

STAGEW



SEAFORD LITTLE THEATRE NEWSLETTER Issue 24 - November 2025

our next production : **PEOPLE** by Alan Bennett

We move from Shakespeare to Bennett for our December production, with **People** which premiered at the National Theatre in October 2012. Directed by Trish Richings the play has all the characteristic Alan Bennett humour and pathos you'd expect from such a renowned English playwright.

Dorothy Stacpoole, ageing aristocrat and former model, owns a crumbling stately home and is considering her options as how best to preserve the property and its treasury of priceless contents, but without jeopardising her last few remaining years. The National Trust is an obvious strong contender, whereas using the house as a setting for what is, rather more tastefully referred to as 'an adult film', is another.

The clash between these two extremes

“People spoil things ...”

Mr Bevan

Don't forget there is a special offer of two tickets for the price of one on the first night - 5 December

(subject to availability)



and those of the principal protagonists, is a vehicle for outrageous humour. But, as always with Bennett, there is an underlying theme of humanity which makes the shock of what the audience sees not merely palatable, but relevant in many ways to modern society, its mores and attitudes.

The play features Tricia Pape, Kirsty Turner, Jasmine Sharif, Simon Fox, Raymond Tongue, Dug Godfrey, Roland Boorman,

Trish Richings, Kate Baker, Stephen Cowells and Alan Lade.

The show opens on Friday 5 December 2025 and runs through to the following Saturday 13 December with matinées only on both Saturday 6 and Saturday 13 December. Evening performances commence at 7.45pm and the matinées will start at 2.30pm. Tickets are on sale now at all our usual venues.

FOR ALL BOOKING INFORMATION SEE PAGE 8



THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Sue Williams

HELLO EVERYONE. Now we are 80! Our summer celebration of this milestone took place on August 2 and was a very happy occasion with many former members coming along with food to share. The thing everyone wanted to do was chat and have a good catch up, with past and present members together with some families and friends creating a cheerful buzz in the auditorium. Graham Tubb gave an entertaining talk on the history of the Little Theatre, Tanya Baxter's beautiful 80th birthday cake was divided and a good time was had by all. Thanks again to Debbie Cox and her team of helpers.

Whilst I am writing about helpers, is anyone willing to step up and take over the organisation of the tea and coffee rota? This task fell to me for the last play and I'm still there! Organising the rota isn't difficult with a willing WhatsApp group eager to take their turn in the kitchen or sell ice-creams in the interval. Making sure that enough supplies are available is a big part of the job; here again help is at hand...and as a plus Charlie the ice-cream supplier is a delight!! Please contact me or Alan if you feel able to take this on.

A Midsummer Night's Dream in September was a big success with audiences responding in numbers to Tim Telford's inventive take on the story and some very strong performances, not least those given by four young actors playing the two sets of "lovers". To see the theatre full of appreciative audiences was wonderful. This was helped along by Tim's all-pervasive and relentless publicity, and we are lucky in that Tim has said he will continue to publicise our

plays. So, directors, contact Tim!

We have had a couple of set-backs, now overcome. David Parton was all set to direct *People* in December, but with very great reluctance he has had to withdraw due to a hip condition that has left him in constant pain. We do of course send him our very best wishes and hope he is soon more comfortable. Trish Richings has stepped into the breach, and rehearsals and set construction are in full swing.

The second set-back concerns the March production. Mike Truman was keen to direct *Juno and the Paycock*, one of the four plays suggested to the management committee by the production committee. Mike chose to have very early auditions but unfortunately the initial read-through of *Juno* made it plain that casting would likely be an insurmountable obstacle. So Mike has had a rethink and is now suggesting another play: *The Graduate*! What an interesting choice, and one sure to draw the audiences! Because of this, however, we have had to delay the printing of our 2026 season leaflet longer than we should have wished. Audition details for *The Graduate* are in this newsletter

My love to you all - and Cheers! to another 80 years,

SUE

PS. Management committee minutes are now available to members. The first instalment can be found in a clearly labelled folder on a shelf in the green room





Debbie Cox
Tel: 07596709044
Email: coxdeb8@gmail.com.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



Firstly many thanks to Roger and Karen for running their music quiz in September. They organise splendid social events at East Dean and kindly produced a music quiz for SLT members. It really was such a fun, entertaining evening. They also generously donated items for the raffle.

In total an impressive £477 was collected for the Raise the Roof fund. A lot of time and effort was put into the event and it was thoroughly enjoyable. Let's hope this will be the start of many more.

Tanya is planning another of her deliciously lavish Afternoon Tea's for Saturday 22 November. Find her poster later in this newsletter. Tanya also has some exciting ideas for social activities next year. We are very grateful to her for her support.

Gill has dusted off her sparkly social secretary shoes and has organised and very generously funded a social event with the charismatic singer Dean Ager, Something to very much look forward to for 24 April 2026. £15 per person. More details to follow in later newsletters.



As we approach the party season, if anyone fancies a party, let me know and I will see what we can do. Along with any other suggestions for what you would like for our social events.

We always need more people to take an active role in organising our social activities, so if there is anything you would be keen to have a go at, please let me know. Go on it's fun.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Debbie x

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER

People Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party, following the last performance, of our latest production **People**. 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 14 DECEMBER

Theatre Clean Up

Seaford Little Theatre from 2.00pm

All cast and crew members of **People** to please attend and clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The set will need to be dismantled and costumes, props etc. sorted and returned and the Theatre cleaned through.

TEA & TOAST COFFEE MORNINGS



Tea and toast is still going very well. A big thank you as always to Phil and Gail, along with all the tidy uppers and, of course, everyone who comes along and supports us.

