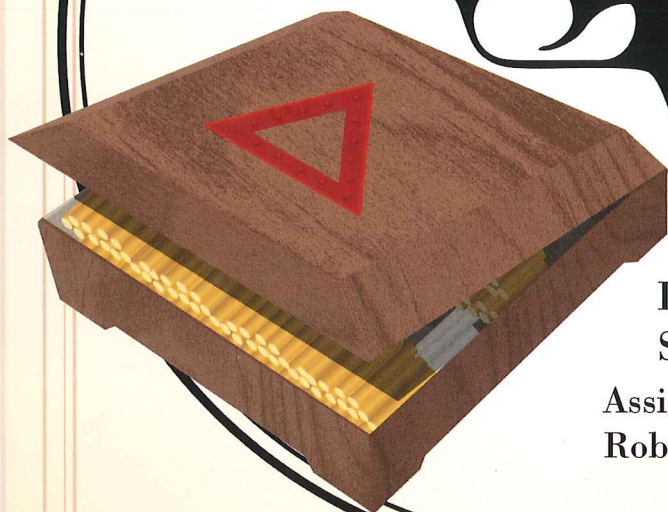


A Tale of Intrigue,
Secrets, Passions & Lies

Dangerous

Written by J.B. Priestley

Corner



Directed by
Steve Pritchard

Assisted by
Robin Hirsch

26th October - 3rd November 2012

7.45pm


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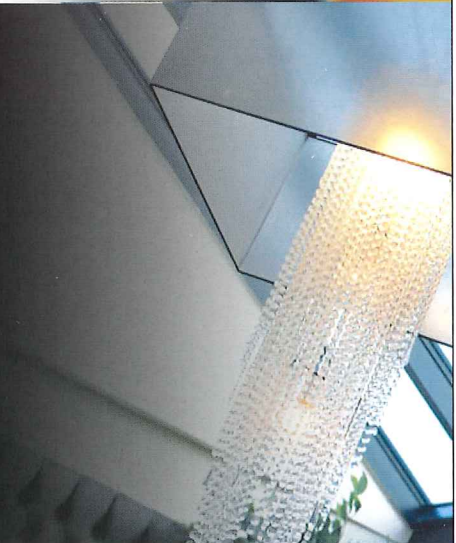
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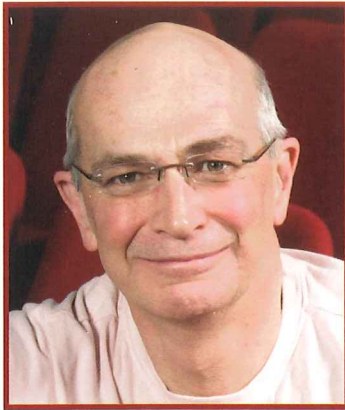
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Director's notes

Have you ever wished that everyone would just tell the truth? Be careful what you wish for. A casual remark about a cigarette box at a dinner party started the character Robert Caplan on a quest for the truth. Sometimes it is better to 'let sleeping dogs lie'!

An exceptional cast of actors have had a lot of fun exploring J B Priestley's themes of secrets and lies. Unexpectedly I had to take on the role of Charles Stanton part way into rehearsals when the original actor unfortunately had to step down.



Steve Pritchard
Director

As a result I am deeply indebted to Robin Hirsch for agreeing to assist in an advisory capacity in the last few weeks. Her vast

directing experience has been invaluable.

This is my first experience of directing at the Southport Dramatic Club and I would like to thank all the back stage and front of house teams without whom none of our plays would reach the stage.

I hope you enjoy this clever and thought-provoking play as much as we have.

Steve Pritchard
Director



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Lyrics by **Martin Charnin**

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J.B. Priestley

John Boynton Priestley was born on September 13, 1894 in a suburb of Bradford.

His father was a schoolmaster, and sadly his mother died when he was two. He left school at 16 to work in a wool office, and during this period Priestley began to write and had a column in the *Bradford Pioneer*, a local periodical. This work was unpaid.

