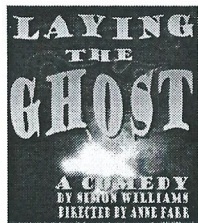
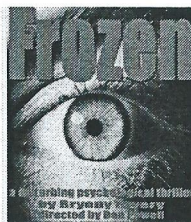


The Coming Season is as varied and exciting as any in the recent past of the Players. Following *Frida and Diego*, you can look forward to:

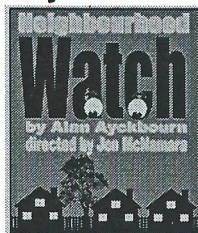
January 28th - 30th. *Laying the Ghost*. Anne Farr directs this hilarious comedy: Margot Buchanan is a witty ex-actress in a retirement home. She is visited by a young actress who is having an affair with Leo, Margot's ex-husband - and by Leo's current wife Judy. Leo arrives but suffers a fatal heart attack. Thus the scene is set for chaotic hilarity as Leo's ghost appears, anxious to sort out matters between his three women, and visible only to Margot's psychic friend Freda!



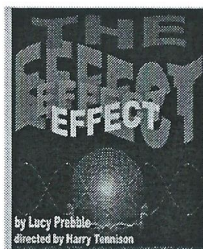
March 17th - 19th. *Frozen*. Dan Powell directs this harrowing, strangely beautiful and cathartic three-hander. *Frozen* focuses on Agnetha, a criminal psychologist studying the difference between crimes of evil and crimes due to brain abnormality. It explores in detail her relationships with a convicted murderer, Ralph, and with Nancy, whose young daughter was one of Ralph's many victims.



May 12th - 14th. *Neighbourhood Watch*. Brother and sister Martin and Hilda Massie are preparing for a housewarming gathering, when a trespasser breaks into in their garden. As a result, they and their neighbours agree to form a "neighbourhood watch" group to safeguard against further incidents. But in typical Ayckbourn fashion, matters swiftly get out of hand. Jon McNamara makes a welcome return to direct this entertaining play from the master of middle class comedy.



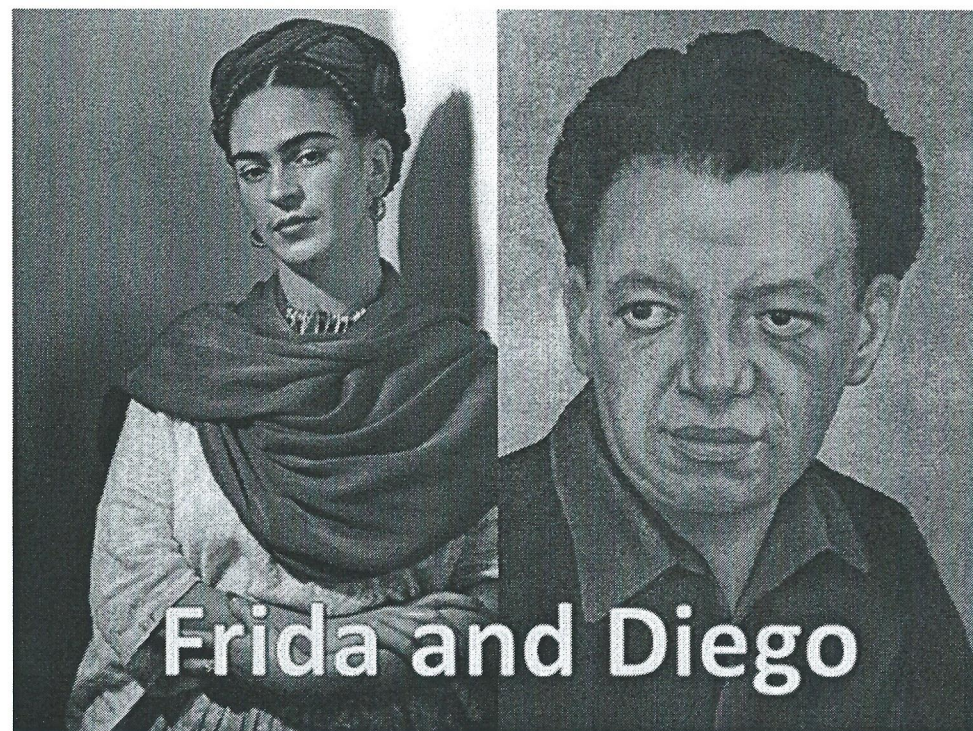
July 7th - 9th. *The Effect*. Young director, Harry Tennison, follows his provocative production of *Woyzeck*, with *The Effect*, an equally challenging contemporary drama. The story revolves around two young drug-test volunteers, student Connie and drifter Tristan and two doctors. As their drugs are increased, Connie and Tristan find themselves attracted to each other. But they struggle to work out whether their feelings are real or a side effect.



