OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL



presents . . .

THE CARETAKER

by Harold Pinter

&

THE BARON'S CHRISTMAS

by R. H. Wood

&

R. Williams

DECEMBER 5th, 6th and 7th, 1968 **Price 1/-**

THE CARETAKER

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS BY HAROLD PINTER

Cast in Order of Appearance

Mick ..... CHRISTOPHER FISHER

Aston ..... ADRIAN MITCHELL

Davies ..... GRAHAM ALLISON

Produced by R. H. WOOD

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Prompt ..... Murray Page
Properties ... G. Bradley, Charles Buchanan, Frankie Outs
Buddhas made by ..... Miss Diane Rash
Sound ... B. Kennedy, Stephen Garratt, Richard Turley, John Bowen-Davies

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The action passes in a house in West London

Act 1 and Act 2 are continuous
A night in winter

An interval of five minutes

Act 3
A fortnight later. Afternoon

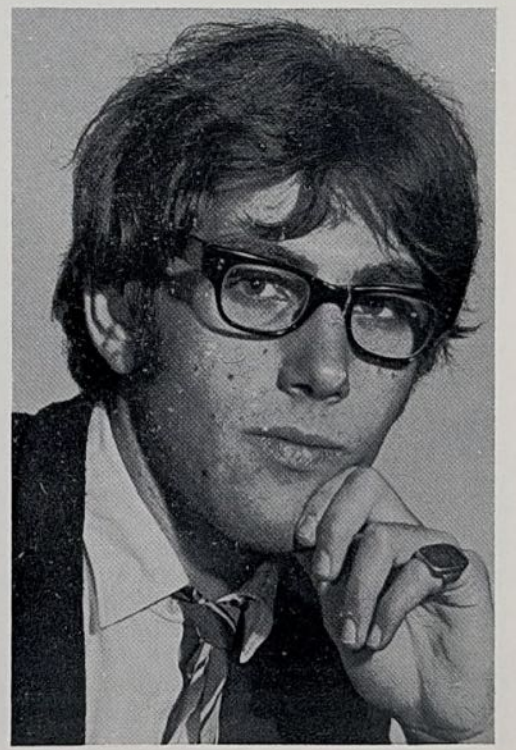
The players are the senior members of the Dramatic Society

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes at the end of "The Caretaker". Would members of the audience please take their seats when a bell is rung.

CHRISTOPHER FISHER

Christopher Fisher is now in his final year studying "A" Level Geography and History. Rugby is his game with " a few attempts at athletics"; he has played for the First XV for the last three years. His hobbies are reading and writing and he is the executive editor of the magazine "Sixth Form Opinion". His interests range from Physics to Mythology, his favourite authors being Nietszche, Shaw and Ibsen. He hopes to go to University and would like to enter the field of politics.
He views the role of Mick in the following light :

"Mick has the same personality defect as his brother, Aston, but to a lesser extent. His mind is dominated by fantasies and irrelevancies. His potentially violent and erratic behaviour of the conventional "yob" variety shows his unconscious feeling of insecurity. His utter contempt towards the tramp suggests that he senses that this interloper undermines his security. Like his brother he is destined to withdraw into himself in despair."



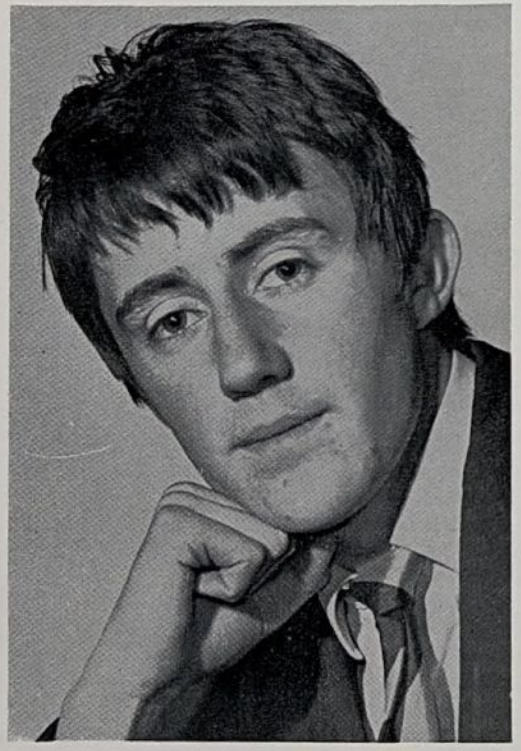
ADRIAN MITCHELL

Adrian Mitchell will be taking "A" Levels in Biology and Chemistry next Summer, and one of his recreations is reading books on the Arts, including Drama. He is interested in sport and plays rugby for the School. He likes travelling in Europe and the East and would prefer to live abroad. He hopes to read Zoology at University and make this subject his career.

He interprets the character of Aston as follows :

"While it is difficult to believe a great deal of what Pinter's characters say, I accept Aston's hospital experiences as largely true. In our last production, "Arsenic and Old Lace", the audience were asked to laugh at affliction, but I see Aston as a pathetic character. He retreats to the room collecting belongings to give him comfort and the outside world has become a menacing pla ce. His obsession with using his hands and interest in tools is a memory of attempts to rehabilitate him in hospital workshops. But his treatment has killed the drive towards positive action. Perhaps he was attracted by the statue of the Buddha because it suggested unconsciously the idea of complete withdrawal from the world.

His relationship with the tramp is a mystery. Perhaps he rescued another piece of 'junk' that might 'come in handy'."



