



AMATEUR PLAYERS of SHERBORNE

JUNE 1991

Issue No. 2

Dear Member

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Clubroom on 6th June. Retiring Chairman Jenny Ward opened the Meeting, followed by reports from the Secretary Vivian Vale, retiring Treasurer Jim Schofield and Membership Secretary Jill Hudson. The President, Gerald Pitman, who will be directing our Autumn production of 'Under the Greenwood Tree', gave us an update on his plans for this production and the forthcoming visit to Higher Bockhampton by the cast and all Players who might be interested.

The APS showed a profit on the last two productions but a substantial loss on the General Account. This puts us in a vulnerable position financially and it is therefore vital that we pull in money from every possible source to keep ourselves buoyant. With the very real prospect of having to vacate the Clubroom at Eldridge Pope and having to find new premises (which we will undoubtedly have to rent), plus the problem of a home for our very extensive Wardrobe it is vital that all Members support the Club by paying their Subscriptions and by promoting and supporting our productions. So - all ears to the ground for information on new premises and hands in pockets for subscriptions.

Pat Harris showed an interest in resurrecting the Junior Amateur Players, maybe sometime during the next season. The Meeting received her suggestion enthusiastically and encouraged her to go ahead and look further into the matter. Our Chairman and Treasurer retired and Meg Whittingdale was voted in as the new Chairman and Michael Quinn as Treasurer. Meg is a long-standing and valued member of the APS who last took the Chair twenty years ago. We thank Jenny for her support and work during her period of office and welcome Meg once again. Michael Quinn is a new member and played the Inspector in our last production. We welcome him and his wife into the Players and thank him for taking on the Treasurer's post so early in his membership. Vivian Vale remains as Secretary and Jill Hudson as Membership Secretary. Our President, Gerald Pitman, was re-elected and accepted the position once again. Three new Committee members were elected. The new Committee of the Amateur Players thus stands as follows:

President:	Gerald Pitman
Chairman:	Meg Whittingdale
Secretary:	Vivian Vale
Treasurer:	Michael Quinn
Membership Secretary:	Jill Hudson
Committee Members:	Ann Brookes Margaret Field Peggy Gibbs Jakki Gregory Stephen Kettle Penny Knight Joy Saunders

At the AGM a review of the Annual Subscriptions took place. It was decided that these will now be as follows:

Single Member	£6.00
Married Couple	£10.00
Under 18	£1.00
Single OAP	£5.00
Married Couple OAP	£7.00

All those who were unable to attend the AGM will find enclosed with this Newsletter a current Membership Form. If you wish to be a Member, please kindly fill in the form and return it to the Membership Secretary with the appropriate subscription. Please will everyone note that the final date for payment of ALL subscriptions will be **Friday 13th September 1991.**

D I A R Y D A T E S

Saturday 22nd June

Gerald Pitman invites all members of the cast of 'Under the Greenwood Tree', including stage staff and members involved in anyway, plus any other Members to assemble in Thorncombe Wood Car Park, Higher Bockhampton, near Dorchester at 11.00 a.m. to walk over the countryside of the play. Please bring a picnic lunch and tea. Included in the tour will be Hardy's Cottage (the Dewy's home) the Old School and House of Fancy Day, Lower Bockhampton and Stinsford Church and Old Vicarage. Hardy's Cottage belongs to the National Trust. There is a £2 charge for non-members of the Trust. How to get there: A35 out of Dorchester (the Blandford Road); 3 miles NE of Dorchester, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S. of A35 (194:SY728925). Turn off at Bockhampton Lane. Park only in Thorncombe Wood Car Park. The cottage is 10 minutes walk from Car Park through the woods.

The Production will take place 27-30 November in the Digby Hall. Tickets will be on sale from 11th November.

Monday 24th June

Committee Meeting (for Committee Members only) at 8.00 p.m. in the Clubroom.

Friday 28th June

End of Season Party. This will again be held at the home of David and Pam Richardson, for which we are very grateful. The address is: The Old Pound, Marston Road, Sherborne. Telephone 812745. The party will start at 8.00 p.m. Please bring a plate of food and a bottle of whatever. Do come along, meet your friends, have a get-together and let's make this a really grand night.

Thursday 18th July

A full read-through of 'Under the Greenwood Tree' for all the cast, to be held at 8.00 p.m. in the Clubroom (Rehearsals will begin in early September).

Friday 13th September

Opening night of the new season. 8.00 p.m. in the Clubroom.

The next **Newsletter** will be distributed during October. Until then, may we thank every Member for their support in the past and ask that they continue to give support in the future, by coming to our social evenings and to our productions. Play readings etc. can be organised by any Member and anyone interested in producing or participating should contact any Committee Member.

News of the Spring Production and an up-date on 'Under the Greenwood Tree' will be in the next Newsletter. Wishing you a happy, sunny and 'dramatic' summer.