

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

present

F O R T Y Y E A R S O N

a play with music  
by Alan Bennett

Characters:

THE STAFF

HEADMASTER	..	..	..	..	..	Ken Collins
FRANKLIN	..	..	..	..	..	John Edwards
TEMPEST	..	..	..	..	..	Brian Harte
MATRON	..	..	..	..	..	Yvonne Mitchley
MISS NISBITT	..	..	..	..	..	Jean Walls

THE BOYS

CRABTREE	..	..	..	..	..	Tim Jenkins
CHARTERIS	..	..	..	..	..	Michael Parsley
SKINNER	..	..	..	..	..	Chris Lerner
TUPPER	..	..	..	..	..	Richard Parsley
WIMPENNY	..	..	..	..	..	Anthony Parsley
TREDGOLD	..	..	..	..	..	Adrian Lohrey
WIGGLESWORTH	..	..	..	..	..	Roger Conen
FOSTER	..	..	..	..	..	Steve Osborne
RUMBOLD	..	..	..	..	..	Daniel Audritt

The scene is set in the Assembly Hall of Albion House,  
a public school in the south of England

\* \* \* \* \*

The play produced by Roger Parsley

Music played by Jo Pateman, piano, and Jody Burnett and  
Mick Rayner, guitars.

Setting by Mandy Dymond; lighting by Jack Mitchley;  
costumes by Laws; sound by John Hadler; slides by  
Edmund Grey; stage staff: Jill Williams and Roger  
Williamson.

\* \* \*

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

The Play and its Author

Nostalgic, vulgar, witty, Alan Bennett's FORTY YEARS ON concerns the end-of-term production at Albion House, a minor public school, on the occasion of the retirement of the Headmaster, and is a comic and satirical survey of the "lost worlds" of the first half of this century, together with some examination of contemporary values.

Albion House in many respects resembles England at the crossroads - no longer a great power, but still steeped in its earlier traditions - and Bennett asks the question "Where do we go from here?"

This hilarious piece which opened in London in 1968, was the first West End play by Bennett, a member of the now legendary BEYOND THE FRINGE team. He has since written GETTING ON, a play with a not entirely different theme to this one, and HABEAS CORPUS, a farce recently seen in Harlow.

He said of FORTY YEARS ON: "Is there a message? Nobody knows and I certainly don't... but my heart is very much in the Headmaster's final speech bidding farewell to Albion House and this old England. And yet the world we have lost wasn't one in which I would have been happy, though I look back on and read about it with affection. And from this affection stems both the parody and the nostalgia; they are very close together."

- - - - -

FUTURE PROGRAMME

Moot Hall                      Sunday 13 February                      at 8 pm

The first of this season's Sunday nights with new plays, wine and cheese ... MERELY PLAYERS. The play introduces yet another new dramatist, Audrey Game, who has played many parts for us - notably in THE HOMECOMING and BUTLEY - but who is by way of being a historian and has written a fascinating study of the last minutes of the life of HENRY VIII involving most of the major characters of the period. Audrey calls it

THE INQUISITOR

Come and see it at its first performance and talk with the author and cast after the show.

Tickets: 30 pence and 15 pence

# MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

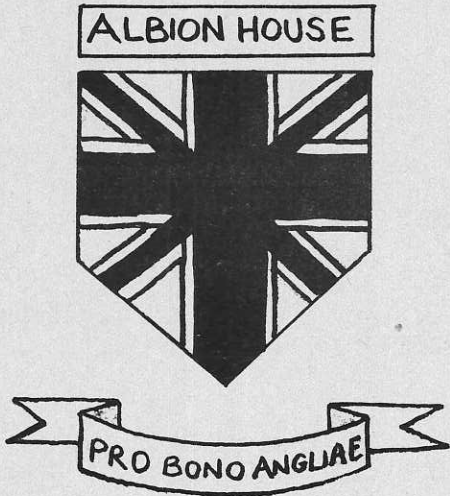
Moot Hall

Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
24, 25, and 26 March 1977

THE CHALK GARDEN

by Enid Bagnold

A 'serious' comedy produced by Jean Walls



*Staff and Pupils proudly present :-*  
*"SPEAK FOR ENGLAND, ARTHUR"*  
*in the Assembly Hall on*  
*the occasion of the Retirement*  
*of the Headmaster*

# 40 YEARS ON

## by Alan Bennett

in Moot Hall, The Stow, Harlow  
on 27th, 28th and 29th January 1977