



## Deftly played and directed with light touch

AS I sat to write this review, the telephone rang – I am still old fashioned enough to have a landline – and a subcontinental voice let me know that my internet was being monitored, and that their company can assist me by means of a modest payment for their services. Now if I could supply my bank details ...

It was such a scam that inspired local writer and filmmaker Matt Hawkins to write *Frank Forbes and the Yahoo Boy*, based on a true story and what a delicious story it is.

The enterprising Ishaku, one of the many operators for the unscrupulous Jamilah, overseeing a scamming enterprise in Nigeria, negotiates his own payment with retired engineer Frank Forbes, then applies it to his dream of making a feature film.

Frank, innocent though he is, ultimately follows him to Lagos, and the fun begins. It doesn't end happily: it never could. But it's a great ride.

The cast of four, Sheila Ablakwa (Jemilah), Brendan Cooney (Frank), Kimberley Fox (Tracy, Frank's daughter) and Stephen Tongun (Ishaku) are uniformly good.

Jemilah is feisty and not to be trifled with. Frank is a somewhat pitiable character, but you can't help but love him. And Ishaku is a snake oil salesman with a heart.

Deftly played, and directed by the writer with a light touch, *Frank Forbes and the Yahoo Boy* is a delight.

Peter Burdon – The Advertiser