### FUTURE PROGRAMME

The next production in Moot Hall will be the amateur premiere of

THE PETITION

by Brian Clark

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 16-17-18 1989

We are proud to be able to present the first amateur production of Brian Clark's last play, which opened in London in 1986. Brian, best known for his play WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY ? and his TV series TELFORD'S CHANGE, has kindly given his permission for this staging as his contribution to the Players' "Sponsor Our Shakespeare" Fund which was launched after the disastrous fire 18 months ago. The production will be "produced" in the professional sense by Gordon Hewlett who will be responsible for all presentational matters, whilst Michael Rawle-cope will direct the actors. Brian has specially requested that the piece shall be played by Jack and Yvonne Mitchley.

Full details of this event will be circulated to our Free Mailing List members.

# **MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS**

present

# A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens

adapted by Ian Beckett



Moot House Players present

## CHRISTMAS CAROL by Charles Dickens adapted by Ian Beckett

Characters in order of speaking:

TWO GRAVEDIGGERS

EBENEEZER SCROOGE, a miser FRED, his nephew, Fanny's son TWO GENTLEMEN, collecting for charity

BOB CRATCHIT, Scrooge's clerk THE GHOST OF JACOB MARLEY.

Scrooge's late partner

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST SCROOGE , as a SCHOOLBOY FANNY, his sister MR.FEZZIWIG. young Scrooge's

employer MRS.FEZZIWIG, his wife BELLE, young Scrooge's fiancee SCROOGE, as a young man

BELLE'S HUSBAND

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT

MRS.CRATCHIT, Bob's wife

BELINDA PETER

Beckett

the MARTHA

Cratchit TINY TIM) family

NELL. Fred's wife

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS TO COME

OLD JOE, a rag-and-bone man

MRS.DILBER)

SALLY Chelo Brown char-women TOWNSPEOPLE, GHOSTS, BEGGARS etc Cresswell, Jennifer Southwell, Sandra Child, Ann Lang, Katya Davey, Chelo, Lorna and Emma Brown, Debbie Foster, Christine Scriven, Holly McKibbins, Douglas Sheppard, David Schacht, Tony Davey, John Banks, Owen and Dylan Childs, Gordon Whittle, Geoff Leeds, Mike Rawle-cope, Stuart Everitt, Mark Puddefoot and Ian

Tony Davey Geoff Leeds Ken Collins Ian Beckett Gordon Whittle John Banks

David Schacht Douglas Sheppard Owen Childs Lorna Brown

Stuart Everitt

Tony Davey Debbie Foster Holly McKibbins Dylan Childs Ian Beckett Geoff Leeds Christine Scriven Ann Lang Mark Puddefoot Emma Brown Katya Davey Sandra Child Mike Rawle-cope David Schacht Jennifer Soutwell Una Smith, Jacqui

The action takes place in a Graveyard, the houses of Scrooge, Cratchit and Fred, Scrooge's office, a school, Fezziwig's workshop and a street in London during the nineteenth century.

The play produced by Yvonne Mitchley

Setting devised by the producer, built by Roger Williamson, and decorated by Paul Regeli and members of the cast; costumes by Laws: lighting and sound by Christopher Driver and Sandra Watkiss; special properties by Keeley's of Hoddesdon; singing directed by David Schacht; programme cover by Stuart Everitt; stage staff: Jill Williams, Yvonne and Jack Mitchlev.

Violinists for the dance: Nicola Hutchison and William Frith

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

### NOTES

The books of Charles Dickens occupy a place in English literature akin to that of the Bible and the plays of Shakespeare - they all contain characters and quotations which have imbedded themselves into our heritage and are familiar to everyone, even though many people have never read the works from which they come. A CHRISTMAS CAROL contains at least 3 of these immortals -Scrooge, Marley's ghost and Tiny Tim - and it is not an easy task to transfer these well-beloved figures to the stage. Ian Beckett has succeeded in doing this in a fashion which lends itself to the multiple staging used in this production and the director has flooded the acting area with people of all ages, using one of the largest casts seen in Moot Hall for some years. We hope that this version of the story of the saving of Scrooge's soulwill have the impact it deserves. We are particularly grateful to all the Players who have helped in any way to make this production possible and a special words of thanks is due to the Spinney School for the provision of musicians.