALL NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY THE HON. SECRETARY **BEFORE** THE START OF THE MEETING.

7. Election of Management Committee Members (4): 2 Vacancies.
(Rule 8. Management. a. (ii) Four other members of the Society elected for 2 years, two of whom shall retire annually in rotation.), There are two vacancies.

ALL NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED **BEFORE** START OF THE MEETING.

8. To close the A. G. M.
9. Questions and discussion. (Notice to be given to the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer **prior** to the commencement of the meeting.)

Mary Young (Hon. Secretary), 01323 51882 or young-g4@sky.com or Margaret Kennedy (Hon. Treasurer) 01323 894938

Wine and Cheese will be provided for members at the close of the meeting.

OCTOBER 2018

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership fees for the forthcoming year are due, as always, on 1 November, so please make use of the form below to get them renewed. Either hand it over at the AGM or send it direct to Penny Cockell.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____

I/We wish to renew my/our membership of Seaford Little Theatre for 2019. I/We enclose our subscription fee.

Membership fee for the coming year is £10.00 per person (students - £5.00 p.a.)

Please return this form with the appropriate amount (cheques payable to Seaford Dramatic Society) to:

Penny Cockell (Membership Secretary) 30 St Crispins, Seaford, BN25 2DY

Tel: 01323 897517 Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Seaford Little Theatre

Nomination Form for the Election of Officers and Management Committee Members at the AGM on 26th October 2018

Please make sure the Nominee is willing to stand before proposing them.



| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Nominee for the post of | * | _____ |
| Name | | _____ |
| Nominated by | | _____ |
| Seconded by | | _____ |



| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Nominee for the post of | * | _____ |
| Name | | _____ |
| Nominated by | | _____ |
| Seconded by | | _____ |



| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Nominee for the post of | * | _____ |
| Name | | _____ |
| Nominated by | | _____ |
| Seconded by | | _____ |



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|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Nominee for the post of | * | _____ |
| Name | | _____ |
| Nominated by | | _____ |
| Seconded by | | _____ |



| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Nominee for the post of | * | _____ |
| Name | | _____ |
| Nominated by | | _____ |
| Seconded by | | _____ |

*Posts are: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Membership Secretary, Friends' Secretary, Premises Manager, Social Secretary, Public Relations Secretary and members can be nominated as Committee Members.

PLEASE RETURN TO THE HON. SECRETARY, MARY YOUNG, AT THE THEATRE BEFORE THE AGM
OPENS AT 7.30pm ON 26th OCTOBER 2018