

The Break Away

Tiverton Dramatic Society

Date

28 April 2017

Venue

The New Hall ,Tiverton

Type of Production

Comedy

Producer / Director

Jack Williams

Musical Director

Choreographer

Review

Author: **Graham Liverton**

This was my first visit to the Tiverton Society and it was a real pleasure to watch this comedy, well written and with some very witty lines!

The set was super, a rather run down hotel, with the bar and bedrooms cleverly positioned in a sort of mezzanine arrangement. The whole stage was used so well, complete with a staircase from the hotel front door (on auditorium level) to another one leading from the bar area to the bedrooms and with such great detail to match.

The cast performed well in their individual characters. Michael Parker as Ronnie Pinewood did an excellent job as the very stressed hotel owner, worrying about the business, and concerned about his half-sister, who had no qualms about being rude to whoever she met, even if they were paying guests! Vickie Mogford played Heather Hunter so well, she obviously enjoyed this role and delivered some lovely lines with relish.

Jeremy Burrows(Jamie Barker) along with Tamsin Fox(Alison Harris) portrayed a typical "boss and secretary" up to a naughty weekend away, given a clever twist when Jeremy was found to be more interested in another man, rather than his longsuffering secretary! Then the rather dodgy light-fingered couple, Martin Chilcott as the somewhat dim Barry, did a superb job, ably supported by his much brighter wife Dawn played by Louise Chudley who had to put him right on several occasions, however still getting in a dreadful muddle where the dog was involved. They complimented each other well and the unexpected dressing up as nuns in one scene was very funny.

Mrs O'Nion played by Cathy Lamb, made a splendid incognito inspector of the hotel, her super drunk scene was almost a show stopper! She never came out of her character and really made it her own. John Bond did well as Reginald Love-Crack, the undercover policeman, complete with a false French accent, turning effortlessly into cockney when no-one else was around. Well done and very funny.

To sum up, I am very impressed that Tiverton Dramatic Society took on this well written and very funny play by a local talented writer Jack Williams, good to see something new and refreshing and I look forward to the next one. Many congratulations to Will Simmons and his team. An enjoyable evening was really had by all!

This was a fitting tribute to Andrew Lockyer the Society's late President who so tragically died a week before the play and who had given so many years of dedicated commitment to amateur theatre in Tiverton. I'm sure he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.