GRAHAM ALLISON

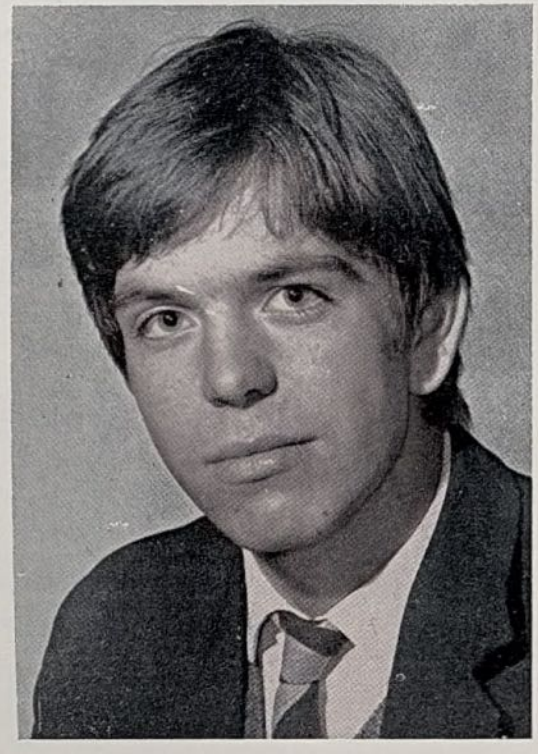
Graham Allison will be sitting for "A" Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Geography at the end of the year. He has taken part in many activities from the Musical Society to First XV Rugby. His interest in out-of-doors activities started abroad. Although he is primarily concerned with science he shows a keen interest in the Arts. He recently sat for the entrance examinations at Trinity College, Cambridge. He sees his future abroad.

His portrayal of Davies, the tramp, is on these lines :

"Davies is a drop-out whose self-expression is limited by illiteracy. The door to the room is the door to respectability. The smoking jacket and the title of 'Caretaker' are symbols of self-respect. His inability to communicate with the brothers causes frustration. Ruthlessly he plays one brother against the other only to be rejected by both. He is cunning enough to recognise that Aston is 'a funny bloke' but is not intelligent enough to realise that Mick's personality is unstable.

Pinter wrote: 'There are no hard distinctions between what is real and what is false'. The play seems to ask the question: 'Can we really judge what is real or false in ourselves or others?'

All Pinter's characters seem to be really talking to themselves. Is not this true of a great deal of ordinary conversation?"



THE BARON'S CHRISTMAS

A FARCE WITH MUSIC

Words by R. H. WOOD

Music by R. WILLIAMS

Produced by R. HIGGINS

The time is 1258 (give or take a few years)

The scenes are played continuously.

Scene 1 Lunch time.

Scene 2 After lunch.

Scene 3 After Supper.

Scene 4 Early next morning.

THE PLAYERS

ANGLO-SAXONS

Aelfred *(The Baron)* ..... Aubrey Grosvenor
Aethel *(The Baroness)* ..... Michael Smith
Hilda *(The Daughter)* ..... Adrian Poulton
Edwin *(The Son)* ..... Duncan Cameron
Edmund *(The Bailiff)* ..... Stephen Baxter
Muggins *(Servant to the Baron)* ..... Stephen Cox
Hogg ..... Ian Warner
Crumb *Servants to the Baroness* ..... Peter Cox
Barleycorn ..... Clive Bevan
The King's Sheriff ..... Graham Radford
Kitchen Servants ..... Jonathan Winks, Matthew Needham, Richard Jones, Clive Willetts.
Set Orderly ..... Gabriel Menhard

VENETIAN MERCHANTS

Emmanuel Enrico Dandolonto ..... David Langham
His Tenth Son, Angelus ..... Robert Edwards
Alexis *(the Secretary)* ..... Paul Haggett
Servants ..... David Anwyl-Hughes, Andrew Stephenson, David Cole, Robert Thompson, Anthony Dyson, Andrew Blake
Musicians ..... Richard Lund (Lute) Neal Parkinson (Recorder)

Sets designed by P. Mansell and John Jones and made by boys under the direction of K. Ison who also directed make-up.

Stage Management by J. Rutter, R. Milner and B. Kirton

Lighting by H. Johnston and Philip Johnson

Costumes designed and made by Mrs. H. Johnston

Orchestration by K. Farmer

Orchestra. *Piano,* R. Williams; *Violins,* K. Farmer, R. Wood, Jonathan Phipps, Jeremy Clegg, Robin Waite, Michael Jefferies, Anthony Cooper and Timothy Bridgewater; *Cello,* Mrs. K. Farmer.

Properties by Richard Jones and Christopher Hancox

Prompt, Lawrence Turner

House Management by W. R. Bartlett

Box Office, J. Prince

Thanks are offered to all who have supported the play in many different ways.

Programme Layout: G. Bradley. Midway Press.

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

1953 Androcles and the Lion (Bernard Shaw).

1954 She Stoops to Conquer (Goldsmith).

1957 Badger's Green (R. C. Sherriff).

1959 The Government Inspector (Gogol).

1960 Saint Joan (Shaw).

1961 The Miser (Molière).

1962 The Eleventh Hour (adaptation from Tirso de Molina).

1963 The Merchant of Venice (Shakespeare).

1964 The Dumb Waiter (Pinter).
The Servant of Two Masters (Goldoni).

1965 Journey's End (R. C. Sherriff).

1966 The Long and the Short and the Tall (Willis Hall).

1967 Arsenic and Old Lace (Kesselring).

PROGRAMME CORRECTIONS.

Neil Parkinson (Recorder)

Peter Johnson, David Sawyer (Lighting)

Jonathan Bowen-Davies (Sound)

Previous Productions.

1967 Adventure Story (T. Rattigan)
1968 Arsenic and Old Lace (Kesselring)


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Rest in the
Lord

