

# STAGE II

Volume 2 Issue 1

spring 2001



## 'LOVE BEGINS AT FIFTY'.....

This modern farce by Raymond Hopkins is having it's Northern Premier at Downham Village Hall from **Wednesday, 28th March to Saturday 31st March, 2001**, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

With a large cast of nine it is bound to create humour and perhaps a few poignant moments as the story of Clive's pending 50th Birthday unfolds. For a last fling of youthfulness he chooses three potential partners from a 'Lonely Hearts' column in the local newspaper but, unbeknown to Clive, his wife has entered a 'perfect married couples' competition with the same paper, and complications abound.

The married couple, Anita and Clive Debanks are played by **Lesley Knight** and **Gerry Purchase**. Jack and Claire, friends of the couple, are played by **Eddie Bootle** and **Barbara Price**, whilst **Teresa Alty** plays their daughter Tracy. The Lonely Hearters, Annabel, Mavis and Emily are portrayed by **Fran Osborne**, **Emma White** and **Glen Purchase**, with **Terry Till** completing the cast as a cockney photographer.

The play is directed by **Dorothy Cushing**. Set design is by David King and stage management by Dave Scott. John Hatch is on sound with Roger Sumner and Nicky Duddle in charge of lights. Elizabeth Wrigley is doing continuity, Props Pat Hargreaves, Liz Calvert, Deborah Tudisco. Front of house are Mel Scolah and Gerry Hood.

## MORE ABOUT

playwright

**RAYMOND HOPKINS**

He was born in 1943 in Oxfordshire and grew up in the fifties and swinging sixties. He formed a creative partnership with a good friend Nigel James, who played the original Clive Debanks.

After many rejections a play was performed by a local company and Ray went on to write five more plays, all of which have been directed by his wife.

His plays are all comedies because he believes we can all do with more laughter in our lives.

"Love Begins At Fifty" ran for a three month summer season at Torquay and is now in production at Worcester

**LIVEN UP THE CHILLY MARCH NIGHTS.....**

**TREAT YOURSELF TO.....**

**"LOVE BEGINS AT FIFTY"**



**A VERY MODERN COMEDY.**

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**DIARY DATES:-**

7-10th November, 2001  
Autumn Play directed by Fran Osborne

Please let Fran know if you'd like to be involved.

The author of Love Begins At Fifty donates his share of the proceeds of the play directly to  
**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS RESEARCH.**

Would it be appropriate to give part of the profit from the raffle to our local MS Group?

Just a thought . . . .



**TIMES PAST . . . . .**

**BLITHE SPIRIT**

Congratulations to David, cast and crew on a successful production.

Blithe Spirit has had a rocky run with our Society - a licence refused a few years ago after purchasing scripts and casting parts - this time actresses withdrawing, so much set in so little space, sound and lighting challenges, even paint refusing to dry, BUT the final result was an interesting evening of theatre which sent the audience home well satisfied. Well done.

into **VERSE** -

"The time has come" Mr. Condomine said  
"To call in Madame Arcati.  
We'll also invite the Bradman's,  
And ask Edith to prepare a party."

No one invited Elvira.....  
But she 'materialized' to plague her host,  
And as a result of her meddlings  
Second wife, Ruth, ended up as a ghost.

\* \* \* \* \*

**ANNUAL DINNER - 20th January**

Once again the Moorcock Inn was the venue chosen for our Annual get-together.

It was good to see all our guests, and we hope they enjoyed a relaxing evening with good food and friendship.

Our 'mug shots' are to appear in the Ribble Valley's own monthly magazine. - can you imagine - a whole page of Stage Two stars..... whatever next?

Thanks to Pat and Janet for organising the evening.

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**WELCOME**

We would like to say 'hello' to Elizabeth Wrigley who has become a regular member of our team. She has agreed to take on the responsibility of prompting for 'Love Begins At Fifty'. Welcome aboard Elizabeth. Maybe one day you may be persuaded to join us on the stage.

Another welcome this issue goes to Dan Bradbury who was somewhat 'thrown' into helping with our last production. We look forward to your continued support.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Tim Milne-Redhead and to Yvonne, on the birth of their son Angus Michael last November.

Tim - how soon may we put his name on our enrolment list?

**CAST MEMBERS**

**Please note:-**

**PHOTOCALL at 1pm  
on SUNDAY, 11th  
MARCH.....**

**PLEASE BE THERE.**