

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 nearly forty years. Normally we host between 4-5 productions a year. We meet every Monday and Wednesday in the basement function room of the Spread Eagle on Wilbraham Road, Chorlton between 8pm and 11pm, and we'd be glad to meet anyone who fancies becoming a new member. We usually stop for a break around 9.30pm, where we can have a pint, a chat, and a chill. Please be aware that we always take a week or so off after a production before re-convening, so sometimes we won't be there.

The Society Always Needs Members!

We need dedicated backstage crew, and front-of-house volunteers, as well as budding actors, so if you have an interest in any part of the process of putting on the show, get in touch... it's not all about acting, it's also about making friends and having a laugh!

Interested? Get in touch with us!

More details can be found on the web at www.chorltonplayers.com (check out our photogallery from this production whilst you are there!). Drop us a line at: enquiries@chorltonplayers.com. Talk to us, either here after the show or at the Spread Eagle on a Monday or Wednesday night.

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

Chorlton Players would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following companies in this production:

Props supplied by:

Agapanthus

**Antiques & Collectibles
French & English Country Style**
*Specialists in antique chandeliers,
wall lights, mirrors & hand painted
furniture - every piece unique*

**The Triangle
Levenshulme Antiques Village
The Old Town Hall
965 Stockport Road
Manchester M19 3NP
Tom: 07792 895 038
Rick: 07866 517 370**

*We also do chandelier cleaning and
restoration, call by for more info
(The Triangle is situated in the
courtyard at the rear of the building
where you will find ample parking
and a cafe)*

Costumes and props supplied by:

Empire Exchange

1 Newton Street Manchester M1 1HW
Open 7 Days
Tel: 0161 236 4445 Fax: 0161 273 5007

Doors supplied by:

