

About Chorlton Players...

We are a community theatre group established in 1963. Our low-ticket prices reflect the fact that we are a not for profit group. We put on five productions a season, including our pantomime in the New Year and a comedy revue. We meet and rehearse at The Spread Eagle every Monday and Wednesday evening and we always welcome new members. You don't need any experience and it is not all about the acting. We are always in need of all the other talents it takes to put on productions: backstage, costumes, front of house, set building, audio-visuals, make-up, advertising etc.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US? If you are interested in joining Chorlton Players just go to our website: www.chorltonplayers.co.uk and email our membership secretary for further information at enquiries@chorltonplayers.com, come along to one of our rehearsals, or come and chat to us after this performance.

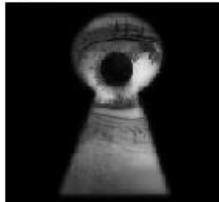
Keep in touch with us via our e-Newsletter...

To subscribe, just go to www.chorltonplayers.com and add your details to the Subscription Section on the right hand side. You can unsubscribe instantly any time. We promise to send you our newsletter packed with info worth announcing (no spam here!) and we promise to keep your details confidential... **and keep up with us on Facebook and @chorltonplayers on Twitter too!**

Coming Soon.....

Lonely Birds and Shadow Figures

by E.M. Slocum



15th-17th August 2019

Tickets available online soon!

Chorlton Players

PRESENT

Comedy Shorts



The Proposal

by
Anton Chekhov

Trapped!

by
Michael Green

The Bear

by
Anton Chekhov

St. Werburgh's Hall,
St. Werburgh's Road,
Chorlton-cum-Hardy,
Manchester,
M21 0TL

Curtain up
June 13th - 15th 2019
at 7.30pm

Tickets: £7 Adults, £4 Concessions

www.chorltonplayers.com

Comedy Shorts

Welcome to our evening of 'Comedy Shorts', a series of one act plays that we have assembled for your amusement. We've chosen plays that we like as an example of how fun theatre can be and which show that you don't need hours and hours to be able to tell a good story!

Michael Green wrote his book 'The Art of Coarse Acting, or How to Wreck an Amateur Dramatics Society' in 1964 and since then it has become a must read for any actor. In his book he describes the 'coarse actor' as “one who can remember his lines, but not the order in which they come... the coarse actors aim is to upstage the rest of the cast. His hope is to be dead by Act Two so that he can spend the rest of his time in the bar.” The book was so popular that Green went on to develop a series of short 'Coarse Acting' plays, of which *Trapped!* is one, no doubt based on his own experiences in am dram societies. A 'play within a play', *Trapped!* has plenty of opportunity for physical humour and fun with the characters, which I think the cast have really been able to make their own.

Before renowned Russian playwright Anton Chekhov started to suffer from the terrifying effects of consumption and his plays took a turn for the darker, he wrote some highly amusing one act comedies. Although he later distanced himself from them, calling *The Proposal* for instance, 'a wretched, boring, vulgar little skit,' they contain the essence of everything that makes theatre fun. *The Bear* and *The Proposal* (both written in 1888) are concerned with affairs of the human heart and both depict deeply fragile protagonists dealing with emotional awkwardness and societal restrictions to find love. The secret to their enduring appeal is the recognisable humanity of those who overcome the challenges of their situations, something that characters in his later plays never quite manage to do. Chekhov's gift for language and for crafting farcical comedy make these plays ideal entertainment and interestingly, *The Bear* directly contradicts his most famous dramatic rule, in that guns appear on stage which are never fired.

We have had a wonderful time working with a great cast and crew on these productions. We hope you have as much fun watching it as we have had in making it.

Jess Taylor and Anthony Morgan, Directors

Running Time:

Act 1 (The Bear/The Proposal) – 1 hr

Act 2 (Trapped!) - 35 mins

CAST

The Bear

Popova
Smirnov
Luka

Darja Scukina
Vicky Lynch-Matthew
Jay Sanderson

The Proposal

Chubukov
Natalya Stepanovna
Lomov

Rohan Shenoy
Alice Meadows
Allan Campbell

Trapped!

Major Thompson
Mrs Thompson
Braithwaite
The Maid
Freda
Sheila
George

Rob Hall
Jean Hall
Rohan Shenoy
Bex Smith
Milly White
Petrina Cox
Luis Escorihuela

CREW

Directors
Producer
Set Designer
Stage Manager
Stage Crew

Jess Taylor/ Anthony Morgan
Louise Derby
Rob Hall
Liz McDowall
Simon Parkin
Gavin Dean
Tom Patchett
Luis Escorihuela
Jean Hall
Annie Wallace
Adam Ion
Stephen Lewyckij
Maître d and helpers
Edgars Scukins

Costume
Technical Manager
Lighting/Sound
Marketing
Front of House
Photography

Finally, a big thank you to all the members and friends of Chorlton Players who have helped along the way.