



SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

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

80th Anniversary Season

Willy Russell's Comedy

BREEZEBLOCK PARK

(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

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REGISTERED CHARITY No. 221585

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Director's Notes

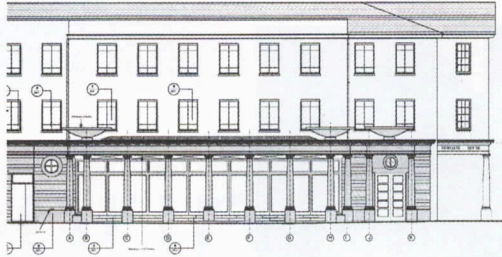


All theatre should entertain us, but the very best plays should also attempt to illuminate our lives in some way. Throughout the 1970's and 80's Willy Russell achieved these two things as successfully as any playwright and in 'Breezeblock' we can see one of his finest pieces of work. It has been a privilege to direct this production, not only because of the quality of the play, but also because of the quality and dedication of a lovely cast.

So here's wishing you a thoroughly enjoyable evening, at the end of which you might want to go home, stick the fairy on the tree and throttle the turkey, before coming back to watch the panto.

Happy Christmas.

Alistair Hewitt.



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Willy Russell

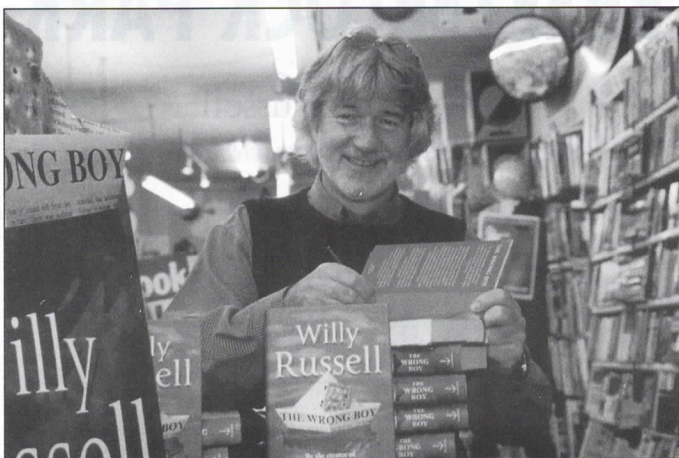
Willy Russell was born in 1947 at Whiston near Liverpool. His school career was undistinguished and at fifteen he left with one 'O' Level, in English Language, with little idea of what he wanted to do beyond a vague notion of wanting to become a writer. He drifted into hairdressing and subsequently he spent more time writing songs than setting hair. Eventually he decided to return to full-time education.

It was whilst at St. Catherine's College of Education that he decided to become a dramatist. His first play, "KEEP YOUR EYES DOWN", was taken by the college drama group to the Edinburgh Fringe in 1972. It was seen by John McGrath who put Russell in touch with the Everyman. The following year, "WHEN THE REDS..." led to his writing a play for the Everyman's Touring Company, "SAMO' SHANKER".

His 'major break' came with his next play, "JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE, RINGO AND BERT". Its success enabled him to give up teaching and concentrate on writing full-time. The show was notable for the sparkling Liverpool humour that has since become his trademark.

There is a compassionate core in Russell's work that can best be seen in his endearing and sympathetic presentation of life's losers, all of whom have an epic sense of their own importance. Through his writing it is possible to feel a sense of his characters' aspirations and their failed and foiled dreams.

"Breezblock Park" gives us the opportunity to experience fully the storytelling genius of one of our finest playwrights!



**Author of "Breezblock Park", Willy Russell
on a recent visit to Pritchards Bookshop**

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BREEZEBLOCK PARK

By Willy Russell
Directed by Alistair Hewitt

Cast

BettyMARGARET HODGE
SydMIKE YATES
Sandra, Their DaughterELIZABETH FORD
VeraSAMANTHA ROBERTS
Tommy, Betty's BrotherDAVID PARRY
Reeny, Betty's SisterHELEN BENNETT
TedSTEVE PRITCHARD
John, Their SonJAMIE GAVIN
TimJOHN BRINDLE

