

Review

Curtain up on Murder

By **Bettine Manktelow**

Produced by Andrea Varnavides

Production: November 2008

RoCo's latest production, *Curtain Up on Murder* by Bettine Manktelow, a thriller with some exquisite touches of comedy, provided an enthralling evening's entertainment for the audience.

This play-within-a-play-within-a-play had so many twists and turns that the audience was taken totally by surprise by the ending. Certainly, I was!

There was not a single weakness in the cast, with the Society stalwarts (Stella Wallace, Linda Nicholson, Brian Marston, Emma Slater, Pete Grocock and Irene McCartney) producing the customary professional performances that we have come to expect and admire. Such is the quality of the acting amongst these performers that the two newcomers to RoCo (Justin Archibald and Irene Sayer) were made to fit seamlessly into the cast with their own first-class performances. Hopefully, their success will encourage them to participate in future productions of the Society.

Expertly produced by Andrea Varnavides, aided by her very able backroom teams of Stage and Theatre Management members, the overall production succeeded in generating a thoroughly good evening's entertainment that was enjoyed by all who had the privilege of being in the audience. Well done, RoCo!

As a postscript, it was encouraging to see better audience support from the members of St Andrew's.

Hopefully, the word has got around that this is a Church activity that is well worth supporting and which is seen to be encouraging members of the local community to venture into St Andrew's, not just to experience an engaging evening's entertainment supplied by the members of RoCo, but also to become involved in the wider aspects of the Church and its activities. Keep it up, RoCo!

Bill Roberston