

STAGEWORLD



SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER

Issue 18 - May 2024

our next production : **A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL** by Alan Ayckbourn

Our next production is the renowned **A Chorus of Disapproval** by Alan Ayckbourn.

Pendon Amateur Light Operatic Society are staging a new version of **The Beggar's Opera** by John Gay and eager to join their diverse numbers is recent arrival to the town, Guy Jones, a lonely widower. He has no previous experience but is very willing and keen to become an integral part of his new community.

His novelty, enthusiasm and inability to say no to anything grabs the attention not just of the director, staunch Welshman Daffydd Ap Llewellyn, but also most of the women in the cast. As he rises through the ranks from bit player to lead role he finds he has a lot more to learn than just the script.



This is one of Alan Ayckbourn's most successful plays and garnered some major awards on its release, including the London Evening Standard Award and the Olivier Award.

Directed by Trish Richings **Chorus** features Jon Terry, Jenny Humphries, Mandy Crynkovic, Steve Cowells, Angie Wright, Roland Boorman, Rebecca Hyland, Peter Barnes, Sue Williams, Alan Lade and debut performances at Seaford for

Barbara Spagnoli, John Le Serve and Dan Williams.

The show opens on Friday 7 June 2024 and runs through to the following Saturday 15 June with matinées only on both Saturday 8 and Saturday 15 June. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm.

Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

Yes, I'd rather be shy than smart; a foolish diffidence constrains my heart. I reach for a star; then, from a morbid dread of ridicule, I pluck a flower instead.

Edmond Rostand, Cyrano de Bergerac

FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION SEE PAGE 8



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Sue Williams

HELLO EVERYONE. Some of you will be surprised to see a new name at the end of this report, but those who were at the AGM in March will know that our long-serving (and long-suffering!) chairman, Margaret Kennedy, has decided that the time has come for some well-earned rest and relaxation. Margaret was in post for more years than she intended because Covid interrupted everything and threw us all into some difficult times. Margaret has steered the theatre through the Covid years and beyond, and now I know we all send her lots of love and wish her the very best for the future.

I was elected as her successor and all I can say to you – which is what I said at the AGM – is that I love the Little Theatre and will do my best to serve you well.

With our 80th anniversary coming up next year the time is ripe for us to take stock and think how best we can continue to entertain the good people of Seaford (and further afield). One thing we should consider is how best to retain the smooth running of the theatre.

Years ago societies such as ours operated a form of repertory system with a pool of actors who rarely, if ever, moved

beyond the bounds of their local group. Things are very different now, with actors moving between several theatres over a much wider area. So the “Seaford” actors often look to other groups for suitable roles to play, and actors come to us from other societies. Sometimes it can be difficult to find enough volunteers to fill all the essential front of house and backstage roles which, in the past, would have been undertaken by actors not cast in any particular play. At the moment we are being well served by our volunteers but in order to maintain continuity we need a good “stock” of non-acting members willing to be called upon. So anyone reading this who would like to offer their services will be very gratefully thanked! Just let us know what sort of thing appeals to you – for example: front of house, workshop, wardrobe, technical (sound and lighting operators). You can contact me or any member of the committee – details on the contacts page of our website.

I think that’s enough from me for now. Keep supporting the theatre and please encourage others to join us.

With love from Sue



Luvvie Loquacity - The Thoughts Of Thespians

Design is not what you see but what you want to see.

Niloy Roy



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

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



A huge thank you to everyone who has taken part and contributed with raffle prizes and splashing the cash at our three social events so far this year, to raise money towards our vital roof repairs.

St Patrick's Night

We are extremely grateful to the members of fellow am dram group MAD, for their hilarious comedy sketches and to Chris Page and his band The Seaford Rouges, for an entertaining evening of traditional Irish songs. Chris also designed and printed song books for the audience to join in. The drains decided to join in the action too and back up during the evening. Fortunately the audience were forgiving and didn't complain. Viv Reynolds kindly helped out by mopping the floor in time to the music, fighting back the tide of the Liffey! Professional lighting was provided by Gary English assisted by Phil Armstrong on sounds (who also designed and printed tickets and flyers). Gail, Jenny, Sharon and Corrine worked their little green socks off on the bar and FOH.



Roof Raising Quiz

Thanks next goes to Alan and Andrew for their quiz night. Always a popular event. It certainly gave the brain cells a workout as well as being a fun team building event. Thanks also to Gail for food prep, bar and FOH.

Bring & Buy



Mandy and Angie have been working hard for weeks gathering and sorting items for the Bring and Buy sale. Supported by Mandy's team who included Sandy, Mike and Trish P. Phil designed and printed flyers. Sue helped to set up and clear away. This event was open to the public and it was very well received. The coffee lounge, staffed by Jenny and Corinne, with assistance from Roland and Cicely, provided a calm space for visitors to relax with a cuppa and slice of cake, while Ray charmed them into buying raffle tickets.

