

Jamie Laidler assisted by Lise Hubble:

For supplying the new stage flats and delivering them

Simon Butler Assisted by Heidi Knight &

Den Keighron:

For transforming and creating the new flats into an amazing set

Annie Wallace:

Light, sound and technical support

Cathie Carter Assisted By Charlie

Dewar:

For their extensive work on prop sourcing

Helen Bowyer assisted by Mick Bowden

and other volunteers:

Front of house

John Beresford:

Photography

Den Keighron:

Set design

The Spread Eagle:

For supplying our rehearsal space

And Finally a huge thank you to all who helped with the final set build:

Andy O'Brien, Becky Day, Charlotte King, David Simpson, Den Keighron, Graham Phythian, Heather Lee, Heidi Knight, James Kerr, John Clarke, Liz Walmsley, Simon Butler

Sponsored by the fabulous...

stuartjames
Hairdressing

460A Wilbraham
Road, Chorlton

A huge thank you to stuartjames for styling the female cast's hair before each performance

Our Next Production...

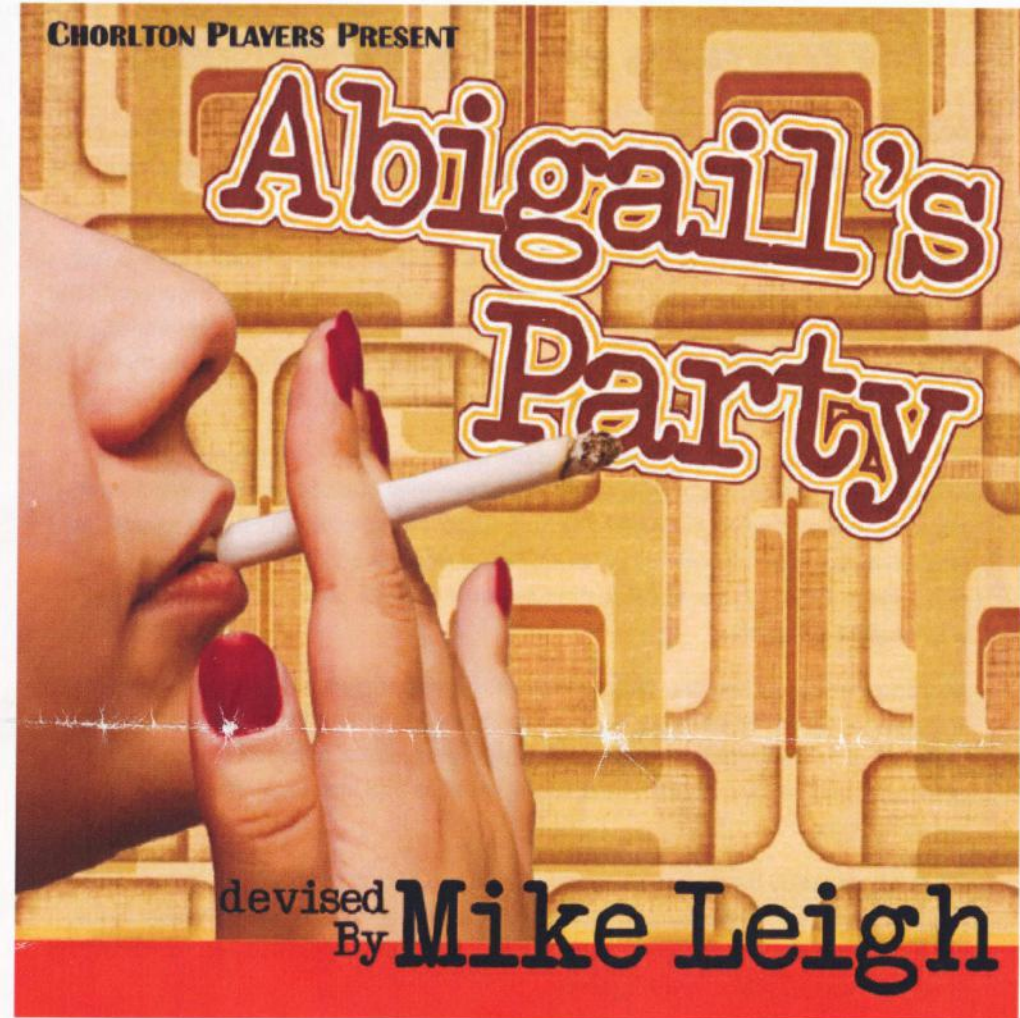
Hotpot!

