

EDWARD G. REYNOLDS  
**Repertory Theatre**  
Beresford St  
**SHELTON**

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by

JOSEPH KESSELRING

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APRIL 1st to 13th, 1957

at 7-30 p.m.

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**Programme 3d.**

# ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by

JOSEPH KESSELRING

## Characters in order of appearance

ABBY BREWSTER .. .. .	PAULINE LOVATT
THE Rev. Dr. HARPER .. .. .	HUMPHREY KENNERELL
TEDDY BREWSTER .. .. .	ARTHUR FORESTER
OFFICER BROPHY .. .. .	ALBERT HANCOCK
MARTHA BREWSTER .. .. .	MADELEINE POINTON
ELAINE HARPER .. .. .	JOAN PEPPER
MORTIMER BREWSTER .. .. .	STUART SHERWIN
Mr. GIBBS .. .. .	JACK GREENWOOD
JONATHAN BREWSTER .. .. .	ERNEST REEVES
Dr. EINSTEIN .. .. .	EDWIN DUTTON
OFFICER O'HARA .. .. .	ANTHONY WITTICH
LIEUTENANT ROONEY .. .. .	TOM LOVATT
Mr. WITHERSPOON .. .. .	TOM IKINS

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The Play Produced by  
ROBERT SPEAR

## Producer's Note

Following the example of the London production an English accent has been maintained throughout the play.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The entire action of the play takes place in the living-room of the Brewster home in Brooklyn.

Time : 1941

ACT 1 An afternoon in September

ACT 2 That same night.

ACT 3 Scene I. Later that night.  
Scene II. Early the next morning.

Scenery built by  
THE REPERTORY PLAYERS

Setting painted by PAUL CLARKE

Furniture by THE OLD TIMES FURNISHING CO.

Additional Lighting and Electrical Equipment by the  
STRAND ELECTRIC & ENGINEERING CO. LTD.

Telephone Equipment kindly loaned by the G.P.O.

Costumes by MORRIS ANGEL & SON LTD.

Camping Equipment by the SCOUT SHOP

Sound Equipment by ERNEST BEARD

Pince-nez by J. D. MCKELLEN

Pistol by BAPTY & CO., LTD.

Wigs by "BERT"

STAGE MANAGER  
ASST. STAGE MANAGER  
AND ELECTRICIAN  
ASST. ELECTRICIAN  
PROPERTY MISTRESSES

for  
"ARSENIC AND  
OLD LACE"

TOM LOVATT  
JOHN S. GREENWOOD  
BRIDIE SWANN  
MARGARET FLEET  
JEAN MICHAEL

SMOKING IS PERMITTED DURING INTERVALS ONLY

Doubtless many people will be surprised to learn that "Arsenic and Old Lace" was originally written as a serious play ; yet that was how the author intended it, only changing tragedy to comedy whilst the play was in rehearsal.

That so much humour can be seen in situations which are actually rather macabre may at first seem surprising.

And yet this type of humour would appear to have universal appeal.

Since "Arsenic and Old Lace" was first presented in New York in 1941, millions of people the world over have laughed at the "goings on" in the Brewster household.

And the play has the distinction of being the first ever to be performed in sign language for a deaf and dumb audience.

With "Arsenic and Old Lace" we close an auspicious season on a note of laughter; a foretaste perhaps of equally pleasant things to come next season when we celebrate our Silver Jubilee.

OFFICIALS OF THE  
STOKE-ON-TRENT REPERTORY PLAYERS

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN	.. .. .	MR. E. W. PIDDUCK, J.P.
TREASURER	.. .. .	MR. A. C. SWANN
SECRETARY	.. .. .	MISS JOAN PEPPER
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	.. .. .	MISS CELIA SHERWIN
BOX OFFICE SECRETARY	.. .. .	MRS. L. HANCOCK
AUDITOR	.. .. .	MR. N. DUNNING
HOUSE MANAGER	.. .. .	MR. A. FORESTER
STAGE MANAGER	.. .. .	MR. T. LOVATT
ELECTRICIAN	.. .. .	MR. J. S. GREENWOOD
PUBLICITY MANAGER	.. .. .	MR. S. SHERWIN
WARDROBE MISTRESS	.. .. .	MRS. V. WHITE
REFRESHMENT ORGANISER	.. .. .	MISS ANNE HEATH

CAR PARK

The part of Beresford Street between St. Jude's Church and the Schools is reserved for the parking of cars for theatre patrons.

British Legion personnel supervise the park but no responsibility is accepted by the Repertory Players.

No charge is made for parking but gratuities may be accepted by the British Legion man on duty.