



Play is full of laughs

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THE sound of laughter echoed round Waddington last week when the village Drama Group presented the comedy "Move over, Mrs Markham".

In fact, there was so much laughter that at times it was impossible to hear the players speaking, though their diction was not at fault.

The whole play, written by Ray Cooney and John Chapman, depended on timing and the actors and actresses delivered the many quips with perfection.

The hilarious farce centred round the exaggerated goings-on in an elegant London penthouse.

There was little need for a prompt and even

young Elizabeth Keighley — who learnt her role within days when Debbie Spencer caught chicken pox — managed admirably and played the saucy au pair girl extremely well.

Pat Hargreaves, playing Joanna Markham, was very convincing as was her husband, Philip, played by Anthony Ellera. He took the part of the slightly "square" husband with great skill.

Zany interior designer Alistair Spenlow was excellently portrayed by Bob Cleeve, who had the audience in stitches with his words and actions.

April Bell as Linda Lodge and Mel Scolah as her husband Henry, who had an eye for the girls,

were extremely funny, too.

Convincing performances were also given by Barbara Price, as the prudish writer of children's books Olive Harriet Smythe; Carmel Donald (Miss Wilkinson) and Les Nevett (Walter Pangbourne).

Producer Greta Wilkinson was assisted by the behind-the-scenes team of Barrie Wood (stage manager, design and decor), Glenys Wood (assistant stage manager), Janet Hulme and Caroline Whitehead (properties), Marian Davies (prompt), Bob Fisher (front of house), Margaret Johnson and Audrey Cooke (tickets), Edna Irwin, Kathy Bird, Wynne Fisher and Marjorie Whittern (refreshments).

Pictured at rehearsal are, from the left: Anthony, Elizabeth, Mel, Carmel, April, Les and Pat; front — Barbara and Bob.

SUSAN BEGGS