



SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB



Presents A Sparkling
Comedy



SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

Pay Aubrey Allington

23rd November - 1st December
7.45pm

TONS OF MONEY

By Will Evans and Valentine

adapted by Sir Alan Ayckbourn

Tons of Money

Directed by Margaret Mann

Sponsored by
Ludlow & Co.



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There are easier ways to make **TONS OF MONEY**

WILL

An illustration of a pair of glasses and a pen resting on a document. The document has the word 'WILL' written on it in a large, bold, serif font. The glasses are a simple, round-rimmed style. The pen is a fountain pen with a nib pointing towards the top left. The background of the document is filled with horizontal lines, suggesting text or a ledger.

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L u d l o w

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



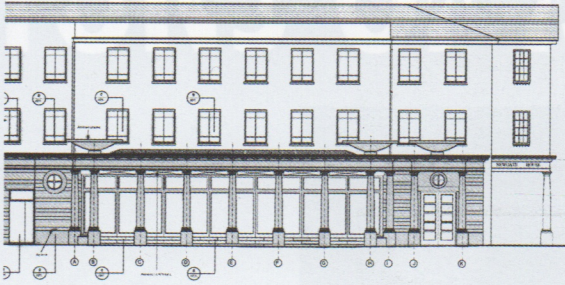
“Tons of Money” was performed in this theatre in 1944 by the Sheffield Repertory Company. A few members and patrons can remember this production, but we haven’t met anyone, yet, who saw the first production of the play at the Southport Opera House in 1922! We have all had “tons of fun” whilst rehearsing this play and hope you will enter into the spirit of this frolic and enjoy an “absolutely ripping” evening in the home of Aubrey and Louise Allington.

Thank you for your support.

Margaret Mann



There are easier ways to make

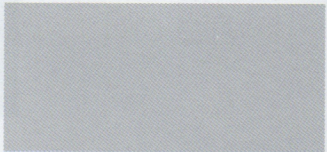


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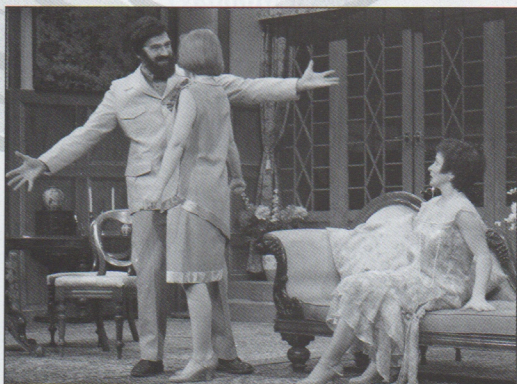
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TONS OF MONEY





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TONS OF MONEY



Sir Alan Ayckbourn

"Tons of Money" by Evans & Valentine, was first performed at Southport Opera House. Set in the 'Roaring Twenties', this delightful comedy was then revised by Sir Alan Ayckbourn. It was then seen at the Royal National Theatre with Simon Cadell & Michael Gambon.

Alan Ayckbourn until recently was an underestimated dramatist whose plays have often been dismissed (or presented) as light entertainment for unthinking bourgeois audiences. He often writes about the middle classes in order to explore serious issues of modern life. Ayckbourn is now one of Britain's most commercially successful playwrights, with regular West End and repertory productions, frequent televisions and commissions both as writer and director. After starting his theatrical career as an actor and stage-manager with Donald Wolfit's company, he moved to Stephen Joseph's Studio Theatre Company in the early 1960s, where he began directing and writing with Joseph's encouragement. Many of his most successful plays began at Scarborough where he is Artistic Director of the Library Theatre. A superb theatrical craftsman, his plays are often constructed around a tour de force of staging: "The Norman Conquests" (1973) is a trilogy of plays, each of which stands on its own, and presents the same events from the garden, sitting room and dining room. "How the Other Half Loves" (1969), "Absurd Person Singular" (1972) and "Bedroom Farce" (1975) each present more than one household on stage simultaneously. "Way Upstream" (1982) launched a riverboat onto the National Theatre stage. His plays have their roots in the tradition of farce rather than in experimental theatre. He has stretched the boundaries of comedy and farce as his work has developed. Increasingly, the comings and goings of married couples are injected with a note of black comedy and social groups are fraught with the suggestions of the darker arenas of human interchange. Ayckbourn's success might be accounted for in that his work is challenging, but within strict limits. His subject matter has tended to be middle-class values and lifestyle under threat (but not too much), while his dramatic form plays with theatrical convention but is always firmly rooted in the familiar structures of farce and West-End comedy.

