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March 1990

(D. YOUNG)



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Committee members.....Margaret Pope; Joe Brooks

**WIMBORNE DRAMA CLUB**

**PRESENTS**

**CHARLEY'S AUNT**

by

**Brandon Thomas**

**29, 30, 31 MARCH 1990**

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first production of the decade - "Charley's Aunt" - an evergreen comedy I am sure you have all heard of.

We are pleased to introduce Howard Lovejoy in his first full length play with us and to welcome back Simon Jackson, who has rejoined us for this production.

1990 looks like being a busy year for the club. We will be offering "People Like Us" as our One Act Festival entry in the Dorset Drama League and the Ferndown Festival. "Charley's Aunt" will be closely followed by a celebration of Thomas Hardy's life and works which will be staged at Walford Mill, Wimborne and Moors Valley Country Park, West Moors on 21, 22 and 23 June.

We are always pleased to welcome new members and further information about the club can be obtained from our publicity manager, Jan Stevenson on Wimborne 885095.

We hope you enjoy your evening with us and look forward to seeing you again at our other productions during the year.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy 1990

Carolyn Woodward

the word and refreshingly joyful. If you can all forget the bills, the traffic, and those devious politicians for an hour or two and feel "God is in his Heaven (even if it does centre on Oxford) and all is well with the world" then I shall be happy.

Jim Ruegg (Charley) is co-producer and has done more than his share in this respect. Because he is on stage so often, most of the actual directing has, of necessity, been done by me. He and the rest of the cast have been very patient!

A great deal of work has been needed on the sets, furniture, costumes and properties, for which I am most grateful but if I were to continue with this vote of thanks I would fill this whole programme.

MR FRANCIS DAVIES, assisted by his charming consort MRS ENID DAVIES, will entertain you at the pianoforte during the proceedings.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

IN JUNE we are presenting our tribute to Thomas Hardy. The first performance is on 21 June in the barn at the Moors Valley Country Park, West Moors. Tickets will be on sale at Moors Valley from April. The second and final performances are on 22 and 23 June at Walford Mill, Wimborne. Tickets will be on sale at the mill and from club members from April.

IN NOVEMBER we are presenting a new play by a local author. Watch out for details in the local press nearer the time.

## STOP PRESS

CONGRATULATIONS to our ladies who entered the Dorset Drama League on 17 March and won the cup for the best female play. WELL DONE, GIRLS!



MR MARTIN LODGE has been acquainted with us for a number of years although living in Berkshire prevented his being actively involved until he returned to Dorset in 1988. He played Cheapjack in last year's production of "Lark Rise" and made a brief appearance in last November's production, "Death and the Maiden". However, "Charley's Aunt" is Martin's first major role.

MR JAMES RUEGG is making his 11th appearance for the Club in the 7 years he has been with us. Whilst he likes most sports he says the athletic character he plays in this production is quite the opposite of his own.

MR HOWARD LOVEJOY joined us last year and assisted in the rehearsals of "Lark Rise". He also took part in the Christmas show, playing a vicar and a villain. As a gentleman's gentleman in this production he thinks his future can only be upwardly mobile, theatrically speaking.

MISS HELEN WOOD is 15 and attends Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne. This is Helen's 3rd appearance for us and she feels this is her most difficult role to date. She assures us that the young sensitive romantic soul she plays is the complete opposite of herself! She has enjoyed the challenge.

MRS CAROLYN WOODWARD is delighted to be appearing in this production as it has always been a favourite of hers and she, too, has always wanted to wear a Victorian costume. She is pleased that we could not find any corsets in our wardrobe!

MR ARTHUR BROOKS. Written almost an hundred years ago, "Charley's Aunt" is a classic example of pure farce in the English theatre. At that time, railways and the British Empire flourished and a few noisy motor cars were still competing unsuccessfully with the horse. This is very much a play of its time. Pure farce in every sense of

## CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

JACK CHESNEY.....MR ANTHONY FELTHAM  
BRASSETT.....MR HOWARD LOVEJOY  
CHARLEY WYKEHAM.....MR JAMES RUEGG  
LORD FANCOURT BABBERLEY.....MR MARTIN LODGE  
KITTY VERDUN.....MRS CAROLYN WOODWARD  
AMY SPETTIGUE.....MRS SHIRLEY ILOTT  
COLONEL SIR FRANCIS CHESNEY, BART.....MR DAVID GREEN  
STEPHEN SPETTIGUE.....MR SIMON JACKSON  
DONNA LUCIA D'ALVADOREZ.....MRS PAMELA FELTHAM  
ELLA DELAHAY.....MISS HELEN WOOD

Co-produced and directed by.....MR ARTHUR BROOKS  
MR JAMES RUEGG

The time: Commemoration Week, Oxford 1892

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

### ACT I

Jack Chesney's rooms in college (morning)  
"When pious frauds...are dispensations" - Hudibras

### ACT II

Garden outside Jack Chesney's rooms (afternoon)  
"While there's tea there's hope" - Pinero

### ACT III

Drawing room at Spettigue's house (evening)  
"Dinner lubricates business" - Boswell

THERE WILL BE AN INTERVAL OF 20 MINUTES  
BETWEEN ACTS I AND II