

## Norfolk summer: the making of the Go-Between



BY CHRISTOPHER HARTOP Published by John Adamson

Joseph Losey's award-winning movie *The Go-Between* occupies a special place in the collective memory of the people of Norfolk. Filmed entirely on location in the county in 1970, the film charts the tragic story of a young boy's loss of innocence during the hot summer of 1900 and stars Julie Christie and Alan Bates as a pair of lovers crossing class boundaries in late Victorian England. The production brought together the playwright Harold Pinter, who adapted L.P. Hartley's elegant novel for the screen, the acclaimed American director Joseph Losey, and a cast of international stars for ten weeks' filming in and around Melton Constable Hall in north Norfolk — a time of happy creativity, drama and comedy.

This new book by Norfolk author Christopher Hartop charts the making of the film, from the fights played out in the boardrooms of Hollywood, New York and London, to the stunningly beautiful East Anglian countryside, then culminating in the intrigue surrounding the film's triumph at the 1971 Cannes Film Festival, where it won the prestigious Palme d'Or. Many Norfolk inhabitants who were involved in the production, either as cast members or crew, have contributed their reminiscences of that unforgettable Norfolk summer.

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