A night of comic entertainment, join us for fun and frolics as we treat you to some of the best famous sketches interspersed with some well written original material. As a Bonus we include food in the ticket price which will be served in the interval... What more could one want?

So pop down to St Werburgh's Hall on one of the following dates, 7:30pm:
Jun 12th, 13th & 14th - hope to see you there!

CHORLTON PLAYERS PRESENT

Abigail's Party



devised
By **Mike Leigh**

DIRECTED BY: DEN KEIGHRON

PRODUCED BY: HEIDI KNIGHT & DEN KEIGHRON

PLEASE BE ADVISED

That this performance involves the smoking of cigarettes for the purpose of artistic integrity. This ONLY applies to the CAST and it is therefore ILLEGAL for members of the audience to smoke in the hall. This is in accordance with the health act 2006. We also advise that if you suffer from asthma, or any other condition that would be affected by the smoke, to sit closer to the back of the hall.

Director's notes & Synopses...

Mike Leigh's legendary theatrical and television masterpiece of characterisation and manners is now 30 years old, we commemorate this by putting on a production of the play.

Beverly, the main character, throws a party to welcome new neighbours, Tony & Ang, who have managed to get their house down "from 22 thousand, to 21 thousand". The plot encompasses Beverly's horrible, yet approachable, character as she tyrannises her guests in the relentless evening that follows, by forcing them into situations they cannot stand; inebriation, humiliation, seduction and much more.

A revolution is happening just next door; the transformation from hippie into punk. Abigail, unseen daughter of Sue, is 15 and has manipulated her mother into allowing her to have a wild party, but luckily for Sue, Beverly has invited her round to join her welcoming party for the new neighbours. Sue is expecting to talk politely over dinner and a glass of Beaujolais, but little did she know she was about to have one of the worst nights of her life.

Laurence is overworked and under sexed with every single small pleasure in life being trampled on by Beverly's needs and her ability to manipulate every single situation. Observe as he slowly breaks down as the night progresses, whilst Bev and Ang are oblivious and just carry on with their bitchy, tactless and inconsiderate questions and conversations.

Sit back and enjoy the thoroughly cringe-worthy night that is about to unfold.... witness the monster that is Beverly, but pay particular attention to the characteristics of the others as they are not as nice as they seem.... watch them collapse and expire before your very eyes... Enjoy... *Den Keighron*

CHORLTON PLAYERS

chorltonplayers.com

We hope you have enjoyed the production...

If you are interested in joining the group, simply visit our website for further details, or ask one of our friendly volunteers during the interval. Likewise if you would like to receive information about future productions then visit our website or again have a quick chat with us at the interval

Characters...

Beverly, (Played by Liz Walmsley):

Wife to Laurence. A department store rep and hostess from hell, an archetypal manifestation of the new middle class snob that emerged in the 70's "Oh and its Beaujolais, lovely... I'll just pop that in the fridge", she shows off to her guests, flirts with everyone except her husband, but what is really frightening about Beverly is she still puts on the show she gives to her guests... when she is alone.

Laurence, (Played by James Kerr):

Husband to Beverly. In a time when people are required to climb the social ladder, Laurence epitomises this. He enforces his "cultured" ways at unfortunate moments throughout the night on his guests. He is completely unable to compete with Beverly which is probably why he is so overworked and highly strung.

Angela, (Played by Charlotte King):

Wife to Tony. Despite being a nurse... stupid, meek, plain, intrusive, inconsiderate and tactless are but a few words to describe Angela. Throughout the night she plagues the other guests with her interrogation, Angela's brain simply does not have that little voice that tells her when to shut up, therefore she ends up embarrassing most of the people around her with every question or statement, much to her husband, Tony's, loathing.

Tony, (Played by Simon Butler):

Husband to Angela. A computer operator and ex professional footballer, more of an onlooker of this gruelling night, however his barely concealed hatred for his wife, Angela, boils over occasionally throughout the night to show his dark upsetting and potentially violent character that could stem from a bitter end to a career he loved.

Susan, (Played by Helen Grady):

Mother of unseen Abigail. Sue is divorced and living with her two children, one being a 15 year old tearaway called Abigail, who is having a party, which is why Sue has been invited to Beverly and Laurence's. Sue is the main onlooker to this horrific party and is clearly the most intelligent character in the play, however, she seems unable to stop being polite as she is clearly quite a weak person, manipulated and humiliated by her children, her ex husband and now on this horrific night by the neighbours.