Act 1

Betty's House, Christmas Eve

Act 2

Reeny's House, Christmas Day

Time - The Present

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

Staging

Stage ManagerPETER HESLIN

Assistant Stage Manager (Book)JEAN WATKINSON

Assistant Stage Manager (Cast)CHRIS BERRY

LightingDAVID MORELAND-SMITH

.....IAN McCALLUM

SoundBRIAN HODGE

WardrobeJAMES HUGHES-ALTY & CAST

PropertiesSARAH MORELAND-SMITH

Set Designed and Built bySDC PRODUCTION TEAM

Scenic ArtistBOB JESSAMINE

Photography byNEIL HICKSON / GRAHAM SHERRIFF

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



BREEZEBLOCK PARK

By Willy Russell



BREEZEBLOCK PARK

By Willy Russell





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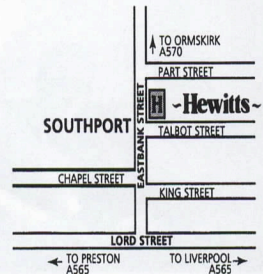
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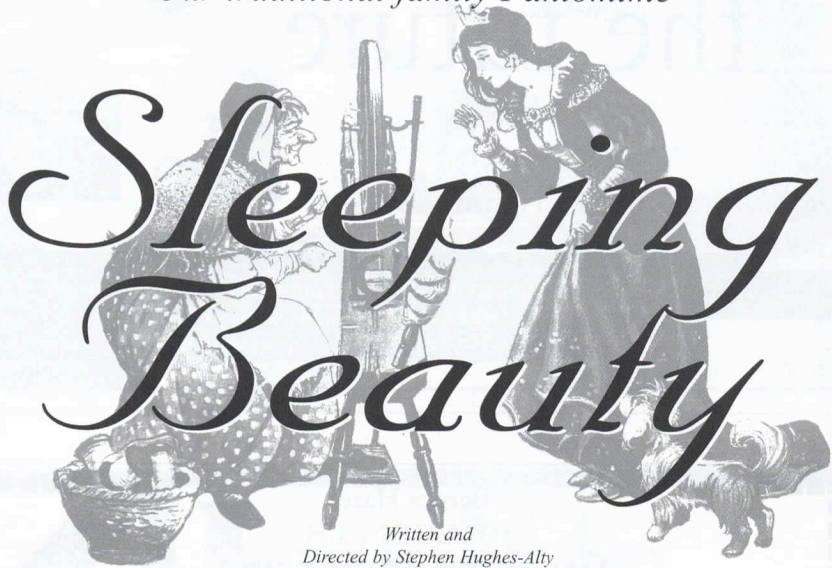


SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

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

80th Anniversary Season

Our traditional family Pantomime



Sleeping Beauty

Written and

Directed by Stephen Hughes-Alty

Choreography by Anna Dunnett, Staging by Arnold Gorse.

Musical Director - Pete Scholes

	December 2000							January 2001						
Performance Starts	Fri 22nd	Sat 23rd	Wed 27th	Thu 28th	Fri 29th	Sat 30th	Sun 31st	Mon 1st	Tue 2nd	Wed 3rd	Thu 4th	Fri 5th	Sat 6th	Sun 7th
<i>Matinee</i> 2 pm						•	•	•					•	•
<i>Evening</i> 7.30 pm	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	

• = Performance

Tickets

Seats: Rows A-L £7.50 • Children & Senior Citizens £6

Rows M-Q £6 • Children & Senior Citizens £5

Box Office

Postal Bookings - Mrs Judy Hall, 18 Grosvenor Road, Birkdale, Southport, PR8 2JQ

Little Theatre: 18 Nov - 2 Dec 11am - 5pm

4-21 Dec 11am - 4pm

During run of Pantomime - Evenings 11am - 7.30pm

Matinees 11am - 2pm

Except when there is a Matinee the Box Office is not open on Sundays

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The Forties

- 1940 29 May to 3 June - Dunkirk Evacuation.
July to Sept - The Battle of Britain.
- 1940-45 Sheffield Rep. Co. presents 240 plays at the Little Theatre.
- 1940 Sept to Oct - London Blitz.
- 1941 June - Germany invades Russia.
- 1942 Oct - Battle of El Alamein.
- 1943 Allies land in Italy.
- 1944 6 June - D-Day Landings in Normandy.
- 1945 8 May - V.E. Day.
15 Aug - V.J. Day - Peace!
General Election - Labour in, Churchill out!!
- 1946 First Biro on sale at 55/-; Equivalent to £20 today. Professional Footballers demand minimum wage of £7 per week.
23 Nov - SDC Returns to the Little Theatre with "Dear Octopus".
- 1947-49 Seven 3-Act plays presented each season.
Full-time assistant secretary employed together with a full-time Carpenter / Electrician / Stage Artist.
Peter Burroughs makes first stage appearance wearing cousins knickers in "The Trojan Women".
- 1948 First living heart surgery.
- 1949 End of clothes rationing.
Southport Rep. Co. at the Little Theatre during summer
"First Nighters Club" formed - Tickets 10/- (50p)



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