

The Curtain Up Players have been in existence for eight years. We are a group of people in the over 50's age group who enjoy coming together to improvise scenes, sketches and plays.

We are based at the Brian Jackson Centre in Huddersfield, England.

The book consists of 20 unscripted plays with plotted scenes. They are sub divided into 4 sections – those to do with family relationship, Christmas shows, plays about dementia and ageing and one off plays. The plays are designed so that everything can be adapted – scenes, actors, dialogue, endings. They can be used as straight plays, as exercises to encourage creativity and spontaneity, as warm-ups and training exercises.

The plays are in a Morenian tradition – they encourage audience participation, demand spontaneity and creativity from the actors and usually lead to sharing in the spectators afterwards.

"This book offers some of the scenarios and scripts created by the Curtain Up Players ... They will be useful as starting points for amateur theatre groups as well as school, college and university sessions and group workers of many persuasions."

Franc Chamberlain, Professor of Drama, Theatre and Performance, University of Huddersfield.

"The Curtain Up Players worked with us and some of our external partners (Kirklees Dementia Action Alliance, Safe places, Adult Social Care and West Yorkshire police) to develop a bespoke performance, Seeking Joan ... "As ever, their performance was excellent, well researched and acted. It really conveyed the impact that dementia can have on families and the wider community. I look forward to continue to support their excellent work in the future as performance theatre is a fantastic way to learn about issues. The Curtain Up Players are a fabulous group."

Dr. Berenice Golding, School of Human and Health Sciences, University of Huddersfield

Feedback from members at a luncheon club performance at the Yorkshire Children's centre... "excellent, please come again." – "very entertaining! Brought back times I remember. Street parties etc." – "Good fun! Enjoyed it.! Seemed to go very well and everyone joined in."