About ChorIton 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...

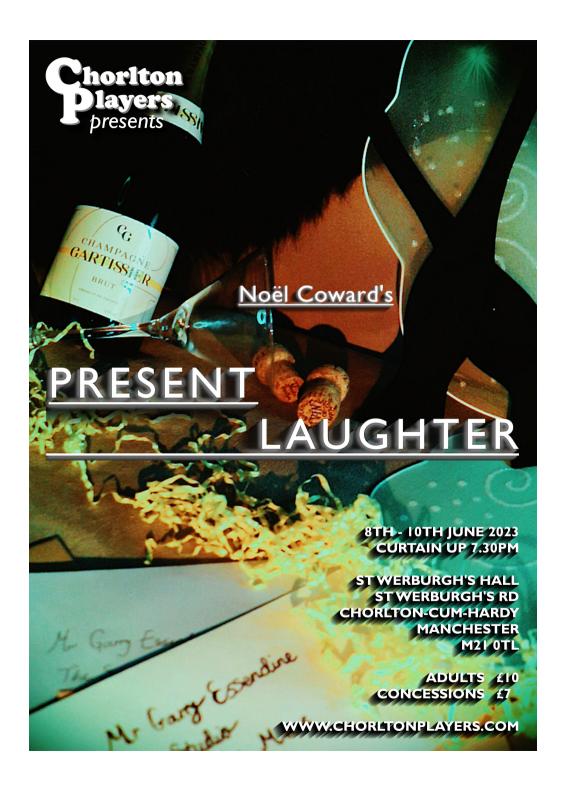
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SKETCH SHOW

August 17th, 18th & 19th 2023

Tickets available soon from 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 Valiant Lynch-Mathew Liz Essendine Hannah Crowe Monica Reed Frances Lolly Chant Joe Lypiatt Rohan Shenov Daphne Stillington Jess Taylor-Bray Roland Maule Cameron Steen Maureen Dixon **Bry Hawes** Helen Lypiatt Laura Kelly Fred Charles T McCov Miss Erikson Emma Dixon Lady Saltburn **Amy Williams** Lady Saltburn's valet Jay Sanderson

CREW

Director Alice Meadows
Producer Louise Derby
Technical Manager Annie Wallace
Technical Operator Anthony Morgan

Stage Manager Rob Hall

Stage Crew Tom Baker and Tom Gilbert

Props Manager Maria Apostolidi
Costumes Manager Alice Meadows
Make-up Alice Meadows
Publicity Stephen Lewyckyj
Photography Annie Wallace
Front of House Paul Bluer & helpers

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