

# Comedy lacks polish but still funny

The Aldershot Players latest comedy, *Play On*, draws its humour from the exploits of a not-entirely-together theatrical company.

The group is trying to stage a murder mystery, written rather badly by a somewhat eccentric playwright (Bev Mattson), who keeps turning up at rehearsals.

While there, she gets in the hair of the long-suffering director (Nicolette Rodger) who's trying to bring a constantly-changing script to life.

Scott Broe and Ilene Elkaim play members of the stage crew with Jamie Cortese, Stephen Fletcher, Janet Kompare-Fritz, Chris Ragonetti, Tom Rice and Susanne Tristani portraying actors who, in turn, play characters who appear in the play within the play!

Is that clear? Well, never mind. Clarity and realism are not real requirements in *Play On*, a farcical fantasy with broad humour that stems from outrageous exaggeration and overdrawn characters.

What's required from director Rosalynde Woodcock and her cast is a slick pace and good comic timing. Within production limitations imposed by the small stage area in the basement of West Plains United Church, that's generally what the play gets.



VIC HYDE

## Show Notes

The result may lack polish but it does offer a lot of belly laughs and guffaws, just what TAP audiences have come to expect and enjoy over the years.

*Play On* continues as dinner theatre tomorrow (Thursday) through Saturday and Oct. 29-30. (637-7629).

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