



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



ELL THREE MONTHS HAVE ALMOST passed since our June Newsletter, but the Theatre has been far from idle during the summer months. July saw the production of *Something To Hide*, playing to appreciative audiences. This was followed by the Theatre's contribution to SeafordLive!, with two nights of variety, called *A Little Bit Of London*, performed mostly by members of the Theatre with a little help from some outsiders, many of whom expressed their desire to become members after seeing and working in our Theatre for the first time.

A quiz night and ploughmans' supper held at the Theatre was also a huge success and my own and the committee's thanks go to everyone who was involved in the hard work needed to ensure a good evening.

Meanwhile, rehearsals are well underway for *Key for Two*, an hilarious comedy by John Chapman and Dave Freeman, directed by Samuel Nunn, who is making his directorial debut at the Theatre. Several members are also involved in a thirty minute pilot of a comedy film, *Hacking It*. Rehearsals are at the Theatre, although filming will be on location at Eastbourne. So your Theatre is quite busy. This is on top of our usual lettings to U3A, Poetry and lecture dates.

There has been some sadness too; below you will see my obituary for Ted Kennedy, who died on 29 July 2011. He will be greatly missed.

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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *KEY FOR TWO* by John Chapman & Dave Freeman



WE CLOSE OUR 2011 SEASON with the excellent *Key For Two*, a fast paced comedy set in a Regency flat in Brighton.

Harriet (Tricia Pape) is a witty, clever, manipulative woman who has happily manouevred things, so that each of the men in her life takes care of her every need, both blissfully unaware of their rival for her affections. And so long as everyone sticks to their allotted visiting times, and their respective wives don't find out, what could possibly go wrong?

With a strong cast that includes the acting talents of Alan G Baker, Kay Wetherilt, Ian Clegg, Sharon Besant and two newcomers to Seaford, Dean Matthews and Angie Wright, this long running hit West End production will guarantee to brighten up the onset of winter for you.

The show opens on Friday 11 November and runs through to the following Saturday 19 November, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on both Saturday 12 & Saturday 19 November at 2.30pm. **Please note that the Saturday performances are matinees only - no evening show.**

Tickets for members and patrons, as usual, are available in advance from 14 October at our new box office:

Sussex EyeCare Ltd, 9 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1LS. 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 £8 each, with two for the price of one on the First Night, and £7 each for the Saturday matinees.

For general enquiries regarding this production ring Stuart Ridley (01323) 899344

Finally, we are now members of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain. This is an organisation that believes independently controlled theatres, such as ourselves, benefit from regular get-togethers to discuss problems, experiences and standards. Regular meetings are held and three members of the committee are to attend their National Conference in October in Torquay.

Enjoy what remains of the summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Alan G. Baker

EDWARD 'TED' KENNEDY 18/4/1927 - 29/7/2011



It was with great sadness that myself and the whole Theatre Company, learned of the death of Ted on 29th July, 2011. He was one of the first people to greet and welcome me when I first arrived at Seaford Little Theatre.

I soon began to appreciate the amount of work that he did for the Theatre. As Business Manager he oversaw and organised all the repairs and additional building that was taking place at the theatre at that time. He kept a constant weather eye on the fabric of our Little Theatre, with regular attendance and reports to the Management Committee. Besides all this he played a major role in the running and organisation of our Front of House operations. At virtually every show he would be in the foyer, impeccably

dressed, greeting customers, taking tickets, telling them where their seats were, (he rarely had to look at the seating plan), arranging for wheelchair users to access their seats etc. It was quite a blow a little while ago when he had to relinquish the role of Business Manager, but his interest in Seaford Little Theatre remained undimmed, insisting that Margaret, his wife should appear on stage despite his own terminal illness, and in his final days always enquiring how the show had gone that night. He was a true and loyal friend and supporter of our Theatre. He will be deeply missed, not just by Margaret, to whom we extend our profoundest sympathy, but by all those who knew and worked with him. This Theatre has lost a great friend and in so doing has itself suffered a massive loss.

THANKS

Margaret, Stuart and Sue Kennedy would like to thank all their many friends for the flowers, kind words and messages of support when Ted slipped peacefully from this life at the end of July, and for their donations to the MacMillan Nurses, who were such a tower of support during the long months of Ted's illness. In total £1,032 has been raised in his name and has been given to the local group in Eastbourne.

Being a member of Seaford Little Theatre was a great joy to Ted and he never begrudged the many hours he put in over the years, finding that he was more than compensated by the fellowship of warm and loving friends.

NEXT SEASON

The proposed programme of plays for next season are as follows:

HABEAS CORPUS by Alan Bennett directed by Gini Comyns. 10 - 18 February 2012

HOBSON'S CHOICE by Harold Brighouse, directed by Stella Dench. 11 - 19 May 2012

THE BROWNING VERSION by Terrence Rattigan, directed by Alan G Baker and
A ONE ACT PLAY (tba) directed by Mary Young. 20 - 28 July 2012

STRAIGHT AND NARROW by Jimmy Chinn, directed by Dennis Picott. 9 -17 November 2012

Prospective plays for the 2013 season are **When We Are Married** and **The Restless Evil**



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

Deadline for next edition: 23 DECEMBER



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

Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians (and others)

All paid jobs absorb and degrade the mind.

