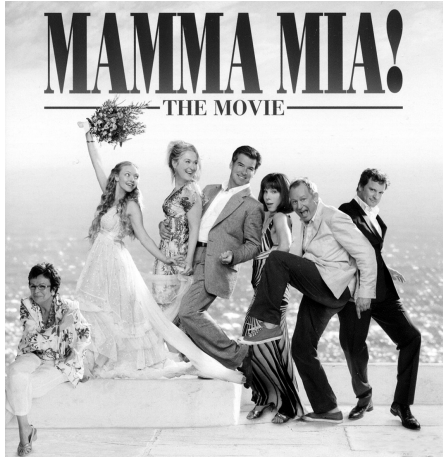


Mamma Mia; What a Night!

Deciding to organise a supper evening and showing of *Mamma Mia* seemed a sure-fire way to raise funds for our local Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Units, as we hoped to get a copy from the main distributors before it was on sale in the shops. This, the most cheerful film



of the year, promised to give us the ‘feel-good’ factor that we have all been missing of late. We could not fail!

You can imagine the depths we plummeted to when we were told that, after all, we could not have the film to show. The master copy of the DVD had been transported across London, but someone forgot to send it by secure courier and, inevitably, it disappeared for a few hours, while ‘pirate’ copies were produced. Tempers soared and we were told that no-one could have a copy for showing until it was on sale in the shops on November 24th.

Depths of Despair

At this point I hit rock bottom, having sold over 100 tickets. Should I try to find an alternative film or should I just refund everyone’s money and cancel the evening? Simon Gidman, who was busily arranging a similar evening in Ascott to raise funds for the Tiddy Hall, is made of sterner stuff. He was on the telephone constantly until the powers that be gave

in and agreed to treat the Wychwoods as a special case. Hooray! The evenings were back on.

Hot Ticket!

My next problem was limiting my ticket sales. As numbers rose to 130, I started referring enquiries to the Ascott team.

I envisaged spending a whole week cooking for the supper, but I need not have worried. Friends made trays of moussaka and bowls of salad; a wonderful supper was served and everyone enjoyed the film.

Fantastic Result!

I spent the weekend counting and recounting the proceeds as I could not believe that we had raised £1,335 to support our local Guiding units and to help them celebrate their Centenary Year in 2009/2010. Even seeing the cash on the table did not convince me at first. I would like to say **THE BIGGEST THANK YOU** to all my friends who helped me, the girls of 1st Burford Guides who laid the tables and the wonderful audience who supported our efforts and raised such an amazing sum. Ascott and Milton had similar success with their showings!

Christine Halliday

PS-does anyone have the DVD as I haven't seen it yet?