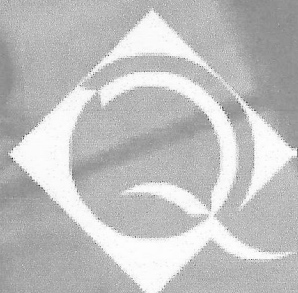


QExtra **Bats in the Attic**

Premier
8th May 2023



The Questors Theatre

Cast (in order of appearance)

Elizabeth	Alison Griffin
Charlotte	Maggie Turner
Jennifer	Claudia Caroll
Philipa	Caroline Ash
Directed by	Wanda Duszynska
Writer	John Barron
Producer	David Erdos

Special thanks to:

Philippa Egan, Peter Gould, Carla Evans, Andrew Whadcoat, Harriet Parsonage, The cast & crew of *Low Level Panic* and David Erdos for arranging this QExtra season

Note from the author

The opening scene for *Bats in the Attic* came from a story that my mother told me only a few years ago about when she and my aunt were clearing out my great aunt's loft. Several of the events in the first section of the play are pretty much entirely lifted from this and are indeed so ridiculous that I wouldn't have dared include them if they hadn't actually happened. Having said that, the themes within it are more based on experiences of going through my own storage boxes for a move or clear out and going through the possessions of deceased relatives on both sides of the family. The mixture of forgotten memories of my own childhood and the mementos of relatives whose associated stories have been forgotten fascinates me. These seemingly insignificant items that we choose not to throw out are like enchanted objects, a form of time travel that has a time limit, only working as long as the persons associated with them are still alive.

The majority of the events in this play are a fiction, but it is populated by characters who are imagined versions of my extended family from both sides, most of whom I never met, but know existed thanks to passing remarks and conversations between older generations at family gatherings. As I imagine is the case for many people when they hear these conversations, these individuals are merely names, family legends that have been passed on by word of mouth. I know there were famous engineers, artists, dancers, entrepreneurs, priests and female doctors (at a time when this was very rare) among others, but little more than these titles. For this reason, like the scientists in *Jurassic Park*, I have had to pad out and combine some of the DNA. Hence, none of the characters in this play share names with any real person (as far as I know) nor are they individually based on any one person, but are amalgamations of various people I have known, both inside and outside my family, all with varying degrees of sanity.

The purpose of these shows is to provide feedback on new material. If you would like to leave criticism, advice or comments please use the QR code below or follow the link underneath

