

## **INTRODUCING THE WYCHWOOD PLAYERS!**

A new drama group has been formed in The Wychwoods to promote the Dramatic Arts. Although this may sound a lofty intention the interest of this group is to have fun whilst doing it!! The idea to start (or resurrect if local historians are to be believed) came from a successful run of nine pantomimes at Shipton under the auspices of the local W.I. At first it was ladies only and with a small cast, but the last pantomime - The Witches of Wychwood - had a cast of over fifty and included many friends of the W.I. as well.

From an initial open meeting in January it was shown that there was a great interest from people in all aspects of stage craft from acting to scene shifting, from costume making to lighting. The youngsters of the Wychwoods have even started their own group and it is open to 11-16 year olds - they intend to produce an 'alternative pantomime' early in January 1998. The 'seniors' are going to put on an Alan Ayckborne production on the 16/17th May this year with a pantomime in the first week in December. As usual this will be a home spun production with loads of laughs! In between we hope to put on club evenings of topics and meetings with a dramatic theme. The first being a drama workshop on 20th March.

We are anticipating when the new Village Hall is completed we will have a superb home with fully equipped stage, full lighting and maybe tiered seating. We are serious about making a success of Theatre in the Wychwoods and membership is open to anyone who has any interest in the theatre, music, dance, electrics, costume making, scenery making, front of house, producing or just having a good time as a friend.

If you require any more information or would like to join (subscription is £3 per adult £1 for youngsters), please contact me;

Andrew Pitman (Publicity Officer)

Brook Cottage, Chapel Lane, Shipton-under-Wychwood tel: 830930

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## **Milton-under-Wychwood Allotments and Garden Association**

A very successful meeting of the Association was held on Wednesday, January 22nd when John Whitehead spoke to a packed hall on "Colgrave Seeds (behind the scenes)". Two hours of slides showed the increased reclamation of seed and plant production. February 26 included "Making the garden more productive" by Reg Moule, and March 26th was "Royal Gardens - inside story" by Byron Stone.

Further meetings planned for 1997 are:-

April	23	Herbs - Their history, use and culture.	Sarah Coles
June	4	A.G.M. and Wine and Cheese	
August	23	Annual Flower Show	

Non members are welcome to all meetings Price 50p

For Membership contact Jane Lewis Tel. 01993 830532