

# Time of My Life

A play by Alan Ayckbourn  
Performed in May 1996 at the Faringdon Corn Exchange

## FDS tackles Ayckbourn's drama of relationships

THE Time of My Life sounds a straightforward enough title, but neither the time nor the lives were meant to be quite what they seemed in the two-act Alan Ayckbourn play presented by Faringdon Dramatic Society in the Com Exchange.

The play follows the relationships of three couples within a family, but at different stages of their lives and at different time intervals, with the clock going backwards and forwards.

Playing out their uneasy relationship were the parents, played by Peter Webster and Sarah Varnom, the elder son and daughter-in-law, played by Alistair Warner and Helen Barter, and younger son and girlfriend, played by Robert Wentworth and Debbie Lock.

As all were living in a permanent state of high tension, there was plenty of scope for strong performances - the three women seeming to dominate in each situation as the bored, fifty-something mother, the enthusiastic daughter-in-law and the anxious-to-please girlfriend.

Although the action centred on the families, there was room for a little light relief in some cameo comedy performances from the staff of the restaurant, where the couples seem to spend their lives meeting: Debra Keasal, John Williams, Walter Schoonenberg, Irene Schoonenberg and Catherine Hunt. The Society, which received considerable praise for its imaginative sets, as well as the performance itself, was rewarded by good audiences.

S.K.

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