

BLECHINGLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

presents

QUIET WEDDING

A Comedy by Esther McCracken Produced by Stanley Hurrell

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

November 8th, 9th, 10th
The Village Hall

at 8 p.m.

TICKETS: 40p, 30p, 20p (numbered & reserved)

from Blechingley Post Office or Society Members
(GODSTONE 3201)

Cast: Betty Bristow, Judy Brooks, John Buck, Jenny Cunliffe, Sheila Illesley, John Illesley, Paddy Martin, Daphne Neville, Virginia Neville, John Parkinson, Wendy Preston, Ian Shearing, Mary Wilson, Michael Wilson.

Heras, Printer, Reigate



Love story that survives the traditional wedding 'blues'

THE PATH of true love never did run smooth, wrote the poet, and this is indeed apparent in the play 'Quiet Wedding' presented for three nights last week by Blechingley Amateur Dramatic Society.

Written by Esther McCracken, the comedy had a highly successful West End run and was later made into a film. It is set in the peaceful country home of the Royd family at Thropleton, and tells of the hectic preparations for what is planned to be a 'quiet wedding' for their younger daughter, Janet.

One has every sympathy for the future bride, played so likably by Jennifer Cunliffe, as her marriage had, without doubt, got lost in the wedding. One has sympathy, too, for the bride's mother, Mildred Royd, admirably portrayed by Paddy Martin, for there was so much to do and who but she could attend to her daughter?

On the eve of the wedding all was bustle and bustle—wedding presents arriving (mostly hideous cut-glass vases), a stream of telephone calls, last-minute alterations to the bride's and bridesmaid's dresses, and a hundred and one other things.

And, of course, there was the family. The elder son, John (John Parkinson), suddenly arrives home with a newly-found girlfriend, Flower, played by glamorous Sheila Illesley (John Chesley and Janet approve of wedding attendees: the newly-wed daughter, Marcia, Judy Brooks) adds to the confusion by forming an unexpectedly having deserted her husband, while Dennis, the younger son, a well-dressed, personable young man (well acted by John Illesley) showed far more interest in his own art creations than in his sister's wedding.

Added to this, Aunt Florence, a fine piece of character acting by Betty Bristow, embarrassed the bride-to-be by continually referring to THE wedding night.

Exasperated beyond words by the goings-on, and with nerves at breaking point, Janet and her fiance, Dennis (John Buck), slip out of the house and spend the night in the peace and quiet of their future flat.

So pre-occupied is everyone at home that they are not mind until they turn up the following morning. All ends well, and the final curtain sees Janet, by now a radiant bride, leaving for the church for her father's arm to the strains of the 'Wedding March'.

Overall the play was very successful although at times on Thursday, slightly marred by first-night nerves. But with a cast of 14, it was an excellent opportunity for members of the company to show their talent, and they rose to the occasion.

Particular praise must go to Paddy Martin, who as Mildred Royd, held the stage throughout and kept the strand running smoothly. She was well supported by her stage husband, Michael Wilson, who together with Daphne Neville—playing the role of Aunt Mary, an old friend of the family—were a steady influence amongst the confusion in the household.

The love scene between Janet and Dallas was charmingly played. Mary Wilson gave a most amusing performance as the Fenchel dressmaker and the central member of the cast, Miss Cecily Virginia, bringing making her stage debut, was outstanding in her role as bridesmaid, acting with complete lack of self-consciousness.

The producer, Stanley Hurrell, must be congratulated for his choice of play and for leading the audience with such an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

DESMOND TIGHE

BLECHINGLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY presents QUIET WEDDING by Esther McCracken The Village Hall, Blechingley on Saturday, 10th November 1973 8 p.m. (promptly)

Seat No. 11 Row B Price 40p

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November 1973 Programme 3p

A DONATION FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE PLAY WILL BE MADE TO THE ELLEN TERRY HOME FOR CHILDREN

'QUIET WEDDING' BY ESTHER MCCRACKEN

Characters in order of appearance

MIRANDA BUTE	VIRGINIA NEVILLE
FLORENCE BUTE	BETTY BRISTOW
MADAME MIRELLE	MARY WILSON
BELLA	WENDY PRESTON
MILDRED ROYD	PADDY MARTIN
MARY JARROW	DAPHNE NEVILLE
JANET ROYD	JENNIFER CUNLIFFE
ARTHUR ROYD	MICHAEL WILSON
DALLAS CHAYTOR	JOHN BUCK
DENYS ROYD	JOHN ILLSLEY
JOHN ROYD	JOHN PARKINSON
FLOWER LISLE	SHEILA ILLSLEY
MARCIA BRENT	JUDY BROOKS
JIM BRENT	IAN SHEARING

