

THE VIEW FROM THE NEW CHAIR



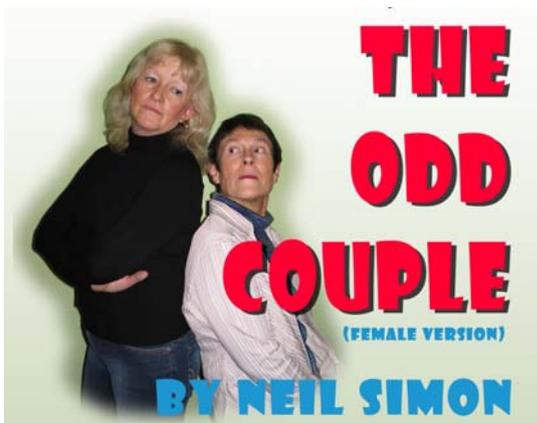
LET ME BEGIN by thanking David Backhouse for all the work and time that he put in as the previous Chairman. I was going to add and a quiet retirement, but already he has proved invaluable while working front of house at the last production, when an emergency arose with a cast member running late.

Now fresh from the triumphs of sold out houses, *Laying The Ghost* proved yet another success for the Theatre. Jack Mortimer managed very well, especially with a cast made up of nearly all previous directors and this being his first attempt! Congratulations to him and the whole cast and crew. Rehearsals are now fully underway for our next production, the brilliantly funny *The Odd Couple*, only this will be the female version.

Christmas will be over by the time that you receive this newsletter but I hope that everybody had an enjoyable and happy time. May I therefore wish you all a very Happy New Year and thank all those people who work so hard to ensure that the theatre is as successful as it is. Let us all have a prosperous, healthy and wonderful New Year and I wish you all that you would wish yourselves.

Alan G. Baker

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *THE ODD COUPLE* by Neil Simon



THE ODD COUPLE achieved major success as a play, TV series and most famously as a film starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau. Then in 1985 Neil Simon decided to revisit his famous creation and do the unthinkable - to rewrite the play, only this time with the main characters as women. However the gamble paid off and he had another phenomenal hit on his hands, with many critics saying he had surpassed the original! And now Seaford has a chance to judge for itself, as Alan G Baker brings it to the Little Theatre, with Sue Shephard and Jenny Humphries starring as the incompatible,

mismatched flatmates, arguing about Life. Love. Sex and Marriage to great comic effect.

The show opens on Friday 13 February and runs through to the following Saturday 21 February, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 14 February at 2.30pm.

Tickets, as usual, are available from 16 January 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 £7 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £6 each for the Saturday matinee.

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL from your Social Committee.

SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY

The Odd Couple Wrap Party

There will be the usual "Wrap" Party on the last night of our latest play. Please, as usual, bring some food and whatever you want to drink to celebrate the success of yet another production.



TUESDAY 3 MARCH

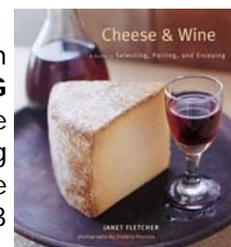
Devonshire Park Theatre

There are 11 tickets available to see **Boeing Boeing** at The Devonshire Park Theatre on Tuesday 3 March at 7.45 pm. Cost £17.45. Please let me know if you are interested in seeing this very funny play and please send remittance when booking. Should more than 11 people wish to attend I can get further tickets as necessary. Please contact **Gill** on 01323 895225.

SATURDAY 14 MARCH

Cheese & Wine and An Audience with ...

This will be an evening of anecdotes and reminiscences from (collectively) 190 years in the Theatre by **Stella Dench, Alan G Baker, Tony Bannister** and **Margaret Kennedy**. Should there be any of you out there who would like to contribute toward this evening of entertainment please let me know so I can include you in the programme. Cost for this event £7. Please contact **Gill** on 01323 895225.



SATURDAY 6 JUNE

Progressive Dinner

We are hoping to stage a Progressive Dinner on Saturday 6 June. We need volunteers who are prepared to cater the different courses. If you are interested in coming to this event and/or catering please let me know by 1 May. Cost for this event will be approximately £10. Please contact **Gill** on 01323 895225.

Social News continues overleaf...

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

One should always play fairly when one has the winning cards.

Oscar Wilde



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

MARCH 14

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

MORE SOCIAL NEWS



Lifeboat Trip

I have been told that the Newhaven Lifeboat is prepared to take a party of 10/14 people for a little run along the coast on Sunday mornings. As far as I am aware they do not charge for this but donations would be very welcome. If you are interested please ring me and if I get enough people I will get more details. Contact **Gill** again.

REMINDER - Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings at the Theatre

The Theatre is open most **MONDAY MORNINGS** from 10 am to approximately 11.30 am for those who want to drop in for a cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and a chat. Numbers have dropped off recently and it would be nice to see a few more faces. Also **WEDNESDAY EVENINGS** from 7.45 pm till 10 pm for our Workshop night which involves building and painting the set and general Theatre maintenance. If you can handle a paintbrush we would love to see you and if you can do any carpentry you are worth your weight in gold.

