

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...

To subscribe, just email news@chorltonplayers.com headed "Sign me up to the CP e-News Service". You can unsubscribe instantly any time. We promise only to send you our newsletter when we have something worth announcing (no spam here) & we promise to keep your details confidential... and keep up with us on Facebook and @chorltonplayers on Twitter too!

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

AN EVENING OF COMEDY

14th - 16th August 2014

Tickets on sale 1st July 2014

**Chorlton
Players**

PRESENT

**50th
ANNIVERSARY
SEASON**

Noel Coward's DESIGN FOR LIVING



St Werburgh's Hall,
St. Werburgh's Road,
Chorlton-cum-Hardy,
Manchester,
M21 0TL

Curtain Up
June 12 & 13th 2014 at 7.30pm
June 14th 2014 at 7.00pm

Tickets: £6 Adults, £4 Concessions

www.chorltonplayers.com

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.