In September 1914, at the start of World War I, he joined the Army. He writes about his time in the Army in his autobiography, *Margin Released*. In the book, the British Army and the officer class are heavily criticised.

After the war, Priestley was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He achieved his first big success with *The Good Companions* in 1929, which was his fourth novel. In 1930 he published *Angel Pavement* and it was also popular. The popularity of these two books enabled Priestley to begin to write for the theatre. His first solo play was *Dangerous Corner* (1932).

At the time of World War II, he was a broadcaster on



the BBC. His broadcast was called *The Postscript* and went out weekly in 1940 and 1941. At its most popular, sixteen million were listening. During the broadcast, Priestley would talk about wartime conditions. In the end they were stopped because they were seen to be critical of the Government.

In 1945, he wrote *An Inspector Calls*, which is his most famous play, and the playwright was considered to be now at the height of his powers.

After the war, Priestley's plays included *The Linden Tree* (1945) and he worked with Iris Murdoch adopting her book *A Severed Head* (1963) for the stage. He

also wrote essays and a number of volumes of autobiography during this time.

In 1958 he became one of the people to start the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Priestley was given an honorary Doctor of Letters by The University of Bradford in 1970 and in 1973 he was awarded a freeman of the City of Bradford. He was given both a knighthood and peerage, but rejected both honours, although, he did accept an Order of Merit from the Queen in 1977.

He died in 1984 aged 89.

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Dangerous Corner

Dangerous Corner was written in 1932 and was J.B Priestley's first play.

He was 38 at the time and he said he wanted, "to prove that a man might produce long novels and yet be able to write effectively, using the strictest economy, for the stage."

The play premiered on May 17th 1932 at The Lyric Theatre in London's West End and was produced by Tyrone Guthrie. It received poor reviews on its release and ran for six months, but it became a worldwide hit for him. It opened on Broadway at The Empire Theatre on October 27, 1932, and had a run of two hundred and six

performances. In the cast were: Colin Keith-Johnston, Jean Dixon, Stanley Ridges and Barbara Robbins.

A film version of the play was released in 1934 and was directed by Phil Rosen and starred: Virginia Bruce, Conrad Nagel and Melvyn Douglas.

Dangerous Corner is part of Priestley's 'Time' plays, which explore the ideas of J.W Dunne. Some of his other 'Time' plays are *I Have Been Here Before* (1937), *Time and the Conways* (1937), and *An Inspector Calls* (1945). J.W Dunne was an Anglo-Irish aeronautical engineer, and wrote a number of books looking into the question of

time. His work also influenced Aldous Huxley. In Priestley's 'Time' plays, Priestley looks at numerous concepts of time. The concept has an effect on the different people in the plays.

As the story unfolds in *Dangerous Corner*, the audience finds out a number of revelations about the characters. The setting for the play is 1934 in the drawing room of Robert and Freda Caplan's House at Chantbury Close. The Caplans are hosting Freda's brother and sister-in-law, Olwen Peel and Charles Stanton. As soon as Robert quizzes people about his brother Martin's suicide, the revelations start.....

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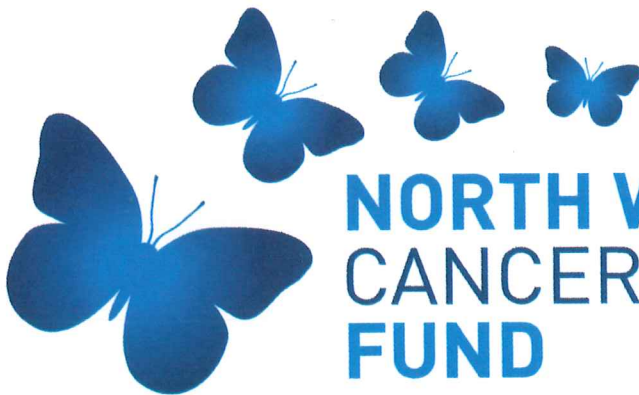
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Synopsis of Scenes

