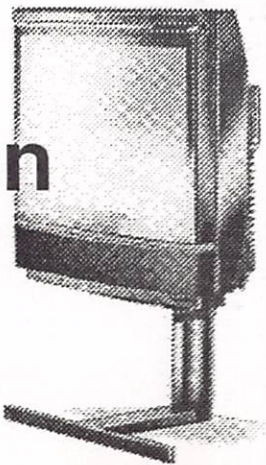


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Alan Ayckbourn's

Bedroom Farce



Directed by
ENID DAVIES

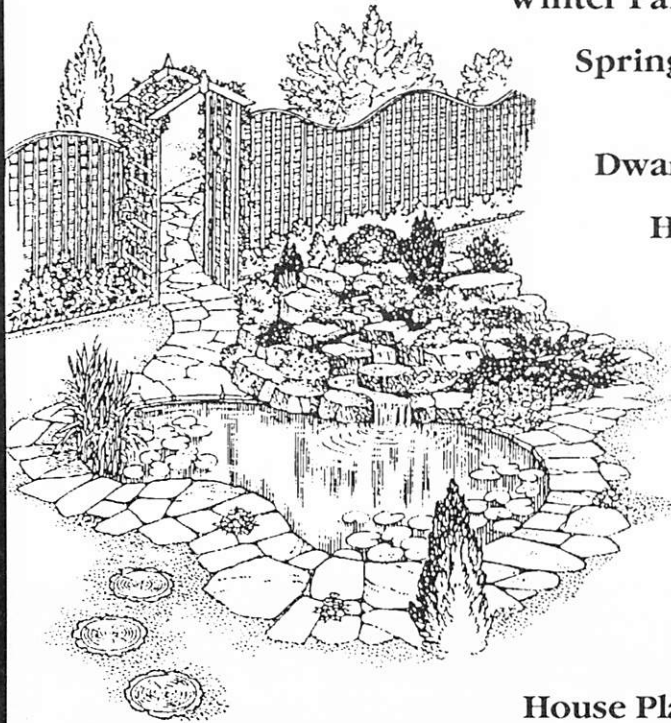
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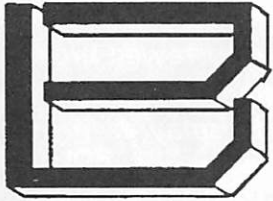
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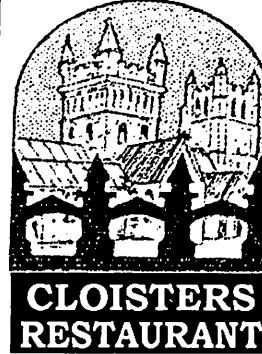
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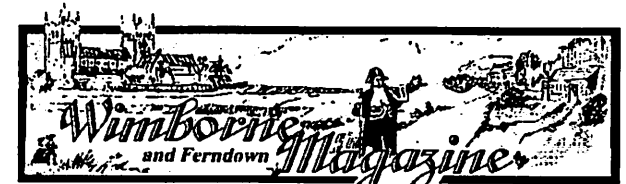
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*We are pleased to be associated with
Wimborne Drama Club
and wish them every success
at The Tivoli Theatre*

Caroline Harrison Enid Davies

Susannah

London-born Caroline's earliest theatrical appearances came at school in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *The Adventures of Gervase Beckett* before she graduated to The Aldersbrook Players and performed in several pantomimes. She moved to Dorset in 1987 and took a 'walk-on' part in *Cabaret* with Arena Theatre in Bournemouth before going on to play Eliza in *Pygmalion* and a variety of roles in *The Adventures of Robin Hood*. Since joining Wimborne Drama Club Caroline has appeared in *Move Over Mrs Markham*, *Tomb with a View*, *Falling Off a Log*, *The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See . . .*, and the Ferndown Festival entries *Edward and Miller's Elegy for a Lady* in which her portrayal of the shop assistant was critically acclaimed.



