

### THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



HELLO EVERYONE, Our busy summer is underway with no less than three one act plays in rehearsal, plans for the auditorium refurbishment moving ahead and the September Open Days in preparation.

We added Ayckbourn's *Between Mouthfuls* to create a Triple Bill for presentation in July, alongside *The Copyhold* based on Thomas Hardy and *Say Something Happened* by Alan Bennett. We are lucky to have three separate casts and were able to cast all twelve actors who auditioned. Some crew may still be required, so if you can help, please let me know. Many thanks if you have offered help with removing seating in August or with the Open Days. It is still not too late to join the work parties.

Congratulations to David Parton, his cast and crew for giving us a moving and thought provoking (if not worrying) production with *The Wooden Dish*. I just loved that last line..... "Remember you'll be old one day!" It was our President, Valerie's choice for our 70th year and it was great that she got to see it. We wish her well for a speedy recovery after her recent fall.

Lastly, we have a challenge to members to help with productions. We need to build teams of people who are able to work on aspects such as lighting and sound, stage management and front of house management. Currently it is often down to one or two and if they can't make it we would find it difficult to put on a show. It would be so reassuring if every actor had a second theatre skill. Training is always available working, with those who know the ropes. Let me know if you are interested in finding out more by email [chair@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:chair@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk) or mob. 07891691341.

We are very grateful to the Sussex Eye Care and Stitch shops which have helped us so much providing Box Office

... continued on page 2

### OUR NEXT PRODUCTION - *TRIPLE BILL OF ONE ACT PLAYS*

seaford little theatre presents  
A Triple Bill of One Act Plays

**thomas HARDY** the copyhold  
adapted by ADRIAN BOWD  
directed by MARY YOUNG

**alan BENNETT** say something happened  
directed by VICTORIA THOMPSON

**alan AYCKBOURN** between mouthfuls  
directed by LORI BOUL

THIS JUNE SEES A TRIPLE BILL AT SEAFORD featuring works by some of the best loved writers in Britain, Thomas Hardy, Alan Bennett and Alan Ayckbourn

*The Copyhold* is a short story by Thomas Hardy, adapted by Adrian Bowd and directed by Mary Young. Pretty Netty Sargent, who lives with her uncle Jacob in his cottage and is engaged to Jasper, seeks to secure her future happiness and security by persuading her uncle to sign over the copyhold of his property into her name so that she can inherit it after his demise. If only it were that simple.

*Say Something Happened* is a sharply observed comedy by Alan Bennett, directed by Victoria Thompson, about an elderly couple who are visited by an inexperienced social worker who needs to get them registered with the Council as

a precaution, but the wily old couple have no intention of being processed quite so easily!

*Between Mouthfuls*, directed by Lori Boul, is a hilarious short play by Alan Ayckbourn and is part of his *Confusions* cycle. Two separate couples are both having a fairly fractious meal out in the same restaurant, staffed by a stoical, taciturn waitress. However there is a connection between the couples that gradually comes to light as the meals progress.

Featuring performances from many of Seaford's familiar faces, old and not so old, as well as the debut of Ray Cox who is usually kept busy behind the scenes, plus two excellent directors new to Seaford Little Theatre, this show promises a sparkling night out. It opens on Friday 24 July 2015 and runs through to the following Saturday 1 August, with evening performances from 7.45pm and a matinee on Saturday 25 July at 2.30pm.

Tickets for members (don't forget your membership card please) and friends of the theatre are available in advance from **Friday 27 June 2015** at our **NEW** box office: **REDGOLD OPTICIANS, 32 Broad Street, Seaford, BN25 1ND.**

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 matinee and the last Saturday.

For general enquiries regarding this production ring Sylvia Aston 07801692292

facilities for several years. Sadly, they are unable to continue, but we are very pleased that Redgold Opticians have agreed to give it a try for us. Please remember, when booking tickets you may have to wait whilst their principle business is undertaken and we ask for your patience in this regard.

I hope you have a great summer and look forward to seeing you at our theatre soon.

Mary Young

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

#### **Triple Bill** Wrap Party

There will be the usual Wrap Party following the last performance, of our latest production **The Triple Bill**. 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 2 AUGUST

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

All cast and crew members of **The Triple Bill**. 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

WHY NOT COME AND JOIN US, to read or to listen, at our monthly Play Readings held on the 1st Tuesday (unless there is a production)? It is good fun and you can read parts you wouldn't be able to play on stage! We read some Noel Coward one act plays from **Tonight at 8.30** in May. In June we had a full house for the reading of Coward's **Relative Values** which Derek Watts is directing in November.

The schedule for the next few months is:

TUESDAY JULY 7 **Flare Path**, by Terrence Rattigan

TUESDAY AUGUST 4 **Funny Money** by Ray Cooney

We need to choose some favourite scenes to read on the Open Day, so let me know if you have suggestions.