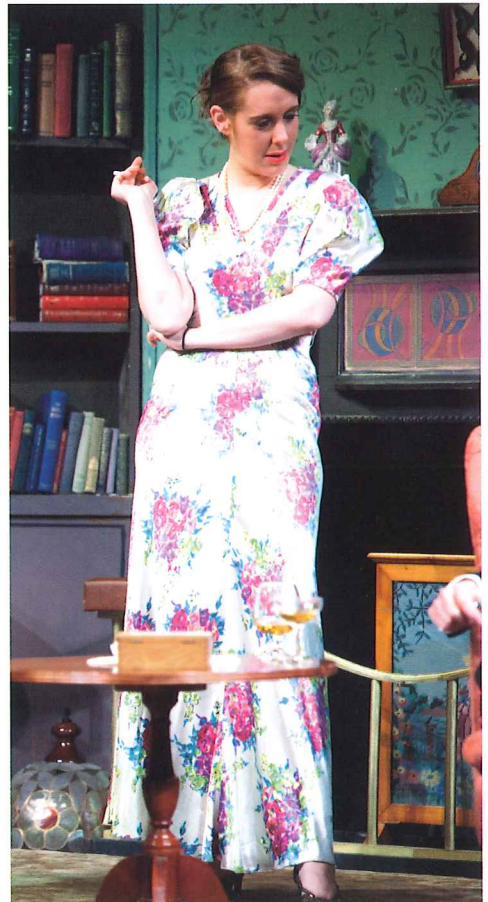
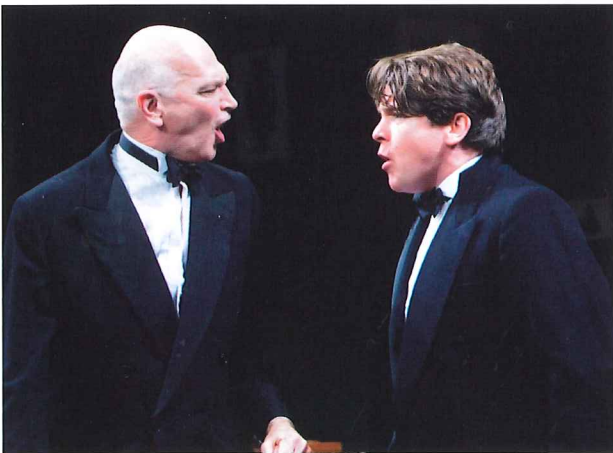
The action takes place after dinner in the Drawing Room of the Caplan's house at Chantbury Close.

Time - 1934

The action of the play is continuous so there will be a 5 minute 'comfort break' between Acts 1 & 2.

There will also be a 15 minute interval at the end of Act 2.

We recommend that you beat the rush and pre-order your drinks in the bar prior to the performance.



