

ABOUT THE CHORLTON PLAYERS

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

Established in 1963, and formerly known as the St Werburghs Amateur Dramatic Society (SWADS), our performance base is at the Church Hall, St Werburgh's Church, St Werburgh's Road, but we rehearse elsewhere leading up to the actual stage rehearsals on the week before the play.

We meet every Monday and Wednesday in the downstairs function room of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wilbraham Road, Chorlton between 8pm and 11pm, and we'd be glad to see anyone who fancies dabbling in the theatre arts, whether it be acting, stage management, technical, costume or makeup. We usually stop for a break around 9.30pm, where we can have a pint, a chat, and a chill.

Recent productions have included:

Oscar Wilde's "AN IDEAL HUSBAND"
Charles Dickens' "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
Shakespeare's "ROMEO AND JULIET"
and
Noel Coward's "HAY FEVER"

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION



**Chorlton
Players
present**

"Love's all right in the pictures,
but love on the dole in't quite the same thing"

LOVE on the DOLE

By Ronald Gow and Walter Greenwood

Thursday 16th - Saturday 18th August at 7.30pm
Tickets £6.00 / £4.00

St. Werburgh's Hall
St. Werburgh's Road
Chorlton
M21 0TL

www.chorltonplayers.com

LOVE ON THE DOLE

Walter Greenwood's 1933 novel of working-class life in Salford during the Great Depression is a Northern classic. It was quickly adapted into a stage play by Ronald Gow in 1934 and premiered at Manchester Repertory Theatre in Rusholme (now the site of a petrol station), with Wendy Hiller as Sally Hardcastle.

The play was Greenwood's reaction to the nationwide crisis affecting Britain during a time of high unemployment, austerity and social unrest (sound familiar?) Although one cannot truly compare the levels of poverty experienced by those during the Great Depression with today's financial and employment woes, many of the themes and situations faced by the Hardcastles ring true today; a country in the grip of a financial crisis not of its own making. Resolutely socialist in tone and message, the play was a precursor to the "kitchen sink" style of drama, later to be popularised by such as John Osborne and Shelagh Delaney in the late 50's and early 60's. Coronation Street, too, was strongly influenced by "*Love on the Dole*"

Since the 1930's, the play has been made into a film in 1941, starring Deborah Kerr, a 1967 TV version featuring Anne Stallybrass, and even, bizarrely, a musical version in 1970!

It is performed regularly on stage across the country, but especially in its homeland of Greater Manchester (Lancashire as was).

Our production was the choice of the director, Annie Wallace, who wanted to stage the play at a time when, it has been argued, it has never been more relevant, or more heartbreaking.

Special thanks to:

The Spread Eagle, Chorlton, our rehearsal venue

Lighthouse charity for furniture loan

Rob Hall for the set artwork

Laura Davies for costume work above and beyond the call of duty

Juliet and Stephen for keeping the director sane

CAST

SALLY HARDCASTLE
MRS. HARDCASTLE
HARRY HARDCASTLE
MR. HARDCASTLE
LARRY MEATH
MRS. JIKE / MRS. DOYLE
MRS. DORBELL
MRS. BULL
HELEN HAWKINS
SAM GRUNDY
MR. DOYLE / CHARLIE
O'LEARY / POLICEMAN

Laura Davies
Bex Smith
Charlie De Santis
Mick Ferguson
Alistair James Powell
Jean Hall
Rachel Chadwick
Vicky Lynch-Mathew
Maili Lavin
Simon Parkin
Jonathan King
Darren Evans

CREW

DIRECTOR
PRODUCER
STAGE MANAGER
BACKSTAGE CREW

Annie Wallace
Juliet Ashton
Stephen Lewyckyj
Eleanor Lynch
Heather Lee
Jenny Archer
Brian Candeland
Annie Wallace
Kim Bradley
Simon Butler and
Rohan Shenoy

SOUND, LIGHTING and VIDEO
MAKEUP
FRONT OF HOUSE

COSTUME
PROPS
PHOTOGRAPHY

Laura Davies
Hannah Crowe
John Beresford

... and the other members of the society who have helped!!