



## THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



HELLO EVERYONE.

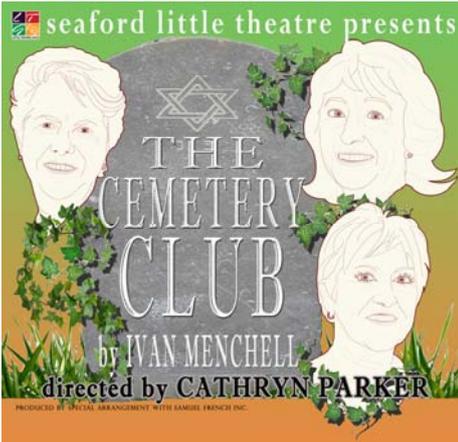
We are still basking in the afterglow from *The Titfield Thunderbolt*. Margaret Kennedy took a step into the unknown when she agreed to direct this production since it was something of a departure from our usual programme. However, it turned out to be a real feel-good show enjoyed as much by the cast as by their audiences! It was also a complete sell-out, so huge congratulations to all concerned. Dismantling the wonderful set designed by Alan Lade seemed particularly sad but, as ever, it's now on with the next play.

We are very lucky to have acquired a brilliant director (Cathryn Parker) for *The Cemetery Club* which promises to be a huge success in May. The cast is being stretched theatrically and is changing with each rehearsal into a convincing group of Jewish ladies - and one man - from Queens, New York. I'm sure that each performance will provide a great evening's entertainment.

On 23 June this year there is an event that I hope will receive support from many of you. Seaford Little Theatre is entering Cancer Research's Race for Life as a group taking part in the Eastbourne event. The start time is 11 a.m. at Cross Levels Way, BN21 2UF (you're asked to arrive about one hour before this time). I have set up the group (title: SeafordLittleTheatre - the words a bit squashed up in order to get our full name into the space allowed!) and the next thing is for lots of you to join in. Women only may enter the 5 km "race" - please remember that you can go at your own pace and no

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## OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - **THE CEMETERY CLUB** by Ivan Menchell



DON'T BE PUT OFF by the rather funereal title: *The Cemetery Club* is a poignant comedy about the nature of true friendship and love the second time around.

Ida, Lucille and Doris are three Jewish dowagers of "a certain age" coping in very different ways with the untimely deaths of their husbands. Friends for over twenty years, each month they meet up to talk and visit the nearby cemetery. And boy - can they talk!! Little by little we learn how their relationships with their husbands colour their adjustment to (merry) widowhood. Ida has immersed herself in her family, Lucille has taken to shopping and dating in a big way, and Doris is content to live for the monthly visits to the cemetery to be with her beloved Abe again. Ida and Lucille have not yet resigned themselves to solitary autumn years, but Ida does not have Lucille's confidence in the singles market. The

balance of their lives is threatened by Ida's burgeoning affection for Sam, an eligible widower, who has a reputation as a womaniser, but who is as uncertain as Ida about trying again.

This is a comedy which touches hearts and emotions leaving us with a feeling of admiration and affection for these wonderfully warm women. You should leave the theatre having laughed a lot and cried a little but definitely the richer for sharing these lives for an evening.

The show opens on Friday 10 May 2013 and runs through to the following Saturday 18 May, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 11 May at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members and friends of the theatre, as usual, are available in advance from 12 April 2013 at our box office:

**Sussex Eyecare Ltd, 9 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1LS.** Please note this is open until 2pm 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 £8 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £7 each for the Saturday matinee.

**For general enquiries regarding this production ring Gill Watson (01323) 895225**

racing is needed – but men are very welcome either as stewards or, very importantly, as cheerleaders and general encouragers!! You can join our group by registering either online or over the phone if you're not too confident with the internet. Online you need to key in [raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org](http://raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org) then click on: "Join a group". You will then need to quote the Group ID number, which is SS15604.