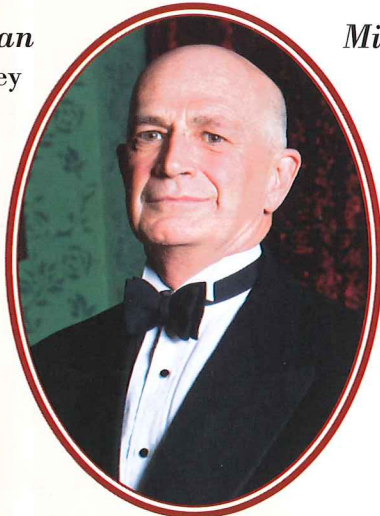
Dangerous C



Freda Caplan
Diane Mackley



Miss Mockridge
Pat Ball



Charles Stanton
Steve Pritchard



Gordon V.
Eric C

s Corner

st



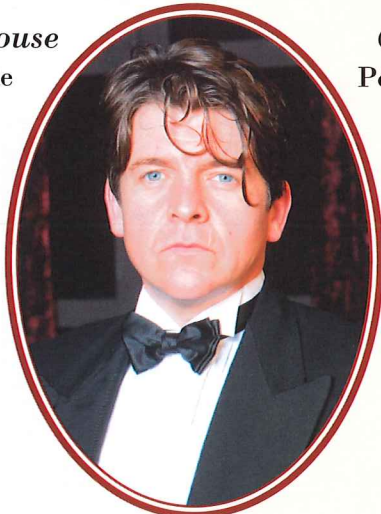
Betty Whitehouse
Nikki Ritchie



Olwen Peel
Poppy Flanagan

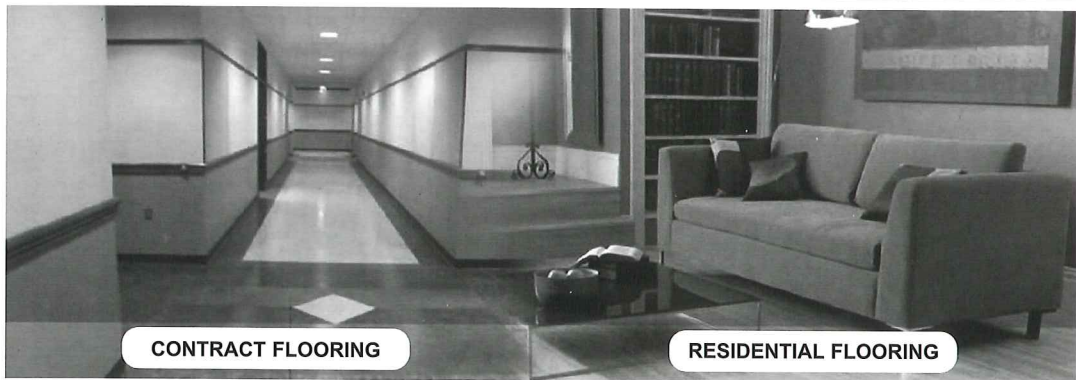


Whitehouse
dwick



Robert Caplan
Greg Russell

are the harmless electronic type



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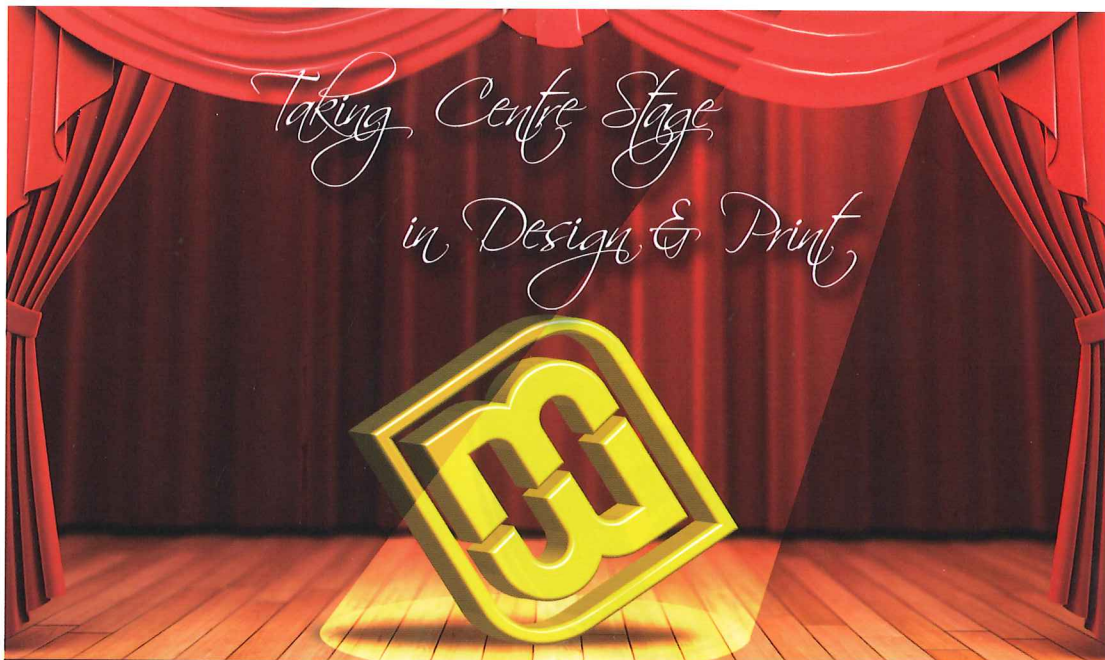


