

**BOVINGDON PLAYERS - "GOOD THINGS"**  
**Director: John Downs**  
**Bovingdon Village Hall - 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

Another enjoyable production from Bovingdon Players. They consistently give us a good evening's entertainment.

The set was extremely good – the inside of a Charity shop – it was well-dressed and exactly right. I loved the way the decorations changed for the different Acts, and also the details of what was on the shelves etc.

I would have liked a little 'outside' noise when the door was opened – as everything else was 'real', it was just lacking that certain something in this area which would have kept the illusion of reality going.

I thought the characters were well-cast and played to their strengths – Imogen Roberts as Susan played the part as a conversation piece, which was good, as she kept the pace going throughout. I really liked what she did with the part and completely sympathised with the character's views, insecurities and emotions.

I always like Terry Casserley, as I think he has a good understanding of the parts he plays, and the slightly camp, but not too OTT. Frazer was a good example. Again I really appreciated his angst in fancying Susan, but the fact that she was not interested in him romantically, only as a friend, was touching.

Robert Peacock is another actor who appreciates his characters, and although I felt at the start that his character David would have been a bit more guilt-ridden about parting with his wife's clothes, I came to like the character – he was reticent about his feelings, but they manifested themselves in the end, with him and Susan making a good couple.

The manager of the shop, Marjorie, was delightfully played by Anna Murkowski – slightly officious and a bit of a snob, but deep down a caring person - all of which came to the fore, and gave a delightful character, so different to Susan.

I could see what Ben Hooker as Tony (Susan's errant ex-husband) was trying to achieve and I think he got a good contrast to the other characters.

I liked Shevon Burrows as Tony's new girlfriend Natalie – very up front, slightly empty-headed and mercenary - totally opposite again to Susan which created an added dimension.

For me – the runaway stand-out person in the play was Sue Tubb as Doris – she gave us a delightful comic character as the Welsh lady who spends a lot of time in the changing room of the Charity shop trying on clothes, but who rarely buys anything. The fact that she bought the red shoes which Susan lusted after, and which Frazer was trying to save for her, and then gave them to Susan – was nicely done.

Nicola Clough and Andrew Jamieson played the smaller parts of police and shop customers, and blended into the general scheme of things very well, with Derrick Sapstead playing a fun Archie.

So all in all a good play, well-performed. The Director, John Downs got the best out of his cast, and gave the audience a very nice evening's entertainment.