

June 2010

**Huntingdon Drama Club presents**

**Port Out, Starboard Home!**

**Warning: This cruise may change your life!**

Huntingdon Drama Club is delighted to present the world première of Port Out, Starboard Home! by Richard James. It's a feel-good comedy, where everybody gets what they deserve and learns the importance of being true to themselves.

Playwright Richard James is a local boy who appeared with Huntingdon Drama Club in the late 80s, before studying at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He has since appeared professionally on stage, on TV and in films, and there have been over 200 performances of his plays in nine countries. Last March, Richard performed two of his one-act plays, I am Hamlet and Vision Impaired, at the Commemoration Hall, with Dean Laccohee.

Richard James said: 'Port Out, Starboard Home! is a comedy with just a hint of darkness at its heart. Comedy plays, I believe, always work best when populated by dysfunctional characters trapped together, and Brian and Jackie are two such creations. Following her Shirley Valentine moment, however, Jackie ultimately finds the way out she was looking for...

'The heart of the play, though, belongs to Stewart's struggles to appease his mum while being true to his own self. Whilst Port Out, Starboard Home! is resolutely a comedy, I was determined not to shy away from dealing with the subtle complexities of marriage and human relationships as I wrote it.'

Most of the cast are familiar from recent productions, including Jeanette Brown, Dean Laccohee and Kelly Mason, while newcomer Katie Hickey plays the glamorous, but unhappy, TV actor Amanda.

Port Out, Starboard Home! is directed by Michael Black and produced by John Morgan. Michael Black said: 'This is comedy at its best – funny, and at the same

time firmly rooted in real human behaviour and relationships. Two of the characters gain the courage to be true to their own natures and stop others from controlling them, and the audience will be cheering them on.'

POSH! will be performed on Thursday to Saturday, 22 to 24 July, in the Commemoration Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £9 (concessions £7, including groups of four or more) and are available online (no booking fee) through the Club's website, [www.huntingdondramaclub.org.uk](http://www.huntingdondramaclub.org.uk), by phoning Huntingdon 454486, or from the Card Gallery.

For further information, contact Michael Black and John Morgan on 01480-454486.

Rehearsal photographs:



Photo 1

Jackie has a go at limbo dancing, egged on by the ship's Entertainments Officer. Stewart and his mother, Miriam, hold the stick at the right height. (Left to right: Jeanette Brown, Phil Green, Kelly Mason, Warren Laccohee)



Photo 2

The ship's Entertainments Officer puts some of the passengers through their paces. (Left to right: Phil Green, Scott Hutchison, Kelly Mason and Warren Laccohee)

### **About Huntingdon Drama Club**

Huntingdon Drama Club was formed in 1944 and gave its first full-length play in the Town Hall in 1945. In 1960, the Club moved to the Commemoration Hall, where for the first time, members had a permanent stage, dressing rooms, canteen facilities and scenery accommodation. They have been there ever since and are now performing three full-length plays each year.

Recently, Huntingdon Drama Club has performed *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie, *Saints and Sinners* by Michael Black (at All Saints' Church, Huntingdon) and the traditional mummers' play *St George and the Turkish Knight*, at the Heritage Festival mediaeval banquet.