

### THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



HELLO EVERYONE, I hope that you are making the most of the brighter warmer days now that spring is upon us! We were warmed and brightened by a successful February production of **Humble Boy** by Charlotte Jones, which was a funny and moving piece. Congratulations to Cathryn Parker, her cast and crew. Special mention must be made of the cast and techies for coping so well with the power cut which caused the stage lights to fail on the second Friday. Our audience on that evening were most understanding. The new acoustic door between the coffee lounge and auditorium has been tested during these shows. It seems to work well but has meant a new ramp being built to prevent people tripping on the threshold.

Rehearsals are now well underway for David Parton's production of **The Wooden Dish** by Edmund Morris and Lori Boul is assisting with the direction. We had a disappointing turnout for the auditions and hope to see more members coming to audition or support next time.

Adrian Bowd, who was due to direct in July, has had to pull out. I am going to direct his One Act Play, **The Copyhold** based on a Thomas Hardy story. Instead of Ade's Classic Sketches, Victoria Thomson (of Lewes Little Theatre and The Players Collective) will direct an Alan Bennett One Act Play, **Say Something Happened**.

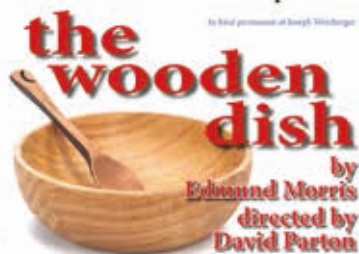
The Management Committee have approved plans to re-rake and replace the fixed seating in the auditorium. The work is planned for August when we are dark. We hope the new seating will be unveiled for our two Anniversary Open Days on the 4th and 5th September. This event is to celebrate our 70th Anniversary, sharing our theatre with the community. Lori Boul is organising this event and she would like to hear from any members who can help. To complete the celebrations, we are holding A Gala Night on the final Saturday of **Relative Values**. Please let me know of any former members or friends you might wish to be invited.

Finally, congratulations to our President, Valerie Shepherd on her ninety-fifth birthday and to Life Member, Stella Dench on her ninetieth. I look forward to seeing you at our theatre and would welcome any suggestions.

*Mary Young*

### OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - **THE WOODEN DISH** by Edmund Morris

seaford little theatre presents



THE MAY PRODUCTION AT SEAFORD is a searing Southern States family drama, **The Wooden Dish** by Edmund Morris, directed by David Parton.

Pop is the cantankerous, stubborn patriarch who has been forced by circumstance to live with one of his sons, Glenn, in his humble home in the south of 1950's America. Clara, Glenn's long-suffering wife, has reached the end of her tether coping with her curmudgeonly father-in-law and demands a change and a chance to live her own life. Thus the scene is set for a family meeting involving older brother Floyd who left home many years before, to determine Pop's fate, as tempers fray and passions rage in the fiery heat of the summer.

Chronologically this intense study of human relationships is wedged between Arthur Miller's **All My Sons** (1947) and Tennessee Williams' **Cat On A Hot Tin Roof** (1955) – both of which plays also focus on the intricacies of family life and how they affect the protagonists and the different generations.

Featuring performances from John Hamilton, Sue Shephard, Dennis Picott, Alan Lade, Angie Wright, Peter Barnes, Clare Forshaw and the debut at Seaford of Emily Barlow, as Glenn and Clara's daughter Susan.

The show opens on Friday 15 May 2015 and runs through to the following Saturday 23 May, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 16 May at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and friends of the theatre are available in advance from **Friday 17 April 2015** at our box office: **STITCH, 13 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1LS.**

Postal applications 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.

It is also now possible to reserve tickets by email for collection and payment on the door. Send your application to:  
**[tickets@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:tickets@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)**.

Again if the position you request is not possible the nearest available seats will be reserved.

The ticket prices are £8 each, with a special price of £7.00 each for the first night, the matinée and the last Saturday.

**For general enquiries regarding this production ring Margaret Kennedy 01323 894938**

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### SATURDAY 23 MAY

#### **The Wooden Dish** Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, of our latest production **The Wooden Dish**. 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 24 MAY

#### **Theatre Clean Up** Seaford Little Theatre from 2.30pm

All cast and crew members of **The Wooden Dish**. to please attend to clean and tidy up the Theatre after this production. The costumes, props etc., will need to be returned and need to be sorted beforehand and the Theatre to be cleaned through. There will also be a get together afterwards for a meal at a local hostelry.

## PLAY READING

OUR PLAY READING GROUP meets at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday each month in the coffee room at the theatre. Our programme for the coming months will be advertised as usual in the coffee room, immediately prior to the first Tuesday.

The schedule for the next few months is:

TUESDAY MAY 5 **Hands Across the Sea & Ways and Means**, Noel Coward one act plays

TUESDAY JUNE 2 **Relative Values** by Noel Coward (our November production)

If anyone has any suggestions for plays to read please let us know. We can also include readings of plays we will never be able to stage in Seaford.

