**YOUNG HATS**

**DISNEY’S ALICE IN WONDERLAND**

**22ND MARCH 2013**

This really was an evening in Wonderland with the cast of Young Hats putting everything they had into this updated story of Lewis Carroll’s well loved tale – a great tribute to the man himself.

There are so many characters in the story and in this production they were all well cast and Alice and the whole company started the show in very good voice. Alice, Small Alice and Tall Alice were played by Ruby Thomas, Hattie Pemberton and Alivia Dicker, all playing their parts so well.

Lauren Noya gave a lovely performance as the White Rabbit, hurrying here and there and constantly late. The three Cheshire Cats were great (Hannah Carlton, Megan Noya and Sam Fantucchio) with Stuart Carlton and Emily Wood as Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee, behaving just as this strange pair should.

James Tweedy was an excellent Caterpillar and Alex Stevens gave a strong performance as the Queen of Hearts. Jordan Holman-Thatcher was the Queen’s consort as the King of Hearts and Oliver Stevens was an extremely mad Mad Hatter – great stuff.

Jessica Wood was the March Hare – another beautifully mad creature and the rather angry flowers (Rose, Lily, Petunia, Violet and Daisy) were well characterised by Taliah Dunn Maidens, Jessica Wood, Lily Alliston, Stephanie Holman-Thatcher and Lizzie Pemberton.

Edward Stevens was a very believable Dodo Bird with Gemma Manktellow as Mathilda and Tom Fox as the fascinating Doorknob.

The chorus of various other characters from the tale all added to the fun and the singing and dialogue were well handled, although at times the dialogue was lost - this may have been due to the sound system as it is always difficult to have the sound just right for young voices.

Everyone looked wonderful thanks to the wardrobe department, and those responsible for hair and makeup, and the scenery was ideal.

This was a show that really helped to make this late wintry weather a lot better thanks to Director Joanna Stevens, Assistant Director Chris Thompson, Linda Thompson (responsible for the music direction and choreography together with Joanna Stevens) and the whole team.

Well done Young Hats!

 Brenda Gower Regional NODA Representative