

Review

World Premiere of *Stand Tall*



Over recent months we have been following the progress of the anti-bullying musical written by Lee Wyatt-Buchan, with music by Aldie and Sandy Chambers. These three talented musicians are responsible for inspiring so many local youngsters through their work with the Witchwood School of Rock and first presented this musical, under its then title *David V Goliath* at the Corn Exchange in Witney, with a cast of about 40 youngsters and another local talent, Rob Gorton (aka the local postie!). How exciting to hear that the musical, now titled *Stand Tall*, was to be performed by professional actors and musicians at the Landor Theatre in Clapham. We were invited to the press night. Getting to Clapham by public

transport was not easy but it was well worth the time.

The Landor Theatre is a tiny venue above a pub but I imagine it is the kind of theatre which has replaced repertory in the modern world. The cast, now comprising five with a band of four musicians did not disappoint. We recognised the story, main characters and songs from the original production but it was interesting to see how it has been sharpened for the professional stage. Keisha Amponsa-Banson, just back from touring in *Footloose* stole the show as the *Blacksheep* but credit must go also to all the other actors.

Promoting the Musical to Schools

We left the theatre humming the tunes and reflecting on another of life's 'firsts' - the chance to enjoy a World Premiere of a new show.

Lee's aim is still to promote his musical to schools to be performed as part of an anti-bullying campaign. To learn more speak to Lee at the New Beaconsfield Hall on: 01993 832216 or take a look at the website www.standtallmusical.com

Christine Halliday

Local Farmers' Markets

Woodstock

Saturday December 3rd and Saturday January 7th, 8.30 to 13.00 in front of the Town Hall.

Witney

Friday December 9th (special date for Christmas) and January 27th, 8.30 to 13.30. This market is now held at its new venue in Marriotts Walk, close to the Marks and Spencer's store.

Charlbury

Festive fare and delicious local produce can be purchased on **Saturday December 10th**, 2011 at Charlbury farmers' market, 9.00 to 13.00. This market boasts 30 stallholders and takes place quarterly on The Playing Close, OX7 3QP.

Chipping Norton

Saturday December 17th and Saturday January 21st, 8.30 to 13.30