

## Coming up next... Neil Simon's LONDON SUITE

The classic seventies comedy which revolves around the lives of four different couples staying at a swanky up-market London hotel.

**21st-23rd October 2010 - don't miss it!**

(Online advance booking will be available at: [www.chorltonplayers.com](http://www.chorltonplayers.com))

## Chorlton Players

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

Established in 1963, the Society has been running for almost fifty 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 in a local pub 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?

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Chorlton  
Players

Present

# TERRY PRATCHETT'S WORD SISTERS

Adapted by Stephen Briggs

12-14 AUGUST, 2010

**PROGRAMME**

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

# INTRODUCTION

**Come, gentles all, and list to our tale...**

Lords and Ladies, the Chorlton Players are honoured to welcome you to our production of **Wyrd Sisters!** Tonight's play is based on Terry Pratchett's comedy/fantasy novel of the same name, the sixth book in his massively bestselling Discworld series (for those of you unfamiliar with his works, please see the section below for a little background information).

Being a longstanding fan of Pratchett's novels as well as the mystical craft of the stage, I have always fancied trying my hand at directing one of his plays. Given the recent resurgence in the series (due in no small part to the TV dramatisations released in the last couple of years), it seems that Discworld has become more accessible to mainstream audiences. When the opportunity arose for me to direct a play with the Chorlton Players, I therefore leapt at the chance to bring to life the characters I had grown up with.

**Wyrd Sisters** seemed a natural choice considering the superbly-written characters involved and the talent available to us within the society at the time. As it is one of the earlier books I felt it would require less 'filling-in' for those who had never picked up a Discworld novel, and resultantly shouldn't require any ruthless editing that might compromise the enjoyment of any dyed-in-the-wool Pratchett fans. The result, we hope, is a show that will entertain both newcomers and old hands alike.

I would like to thank my co-director Maggie Pycroft and producer Jenny Archer for making this as enjoyable and painless a process to start to finish, as well as all the people listed opposite for putting so much time and effort into it. I hope that you enjoy watching our show as much as we have producing it – so without further ado please allow us to present, for your delectation tonight, **Wyrd Sisters**.

**Rohan Shenoy (Director)**

# BACKGROUND

The **Discworld** is a fantasy world which provides the setting for the literary series of the same name, comprising a large disc balanced on the backs of four elephants, which in turn stand atop the back of the cosmic turtle Great A'Tuin. The books frequently parody, or at least take inspiration from the likes of Tolkien, Lovecraft and Shakespeare, as well as mythology, folklore and fairy tales, often using them for satirical parallels with current cultural, political and scientific issues.

**Ankh-Morpork** is the most prominently featured location in the series; a city-state which somewhat resembles medieval London with a mythical twist. Despite being corrupt and polluted, Ankh-Morpork thrives in a delicate equilibrium orchestrated by a ruthless (but efficient) tyrant through the creation of the Guilds (such as the Guild of Artificers, or the Guild of Thieves who issue a receipt upon each robbery whilst adhering to strictly-enforced quotas). Many a young country lad is 'sent to the big city' to join one of these guilds in order to learn a trade and make a future for themselves.

The **Kingdom of Lancre** is situated in the Ramtop mountains, about 500 miles from Ankh-Morpork. Providing the setting for **Wyrd Sisters**, Lancre is based mainly on rural areas of Southern England and has been described as "solid folklore"; it is the place all the legends of our world's countryside really happened. Headless horsemen and walking trees are part of the landscape, as are witches.

**Our tale opens as three witches gather on a lonely heath on the outskirts of Lancre. The king has been cruelly murdered, his throne usurped by his ambitious cousin. A child heir and the crown of the kingdom are both missing. The omens are not auspicious for the new incumbent, for whom ascending this tainted throne is a more complicated affair than you might imagine, particularly when the blood on your hands just won't wash off and you're facing a future with knives in it...**

# CAST

## Residents of Lancre

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| GRANNY WEATHERWAX ..... | <i>Jo Bryan</i>  |
| NANNY OGG .....         | <i>Annie Wallace</i>   |
| MAGRAT GARLICK .....    | <i>Eleanor Lynch</i>   |
| DUKE FELMET .....       | <i>Tony Morgan</i>   |
| DUCHESS FELMET .....    | <i>Jean Hall</i>   |
| FOOL .....              | <i>James Kerr</i>  |
| KING VERENCE .....      | <i>Jon Clark</i>   |
| DEMON .....             | <i>Liz Walmsley</i>  |
| CHAMBERLAIN .....       | <i>Brian Candeland</i>   |
| SERGEANT .....          | <i>Graham Pythian</i>  |
| ROBBERS .....           | <i>Liz Walmsley, Brian Candeland, Graham Pythian</i>                                 |
| PEASANT .....           | <i>Heather Lee</i>   |
| GUARDS .....            | <i>Phil Thompson, Victoria Searle, Brian Candeland, Kathryn Warren, Simon Parkin</i> |

## The Players

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| VITOLLER .....     | <i>Simon Parkin</i>                                  |
| MRS VITOLLER ..... | <i>Kathryn Warren</i>                                |
| TOMJON .....       | <i>Tim Sturmey</i>                                   |
| HWEL .....         | <i>Jonathan King</i>                                 |
| BEDLIN .....       | <i>Phil Thompson</i>                                 |
| GUMRIDGE .....     | <i>Heather Lee</i>                                   |
| WITCH .....        | <i>Victoria Searle, Liz Walmsley, Graham Pythian</i> |

# CREW

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| DIRECTORS .....                       | <i>Rohan Shenoy, Maggie Pycroft</i>   |
| PRODUCER .....                        | <i>Jennifer Archer</i>  |
| STAGE MANAGER .....                   | <i>Simon Butler</i>   |
| SOUND AND LIGHTING CO-ORDINATOR ..... | <i>Annie Wallace</i>  |
| COSTUME CO-ORDINATOR .....            | <i>Victoria Searle</i>  |
| STAGE CREW .....                      | <i>Ben Pycroft, Adam Ion, Rob Hall, Elli Smithson, Peter Kiniec</i>           |
| SOUND .....                           | <i>Angela Cromack</i>   |
| LIGHTING .....                        | <i>Phil Johnson</i>   |
| JESTER'S OUTFIT .....                 | <i>Heidi Knight, Marian Daintree</i>  |
| REHEARSAL PHOTOGRAPHY .....           | <i>John Beresford</i>   |
| HAIR AND MAKEUP .....                 | <i>Victoria Searle, Mary Gisborne</i>   |
| PROPS .....                           | <i>Heather Lee</i>  |
| FRONT OF HOUSE .....                  | <i>Heidi Knight, Matt Thomason, Laura Conway, Andy O'Brien, Alexis Tuttle</i> |
| BOX OFFICE .....                      | <i>Barry Pritchard</i>  |
| 1,001 OTHER TASKS .....               | <i>Members of the Society</i>   |