

Wimborne amateurs keep 'em 'rocking'

A programme of one-act plays, presented at Church House, Wimborne, on three nights last week, gave members of Wimborne Drama Club an opportunity for a lively romp, with plenty of laughs for the audiences.

Thelma Dryden produced A. A. Milne's 'Man in the Bowler Hat' and the players entered into the spirit of this vintage burlesque, with Paddy Brooman drawing his customary quota of laughs as the 'bad man.' Sam Fawcett and Daphne Young were an admirable John and Mary, and Russ Guillaume, Dorothy Penny and Tim Eling kept the pace moving as hero, heroine and chief villain. Arthur Brooks was the title character.

Comedy thriller

Alfred Shaughnessy's 'Tea Cosy,' was a comedy thriller with a macabre ending. Kathryn Purchas and Stella Tory were convincing as Hilda Wyndham and Sybil Blythe Waters—proprietarys of the 'Tea Cosy' cafe. Sam Fawcett and Patricia Wood were effectively 'deceptive' as the murderer, Mr. Salusbury, and his partner-in-crime, Doris Potter, and good support was given by Russ Guillaume and Rita Stuckey as the eloping couple, Max and Susan, Tim Eling as Col. Wedderburn, Paddy Brooman as Det. Sgt. Cope, and Margaret Williams as the woman in black. Arthur Brooks made a workman-like job of this, his first production, and Pamela Wood prompted and took charge of properties.

Kitchen comedy

'Holiday Eve,' a boisterous kitchen comedy by Falkland Cary and Philip King, kept the audience 'rocking.' Arthur and Muriel Brooks, Patricia Wood and Peter Constandinos were well cast as the Fisher family—Dad, Mother, Vera and Billy—and made the most of lines and situations. Gill Lucas, a newcomer to the club, made an effective debut as Billy's girl friend, Minnie Thompson. Sue Hammett prompted and supplied the off-stage voice of U'rich, and Esme Henbest took charge of a bewildering array of 'props' and assisted Tony Allison with the production.

The setting for the first play was designed and painted by the producer, and the other two settings were constructed by Muriel Brooks, Thelma Dryden and Michael Webb, the latter also assisting Dennis Curran with stage management and lighting. Douglas Treharne was responsible for make-up, Rita Stuckey undertook business management, and Edmund Henbest (the club's chairman) was house manager.