Finally, Tea and Toast is always well attended and I couldn't do it without the excellent assistance of Phil and Gail and the tidy uppers.

Fund raising is more important than ever at the moment, so why not have a go at running a social event. Contact me if there's something you would like to do.

In the meantime let's think about acts for **Seaford's Got Talent**. This is the highlight of the social calendar during the summer. Watch this space for details

Thank you for your continuing support, Debbie

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 1.30pm



All cast and crew members of **A Chorus of Disapproval** to please attend and clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The set will need to be dismantled and costumes, props etc. sorted and returned and the Theatre cleaned through.



Photos from the set of
Dinner
taken by Andrew Parkinson

A Fine Dining Menu



***Dinner with Sandy Truman
Roland Boorman, Jenny Lloyd-
Lyons, Will Neame, Jasmine
Chance Ramsay, Stevie Lambert
and Peter Cornwell.***





MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2024



If you haven't paid your membership fees for the coming year yet, then please make use of the form below to get them renewed. Membership runs for a calendar year, alongside the season's productions, from January to December. Once completed either hand the form in at the theatre or send it direct to the address below.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Name(s)

Address

Phone No(s)

Email(s)

Membership Fee
(tick one)

Adult

Student

I/We wish to renew my/our membership of Seaford Little Theatre for 2024.

The membership fee for 2024 is £10 per person (students - £5)

Please return this form either having paid via the BACS system (see below) or with the appropriate amount attached (cheques payable to Seaford Dramatic Society) to:

Membership Secretary, 4 Steyne Road, Seaford, BN25 1HA

Email: memsec@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Tel: 07856 939436

Our preferred method of payment is by BACS which is simple to set up via your bank. If you choose to pay in this way please use the following details:

Give your name as the payment reference

Make the payment to:

Account Name: The Seaford Dramatic Society

Account number: 42227878

Sort Code: 40 20 06



ROOF REPAIRS



Next year marks our 80th Anniversary and, as with everything in life, the years continue to take their toll on our little theatre. Two years of lockdown did nothing to keep our coffers filled while we still had all the expenses needed to maintain the normal running of the building.

Unfortunately everything is now coming home to roost and we are in dire need of some urgent repairs

to our roofs (we have several) to keep us watertight. We are doing everything we can to raise the necessary money, including applying for grants and staging fund-raising events (which have been very well supported, thank-you very much) but we still have a shortfall that we need to fill.

To this end Mike Truman has set up a JustGiving page so that if anyone feels they would like to contribute, it can be done as simply as possible. To access the page please use this web address:

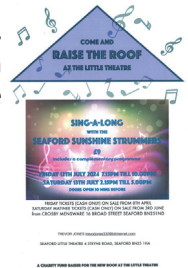
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mike-truman>

Any donation, however large or small, is equally gratefully received, but, please, only what you can afford. Do not feel under any pressure.

In addition we are very fortunate that The Seaford Sunshine Strummers, a very popular local ukelele band, are holding two days of concerts on Friday 12 July 7.30 - 10.00pm and Saturday 13 July 2.15 - 5.00pm at the Little Theatre. as a fund raiser for us.

Tickets are available from Crosby Menswear, 16 Broad St, Seaford BN25 1ND. Cash only please.

An excellent way to both support the theatre and be hugely entertained at the same time.



REMAINING PRODUCTIONS FOR THE 2024 SEASON

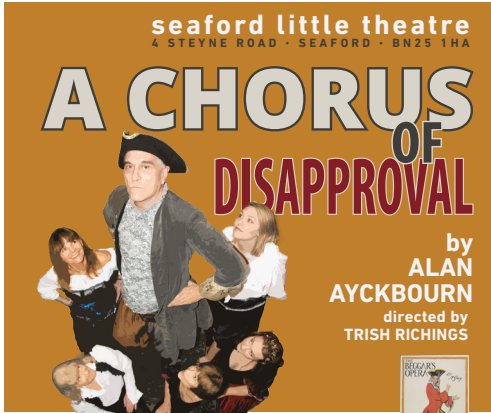
07- 15 June	A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL by Alan Ayckbourn	directed by Trish Richings
06 -14 September	A DOLL'S HOUSE by Henryk Ibsen	directed by David Parton
06 - 14 December	SEE HOW THEY RUN by Phillip King	directed by Phil Armstrong

WENDY PICOTT



Wishing all the best to Wendy Picott and husband Dennis. As many of you are aware Wendy has been very poorly over the last few weeks, so we send both of them all our love and best wishes for Wendy's recovery and recuperation. We are missing you both.

BOOKING INFORMATION



The ticket prices are £11.00 each for the tiered seats and £10.00 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

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.

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:
20 JULY 2024**