



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Mary Young

DEAR FRIENDS. Firstly, let me thank Dennis Picott, his cast and crew for brightening up the dull days of early February with his lively production of *Ladies' Day* by Amanda Whittington. The hard work they put in was rewarded with good audiences who were most appreciative.

It is part of our charitable remit to provide a community resource and our theatre seems busier than ever these days with lettings to a number of local groups. Thanks go to Ray Cox for his dedication to the role of Lettings Manager. Debbie Cox has been equally busy organising another successful Quiz and catering for social functions. The Craft Fair which she is organising for 7th April is another venture to promote our theatre in the community and I do hope we will all support her. We also look forward to seeing many of you for the musical social evening on Saturday, 8th April with songs from our own Jenny Humphries.

Our building has had yet another face lift with the addition of new fencing and gates at the front. Finishing touches have been made to the new kitchen with the addition of a full length cupboard and splash back cover. As always these works have been overseen by Gill Watson our tireless Premises Manager helped by members of the Workshop Team.

Our main focus though is of course the drama and rehearsals are well underway for my production of *The Late Edwina Black*, a dark tale of love and suspicion set in the 1890s. The Workshop Team, after a bit of a break, has set to work again on an interesting set designed by Alan Lade.

Looking ahead, Garry Fowler is hoping to see a good turn out for this month's Play Reading Evening on Tuesday, 4th April at 7.30pm. when we will be reading *Trap for a Lonely Man* by Robert Thomas. This is the play he is directing in July and scripts will be available then in preparation for the auditions on the 25th. Looking a bit further on, Graham Tubb will be directing one of our Little Shows for early September. This one is to be *A Little Bit of Music Hall* and Graham would like to hear from singers, dancers, actors, comedians and anyone who would like to join in the fun, via our website or in person at the theatre.

Yet again, I have to share the sad news of the death of one of our members. Victoria Thompson passed away on 21st February and although she had not been in Seaford for long, she made a huge impression on our theatre. She shared her wealth of experience and love of dramatic arts. It is only just over a year since she directed four of Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* for us, bringing new vision to our theatrical scene. She also set up the successful Summer School held in the theatre last year. I have sent our condolences to her daughters and I have a copy of the eulogy read by Alison Grant at the funeral, should any friends wish to have a copy.

I look forward to seeing you soon at Seaford Little Theatre!

Best wishes, Mary.



OUR NEXT PRODUCTION – *THE LATE EDWINA BLACK* by William Dinner & William Morum

It is the winter of 1895 and, at Amberwood House, Edwina Black has sadly passed away after a long illness. The household is in mourning, getting ready for her funeral and, as her husband, companion and housemaid all make preparations to lay her to rest, they receive a persistent and dogged visitor from Scotland Yard. Doubts have been raised about the cause of death and questions need answering.

So begins this intriguing, mysterious drama by William Dinner and William Morum, a gripping tale of dark suspense and passion directed by Mary Young.

Featuring performances from Margaret Kennedy, Trish Richings, Dug Godfrey and Alan Lade, our latest production will transport you back to the deepest recesses of late Victorian England where you can fully immerse yourself in the enigmatic atmosphere as this tale of love and betrayal unfolds.

It opens on Friday 12 May 2017 and runs through to the following Saturday 20 May, with a matinée on Saturday 13 May. 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 14 April 2017 at our box office:

**REDGOLD OPTICIANS,
32 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1ND.**

Postal applications should now be sent to: Diane Guyatt, 31 Pondsdyde 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

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

Once again a huge thank you to everyone who has come along and supported our recent social events. And a massive fanfare of gratitude to Tricia Pape for another entertaining and highly successful Quiz Night.

Now some dates for your diary for our upcoming social events. Hope to see you there ...



FRIDAY 7 APRIL

Easter Craft Fair Seaford Little Theatre 10am - 4pm

There will be a range of stalls and a variety of handmade gifts for sale, all made by talented members and local artists and artisans. Admission is free and there will be a range of refreshments and delicious home-made cakes available to buy.

SATURDAY 8 APRIL

An Evening with Jenny & Chris Seaford Little Theatre 7.30pm

Our very own Jenny Humphries will be here with singing partner Chris to keep us entertained with a range of 50's and 60's music. Admission is £10 to include a buffet with desserts. The bar will also be available to buy drinks by the glass or bottle.