Director

Enid trained at Central School of Speech & Drama where she was a contemporary of Jill Balcon and Mary Wimbush. She is a vastly experienced performer, teacher and director. Memorable highlights in her illustrious career have included playing a dancing slave girl in *Aladdin*, losing her skirt (intentionally!) in the farce *High Temperature*, creating a fabulous gown for Lear in *The Dresser*, joyous moments in *The Happiest Days of Your Life*, a very lively Mrs Markham, the magical atmosphere of *Lark Rise at Walford Mill* and, most recently, the fun and fantasy of *The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See . . .* Enid has directed many plays for adults and young people including *Hedda Gabler*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Crucible*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Busman's Honeymoon*, *Pack of Lies* and *A Celebration of Thomas Hardy*.



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George V was King, Stanley Baldwin was serving his second term of office and women were enfranchised on the same basis as men. The West Indies played their first Test match in England (they lost all three in the series by an innings) and Blackburn Rovers won the FA Cup. The inaugural Oscars were held and *Lady Chatterley's Lover* was first exposed to the world.

The year . . . ? 1928.

In those distant days before television and videos when you had to make your own entertainment a band of local enthusiasts decided to join together to form a drama group to keep themselves and others in the community amused and enthralled. And so was born the Wimborne Dramatic Society (later to change its name to Wimborne Drama Club).

Their very first production, *Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure*, proved so popular that a repeat performance had to be given 'by public demand'. With

Leonard "Motty" Mottram the driving force behind the Club, early shows were staged in the Women's Institute Hall and when that was demolished, activities were transferred to Church House and later to the new Secondary Modern School at Pamphill (now QE); and from 1970 the Club has enjoyed a



**The very first production,
*Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure***

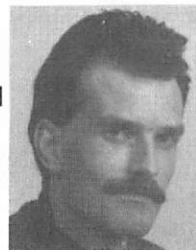
happy association with the Allendale Centre.

Never afraid that it might bite off more than it could chew Wimborne Drama Club has thrived on the challenge of staging testing plays and pitting its 'theatrical' strength against other local groups in drama festivals. Over the years the

Richard Neal

Malcolm

Educated at Sedbergh Richard received a 'classical' grounding in theatre (*Twelfth Night, Julius Caesar, Conduct Unbecoming*) as well as indulging in light opera (*Beggars Opera, The Boy Friend*) and acting in and directing one-act comedies. After a break while at college Richard returned to the stage in 1989 with the Olney Players in Buckinghamshire where he was seen as John in *Alphabetical Order* and Dennis in *Outside Edge* and played in the thrillers *The Murder Room, I'll Be Back Before Midnight* and *Any Number Can Die*. A brief stay with Bingley Little Theatre (Max in *The Real Thing*, lighting director for *No Sex Please, We're British*) preceded his move to Wimborne Drama Club and appearances in *Frost on the Rose, The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See . . .* and *The Secret Tent*.



Shirley Ilott

Kate

Shirley Ilott first revealed her passion for live theatre with Wimborne Drama Club in 1986 and for two years helped backstage. Her acting debut came in 1988 when she was cast as Miranda in *Quiet Weekend*. Since then she has appeared in *Sailor Beware, Charlie's Aunt, The Generation Trap, The Enquiry* and last year as Princess Mary in *Frost on the Rose*.



Tony Feltham



Trevor

Tony was born and bred in Corfe Mullen where his first stage performances were at school, aged seven, as an Indian Chief and an Ugly Sister. As head chorister of his local choir his angelic face and voice were tailor-made for the lead role in *Oliver* and Pharaoh in *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. He was also seen in *Godspell*. Tony joined Wimborne Drama Club in 1983 where he has appeared in numerous productions including *Devil May Care, Man Alive, Dear Octopus, The Matchmaker, House Guest, Sailor Beware, Charlie's Aunt, Move Over Mrs Markham, Lark Rise* and, for the Ferndown Festival, *The Three Knaves of Normandy*. In 1993 he played in Broadstone Light Operatic Society's production of *South Pacific*.

