

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



IF BUMS ON SEATS IS anything to go by, then *Murder With Love* was an outstanding success. 96% of our seating capacity was filled during the run, and I heartily congratulate Stella Dench, her splendid cast and all the crew for all the hard work they put into this very well received production. Let us hope for full houses for our forthcoming play **84 Charing Cross Road** which is due to open on 16th November.

I am still in need of helpers for programmes and coffee or ice cream selling during the productions. We have a group of most willing and faithful helpers, but some of them are having to do two or more nights. Please let me know on 492509 if you can assist. The Directors and Cast deserve your help.

I do hope all of you will come to The Annual General Meeting to be held at 7.30p.m. on Friday 26th October. This is your chance to hear what has been going on during the year, as well as to vote, if necessary, for newly elected officers.

A QUICK REMINDER FOR ANYONE WHO surfs the internet that if you 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 do a search. The procedure to set it up is very simple and the search engine is just as effective as Google or Yahoo etc. So log on to www.everyclick.com and make a painless contribution to the theatre coffers.

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - **84 CHARING CROSS ROAD** by Helene Hanff



IN 1949 A STRUGGLING AMERICAN writer, Helene Hanff, hoping to indulge her love of beautiful books, started a correspondence with a firm of British antiquarian booksellers that was to last for 20 years. The warm, compassionate and very human exchange of letters was published as a book - 84 Charing Cross Road – and has been masterfully adapted for the stage by James Roose-Evans. This acclaimed production sees the welcome return of

Mary Young to the directorial chair, and the skilled acting talents of Sue Shephard and John Hamilton in the lead roles, ably supported by many of our more experienced players.

The show opens on Friday 16 November and runs through to the following Saturday 24 November, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 17 November at 2.30pm.

Tickets are available from 19 October 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 24 NOVEMBER

After Show Party 84 Charing Cross Road

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.

MONDAY 31 DECEMBER

New Year's Eve Party

Maycroft, Dean Road, Seaford from 8.00pm

Gill Watson is organising another New Year's Eve party for the Theatre at her home in Dean Road. There will be food and a glass of mulled wine on your arrival and lots of end of year cheer (although rumours that mum, Kath, will be putting on a kilt and playing the bagpipes at midnight may be unfounded). The cost is £8 per person. Please bring any additional drinks you require. Names and numbers to Gill please on (01323) 895225



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AS POINTED OUT BY OUR ESTEEMED CHAIRMAN, this year's Annual General Meeting is on Friday 26 October at 7.30pm at The Little Theatre. (Further details attached to this Newsletter) Please make the effort to attend and make your voices heard. There will be a number of potential vacancies on the Committee to be filled, including Social Secretary, although obviously any of the positions are up for grabs if someone wishes to put themselves forward. And if any further incentive were needed, wine and cheese will also be provided. What more could you ask for?

What's that? You want more? Okay, well here's another reason to attend. Next year's subs are due on November 1, so why not kill two birds with one stone and attend the meeting **AND** pay your dues to your ready and willing Treasurer, Margaret Kennedy. Job done.

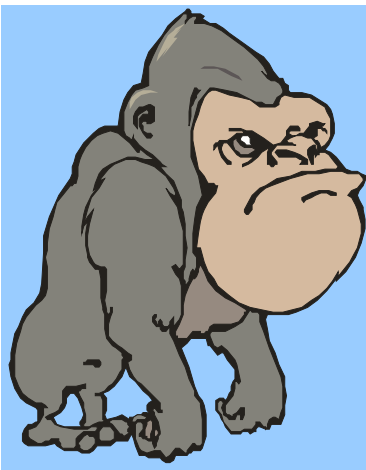
Luvvie Loquacity – The Thoughts Of Thespians

It is our responsibilities, not ourselves, that we should take seriously.

Peter Ustinov

AND IT DON'T SEEM A DAY TOO MUCH

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS FROM EVERYONE at the Little Theatre go to Val (founder member and President) and Ted Shepherd who celebrated their 64th Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday 18 September. They are still going strong filling their time walking, gardening and swimming in the sea (although not necessarily all at the same time).



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 alan.lade@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

JANUARY 4

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

Kiss Of Death

NO, NO. FOUR LETTERS. FOUND ON THE BOTTOM OF A BIRD CAGE. THAT SHOULD BE **GRIT!**



Stephen Helps Kay With The Times Crossword

TELL ME MORE. TELL ME MORE



I'VE GOT A TOUCH OF ARTHRITIS

Garry And Tanya Don't Quite Convince As The Teenage Leads In Grease

AND THEN THE WHEELS ON THE BUS WENT ROUND AND ROUND, ALL DAY LONG



Graham Struggles To Look Impressed When John Tells Him About His Journey To The Theatre



It Takes A Moment For Alan To Realise The Apple He Brought For Lunch Has Been Stolen

WHY, OH WHY, OH WHY DIDN'T I WEAR THE BLUE TIE? I'M RUINED, I TELL YOU, RUINED!



