

FUTURE PROGRAMME

The next production in Moot Hall will be

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
by Charles Dickens
adapted for the stage by
Ian Beckett

Our annual play for children of all ages
needs no introduction; we are always
heavily supported for these events -
please make a note of the dates and book
early

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January
19, 20 and 21, 1989 at 7.30 p.m.

The production will be directed by Yvonne
Mitchley

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG BY PETER NICHOLS



SETPIECE



ANTIQUES

Also available: *Theatrical Services*
Furniture Hire
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Heath View, Hatfield Heath.

Tel: (0279) 730815/39480

1988

Moot House Players

present

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG

by Peter Nichols

Characters in order of appearance:

BRI	Jon MacNamara
SHEILA	Gillian Holland
JOE	Nerissa Penna
PAM	Jenny Southwell
FREDDIE	Tony Davey
GRACE	Yvonne Mitchley

The scene is set in the living room of Bri and Sheila's house during one evening in December 1967.

The play produced by Ian Beckett

Lighting by Christopher Driver; costumes supervised by Laws; set devised by Jack Mitchley, decorated by Paul Regeli and built by Robin Harcourt; stage staff, Colin Hayman, Ann Lang, Jill Williams. Special furnishings kindly loaned by Jean Foster; wheel chair by Harlow Red Cross.

The play will be given in two parts with one interval, during which refreshments will be available in the foyer.

THE PLAY

JOE EGG is to some degree based on personal experience of the author and was Nichols' first big success. The Players have already given a later piece which was unashamedly an essay in autobiography, FORGET ME NOT LANE, in 1981. JOE EGG started life at the Glasgow Citizen's Theatre in 1967 and was later transferred to London, when Ronald Bryden wrote in his OBSERVER review: "This remarkable play is about a nightmare all women and most men must have dreamed at some time - living with a child so hopelessly crippled as to be "a human parsnip". For all that it has to be described as a comedy, one of the funniest and most touching I've seen.....over the years, the author implies, explaining to others how one lives with such a situation becomes a kind of set party piece. This, savagely exaggerated, is what he has written - a recital, interspersed with jazz and imitations about life with Joe Egg."

PRODUCER'S NOTE

As my first major production, this represents for me all that the Players have stood for during my eleven years working with them as an actor. They have become a kind of enormous family with all that that implies, particularly the rallying together in moments of need - and there have been several during the rehearsal of this exciting play. I should like to pay a special tribute to Nerissa, a relative newcomer to the company, who has had to breathe life into Nichols' "human parsnip". The author reflects the attitudes of the sixties when the play was written; today's audiences must consider for themselves whether these attitudes are still prevalent.