Photos: Geoffrey Phillips,
Photographer, Merley
Tel: 0202 888946

Barry Baynton

Ernest

This is Barry's third appearance in an Ayckbourn play having previously acted in *Ten Times Table* and as Geoffrey - his



favourite role - in *Absurd Person Singular*. Barry began his stage career at school where he played five characters in *Under Milk Wood*. Later there followed *Billy Liar*, where he took on the role of Waterhouse's anti-hero, *House by the Lake*, *Milk and Honey* and several pantomimes. In Bournemouth he has appeared for St Lukes Players as Phillip in *Move Over Mrs Markham*, the Inspector in *An Inspector Calls* and Dennis in *Outside Edge*. Other productions have included *Wait Until Dark*, *Pull the Other One*, *Lloyd George Knew my Father* and *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*. His first role for Wimborne Drama Club was the Owl in *The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See* . . .

in the Ferndown Festival entry *Edward*. Joyce has directed *Death and the Maiden* and *Frost on the Rose* and also has wide experience of drama festivals having worked with Townswomen's Guilds and Group 12 in London before finding new roots in Wimborne.

Peter Timperley

Nick

Peter returns to the stage after resting for a few years to spend time with his family. Like so many of us his big break in theatre came at school when he played "Boss King" (i.e. the one carrying the gold) in the nativity play. In 1983-1984 he appeared in the *Pied Piper* at the Festival Theatre, Hyde, Cheshire and in 1986 he was involved in an outdoor Shakespeare festival in Sheffield.



Jan Stevenson

Jan

Jan had only acted in school plays when she joined Wimborne Drama Club in 1979. Her first role was the non-speaking Beer in *George and Margaret*. Since then she has appeared in many of the Club's productions including *Bliethe Spirit*, *Dangerous Corner*, *Quiet Weekend*, *Death and the Maiden*, *Frost on the Rose* and *Tomb with a View*. When not appearing on stage Jan enjoys helping backstage.



works of Thomas Hardy, George Bernard Shaw, Oscar Wilde, Noel Coward, Arthur Miller and Alan Ayckbourn, among many others, have been tackled with gusto, style and no little success by directors, actors and back-stage hands alike.

Finding the financial resources to run a dramatic society and stage such ambitious productions can place a heavy burden on some groups but Wimborne Drama Club has been fortunate and privileged to have been well supported by benefactors, such as the late Air Marshal Sir John Bradley, patrons, sponsors, Club President Sir Michael Hanham and Lady Hanham, and of course

wonderfully receptive audiences.

It is this generosity and warmth of spirit that has enabled Wimborne Drama Club to go from strength to strength such that this week we are able to make our debut on stage at Wimborne's own theatre.

And as you settle into your seats for tonight's performance you can congratulate yourselves for demonstrating that despite the very many alternative forms of entertainment available in 1994 live theatre productions, especially when staged at such an atmospheric and vibrant venue as The Tivoli Theatre, are as popular today as they were back in 1928.

Director's Notes

A Ian Ayckbourn wrote *Bedroom Farce* for Scarborough in 1975. The play subsequently transferred to the National Theatre in March 1977.

It is a joyous, robust comedy which explores the way a thoroughly self-obsessed, neurotic couple wreak havoc on their friends and relatives. Ayckbourn believes in making people laugh first and then think "Are we really like that?"

He feels that although people do care about those nearest and dearest to them they tend to handle each other in boxing rather than kid gloves!

Ayckbourn's own analysis of why he wrote *Bedroom Farce* is typically unpretentious (and unrevealing): in the middle of his serious period "this rather jolly play suddenly arrived from nowhere and rather surprised me". Audiences have continued to be startled by the wit, perception and accessibility of one of Britain's leading playwrights ever since.

Joyce Eidmans

Delia

Joyce has been involved in all aspects of theatre since an early age. Among her many performances for



Wimborne Drama Club are Miss Marple in *A Murder is Announced* and Madame Arcati in *Bliethe Spirit*. She has also appeared in *There Goes the Bride* and *Quiet Weekend* and

Bedroom

by Alan

Farce

Ayckbourn

Cast

Ernest	Barry Baynton
Delia	Joyce Eidmans
Nick	Peter Timperley
Jan	Jan Stevenson
Malcolm	Richard Neal
Kate	Shirley Ilott
Trevor	Tony Feltham
Susannah	Caroline Harrison

Directed by Enid Davies

The action of the play takes place in three bedrooms

Act I Saturday evening 7pm

Act II A few moments later

Time: the present

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts I and II

Stage Manager **Jenny Tempier**

Scenery Master **Joe Brooks**

Set Construction **Dave Gordon**
Brian Curry & Philip Evans

Decor **Carolyn Woodward**

Assistant Stage Manager **Pam Feltham**

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