



Prompter had to take lead role

After an absence of some years it was nice to receive an invitation to return and review a production by the Wimborne Drama Club and to find that little has changed in the intervening period.

One change is that Lord Olivier, yes, the great actor himself, is now a patron of the club, being a friend of one of the present members.

The choice of production this year was Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit", an easy-going farce which is popular with amateur groups because of its amusing plot and witty dialogue.

Wimborne tackled it pretty well, although there were rather too many prompts on the night I went, which spoiled the continuity.

As is often the case with amateur productions, there were crises, and yet the cast came through them very well indeed.

Wendy Bruin, who should have been playing the part of Mrs. Bradman, had to pull out at the last minute, and so it was up to Angela Johnson to

fill the breach from her previous position as prompter. All things considered she did very well.

The part of Ruth was taken by Jan Stevenson in what was her first big role, and a recent recruit to acting she, too, gave a good account of herself.

Because of various commitments the club were unable to cast both the male parts and therefore had to "borrow" John Pemble from Broadstone Players for the role of Charles.

He appeared to have considerable theatrical experience, which was thankfully followed, a lead to the other players which was thankfully followed.

David Green, a stalwart of the club, took the other male role as Dr. Bradman and gave one of his best performances.

A new recruit to Wimborne in the person of Joyce Eidmans, who was making her debut with the club, made a likeable impression.

Mavis Hazelden took the part of the maid Edith and provided all the humour that she was supposed to and, to her credit, probably a little

An exasperated Charles (John Pemble) tries to convince his wife, Ruth (Jan Stevenson—left) that the ghost of his dead first wife Elvira (Jane Sherwill) is occupying one of their chairs. Our picture was taken at the production of "Blithe Spirit" by Noel Coward staged at The Allendale Community Centre Wimborne last week by Wimborne Drama Club.

more: a nice cameo role.

Last but by no means least was Jane Sherwell as the blithe spirit herself, Elvira. She was very good indeed.

The director was Raymonde Grenville. Because the play was a success, she obviously deserves the credit, although it must annoy people like herself that amateur dramatics do not have the following they did.

The stage manager was Joe Brooks, assisted by Gordon Eidmans. Muriel Brooks did the prompting. Nick Hollingsworth was in charge of sound. Roger Grenville looked after the lighting, with properties in the hands of Carolyn Woodward and Spencer Maden-Mayers. Daphne Young was in charge front-of-house, and publicity was looked after by David Sherwill and Wendy Bruin.