

About Chorlton Players...

We are a community theatre group established in 1963. We put on five productions a season, including our pantomime in the New Year and a comedy revue. Our low-ticket prices reflect the fact that we are a not for profit group. 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.com 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 and Instagram too!**

60th
ANNIVERSARY
SEASON

SKETCH SHOW

August 17th, 18th & 19th 2023

Tickets available soon from www.chorltonplayers.com

**Chorlton
Players**
presents

Noël Coward's

**PRESENT
LAUGHTER**

8TH - 10TH JUNE 2023
CURTAIN UP 7.30PM

ST WERBURGH'S HALL
ST WERBURGH'S RD
CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY
MANCHESTER
M21 0TL

ADULTS £10
CONCESSIONS £7

WWW.CHORLTONPLAYERS.COM

In the summer of 2019, Louise and I went to see the National Theatre's adaptation of *Present Laughter* in the cinema. I have a vivid memory of watching the credits roll and Louise leaning over to me to say "I mean, I'll produce it..." and so our little project was born. It may have taken us nearly four years to get it on stage but even a global pandemic couldn't stop our passion for this play and I'm so glad that we persevered.

Revolving around an aging matinee idol Garry Essendine and his bizarre group of friends and admirers, *Present Laughter* is arguably one of Coward's more self aware plays offering us the opportunity to laugh both with and at him. Indeed, he originally starred as Garry when the production debuted in 1942. Coward himself described the play as "a very light comedy ... written with the sensible object of providing me with a bravura part" and the part of Garry certainly delivers.

I have loved being able to bring this play to life through the impressive hard work of a truly magnificent cast and crew who have worked tirelessly to learn masses of lines and build a whole studio from nothing. It has been hard work at times, Coward was never known for his brevity, but I hope that it will be worth it for all involved. I know that for Louise and I it certainly has been.

I leave you now with the only suitable way to sign off this message, in the words of one of our illustrious cast - "*Present Laughter*, I barely knew 'er"

Alice Meadows, Director

CAST

Garry Essendine
Liz Essendine
Monica Reed
Joe Lypiatt
Daphne Stillington
Roland Maule
Maureen Dixon
Helen Lypiatt
Fred
Miss Erikson
Lady Saltburn
Lady Saltburn's valet

Valiant Lynch-Mathew
Hannah Crowe
Frances Lolly Chant
Rohan Shenoy
Jess Taylor-Bray
Cameron Steen
Bry Hawes
Laura Kelly
Charles T McCoy
Emma Dixon
Amy Williams
Jay Sanderson

CREW

Director
Producer
Technical Manager
Technical Operator
Stage Manager
Stage Crew
Props Manager
Costumes Manager
Make-up
Publicity
Photography
Front of House

Alice Meadows
Louise Derby
Annie Wallace
Anthony Morgan
Rob Hall
Tom Baker and Tom Gilbert
Maria Apostolidi
Alice Meadows
Alice Meadows
Stephen Lewyckyj
Annie Wallace
Paul Bluer & helpers

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