For more information call Mary Young: Tel: 07891 691341

Email: [gmaryyoung@gmail.com](mailto:gmaryyoung@gmail.com)

## DON'T FORGET

AS MENTIONED IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER THE NEW raking and seating for the auditorium is due for installation in the week beginning 17 August.

As soon as the July production curtain comes down, we will be dismantling the current raking and removing the 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 this work. Anyone who has volunteered to assist in the process please make sure that you have the dates pencilled in your diaries, so that the transition will be as smooth as possible.

And if there is anybody who has not yet volunteered and wishes to do so, I shall be very pleased to hear from them.

Please contact me, Gill Watson, preferably by email: [gillwatson69@gmail.com](mailto:gillwatson69@gmail.com)

## NEW BOX OFFICE

UNFORTUNATELY, AFTER MANY YEARS of excellent service, STITCH are no longer able to provide our Box Office. We are sorry to lose them and thank them gratefully for all their help.

All is not lost however as we have been very lucky to obtain the generous help of Redgold Opticians who have kindly stepped into the breach to maintain our presence in Broad Street.

So please note the new Box Office is now at:

**REDGOLD OPTICIANS** 32 Broad Street, Seaford BN25 1ND

Don't forget your membership card if buying tickets in advance!



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](mailto:mail@seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)

Snail Mail: 25 Sherwood Road,

Seaford

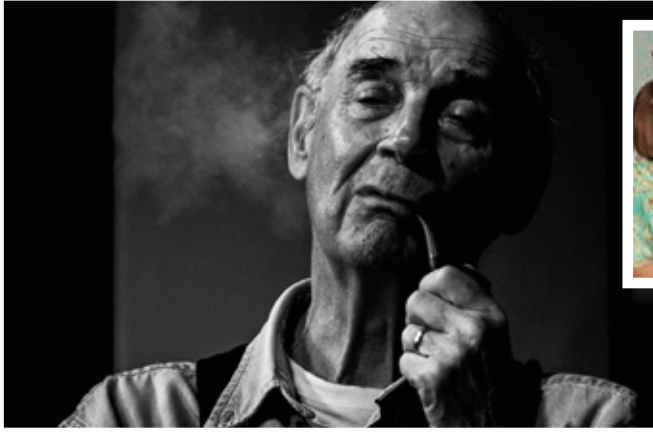
BN25 3EH



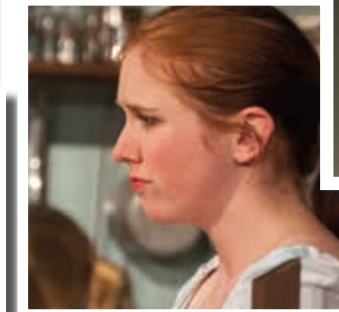
For a full colour version of this newsletter and lots of other information  
Visit the Seaford Little Theatre Website on [www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.seafordlittletheatre.co.uk)



# Wooden It Be Nice



Photos from the set of  
***The Wooden Dish***  
taken by Andrew Parkinson



## AUDITION NOTICE - *RELATIVE VALUES* by Noel Coward

Audition Date: Tuesday 14 July 2015 - 7.30pm - Seaford Little Theatre

Production dates: 13 - 24 November 2015

**Relative Values**, a late Coward play, was written in 1951 and first performed at the Savoy in November that year. 'The Master' was struck by the contradictions between the post-war Labour government, which saw the birth of the NHS and the modern Welfare State, and the persistence of the British obsession with 'class'. Indeed, the recent success of *Downton Abbey* and the revival of *Upstairs, Downstairs* have shown that our fascination with the 'class system' and its impact on our society has not diminished over the decades.

In this play Coward pokes gentle satire at this obsession: the dialogue sparkles with mordant wit, yet has moments of genuine pathos. As such, the piece offers many opportunities for comic playing and sensitive acting, in the portrayals of the wide range of characters, both above and below stairs.

In the early 1950s people of all classes spoke in clearly identifiable ways i.e. their accent defined their class. I would be looking for that awareness in audition and developing it in rehearsal.

Rehearsals will begin in mid-September on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays and some Sundays towards the end of the process

CHARACTERS	
FELICITY	The countess of Marshwood (50-60). She is level-headed and firmly ensconced in the aristocratic society she grew up in. While trying to accept the social changes that she feels are taking place around her, she still feels that her son is marrying beneath his class.
MRS DORA MOXTON (MOXIE)	(40-50). Moxie has been Felicity's personal maid and sometimes confidante for over twenty years, becoming almost another member of the family. She is content at Marshwood and would be happy to live out her life there, until Nigel announces his wedding plans and she later reveals that his fiancée, Miranda Frayle, is her younger sister.
CRESTWELL	The butler (mid-50s). He has been at Marshwood for many years and although on the surface appears to believe in social equality, deep down he realizes that such is not only impossible, but probably not desirable. He is a good friend of Moxie, and together they are the force that keeps the household and its occupants running smoothly.
NIGEL	(35-40). The earl of Marshwood and Felicity's son, he is betrothed to Miranda Frayle when the play opens. He has been involved with a number of women in the past that his mother did not approve of, including Joan whom he married for a short time. He insists he is now in love with Miranda.
MIRANDA FRAYLE	(30ish). An American movie star, Miranda Frayle was actually born in England and (unbeknownst to anyone around them) she is Moxie's sister. She is engaged to Nigel at the beginning of the play, but in the end goes back to America with her long-time love Don Lucas.
DON LUCAS	(30ish). An American movie star and the long-time love interest of Miranda Frayle.
THE HONOURABLE PETER INGLETON	(30-40). Felicity's nephew who is living at Marshwood.
ADMIRAL SIR JOHN HAYLING	(60-70). Lady Hayling's husband and a retired naval officer.
LADY CYNTHIA HAYLING	(50-60). Felicity's friend and a frequent visitor to Marshwood.
ALICE	The housemaid (18-25). Alice is young and inexperienced and very much star-struck by Miranda Frayle and other actors.

