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*"If a job is worth doing, it's worth doing it well!"*

## The Royal Oak Hotel

440 Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 0BQ

Providers of the rehearsal space for Chorlton Players

**0161 860 7438**

*Fine beers, quality entertainment*

## Chorlton Players

The Chorlton Players are a non-profit making theatre group based, oddly enough, in Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

Established in 1969, the Society has been running for over forty years. Normally we host between four to five productions a season. Our two mainstays are the annual pantomime and Hotpot summer sketch show, with the others chosen by members of the society. Currently we have around 50 members, ranging from people in their late teens to old-age pensioners, although most of the group are in their early thirties. We meet every Monday and Wednesday for rehearsals and are always looking for new members – backstage crew and front-of-house volunteers are just as important as budding actors, so if you have an interest in any part of the process of putting on a show, please get in touch with us.

More details can be found on the web at [www.chorltonplayers.com](http://www.chorltonplayers.com). Alternatively, drop us a line at [enquiries@chorltonplayers.com](mailto:enquiries@chorltonplayers.com) or talk to us after tonight's show.

**Chorlton Players – Not so much a drama group ... more a way of life!**



If you've enjoyed tonight's show why not sign up to the **FREE Chorlton Players e-News Service** and receive all our latest news, mailed directly to your PC as it happens?

We'll only contact you when we have something worth announcing (no spam here) and we promise your details will be kept entirely confidential and not passed on to any third parties.

To subscribe, simply send an email though to [news@chorltonplayers.com](mailto:news@chorltonplayers.com) entitled "Sign me up to the CP e-News Service". You can unsubscribe at any time.

## Coming up next... HOTPOT!!

Our annual summer comedy sketch revue show. As always, we're planning to ring the changes with this year's production, so expect a Hotpot like you've never seen (tasted?) before!

3rd-5th June, 2010 - don't miss it!

25th-27th March 2010

## PROGRAMME

Chorlton  
Players  
present...

One  
Flew Over  
the  
Cuckoo's  
Nest

[www.chorltonplayers.com](http://www.chorltonplayers.com)

## INTRODUCTION

Author Ken Kesey developed **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** whilst a graduate student in Stanford University's Creative Writing Program. The novel was partly inspired by Kesey's part-time job as an orderly in the Palo Alto Menlo Park Veterans' Hospital. Kesey also had begun participating in experiments involving LSD and other substances for Stanford's Psychology Department. Speaking to patients under the influence of LSD, Kesey began to perceive that society had turned functional people insane instead of rehabilitating them back to normality. Kesey's use of LSD also prompted him to have hallucinations while working as an orderly. Kesey often imagined seeing a large Indian mopping the floors of the hospital, prompting him to later add the character of Chief Bromden as the novel's narrator.

The book was published to great critical and commercial success. It had a tremendous effect on baby boomers just beginning to awaken to stirrings of rebellion, for it mirrored and stirred up their new challenges to authority. Kesey also found himself financially relieved by the success of the novel, which allowed him to move his family to a large estate in La Honda, California, which became the site of his wildest days as a bohemian, partying with the likes of the Hells Angels, Allen Ginsberg, and San Francisco's hippest cultural figures.

In the context of the changing attitudes at the time, the story in some sense forms a bridge between the bohemian beatnik movements of the 1950s and the counterculture movements of the 1960s. Kesey was significantly inspired by the beatnik culture around Stanford, and in the novel Kesey deals with a number of themes that would be significant in the counterculture movement, including notions of freedom from repressive authority and a more liberated view of sexuality.

Dale Wasserman adapted the story into the two-act play you will see here tonight in 1963, just one year after the publication of the source novel. Originally starring Kirk Douglas, the 2001 Broadway restaging went on to win the Tony Award for Best Play Revival. In 1975, it was released as a landmark film, going on to scoop five Oscars. Ironically, Kesey was later to claim he never saw the film, having left the production in the early stages following disputes over the casting of Jack Nicholson, changes from narrative of the novel and ownership rights. Even so, his wife has said he generally supported the film and was pleased that it had been made.

## CAST LIST

### THE PATIENTS

RANDLE P MCMURPHY .....	Jamie Laidler
CHIEF BROMDEN .....	James Collier
DALE HARDING .....	Simon Parkin
BILLY BIBBIT .....	Dennis Keighron-Foster
CHARLES CHESWICK .....	Rohan Shenoy
MARTINI .....	Matt Thomason
RUCKLY .....	Anthony Morgan

### THE STAFF

NURSE RATCHED .....	Alexis Tuttle
AIDE WILLIAMS .....	Lara Daintree
AIDE WARREN .....	Jennifer Archer
DR SPIVEY .....	Mick Bowden
NURSE FLINN .....	Eleanor Lynch
AIDE TURKLE .....	Jim Temple

### WARD VISITORS

CANDY STARR .....	Maggie Pycroft
SANDY .....	Victoria Searle

## PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR .....	Jonathan King
PRODUCER .....	Jean Hall
STAGE MANAGER .....	Heidi Knight
SET DESIGN .....	Heidi Knight/Robert Hall
SOUND & LIGHTING .....	Simon Butler/Adam Ion
TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR .....	Annie Wallace
COSTUME .....	Marian Daintree
MAKE-UP .....	Liz Walmsley/Louise Puttoch
REFRESHMENTS/MEDICATION .....	Helen Bowyer
FRONT OF HOUSE WARD STAFF .....	Jenny Urwin/Rebecca Hodges
PHOTOGRAPY .....	John Beresford

THANKS: Martin Sheehan - Electro Shock Advisor Jenny Crompton - Props