

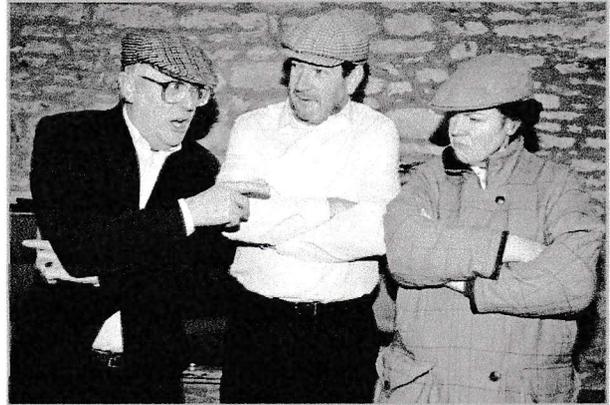
Wychwood Players Review Men of the World

Bear with me. Perhaps only a very old woman would refer to her 1943 autograph book to describe her feelings about the most recent Wychwood Players production. I may be able to explain but first, the book entry (by my mother actually).

*Some people said that it couldn't be done
But they with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't" but they were
the ones
Who wouldn't say so 'til they tried.
So they started right in with a bit of a grin
on their face. If they worried, they hid it.
They tackled the thing that couldn't be
done
And, what do you know? They did it!*

Rising to the Challenge

The Men of the World by John Godber was a challenge which director Emily Lewis accepted with pleasure. Little did she know the pitfalls in store! The March production date had to be aborted after interrupted rehearsals due to Eileen Jessey's terminal illness and death. It was only after her funeral on 16th March that the cast could reconvene and polish their performances. And they were polished, indeed. A trio of Wychwood Players, Joanna McKerlie, Mark Jessey and Dudley Thompson, presented a play with a cast of eighteen. The three 'men of the world' were northern coach drivers; the other fifteen characters were passengers



on a conducted sightseeing tour that the drivers remembered as they reminisced.

Winning the Day

The three cast members took on the roles of passengers by donning a hat, headscarf, handbag or a flat-cap and, each time, a distinctly new personality. The audience was delighted! We watched the bitter-sweet efforts of ageing, working class folk 'seeking excitement too late and on too little money' as the play blurb explained.

Our Players never rest on their laurels. They are always looking for new plays that will stretch them and give their audiences new reasons to call them blessed. And to the nay-sayers, the answer is always the same. 'Maybe it can't be done but watch us give it a try!' They certainly won the day this time.

How Eileen would have loved it and how I loved it twice as much on her behalf.

Trudy Yates

Dog's Picnic for Cancer Detection Sunday 29th August 2-4 pm at Breach Wood, Hailey.

In aid of Cancer and Bio-detection Dogs charity.

Dogs' Picnic and party games. Picnic food for people and dogs in exchange for a donation to our charity. Bring your own drinks. Small entry fee for the party games.

Please phone: 01993 831909 so we know how many to cater for.