First Monday of each month, eat and drink all you like - just £2.

AFTERNOON TEA

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2025

FROM 1PM, Held At Seaford Little Theatre, 4 Steyning Road, BN25 1HA

All bookings required by 4th November, Please call TANYA tel.
07725632849 or email treasurer@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk

Choice of sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted



cream and a variety of other cakes



£18.pp with unlimited tea and coffee



£22.pp with glass of prosecco



Additional drinks can also be purchased

Please note that because it is a charity fundraising event and I am not a professional caterer, I apologise, but unfortunately I cannot cater for any allergies, only cater for vegetarians and meat lovers and you take responsibility for yourself attending.

All profits made are in aid of 'Raising the Roof Fund'



AUDITION NOTICE
THE GRADUATE

by Terry Johnson, directed by Mike Truman

Audition Date: Friday 14 November 2025- 7.30pm
Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 6 - 14 March 2026

Benjamin's got excellent grades, very proud parents and, since he helped Mrs Robinson with her zipper, a fine future behind him. Based on the cult novel, and classic film, this hilarious dark comedy, full of rapid fire dialogue between fascinating and horrifying characters, brings vividly to life Benjamin, the graduate of the title, and his disastrous sexual odyssey. This play explores family dysfunction, parental expectations, crumbling marriages, and the naive, yet disillusioned, dichotomy of youth, against the shiny backdrop of affluent Southern California in the mid 1960s.

The script is available to download from our website, on the Audition page.

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

CHARACTERS		
BENJAMIN BRADDOCK	MR BRADDOCK (HIS DAD)	MRS BRADDOCK (HIS MOM)
MR ROBINSON (THEIR NEIGHBOUR & CLOSE FRIEND)	MRS ROBINSON (HIS WIFE)	ELAINE ROBINSON (THEIR DAUGHTER)
EXOTIC DANCER	DESK CLERK	TWO MEN
PSYCHIATRIST	WEDDING GUESTS	PRIEST
THE DESK CLERK DOUBLES THE PRIEST AND THE PSYCHIATRIST.		
THE TWO MEN AND THE WEDDING GUESTS ARE DOUBLED BY THE COMPANY.		

Mike Truman

Email: mtruman@mail.com

PLAY READING - *THE GRADUATE* by Terry Johnson

There is a play reading evening specifically for those who are interested in coming along to read in or listen to ***The Graduate*** by Terry Johnson. This will take place on Friday 7 November 2025, 7.30pm at Seaford Little Theatre.

For more information about the play and the characters please see the info above. All who attend who want to read in will get an opportunity to do so.

We look forward to seeing you on that evening.





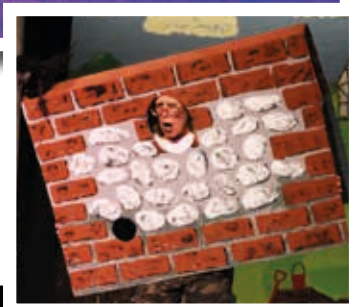
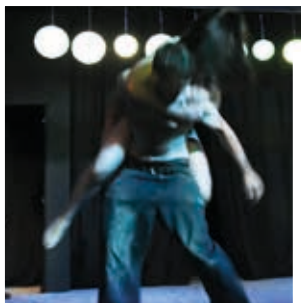
Photos from the set of
A Midsummer Night's Dream
taken by Andrew Parkinson

Sweet Dreams

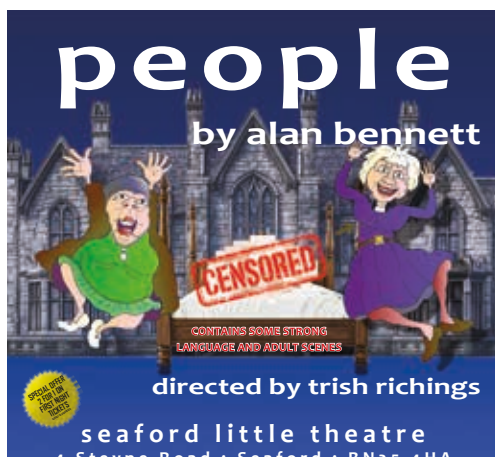


*Midsummer Night's
Dream with Darren
Heather, Emily Feist,
Jasmine Chance Ramsay,
Lauren Brakes, Sonny
Williams, Cody Thacker,
Dan Williams, Katie
Clammer, Phoebe
Bazzard, Sandy Truman,,
Sue Williams, Claire
Coull, Marilynne Sharpin,
Angie Wright, Kim Sanger
White, Debbie Cox, and
Alan Lade.*





BOOKING INFORMATION



The ticket prices are £11.00 each for the tiered seats and £10.00 each for all other seats.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and Friends of the theatre are available at our box office:

SEAFORD TOURIST OFFICE,

37 Church Street, Seaford, BN25 1HG

Telephone Enquiries & Booking:

(01323) 897426

Email: seaford.tic@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

We also have an on-line booking system via TicketSource. This can be found at:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/seaford-little-theatre
or through our website, address below.

Please note a small booking fee applies to all on-line sales. Unfortunately, due to the way in which the system operates, this facility cannot be used when exchanging Friend's Vouchers. These must still be presented at the Box Office as usual.

Postal applications should 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 seek is not possible the nearest available seats will be sent.

Could you also provide an alternative date in case the the one you request is sold out.

TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE ON THE OPENING NIGHT!
(subject to availability)

Tickets for this production on sale now



Contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Send your pieces to:

newsletter@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk



**For an on-line version of this newsletter and lots of other information
visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website:
www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk**

**Potential copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter:
16 JANUARY 2026**