

*FUTURE PROGRAMME*

May 20-21-22, 1993

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS present their  
200th PRODUCTION IN MOOT HALL

**THE THREE SISTERS**

by Anton Chekov

20 years ago, in May 1973, the Players reached their 100th production with a Shakespeare play: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. It seemed appropriate to celebrate the second century with a play by the dramatist whose work has featured in the company's repertoire since 1960 and is second only to Shakespeare (19) in the number of productions of individual plays.

This will be the tenth Chekov production - and the second of this particular play - which the Players have presented. As always with this writer, laughter is never far away. The three sisters long to return to Moscow, knowing that they will never get there and their self-deception is a first class example of his tragi-comic style.

The cast will include several members from the Players' first production of the play in 1965; with costumes by Laws, lighting and sound by Christopher Driver and, engagements permitting, settings by Gordon and Bettina Hewlett.

The play will be directed by Jack Mitchley

*SOUVENIR BOOKLET*

A booklet illustrating the history of the Players, with lists of plays and photographs is being compiled by Paul Hopkins, a member of the company and author of *The Long and the Short and the Tall*, a history of the arts in Harlow. It will be on sale at the modest price of £1.00 and will contain the full programme of The Three Sisters. This very low figure for a 24-page illustrated issue has been made possible by sponsorship from old members of the company and associates, including Don Henderson, Donald Burton and Stephanie de Sykes.

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS ACKNOWLEDGE WITH GRATITUDE  
THE SUPPORT THAT THEY RECEIVE FROM THE HARLOW  
ARTS COUNCIL AND MARK HALL AND NETTESWELL CA.



1993

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS  
present

## A VOYAGE ROUND MY FATHER

by John Mortimer

*Characters in order of their appearance:*

FATHER ... ..	Charles Hill
SON ( <i>grown up</i> ) ... ..	Geoff Leeds
MOTHER ... ..	Yvonne Mitchley
LADY VISITOR ... ..	Carys Roberts
SON ( <i>as a boy</i> ) ... ..	Richard Bridges
IRIS ... ..	Alison Moulds
RINGER LEAN ... ..	Ken Collins
HEADMASTER ... ..	Robin Harcourt
MATRON ... ..	Jennifer Southwell
JAPHET ... ..	Jon McNamara
REIGATE ... ..	Paul Fox
HAM ... ..	Gordon Whittle
MRS REIGATE ... ..	Carys Roberts
MISS COX ... ..	Carys Roberts
MISS BAKER ... ..	Jennifer Southwell
MR BOUSTEAD ... ..	Gordon Whittle
JUDGE ... ..	Jon McNamara
MR THONG ... ..	Ken Collins
SPARKS ... ..	Jon McNamara
CHIPPY ... ..	Gordon Whittle
TECHNICIAN ... ..	Robin Harcourt
DORIS ... ..	Carys Roberts
DIRECTOR ... ..	Ken Collins
FIRST ATS GIRL ... ..	Emma Brown
SECOND ATS GIRL ... ..	Jennifer Southwell
ELIZABETH ... ..	Nicole Walton
GEORGE ... ..	Robin Harcourt
SOCIAL WORKER ... ..	Jennifer Southwell
MR MORROW ... ..	Ken Collins
LADY WITNESS ... ..	Carys Roberts
FIRST BOY ... ..	Richard Bridges
SECOND BOY ... ..	Paul Fox
GIRL ... ..	Alison Moulds

Directed by Tony Edwards

Lighting and sound by Christopher Driver  
Costumes by Laws Properties by Jack Mitchley  
Stage staff: Helen Nolan

*Refreshments are available during the interval in the foyer and the bar. The bar has a club licence, and members of the audience with a ticket for tonight's performance are entitled to use its facilities.*

### NOTES ON THE PLAY AND ITS AUTHOR

John Mortimer is a barrister, playwright and author. During the Second World War he worked for the Crown Film Unit on propaganda films. He subsequently produced a number of novels as well as scripts for both the theatre and television.

His most famous television plays include the *Rumpole* series, adaptations of *Brideshead Revisited* and of his own works, *Paradise Postponed* and *Summer Lease*.

Moot House Players have now presented several of his plays, including *The Wrong Side of the Park* in 1963, *What Shall We Tell Caroline?* (1967 and 1978) and *Come As You Are* (1976).

*A Voyage Round My Father* was originally written as a radio play before being presented at the Greenwich Theatre in 1970. The following year it opened in the West End at The Haymarket, with a revised script and Alec Guinness playing the main role. Later it was produced for television, with Sir Laurence Olivier in the lead.

The play is a sensitive and amusing autobiographical account of Mortimer's career, from childhood, by way of the Crown Film Unit, to marriage and the beginning of legal and literary success. His barrister father, blinded in an accident, was an ever-present influence on his early life. The play is an exploration of the author's feelings towards his father and touches upon universal truths which undoubtedly form the basis of the play's success.