

YEOVIL AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

ANYTHING
GOES

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OCTAGON THEATRE - MARCH 27 to APRIL 1, 2023
FOUR-PAGE PHOTO SPECIAL

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It was a pleasure cruising with Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society

THE wonderful Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society produced another superb show at the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil – the last one the group will do before the theatre closes for its exciting refurbishment later this year.

The show – beautifully directed and choreographed by Sheila Driver with super-talented Jessamy Bowditch as musical director – took the audience aboard the luxury ocean liner SS America where nightclub singer and evangelist Reno Sweeney was travelling from New York to England.

Her pal Billy Crocker had stowed away to be near his love, Hope Harcourt, who was engaged to the wealthy Lord Oakleigh, while joining the love triangle were Moonface Martin and his sidekick Erma.

Enlisting the help of tap dancing sailors and other diversions, Reno and Moonface joined forces to help Billy in his quest to win Hope's heart.

What was there not to love about Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society's production of Cole Porter's much-loved musical? It was fabulous.

Jennifer Holland-Brewer once again produced an amazing performance in the lead role of Reno Sweeney and was supported by a great cast with Nick Harris

as Billy Crocker, Louise Cannon as Hope Harcourt, Nick Toop as Lord Oakleigh, Luke Whitchurch as Moonface Martin and Charlie Wood as Erma.

But the entire cast played its part in putting on an amazing run at the Octagon Theatre from March 27 to April 1.

Yeovil Press editor Steve Sowden and photographer Christine Jones went along to a preview of the show at the dress rehearsal on March 26.

"What a fantastic show," said Steve. "Yeovil is very lucky to have such a wealth of talented groups and stage performers and we as a town should feel proud to have them – YAOS keeps producing the goods every time it takes to the stage."

The show included well-known numbers such as Anything Goes, I Get A Kick Out Of You and You're The Top.

Steve added: "The tap dancing routine of Anything Goes at the end of Act One was simply sensational – worth the ticket price on its own. Congratulations to all involved once again on a great show."

Next up for YAOS will be the Stephen Sondheim show Into The Woods – to be performed at the Westlands Yeovil entertainment venue from October 18-21.

The Cast of Anything Goes: Reno Sweeney, Jennifer Holland-Brewer; Billy



Crocker, Nick Harris; Hope Harcourt, Louise Cannon; Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, Nick Toop; Elisha Whitney, Duncan Wright; Evangeline Harcourt, Liz Stallard; Moonface Martin, Luke Whitchurch; Erma, Charlie Wood; Captain, David Hallett; Purser, Zack Welfare; Spit, Bradley Napper; Dippy, Tyler Snowden; Angels – Purity, Chastity, Charity and Virtue played by Stephanie Wolfe, Naomi Lawton, Helena Reid and Leah Driver respectively; Henry T. Dobson, Jack Ayres; Fred the Barman, Harrison Waterhouse; Sailor Quartet – Jack Ayres, Nicolas Riva, Sebastian Watts and Harrison Waterhouse; Reporters, Loki Collins and Matt Parker; Cameraman, Mark Rudd; FB Agents, Michael Francis and David Pileri; Old Lady in Wheelchair, Louise Thomas.

Ensemble: Jack Ayres, Vita Basta, Poppy Blain, Jasmin Boniface, Loki Collins, Michael Francis, Elishia Hooper, Charmayne Hooper, Hannah Long, Sally Matthews, Amelia Meldrum, Matt Parker, David Pileri, Nicolas Riva, Mark Rudd, Jessica Surrey, Louise Thomas, Harrison Waterhouse, Sebastian Watts and Josie Whitmore.

Tap Team: Vita Basta, Poppy Blain,

Jasmin Boniface, Leah Driver, Michael Francis, Elishia Hooper, Charmayne Hooper, Naomi Lawton, Hannah Long, Sally Matthews, Matt Parker, Helena Reid, Harrison Waterhouse, Sebastian Watts, Stephanie Wolfe, Charlie Wood.

PHOTOS in this four-page Anything Goes special were taken by Christine Jones.

