

## STAR PRODUCTION AT WADDINGTON

On April 1st, I went to Waddington to see the local dram group in Terence Rattigan's 'Separate Tables'. I was no fool.

My theatre diary told me that it was just two years and a day since I travelled out of town to watch a company of considerable reputation in the same two plays.

It says much for the vitality of Rattigan's writing; for the knowledge and flair underlying Barbara Scattergood's production, for the talent and conscientious rehearsing of the wee-disciplined company and the support of a dedicated backstage staff, that, even after this comparatively brief lapse of time, I enjoyed my second viewing just as much as the first.

The varied collection of characters - folks not unlike you and I, some of them - were all convincingly played, three or four outstandingly so; and the set and atmosphere were satisfying in every respect.

It struck me that if Egan Ronay had been a theatre critic instead of a gourmet, he would have awarded the group four, perhaps five stars for this production. The fare provided at their separate tables was very much to the taste of a replete and enthusiastic audience, every member of which, it seems, was a connoisseur.

In the cast were: Kathy Bird (Mabel), Pat Hargreaves (Lady Matheson), Marjorie Whittern (Mrs Railton-Bell), Bernice Barlow (Miss Meachan), Helen Potter (Doreen), Graham Mitchell (Mr Fowler), Barbara Price (Mrs Shankland), April Bell (Miss Cooper), David Clews (Mr Malcolm), Brian Keating (Charles Stratton), Caroline Whitehead (Jean Tanner), Bill Taylor (Major Pollock), Glenys Wood (Miss Railton-Bell), Janet Hulme and Roy Oldroyd (casuals).

Backstage: Barrie Wood (stage manager) Roy Oldroyd (ASM), Chris Wood (lighting), Janet Hulme and Elizabeth Heywood (properties), Audrey Cooke (costume), John Whittaker (make-up), Christine Thompson (continuity), (Bob Fisher (house manager), Roy Oldroyd (tickets), Wynne Fisher and Edna Irwin (refreshments)

J.F.