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TONS OF MONEY

Adapted by Sir Alan Ayckbourn

Directed by Margaret Mann

Cast

Aubrey AllingtonJOHN BALDWIN

Louise AllingtonRUTH BALDWIN

Miss Jean EverardHELEN BENNETT

SimpsonJAN HALE

SprulesRAY MANN

GilesCHARLES PRESTON

HenerySTEVE PRITCHARD

Miss Benita MulletIRENE TRIM

James ChestermanMATTHEW WOODHAMS

George MaitlandSIMON ARMSTRONG

Act 1 *The residence of Aubrey and Louise Allington in Marlow*

Act 2 *The same. Three weeks later*

Act 3 *The same. Late afternoon the following day*

There will be an interval of 15 minutes between each act.

Staging

Stage Manager	CHRIS B. APPLETON
Assistant Stage Manager	CHRIS D. APPLETON
Assistant Stage Manager (Book)	FRAN PERCIVAL
Properties	JULIE WHEELAN HELEN COOKSON
Lighting	TONY BERRY SYD COLEY
Sound	BERNIE HOWAT
Wardrobe	JAMES HUGHES-ALTY
Set Design	LINDSAY HAYWOOD
Set Constructed by	SDC PRODUCTION TEAM
Scenic Artist	BOB JESSAMINE
Photography by	NEIL HICKSON

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Josephine Yates for the Flowers

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. PETER BURROUGHS.

TONS OF MONEY



John Baldwin (*Aubrey Allington*)

John has been told that in the course of this production he is going to make history on the Little Theatre stage ... well, there's always a first time for remembering all one's lines! More familiar to local audiences for bringing to life the characters of Gilbert & Sullivan, he is relieved this time not to have to worry about silly voices, ridiculous costumes or unconvincing wigs!!



Ruth Baldwin (*Louise Allington*)

Ruth's last appearance at the SDC was as a member of a somewhat eccentric family in "Hay Fever". This time eccentricity rules once more. Is this type-casting? Well she is married to John, after all. She is finding this production a refreshing change from her more familiar operatic and musical portrayals, although it is the second time in a year that she has appeared as a "merry widow".



Helen Bennett (*Miss Jean Everard*)

Helen last appeared as Benghes on roller blades in "Farndale Macbeth", a part which also demanded an attack of laryngitis. Unfortunately she now has her voice back to play Jean. Last November Helen played Reeny in "Breezeblock Park", in a hideous frock. She hopes to be less sartorially challenged in "Tons of Money".

TONS OF MONEY

Jan Hale (*Simpson*)

Jan joined the SD at the tender of 18 and very soon got swept into Panto, ending up by doing so many that the lines "look behind you" and "oh no it's not/oh yes it is" are permanently imprinted in her brain.

One of Jan's most enjoyable plays was Party Piece, but for effort involved it is difficult to beat Jan's last part, in Rumours. Not only did she appear in the play, she was also in charge of props!



Margaret Mann (*Director*)

Margaret met Ray when she auditioned for the leading-role in a production that he was directing; she was eighteen at the time. Margaret got the part.....and that was the last occasion when Ray was in charge (he says). Certainly, it is a fact that Ray hasn't directed Margaret since, whereas the roles have been reversed, like tonight, many times. Margaret is a long-standing member of the SDC. She has served as its chairman and as Chairman of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain.



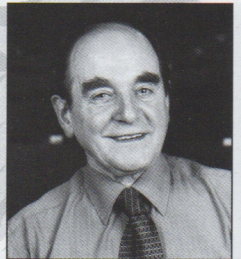
Ray Mann (*Sprules*)

The last time Ray played "the Butler" he was in a star-studded cast! Well, to be exact, one star - and she (for it was Miranda Richardson) was then an SDC amateur. Now, as then, the challenge of playing a Butler remains the same for Ray. It's not so much remembering the lines, it's remembering when to be on stage to deliver them.