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I
The morning-room of the Royds' home in Thropleton, at about 5.30 p.m. on the day before the wedding

ACT II
Scene 1: The same as Act I, some hours later
Scene 2: The sitting-room of a small flat in Chadstone, about one hour later

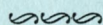
ACT III
Same as Act I. The next morning, about 10.15 on the day of the wedding



Blechingley Amateur Dramatic Society

FOUNDED 1963

Affiliated to the British Drama League



President :

MRS. GRAEME HENDRY

Vice-Presidents :

MR. G. COWPERTHWAIT

MR. F. JOHNSON

MRS. PADDY MARTIN

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Hon. Secretary :

MRS. DELIA HURRELL

Chesterton, Godstone Road, Blechingley

Tel. Godstone 3034

Hon. Treasurer :

MRS. PADDY MARTIN

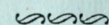
Committee Members :

MRS. BETTY BRISTOW, MR. JOHN BUCK, MR. STANLEY HURRELL

MR. ROBERT LANDERYOU, MRS. DAPHNE NEVILLE

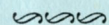
'QUIET WEDDING'

BY ESTHER McCracken



Characters in order of appearance

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FLORENCE BUTE	BETTY BRISTOW
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MARY JARROW	DAPHNE NEVILLE
JANET ROYD	JENNIFER CUNLIFFE
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Wendy Preston, Ian Shearing, Mary Wilson, Michael Wilson.

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Written by Esther McCracken, the comedy, had a highly successful West End run and was later made into a film.

It is set in the peaceful country home of the Rox-Royd family at Thropleton, and tells of the hectic prepara-

tions for what is planned to be a "quiet wedding" for their younger daughter, Janet.

One has every sympathy for the future bride, played delightfully by Jennifer Cunliffe, as her marriage had, without doubt, got lost in the wedding. One has sympathy, too, for the bride's mother, Mildred Royd, admirably portrayed by Paddy Martin, for there was so much to do and who but she could do it which left no time to attend to her daughter!

On the eve of the wedding all was hustle and bustle—wedding presents arriving (mostly hideous cut-glass vases), a stream of telephone calls, last-minute alterations to the

bride's and bridesmaid's dresses and a hundred and one other things.

And, of course, there was the family. The elder son, John (John Parkinson) suddenly arrives home with a newly-found girl-friend, Flower, played by glamorous Sheila Illsley ("I'm 'Chelsea and don't approve of weddings anyhow"); the married daughter, Marcia (Judy Brooks) adds to the confusion by turning up unexpectedly having deserted her husband; while Denys, the younger son, a well-dressed, personable young man (well acted by John Illsley) showed far more interest in his own art creations than in his sister's wedding.

Added to this, Aunt Florence, a fine piece of character acting by Betty Bristow, embarrassed the bride-to-be by continually referring to THE wedding night.

Exasperated beyond words by the goings-on, and with nerves at breaking point, Janet, and her fiance Dallas (John Buck) slip out of the house and spend the night in the peace and quiet of their future flat.

So pre-occupied is everyone at home that they are not missed until they turn up the following morning just in time for the wedding. All ends well and the final curtain sees Janet, by now a radiant bride-to-be, leaving for the church on her father's arm to the strains of the "Wedding March".

Overall, the play was very successful although at times on Thursday slightly marred by first-night nerves. But with a cast of 14, it was an excellent opportunity for members of the company to show their talent, and they rose to the occasion.

Particular praise must go to Paddy Martin, who as Mildred Royd, held the script throughout and kept the script running smoothly. She was well supported by her stage husband, Michael Wilson, who together with Daphne Neville—playing the role of Aunt Mary—an old friend of the family—were a steadying influence amongst the confusion in the household.

The love scene between Janet and Dallas was charmingly played; Marty Wilton gave a most amusing performance as the French dressmaker; and the youngest member of the cast, 14-years-old Virginia Neville, making her stage debut, was outstanding in her role as bridesmaid, acting with complete lack of self-consciousness.

The producer, Stanley Hurrell, must be congratulated for his choice of play and for providing the audience with such an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

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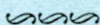
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