

About Chorlton Players...

We are a non-profit making theatre group established in 1963 so we've been going for over fifty years now. We put on 5 productions a season, including our pantomime in the New Year and a comedy review in early summer. 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.co.uk 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 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 **CASH ON DELIV&R**

by Michael Cooney

Missing NHS Items Found

Swan's Stunning Swindle!

Wife's Shock Discovery

DSS Fraudster caught out!!

Weds, Thurs and Fri 19th - 21st October 2016
Tickets on sale 1st September 2016

**Chorlton
Players**
present

Molière's **THE IMAGINARY INVALID**



Adapted by Anthony Morgan

August 18th - 20th 2016 at 7.30pm

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

Tickets: £6 Adults, £4 Concessions

www.chorltonplayers.com

The Imaginary Invalid was written in 1672 and was the last play by Moliere, a writer and actor who found favour with the French aristocracy, including at the court of King Louis XIV. The play deals with the subject of hypochondria and was intended as a biting satire of the medical profession in an era when medicine was still in its infancy. Although huge advancements have been made in that field in the several hundred years since the play was penned, the subject matter remains of relevance today, for the human body and mind still contain many mysteries into which physicians and pharmacists have limited insight. Although effective at treating broken bones or infectious disease, medicine can not always treat the variety of conditions which hint at a disruption within the very core of the human being. It is from the angle of mental health therefore that I have chosen to look at this play, for Mr Argan, our enema addicted, delusional, hypochondriac exhibits all the symptoms of somebody who has suffered a break down due to stress. Unable to cope with reality, he surrounds himself with unscrupulous people who are only too happy to 'treat' his imaginary illness, enriching themselves at the same time. Argan's salvation is offered in the form of love which can help him re-balance his life, but in order to benefit from it he must first face up to his own fragilities and stop running from the truth.

Moliere's original play contained an opera and ballet to break up the acts, an endeavour that would have stretched our resources somewhat considerably and so instead we decided to film an amusing three minute pop video for your delectation. Quite what the great man would have thought of this, or of my adaptation which now takes place entirely within the malfunctioning imagination of a self medicating, depressive we will never know, for he died on stage playing Argan in the fourth performance of the play.

Hopefully none of the actors will die on stage this evening, either literally or metaphorically, and hopefully you will find the play as funny as we have done during rehearsals.

Finally, we live in an era in which it is predicted that one in four of us will suffer from mental illness at some stage in our lives. I would suggest that it is worth asking why this is, what sort of society have we produced that makes people so ill, and if there isn't there a better approach than our current over-reliance on pharmaceuticals.

But don't worry, we're not going to get all heavy and try to lecture you, because our play, like life itself, is really all just a silly farce.

Enjoy the show.

Anthony
Director.

Cast

Argan
Toinette
Beline
Angelique
Beralde
Cleante
De Bonnefoi
Diafoirus
Thomas Diafoirus
Purgon
Fleurant
Louison

Charles McCoy
Vicky Lynch-Mathew
Bex Smith
Emma-Jane Brazier
Rohan Shenoy
Charles De Santis
Robert Hall
Brian Candeland
Stuart Cannell
Jennifer Archer
Jay Sanderson
Maisy Savage

Production Team

Director
Producer
Stage Manager
Technical Manager
Lighting/Sound
Costumes
Make-up
Front of House
Photography

Anthony Morgan
Stephen Lewyckyj
Suzanne Clare
Annie Wallace
Adam Ion
Celestina Mahović
Jean Hall
Matron and helpers
Barry Pritchard

With many thanks to various other members of the Society who have helped along the way.