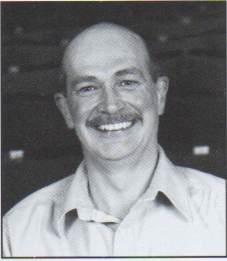


Charles Preston (*Giles*)

Charles made his SDC debut in 1957 playing Barnaby Tucker, an acrobatic assistant in "The Matchmaker". Progressing through the SDC hospital tour farces he has made aged servitor bit parts his forte - remember his dippy clergymen and butlers, the poacher, the bus driver, the clerk, the night watchman - but grandest of all the Emperor of China in Aladdin - tonight he's more earthly - the gardener!



TONS OF MONEY



Steve Pritchard (Henery)

After usually appearing as somebody's father, uncle or grandfather in Merrygoround productions over the years, it is a great comfort to be playing more youthful parts at the SDC, such as Ray's brother Henery (Did he say Youthfull-Ed). The only downside is that most of his roles require him to sport some form of questionable facial hair, as in Philadelphia Story and Breezblock Park (although at least he got to play Helen's husband). This play is no exception to the rule. Steve also enjoys performing with the Hoghton Players and he might even start sporting whiskers there.



Irene Trim (Miss Benita Mullet)

Irene has joined the SDC three times, first in 1946 when she played in a variety of productions from greek tragedy "Trojan Women", to farce "Turkey Time". Since re-joining in 1976 she is more often seen serving coffee and selling chocolates than on-stage.



Matthew Woodhams (James Chesterman)

This part is a bit of a busman's holiday for Matthew, being a solicitor in real life but obviously not as much of a twit as his character (that's what he thinks). Since joining the SDC in 1996, Matthew has appeared as a fool, idiot or twit in many of Margaret's productions and in similar roles for many other directors (a pattern which he's bound to notice one day). Matthew recently directed his first play, an out of season fundraiser "The Farndale Macbeth", which also featured him playing a bit of a nincompoop (but this time ending up in drag).



Simon Armstrong (George Maitland)

Simon first took to the stage in musicals with the SAOS, an addictive habit he has still not been broken of, after being given leading roles in "Showboat" and "Fiddler on the Roof". After joining the SDC he has appeared in "Mansfield Park" (another of Margaret's productions), "Hayfever" (also set in the 1920's) and "The Farndale Macbeth" (mostly in drag, but he maintains his frocks were better than Matthew's), amongst others. When not on stage for the SDC or SAOS, he has also been spotted performing for the Birkdale Orpheus and Hoghton Players.

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An SDC bar steward is one of the most public faces of the club. They get to meet a hoard of thirsty patrons and have to have a smile for all of them. The bar only runs successfully, as long as the bar staff work as a team, which can involve a lot of hard work, but also can be, a lot of fun.

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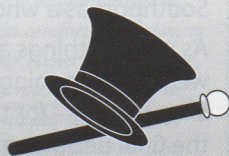
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SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB



The Traditional Family Pantomime

Aladdin

Panto Box Office

19th November - 1st December

11am - 4pm

20th - 22nd, 27th - 29th December

& 2nd - 5th January

11am - 7.30pm

23rd & 30th December,

1st & 6th January:

