About Chorlton Players...

We are a non-profit making theatre group established in 1963 so we've been going fifty years now. We are a group of about forty members, and we put on five productions per season. Our two mainstays are our pantomime every New Year, and a comedy review in summer. We meet every Monday and Wednesday evening for rehearsals and are always keen to see new members. Even if you don't fancy acting, we are always in need of all the other talents it takes to put productions on: backstage, costumes, front of house, set-building, audio-visuals, make-up, advertising etc. So, if you are interested in taking any part in our shows, please get in touch.

Go to our website: www.chorltonplayers.co.uk and drop us a line at **enquiries@chorltonplayers.com**. Or come and chat to us after this performance.

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

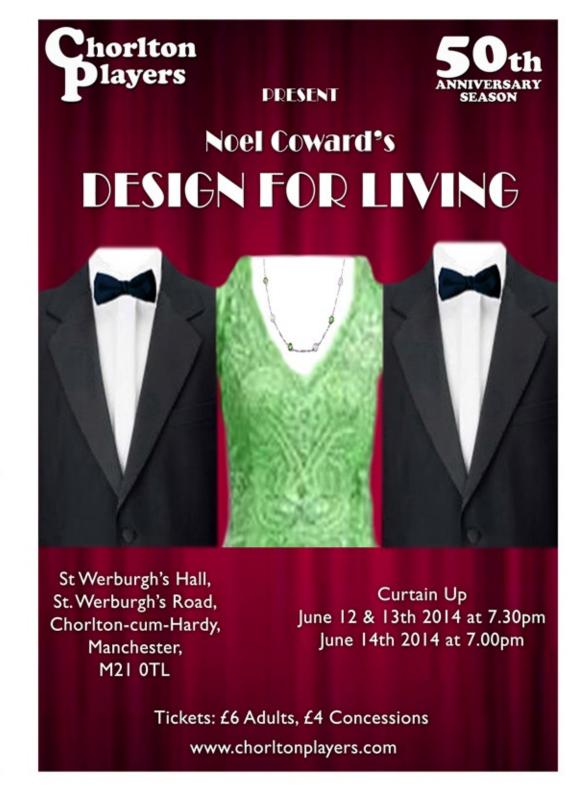
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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

AN EVENING OF COMEDY

14th - 16th August 2014

Tickets on sale 1st July 2014



In 1920s New York, Noel Coward met an acting couple, Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontaine. Penniless at the time, they made a pact that if the three became famous, Coward would write a 'vehicle' for the three of them to star in together. Skip ten years and all three had found success and Coward felt the time was right. Drawing on stories about the Lunt's lifestyle and some aspects of his own relationship with them, the result was Design For Living.

The play was first staged in New York, as Coward was concerned that it might be too risqué for London audiences with its hints at a bi-sexual relationship between the three main characters. If Alfred Lunt had his way the boundaries would have been pushed even further with Coward once commenting;

"Alfred had suggested a few stage directions which if followed faithfully, would undoubtedly have landed all three of us in gaol".

The play was largely ignored by modern audiences until recently where their appreciation of Coward's work has been renewed and it has been presented in various cities including a run at the Old Vic in London.

As a huge fan of Coward's plays, my aim is to hopefully dispel the myth that they are clichéd, lightweight comedies and highlight the fact that they deal with recognisable people and relationships and contain an emotional depth and genuine pathos. This has been made considerably easier by the talented cast and crew who have worked tirelessly on a script that, for an amateur, is challenging. I hope you will like the result as much as I do.

Barry Pritchard Director

N.B. This is a three act play with a short interval at the end of Act 1 and Act 2.

CAST

Gilda Hannah Crowe

Leo Ed Beesley

Otto Charlie DeSantis

Ernest Andy O'Brien

Mr Birbeck Rick Kelly Mrs Hodge Jean Hall

Henry Rohan Shenoy

Helen Vicky Lynch-Mathew

Grace Annie Wallace

Matthew Peter Lynch-Mathew

Photographer Darren Evans

CREW

Director Barry Pritchard Producer Stephen Lewyckyj

Stage Manager Simon Butler
Backstage Darren Evans
Costumes Victoria Searle
Lighting Simon Parkin

Sound Adam Ion
Photography John Beresford

Front of house Helen & her helpers

....and various other members of the society that have helped along the way.