

OPERA
HOUSE

Beached

An opera for Bridlington

Music by **Harvey Brough**
Words by **Lee Hall**

The
Spa | BRIDLINGTON

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World Premiere: Saturday 16 July 2011,
Royal Hall, The Spa, Bridlington

The Story

It is early one morning on Bridlington beach. Professor Sewerby arrives, hoping for a quiet day of painting and relaxing on his deckchair, but he is rudely interrupted by some cheeky seagulls.

A family arrives on the beach – Dad, Sandra and Jimmy. The children are arguing and Dad, wanting a peaceful family holiday, gets angry with them. He is interrupted by a group of misbehaving school children. The children's teacher, Miss Wicksteed, reprimands them, and teaches them a lesson about long shore drift. Panic ensues when the children wonder if this means they will be swept away by the tide...

As the lesson moves on there is further disruption as a group of teenagers encroach on the family's patch on the beach. After more arguments, Dad and Sandra go for a swim, leaving Jimmy to look after their spot. Professor Sewerby, who has been observing the family, offers some words of advice and reassurance to Jimmy.

A group of grandparents arrive with a large picnic, followed by some mums with their small children. They take over the family's spot, infuriating Dad when he returns from the sea.

There is a brief interlude where we are introduced to creatures from the sea. The grandparents, some now on motability scooters, return and reminisce about how things were in their day. They head home leaving Dad to discover that Sandra has a boyfriend he didn't know about.

Suddenly, Sandra and Jimmy's Mam arrives. Dad and Mam are getting divorced. She has brought a group to the beach to enjoy some fresh air.

They are interrupted by an amateur dramatic group rehearsing for the Bridlington Pageant. Dad loses his temper as once more the beach is taken over. He reluctantly becomes involved in a group photograph.

In all the chaos, Jimmy has disappeared. Someone spots him out at sea, drowning! He is rescued by the lifeboat crew and everyone celebrates. Dad asks Mam if they can talk things through over a drink, but she refuses.

As the family leaves the beach, Professor Sewerby watches the sunset and the tide turns.



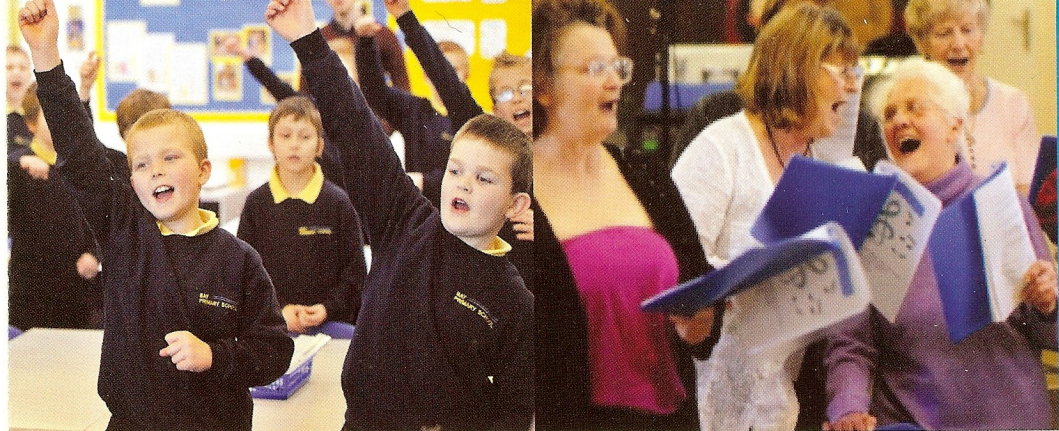
The Characters

Professional Cast

Sewerby	Mark Le Brocq
Dad	Richard Burkhard
Miss Wicksteed	Meeta Raval
Mam	Ann Taylor

Community Cast

Seagull Dancers	Lloyd Brodie, Gill Kay, Ark Skiba
Metal Detector	Jennie Copley
Tony	Charles Hanley
Cider (Tony's dog)	Jack Edwards
Posh Lady	Carol Daniel
Juju (dog)	Chloe Stuart
Lucinda (dog)	Hazal Ozmus
Beach Cleaner	Dave Hinde
Jimmy	Andrew Studholme
Sandra	Amy Wood
Joggers	Gill E Andrews, John Colley, Margaret Croft, Peter Daniel, Margaret Eccles, Beverley Fieldhouse, Anne Hatfield, Dave Hinde, Gill Kay, Steph Naylor, Pauline Oddy, Jessica Sinclair, Marina Spark, Katie Stammers
Teen Lads	Mark Burns, Joey Dexter
Grandparents	Barbara Birtle, Sheila Cadman, Jennie Copley, Margaret Drysdale, Sue Gollop, Shirley Holdsworth, Kathryn Holroyd, Tricia Holroyd, Peter Holroyd, Ann Murphy, Heather Rhodes, Ken Saxton, Jane Winn
Crooner Couple	Ken Saxton and Barbara Birtle Peter Holroyd and Margaret Drysdale
Young Mums	Lucy Burdon, Melanie Liu, Molly McAteer, Tara Murray, Alexis Newby, Tameera Richardson, Ellie Rushforth, Jasmine Stockdale, Amy Wood
Mam's Group	Tracey Baxter, Steve Bean, Janine Clubley, Trevor Fraser, Brian Hutchinson, Rebecca Mainprize, Angela Peacock, Paul Sadler, Patrick Wise
Director	Steph Naylor
Vikings	Bridlington Community Chorus
Henry	Peter Daniel
Lifeboat Crew	John Colley, Margaret Croft, Peter Daniel, Dave Hinde, Gill Kay, Ken Saxton, Jessica Sinclair



