

HUNTINGDON DRAMA CLUB : AND THEN THERE WERE NONE

Director : Carol Wadey

Performed at the Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon on 13th November 2009

I've previously acted in this play and seen it on many occasions under all of its various incarnations and yet, despite being thoroughly aware of the eventual outcome, I was surprised by how much I was able to enjoy and appreciate this particular production. This was largely due to a strong cast, a suitably fast pace in the beginning that became more focussed as the suspects reduced, and some nice directorial touches. The enjoyment of the audience was very evident combining whispered speculation with amused anticipation of the next victim! For the plot to work it is necessary for each member of the company to display suspiciously homicidal tendencies at some point in the proceedings while the audience is always uncomfortably aware that the eleventh member of the cast, the very small role of Narracot, might not be all he seems and could still be out there. This production worked well in this respect and everybody was kept in an appropriate state of uncertainty right up until the final dénouement. There were some excellent individual performances. I particularly liked the nicely judged interpretation of Emily Brent by Ann Monk and Kirsty Pickering made such excellent work of the small role of Mrs Rogers that her early demise was a great pity. As successive deaths reduced the number of suspects, the leading roles came into their own and we were able to focus on the strange behaviour of Phil Green as an appropriately nervous Dr Armstrong, the suavely logical and judicial mind of Sir Lawrence, played with some style by Michael Black, and the very varied, effective and totally believable characterisation of Scott Hutchison as the mysterious William Blore. Dean Laccohee and Sarah Ward were nicely cast as the central love interest. Dean gave a consistently strong performance while Sarah managed to combine charm and vulnerability with the occasional strong hint of underlying psychotic possibilities. A splendid choice of production for Friday 13th!

Michael G Williamson

NODA Regional Representative : District 1