

## **Bouncers, Arena Theatre, Regent Centre, Christchurch**

TO arrive at a theatre to be greeted by two, apologies in advance, foreboding “toughies” in dinner attire, and one could quite understandably wonder what was in store. The answer very quickly became clear – a superbly executed “night out” where the audience was introduced to an array of experienced clubbers, their relationships and expectations.

The small (5 in total) cast members quickly made their mark as through the eyes of the “Bouncers” the audience viewed various members of society, male and female, at various stages of a typical night out, from the preparation, a hilariously choreographed male checklist, through to the taxi ride home, complete with inevitable kebab stop.

Credit must go to the fine cast who delivered first class performances, Les (Scott Sullivan), Judd (Pete Griffiths), Ralph (Simon Meredith) and notably Lucky Eric (Russell Biles) who under the skilful direction of Paul Nelson managed to bring a strong element of Men (and women) Behaving Badly to the stage.

The various snapshots into the lives of differing groups of people, brought together at the night club were ably supported by Adam Donoghue whose kebab seller was particularly entertaining.

The simple set, clever lighting and sound effects all contributed to create the atmosphere in this very funny and also extremely moving play.

**Sarah Vandervelde**