



Society : Chipperfield Theatre Group
Production : Fairway To Heaven
Date : 10 June 2010
Venue : Chipperfield Village Hall
Report by : Jill Haistead

Report

Another roaring success for Chipperfield Theatre Group.

This was a hilarious evening's entertainment. It was extremely well staged by director LISA CALLCUT assisted by JAMES EAST. The pace was just right, fast enough to keep the momentum of the play at the required level but not so fast that the audience missed the humour. This is always a difficult balance to achieve - well done.

MELANIE WINMARD played the career driven Cheryl Slater Rees. At first she gave the impression that all she cared about were her artifacts and her job but despite the stress of this and of dealing with Lady Fotheringham, she eventually showed her softer side and admitted that she was still in love with her husband, although this was not obvious at the beginning of the play. This was a strong portrayal of the role.

Lady Fotheringham was very well played by JENNIFER HEUSEN. She was very funny and apart from an early prompt and a few muddled lines she did a brilliant characterization of the role.

I was a little disappointed in SIMON PHILLIPS portrayal of Trevor Slater Rees, the rather desperate husband of Cheryl. He had little enthusiasm and considerable difficulty with his dialogue despite assistance from his fellow actors. He really didn't appear to be comfortable in the role which was a pity because it must

have been difficult for DEREK ROOKLEY, who did a great job in the role of Bob Todd, as most of their dialogue was together. Derek was very funny and threw himself into all aspects of the role with great enthusiasm. This was a very good performance.

SARAH JAYNE BOTTRILL was brilliant in the role of Euphemia Crump she was hilarious, she is either a natural comedienne or she did a great deal of research for the role!

WENDY MARCHANT played the fiery MARIA TODD. This was an excellent portrayal of the suspicious wife of Bob, well acted and she maintained the accent well throughout.

TIM PODD was the wheelchair bound Albert Hammond. Not a very exciting role but nevertheless pivotal to the action and played well.

LYN HUG played the rather eccentric Grace Goodall, friend of Lady Fotheringham. This was another excellent, amusing characterization very well played.

The Burglars played by MARTIN BRETT and PHILIP KEAR were quite good but I felt they were a little confused at times and came very close to being caught in the wrong place on a couple of occasions.

The set was well designed and constructed as usual and the props complemented the set. The sound was good and the lighting was sympathetically designed to reflect the mood of the action.

The programme was well designed and informative.

I have to say that I really enjoyed this production and I would like to thank Jill and Adrian Summerfield for their warm welcome. I look forward to your next production in January 2011.