

Review for The Bovingdon Players - "Relatively Speaking"

2nd – 4th November 2006 at Bovingdon Memorial Hall

Director: Imogen Roberts

A very nice production of this Alan Ayckbourn play, enhanced by an excellent set, which was very solid, so seemed completely real! I have seen several plays recently where the set was very flimsy, so congratulations to your set designer and builders.

It was also a pleasure to be able to hear everything the actors said, diction and projection was good. It was so nice to sit through a play where I didn't have to guess what a character said, makes it so much more enjoyable.

I felt Will Lovett as 'Greg' started a little nervously, but gained confidence and rounded out into a very nice performance. I did wonder if he was a little embarrassed about appearing in underpants, as once he had clothes on he seemed to blossom!! Patricia Choffel's "Ginny" was just right, she had obviously thought about the part, and showed good understanding of the type of young lady. This couple interacted well.

Liz Lewis as "Sheila" showed real understanding of her part, and was utterly believable. I'm afraid that for me, the weak link was Robert Peacock as "Philip", not so much because of the way he played the character, but I just couldn't believe he would have an affair, he didn't seem racy enough somehow; I would have liked to see a slightly more assertive character, which would have contributed to the light and shade. However, having said that, the production worked well, and the cast got the humour of the piece, which ensured the audience both understood the innuendoes and had a good laugh.

I think I can safely say the audience and I thoroughly enjoyed the production, and for a small venue it was well-staged and directed.

Nova Horley