

COARSE ACTING

A Brief Explanation -

For those who are unfamiliar with Michael Green's tongue-in-cheek manual for amateur dramatics societies, *"The Art of Coarse Acting"*, he defines a Coarse Actor as: one who can remember his lines but not the order they come in; alternatively, one who can remember the pauses but not the words. Inherently accident prone, props will not work or will break, doors will not open necessitating entering or exiting through fireplaces and the set will collapse about him (or equally, her). He is incapable, when on stage, of walking without appearing to be on strings, emphasises the wrong words and his attempts at making-up create the appearance of Coco-the-Clown, regardless of the role he is playing.

The principle qualities which mark out the Coarse Actor are a pathological dislike of learning lines and an endless supply of excuses for not attending rehearsals, together with a touching faith in the audience's inability to see their performances for what they are: awful.

Needless to say, none of these accusations can be levelled at the Chideock Players, as fine a body of men and women that you could ever wish to meet, dedicated to honing their performances to the highest standard for their audiences' enjoyment. Several members of this cast have attended quite a few rehearsals and this production is notable for having witnessed the entire cast together twice before the dress rehearsal. With luck, they may all make it to the performances, too.

The four short plays you are about to watch have been written by Michael Green as a vehicle to demonstrate Coarse Acting (and all other aspects of Coarse Drama). If things seem to be going wrong, they are meant to; all of the mishaps have been carefully rehearsed. (That is my story and I'm sticking to it).

We hope that you will enjoy the evening; please remember that no money will be refunded. Laugh - it won't cost you a penny.

Time for my medication now, Nurse.

Nick Baker
Coarse Director

LUCKY NUMBER: 13

CHIDEOCK PLAYERS

PRESENT

Coarse Acting Night: Four Plays for Coarse Actors by Michael Green

Performances on the
5th, 6th & 7th December 2002
at the Chideock Village Hall at 7:45 p.m.

What is a coarse actor?

- One who can remember his lines but not the order they come in.
- One who performs amid lethal props.
- One whose aim is to upstage the rest of the cast.
His problem? Everyone else connected with the production!

COURTESY OF SAMUEL FRENCH LTD

Programme 30p

DRAMATIS PERSONAE
"STREUTH"
 (A Detective Drama)

The Inspector	Harry Harrison
Mr Oliver D'Arcy	John Challis
Mrs D'Arcy	Marilyn Harrison
Hubert D'Arcy	Ally Hughes
The Major	Keith Readings
The Vicar	Chris Lambert
James (the butler)	Ross Jones
Cook	Tracey Lunt
Sergeant	Dave Warren
Assistant Stage Manager	Moira Lucas

Setting: the drawing room of D'Arcy Manor
 Time: the present

"IL FORNICAZIONE"
 (An Opera by Guiseppe Sapone)

Conductor	Dave Warren
Triangle Player	Marilyn Harrison
Countess Formaggio	Maggie Imber
Maid	Bev Clarke
Alfonzo (lover to Countess)	Ally Hughes
Count Formaggio	Jim Pettifer
Huntsmen chorus	Taz Moores, Pete Moores, John Challis, Harry Harrison, Keith Readings, Guy Mills, Ross Jones, Leigh Conley, Chris Lambert, Dewi Lambert, Tom Burt.
A Dead Stag	Bambi

Setting: the great hall of the Duke Formaggio's Castle
 Time: 1750 (or ten to six)

A COLLIER'S TUESDAY TEA
 (An Epic Drama of Coal Mining Folk)

Ida Hepplethwaite	Hilary Baker
Margery Hackforth	Moira Lucas
Daniel Obadiah Hepplethwaite	Jim Pettifer
Grandpa Joe Clegghorn	Dave Warren
Victoria Hepplethwaite	Taz Moores
Albert Hepplethwaite	Pete Moores
Lionel Headbracket	Leigh Conley
P.C. Clement Boothroyd	Guy Mills
Jed Throttle	Ross Jones

Setting: the back parlour of the Hepplethwaite home, t'North
 Time: 1912

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS AS YOU LIKE IT
 (A new play by William Shakespeare (possibly))

Frederigo (a deposed Duke)	Keith Readings
Dronio (his son)	Pete Moores
Testiculo (a clown)	John Challis
Mud (a loon)	Chris Lambert
Bronchio (a usurping Duke)	Ally Hughes
Friar Crucible (a holy man)	Leigh Conley
Delia (daughter to Bronchio)	Tracey Lunt
Lute Player	Chris Lambert
Grot (another loon)	Chris Lambert
Dracula (a nurse)	Maggie Imber
Messenger	Chris Lambert
Pan (a God)	Ross Jones
Soldiers	Hilary Baker, Dewi Lambert, Tom Burt
Bolio (a fairy)	Chris Lambert

Setting: the forest of Solihull, the Duke's palace and elsewhere.
 Time: Backalong

Produced, designed and directed by: NICK BAKER
 Your Host for the Evening: the Almost Reverend Nathaniel Bartholomew

THE CREW

Stage Managers	Pete Moores, Marilyn Harrison
Scenery designed and painted by	Lesley Rigby
Lighting Operator	Natalie Williams
Sound Operator	Dewi Lambert
Sound of Mind ?	Nick Baker
Prompt	Diana Swann
Not very prompt	The Entire Cast
Wardrobe	Deborah Mills, Gwyneth Winter, Barbara Whatmore
Make-up	Chloe Pearson-Gee, Catherine Batten
19 shopping days left 'til Christmas by	Santa Claus
Properties and Stage Crew	Ruth Wrixton, Diana Dowle
Stage Directions	Connect Road Operators
Front of House Management and Refreshments	Myrtle Cheeseman & Team
I'm a little teapot	Short and Stout
Box Office	Natalie Williams
Manchester United 5	Newcastle United 3
Ticket, poster and programme design	Natalie Williams
Lights rigged, sound effects recorded and set built by	Dai Rector and P. Rod Ewcer
General Dogsbodies	Hilary Baker, Mike Whatmore
Special Effects	Chesil Theatre Supplies Ltd

THANKS

In addition to the above I wish to thank Creeds the Printers for photocopy facilities and Chideock Spar Shop and Chideock Hill Stores for selling tickets; Sue Herman for supplying various costumes; and the many Volunteers who have helped by selling programmes, raffle tickets, refreshments etc.

I am also grateful to the Executors of the late Ms A Christie, W.A. Mozart, D.H. Lawrence and W. Shakespeare for failing to initiate the legal action we so richly deserve.

Nick Baker

Our next production will be "HABEAS CORPUS" by Alan Bennett
Chideock Village Hall on 3rd, 4th & 5th April 2003