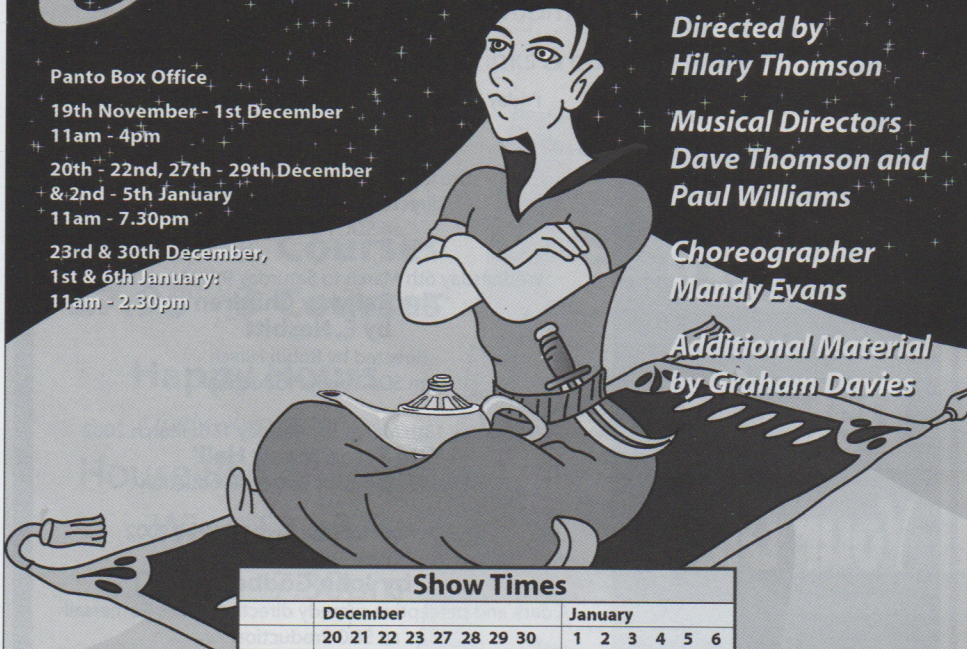
11am - 2.30pm

Directed by
Hilary Thomson

Musical Directors
Dave Thomson and
Paul Williams

Choreographer
Mandy Evans

Additional Material
by Graham Davies



Show Times

	December							January						
	20	21	22	23	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
2.30pm		
7.30pm

Tickets: Rows A-L £8 (concessions £6.50)
Rows M-Q £6 (concessions £5)

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Thursday 20th December 2001 to
Sunday 6th January 2002

'Aladdin'

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Hilary Thomson
Sponsored by NPI
an SDC Production

Friday 25th January to Saturday 2nd February 2002

'Two and Two Together'
by Derek Benfield

A delightful comedy directed by Pat Ball
an SDC Production

Friday 22nd February to Saturday 2nd March 2002

'Shadowlands'
by William Nicholson

The famous award-winning drama,
directed by Poppy Flanagan
an SDC Production

Wednesday 6th March to Saturday 9th March 2002

'The Railway Children'
by E. Nesbitt

directed by Robin Hirsch
an SDC Youth Production

Wednesday 13th March to Saturday 16th March 2002

'Old Tyme Music Hall'

A Waterloo & Crosby Society Production

Friday 5th April to Saturday 13th April 2002

'Gym and Tonic'
by John Godber

A dark and perceptive comedy directed by Les Gomersall
an SDC Production

Friday 3rd May to Saturday 11th May 2002

'An Absolute Turkey'
by Georges Feydeau
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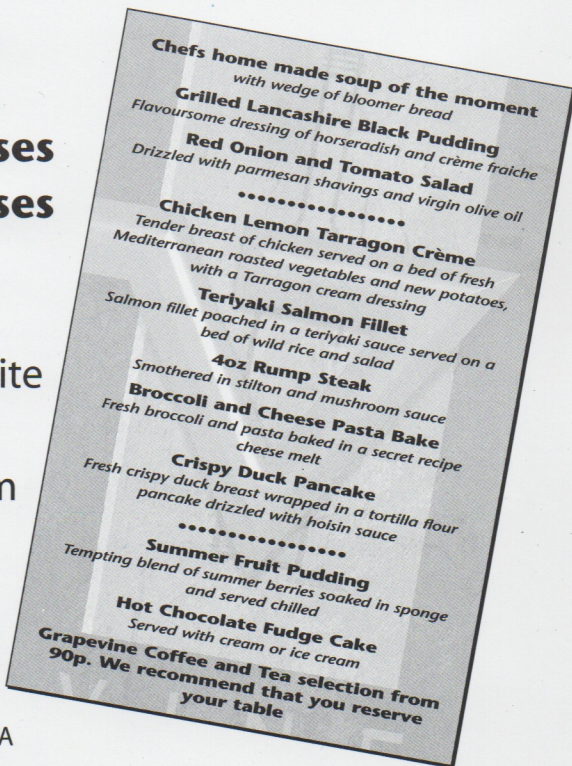
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