



## PACK OF LIES

We are most grateful to Richard and Eleanor Smith who have supported this, their fifth production.

Richard and Eleanor have previously supported:

- 1990 *The Aspern Papers*
- 1991 *Groping for Words*
- 1992 *La Ronde*
- 1993 *A Little Night Music*

### HUGH WHITEMORE

Hugh Whitemore received the Writer's Guild Award for his dramatisation of *Cider with Rosie* in 1971 and for his contributions to Granada's celebrated *Country Matters* series in 1972. His first play for the stage was *Stevie* which was produced at The Vaudeville Theatre in 1977 with Glenda Jackson in the title role.

He wrote the screenplay for Alan Bridges' film, *Return of the Soldier* in 1982, starring Julie Christie, Glenda Jackson and Alan Bates. *Pack of Lies* opened in 1983 at The Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue.

His stage play *Breaking the Code* opened in the West End at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in October 1986, with Derek Jacobi in the leading role. It successfully transferred to The Comedy Theatre. It has since then been produced on Broadway, in Australia and throughout Europe.

*Best of Friends* opened in 1988 heralding the return of Sir John Gielgud to the stage after an absence of ten years. The play also starred Rosemary Harris and the late Ray McAnally. It was subsequently adapted for the screen by Channel Four.

More recently, his play, *It's Ralph*, was nominated for an Olivier award for Best Comedy in 1991. He wrote the dramatisation of Joanna Trollope's *The Rector's Wife* for Talisman and Channel Four and has completed a commission to adapt *Thief Taker*, by A. T. Scholefield, for Anglia Films. His adaptation of *Jane Eyre* for screen and television with Franco Zeffirelli, is currently in production.

## PACK OF LIES

What you are about to see is a true story. It centres around the lives of Bob, Barbara and Julie Jackson, who are based on the real life family Bill and Ruth Search and their daughter Gay Search, the journalist. The play owes its existence to Gay Search, who was responsible for triggering the whole creative process. Whilst at a dinner party in the early seventies, she happened to find herself sitting next to Cedric Messina, the colossus of Television drama productions, Play of the Month, The Wednesday Play etc. etc. During the evening, for some obscure reason, Messina happened to mention the Portland Spy Case, with a reference to events that took place in Cranley Drive, Ruislip. Much to Messina's surprise, Gay revealed that she used to live in Cranley Drive and amazed him further, by acquainting him with the facts that now form the substance of this play.

Messina was inspired by what he heard and asked Gay whether she would permit him to work up a treatment as a possible television drama. Messina went on to discuss the project with Hugh Whitemore and together they created *Act of Betrayal* which was subsequently televised in the Play of the Month series in 1971. The play was very well received, encouraging Whitemore to write a more fictionalised and freer account of the story for the stage. The result was *Pack of Lies* which opened at the Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue in 1983 with Dame Judi Dench and Michael Williams playing Bob and Barbara Jackson. The play received considerable critical acclaim and earned Judi Dench the 1983 SWET award for best actress. It has subsequently been performed in many countries around the world.

The events are related more or less as they happened. What is true and what is dramatic licence, I leave for you to determine. To say any more would be to pre-empt much of the detail that has been so sensitively crafted by Hugh Whitemore. I will allow the story to unfold for you in performance; the actors and playwright telling the tale.

MIKE LANGRIDGE

# PACK OF LIES

by Hugh Whitemore

*First performance of this production Saturday, September 17th 1994*

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

Bob ..... **ROBIN INGRAM**  
Barbara ..... **MONYENE KANE**  
Julie ..... **SOPHIE GREY**  
Helen ..... **VIVIEN KERR**  
Peter ..... **KEN RATCLIFFE**  
Stewart ..... **COLIN PRONGER**  
Thelma ..... **SUSAN REOCH**  
Sally ..... **SARA PRUCE**

The action of the play takes place between the months of October 1960 and January 1961.

The setting is Bob and Barbara's semi-detached suburban house in Ruislip.

### ACT ONE

Scene I	Morning	Wednesday	19th	October	1960
Scene II	Afternoon	Friday	4th	November	1960
Scene III	Evening	Friday	4th	November	1960
Scene IV	Evening	Saturday	5th	November	1960
Scene V	Afternoon	Sunday	6th	November	1960
Scene VI	Morning	Monday	7th	November	1960

*There will one interval of fifteen minutes*

### ACT TWO

Scene I	Midday	Thursday	17th	November	1960
Scene II	Evening	Wednesday	23rd	November	1960
Scene III	Afternoon	Thursday	24th	November	1960
Scene IV	Evening	Sunday	25th	December	1960
Scene V	Morning	Saturday	7th	January	1961
Scene VI	Morning	Sunday	8th	January	1961



THE PLAYHOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH AN INFRA-RED SOUND TRANSMISSION SYSTEM FOR USE BY PEOPLE WITH HEARING DIFFICULTIES. IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO USE THIS SYSTEM WITH PERSONAL HEARING AIDS SWITCHED TO THE T POSITION. To obtain the appropriate receiver please contact the Duty House Manager.



THE PLAYHOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH A LIFT, WITH ACCESS TO THE BAR AND UPPER FOYER LEVELS FOR THOSE WITH MOBILITY PROBLEMS.

