

Dear Member,

The 1996-97 season is about to get under way, so we hope you are all raring to go. The Opening Evening will be on Thursday 5th September and will take place in the Age Concern Hall, Digby Road, Sherborne. A fork supper will be available, but please bring your own fork and spoon! This hall will also be the venue for the Christmas party (10th December) and the Summer party (5th July). All other meetings will be the Cheap Street Church Hall unless otherwise notified. The committee has decided that this year we may as well start as we mean to go on and cease to use the



clubroom before we are actually compelled to leave and to this end we intend clearing all APS belongings out of the clubroom (see below).

As usual, please remember that subs are due on or before the opening night; it reary does make life easier for the Treasurer and Membership Secretary if subs are paid promptly. Anyone hoping to take part in a production, in any capacity, is reminded that, for insurance reasons, you may only do so if you are a fully paid-up or life member.

The membership fee has remained the same--only £8.00 per person (young students \pounds 1.00) for the third year running! However, in order to increase our revenue slightly it was decided at the AGM that we should make a mandatory charge of 50p per person (to include coffee) for play readings and other members evenings--except for the Opening Evening, Christmas and End of Season parties.

The club programme has now been planned. Apart from the AGM and the social evenings mentioned above there are a further 11 evenings scheduled--fewer than before as the committee felt that the large number we had last year may have contributed to the low attendances on some occasions. Early offerings include an American Evening presented by Peter and Marilyn Hawkins on Wednesday 25th September and a rehearsed playreading presented by Jessica Colson on Monday 14th October. If you want to know what else is in store, come and join us on September 5th, when membership cards/ club programmes will be issued as usual.

Some progress has been made on the wardrobe. You may remember that a few of the multiple items were taken for sale by auction. Some of these were recently sold in Sherborne and so far the proceeds amount to about £900. The sorting process produced three categories--'keep', 'sell' and 'otherwise dipose of'. The latter category has now all gone and in fact nothing was wasted as it all went to the Sue Ryder shop and will either be distributed to those in need or recycled-- a very satisfactory outcome. During this month other items are being sold, from the clubroom, to other local groups, hire shops etc and at the time of writing the net proceeds of this amount to £420.

Incidentally, you will be pleased to hear that, in view of their sterling work on the wardrobe and long service to The Players, Pam Richardson and Mary Micklewright have been offered Life Membership. They have both written to express their delight and thanks.

The 'keep' category of the wardrobe, together with everything else that belongs to APS is to be moved to a room in the Castle stables, very close to the room we currently use for storing and working on scenery. The move will take place as soon as a date can be arranged, and you will be notified via the telephone grapevine system. The task will be made much easier if we have a lot of help, so Chairman Jakki is asking everyone who can attend on the day to do so. There is a great deal of stuff to move, all of which has to be carried down the stairs, loaded into cars, ferried to the stables, unloaded, carried upstairs and stored. We can do it in one day *if* plenty of people turn up. We need a team of people at each end and people with cars to ferry. So, please, please come and help if you possibly can.

Officers and Committee 1996-1997

President JOY SAUNDERS

Chairman JAKKI GREGORY 01935-850708

Hon. Secretary ANTHONY STEPHENS 01935-77567

> Hon. Treasurer TONY FIELD 01935-815427

Membership Secretary MARK LAMBERT 01258-817270

Committee Members JESSICA COLSON JENNIE HARVEY-HULL STUART McCREADIE TONY MANNS KATHY MESSINGER KIERAN MILLAR

Prompt Corner

Dates for your diaries

Thursday September 5th **Opening Evening** Age Concern Hall, Digby Road. Fork supper, please bring your own fork and spoon

Wednesday 25th September An American evening presented by Peter and Marilyn Hawkins Cheap Street Church Hall

Monday 14th October A rehearsed playreading presented by Jessica Colson Cheap Street Church Hall



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