



SOUTHPORT
DRAMATIC CLUB

SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
1920
2000
80th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

80th Anniversary Season

Richard Harris's psychological thriller

The Business of Murder

Directed by David Davies

Fri 13th October to
Sat 21st October 2000

7.45pm

sponsored by
 The Royal Bank
of Scotland plc

Tel: (01704) 530521/530460

LITTLE THEATRE

HOGHTON STREET • SOUTHPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 221585

www.littletheatresouthport.co.uk



The Royal Bank of Scotland,
through our continued sponsorship,
are proud to play a part
in supporting the production of
"The Business of Murder"

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of Scotland**

For more information on the range of services available from
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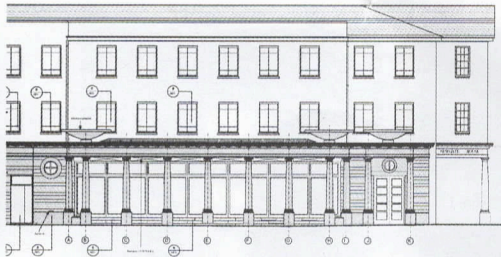
Director's Notes



Firstly, thanks to my fellow actors and the production team who have worked so hard to bring tonight's play to the stage; and a particular thanks to Eileen Huxtable who bravely stepped in at short notice to assist with the production in the final weeks.

Murder mysteries, perhaps above all other plays, rely for their success on the suspension of our disbelief. Tonight's play, written by a master craftsman of the genre, and which enjoyed a highly successful run in the West End from 1981-88, we think succeeds in those elements. A 'three-hander' psychological thriller, we have had much enjoyment fitting the jig-saw pieces together in rehearsal and the result, we hope, will provide an evening of intrigue and suspense. Please feel free, therefore, to suspend your disbelief and enter a murky world where the 'business' is murder.

David Davies



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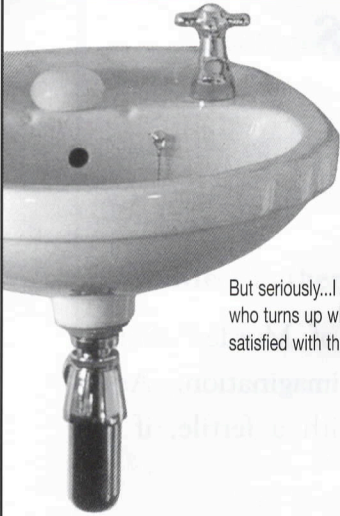
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Author's Notes

Richard Harris describes in "Business of Murder" that a playwright's profession requires a warped imagination. As an author he has certainly been blessed with a fertile, if not warped, imagination.

"Business of Murder" ran for over 5 years in the West End and has since been performed, both professionally and by amateurs, from Boston to Bermuda. It was at the time of its premiere, described as "the best thriller in a decade" by the Daily Mail and it is certainly one of the most gripping of recent years.

Another of Richard Harris' thrillers, "Dead Guilty" was performed at the Little Theatre two seasons ago. It is probably for his comedies "Outside Edge", "Party Piece" and "Local Affairs" that Richard Harris is more well known.

Even if you have not seen one of his plays before, you will be familiar with his writing, as he was responsible for the television adaptation of "A Touch of Frost" starring David Jason.

Southport Dramatic Club Building Fund

Little Theatre
Hoghton Street, Southport

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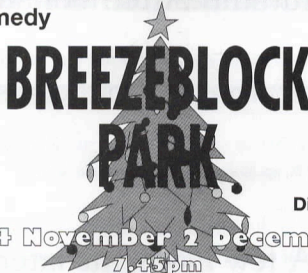
SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
**1920
2000**
80th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

80th Anniversary Season

Willy Russell's Comedy

(Contains some
adult material)



Directed by Alistair Hewitt

Fri-Sat 24 November 2 December 2000
7.45pm

Tel: (01704) 530521/530460

LITTLE THEATRE

www.littletheatresouthport.co.uk

HOGHTON STREET • SOUTHPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 221595

The Business of Murder

By Richard Harris

Directed by David Davies

Assisted by Eileen Huxtable

Cast

Hallett.....DAVID DAVIES

StoneBRIAN BENTLEY

DeeDIANE MACKLEY

The Play

The action of the play takes place in a first floor flat.

Act 1

Scene 1 - An Autumn Afternoon at about 3.30pm

Scene 2 - Just before 8.00pm the same evening

Act 2

A few moments later

There will be an Interval of 20 minutes between Acts 1 & 2.