Come and meet the Moot House Players! We and our friends meet on the first Wednesday of every month in the Moot House Social Club. If you want to become involved with acting, technical work, directing, coming to see the shows (most important!) or any other aspect of amateur theatre, you are very welcome to come along and join us in the Club from 8 p.m.!



November 12-14 at 8pm
Moot House Players
in association with The Harlow Ballet
present



by Tony Broadwick

by arrangement with
Off The Wall Plays

**Choreographed and Directed by
Michael Branwell**

Moot Hall, The Stow, Harlow CM20 3AG

FRIDA AND DIEGO - a love story

a biographical play by Tony Broadwick
with additional material from the Diary of Frida Kahlo
and the Autobiography of Diego Rivera

Cast:

Frida Kahlo	acted by	Rosalind Barron	danced by	Sophie Price
Diego Rivera	acted by	Kevin Smith	danced by	Barry Gray
Lupe Marín	acted and danced by		Catriona Macleay	
Dancers	Beth Allen, Millie Ashdown, Chelsea Hammond, Maria Kruger			

Music by Music For Hope, Baja Lempa, El Salvador

The Wedding Song specially composed and sung for this production by
Pedro Esquivel and Eneyda Amaya

Direction, choreography, lighting, sound & programme: Michael Branwell
Production Manager and Prompter: Anne Farr

PowerPoint presentation of work by Frida and Diego: Paul Regeli
Costumes : Henrietta Branwell

Props : Rosalind Barron, Henrietta Branwell and Angela Hodgson
Front of House supervised by Michael and Rosemary Caswell

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL

Moot House Players acknowledges, with thanks,
the help of their parent organisation, the
MARK HALL & NETTESWELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Moot House Players wish to dedicate this production to the memory of Walt Tingle, late Chairman of the MH&NCA. Walt was a folk dancer, who believed deeply in bringing dancers of all backgrounds together for "Days of Dance" at Moot Hall. Walt, we believe you would have loved the idea of the co-operation between Harlow Ballet and Moot House Players. Thank you for all you did for dance and theatre in Harlow. May you rest in peace.

Notes from the Director and Choreographer

The play: Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera were two of the most remarkable artists of their time. Diego claims he was "the muralist" and was well paid and famous for his huge masterpieces. He loved the acclaim and the wealth that this brought him. By contrast, Frida was seen for a long time merely as the woman "standing beside the famous Diego Rivera", yet now she is regarded as one of the very greatest painters of the twentieth century and her picture, *Roots* (one of the slides used in this performance), was sold at Sotheby's, New York for \$5.6 million. How amazing for an artist who wanted no more than "a flower in her hair and a paintbrush in her hand!" This is a retrospective play, in which the two main characters remember some of the most important incidents in their lives, with the accent being on their relationship as well as on their artistic achievements. Their stories are told against a backdrop of their work, which is intended and designed to complement the performance.

The dances: On the grounds that Frida wrote in her diary that "if (she) were not a painter, (she) would love to have been a singer and a poet - or a dancer!", I took the decision to include ten dances in the piece (where the original script calls for "MUSIC"). Most of the music is by a group of musicians in the Baja Lempa region of El Salvador, who are helped by the Music For Hope charity to provide both music and hope to the local population in the aftermath of the terrible civil war. Now that there are signs that this civil war may flare up again, it is more essential than ever that the work of the music groups there is continued. The MFH organisation is, in turn, helped by the International Performers' Aid Trust (www.ipat.org.uk). If you were moved by and enjoyed the music for this performance, please visit that website, where you will be able to make a donation through Just Giving®. All the dancers, who are thrilled to have been invited to join the Moot House Players in the production of *Frida and Diego*, are members of the Harlow Ballet (www.harlowballet.co.uk)

The pictures: The pictures that form the backdrop to the play are a vital and integral part of the production. I want to thank Paul Regeli for all the hard work he has put into resourcing the images and translating them to a living framework. Diego's huge murals transport us to New York and Mexico City, while Frida's more intimate portraits enable us to see and appreciate the action taking place in the play. The contrast between the two provides an exact parallel with the relationship between the actors.

Michael Branwell