

BWT Review

ANYTHING GOES

Anything Goes in lively style

IT is the 75th anniversary year of the Witham Amateur Operatic Society and last week's show, Anything Goes by Cole Porter, is set almost that long ago.

The orchestra, under Brian Brown, zipped through the overture and set the atmosphere, maintained throughout the production, of the devil may care 1920s.

Set mostly on board a transatlantic liner, the show is a vehicle for humorous one-liners and lively songs delivered in a variety of styles.

Pat McLeod was the star of the show. A sexy evangelist she had the best songs. Making full use of her brassy tones in Blow Gabriel Blow she had set the show off to a fine start with I Get a Kick Out Of You. Sue Rogers as the elegant Hope, the other leading lady, was a delightful contrast with her soft sweetness.

David Holman, the hero, sang well with both the leading ladies; equally at ease singing the original words of You're the Top with Pat McLeod as he was with Sue Rogers in Its De Lovely

Pamela Adams was a fine American grande dame looking for a suitable husband for her daughter Hope. She thought that she had found one in the foppish Lord Evelyn Oakleigh.

Stewart Adkins was foppish until near the end when he let his hair down and combined with Pat McLeod for probably the best number of the evening.

Michael Dunion was public enemy number 13 and Nicholas Clough the ship's captain. There were two excellent cameo roles. Kathryn Adkins full of vitality was a gangster's moll and Geoff Coverdale a shortsighted, drunken tycoon.

A most enjoyable evening.

- James Bright.