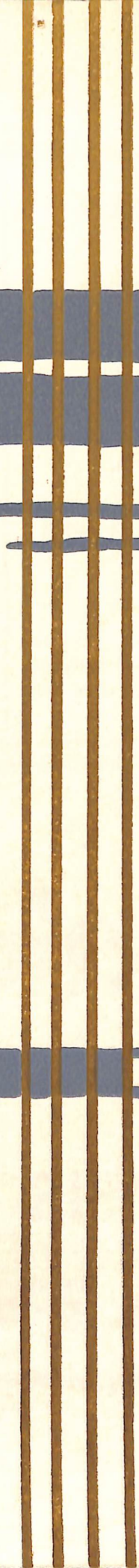


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THE HISTORY OF THE M.A.D.C.

A General Meeting took place at the Union Club in 1910 when General Penton took the chair. The Malta Amateur Dramatic Club was then launched from two groups, the Malta Amateur Dramatic Society and the "Captain Reece of the Mantlepiece" Company. The Chairman was Lt. Col. Campbell-Todd R.A.P.D. In those days, before the cinema, there was plenty of time for big productions of pantomimes, Savoy operas and costume plays. Members were officers of the Army and Navy and later members of the Union Club. "Captain Reece" was so popular that it was translated into Maltese by Sir Augusto Bartolo and performed by the 'L'Indipendenza' Company, all productions being staged at the Manoel Theatre. H.M.S. Reynard lent her white ensign for the "Captain Reece" performances and later it was presented to the M.A.D.C. in its smoke-grimed condition after the Dardanelles campaign. The Club Rooms consisted of two small rooms next to the Manoel Theatre.

After the 1914-18 war the Club was revived by the Services and the secretary, Sqn. Ldr. Ross, wrote the rules. The Club season included as many as six light comedies at this period.

In November 1927 Miss E. Warren became the Hon. Secretary and the Royal Opera House was used for the M.A.D.C. productions. Under the direction of Major C.B.A. Hoskyns great advances were made and "Mr. Wu" was a spectacular success, Major A.C. Bruce playing the lead with Miss K. Warren as his leading lady.

During the last war the Opera House was demolished, as was also the small Prince's Theatre in Floriana. Two plays were staged in the M.A.D.C. Club Rooms situated at 28 South Street, Valletta. These rooms, which contained so many relics of the Club, including photographs and programmes caught the last bomb on Valletta in 1942. In 1938 Hope Slesor had started a series of open-air Shakespeare productions at San Anton. Since then the Club has made Shakespeare a definite part of its seasonal programme. For a time after the war the Club produced plays at the Auberge d'Aragon, now the official residence of the Prime Minister. Later on the M.A.D.C. made use of the Knights' Hall for several seasons. Then it turned to the Deporres Hall for some time and finally is back in its old home, the Manoel Theatre.

Membership has changed over the years and now includes "ladies and gentlemen resident in Malta and interested in dramatic work".

Among famous personalities entertained by the M.A.D.C. are Dame Sybil Thorndike, Sir Lewis Casson, Sir Alec Guinness, Mr. Noel Coward, Mr. Hilton Edwards, Mr. Michael MacLiammoir, Capt. Anthony Kimmins, Miss Elsie Fogerty, Miss Lilian Gish, Mr. Maurice Baring and, more recently, Mr. Evershed Martin of the new Chichester Theatre, Mr. John Neville, Miss Joyce Grenfell, Dame Flora Robson and John Mills.

The present production, with Kay Warren in the cast, spans 57 years of M.A.D.C. history.

THE CHALK GARDEN

Cast in order of appearance

Miss Madrigal	...	...	...	MADELEINE ATTARD MONTALTO
Maitland	...	...	...	JOE DE PIRO
A Little Lady	...	...	...	BABS FOSTER
3rd Lady	...	...	...	MARY WOOD
Laurel	...	...	...	CONNIE IZZO
Mrs. St. Maughan	...	...	...	MARY COX
Olivia	...	...	...	PAM ASH
Nurse	...	...	...	KAY WARREN
The Judge	...	...	...	JOHN HAMILTON

The Play Produced by

IAN COX

The action of the play passes in the sitting-room of Mrs. St. Maughan's house in Sussex.

ACT I — A morning in June

ACT II — Two month's later. Before luncheon

ACT III — The same day. After luncheon

Time: The present

For the M.A.D.C.

Stage Manager	...	...	...	DAVID MARSHALL
Assistants	...	...	...	MIKE YOUNG DUDLEY NORMAN
Decor and Scenery	...	...	...	JOHN HOLLOWAY MIKE YOUNG TONY REED-SCREEN
Scenery painted by	...	...	...	BABS MARSHALL-FOSTER SYLVIA HALLIDAY
Wardrobe	...	...	...	AYLERIE DOWDALL
Properties	KAY WARREN
Lighting	JOHN GRAY
Sound	MICK ROUSE
Publicity	BOB FENNER
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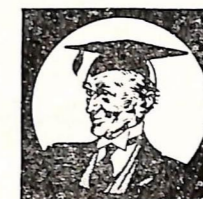
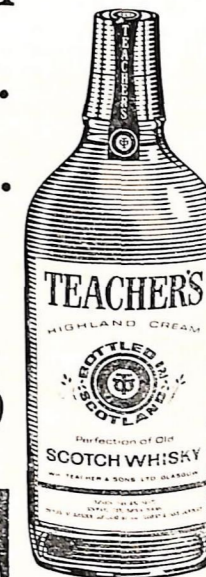
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