Damian Can Sometimes Overreact About The Costume He's Been Given

I'M OVER HERE



Doreen Has To Compensate For Her Lack Of Stature By Standing On The Desk

Photos From The Set Of *Murder With Love* taken by Jack Mortimer

SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Seaford Little Theatre will be held at The Little Theatre, Steyne Road, Seaford, on Friday, 26th October 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

AGENDA

Apologies for absence

Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 27th October 2006. (Copy available for inspection at The Little Theatre).

Chairman's Report

Hon. Treasurer's Report

To vote on:

ANY RESOLUTIONS TO BE GIVEN TO THE HON. SECRETARY OR HON. TREASURER 14 DAYS **PRIOR** TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING.

6. Election of Executive Officers of the Management Committee. The following persons have agreed to stand for election:

Chairman:	David Backhouse**
Vice-Chairman:	Alan G Baker**
Hon. Treasurer:	Margaret Kennedy**
Hon. Secretary:	Mary Young**
Business Manager:	Ann Harvey
Patrons' Secretary:	Dorothy Hemsley**
Social Secretary:	Gill Watson

**Nominated by the Management Committee

ANY FURTHER NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED **BEFORE** THE START OF THE MEETING.

7. Election of Management Committee Members (4): 1 Vacancy.
(Rule 8. Management. a. (ii) Four other members of the Society elected for 2 years, two of whom shall retire annually in rotation.) Sue Shepard, Tony Gibbs and Cecily Ridley have a further year to serve.

ANY FURTHER NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED **BEFORE** START OF THE MEETING.

8. To close the A. G. M.

9. Questions and discussion. (Notice to be given to the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer **Prior** to the commencement of the meeting.)

Mary Young (Hon. Secretary) 01323 894304). Margaret Kennedy (Hon. Treasurer) 01323 894938

Wine and Cheese will be provided for members at the close of the meeting.

OCTOBER 2007

AUDITION NOTICE

*LADIES IN RETIREMENT by Edward Percy & Reginald Denham***Auditions: Tuesday 27 November - 7.30pm****Seaford Little Theatre****Production dates: 29 February - 8 March 2008**

Director: Alan G Baker

We open the season with the above period thriller, based on a famous murder of the 1890's.

Leonora Fiske shares her lonely house on the Thames marshes with her companion and house keeper Ellen Creed. But when Ellen's two sisters come for a 'holiday', and their strange behaviour causes Leonora to ask them to leave, it is Leonora who vanishes. The action is also complicated by the arrival of the Creed sisters' nephew, Albert, adding to the mystery and suspense, as he attempts to trap the murderer.

CHARACTERS

Leonora	a retired ex-actress, not a star as we would understand it, but a jobbing actress who now has to rely on financial favours from previous admirers to survive.
Ellen	the perfect housekeeper of the period, you would say at first glance, yet this is a woman who spends the period of the action concealing a terrible secret, and gradually loses it as the play progresses. Like her two sisters, one suspects Ellen has a touch of the mental illness that they too suffer from.
Louisa Creed Emily Creed	both these sisters have what we would now call special needs. The 1890's were not so kind and they would have been lucky to escape commitment to a lunatic asylum. This is not to say they are mad or insane in any way, but they both have the obsessive characteristics of the mentally retarded.

The above four characters will have a playing age of middle to elderly age, say from late forties to seventies plus.

Lucy Gilham	a twenty something maid. Flirty, cheeky, when with Albert, but very respectful in the presence of the older women.
Sister Theresa	Roman Catholic nun from nearby Convent, No Irish accent really necessary, but one would be nice. Friend of Leonora and consequently around her age, 50's to 70's.
Albert Feather	The only male, except for a voice off. Albert is around Lucy's age, cocky, an accent that is now described as Estuarine not cockney, perhaps Mockney. A jack-the-lad, quick on the uptake, a petty criminal already, but clever and cunning in the way of an Eastend market boy.

All of the above roles give ample opportunity for the actors to create differing and colourful characters. I look forward to directing this play, which the Little Theatre did many years ago, but which I feel is more than good enough to repeat and be a success with Seaford audiences. Scripts are available from either myself or from the Theatre when it is open.

Alan G Baker

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