



LITTLE THEATRE
A
SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
PRESENTATION

**Based on the hugely popular
TV comedy series**



'ALLO 'ALLO

**By Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft
Directed by Margaret Mann**

29th April - 7th May 2005

7.45pm

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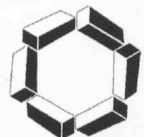


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Director's Notes



Many of you will be familiar with the popular television programme, *'Allo 'Allo* and, therefore, will recognise the characters in tonight's play. Inevitably, one cannot reproduce a television series with all its different locations and happenings, and we certainly wouldn't wish to do this. A play is a living organism and so we have tried to bring to life, for you, René's café in wartime France. The story, concerning the painting of the "Fallen Madonna with the Big Boobies", is pure fun and nonsense. However, the character acting from the excellent cast is splendid! Having numerous scenes, roles and locations, the play has been a challenge to direct, but rehearsals have been fun. *'Allo 'Allo* is, I believe, truly, a Club production. The cast, which spans a wide age range (19 to 91), together with the production team, set and costume designers, painters, and loyal prompt, Fran Percival, have all worked happily together and supported me well. I am very grateful to all of them.

During the rehearsal period we experienced several sad occasions concerning close fellow members of the SDC and their families. However, life and the show must go on, so we hope, tonight, we shall bring you much relaxation, fun and laughter and that next time we meet we shall greet each other with "Good Moaning" or an *'Allo 'Allo*.

Thank you for supporting the Southport Dramatic Club.

Margaret Mann
Director.

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Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft

Jeremy Lloyd was born in London, the son of an army colonel and a dancing Tiller girl. He started as an actor appearing in films such as *The School For Scoundrels* and *Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines*. Whilst acting he used some of his spare time to write poems about animals which became the best-selling children's book, *Captain Beaky and His Band*. He was married for a short time to Joanna Lumley and it was she who suggested to him he should write a TV show based on one of his many jobs. He chose his time as a suit salesman at Simpson's of Piccadilly. Acting upon this advice, together with David Croft he created *Are You Being Served?*. This was followed in the 1980s by another sitcom, *'Allo 'Allo*, which was a tremendous hit and ran for nine years before its transmogrification into the stage play you see tonight.

David Croft was born in Dorset, the son of musical comedy stars, Reginald Sharland and Annie Croft. After an education at Rugby he started to write for television, usually with a writing partner. Before long, he had written his first smash success, *Dad's Army*. This was closely followed by *Are You Being Served?*, his first collaboration with Jeremy Lloyd. He then created *It Ain't Half Hot Mum* and *Hi-De-Hi*, before teaming up with Lloyd again to pen *'Allo 'Allo*. He received an OBE for his services to television and his Desmond Davies Award, the highest accolade that can be bestowed on a television writer. He has seven children.

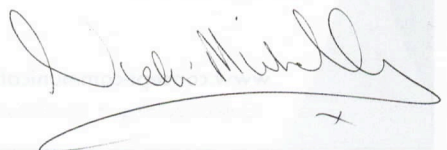
Vicki Michelle



'Allo 'Allo everybody,

Listen very carefully; I shall say this only once! A little bird told me, (or was it a long distance duck?), that you are about to perform the stage version of *'Allo 'Allo*. I am delighted that so many companies are doing the same all round the country, proving the show to be as popular as ever.

I would like to send my very best wishes to everyone involved and hope the show proves to be a huge success for you. I know you will have as much fun with it, as I did.





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'ALLO 'ALLO



'ALLO 'ALLO



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'ALLO 'ALLO

by Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft

Directed by Margaret Mann

Cast

The French

René..... Ray Mann
Edith..... Judy Hall
Yvette..... Helen Pritchard
Mimi..... Marianne Hardy
Michelle..... Sandra Unsworth
Le Clerc..... Stan Hagan
The Piano Player..... Benny Darrah
Members of the Resistance..... Jan James, Ceri Watkins,
Sabrina Regazzoni

The Germans

Colonel Kurt Von Strohm..... Steve Pritchard
Herr Otto Flick..... Peter Forshaw
Helga..... Helen Pickavance
Lieutenant Hubert Gruber..... Matthew Woodhams
General Von Schmelling..... John Sharpe
German Soldiers..... Andrew Connard, James Hughes-Alty

The Italian

Captain Alberto Bertorelli..... Stephen Hughes-Alty

The English

Officer Crabtree..... Simon Armstrong
Airmen..... Alex Howarth, Eric Chadwick

The action of the play takes place in and around the Café René in occupied France in the Second World War.

Act 1

Scene 1René's Café
Scene 2The Larder
Scene 3Colonel's Office
Scene 4Flick's Quarters
Scene 5René's Café
Scene 6Sideroom in Café
Scene 7René's Café

Act 2

Scene 1René's Café
Scene 2General's Office
Scene 3Flick's Quarters
Scene 4General's Office
Scene 5Bedroom
Scene 6Cinema
Scene 7René's Café
Scene 8The Larder
Scene 9René's Café

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts 1 and 2.

Staging

Stage Manager	Roderick Beardsell
Deputy Stage Manager	Philip Hutchinson
Assistant Stage Manager (Book)	Fran Percival
Crew	Lindsay Haywood
	Colin Haynes
	Andrew Connard
Props	Julie Whelan
	Barbara Beardsell
	James Hughes-Alty
	Gay Stowell
Lighting	Tony Berry
Sound	Brian Hodge
	Bernie Howat
SDC Wardrobe	Sherel Coley
	Margaret Horne
Set Design	Syd Coley
Set Constructed by	SDC Production Team
Scenic Artist	Bob Jessamine
Photography by	Neil Hickson
Violin Music by	David Townes

Acknowledgements

The Director would like to thank:
Jennie, at The Wig Salon, King Street, Southport.