Staging

Stage ManagerROY CARR
Assistant Stage Manager (Book)SUE PALMER
Lighting DesignTONY BERRY
Lighting OperatorIAN McCALLUM
SoundJACK DIAMOND
CostumesJAMES HUGHES-ALTY & CAST
PropertiesHELEN BENNETT
.....KAREN DAVIES
.....MAUREEN BRISTOE
Set Designed and Built bySDC PRODUCTION TEAM
Scenic ArtistBOB JESSAMINE
Photography byNEIL HICKSON

The management reserves the right to refuse admission to the auditorium after curtain up, until a suitable opportunity occurs. First aid facilities are provided at this theatre by St John Ambulance Brigade, whose members give their services voluntarily.

•
Patrons are welcome in our licensed bar downstairs before and after tonight's performance.
Why not beat the rush and pre-order your interval drinks in the bar?

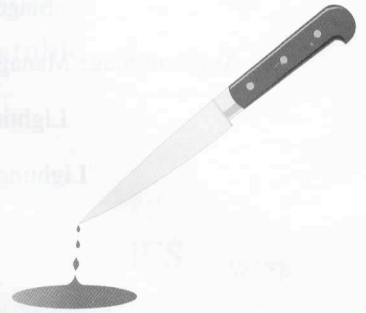
•
An induction loop is installed in this theatre for the benefit of hearing impaired patrons.
Please turn your hearing aid to 'T'.

•
At the end of tonight's performance you may leave by any of the exits, all of which will be open.
In an emergency, this theatre can be emptied in three minutes or less if everyone leaves in an orderly manner.

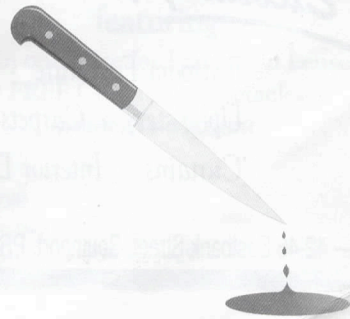
•
Smoking is prohibited in the auditorium.

THEATRE LICENSEE CHARLES R. MOOK

The Business of Murder



The Business of Murder





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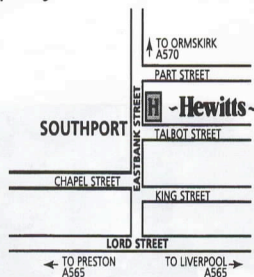
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SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
1920
2000
80th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

**SOUTHPORT
DRAMATIC
CLUB**

**LITTLE
THEATRE**

**Dates for
Your Diary**

Hoghton Street,
Southport.
Telephone:
(01704)
530521/530460

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 221585

23rd Oct - 28th Oct 2000

“David Copperfield”

A Sefton Theatre Co Production

30th Oct - 4th Nov 2000

“Fiddler on the Roof”

A Maghull Operatic Soc. Production

9th Nov - 11th Nov 2000

Loreto Dance Academy

Production by Pam Bamber

Sunday 12th Nov 2000

Ainsdale Flower Arrangers

24th Nov- 2nd Dec 2000

“BREEZEBLOCK PARK”

by Willie Russell, directed by Alistair Hewitt.

Sponsored by Mitchell & Wright Printers

An SDC Production

22nd Dec - 7th Jan 2001

Our Traditional Family Pantomime

“Sleeping Beauty”

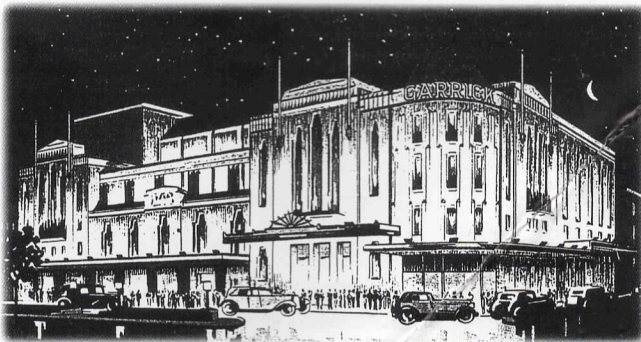
Written and Directed by Steven Hughes Alty

Sponsored by N.P.I.

An SDC Production

The Thirties

- 1930-32 SDC stages four plays a year at the Pier Pavilion.
- 1930 Everyone over 21 gets the vote.
- 1932-36 The Slump. Manual Wages 75p (15/-) per week.
- 1933 SDC Presents "The Barratts of Wimpole Street" at the Garrick Theatre. (shown below)
- 1934-37 SDC stages two plays per year at the Garrick.
- 1934 SDC obtain a clubroom in Mornington Road.
- 1935 New semi-detached house costs £500 in London
- 1935 Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society agrees to build a theatre in Hoghton Street at a cost of £8,500!
- 1936 24th Oct - Theatre foundation stone laid.
11th Dec - Abdication of Edward VIII.
Jarrow march
- 1937 30th Sept - Little Theatre opens with a production of "Dear Brutus".
George VI becomes King.
- 1938 SDC's first season at the Little Theatre
Sept - "I believe it is peace for our time" - Neville Chamberlain
- 1939 3rd Sept - War declared.
Little Theatre closed.



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