## PRODUCTION

Directed and Designed by ..... **MIKE LANGRIDGE**  
Design Co-ordinator ..... **JIM CAITHNESS**  
Lighting Designer ..... **FRANCIS STEPHENSON**

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Stage Manager ..... **KATY GALLANTRY**  
Deputy Stage Managers ..... **STEVE FRANCIS**  
**LOUISE WODEHOUSE-EASTON**

Assistant Stage Managers ..... **MONICA SINGH**  
**ANNELIESE MORGAN**

Properties ..... **MARY ANGELI**  
Lighting Operator ..... **REBECCA BURFITT**  
Sound Designer ..... **JOHN JOHNSON**  
Sound Operator ..... **LINDA McDONALD**  
Assistant Set Designers ..... **FRANCIS STEPHENSON**  
**NAT TURNER**

Construction ..... **JIM CAITHNESS**  
**JULIE FEATHERSTONE**  
**STEVE FRANCIS**  
**NAT TURNER**

Wardrobe ..... **CLAIRE GOTT**  
Research ..... **CAROLINE BLEAKLEY**  
Sound Effects ..... **NIGEL WORSLEY**

*Thanks to* **Philiam Construction Ltd., The Coyote Café,  
British Telecom, LEC Refrigeration, Elabor, Bennet & Brown,  
Nelson Etherton, Jon Webster, Alisdair Fraser,  
Roz Palmer, Peter Collins, Jerry Moreton,  
Renata Nash**

1. The taking of food and drink into the auditorium is NOT permitted.
2. The use of cameras, video-cameras or tape equipment during the performance is also prohibited.
3. Patrons are requested to turn off portable telephones and beepers in the auditorium, since the activation of these during a performance is offensive to audience and actors alike.

## ART EXHIBITION IN THE UPPER FOYER

17th - 30th September 1994

### GEOFFREY VIVIS and PETER KITCHIN

Both mature artists they work as lecturers at the Amersham and Wycombe College of Art and Design.

Geoffrey Vivis is an elected member of The Manchester Academy of Fine Art and has exhibited at The Royal Academy and The Royal Society of Fine Art as well as The Questors Gallery in 1983.

Peter Kitchin has exhibited widely and has been involved in Industrial Design and as a teacher of painting.

## ART EXHIBITION IN THE GRAPEVINE GALLERY

17th - 24th September 1994

### AMANDA WHITTLE

An ex-student of The Royal College of Art, Amanda has worked and exhibited in both glass and mixed media work.

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## HARLEY WHITE



Harley White Group, Sinclair House, The Avenue, Ealing W13 8NT

# 081-998 4942

## INFORMATION

### THE GRAPEVINE CLUB

The Questors has a fully licensed Bar which is now open to all members. The Bar is open every evening plus lunchtimes on Sundays. Questors members are requested to sign in their guests when entering the bar.

### THE HOTPLATE

Delicious hot and cold food is available in the upper Foyer between 6.30pm and 8.00pm during the run of Playhouse productions, and coffee, tea, and cakes are served during the interval. No hot food will be provided at the Sunday matinées.

### NOTE

The Hotplate is not open for Studio productions, but when Studio performances coincide with those in the Playhouse, it will endeavour to serve those audiences whenever this is possible.

### NEW MEMBERS EVENINGS

Why not attend one of our new, or prospective members evenings, and have a conducted tour of the Theatre complex. Tours start and finish at the Grapevine Bar, 8.00pm every Wednesday.

### THE STUDENT GROUP

The Questors runs a two year part time student course in Acting; details can be obtained from the office.

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS

There are a number of groups for younger members. These cater for all age groups, from 5-17. The classes are intended to create awareness of the theatre and provide a stimulating channel for imagination.

### For The Questors Theatre

Artistic Director  
Studio Director  
Director of Studies  
Chair  
Vice-Chairman  
Company Secretary  
Club Secretary  
Finance Director  
Stage Director  
Marketing Director  
Theatre Manager  
Productions Secretary  
Membership Secretary  
Programme Editor  
Questopics Editor  
Marketing Manager  
Sponsorship  
Box Office Management  
Programme Sales Organiser  
Front of House Manager  
Press Relations  
Haberdashery  
Wardrobe Equipment  
Wardrobe Care

David Emmet  
Simon Thomas  
David Emmet  
John Davey  
Doug King  
Sue Blake  
Christine Garland  
Ken Kettle  
Kris Collier  
Simon Green  
Elaine Orchard  
Christine Greening  
Alice Pennicott  
Vincent McQueen

Sam Jennings  
Geoffrey Sellman  
Ken Parker  
Val Blaxland  
Eric Lister  
Trish Fox, Sarah Wood  
Tootal Craft  
Wilkinson Sword Scissors..Fiskars Ltd  
Persil, Comfort and Stergene  
courtesy of Lever Bros.  
Dry-cleaning by C.D.S.

### Administration

The Questors office is open from 9.30am until 5.00pm every weekday. If you wish to make contact for details of membership, or hiring the Theatre and rehearsal rooms, telephone the office on 0181-567 0011.

### Membership

If you wish to become a member please fill in the application form (copies in the Foyers); just send it to the Theatre with the appropriate subscription. 0181-567 8736.

### Box Office

For personal callers the box office is open evenings only from 6.45pm, to 8.30pm on days of performance and five days prior to each Playhouse production.