

JUSTICE DONE IN AGATHA CHRISTIE PLAY

WIMBORNE Drama Club's winter production certainly did justice to one of Dame Agatha Christie's weaker plays last week.

The group, now in its 46th year staged "Spiders Web," a "whodunnit" at Church House, Wimborne.

The action of the play took part in the drawing room of Coppelstone Court, the Kent home of the Hailsham-Brown family.

Mr Hailsham-Brown (Andrew Drummond) a Foreign Office Official has recently been divorced by his drug addicted wife.

He marries Clarissa (Iris Platt), who is an artful woman with a vivid imagination.

The intrigue of the play begins when the new husband of the former Mrs Hailsham-Brown, Oliver Costello (John Anthony) arrives at the house and threatens to take back the child of his wife's previous marriage.

The child, Pippa, has previously suffered a nervous breakdown owing to her natural mother's abnormal behaviour and when the body of Costello is later found in the drawing room, beside a secret door, suspicion falls upon the frightened child.

Clarissa persuades three eminent friends, Sir Rowland Delahaye (Arthur Brooks), Mr Hugo Birch JP (Tim Eling) and Jeremy Warrender (Mike Waring) to conceal the facts of the death but her plans are arrested when an unknown informer brings the police charging to the scene.

Before the murderer is apprehended, while attempting to repeat his crime many other suspicious acts are performed. Revealed are a previous murder of an antique dealer involved in narcotics and the presence of a valuable stamp in the possession of Pippa.

The butler, Elgin, was played by Edmund Henbest and the two indomitable policemen, Inspector Lord and Constable Jones, were played by Mr Tony Pawley and Mr Mark Syrett respectively.

The production, not one of the Club's best, was

brightened by good performances by Mr Brooks and his wife Muriel, who took the part of "stiff-upper-lip" lady gardener.

Newcomer Jan Johnson gave a convincing performance as the neurotic daughter, Pippa.

Although Church House is not the most suitable place to stage a play, the group made good use of the space provided and producer, Elizabeth Knight, is to be congratulated.

With practice and more relaxed acting, Wimborne Drama Club will, undoubtedly stage a more successful production in the future.

The stage manager was Mr Andrew Drummond, properties were arranged by Thelma Dryden, prompting was by Jean Lewis and the front of the house was arranged by Janine Brockes. Publicity officer was Mr Rod Knight, husband of the producer.

B.W.P.

THRILLER AT THE TIVOLI

"Caravan to Vaccares," the latest Alistair Maclean thriller to be filmed, opens at the Tivoli, Wimborne, on Sunday for seven days.

Unfortunately this is not one of the best film adaptations of a Maclean story it does have its exciting moments.

Basically the story around Stefan (Michael Bryant), an Hungarian scientist who wants to give special discovery to the United Nations he has to travel across Europe and thence by air to the United States.

The story is arranged by Croytor and all place and action.

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