

JULY 2017

# newsletter

Editor Jill Fuller [newsletter@sewellbarn.org](mailto:newsletter@sewellbarn.org) | Design Cassie Tillett [admin@sewellbarn.org](mailto:admin@sewellbarn.org)

**sewellbarn**  
THEATRE

Constitution Hill  
Norwich NR3 4BB

Box office: 01603 626414

[www.sewellbarn.org](http://www.sewellbarn.org)

## Our Next Productions

### Lark Rise to Candleford

Two plays by Keith Dewhurst adapted from the novels by Flora Thompson

**Lark Rise: 11, 13, 19 October at 7.30 pm (matinées 2.30 pm 14, 21 October)**

**Candleford: 12, 14, 18, 20 & 21 October at 7.30 pm**



Photography: Andrew Evans

Welcome back, and we hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer. We are excited to present our new 2017/18 season, starting with these two magical plays. Director Robert Little says: "The company has been working very hard since early August rehearsing two productions to open the new season. I have managed to assemble a large cast of around 30 actors and musicians to tell Flora Thompson's autobiographical stories. Most of the actors will cross from one show into the other, popping up as one of the many inhabitants of rural England at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These plays became famous for their iconic style and use of traditional music. Under the musical directorship of **Michelle Glover**, who has arranged and composed some original music for this production, the company has an amazing band that will bring love and joy to your experience on the journey that is **Lark Rise to Candleford**."

"The large company really does cover the generations on and off stage, and is brimming with talent from all age brackets. The younger Laura in Lark Rise is to be played on alternate performances by **Connie Reid & Charlotte Woolsey** (ones to watch out for) and Laura in Candleford is played by **Ella Daymond** (who graduated as a drama student this year). The cast also includes some very familiar faces who have been great servants to the company over many productions, and a sprinkling of some newer faces and even some who are making their debut for the company. This is truly a company production. Both plays are staged on alternate nights with a double performance to be enjoyed one the two Saturdays. If you book for the double bill, we invite you to enjoy a **free cream tea** (details below). The two shows are seldom performed together, so this is an opportunity not to be missed."

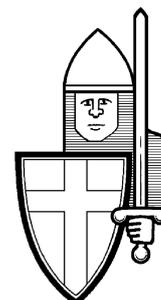
“As the director I hope that you have the same rewarding experience that I have had in working with this wonderfully hard working and creative company. Please come and support all their hard work. You will not be disappointed. We promise you charm, laughter and music .”

## Special offers for Lark Rise to Candleford

- **Wednesday 11 October (Lark Rise):** free drink for all audience members.
- **Wednesday 18 October (Candleford):** free drink for Friends of the Sewell Barn on production of a valid membership card.
- **Saturdays 14 & 21 October:** free cream tea if you book for the matinée (Lark Rise) and the evening (Candleford) together. **NB:** please book by **the Wednesday before (i.e. 11 or 18 October)** to help with catering arrangements.

## Bookings

Our telephone and walk-in ticket bookings are handled by **St George's Music Shop** (near the Norwich Playhouse) at 17-19 St George's Street Norwich NR3 1AB, tel: 01603 626414, or visit our online bookings link at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sewellbarn>.



## Our previous production

# A Chorus of Disapproval

by Alan Ayckbourn | directed by Cassie Tillet

13-15 & 19-22 July



Photography: Sean Owen of Reflective Arts

Life imitates art rather more often than is comfortable. We had two major character replacements – one early in rehearsals and one with a month to go – and more spectacularly, a broken arm as we were about to begin our first dress rehearsal... but this was a production full of skill, strong company support and happiness, and the results produced wonderful reactions from large audiences, including a sell-out first night.

"**Haven't laughed so much in ages**, what a fantastic show, beautiful singing too, well done to everyone involved." *Ruth H*

"Had a great evening watching *A Chorus of Disapproval* at the Sewell Barn last night - **lots of laughs, high production values and beautiful characterisation**. Well done and thank you." *Clare H*

"It is a **cracking, crackling show**, intelligently directed by Cassie Tillett. Minimal settings that keep the action flowing seamlessly, and a staging that enables all characters to be seen and heard ... The performances are all honest and real, and very funny... I confess to having an aversion to Alan Ayckbourn, which I think has developed from seeing so many bad amateur productions. I am so relieved to say that Cassie and her excellent company have restored my faith. Well done, everyone." *David W*

More reviews, of this and other shows, can be found on our blog at <http://sewellbarntheatre.blogspot.co.uk>.

## Coming Soon

# Music at the Barn

**Saturday 28 October | Tickets £7 (no concessions) | Doors open at 7:30pm | Music starts at 8:00pm**

The Sewell Barn Theatre, in partnership with **events@paddlefast**, presents an intimate evening of musical entertainment. Drawing from a wealth of local talent these acts bring their music, memories, thoughts and insights to our unique setting.

**Andrea King** has built up a steady following with audiences over the last few years, both here and in her home town of Bury St Edmunds, with her melodies and heartfelt tales. Influenced by the likes of Joni Mitchell, Ella Fitzgerald and Amy Winehouse, Andrea's bluesy tunes and guitar playing are sure to capture your attention and hold you fast.

