



Be inspired by amateur theatre

HANHAM PLAYERS – MOTHER GOOSE – HANHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE 4 JANUARY 2017

Director – David Pascoe-Clark Pianist – Natalie Morton Keyboard/Percussion – Owen Cole

This was my first visit to Hanham Players as your NODA Representative, although I have seen several of your productions before. Maybe because this was the first night, or the fact that you had a small audience, the pace was a little slow and in places hesitant and some of the cast seemed a little unsure of their words. I know how difficult it can be when you have a small audience and you are not getting the reactions that you need, so I know that it will have picked up the pace and improved because of the large audiences by the end of the run.

This was a good choice of pantomime, with an excellent choice of songs which were well sung with good accompaniment

SET

Set designer Kevin Lawrence created a typical pantomime set with the first scene, however the scene in the “West Wing” although the secret panel worked well, I did feel that the set itself would have benefitted with maybe portraits on the walls to take away the plainness, otherwise well done to you and your crew.

LIGHTS AND SOUNDS

Kevin was also in charge of lighting and sounds, which you handled with ease, the cast were always well lit and the sound levels were just right we could hear every word. Well done

MUSIC

The music in the hands of Natalie Morton and Owen Cole was always at the right level ensuring that we could hear every word, it was also obvious that you had worked hard with the cast. This was a good varied choice of music which worked well with the show Well Done

COSTUMES

Charlotte Lawrence and Louise Parfrey provided typical pantomime costumes. I liked the skeletons and the headless lady. The Dames many costumes provided by David Pascoe-Clark were colourful and looked right. Costumes can make or break a production so it is essential to get them right. Well done to all of you for a job well done.

CHOREOGRAPHY

The choreography created by Charlotte Lawrence and David Pascoe-Clark was simple but effective and the cast handled it well, the ballet at the pool and the skeleton dance were excellent.

National Operatic and Dramatic Association

15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough PE2 7UH

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THE CAST

MOTHER GOOSE (David Pascoe-Clark)

Playing the dame is something that David obviously talks pride in, your costumes were always right and you looked the typical dame. However, directing and taking a major part can often be difficult. At times, I felt you were forcing the part, and there could have been more rapport with the audience, breaking down the "4th Wall" Maybe because it was first night and a small audience the pace was a little slow, however this was a well thought out performance. Well done.

JACK (Paul Taylor)

Paul has a good clear voice and comedy timing, you worked well with the dame and with Kitty and your costumes gave the right impression. Well done.

JILL (Martha Shaw)

You looked every bit the Principal girl, not the usual type, but feisty with a will of your own, you need to relax a little when on stage especially when singing you have a clear singing voice but when you are singing you tend to clench your fists a sign that you are not fully relaxed, you need to have faith in yourself. There was good interaction with you and Colin and your duet "Me and My girl" was well handled. Well done on a convincing performance

COLIN (Alexandra Jones)

You have good stage presence and gave a strong performance as Colin, you added the typical thigh slapping which shows that you are the hero. Each time you appeared you took command of the stage, this was a confident performance. You looked right and there was good interaction with you and Jill. Well done.

FAIRY QUEEN (Jessica Lawrence)

In your blue sparkling outfit, you made the perfect Fairy Queen, with a little more confidence your performance will improve, you also tended to stay in the corner and I did feel you could have used your half of the stage more, showing a command of a situation, you interacted well with Junior fairy Peaseblossom, and The Demon Queen, the phone business although a good idea, didn't always work that well, as you tended to talk quieter. This was an understated performance, you have to remember you are the goodie and you will always win no matter what

JNR FAIRY PEASEBLOSSOM (Megan Kilday)

You have good stage presence and gave a confident performance, working well with the fairy Queen, and you have a clear speaking voice, well done.

DANNY (Richard Martin) - FANNY (Em Pilling)

You worked well together and brought out the comedy in the roles You both have good strong voices and worked well with each other and the Squire. Well done

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SQUIRE DASTARDLY (Richard Mackerras)

You looked good in your costume, and there was good interaction with your henchmen and the Dame and Demon Queen. However, your performance lacked little pace, there was hesitation at times and a little uncertainty over the words. However, you created a believable character, which I am sure would have improved by the last performance. Well done

PRISCILLA THE GOOSE (Theodore Rodman)

You could have made a little more of the character, interacting with the dame and you moved well, it can't have been easy with the costume because it limits what you can do. Otherwise you made a very good goose. Well done.

DEMON QUEEN (Debbie Durnell)

You made the perfect Demon Queen, your costume gave the right impression and you have good stage presence and a good voice, on your first entrance you had to work hard to encourage the audience to Boo, but despite the small numbers you achieved the desired effect each time you appeared. In the second half, you were a little hesitant, but there was good rapport with the cast, well done on a confident performance.

KITTY The Goose Girl) (Louise Parfrey)

You gave a eye-catching performance, and in the spirit of pantomime played the character for all the comedy, there was good interaction with you and Jack. I loved your costume, a touch of the raggedy Ann? You created a typical pantomime character and always stayed within the character. This was a natural performance. Well done.

GHOST (Erin Kilday) - SKELETON (Matthew Mackerass) -LADY MARY (Ria Hodson - Walker) - DEMON QUEEN'S CHAMPION (Andrew Stowe)

These were only small roles but all essential to the storyline, you all played your parts and helped the story along, you had good costumes, especially Lady Mary, you moved well despite the fact you had to carry your head. there was good interaction with the cast, well done on your performances.

JUNIOR DANCERS AND CHORUS/SENIOR CHORUS AND DANCERS

You all stayed with your characters whether singing or dancing and have clear singing voices. Your dancing was well done and together, the ballet at the Pool was well done.

The main thing is that you all looked as though you were enjoying yourselves and there was so much enthusiasm from all of you and it was obvious that the audience were enjoying themselves as well

Thank you for your kind invitation and warm welcome front of house and I look forward to being invited to your next production

Tony Winstone
NODA Representative – District 13

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