

Huntingdon Drama Club: " Abigail's Party " by Mike Leigh
Director: Marie Huggins
Stage Manager: Peter Welsh
Lighting & Sound: Mel Pugsley
Costumes & Properties: Ann Monk
Front of House Manager: Tony Burrin

Performed at the Huntingdon Commemoration Hall on Thursday 21st July 2011

Mike Leigh's legendary " Abigail's Party " was performed by the Huntingdon Drama Club with great style and professionalism. The box set by Peter Welsh, was well constructed and decorated, with plenty of depth and as close to the Mike Leigh original as was practicably possible, although a light shining from the kitchen and possibly a curtain pelmet would have been the finishing touch. The props and costumes by Ann Monk, were very good and of the seventies era, from the book case down to the vinyl LP's. The costumes were also of the period, the men's shirt collars in particular, demonstrated great attention to detail. Lighting and sound by Mel Pugsley were faultless. Tony Burrin and his Front of House team were welcoming and efficient.

When you choose to do a play as well known as this, the director has a decision to make, whether or not to do it differently. In this case Marie Huggins decided to be faithful to the original in almost every way, which thanks to the excellent cast was admirably achieved. Kelly Mason as Beverly, Tyler Mortimer as Laurence, Jane Crittenden as Angela, Adam Greaves as Tony and Sharon Reed as Sue, recreated the original characters perfectly. Excellent timing, facial expressions and physical comedy, were all perfectly put together by Marie.

All in all, an excellent piece of work, hugely enjoyable.

Don McKay
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