AUDITION PIECES	
FELICITY	<b>Page 8</b> – ‘Has anything....’ to <b>Page 12</b> ‘in good heart, my dear.’ <b>Page 34</b> – ‘But I still...’ to <b>Page 37</b> ‘any definite opinion’.
MRS DORA MOXTON (MOXIE)	<b>Page 18</b> – ‘I’d rather stand...’ to <b>Page 20</b> ‘my young sister.’ <b>Page 66</b> ‘I’m sorry if...’ to <b>Page 67</b> ‘Good-bye, milady’.
CRESTWELL	<b>Page 2</b> ‘...and just at the end’ to <b>Page 4</b> ‘Yes, Mrs. Moxton’. <b>Page 53</b> – ‘Get a move on’ to <b>Page 56</b> ‘get a knighthood’.
NIGEL	<b>Page 35</b> – ‘But I still...’ to <b>Page 38</b> ‘She adores children’. <b>Page 72</b> – ‘I want to talk to you...’ to <b>Page 75</b> ‘St. Margaret’s Bay.’
MIRANDA FRAYLE	<b>Page 42</b> – ‘Ah, there you are...’ to <b>Page 45</b> ‘and I’m proud of it.’ <b>Page 55</b> - ‘Pete !’ to <b>Page 59</b> ‘Good-bye, Pete’.
DON LUCAS	<b>Page 54</b> – ‘I will inform... to <b>Page 56</b> ‘get a knighthood’. <b>Page 81</b> - ‘Pete’ to <b>Page 82</b> ‘Oh, Pete’.
THE HONOURABLE PETER INGLETON	<b>Page 12</b> – ‘Aye, aye...’ to <b>Page 15</b> – ‘bewildered’
ADMIRAL SIR JOHN HAYLING	<b>Page 10</b> ‘Are you so certain...’ to <b>Page 12</b> – ‘in good heart, my dear’.
LADY CYNTHIA HAYLING	<b>Page 10</b> ‘Are you so certain...’ to <b>Page 12</b> – ‘in good heart, my dear’
ALICE	<b>Page 2</b> – ‘...and just at the end...’ to <b>Page 4</b> ‘Yes, Mrs. Moxton’.

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

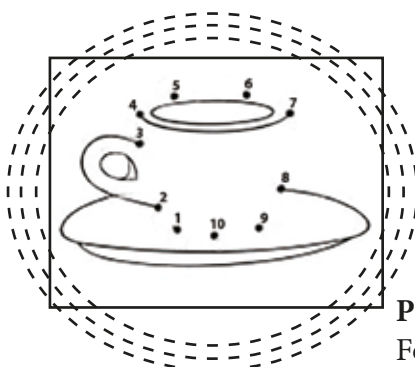
If you are unable to attend the audition date please contact me so that we can arrange an alternative.

**Derek Watts** Tel: (01273) 471680 Email: derekw1943@gmail.com

## LEISURE CORNER:- THEATRICAL CONNECT THE DOTS

Dashed lines show suggested paths

●1 **PUZZLE A**  
For Actors

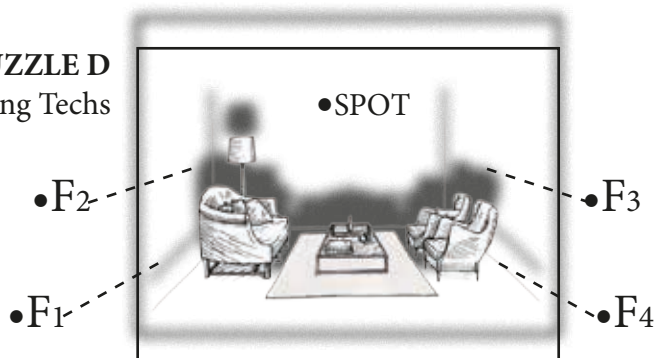


**PUZZLE C**  
For Stage Managers

**PUZZLE B**  
For Directors



**PUZZLE D**  
For Lighting Techs



**Copy deadline for next edition of the newsletter: 25 SEPTEMBER 2015**