

An Award Winning Evening!



The Cheshire Theatre Guild exists to support amateur theatrical societies in the Cheshire area and I am always happy to attend their annual awards ceremonies. This year it was held on the 17th June 2009 at Frodsham Community Centre. It was a very pleasant occasion, attended by representatives of 22 societies, and there was an air of eager anticipation from those who had entered their plays for adjudication. It is a little like going to the Oscars, but without the jewels and dresses!

The adjudicator was Garth Jones, who was well accomplished to execute the task and did it with great aplomb. He adjudicated no less than 54 plays of huge variety from Macbeth to pantomime. It must have been quite daunting; I take my hat off to him. He was very complimentary about Chester Theatre Club saying we continued to have a high standard of work, and mentioned our flair for comedy in regard to *Hay Fever*, which of course pleased me.

We have received many well-deserved nominations over the years and some wonderful wins, including recently Best Actress and Actor in the same season, thanks to Fiona Wheatcroft and Tony O'Leary and their directors. However the top award for Best Overall Production has always eluded us, until now!

As you know the Cheshire Theatre Guild awarded *Hay Fever* with the top position and I am so proud, particularly as I was runner up a few years ago with *The Odd Couple*. To have both a winner and a runner up is just wonderful. We all put so much work into our plays and it is the team effort that is the winner. Thank you to the cast, crew and set builders of both plays for making this possible.

Our other big award this time was that of Best Actress, which went to Jane Barth for her marvellous 'Judith' in *Hay Fever*. Nominations also went to John Mackay for Best Supporting Actor, the set for Best Presentation and myself for Best Director (I'll try harder next time!)

We owe Cheshire Theatre Guild a debt of gratitude for all their hard work each season. There are so many talented societies involved and I am sure the friendly competition helps to keep all of our standards high.

Delyse Rostrun

In case you would like to know, here is a list of the Cheshire Theatre Guild Award Categories.

Poster Award	Best Poster
Barry Phillips Award	Most Promising Male Youngster
Rebecca Seymour Award	Most Promising Female Youngster
Geoffrey Croxford Cup	Best Supporting Actor
Geoffrey Kellett Cup	Best Supporting Actress
James Tate Award	Best Musical Content
Oh Yes You Are Award	Best Pantomime
Margaret Thomas Salver	Best Costume
Ron Gleave Shield	Best Lighting/Sound
Bramhall Cup	Best Presentation
Vicky Lane Trophy	Best Dramatic Achievement (Use of space etc)
Adjudicators Award	Best Theatrical Adventure
David Lane Cup	Best Actor
Alan Warburton Cup	Best Actress
The Chronicle Cup	Best Director
Ron Ascott Shield	Best Director Runner Up
John F Blackburn Cup	Best Overall Production