

As you all know the opening play of the season 'Stones in His Pocket' was a resounding success and congratulations to those involved.

Work in the Auditorium and set building on stage is still ongoing - going to be very last minute being ready for the opening of 'Ghosts' on Saturday, 27th October. If you haven't already booked your tickets please do, there are still some available and mention it to friends and neighbours as it would be good to have all seats full for the first play under the new roof.

Tickets for our December play are already being booked so don't leave it until the last minute.

Don't forget the Wardrobe Sale being held on Thursday 8th November from 7.30 onwards. The more donations of clothing and accessories with lots of people buying the more money we raise to allow us to finish of some work.

Thanks to those who have already let me have their promises for the Promise Auction in January and as soon as I have enough I will start a programme to circulate to build up the anticipation.

There is still time to come down and help rather than leaving it to the faithful few.

Janine (President)

Dates for your diaries:

Saturday 27th October
Saturday 3rd November

Ghosts, by Henrik Ibsen

Saturday 10th November

Literary Evening

Wednesday 21st –
Saturday 24th November

Death and the Maiden, by Ariel Dorfman

Saturday 8th
Saturday 15th December

Blithe Spirit, by Noel Coward



The ArtCo reports.....

If you wish to read the GMDF adjudications, you will find them on the Members page (password - mellorroad) of the Chads website. The first one (for *Stones In His Pockets*) can be found there and future ones will be posted as and when they arrive. Congratulations to Mike Rogerson, his cast and his crew for providing us with a great start to the Season.

Many thanks to Derek Slater and his cast (Julia O'Toole, John Blunden-Ellis, Di Coakley, Pam Slater, Eilidh Pollard and Harry Chalmers-Morris) for the entertaining literary evening on the 6th October.

DIARY DATE - **Saturday, 10th November 2018**. Just a reminder of this literary event to mark the centenary of the end of World War I. The Director, Anthony Josephson, is assembling the material for this event - extracts from plays, poems and letters. If anyone would like to be involved as one of the readers, please let me know (hlawsonfamily@aol.com). We want to open this up to as many people as would like to take part and so this invitation goes out to everyone (not just our acting pool). One rehearsal should be sufficient, Anthony assures me!

Meanwhile, *Ghosts* has almost reached its opening night (27th October) and will be the first play to be performed in the transformed 'space' which was our old stage and auditorium. Come and experience that transformation for yourselves. Information about the production appears elsewhere in this Newsletter

Rehearsals for *Death and the Maiden*, our next Studio production (21st to 24th November) are already under way. We welcome Simon Darlington, Lorna Kong and Chris Rogerson who are being directed by Victor Hassan.

Hamish Lawson

Subscriptions

I wish to thank all of those who have paid their subs so promptly. However a lot of subs are still outstanding. The last date for paying was the end of September - please don't make me send you a personal reminder. If you are not renewing, I do need you to tell me so please email me asap.

Eileen Stonehouse.



Our Next Production

Ghosts Pockets

by Henrik Ibsen

Saturday 27th October - Saturday 3rd November

This is, perhaps, Ibsen's most notorious play. Written in 1881, it was not seen in London until ten years later, when it was roundly condemned as obscene. The telegraph called it "... an open drain... a loathsome sore unbandaged... a dirty act done publicly..."; and, inevitably, it was banned under the rules of censorship by the Lord Chamberlain's office. It had fared no better when it was produced in New York a few years earlier. The London production was made possible by the *Independent Theatre Society*, whose members were able to subscribe to what was, in effect, a private performance. I suspect that a modern audience – even if some of them found the subject-matter disturbing – would wonder what all the fuss was about; we have come a long way from the time when one word in Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* could drive the threat of world war off the front page of *The Times*.

But to the play. Mrs Alving, widow of Captain Alving, is using some of his money to build an orphanage, and present on this occasion are her son, Oswald, and an old friend, Pastor Manders. The captain had lived a dissolute life, and Mrs Alving has to cope as best she can with the legacy of disease and illegitimacy which he has left behind. As more of the past is revealed to us (these are the "ghosts" of the play's title) the more we appreciate the emotional problems which she has to face.

This is a demanding and powerful play, and Ibsen is, perhaps, one of the first to recognise that there are sometimes situations when traditional moral or religious arguments offer no real solutions. The play is also a challenge to the players, who have to inhabit the world of one hundred years ago. The director is Mike Brown, and the cast is Mel Beswick, Kathryn Way, Andrew Kirby, Hamish Lawson, and Nigel Westbrook. I doubt whether the play could be in better hands.

Derek Slater

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions for the next newsletter are due by 24th November for issue 26th November.

E-mail: andyandjulie@tiscali.co.uk (PLEASE PUT "CHADS NEWSLETTER" IN SUBJECT).