Architectural Salvage Specialists

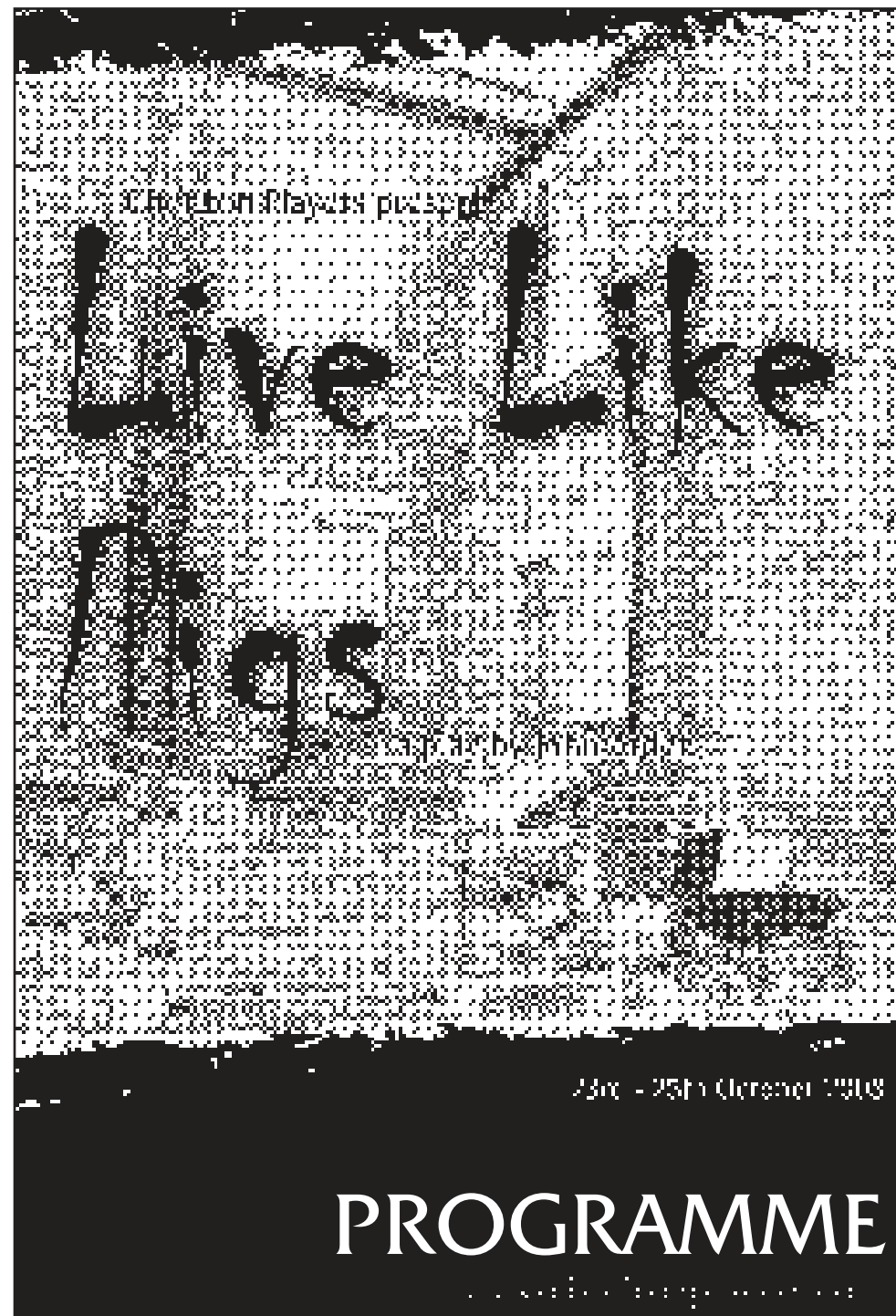
DIP 'N' STRIP

DOORS STRIPPED
also Furniture, Fireplaces, Radiators stripped
DOORS BOUGHT & SOLD
Unit 17-18 965 Stockport Road, Levenshulme,
Manchester M19 3NP
07949 310041 0161 225 3414

Hairstyling by:

stuartjames

460a Wilbraham Road, Chorlton
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday - 9 'till 6
0161 881 1717



Introduction

By John Arden

When I wrote this play I intended it to be not so much a social document as a study of differing ways of life brought sharply into conflict and both losing their own particular virtues under the stress of intolerance and misunderstanding. In other words, I was more concerned with the 'poetic' than the 'journalistic' structure of the play. The reception of the production at the Royal Court (on its opening night, 30th September 1958) seemed to indicate that I had miscalculated. On the one hand, I was accused by the Left of attacking the Welfare State: on the other, the play was hailed as a defence of anarchy and amorality. So perhaps I had better declare myself. I approve outright neither of the Sawneys nor of the Jacksons. Both groups uphold standards of conduct that are incompatible, but which are both valid in their correct context.

The Sawneys are an anachronism. They are the direct descendants of the 'sturdy beggars' of the sixteenth century, and the apparent chaos of their lives becomes an ordered pattern when seen in terms of a wild empty countryside and nomadic existence. Put out of their fields by enclosing landlords, they found such an existence possible for four hundred years. Today, quite simply, there are too many buildings in Britain, and there is just no room for nomads. The family in this play fails to understand this, and becomes educated in what is known as the 'hard way', but which might also be called the 'inefficient way'.

The Jackson's are an undistinguished but not contemptible family, whose comparative cosiness is not strong enough to withstand the violent irruption into their affairs that the Sawneys bring. Their natural instincts of decency and kindness have never been subjected to a very severe test. When they are, they collapse. I do not regard them as being necessarily typical in this. They are the people I have chosen for the play, because they illustrate my theme in a fairly extreme form.

Although perhaps not as well known as other seminal works of the era, such as "A Taste of Honey" or "Loot", John Arden's "Live Like Pigs" remains a highlight of British contemporary theatre and is often a set text at drama school.

Achieving the correct balance of comedy and tragedy, along with the period Northern accents and dialogue, provided a real challenge for the cast and we hope you will enjoy tonight's performance.

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Cast, Credits and Crew

THE SAWNEYS

Sailor (Brian Candeland):	The Patriarch... full of tall tales of a life on the sea.
Rachel (Becky Day):	Sailor's lover... tough as nails and twice as dangerous.
Rosie (Jenny Urwin):	Sailor's daughter.. originally a teenage mum, now with two kids.
Col (Brendan O'Sullivan):	Rachel's son... an uncouth, loutish youth.
Sally (Ellie Silver):	Rosie's daughter... 10 years old and always looking for excitement.
Blackmouth (Jamie Laidler):	Rosie's ex-boyfriend...a dangerous, manipulative half-Romany
Old Croaker (Lara Daintree):	Has a voice from which her name clearly derives. Ever so slightly bonkers.
Daffodil (Sucheta Kotecha):	Croaker's daughter, and Blackmouth's current girlfriend...wily and lecherous.

THE JACKSONS

Mr Jackson (Jon Clark):	A Co-op agent, with a dull life, who gets more than he bargained for.
Mrs Jackson (Maggie Nolan):	His wife... an insular, selfish woman who enjoys her gossip.
Doreen (Heather Lee):	Their daughter... a somewhat naive twenty year old.

THE ESTABLISHMENT

The Official (Richard Layfield):	A Council Housing Officer, and typical of his ilk.
The Doctor (Jenny Archer):	A lady doctor who is quick to judge.
The Police Sergeant (Tony Morgan):	An officer of a bygone age. Blunt and intolerant.

STAGECREW

Director:	Annie Wallace
Producer:	Lise Hubble
Sound and Lighting:	Annie Wallace
Stage Manager:	Simon Butler
Poster Design:	James Kerr
Front of House:	Matron
1,001 other tasks:	Members of the Society