

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



WE WERE ALL SHOCKED and extremely saddened when we heard of the sudden death of David Harmer. David was a most unassuming gentleman who had appeared many times in leading roles on the stage of The Little Theatre. We will certainly miss his charm and humour as well as his fine acting in so many different roles. We extend our deepest sympathy to Vida and her family.

Daniel Chandler and his cast and crew are to be congratulated on the splendid production of *Gaslight*. The play was well received and it was particularly pleasing to have nearly a full house for the Saturday Matinee. If you have enjoyed the recent productions as much as I have, please let your friends and neighbours know so that Dorothy Hemsley and her cast for *Don't Dress For Dinner* will be well supported. The play is a fast moving comedy. I am sure you will like it.

The chairs in the Theatre have all been refurbished and the whole of the fixed seating has been re-raked. I hope you find this a great improvement. The cost for this was considerable so we may have to raise the admission prices next year.

I am most grateful to all those kind souls who help out with the selling of programmes, serving coffees and selling ice creams during the productions. I will be very glad if any others of you could kindly offer to do one evening. My telephone is 492509

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER* by Marc Camoletti



DOROTHY HEMSLEY IS AT the helm for our next production, *Don't Dress For Dinner* by Marc Camoletti. This is a fast moving and hilarious comedy revolving around the complicated love lives of Bernard and Jacqueline, and their good friend, Robert, on a weekend break in the country.

As well as several familiar faces, it features the debut at SLT of Sharon Olieff as Bernard's chic Parisian mistress, Suzy. Oh, and there's a Cordon Bleu cook and a large husband involved too!

The show opens on Friday 25 May and runs through to the following Saturday 2 June, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 26 May at 2.30pm.

Tickets are available from 27 April at **Living Words Bookshop, Place Lane, Seaford**. Tel: **01323 893699**. 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 £6 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £5 each for the Saturday matinee.

For general enquiries regarding productions ring FOH manager Ann Harvey (01323) 899932

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

SATURDAY 2 JUNE

After Show Party Don't Dress For Dinner

The last night of the latest play and a chance for everyone to finally relax and reflect on another roaring success (naturally). Please come along and join the fun after the show. Just bring some food and whatever you want to drink.

SATURDAY 9 JUNE

Julie's Quiz Night 7.30pm Seaford Little Theatre



Once again it's time to rattle that single marble in your head before you lose it. Julie is organising another of her very popular quiz nights. The cost is £5 per head to include a ploughman's supper. To book call Julie on (01323) 893499 by 1 June at the latest. Don't miss out, book early. First come, first served. Bring your own drink.

! SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT !

Despite everyone's pleas to reconsider, Julie has decided to call it a day as Social Secretary for the Theatre (a post she has handled so magnificently since her very first event - a small tea-party for William I after the Battle Of Hastings)

We are therefore on the lookout for a new volunteer to step into the breach, to take over after the AGM in December. If anyone is interested and would like to know more about what is involved, please contact Julie on (01323) 893499

Go on, you know you want to.

THEATRE OUTINGS



GILL WATSON AND MARY YOUNG are prepared to arrange theatre visits (mainly to Eastbourne) for members and their friends. They would like to compile a database/list of people who want to join the group on a fairly regular basis. If tickets are bought in multiples of ten there is one free ticket, which reduces the price to everyone. Transport costs can also be shared.

They are starting the database from scratch, so old members need to ensure they are included. They ask all who wish to be included to ring Gill on 895225 or Mary on 894304. They would also like to know who can take a car on an occasional basis, and who would need transport. They look forward to hearing from you.

YOUR TREASURER SPEAKS

THE TREASURER IS ALWAYS on the lookout for painless ways to make money for the Theatre. In the *Money Times* the other week they reported on the web search engine everyclick.com that will pay 1p to your own nominated Charity for every search made. So if you're on the Internet and are prepared to use everyclick.com as your default search engine and nominate Seaford Dramatic Society as your Charity – No.294769 – we'll get 1p every time you click on! As the saying goes – every little helps.

(NB. I've already done it and it is very quick and simple to do - less than a minute to set up - and the search engine is pretty effective too. Ed)

GIFT TOKENS

TONY GIBBS IS LOOKING INTO a way of providing a Gift Token Scheme for the Little Theatre, whereby tokens can be purchased as gifts that can then be exchanged for tickets to our productions. This would not only provide the ideal birthday/xmas present for our regular audience members, but also give an opportunity to get new people interested in what we do in Seaford. Nothing has been finalised yet, but as soon as something is available we will keep you posted.