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Staging

Stage Manager	Lewis Scutt
Assistant Stage Manager (Prompt)	Fran Percival
Properties	Barry King, Lynn Gosling & Sandy Town
Wardrobe	Sherel Coley
Lighting Operator	Roy Carr
Sound Design	Brian Hodge
Sound Operator	Lewis Scutt
Set Design	Syd Coley
Set Construction	Lindsay Haywood & SDC Productions Team
Scenic Artist	Bob Jessamine
Photographs	Fletcherhill Photography
Programme Editor	Jacquie Bolshaw
Programme Sub Editor	Barry King
Programme Content & Research	Henry James
Programme Layout and Design	Mitchell & Wright (Printers) Ltd

Music in this production

I'm growing fonder of you - Young, Meyer and Wendling, performed by Fats Waller
Ain't Misbehavin' - Fats Waller and Harry Brooks (music) and Andy Razaf (lyrics) 1929.

The music played before the play and during the interval is performed by Fats Waller and is from the period of the play.

Acknowledgements

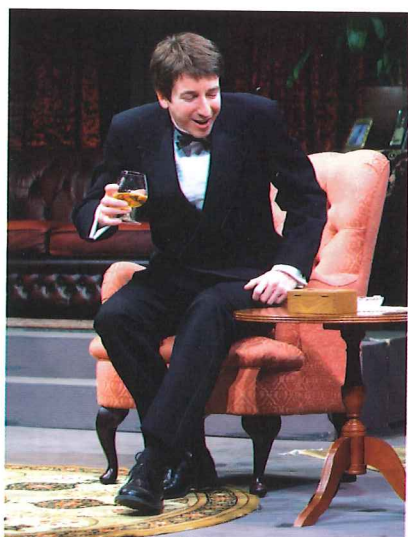
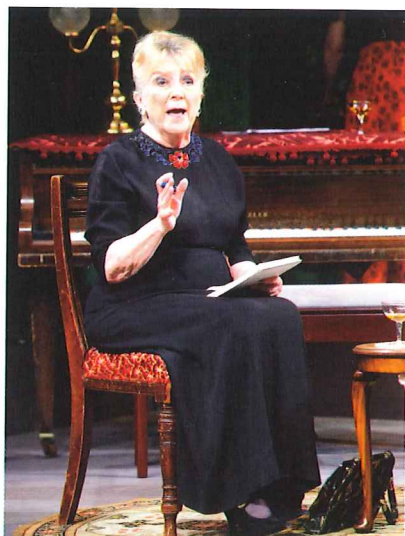
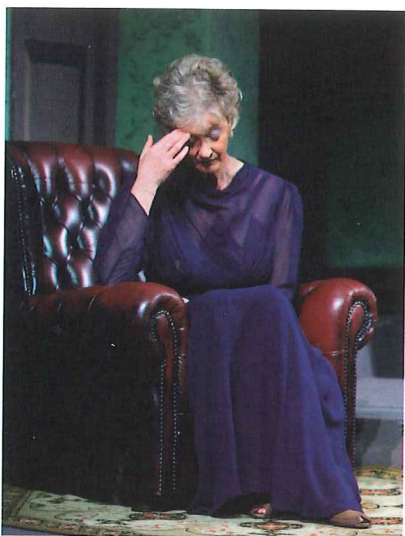
The Director is greatly indebted to Mrs. Robin Hirsch for her invaluable assistance and advice during the rehearsal period.

The Little Theatre - Home of the Southport Dramatic Club.

The SDC wishes to ensure that all our patrons enjoy a comfortable, enjoyable and safe visit to our theatre. We should be grateful for your co-operation in helping us to achieve this. Please note the following:

- Should you arrive after the performance has started, you will be guided to your seats when a suitable opportunity occurs.
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- Patrons with hearing impairments should note that the auditorium has an Induction Loop System for your assistance. Hearing wands are also available from our stewards.