After we have recovered from that we look ahead to *Pack of Lies* in July (auditions to be held at 7.30p.m. on 23 April) and, of course, *the Revue* (which seems to be an established event in our calendar) on 6 and 7 September.

All-in-all we have a full and exciting spring and summer ahead of us.

With my very best wishes to you all, **Sue Shephard**

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### PLAY READINGS - FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH (unless stated otherwise)

*Coffee Lounge Seaford Little Theatre from 7.30pm*

Further Play Readings have been organised and they will take place in the Coffee Lounge at the Theatre at 7.30. The next one scheduled will be on **Tuesday 4 June**. Dates following this will be **Tuesday 2 July** and **Tuesday 6 August**. Plays have not yet been chosen for the latter dates but Notices will be put up in the Coffee Lounge and Foyer in due course. Attendance fee, to include Coffee/Tea and biscuits, will be £1 per head

### SATURDAY 18 MAY

*The Cemetery Club Wrap Party*

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, of our latest production *The Cemetery Club*. 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 19 MAY

*Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm*

All cast and crew members of *The Cemetery Club* to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props etc., will need to be returned and need to be sorted beforehand and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal at a local hostelry.

### FRIDAY 6 & SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

*SeafordLive! 2013 A 'Little' Trip ... Seaford Little Theatre*

Once again the Theatre would like to take part in the SeafordLive! event 2013. The official date is not yet known, but it was felt by the committee that the earlier we could put on our Revue the better so that it did not clash with rehearsals for the November production. It has also been suggested that we do 3 performances this time around. Friday night, Saturday matinee and Saturday evening. I am happy to take the names of anyone who is interested in taking part, nothing like getting in early, so contact me on the number above or email and you can also contact Graham Tubb on 01323 894409.

Social News continued on page 3 ...

*Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of A Thespians*

**Life's like a play; it's not the length but the excellence of the acting that matters.**

*Seneca (Roman Philosopher)*



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](mailto:mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)

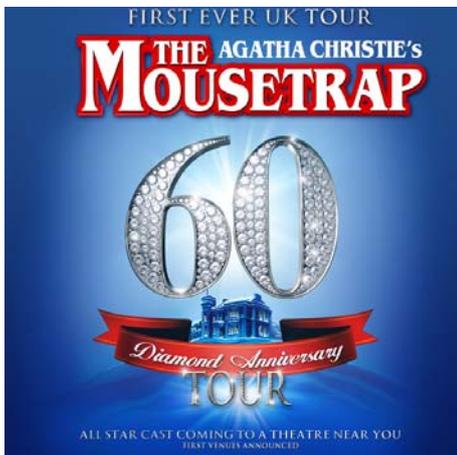
Snail Mail: 25 Sherwood Road,  
Seaford

BN25 3EH

**Deadline for next edition: 7 JUNE 2013**



**For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information  
Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on [www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)**

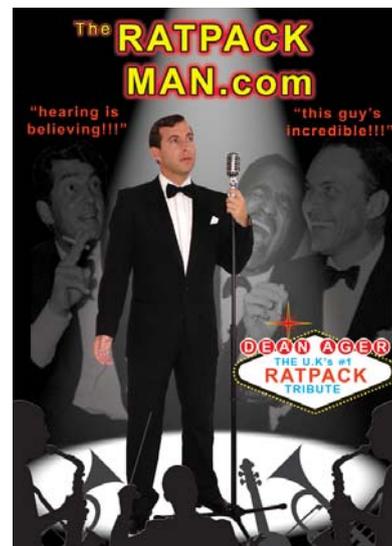


**TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER**  
**Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap** Congress Theatre, from 7.30

The Theatre has purchased a block booking of tickets for **The Mousetrap** which will be on at The Congress Theatre, Eastbourne in September. Seats are in the Raised Stalls and the cost is £21.60. **Payment when booking is required please.** Please make your cheque payable to **"Seaford Dramatic Society"** and **send your request** for tickets, sorry no over the phone or email bookings, to Gill Watson, "Maycroft", Dean Road, Seaford, BN25 1AN. Thank you.

**FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER**  
**An Evening With Dean** Seaford Little Theatre, from 7.30pm

By popular demand Dean Ager has been asked to perform for us once again in our Little Theatre. This date you **MUST** put in your diary. **"An Evening with Dean"** has now been organised. Dean Ager, as many of you know, is an excellent performer as **"The Ratpack Man"**. You will find his details on his website **www.theratpackman.com**. The cost for the evening will be £15 which will include a Ploughman's Supper and dessert. Wine or soft drinks will be **available for purchase**, at reasonable prices, either by the bottle or the glass at the Theatre. This should prove to be a very special event once again and to cover the cost of this evening we will need a good attendance. I would respectfully ask for payment at the time of booking and attached is a tear off slip for you to complete and return to me, please. Gill Watson.



Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel. No: .....

Number attending: .....

Cheque value: £ ..... (made payable to **"Seaford Dramatic Society"**, please)

Please send this form and your remittance to: -  
 Gill Watson  
 "Maycroft"  
 Dean Road  
 SEAFORD  
 BN25 1AN

**Thank you.**



The next gathering will be on Wednesday 5 June @ 7.30pm in the coffee room at Seaford Little Theatre, Steyne Road, Seaford, BN25 1HA,

Other meetings will be held on every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in the month thereafter unless there is a play in production  
 All levels welcomed, from total newbies to experienced knitters.

Please contact Debi Lade on 01323 492177 or email: [debilade@btinternet.com](mailto:debilade@btinternet.com) for further details.

# Full Steam Ahead



Photos From The Set Of  
*The Titfield Thunderbolt*  
taken by Andrew Parkinson



## AUDITION NOTICE - ***PACK OF LIES*** by Hugh Whitmore

Audition: Tuesday 23 April 2013 - 7.30pm  
Seaford Little Theatre  
Production dates: 26 July - 3 August 2013

Director: Ian Clegg

A play set in the early sixties at the height of the Cold War with Russia, dealing with the spying that went on in that era- Burgess, Maclean and so on. It tells the story of the Krogers who were eventually found out and sentenced, and subsequently swapped for an Englishman who had been jailed by the Russians.

A powerful, tension-filled play which requires strong characterisation and interplay between the performers.

### SCRIPTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE THEATRE

Please return them as soon as you have finished reading so that others can also prepare. And don't forget to sign them in and out.

### CHARACTERS

**BOB JACKSON** - English middle-aged suburban husband.

**BARBARA JACKSON** - his wife.

**JULIE JACKSON** - daughter of Bob and Barbara (requires an actor capable of playing a feisty teenager).

**PETER KROGER** - the Jackson's friend and neighbour.

**HELEN KROGER** - his wife ( the Kroger's are both middle-aged with American/Canadian accents).

**STEWART** - typical MI5 government official.

**SALLY** - 30's - Government employee - Thelma's boss .

**THELMA** - younger than Sally - Government employee - bit of a rebel.

The ages are comparatively unimportant, apart from 'Julie'. It is the balance between the cast that needs to be credible. Volunteers for Stage-Manager, Props etc would be most welcome. The unsung back-stage crew are just as important as the cast.

### AUDITION PIECES (selected from the Samuel French Inc. edition)

Bob	Page 31/32; Page 63
Barbara	Pages 48 - 51; Page 23
Julie	Page 2/3; Page 62/63
Helen	Pages 38 - 40 ; Page 55
Peter	Pages 53 - 55
Stewart	Pages 45 - 47
Thelma	Pages 48 - 51
Sally	Pages 36/37

Be prepared, I may choose other pages too!

Ian Clegg

TELEPHONE: 01323 732495

*Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of A Thespians*

**I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.**

*Oscar Wilde*