**Don't Lose Heart** are a duo comprising Louise Sadler and Dickie Hartt (with the combined names making the name of the band). Regulars on the Norwich scene and further afield in Norfolk, their chilled-out sets combine Lou's heartfelt originals and covers from the roots 'n' shoots of Americana, Blues and Country.

**Falling from Trees** return to the Barn after their successful debut in January 2017. With their infectious tunes, gutsy vocals and touching and insightful songs, the 'two brothers and a sister' combo have recently expanded their musical ranks. Popular and in demand the group have been doing the festival circuit this summer and make a welcome return to the Sewell Barn stage.

# Accidental Death of an Anarchist

**by Dario Fo | adapted by Gavin Richards | trans. Gillian Hanna | directed by Karl Hartland & Clare Williamson**

**23-25, 29-30 Nov, 1-2 Dec 2017**



Moving into rehearsal now is our second show of the 2017/18 season. The directors have an exciting 'gender-blind' cast, and the show promises to be fast moving and hilarious. The recently late Nobel Laureate Dario Fo has created a sharp and hilarious satire on police corruption. This revenge farce is packed full of fake news - as relevant today as when it was first staged over forty years ago.

***Contains strong language***

## Auditions

Our next casting opportunity is the exciting production of **Dinner** by Moira Buffini, which plays in April 2018. Directed by Jen Dewsbury, this cracking black comedy will have the audience laughing uproariously one moment and jumping with shock the next. Seven superb roles are on offer in this challenging, powerful, hilarious show. Auditions will be held on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm** at the Barn, and you'll find more details on our website at <http://www.sewellbarn.org/dinnerauditions.html>



## Membership renewals

This is our final call for membership renewals for Friends of the Sewell Barn. It's an excellent way to support our work, and we very much appreciate it. It costs £10 for a year, £15 for a couple at the same address, or £50 per person for lifetime membership. The Friends are entitled to voting rights at our AGM (see below for details), giving you an active say in the running of your theatre, and receive a free drink on Welcome Wednesdays during the run of each show. If you're receiving this mailing electronically, a link to renewal details will be emailed to you separately; if you're receiving it by post, a paper copy is included with this newsletter.

## AGM

We look forward to welcoming Friends and Members alike to our **Annual General Meeting**. This will be held at the Barn on Sunday 29 October at 3.00pm (the bar will be open, and tea and cake will be provided). Please notify Jill Fuller ([chair@sewellbarn.org](mailto:chair@sewellbarn.org)) if you will be attending (for catering numbers) and if you wish to send your apologies.

## Front of House Get Together

On September 19<sup>th</sup> we held a very sociable evening for all helpers front of house. This was attended by around 20 volunteers, who enjoyed a glass of bubbly and a buffet supper, whilst also learning a bit more about our licensing laws through a quiz set by Rick, our licensee. Jane went through our responsibilities as stewards.

If you were unable to attend and would like to **volunteer**, don't feel left out; please get in touch with Jane on 01603 429360 or [foh@sewellbarn.org](mailto:foh@sewellbarn.org). We are always looking for new people to act as stewards and run the bar. We can offer help and training if you are new to it.

## Help with mailings

We have been very grateful to Frances O'Regan for her quiet, reliable assistance over the last year, but she now needs to step down. Would you be able to take her place? We need somebody to take over the 'snail-mailing' of the patrons' letter before each show (once every 6 weeks or so), including **photocopying and envelope-stuffing** (just over 100 people each time), plus occasional other mailings. Frances has also been checking our **answerphone** (phoning in remotely) and passing on messages 2-3 times per week. Neither job is difficult but they do need to be done reliably as we have no full-time admin support. If you can help, please contact Cassie Tillett on [admin@sewellbarn.org](mailto:admin@sewellbarn.org).

## Casting opportunity in Norwich

Emmalouise Smith is a local film-maker currently casting a short film as part of a Masters degree at Norwich University of the Arts. She has asked us to offer the following: "I am scheduling 2-3 evenings of shoot dates for November, and seeking two females as the joint-lead parts of the script. Playing age between 18-26, I'm looking for more of a naturalistic acting style, and hoping to develop characters through improv sessions on the leadup. For more information, or to apply, please email [emmaalouise@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:emmaalouise@hotmail.co.uk) with cover letter and headshot."

## What else is on in the area?

**Maddermarket Theatre** [www.maddermarket.co.uk](http://www.maddermarket.co.uk)

St. John's Alley, Norwich. NR2 1DR

**An Ideal Husband** by Oscar Wilde

**20-28 October** at 7.30pm; matinees at 2.30 pm on 21 & 28 October

**Great Hall Theatre Company** [www.greathalltheatre.org.uk](http://www.greathalltheatre.org.uk)

The Assembly Rooms, Theatre Street, Norwich NR2 1RQ

**Frost on the Rose** by T B Norris

3-7 October at 7.30 pm, matinée 7 October at 2.30 pm

