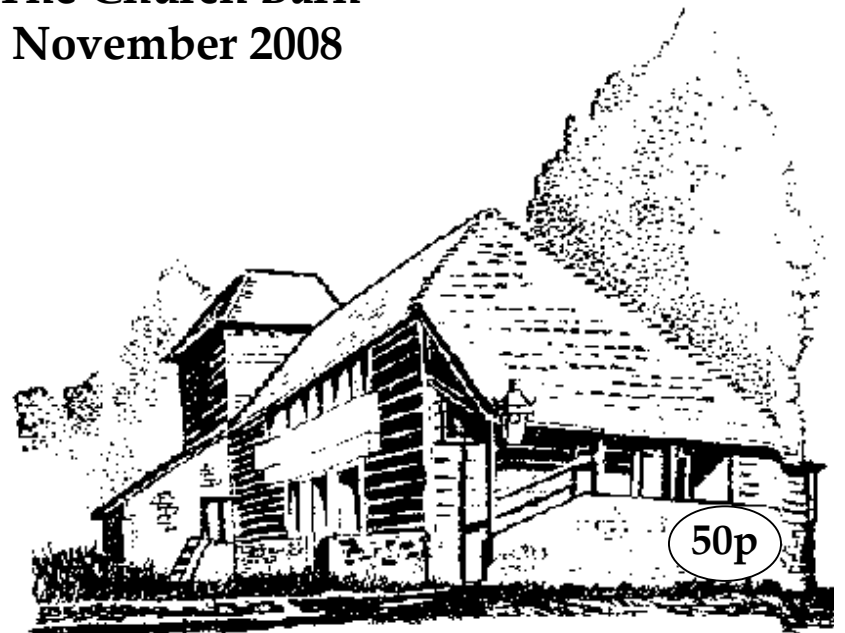


**CHARING
GUILD OF
PLAYERS**

**Snake in the
Grass**

by
Alan Ayckbourn

The Church Barn
November 2008



CHARING GUILD OF PLAYERS

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We are grateful to all our Members and Friends for their interest and involvement in the Guild. We are always pleased to welcome new active Members and supportive Friends.

Please contact our Honorary Secretary Valerie Parsons for details. Her address is 54A Queens Road, Ashford TN24 8HF. Tel: 01233 631559.

This Production

As many of you may know, we were hoping to put on a large scale production of 'Treasure Island' next February, but in spite of attracting a good number of people on our reading night, including some welcome new faces, we were unfortunately unable to cast it. We were then left with very little time to arrange an alternative programme, but, thanks to the enthusiasm of our cast plus their insatiable appetite for learning vast amounts of dialogue in a short space of time, we are able to offer you a first rate production.

We are very loath to provide less than our traditional offering of three plays a year, but for the past two years we have had to compromise a little and provide alternative entertainments.

We are planning to do a shorter play or several sketches in February and a full length play in May, so if anyone is interested please let one of us know. We also still want to do 'Treasure Island' at some point and will need a large cast for that, so please spread the word and encourage people to come and join us – it really is as much fun on stage as it is in the audience.

Snake in the Grass

by Alan Ayckbourn

This play was first performed at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough in 2002 and received rave reviews. It is one of Sir Alan's darker plays although it does have its lighter moments. It is a suspense drama about murder, blackmail and haunting.

Miriam has cared for her father in the family home during his vituperative last years with the help of a creepily polite nurse, Alice. On Father's death, Miriam's older sister, handsome, divorced Annabel, comes home after over twenty years in Tasmania to find that Daddy has left the bulk of his fortune to her. Alice complains to Annabel that Miriam has sacked her and is intent upon blackmail; having evidence, she says, that Miriam did away with the old man. Horrified at the amount of money Alice is demanding, scatty Miriam and tough Annabel decide to join forces against her, but all does not end there!

Cast

Annabel Chester Melanie Williamson

Alice Moody Carolyn Banham

Miriam Chester Karen Wright

Directed by Gill Magson

Time - The present

ACT I

Scene 1 A late afternoon in August

Scene 2 The following day, a little later

Interval

ACT II

Later the same night

Stage Manager Marian White

Assistant Stage Manager Michael Headley

The Set Designed by Bert Banham, Ann Blandford

The Set Built & Painted by John Avery, Bert Banham
Ann Blandford, Allan Bone
Jean Latter, Brian White

The Set Dressed by Allan Bone, Jean Latter

Backstage Crew Bert Banham, Jean Latter
Brian White

Stage Lighting by Anton Banham

**Sound Recorded by
and Operated by** Allan Bone, Michael Headley
Allan Bone

Costumes by The Cast

Properties by Marian and Brian White
and the Cast

Publicity by Marian White

Poster Design by Dave Hutton, Gill Magson

Front of House Michael Cowdry

Floral Arrangement by Ann Blandford

*The Charing Guild of Players thanks
all those who have helped with this production.*