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.

•
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'.

•
Please ensure that all mobile telephones are switched off

•
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.

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'ALLO 'ALLO

Cast

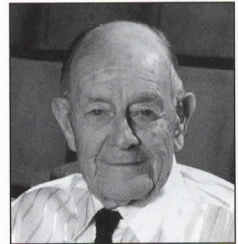
Margaret Mann *Director*

Margaret obviously likes being connected with wartime plays! Recently, she was in *The Dresser*, set in a provincial English city during the Blitz and now she is heavily involved in a café in war-torn France. Ah, well, 'C'est la guerre'.



Benny Darrah *The Piano Player*

Benny joined the SDC in 1944 and is one of our most respected actors and directors. If we were to list the number of productions with which he has been associated we should more than fill this programme! His last stage appearance was in Margaret's production of *Lady Windermere's Fan*. His talents, wide experience and wisdom are invaluable to the well-being of the Southport Dramatic Club. Thank you, Benny. (Director)



Ray Mann *René*

Ray says that playing the role of René Artois gives him all the pleasures of being James Bond - without having to be either heroic, athletic or handsome.



Judy Hall *Edith*

The last time Judy appeared on stage in *Nude with Violin* she spoke all twelve of her lines in French. This time she is only allowed to speak with a French accent. Was it something she said?



'ALLO 'ALLO

Cast



Helen Pritchard *Yvette*

During the play Yvette flirts with René, French peasants and half of the German army. In real life Helen is now happily married to Colonel Von Strohm. She hopes the Resistance doesn't find out!



Marianne Hardy *Mimi*

Marianne has played lots of roles with the SDC, many of which seem to be ladies of the night, but this time a waitress!?!)



Sandra Unsworth *Michelle*

Sandra's family wish that she would "say this only once" and her husband thinks that she changes her outfits often enough.



Helen Pickavance *Helga*

Helen never thought there would come a time when she would be wearing a German uniform, and doing a striptease on stage, but a girl's got to do what a girl's got to do. She hopes the seams are straight on her stockings or she could be shot!

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'ALLO 'ALLO

Cast



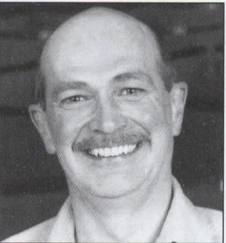
Peter Forshaw *Herr Otto Flick*

Peter thought that the role of Herr Flick would be a welcome change from his last performance as a cross-dressing musician in *Sugar* (*Some like it Hot*). That was before he read Act 2!!!



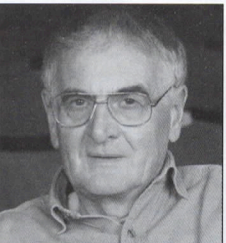
Matthew Woodhams *Lieutenant Hubert Gruber*

The closest Matthew has been to Germany is Croyden, which possibly explains his accent this evening. After years of playing nice guys, this year he has abandoned his country, suffered as Wee Willy, become a murderer (at two hours notice) and now, for this play, has spent many evenings chatting up Ray Mann and trying to get him in his Little Tank



Steve Pritchard *Colonel Von Strohm*

Steve has made great sacrifices to play a fat, bald German; shaving his normal luscious locks and eating everything in sight. Although married in real life to Yvette she won't let him use the wet celery and the flying helmet, although she does enjoy the egg whisk.



John Sharp *General Von Schmelling*

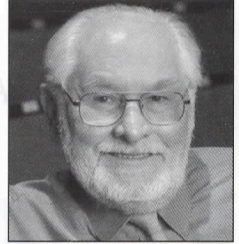
Though John Sharp is old enough to have met the characters in the play, he was at the time more interested in toy soldiers. He welcomes the opportunities to enjoy a real uniform – and medals.

'ALLO 'ALLO

Cast

Stan Hagan *Le Clerc*

Stan is sadly at an age when he can remember his first venture on the stage 50 years ago but not what he appeared in last year and with which company. Fortunately the audiences cannot remember either.



Stephen Hughes-Alty *Alberto Bertorelli*

Stephen has had to learn how to play the spoons for his portrayal of the Macho latino lover, Bertorelli. It might have been better if someone had taught him to act or speak with an Italian accent. What a *mistaka to maka!*



Simon Armstrong *Officer Crabtree*

When Migaret Moon and The Ploy Selection Committee asked Simon to tick the part of Officer Crabtree in tonight's ploy, he really didn't feel able to piss up such a great opportunity. He has enjoyed every moment in rehearsals and is especially licking forward to getting his trincheon out every noot for your entertainment.



The German soldiers and the Resistance

From left to right: James Hughes-Alty, Andrew Connard, Sabrina Regazzoni, Eric Chadwick, Jan James, Ceri Watkins and Alex Howarth.



LITTLE THEATRE

SOUTHPORT

DRAMATIC CLUB

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th May - 21st May 2005

ANNIE

A Birkdale Orpheus Production



24th May - 28th May 2005

BETRAYAL

*by Harold Pinter, directed by Alistair Hewitt
An SDC Bar Production*

8th June - 11th June 2005

OLDE TYME MUSIC HALL

A Waterloo & Crosby Operatic Society Production

15th June - 18th June 2005

GUYS & DOLLS

A Maghull Musical Theatre Company Production

29th June - 2nd July 2005

HIGH SOCIETY

A Southport Amateur Operatic Society Production



6th September - 10th September 2005

INTO THE WOODS

A Musical Story

*by Steven Sondheim, directed by Stephen Hughes-Alty
An SDC Youth Production*



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'ALLO 'ALLO





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Directed by Alister Hewitt

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