SEAFORD LIVE! '09 - SEPTEMBER 12 TO 20

Due to its success in 2008 Seaford Live! is coming to the Little Theatre again and we are getting involved in the action on **Saturday 19 September**. As September was the month World War II broke out 70 years ago we are hoping to present an evening of sketches and songs of that era.

"Your Theatre Needs You"

If you wish to participate in this "one off" extravaganza, and join in the fun, please contact: **Sue Shephard** on 07788 461375, **Mary Young** on 01323 894304 or **Gill Watson** on 01323 895225. Ideas for the content of this "one off" evening would be appreciated and your own talents welcomed. Let's be seen to be doing something different and for Charity.

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

Contrary to general belief, I do not believe that friends are necessarily the people you like best, they are merely the people who got there first.

Peter Ustinov

A NOTE TO PATRONS

COULD PATRONS PLEASE NOTE that during the first week of ticket sales, each Patron is **only** allowed to purchase the number of tickets stipulated on their voucher.

Thank You

Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

I think theatre ought to be theatrical ... you know, shuffling the pack in different ways so that there's always some kind of ambush involved in the experience. You're being ambushed by an unexpected word, or by an elephant falling out of the cupboard, whatever it is.

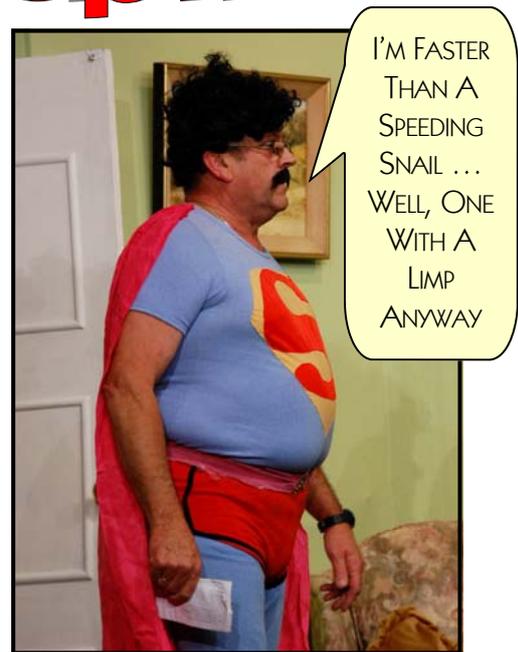
Tom Stoppard

In The Right Spirit ⁴



Alan G Impresses Tricia With Tales From His Professional Career

Photos From The Set Of *Laying The Ghost* taken by Andrew Parkinson



Metropolis Knew It Was In Trouble When Superman Went On Holiday And Was Replaced By His Cousin - Slightly Below Par Man



Tricia And Stella Are Surprised When Mystic Meg's Horoscope Predictions Turn Out To Be Quite Specific



Mary Has A Novel Approach To Balancing The Theatre's Bank Account



Molebatse Is Slightly Dismayed That She Is Making Her Debut Opposite Karl Marx

ACTUALLY I PREFERRED HIS BROTHER, HARPO

I NEVER FORGET A FACE, COMRADE, BUT IN YOUR CASE I MAKE AN EXCEPTION



AUDITION NOTICE - *THE DAY AFTER THE FAIR* by Frank Harvey

Auditions: Monday 23 February - 7.30pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 1 - 9 May 2009

Director: Margaret Kennedy

When Anna, an illiterate servant girl, meets Charles, an attractive stranger and budding barrister, at the local town fair, their amorous encounter changes more than just their own lives in this compelling and bittersweet drama. The girl, unable to read or write, persuades her mistress to write romantic letters to the man on her behalf. The love affair blossoms, but with whom has he fallen in love: the servant or the writer of the letters? This play is adapted from the short story, *On The Western Circuit* by Thomas Hardy.

It is set in the front room of the Brewer's House in a West Country cathedral city (evidently Salisbury) c. 1880-90

CHARACTERS

(with original 1972 cast members in brackets)

Edith Hanham (Deborah Kerr)	c. 35 Arthur's wife - intelligent, attractive, caring, gentle
Arthur Hanham (Duncan Lamont)	c. 53 Master Brewer, grandson of founder - successful, ambitious, unsubtle, robust physically and as a character. 'A man's man'
Letty Hanham (Avice Landon)	c. 58 Arthur's sister - in charge of household management - competent, intelligent
Anna (Julia Foster)	18-20 - maid - pretty, lively, still with youthful innocence
Charles Bradford (Paul Hastings)	c. early 30's, poised, attractive, educated young man, a junior barrister in London
Sarah (Jiggy Bhore)	perhaps 30 but age not significant - housemaid

This play is about human relationships and communication. We should feel sympathy for all the characters

Margaret Kennedy

01323 894938

Scripts are available from the Theatre when it is open. Should the audition date be inconvenient please contact me.

SPECIAL REQUEST

As I have taken over the helm at very short notice, I would appreciate the support of members volunteering to help as Assistant Director, backstage (Gill Watson has agreed to SM) and, particularly as this is a costume play, help with organising hiring the clothes we won't be able to provide ourselves.