

# IRCHESTER PLAYERS

## PANTOZMIME

REVIEWED ON SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

PARSONS HALL IRCHESTER

### SHOW REPORT

How lovely once again to see an original pantomime from Irchester Players; and great to sit in a packed auditorium amongst a very appreciative audience, who obviously enjoyed the performance as much as I did!

“Pantozmime” was both written and directed by Dan Wainwright ... and what a fantastic job he has done! Although not based on a tradition pantomime, it had everything you would hope to find in a “panto”. Co-director, Luke Campbell has obviously played an important part in the production, so, congratulations to you both on your achievements. There were great song choices and musical director, Richard Awdry has coached the company to a really high standard, giving us some great singing and lovely harmonising; the four-piece band gave excellent backing throughout the evening. Choreography was by Ash Dodson and Luke Campbell, with the junior choreography by Chloe Ellson; collectively they produced some supper routines, well done to you all.

With a principal line-up of more than twenty characters, it would be difficult for me to mention them all individually, however, each and every one played their roles well and they all sustained their characters throughout. Hollie Wells made a lovely Dorothy and had an abundance of confidence. Chris Taylor as her brother Derek had great presence on stage and a super voice, he worked well with Emma Ellson who played Ozma with lots of charm, their duets were beautiful. What a great idea to have Toto as a boy-dog! Joby Blair was excellent in this role and had all the mannerisms of a dog to perfection. The Scarecrow, Marc Whitestone, the Tin Man, Josh Halls and the Lion, Sarah Liverton all gave some great character acting, I especially liked the “funky” Scarecrow! Luke Campbell was very imposing in the role of the Wizard of Oz. Dan Wainwright was amazing in the role of Glinda, Dan is an outstanding

“dame” and in my opinion gave the performance of the evening! Alison Everitt, Julie Haydon and Ceri Lewison who played the other Witches all had characters that complemented each other really well. Well done to Ellie Court who played the Young Witch. Congratulations to all the other principals and a big well done to The Munchkin Rescue Squad, The Winkies/Ozians and the Munchkins. All the company gave 100% throughout the performance and there are a lot of very promising and talented youngsters in Irchester Players!

The scenery/sets were very good indeed, they were colourful and of a very high standard. The costumes were amazing, especially the Tin Man, the Scarecrow and the Lion’s. The props and the make-up were excellent too. The lighting and sound quality was very good throughout the performance.

Congratulations to everyone at Irchester Players, this was a pantomime of which you should all be very proud! I very much look forward to your next pantomime. Thank you for a wonderful evening.

CAROLINE JERVIS

NODA EM DISTRICT 7 REPRESENTATIVE.