

THE FARNDALE AVENUE HOUSING ESTATE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD DRAMATIC SOCIETY MURDER MYSTERY

Westhoughton Methodist Amateur Dramatic Society will be presenting the comedy, **The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery** by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th May.

Most amateur dramatic societies live in fear of things going wrong with their productions. The ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society have no such fears, even though their productions are full of missed cues, frequent ad-libs, collapsing scenery, misbehaving props and faulty sound effects. Their sheer enthusiasm, bravado and determination carries them through to the fall, of more likely the collapse, of the final curtain. Westhoughton Methodist ADS put their tongues very firmly in cheek as they portray the Farndale Ladies and their back stage crew putting on their latest masterpiece, "Murder at Checkmate Manor".

Mrs Reece, the chairman of the Farndale Avenue Dramatic Society, leads the way in her own indomitable style, with the assistance of prima-donna Thelma Greenwood and society members Audrey and Felicity. The number of characters in the murder mystery means it is likely that some of the back stage crew will be called upon to play minor murder victims, despite their complete lack of acting ability or experience. In addition, as a Townswomen's Guild, the Farndale Ladies not only present the murder mystery play but will have a film show, a fashion parade and a murder mystery quiz as well.

"Murder at Checkmate Manor" is set in the second floor drawing room of Checkmate Manor, a remote country mansion near the sea. The family members are gathering for the reading of the will of the recently deceased Sir Reginald Bishop. However, nine of them have discovered a startling codicil to the will that makes them all potential murder victims. Murders that will be signalled through the sinister chess board in the drawing room. Will Inspector O'Reilly, one of Scotland Yard's finest detectives, solve the murders, discover some delicious recipes and maybe even find romance? Or will he need to cheat and ask Mrs Reece for the answers to the murder mystery quiz? An entertaining evening of chaos, murder and unexpected happenings is inevitable.

Directed by Bill Greenhalgh

"The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery" is not suitable for young children.

Performance dates are Friday 16th and Saturday 17th May.

Tickets are £4.50 for Adults and £4 for OAPs and Concessions.

Tickets are available from the Church Hall from 10 am to 12 noon on Saturday mornings or can be booked by phoning 01942 811051 or by sending an eMail to: wmads@f2s.com.

Curtain Up is 7.30pm prompt.

"The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD

All performances will be held at the Westhoughton Methodist Church Hall, Wigan Road, Westhoughton BL5 3RQ