Bay Primary School

Seagulls
Miss Wicksteed's Class

Year 2
Years 5 & 6
BoBS – Cameron Berry, Lloyd Brodie, Toby Dunn,
Jack Edwards, Keane Heslop, Benjamin Kimberley,
Andrew Studholme

Toddlers
Sea creatures
Viking children

Year 1
Reception and Sing Along
Years 3 & 4

The Players

Violin
Viola
Double Bass
Harp
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet/Sax
Horn
Trombone
Piano
Percussion

Jackie Cima
Katie Stables
Vera Jovanovic
Rhian Evans
Rob Buckland
Alan Tokely
Dave Price
Annette Saunders
Dominic Sales

Production Team

Composer / Musical Director
Librettist

Harvey Brough
Lee Hall

Director
Designer
Lighting Designer
Assistant Director
Assistant Musical Director
Community Chorus Leader / Animateur
Animateur

Karen Gillingham
Ruth Paton
Tim Skelly
Katherine Wilde
Lea Cornthwaite
Em Whitfield Brooks
Emily Smith

Production Manager
Stage Manager
Deputy Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers
Sound Engineer
Electrician

Toby Melville
Katherine Wilde
Vicki MacKenzie
Rebecca Lowe, Lorna Wright
Steve Hawkins
Graham Davison

The Sing Up Bridlington Programme

Beached represents the culmination of a two-year residency by Opera North in Bridlington.

In 2009, Opera North received funding from Sing Up, the Music Manifesto's National Singing Programme, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Yorkshire Forward to run a large-scale programme of singing and creative activity in the town.

Over the course of the residency, the company has brought professional artists to Bridlington, who have expertise and passion for singing to work with a wide range of groups and individuals. The programme aimed to provide access to high quality singing activity for local people of all ages, and promote the benefits of singing through fun, engaging and sociable activities that enhance quality of life. We've looked at how singing can be used as a way to help address important local issues such as regeneration, raising educational standards in schools, bringing together different sections of the community and encouraging intergenerational activity.

During the course of the programme we have worked with over 2,700 individuals, aged from 0 – 82. This has included regular work at our hub school, Bay Primary, where weekly visits from singers have been used to enhance the curriculum. All schools in Bridlington have had the opportunity to take part in workshops, training and performances. We have worked closely with East Riding Children's Centre to provide singing opportunities for nursery school pupils and parents and toddlers. Opera North artists have also worked with established local musical groups to provide fresh ideas and training, and set up new projects – for example, a choir for 7-11 year olds boys called Boys of Bridlington Sing (BoBS) and a Bridlington Youth Chorus for teenagers. Participants have shared their singing at a range of different venues, from The Spa to Bridlington Hospital.

Training for local teachers, playworkers and artists has been a key element of the programme, and an essential ingredient in making our work in this community sustainable. More than 150 people took part in training sessions, learning new ways to use music and singing in the classroom and with young people.

Beached is an opportunity for many of the people we have worked with over the last two years to come together and celebrate their town and what they have achieved. We hope that firm foundations have now been laid for Bridlington to continue on its singing journey.

Opera North

Richard Mantle
General Director

Richard Farnes
Music Director

Opera North Education

Opera North is England's national opera company and a leading European arts organisation. Acclaimed for its imaginative programming and innovative productions on the main stage, the Company also creates smaller-scale Projects that bring together music, words and theatre in new and surprising combinations, and programmes its own venue, the Howard Assembly Room in Leeds, with an enormous diversity of activities that make connections between the classical and the contemporary. The Company's core artistic ensembles, the Chorus and Orchestra of Opera North, are renowned for the consistent excellence of their work, and the Orchestra, under the inspired leadership of its Music Director Richard Farnes, also leads an energetic life on the concert platform and in the recording studio.

Opera North Education implements a series of dynamic and successful education programmes, run by a dedicated education team, which reach around 4000 young people and adults each year across the North of England. Opera North believes that everyone can enjoy and respond to opera and the arts through the diverse range of work that the Company produces, ranging from residencies and tailored projects to training and development.

Head of Education	Rebecca Walsh
Senior Education Producer	Alex Bradshaw
Education Producer	Hannah Dilworth
Education Producer	Jo Bedford
Education Producer	Sarah McWatt
Education Officer	Marc Dunleavy
Education Officer	Alison Petherbridge

With special thanks to:

Parent and staff volunteers at Bay Primary; Priory View Day Centre, East Riding Children's Centre, Morrisons, Eden Mobility Ltd, Ewan Gilford, David Barnard, Graham Barber, Tim Brooks. Last but not least, special thanks to Helen Mahoney, who has recently left Opera North to go on maternity leave - without her hard work and commitment to Sing Up Bridlington for the past two years, this production would not have been possible.

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