

STILL ALIVE AND MERRY AND A BOON TO ACTORS

AS LONG as the theatre and comedy hold a place in this distracted globe, Noel Coward's *Blythe Spirit* will surely never be allowed to rest. The play has been alive and merry for quite a long time now, a real godsend to amateur dramatics and, incidentally one on which quite a few professional players have cut their teeth.

Until now Wimborne Drama Club has not staged it, but the omission was made good this week with their production at the Allendale Centre. Tonight is the last performance.

BATTY MEDIUM

Joyce Eidmans, making her first appearance with this

group, was beautifully Madam Arcati, the medium responsible much of the shenanigans. Joyce, however, is no newcomer to the stage, every move and demonstrated convincingly in this performance.

The first-night audience were pretty slow to react to the many Cowardianisms, though they began to get a little more into the hang of things after which possibly boosted the confidence of the cast there on.

John Pemble, on loan from Broadstone Players, was convincing as Charles, twice-married, twice-behaved, husband driven to his end by the return from the other world of his second wife close on the heels of Mark 1.

SUBDUED

Jane Sherwill in the role glided around very effectively and mischievously while Jan Stevenson, who played the demanding part of the second wife on two planes of existence, gave a balanced if slightly superior performance.

Mavis Hazleden did everything expected of the while Angela Johnson played David Green as Mrs. man and the doctor completed the cast, and together contributed nicely to the bright and breezy production by Raymonde Grenville.

Stage management by Brooks, assisted by Joyce Eidmans, was highly satisfactory.