



AMATEUR PLAYERS of SHERBORNE

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 1994

Dear Member

Here's hoping you are enjoying a wonderful summer and looking forward to what promises to be a very busy and exciting season. Your new Committee has been hard at work arranging a full and interesting programme of activities which kicks off on **Friday 9 September** when our Chairman entertains us to "**An Autumn Evening**". Please bring along any friends and guests who might be interested in joining and help to get our **60th Anniversary Season** off to a resounding start.

Please note that subscriptions (£8) are also due on Friday 9 September and can be paid that evening.

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Your new Committee is:

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| President | - | Joy Saunders |
| Chairman | - | Margaret Field |
| Hon Secretary | - | Anthony Stephens |
| Hon Treasurer | - | Tony Field |
| Committee Members | - | Andrew Cross (Membership Secretary) |
| | | Patricia Harris |
| | | Mark Lambert |
| | | Gill Manns |
| | | Colin Mayes |
| | | Jane Minnet |
| | | Eve Snell |
| | | Janet Vincent |
| | | Anthea Watson |
| | | Linda Woods |

Please do not hesitate to contact any Committee Member if you have any ideas, suggestions or complaints.

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Before looking too far to the future, we must give our thanks and congratulations to **Eve Snell** for all the time, effort and hard work that she gave for our participation in the Commemoration of D-Day. The evening, which took place at the end of May, was an enormous success and, following the week of activities, a donation was given to each of the following:

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Royal British Legion | Devonshire & Dorset Regiment |
| Normandy D-Day Landing Veterans | Royal Naval Association |

Well done Eve!

Another little production took place recently. Produced and Directed by **Sue and Patrick Francis**, Samuel made his entrance to the world on 6 July. Our love and congratulations go to Mum and Dad and, of course, to James, Samuel's older brother who looks set to make his mark as a talented little actor.

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Congratulations also to **Joan Snelling** who received the MBE in The Queen's Birthday Honours. Joan is a much loved and loyal member of the Players and has been for many years. Our love and best wishes are sent to her for a much deserved award.

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Sadly, we were unable to cast "**Our Town**". It was arranged at fairly short notice and many members had booked holidays which meant they were unavailable for the suggested production dates. However, not to despair, Marilyn Hawkins will be with us again next year when she hopes it may be possible to produce the play in early summer 1995.

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Committee Member, Mark Lambert, has been asked to coordinate a group who will take responsibility for building future sets and taking care of our scenery. Mark writes:

"**A set building group** has recently been formed. However, at present, it is desperately short of members. Prior to the actual setting up day of a production, set building can be a lonely, arduous and sometimes thankless task but, if there are plenty of people willing to help, it can be much more fun and the load can be spread out. Members are, therefore, urged to volunteer their services. We don't just need carpenters, although people who are handy with tools are of course always welcome. We also need people who are willing to strip and repaste wallpaper and apply paint, both flat colours and more artistic work. Any offer of help will be welcome, so please do add your name to the list of potential helpers by contacting Mark Lambert (0258 817270)."

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There is an **Acting Workshop** taking place at the Octagon Theatre, Yeovil on **Wednesday 24 August** 10 am - 5 pm cost £15. If anyone is interested, please contact the Octagon on Yeovil 27025.

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL - to be directed by Margaret Field. As members will know by now, this is our chosen play for what is

normally our Autumn Production. However, it was felt appropriate to put such a seasonal play on closer to Christmas. Our production dates will therefore be **14, 15, 16 and 17 December** in the Powell Theatre with a matinee on 17 December. The change in venue will be an exciting challenge and we are warmly welcomed by Theatre Manager, Andrew Swift. There are over 60 parts in this play so, even with doubling, this will be a very large scale production and an opportunity for every member to be involved in one way or another. **Auditions will take place on 14 and 15 September at 7.30 pm in the Clubroom** and Margaret hopes to start rehearsals the following week.

Patricia Harris has bravely taken charge of wardrobe and made a plea for any old blankets and other materials that could be put to good use in making costumes. If anyone is interested in helping with costumes, please contact Patricia on 0935 816061. Please don't sit back and wait to be asked for your help or participation, there is plenty for all to do so let's give Margaret 101% support for what promises to be a spectacular production and a fitting way to mark 60 years of Amateur Players of Sherborne. You can contact Margaret on 0935 815427.

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Please note that, following the success of "Moving", all our performances and club evenings will begin at **7.30 pm**.

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Would you like to learn from a professional on a subject such as mime and would you be willing to pay for such an event? Please let the Committee have your views on this idea as it is being considered as a future club evening.

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The Dorset Drama League is holding its annual festival in Shaftesbury in 1995 beginning on 6 March. Following the AGM, it was obvious that members were keen for the Players to enter next year so we would very much like to hear from anyone who would like to direct an entry, either a one act play or an act from a full length play which would stand on its own. You will receive full support and backing from the Committee.

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The Spring Production 1995 will be directed by Tony Field and will take place on **22, 23, 24 and 25 March**. The play has yet to be chosen but you can rest assured that Tony will provide us with something exciting, entertaining and different - watch this space!

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Finally, your Committee looks forward to seeing you all on **9 September** refreshed and invigorated by your summer holidays and full of enthusiasm for the 1994/95 Season.

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Contact numbers:

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| Anthony Stephens | 0935 77567 |
| Andrew Cross | 0935 816761 |