Aristotle

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 are Tuesday 1 November to read **The Browning Version** by Terence Rattigan and Tuesday 3 January 2012 to read **Fumed Oak** by Noel Coward. There will **NOT** be a Play Reading in December. Attendance fee, to include Coffee/Tea and biscuits, will be £1 per head.

FURTHER REMINDER

FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER

Skittles Evening *The Royal Oak, Barcombe from 7.30pm*

This ever popular Skittles Evening at The Royal Oak, Barcombe has been booked for Friday 21 October at 7.30. Cost per person is £12. Please contact Gill on 01323 895225 to book. Providing you receive this Newsletter in time I can still take bookings up to 3 days prior to the event for any one who is interested in attending. Names as soon as possible please. If you require transport please contact me.

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER

Theatre AGM *Seaford Little Theatre, from 7.30pm*

The Annual General Meeting of Seaford Little Theatre will take place on Friday 28 October at 7.30 at the Little Theatre. Cheese and Wine will be served at the end of the meeting. I trust as many of you as possible will be able to attend.

SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Key For Two Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, ie. the final Saturday matinee, of our latest play **Key For Two**. 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 20 NOVEMBER

Theatre Clean Up *Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm*

All cast and crew members of **Key For Two** to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props, furniture etc. will need to be sorted, put away and returned as necessary and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal at a local hostelry.

REPORT BACK ON A LITTLE BIT OF LONDON

I am very pleased to report that our Revue in aid of The Sussex Air Ambulance as part of the SeafordLive! Festival made a good profit. The Sussex Air Ambulance provided collecting tins and the total collected from our audiences on the 2 nights we performed amounted to £166.64. I have been told by the organisers of SeafordLive! that the Theatre took the largest amount in donations. A big Thank You for their generosity goes to all our Patrons and Members (not forgetting the general public) who attended.

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Our recent Quiz Nite also made a good profit and I wish to thank Julie Pettitt for setting the Quiz. Quiz Nites are always popular and another will be organised in the near future.

Currently the Theatre needs funds badly as we have to have a damp course injected. This will be a major upheaval as the raised seating will have to be removed and new raking installed.

Your continued support is needed at all our Social events and productions in order to keep the Theatre running, so please make a note in your diaries now of the dates of forthcoming Productions and Social Events.

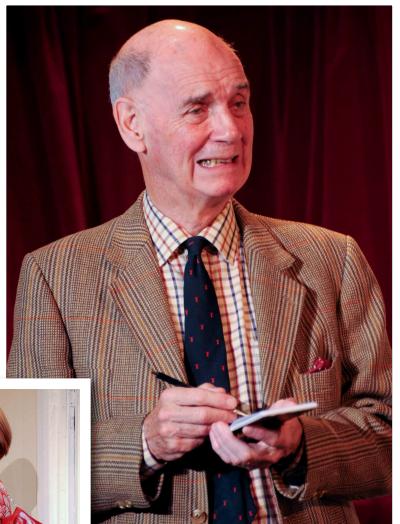
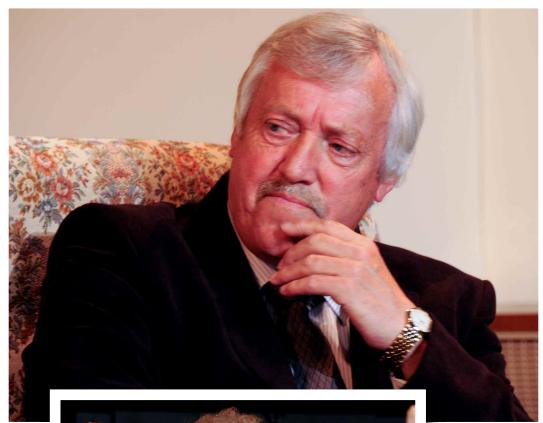
Gill Watson

Luvvie Loquacity - the thoughts of thespians

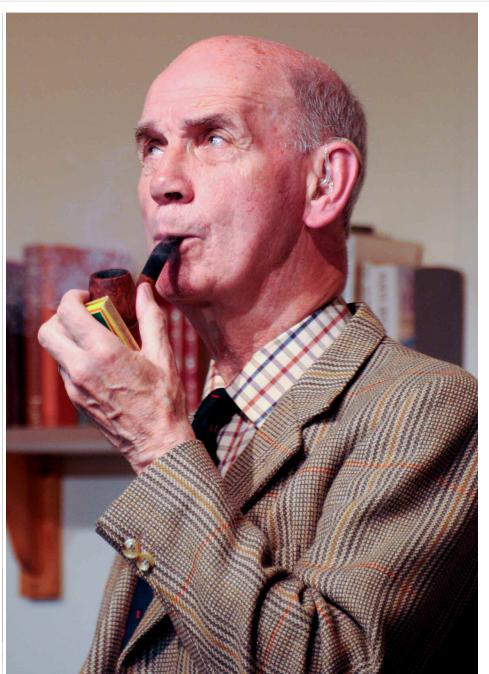
Hell is full of musical amateurs.