SATURDAY 20 MAY

The Late Edwina Black Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **The Late Edwina Black**. 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 21 MAY

Theatre Clean Up Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm

All cast and crew members of **The Late Edwina Black** 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.

SUNDAY 4 JUNE

Greyhound Racing Brighton Greyhound Stadium

Through Lynn's Travel it is proposed that we join them on their trip to Brighton Greyhound Stadium in June. The cost of £23.50 includes transport to the stadium, a day at the racetrack and a 2 course lunch. Transport pick up point will be from Seaford Little Theatre at a time to be confirmed. We would respectfully request that if you are interested, will you please pay at the time of booking. To reserve your place or for more details please contact Debbie Cox. Details below. This is a new venture for us as a Social Outing at the theatre so we hope members will be interested and show their support.



Some members have expressed an interest in having a Murder Mystery Evening. Jayne Marshall has kindly given me copies of some scripts we could use. However, I have studied the evidence, my dear Watson, and remain totally clueless. If anyone would like to lead this as an event, please let me know. I would be more than willing to assist.

Please contact us ASAP if you will be joining us and if you have any dietary requirements for any of our events. 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

PLAY READING GROUP

Our Play Reading Group meets at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday each month in the Coffee Lounge at the theatre. It is a great social evening and an opportunity to have a go at performing without the pressure of an audience, or to read parts you wouldn't normally be able to play on stage! You can even just come along and listen. There is a nominal charge of £1 for refreshments.

We will be reading **Trap for a Lonely Man**, the July production, at our next gathering in April, but please note there will not be a play reading in May as this clashes with rehearsals for our next production.

So our programme for the next few months is:

- ▶ 04 APRIL **Trap for a Lonely Man by Robert Thomas**
- ▶ 02 MAY **No Reading**
- ▶ 06 JUNE **Rumours by Neil Simon**



Everyone is welcome and so are your suggestions for future readings.

For more information call Mary Young: Tel: 07891 691341 Email: gmaryyoung@gmail.com



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: 2 JUNE 2017** ◀



Photos from the set of
Ladies' Day taken
 by Andrew Parkinson
www.rememberingwhen.co.uk

Ladies Excuse Me



Audition Date: Tuesday 25 April 2017 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre
 Production dates: 21 - 29 July 2017

Translated from French, this is set in an isolated chalet in the French Alps. It is a gripping psychological thriller concerning a man who has apparently lost his wife, and is rapidly losing his mind. After having reported his wife's disappearance to the police, Daniel Corban is visited by a young priest who claims he has found Madame Corban well and repentant for running out on her husband. When Daniel's wife enters the chalet however, he is outraged to discover that she is not Madame Corban, though she insists she is.

CHARACTERS	
DANIEL	Ages for all these characters are not important, also The Inspector and Merluce can be played by either a male or female.
FLORENCE	
MAXIM	
INSPECTOR	
MERLUCHE	
MLLE BERTON	

Rehearsals: Tuesdays and Thursdays

AUDITION PIECES	
DANIEL	Pages 7 - 9, 68 - 69
FLORENCE	Pages 13 - 16, 45- 47
MAXIM	Pages 9 - 11, 62 - 64
INSPECTOR	Pages 7 - 9, 53 - 56
MERLUCHE	Pages 38 - 41, 45- 47
MLLE BERTON	Pages 51 - 53, 57 - 59

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.

If you are interested but unable to attend the audition date, please contact me so that we can arrange an alternative. If you are able to help behind the scenes, I would also be very pleased to hear from you.

Garry Fowler Tel: 01323 658354 Email: garryf1505@sky.com

ALCHEMY YOUTH THEATRE GROUP

Many of our members may not be aware that there is a regular youth drama group now meeting at our theatre each Saturday morning (with some exceptions). I asked founder, Matt Haynes, to provide us with more information.

Alchemy is a small youth theatre group focussing on professional acting skills, voice, movement and developing character for the stage. We are based at Seaford Little Theatre every Saturday except during school holidays. Workshops are £15 per session and run from 10.30am to 12.30pm. We aim to perform a full play in the Autumn, with dates to be confirmed. Students must be 15 years or older to apply.

For further information and to book a place, please contact Matt on 07793016919 or via email at matthaynes@hotmail.com

For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk