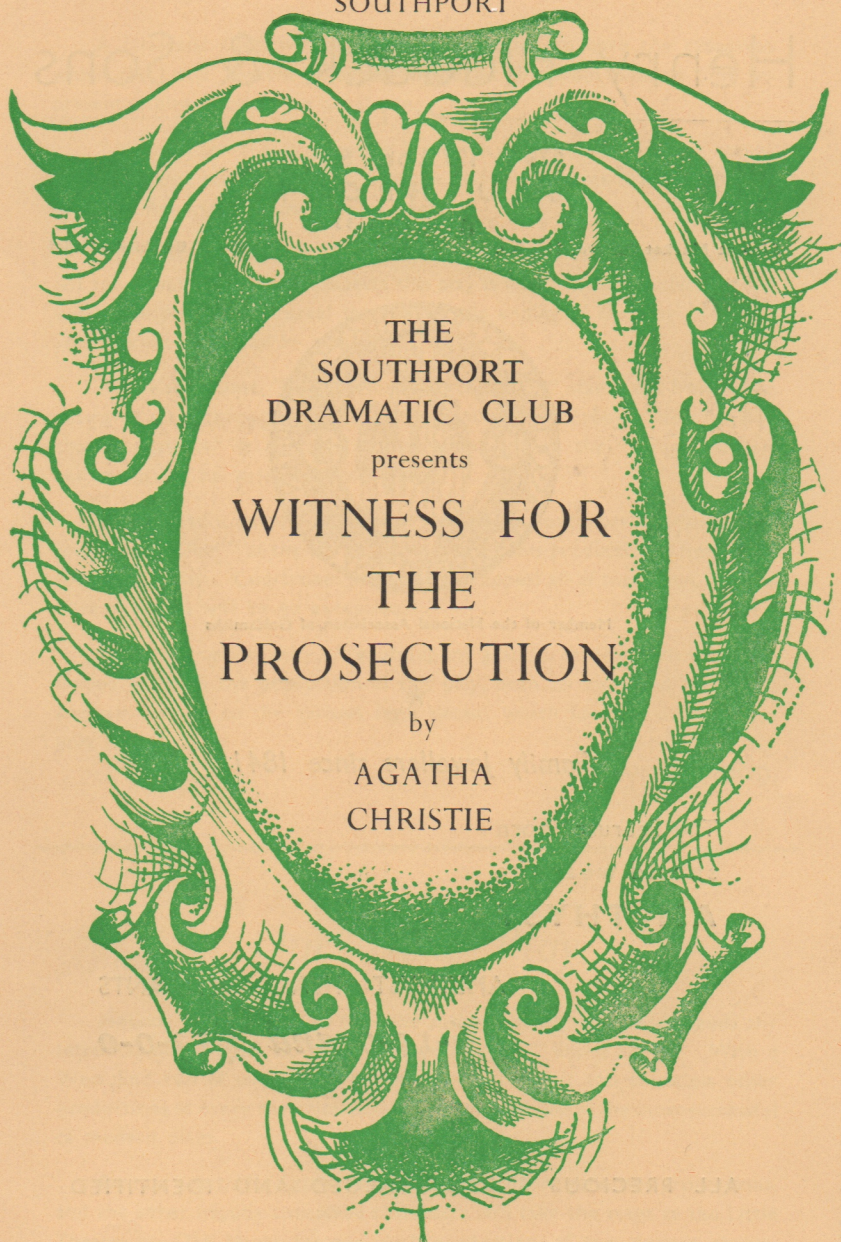


LITTLE THEATRE

SOUTHPORT



THE
SOUTHPORT
DRAMATIC CLUB

presents

WITNESS FOR
THE
PROSECUTION

by

AGATHA
CHRISTIE

17th FEBRUARY, 1961

FOR EIGHT NIGHTS at 7-45

Henry Pidduck & Sons

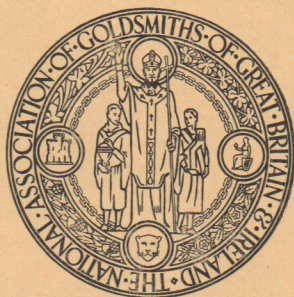
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Producer's Comments

A Dramatic Club which is fortunate enough to have the resources which the Little Theatre possesses should be able from time to time to present a play outside the usual run.

"Witness for the Prosecution" is such a play, as the Court scenes require a large stage, and the size of the cast would make it a difficult play even for Repertory Companies to perform.

The most exciting part of Agatha Christie's plays usually comes in their last ten minutes. In some respects this play is no exception to this, and we would ask you not to reveal the remarkable ending of the play to any of your friends who may be coming to it.

At the same time, "Witness for the Prosecution" stands out from other detective plays through its legal background and its opportunities for fine characterisations. It contains far more detail than the average thriller, and maintains its suspense throughout.

It is around a quarter of a century since the Southport Dramatic Club presented "Libel" at the Garrick Theatre, yet this production is frequently spoken of today. Courtroom plays have an appeal all of their own, and we hope that this will be no exception.

I take this opportunity of recording my grateful thanks to all who have helped me with the production of this play, both on stage and backstage, and with regard to the various legal details which form so important a part in it.

JOHN S. WOOD.

Our Next Play

Nobody ("but NOBODY"—the author himself might add) needs any introduction to Noel Coward's vintage comedy "Blithe Spirit." With a West End run of over 1,000 performances behind it and countless other productions at every theatrical level, it has proved one of the most successful of modern plays.

Elvira's wraithlike figure, Madame Arcati's more generous proportions, and the other happily conceived characters will take the stage at the Little Theatre on 17th March for our sixth production of the current season, Roland Lumby directing.

“Witness for the Prosecution”

A Play in Three Acts

By AGATHA CHRISTIE

Characters (in order of appearance) :

Greta, typist to Sir Wilfrid	VALERIE CARDWELL
Carter, Sir Wilfrid's Chief Clerk	FRED HOWARD
Mr. Mayhew, a solicitor	JOHN LESLIE
Leonard Vole	STANLEY ELLIS
Sir Wilfrid Roberts, Q.C.	KENNETH DUNCAN
Inspector Hearne	ARTHUR TATTERSALL
Plain-clothes Detective	GERALD BELSHAW
Romaine	DIANA GORE
Clerk of the Court	JEAN SPENCER
Mr. Justice Wainwright	ANNESLEY HILTON
Alderman	RONALD GOODALL
Mr. Myers, Q.C.	ARTHUR PEDLAR
Court Usher	TREVOR LIVESEY
Court Stenographer	BLANCHE DENDY
Warder	JABEZ SYKES
The Judge's Clerk	TOM WILLCOX
1st Barrister	PETER GORE
2nd Barrister	VERA DARRAH
3rd Barrister	GEOFFREY CRABTREE
4th Barrister	FRED PETTITT
1st Member of the Jury	GERALD BELSHAW
2nd Member of the Jury	BETTY HANSFORD
3rd Member of the Jury	DERICK BETTERIDGE
A Policeman	PETER HUGHES
Dr. Wyatt, a police surgeon	PETER GRIFFITHS
Janet Mackenzie	ANTHEA GREGSON
Mr. Clegg, a laboratory assistant	BARRIE SNAPE
The Other Woman	JEAN TOUGH

The Play produced by JOHN S. WOOD

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

The Chambers of Sir Wilfrid Roberts, Q.C. Afternoon.

INTERVAL

ACT II

The Central Criminal Court, London—better known as the Old Bailey.

Six weeks later. Morning.

INTERVAL

ACT III

Scene 1. The Chambers of Sir Wilfrid Roberts, Q.C.

The same evening.

Scene 2. The Old Bailey. The next morning.

During Act III, Scene 2, the lights are lowered to denote the passing of one hour.

Time — the present.

