

## **Longwood AOS - Calamity Jane**

Director / Choreographer Jayne Davison  
MD Caroline Robinson

A different approach to the staging of this show was really good with the Deadwood Stagecoach at the opening seen as a sepia photograph in a 'fade-out oval' which was most interesting. Various other little twists occurred during the run which were amusing. Calamity and Bill (Nicci Cooney / Neil Broadbent) were well suited and their many numbers were great. Katie and Danny (Gemma Clarkson / Dominic Moccia) were also a splendid pair with some impressive dancing, while Susan and Francis (Kirsty Haigh / Paul Bennett) had the 'Ah!' factor, gaining everyone's support, while Uncle Henry (Stuart Davison) blustered and worried about Adelaide (Sharon Whitehead) who never did turn up! Good chorus singing and movement and colourful and effective costumes and scenery completed the whole.

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## **Marsden Parish Church AODS - Little Shop of Horrors**

Director / Choreographer Dawn Leigh  
MD Natalie Davies

The title may be a little 'off-putting' but this is really a fun show with a different slant on life. The three main characters were so well played – Seymour (Andrew Lockwood) caring for a weird and demanding plant; Audrey (Hayley Taylor) sporting black eyes and bruises bestowed by her boyfriend Orin (Rob Pogson) and Mushnik (Andrew Sloman) the shop owner – always short of money. The Ronettes brought much humour to the proceedings, with their kind of narration, and they kept us amused and amazed with constant costume changes. The plant operator and voice added to the overall effect, along with the company as the Skidders and the whole evening of surprises was much enjoyed by the audience.

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## **Spot On MT - Oklahoma**

Producer Margaret Warmington  
MD John Byrt  
Choreographer Pamela Strickland

An enthusiastic company with many young people in the cast who were a pleasure to watch, promising well for the future of the Society. Laurey and Curley were a splendid leading pair, played by Holly Comber and Dominic Moccia, and Ado Annie and Will were great fun and obviously revelled in their parts as played by Lisa Kendall and Steve Crowther. They were all very well supported by Aunt Eller (Laraine Taylor), Ali Hakim (Craig Kelly), Jud Fry (Donald Sykes) and the various local characters, who all made a most interesting cast, backed up by good chorus members and dancers. Charming costumes, scenery and musicians completed the picture. A happy presentation of a Silver Bar by Councillor Chris to Fred Shaw completed the evening.

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## **Huddersfield AOS - Boogie Nights**

Director Kevin Moore

MD Gordon Balmforth

Choreographer Adele Taylor

The company had a wonderful time with this sparkling 1970's show – and so did the audience. Firm friends Debs and Trish (Anastasia Morton and Danielle Williams) and their boyfriends Roddy and Terry (Scott Armstrong and Rob Williams) were all disco-goers, along with Spencer and Lorraine (Jethro Pope and Nicola Mara) and Dean (Steve Redfern) who ran the place. Baz (Ed Hoyle) the Bouncer and Jack of all trades was a good front man, while Eamon (Colin Harris) – Roddy's Dad – was an Elvis Presley fan, which didn't go down too well with the younger folks. The dancing was really spectacular and the small band on stage was super. Fantastic costumes and exciting set and lighting were just right for a disco.

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## **Huddersfield LOC - Aladdin**

Producer Chris Brearley

Asst Paul Bennett

MD Emma Binns

Choreographer Pamela Strickland

As usual, it was a great fun panto and everyone had a super time. Lovely sets and costumes, with some great teams of dancers supported by a good chorus. Wicked Abanaza (Dom Moccia) battled hard (but lost, of course) against the lovely Spirit of the Ring (Sophie Beverley) and the comical Genie of the Lamp (Steve Redfern). Lots of comedy from Dame (Chris Brearley), Wishy Washy (Neil Broadbent) and Chinese Policemen (Luke and Tom Widdop). Aladdin and Princess Mandarin (Jayne Davison and Gemma Clarkson) were a lovely leading pair, with So-Shy (Holly Comber) and Emperor (Granville Stead) trying to protect Mandarin and keep things running smoothly. Plus a magical laser display enjoyed by everyone.

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## **Meltham PCh G&S - The Yeomen of the Guard**

Producer Helen Bamforth

MD –John Schofield

A strong cast presented a musical treat with splendid singing from principals and chorus and with a very good orchestra. The set was well designed (with splendid portcullis!) and was used to great effect by quite a large, well dressed company. Phoebe (Becky Gregson-Flynn) and Wilfred ( Gerald Tinson) caused much amusement as she 'borrowed' his keys for Sergeant Meryl (Bruce Merlin) to release Fairfax (Paul Richmond). The general mayhem which followed, with Merryman Jack (Malcolm Parkinson) and his Maid Elsie (Elaine Clelland) in the thick of it, was joyfully concluded when an official pardon came for Fairfax. The only loser was the poor Jester, who lost his Elsie to Fairfax. A lovely, well played show enjoyed by everyone.