For more information call Mary Young: Tel: 07891 691341

Email: gmaryyoung@gmail.com



## PLEA FOR HELP



AS MENTIONED THE NEW raking and seating for the auditorium has now been ordered and the date for installation is to be week beginning 17 August.

As soon as the July production curtain comes down, some able bodied men, and women, will be required to dismantle the current raking and removal of existing seating. The Plumbers are booked for the 13 August to deal with the re-positioning of the radiators so there will be 12 days to complete the removal of the existing raking and seating. There is the usual Theatre clean/set dismantle on Sunday 2 August but that production, I believe, is being done to 'blacks' so no real set to take down. Perhaps this time could be utilised to make a start on dismantling the raking etc.

I shall be very pleased to hear from those who are able to give up some time for this.

Please contact me, Gill Watson, preferably by email: gillwatson69@gmail.com

## COME BACK KEN, ALL IS FORGIVEN

A HEARTY GET BETTER SOON goes out to set building stalwart, Ken Watts, who has been greatly missed on Wednesday nights since suffering a recent stroke. Ken, who originally only came along to keep his daughter Kate company, could be seen every week beavering away helping to build the intricate sets for many of our recent productions. Never one to rely on that there new fangled electricity, Ken always did it with muscle power, sweat and a wry smile.

So we wish you all the best Ken and hope to see you back with us very soon. It's just not the same without you telling us all how it SHOULD be done!

*Ken Watts (left) helping to support Ray Cox who is well past his sell-by date ⇌*



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

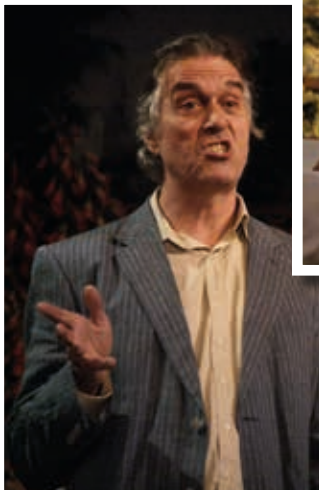
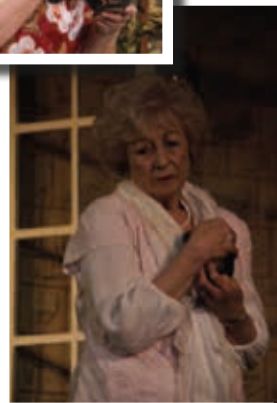


**For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information  
Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on [www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)**

# To Bee Or Not To Bee



Photos from the set of  
**Humble Boy**  
taken by Andrew Parkinson



## AUDITION NOTICE

**THE COPYHOLD** by Thomas Hardy adapted by Adrian Bowd - Director: Mary Young  
**SAY SOMETHING HAPPENED** by Alan Bennett - Director: Victoria Thompson

Audition Date: Tuesday 28 April 2015 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 24 July - 1 August 2015

**The Copyhold** by Thomas Hardy, a One Act Play adapted by Adrian Bowd, directed by Mary Young

Based on one of the 'A Few Crusted Characters' stories, this tells how a young country girl tries to gain the right to her uncle's cottage as she plans for her marriage and her future.

CHARACTERS	
NETTY SARGENT	a pretty young woman 20 – 30, pleasant but resourceful
NORA PRIVETT	a neighbour woman 50+, helpful and inquisitive
JASPER CLIFF	a young man 20 -30 +, sullen disposition, rather acquisitive
JACOB SARGENT	Netty's Uncle, an elderly man 70ish, very frail
THE SQUIRE'S AGENT	a helpful official, 30s -60s

AUDITION PIECES	
NETTY	pages 9 -11, 21 - 23
NORA	pages 5 - 9
JASPER	pages 9 - 11, 21 - 23
JACOB	pages 11 - 13
AGENT	pages 18 - 21

### Rehearsals: Mondays & Thursdays

Scripts are available from the director (07891 691341). Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script.

Mary Young Tel: 07891 691341 or 01323 351882 Email: gmaryyoung@gmail.com

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Say Something Happened** A One Act Play by Alan Bennett, directed by Victoria Thompson

Social Services is preparing a register of the elderly and June (35'ish) is despatched to gather information and hands-on-experience. Mam and Dad, in their 60s, should be in need of registering - but Mam and Dad, have no intention of being so!

A comedy still very relevant to 2015. 3 'Character' parts.

CHARACTERS	
MAM	A woman in her 60's prepared to argue about anything. Originally played by Thora Hird.
DAD	Similar age, trying to be nice to everyone. Originally played by Hugh Lloyd
JUNE POTTER	A well meaning Social Services worker, out of her depth with these two. 30-40 playing age. Originally played by Julie Walters.

AUDITION PIECES	
ALL THREE CHARACTERS	pages 117 -119, 122 - 123 inclusive

### Rehearsals: Thursdays & Sundays (initially)

Scripts are available from the director (01323 892384). Please read, copy any passages you require and return so that other people can access a script.

Victoria Thompson Tel: 01323 892384 Email: directrice@hotmail.co.uk

**Copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter: 5 JUNE 2015**