Settings designed, constructed and painted by ARTHUR NUGENT

HON. STAGE STAFF :

Stage Manager JOHN V. HANSFORD
Assistant Stage Managers MAMIE COBB, VERONICA GRIFFITHS
Joint Wardrobe Mistresses BETTY HANSFORD, GWDWR NICHOLSON
Hair Stylist DORIS DOBBS
Joint Property Mistresses DORIS LATCHFORD, ESTHER S. WOOD
Assistant Property Mistresses VERA DARRAH, ANTHEA GREGSON
Stage Assistants... JOHN HOWARD, DAVID ROBERTS, MICHAEL TAYLOR,
DAVID TATTERSALL, MALCOLM STEWART
Electrician JEFFREY ANDERTON
Musical Director JENNIFER MAWDSLEY

Hon. Business Manager and Licensee G. O. WALLIS - PALMER
Hon. Theatre Letting Secretary.....COLIN W. HOWARD
Hon. Box Office Manager NORAH PURSER
Hon. Publicity Manager RONALD S. GOODALL
Hon. Stage Director JOHN RAMSBOTTOM

THE SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB offers its sincere thanks for the following properties kindly loaned :—Wm. Howard & Son (Southport) Ltd., 146 Bispham Road, Southport, *Furniture* ; L. J. Metcalfe, 5 Lord Street, Southport, *Sword and Bronzes*; and Grahame Brown, 145, Eastbank Street, Southport, *Electrical Fittings*.

Policemen's Uniforms by courtesy of the Chief Constable, Southport Borough Police Force.

Wigs by Nathanwigs Ltd., 12 Panton Street, Haymarket, London, S.W.1.

Photographs by Graham Bailey Photography, Hill Street, Southport.

TELEPHONE BOOKINGS.—Seats booked by telephone should be claimed as soon as possible. Box Office Telephone Nos. (2 lines) 3021 or 55198.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN THE FOYER DURING THE INTERVALS

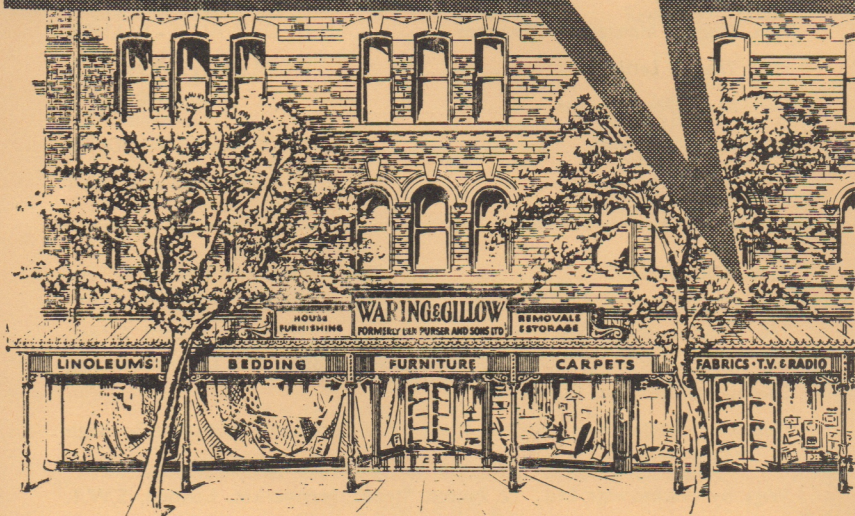
✱ SMOKING IS PROHIBITED IN THE AUDITORIUM ✱

The Public may leave at the end of the Performance by all exits, and all exit doors will be at that time open. If the Public leaves in an orderly manner
THIS THEATRE CAN BE EMPTIED IN THREE MINUTES OR LESS

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FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS AT THIS THEATRE

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A Comedy by LIONEL HALE

Produced by DUNCAN SHAW

For THREE NIGHTS at 7-45 p.m. commencing

THURSDAY, 2nd MARCH, 1961

and Saturday Matinee at 2-30 p.m.

Box Office open at Little Theatre from Saturday, 25th February

BOOK EARLY AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS



THE SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

will present

“BLITHE SPIRIT”

An Improbable Farce

By NOEL COWARD

Produced by ROLAND LUMBY

For EIGHT NIGHTS at 7-45 p.m.

commencing

FRIDAY, 17th MARCH, 1961

Box Office opens Monday, 13th March, at 11 a.m.

Early reservation of seats is STRONGLY advised.

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