

THE WIMBORNE & DISTRICT (G. & S.) OPERA COMPANY

THE DRAMATIC SECTION

presents

A. A. Milne's Famous Comedy

THE DOVER ROAD

in the

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL,
WIMBORNE**

on

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday,
April 20th, 21st and 22nd, 1949**

and in the

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL, BROADSTONE
On FRIDAY, MAY 6th**

This is the second public production of the Dramatic Section of the Opera Company, the first being "This Happy Brood" in September last. Previous productions in Wimborne of the former Dramatic Society, with which some members of the present cast and stage staff were connected include Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure, Outward Bound, Pygmalion, Lilies of the Field, 9-45, Berkeley Square.

The People of the Play consist of two groups, which the author describes as THE HOUSE (Dominic, The Staff, Mr. Latimer) and THE GUESTS (Leonard, Anne, Eustasia, Nicholas), who, in order of appearance are:

DOMINIC	...	...	...	...	PADDY BROOMAN
THE STAFF	...	...	...	SONIA WHEELER, MARGARET BUNDY, H. J. MIDMORE, JOHN POWELL-JONES	
MR. LATIMER	...	...	...	...	L. H. MOTTRAM
LEONARD	...	...	...	...	LEONARD TAYLOR
ANNE	...	...	...	...	PATRICIA CORNICK
EUSTASIA	...	...	...	...	MEGAN JONES
NICHOLAS	...	...	...	...	RONALD SMALL

SCENE:

The Reception Room in Mr. Latimer's House on the Road between London and Dover.

ACT ONE: An Autumn Evening.

ACT TWO: The Next Morning.

ACT THREE: Three Days later, and Evening again.

The Set built by W. Plumridge, designed and painted by H. M. Coles.
Furniture, etc., kindly lent by Quarter Jack Antiques, Miss Barnes, Mrs. Wells,
Miss Hargreaves and others.

Lighting by R. Wilkinson, Wimborne.

Music: Reproduction by Breach Radio, Wimborne.

Make-up: Kay Burdett and David Cobb, Colehill.

Publicity Manager: Kay Burdett.

Stage Manager: H. M. Coles.

The Play produced under the direction of L. H. Mottram and Greta Finch.

Dramatic Sections:

Chairman: L. H. Mottram. Secretary: Megan Jones.

Committee: K. Purchas, Ronald Small, J. Wesley Evans, Patricia Cornick,
F. Cowden, M. Lankey.

The Play

The first London performance of "THE DOVER ROAD" took place on June 7th, 1922, at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, with an imposing cast, which included Henry Ainley and Allan Ayresworth. It proved one of Mr. Milne's greatest successes.

Perhaps now, in these austere days, there is a little difficulty in trying to get to the heart of a play like "The Dover Road." Mr. Latimer (even if he could be ever imagined as existing at all) would nowadays be taxed nearly out of existence, while it would not be too fanciful to imagine Mr. Dominic running, with his usual efficient charm, one of the holiday camps (or maybe half-a-dozen of them) that dot our coasts. As for the ladies and gentlemen who would seem to spend their time running away with each other, the worlds of Hollywood and Elstree prompt us to accept the fact with a patient shrug—though Annie is now surely doing research at Girton, while Eustasia (bless her heart!) has found a haven in an East End hospital.

Yes, there certainly is a difficulty, for we are asked to accept almost a fantasy world. But the woods of Titania are no less charming because we can never hope to live in them, nor J. M. Barrie's islands no less mysterious because we can never hope to hear their echoes. After all, Mr. Milne does not set out to solve the problem he so delicately and charmingly poses. It is enough for us—and the justification for those of us who are doing the play this evening—to believe that the world he creates is worth the seeing and the atmosphere he wraps it in worth the breathing!



Patron:

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY

President: Dr. ERIC H. MARKBY

Chairman: H. PARRISH, Esq.

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Committee: Mr. D. Lewis, Mr. C. J. Shiner, Mrs. H. Tilley,
Mrs. W. Nickson, Mr. H. Welsh.

with Mr. L. H. Mottram and Miss Megan Jones representing the Dramatic Section.



FOR THEIR NEXT SPRING PRODUCTION THE OPERA COMPANY
PROPOSE TO PRESENT:

"THE GONDOLIERS"

MAKE A NOTE OF AN EARLY AUTUMN PRODUCTION:

"Cox and Box" & "Trial by Jury"

(by Burnand & Sullivan).

(by Gilbert & Sullivan)



THE MIDDLETOWN THEATRE, MILL LANE, WIMBORNE, DORSET.