

Productions in 2004

Die Fledermaus

- The Bat's Revenge!

'Die Fledermaus', our production for Autumn 2004, enjoyed a tremendously successful run from 12th to 16th October. Bats are, of course, an endangered species but it looks as though Gabriel Eisenstein might be the one in danger, of severe embarrassment that is, in this famous musical comedy from the pen of Johann Strauss. The unfolding tale of how Dr Falke gets his revenge, and of the various intricate sub-plots, is one of the classics of the musical world.

Both the Musical Director and Stage Director were seen hiding in dark corners when things got particularly stressful in the last few months before the show but the arrival of the costumes and the erection of the set soon put everyone into the right mood. Everything was thus set fair for another sumptuous production and so it proved. The orchestra was on top form, the principals' stocks of throat-sweets lasted for the duration and the chorus finally decided which is the left foot and which the right! Appreciative audiences were heard humming the unforgettable tunes as they left the show and the fizz of the champagne bubbles seemed to have infected everyone with good humour. In short, another triumph!

Congratulations must of course go to the production team of Stella Brownsea & John Cushing but also to Stage Manager Terry Dentith and his crew: any set that gets its own applause must be good! Special thanks also to our ever-efficient Front of House and Makeup teams, and finally to the several guest performers who joined us to swell the chorus - let's hope we can encourage them back next year!

