

A Tomb With A View

Shinfield Players Theatre

IN her first attempt at stage direction, Lorraine Willis successfully gleaned all the humour in Norman Robbin's comedy-thriller which concerned the weird members of the Tomb household and their wait to find out the contents of their late father's will.

When the will is read, it came as quite a shock when family solicitor Hamilton Penworthy (Brian Nixey) announced there was another unknown benefactor - the popular author Freda Mountjoy (Rachel Lockwood).

Bodies soon littered the stage as Mountjoy, Penworthy and other members of this baleful family were murdered. Who would be next? Would it be Lucien (Nigel Dawes) the apoplectic new head of the household; Marcus (Jon Chishick), convinced he was Julius Caesar, despite frequent ministrations by his attractive nurse (Samantha Rawdon); dotty home-brewing expert Dora (Rosie Dawes); sour-faced Emily (Sian Ellmes) or man-eater Monica (Cara Broadhurst) who made great play at the hapless Perry (Richard Apsey), the actual author of the Mountjoy books?

What a good job nothing deflected the dour housekeeper Agatha (Annette Chishick) from ensuring that meals were regularly served on time.

Another success for the Shinfield Players.

Barrie Theobald