

## **HUNTINGDON DRAMA CLUB : PORT OUT, STARBOARD HOME**

Director : Michael Black

Producer : John Morgan

*Performed at the Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon on 23<sup>rd</sup> July*

This was a charming, light-hearted play by local playwright, Richard James, that has a few serious points at the heart of it and the production by Michael Black brought out all the different elements with sympathy and clarity. The set and presentation was simple but very effective and the cast were well chosen. I particularly liked the supportive activities of the non-speaking passengers who were an amusing and useful link to proceedings. Neal Dench also deserved an award for his brief, silent appearance at the very end of the play. This was a production full of such surprises and I originally thought that Dean Laccohee as barman, Alexandro, was another piece of set dressing so it was particularly rewarding when he entered the action in some style and with a very convincing accent. Phil Green made a sympathetic Entertainments Manager and Katie Hickey was an attractive and convincing TV star. The main action, however, revolved around the more dysfunctional relationships and these were perfectly captured by Scott Hutchison and Kelly Mason as the ill suited Campbells and Warren Laccohee and Jeanette Brown as the rather incompatible mother and son. All four of these performances were strong and totally believable and each made a great contribution to the overall success of the performance. A fast moving, very enjoyable and thought provoking production.

Michael G Williamson

NODA Regional Representative : District 1