Designated Premises Supervisor,
Alan Newport



Dangerous Corner

has been performed twice before by the SDC, once in January, 1936 and again in March, 1979. Here are a few extracts from the programmes

S.D.C.

DANGEROUS CORNER

A Play in Three Acts
by
J. B. PRIESTLEY

CAST
(In order of their appearance)

Freda Caplan	Edna Moores
Miss Mockridge	Edith Lepine
Betty Whitehouse	Josephine Youngman
Olwen Peel	Cynthia Ridler
Charles Stanton	Louis Youngman
Gordon Whitehouse	Geoffrey Ball
Robert Caplan	Ashworth Hall

The Play produced by Joseph Crowley,
in conjunction with Louis Youngman.

Stage Managers..... B. & D. Betteridge.

Prompter..... Rachel Foley.

.....

Will Ladies kindly remove their hats

.....

For your own comfort it is suggested that you should not
smoke during the performance.

2nd to 10th MARCH, 1979

Dangerous Corner

by J. B. Priestley

Produced by Stanley Ellis

Cast in order of appearance

FREDA CAPLAN	SHEILA POOK
MISS MOCKRIDGE	PAT FOULDS
BETTY WHITEHOUSE	JEAN BRAITHWAITE
OLWEN PEEL	PEGGY INCE
CHARLES STANTON	MICHAEL HARDS
GORDON WHITEHOUSE	ARNOLD GORSE
ROBERT CAPLAN	DON ANDERSON

SCENE

The Drawing-room of the Caplans' House at Chantbury Close. After Dinner.

Time — the early 1930's.

The action of the play is continuous.

There will be two intervals of approximately 15 minutes each.

STAGE STAFF

Stage Manager PAUL ROWE

Asst. Stage Manager (Book) ... DIANE SMITHER

Asst. Stage Manager (Cast) RODERICK BEARDSSELL

Properties BARBARA JAMES
JENNIE FOGARTY

Wardrobe MARGARET HORNE
DIANE RIGBY

Sound PETER BESWICK

Lights CLIVE SOUTHWORTH

Set constructed and painted by Roy Blatchford
and built by the Production Team

* * *

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Spotlight Bar

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J. B. PRIESTLEY'S

Dangerous Corner

A play in three acts

2nd to 10th MARCH, 1979

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Dangerous Corner

by J. B. Priestley

Produced by Stanley Ellis

Cast in order of appearance

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MISS MOCKRIDGE	PAT FOULDS
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Time — the early 1930's.

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Brain Teaser

Eight of the works of J.B. Priestley are hidden in the grid below; see if you can find them. They appear horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

To help you in your search they are as follows:

Angel Pavement An Inspector Calls Dangerous Corner
Eden End Laburnum Grove The Good Companions
The Linden Tree When We Are Married

F	P	L	C	I	S	C	O	A	P	W	V	Q	E	L	B	H
P	D	Y	P	O	L	E	A	N	E	X	A	Z	V	N	H	S
I	L	E	A	L	L	U	D	G	M	Y	T	R	O	N	Y	M
Q	K	F	I	G	A	V	N	E	B	M	E	X	R	W	J	X
P	F	M	O	R	C	Z	I	L	N	G	U	S	G	Z	Y	Z
Q	F	T	O	B	R	O	E	P	C	E	H	Q	M	T	D	K
V	T	Q	H	B	O	A	Q	A	Q	W	N	E	U	C	W	O
K	Z	Z	D	W	T	Z	M	V	X	U	U	D	N	W	J	F
N	Y	Q	G	B	C	N	T	E	S	S	Y	T	R	E	B	R
H	N	H	S	N	E	F	J	M	R	E	A	E	U	C	G	H
X	S	K	E	M	P	I	O	E	W	A	J	I	B	X	U	X
C	U	B	O	V	S	T	B	N	C	W	E	A	A	G	Z	F
C	C	K	A	Q	N	T	B	T	U	Q	F	W	L	M	I	U
M	P	L	E	L	I	N	K	C	H	M	F	E	N	D	C	J
T	H	E	L	I	N	D	E	N	T	R	E	E	W	E	Q	Y
S	N	O	I	N	A	P	M	O	C	D	O	O	G	E	H	T
D	A	N	G	E	R	O	U	S	C	O	R	N	E	R	T	W