DAVID HARMER - 6 FEBRUARY 2007 aged 66



I FIRST MET DAVID in March 2000, when we acted (together with Trish Kennard) in *Dangerous Obsession* and he regularly threatened me with a gun! I liked him right from the start. Here was a quiet, modest, friendly man, immensely proud of his family, with an infectious smile and a great sense of humour, who always knew his lines and never let you down (even if he was shooting at you!).

I subsequently worked with David on a number of different productions and whenever I found out that he was in the cast there was always a great personal sense of relief, because I knew that no matter how difficult the play, he could always be relied on to give a calm, relaxed, superb performance. It just made the whole experience so much easier.

His untimely death has left a huge void in the lives of his family and a great many other people. As David Backhouse says at the start of this newsletter, David Harmer was a gentleman, in the truest sense of that word; a very gentle man.

As a tribute to David, the Little Theatre intends to dedicate the last night of *Don't Dress For Dinner* to his memory, when there will be a display of some of his acting highlights and a collection and donation will be made for the British Heart Foundation. We hope that many of his friends from the theatre will be able to attend.

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

The problem with people who have no vices is that generally you can be pretty sure they're going to have some pretty annoying virtues.

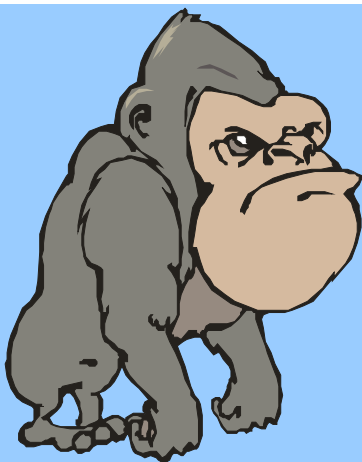
Elizabeth Taylor

THEATRE WEBSITE - IT WASN'T BROKE BUT I STILL FIXED IT

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO haven't discovered it yet, the theatre website has had a fresh makeover. All the same elements are still there, but it now has (hopefully) an improved design and is easier to navigate. It also has a photo gallery to provide pictures from the plays etc.

This improvement is still ongoing however, so if anyone has any comments or anything they would like to see on the site please let me know, using the contact details below:

Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk



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

JUNE 9

Classical Gas

I THINK YOU SHOULD BET ON ONE OF THE NICE HORSEYS



Sandra Gives Ian A Hot Tip For The Grand National

Photos From The Set Of *Gaslight* taken by Jack Mortimer

IS THERE ANYBODY THERE?

Yes. Me!



There Is a Disappointing Turn-Out For Alan Baker's First Séance



There Is Little To Choose Between The Finalists on BBC1's Strictly Stood Standing



While Over On Channel 4, There Is A Palpable Air Of Tension Among The Housemates In Edwardian Big Brother

AUDITION NOTICE: *MURDER WITH LOVE* by Francis Durbridge

Auditions: Monday 14 May - 7.30pm
Seaford Little Theatre
Production dates: 27 July - 4 August 2007

Director: Stella Dench

Many people dislike Larry Campbell, but none feel more embittered than David Ryder. Ryder pursues his vendetta by nefariously obtaining a key to Campbell's flat to kill him. Deceit, suspicion, blackmail and incrimination are woven into the web of crime which is completed by a second killing and a tantalising twist at the climax.

CAST

LARRY CAMPBELL	age 35 - 45.
JO MITCHELL	A journalist, 35 - 45.
MRS BEDFORD	David's housekeeper. Any age
ERNEST FORSTER	A lawyer, 40/55
DAVID RYDER	40 plus
GEORGE RUDD	a petty thief, 25/35
ROY CAMPBELL	Larry's older brother. 50ish
CLARE NORMAN	Larry's girlfriend, 30/40
CHIEF INSPECTOR CLEAVER	any age

THIS IS A SPINE CHILLING PLAY WITH HUMAN EMOTIONS STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT - ENDING IN MURDER - BUT BY WHOM AND FOR WHAT REASON?

Time - the present

Do please try to attend the audition. Scripts available from Stella, tel: 01323 891994 or I can arrange to bring to the theatre if more convenient. Looking forward to many of you being in attendance, both stalwarts of the theatre and any new members.

Stella Dench

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

Do not do unto others as you would that they should do unto you. Their tastes may not be the same.

George Bernard Shaw