

# A M A T E U R P L A Y E R S O F S H E R B O R N E

NEWSLETTER No. 2

Autumn 1981

## BEWSEY LEADS TALENTED TEAM OUT TO BAT

Bewsey Dyke has selected an enthusiastic band of actors for his autumn production of Richard Harris' sparkling comedy, Outside Edge. The play will mark the welcome return to the Digby Hall stage of two actresses who have not appeared with us for some time; Penny Dyke and Jenny Ward. Others in the cast will include Nicky Clarke, Malcolm Cockburn, Tarn Bradley-Carter, Christopher Lea, Hilary Rawlinson and new members Jonathan Black and Malcolm Smith. H. Trump has designed a marvellous cricket pavilion set, and Madeline Farrant will be stage manager for this production. Christine Hatch will be looking after props, Wendy Farley will be in charge of costumes, and Janet Vincent and Pam Richardson will be managing publicity. Kathleen Dyson is to prompt the cost (not that they will need her help of course!) and Norman Jefferies will be in charge of front of house arrangements at the Digby Hall.

Outside Edge will take place on the stage of the Digby Hall from Thursday 26 November to Saturday 28th November at 8 p.m. Be sure to book early if you want good seats - we will be one of the first amateur companies in the country to present this successful comedy. Tickets will be on sale at Carters from Friday 6th November.

## PLAYERS TO PRESENT HARDY PREMIERE IN THE SPRING

The Spring 1982 production is to be The Woodlanders, a new dramatisation of Thomas Hardy's novel specially written for the Players by Lance Salway and produced by Stuart Carter. As many members will know, the action of The Woodlanders takes place a few miles to the south of Sherborne and includes scenes in the town itself and in the Abbey. It is most appropriate, therefore, that the Players should present the first performances of a play written, produced and acted by people of "Sherborne Abbas" itself! Like Stuart's acclaimed 1978 production of Tess of the d'Urbervilles, The Woodlanders will be presented in the found. As well as twelve speaking parts, there are a number of non speaking extras in the cast so there will be plenty to go around. Note the audition date in your diaries now; Tuesday 5th January 1982. The production dates will be Wednesday 28th April to Saturday 1st May 1982

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

Members are reminded that subscriptions are now due, and should be paid to Madeline Farrant (Stonecrop, Bradford Road, Sherborne, Tel. Sherborne 2022) as soon as possible. The subscription is now £2. for which remarkably reasonable sum members are entitled to take part in productions and other events, and to attend numerous special entertainments throughout the year. Where else can you find such good value for so little? So don't delay; let Madeline have your subscription now. Programme cards will only be issued to fully paid-up members.

## CLUB ROOM

All members visiting the Club Room are reminded to make shure that they close the outside gate behind them on entering and leaving the premises. Members will also have noticed the many improvements which have recently been made to the Club Room itself. Our thanks to those people who have worked so hard - please help them and us by keeping the Club Room tidy.

### PLAYERS TRIUMPH IN CARNIVAL

The Players marked a long-delayed return to the Carnival procession this year by not only winning the prize for the best float in the Humorous class but also by carrying off the championship cup for the best float in the entire Carnival. According to the Western Gazette, our circus entry "captured the spirit of both carnival and big top, being full of glamour, glitter and action". The glamour was generously provided by Christine Hatch as a sword-swallower and Abigail Vincent as a poodle trainer; by trapeze artists Caroline Wallace, Julia Chubb and Emily Thomas; by Claire Austin and Emma Parsons as bareback riders; and by Katy Morton, the hapless victim of her knife-throwing father, Mike! Janet Schofield was a charming gypsy fortune-teller, and Dod Pearson's juggling was one of the big attractions on the float. Action and glitter were amply provided by doghandler Mark Schofield and his trusty trained superdog, "Mac", by a strong man Andy Morton (he of the powerful pectorals!), by virile ring-master Mike Hatch- by mischievous monkeys Alistair and Sarah Hatch; and by a hilarious gang of assortment clowns; Wendy Farley, Madeline Farrant, Lance Salway and Janet Vincent.

The piece de resistance of the float was undoubtedly the lion cage containing Peter Thomas Heavily disguised in a magnificent lion's head engineered by H. Trump. Hrolf and Ron Tomlinson were also responsible for other "tricks" on the float, Christine Hatch's collapsible sword, Abigail Vincent's jumping poodle, and Mike and Katy Morton's knife-throwing device. Jim Schofield and Janet Vincent masterminded the entire project, and many people, too numerous to mention individually, helped behind the scenes. Special thanks, though, must also go to Gwyneth Schofield, Ron Tomlinson, Iris Trump, Tarn Bradley-Carter, Penny Thomas, Jane Burden and Bewsey Dyke. The Players float fully lived up to its title "The Greatest Show on Earth" and plans are already being aired for next year's entry! If you weren't able to join in this year, why not come along and help next time, The more the merrier!

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### PLAYERS POT-POURRI

Those members will in possession of items from the Players Wardrobe are asked to return them immediately to Wendy Farley (Sherborne 4150). This includes items borrowed for use in the Carnival. Wendy is also looking for unwanted trunks and large suitcases which may be suitable for storage purposes in the Wardrobe. If any member has such a trunk or case to spare, then Wendy will be delighted to hear from them.

A Player's Christmas party is to be held at JANET VINCENT's home on Friday 11th December to which all members are invited. Please bring a bottle and come dressed as a player pantomime character. Please let Janet know if you will be coming (Sherborne 4481).

A party of 28 members and friends recently enjoyed a visit to the Salisbury Playhouse to see Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman. A second trip is planned for Thursday 12th November when members are able to see Ronald Harwood's The Dresser also at the Playhouse. We are grateful to MARGARET MORRIS and JANET VINCENT for organising these excursions and to CHRIS AND CAROL LEA for providing the transport. Details of future visits will be posted in the Club Room and on the noticeboard outside the Post Office. Keep an eye on these places if you wish to know about future trips, or else contact Margaret (Sherborne 3684) or Janet (Sherborne 4481) for information.

WELCOME to the following new members; Jonathan Black, Olga Bryan-Smythe, Margaret and Tony Field, Lynn Gavin, Judith Rabone and Malsolm Smith.

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