George Bernard Shaw

HIDDEN TALENTS



Photos From The Set
Of
Something To Hide
Taken By Andrew
Parkinson



AUDITION NOTICE - *HABEAS CORPUS* by Alan Bennett

Audition: Monday 21 November - 7.30pm and

Tuesday 22 November - 7.30pm

Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 10 - 18 February 2012

Director: Gini Comyns

Habeas Corpus, or literally translated "You may have the body", is a rollicking, randy two hours of fun. Written by 'National Treasure' Alan Bennett, it focusses on the seemingly respectable Wicksteed family, where lust and longing simmer just below the surface. Set in Hove in the early 1970's, this is farce at its most challenging - fast, furious and hugely funny. The set is minimal, just a sofa and a couple of chairs, and thus is a heavy burden on the actors - it's all about the lines! Timing is everything in this piece, and it demands an excellent cast! Ages of characters is not tremendously important, as long as the characters 'make sense' together.

CAST

Arthur Wicksteed

40 plus - Aging Lothario GP, bored with his marriage, and with a roving eye.

Muriel Wicksteed

His wife - A steadfast member of the WI, bit of a Hyacinth Bouquet, but longing to be held...

Dennis Wicksteed

18 plus - Their son - weedy, spotty, and a total hypochondriac.

Connie Wicksteed

Arthur's sister - a spinster, nervous, simpering, and desperate for a fuller chest!

Mrs Swabb

The cleaning lady, acts as a kind of Greek chorus, all-seeing and all-knowing where the Wicksteeds are concerned.
A randy vicar.

Lady Rumpers

Older lady - just returned to England from overseas.

Felicity Rumpers

18 plus - Her daughter, sexy and voluptuous.

Mr Shanks

Seedy salesman, possibly Cockney?

Sir Percy Shorter

Vertically challenged, pompous and arrogant.

Mr Perdue

(Small part) a suicidal patient of Wicksteed's.

Scripts are available in the Coffee Lounge at the theatre. (Please make sure you remember to sign them in and out)

Anyone who cannot make the audition date and is interested in a part then please contact me and I will arrange an alternative date for you.

GINI COMYNS

TELEPHONE: 07501 857395

EMAIL: giniboz@aol.com

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, 28th October 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 29th October 2010. (Copy available for inspection at The Little Theatre).
3. Chairman's Report
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report
5. To vote on:

Resolution (1) from the Management Committee: That the Rule Book of the society be amended in line with the changes to be found in the attached Appendix A.

ANY OTHER 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.

Chairman:

Vice-Chairman:

Hon. Treasurer:

Hon. Secretary:

Premises Manager:

Patrons' Secretary:

Social Secretary:

Public Relations Secreatry:

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

7. Election of Management Committee Members (4): 2 Vacancies.
(Rule 8. Management. a. (ii) Four other members of the Society elected for 2 years, two of whom shall retire annually in rotation.), Tricia Pape & Sandra Haynes have a further year to serve. There are two vacancies.

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 or young-g4@sky.com) or Margaret Kennedy (Hon. Treasurer) 01323 894938

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

OCTOBER 2011

APPENDIX A

The following changes to The Rule Book of the Society were recommended by the Management Committee to update and reflect practice.

0) Front Cover: Change "The Seaford Dramatic Society" to "The Seaford Little Theatre" and change date to 2011.

1) Rule 1: Change to "The society which was The Seaford Dramatic Society shall now be known as The Seaford Little Theatre".

2) Rule 3: Change line 7 to read "A register of members is to be kept by the Membership Secretary".

3) Rule 4: Change 4a to read "The society shall welcome new members. Leave 4b as is and delete 4c.

4) Rule 5: Change line 2 to "at the Annual General Meeting of the society". Delete all after the end of the sentence "...writing." in line 5. Add "If the subscription remains unpaid the member is deemed to have left and will no longer receive the Newsletter from April.

5) Rule 7: Change to read "The Honorary Executive Officers of the Society shall be the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Premises Manager, Public Relations Secretary, Social Secretary and Patrons' Secretary."

6) Rule 11: Remove the words "September or" in line 2.

7) Rule 14: Add the word "have" in line 11 to read "jurisdiction shall have been obtained;"

8) Rule 19: Change to read "Any member who has not paid the subscription by the end of February shall be deemed to have resigned and will cease to receive further newsletters and privileges."

18) Rule 22: Change "the National Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Association" and insert "the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain" in its place.

20) Rule 25: Change a) to read "Production Committee: This committee shall be nominated bi-annually by the Management Committee from the membership. At least two members shall change every two years. Their function shall be to make recommendations for future productions and Directors thereof." Change b) to read "Casting Committee: This committee shall consist of the Director, a member of the Management Committee and one other member with considerable stage experience." The last sentence of b) is to be cut out. (c) to remain as is.

21) Rule 26: Change a) to read: The Management Committee should be informed if it is necessary to replace any person. Delete b).

Copies to be held by Management Committee, for any member on request and at AGM.