

Dear Member,

Well, 1984 is upon us, shades of Big Brother and similar Orwellian prognostications and all ! But perhaps more to the point, it's JUBILEE YEAR ! 50 years ago, on November 19th, 1934, some amateur players of Sherborne opened in the Carlton with a production of "Tons of Money" - our very first production. As you are already aware, The Players will be presenting a very special Jubilee Production this November, hopefully a large cast production, which Gerald Pitman has agreed to direct. As an adjunct to the production it is hoped to mount a small exhibition devoted to "The First 50 Years" and Meg Whittingdale would like to hear from anyone who has any old photographs, programmes or other memorabilia which they are prepared to lend for the exhibition. By the way, this is a suitable moment to remind you that as a loyal member you should have read our President's book, "As it was", telling the story of the Amateur Players from the earliest beginnings. Copies are still available from Norman Jefferies, 'Lorna Doone', King's Road, Sherborne.

1984 opened, as far as The Players were concerned, with a very enjoyable and, I'm glad to say, well attended evening of fun and laughter on January 5th when Madeline Farrant and helpers put on an evening of "Give us a Clue". It's extraordinary how a glass of wine before the start of the entertainment helps to reduce inhibitions when it comes to making a 'Wally' of yourself in public ! (Note for the committee - more wine before meetings please !)

In February, as you will see from your membership card/programme, Norman Jefferies is to entertain us with a one act play. This is to be "The Lady from Abroad" by Mabel Constanduros and Howard Agg and it will be performed in the Clubroom on February 16th at 8.00 pm. Norman will stage the play again for the Catholic Ladies League on February 21st at St Antony's School, Westbury and I understand that anyone unable to see the performance on the 16th is welcome to attend on this evening.

The evening programmed for February 29th will not be as shown on your programme, instead we will have a 'Mystery evening' (like the coach firms have 'Mystery Tours') neither you nor I know what's going to happen until we get to the clubroom at 8.00 pm ! Please note also the change of date for Pam Richardson's "Dickens Evening" - this will be on Friday, March 16th at 8.00 pm in the clubroom.

Jim Schofield reports that the video group held an interesting 'workshop evening' on January 20th and that the group intends to film Noel Coward's "Still Life" as their next venture. Jim would like to hear from anyone who would like to take part - the characters involved are:

Laura Jesson	Attractive, 30's
Myrtle Baggott	Buxom, imposing widow
Beryl Walters	Yong, pretty and dim
Stanley	Young railway worker
Albert Godby	Ticket Inspector, 30 - 40
Dollie Messiter	Well turned out, fussy woman of 30 - 40
Alec Harvey	35ish, attractive, decisive
A Young Man and two Soldiers	

If you are interested, 'phone Jim on Sherborne 812051.

Finally some personal notes:

At the end of the SACA Christmas Pantomime, Ron Tomlinson and Rosie Wonfor announced their engagement - or at least Dodd Pearson did it for them ! I'm sure you join me in wishing them a very happy future together.

Bewsey has been most unwell, but is now recovering - we wish him a

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Meg Whittingdale has received a letter from Clare Palmer, thanking all involved in the production of "Cat's Cradle" for all the help they gave her in her college project on Amateur Dramatics.

Yours sincerely,

M. W. 13