

## Cocktail Sticks

Sunday, 17 March 2013

I think Alan Bennett is getting better and better as he gets older and he shows why in his sublime Cocktail Sticks. In fact he explains it.

I first saw a Bennett play in the late 1960s - 40 Years On - loved it; returned many times. Since he has grown into a National Treasure. I think he's now up there with Dickens and Shakespeare, firmly in the Top Ten of great British writers.

Strangely, whilst seducing the audience with wit and humour, he is at his best in mournful reflection; the scenes around the deaths of his father and mother are tremendous.

Great acting, especially from Alex Jennings as Alan.

The good news is - it's transferring to the Duchess Theatre. The National was packed; not one empty seat.