

Faringdon Dramatic Society

Dick Whittington

This was a traditional pantomime with many corny jokes and plays on words which was well delivered by Faringdon. We had good singing from the chorus and the soloists. My only comment would be that when members of the chorus had solos to do, the band overpowered them so they couldn't be heard.

The director used the whole stage and nicely grouped the actors. There was also good use of the hall. One thing I liked about Faringdon is the way the actors and chorus are never out of character whilst in the vision of the audience. The make-up artists had been working hard with King Rat and the Cat's make-up being very good although the Dame could have done with a smaller mouth. We had some very nice special effects although I almost lost the dripping of the water running down the sewer because it wasn't loud enough. The bubbles and the lighting for Dick's dream sequence were very effective. This group is very good at presenting a picture on stage with a minimum of flats and props. The shop, the ship and the Sultan's palace were all well depicted. In the storm scene I would have liked a bit more dramatic lighting.

This group for me always has some fine young actors and this year was no exception, with Ideal Jack, played by Seb Allum, giving an outstanding performance. He was confident and his command of the stage was very good. Josh Ashcroft, Sultan of Morocco, also stood out.

This was a highly entertaining evening and congratulations must go to the whole cast for making it so enjoyable. Well done to the Director, Karen Whiffen