The Radio Times

“the official organ of the BBC”

On 28th September 1923 the Radio Times first appeared on newspaper stands. It was produced as a joint venture between the BBC and a commercial Publisher. In 1925 the BBC took over the Editorial control. As early as 1928 Radio Times announced a regular series of ‘experimental television transmissions by the Baird process’ for half an hour each morning. 1936 saw the start of the first 405-line high-definition service making the Radio Times the world’s first television listings magazine. By 1937 the entire Radio Times operation had moved in-house where it has remained ever since.

With the outbreak of war in 1939 all television broadcasting was halted in order to prevent enemy aircraft from using its signal as a directional beacon. The nation was once more reliant on radio and the only wartime station was The Home Service. Throughout the war years the Radio Times never missed an edition although by 1944 with paper rationing the magazine had reduced to 20 pages of tiny type on thin paper.

The post-war period saw an expansion in broadcasting with the introduction of the Light Programme, the Third Programme and the return of television. By the early 50’s television was recognised as the media of the future and the television listings were integrated with the radio listings. 1955 saw the debut of ITV and with it the competition of other listings magazines – TV Times, Viewer and Look



Westward. However by 1968 TV Times was the only listings title for ITV. This meant that the only way to have both BBC and ITV listings was to buy the two magazines.

BBC2 commenced transmitting in 1964 and in 1967 BBC 2 became Britain’s first colour television channel. At this time colour annotations first appeared alongside of listings in the Radio Times.

In 1988 the magazine featured in the Guinness Book of Records at which time the Christmas Edition sold 11,220,666 copies making it the best selling edition of any British magazine in history. The Broadcasting Act of 1990 granted newspapers the right to publish weekly listings which had previously been exclusive to BBC and ITV. Since 1991 Radio Times has faced stiff competition but remains the most comprehensive and authoritative guide on offer. It has proved to be a powerful promotional tool for the publication of both television and radio shows and is still to be found holding its own on the newspaper stands of today.



James Hughes-Alty
Director

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Directed by James Hughes-Alty

The 39 Steps, is a riotous comedy version of the classic 1934 Hitchcock film. Imagine, if you can, a once great theatre company, who are now reduced to only four actors, a few bits of scenery, a couple of props. and very little in the way of costumes, and then imagine how they would approach

producing the epic thriller on stage.

We are having a lot of fun in rehearsals playing with the scenes to bring as much action and comedy as possible to this hilariously comic tribute to the spy thriller.

So join us as four actors play over one hundred and fifty characters, and see our hero battle German spies, escape from a moving train, leap from the Forth Bridge, and struggle across the Scottish moors whilst being pursued by a biplane to stop the dastardly plot and finally save the day.

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Thank you to everyone who supported this production which played to packed houses. The mixture of fun and sadness, which the cast portrayed so well, obviously appealed to our audiences; they raised the magnificent sum of £4,435.70. for the Leukaemia Research Fund through their contributions as they left the theatre. Thank you very much on behalf of the Fund Raisers and the Southport Dramatic Club.

Margaret Mann
(Director, "Calendar Girls")

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SDC
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The 39 Steps

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Directed by James Hughes-Alty

SDC
Production



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Directed by Jan Hale

SDC
Production



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Directed by David Davies

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From an original
concept by
Simon Corble and
Nobby Dimon

Directed by
James Hughes-Alty

The 39 Steps

A spoof
spy thriller

23rd November - 1st December 2012

7.45pm



LITTLE THEATRE
Home of the
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Box Office Opens: 16th Nov 2012 at 11.00am

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