

Tony & Myrtle Stephens.

## AMATEUR PLAYERS of SHERBORNE



FEBRUARY 1993

Issue No. 7

Dear Member

With Christmas long gone it is now time to give you an update on our Spring activities.

First and foremost we must mention the Autumn production. It was a wonderful time for the many Players who participated in Pam Richardson's "One Foot on the Stage". It proved to be a popular show; lively, full of fun, but most of all, different - a delightful change for our Players to exhibit hidden talents, resulting in a great success for Pam. We thank the cast, crew and all those involved - whether directly or indirectly - for contributing so generously. None more so than Pam herself, whose personal input in writing, producing and directing the review, was simply huge. The Show broke even, with a charity donation going to the Sherborne Ambulance for the Disabled.

Our social events report: The excellent **Christmas Party**, presented by Dod and Jean, saw the new year in with a packed Clubroom, yet again, for Meg Whittingdale to host her mega-successful "Give Us A Clue" - known this year as a "Sonorous Syllable Social Session". This hilarious hit event looks set for a long run. The **Evening with Bob Service** was a real treat, giving us a wonderful insight, not only into the hard work, but also the fun and games involved, working behind the camera during both a rehearsed and a live television production. Thank you Bob for sharing some of your working memories and experiences with us. Our entry for the **Dorset Drama League** has been cancelled as Michael Quinn, who was to produce a One-Act play, was unable to cast to his satisfaction. It is a pity that once again we are unable to produce an entry for this event. More enthusiasm and support next year would be helpful.

**"Venus Observed"** by Christopher Fry is our Spring Production and this is an up-to-date progress report from Margaret Field, who is directing this production. The cast is comprised of: Barbara Beak, Marie le Billon, Andrew Cross, Tony Field, Stephen Kettle, Madeline Lambert, Huw Ridgeway, Eve Snell, Tony Stephens and Vivian Vale, with Myrtyl Stephens as prompt. Tony Manns is designing the set and will also be Stage Manager. Sue Francis is leading the Publicity team and Tony Birks-Hay is designing the poster. Jean Harrap and Dod Pearson are in charge of Props. with costumes in the hands of Pam Richardson and Mary Micklewright. Jim and Gwyneth Schofield are to undertake Front of House. Please let them know if and when you can help - telephone Sherborne 812051. With quite a large cast, Margaret does need to know that she has the backing of members, so if you can help in any way - selling tickets, sticking up posters or generally helping, please let Margaret know. It has been decided that, for this production, car stickers will be made available in addition to the usual A4 posters. You will find your car sticker enclosed with this copy of the Newsletter. We would be very grateful if you could display it in your car - or in a prominent position in your window or local shop, post office, lamp-post, telegraph post etc. etc. We must all make an effort to publicise this play as much as possible - it promises to be an excellent production with 'stunning special effects'. If you think that you could find a good home for an A4 poster, please contact Sue Francis on Sherborne 815137 and she will get one to you. Volunteers are also needed to place posters around

thw outlying villages, so again, if you think that you could help with this, please contact Sue.

**Gerald Pitman** has tendered his resignation as President of the Amateur Players of Sherborne. He has served us so well for so many years, but feels it is time for someone else to take over. Gerald's tremendous loyalty, enthusiasm and encouragement to the Players will be sadly missed and we hope he will continue to come and support us in the future. Any nominations for the position of President (which will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting on 4th June) please apply in writing to the Chairman, Pat Harris.

Our good wishes for a speedy recovery go to all APS members who are ill or who have recently been ill. Our good wishes go especially to Mary Walker.

On an even sadder note, we send our heartfelt sympathy to **Janet Vincent** and her family, following the sudden and tragic loss of Alan, who died on 6th February. The Amateur Players sent flowers and many of our members were at the funeral at Yeovil Crematorium. Although Alan was abroad a lot of the year, he always supported the Club when he was home.

We also have to report the recent death of two ex-members of the APS: Ted Littlejohn and Mickie Hillier.

#### DIARY DATES

20/21 March	Move into Digby Hall	)	
25/26/27 March	Spring Production " <b>VENUS OBSERVED</b> "	)	As much help
28 March	Strike and return set	)	needed as possible
Thursday 1st April	<u>AMENDMENT</u> This will now be an OPEN Playreading presented by Eve Snell		
Monday 5th April	Committee Meeting 8 p.m. in the Clubroom		
Friday 23rd April	The Bard's birthday celebrated by Vivian Vale		
Monday 10th May	Open Playreading		
Thursday 27th May	<u>AMENDMENT</u> An Evening with Jakki and Jill		
Friday 4th June	Annual General Meeting 8 p.m. in the Clubroom		
Friday 18th June	End of Season Party <u>AMENDMENT</u> Two One Act Plays presented by Tony Manns & Ann Brooks		

Please remember to watch the Post Office Notice Board for news. Any problems or queries, please contact the Chairman, Pat Harris, or a member of the Committee.

We look forward to seeing you all at "Venus Observed".