

## BWT Review - Cinderella

### Operatic Society finds a star in Cinderella

TO most people Cinderella is a pantomime and Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote things like Carousel, Oklahoma! or The Sound of Music. But their version of Cinderella was actually one of their most successful musicals. Written originally for television, it broke US viewing records in 1957.

It is little known over here, but it intrigued enough people to bring in the crowds to Witham Public Hall. It is a play where Women get all the best roles and they all shine. Constance Lawton, Rhianna Howard and Hatty Gribben provided the humour as the stepmother and her daughters, while Emma Loring sparkled - and sang beautifully - as the fairy godmother.

Dannii Carr was suitably regal but vulnerable as the Prince, while Tom Whelan and Tracey Hackett brought some gravitas as the King and Queen. But the show is Cinderella's and in Aimee Hart, Witham Amateur Operatic Society have a real find. She displayed charm, confidence and poise, with a strong singing voice, in her first role for the society and captured hearts whenever she was on stage, which was most of the time.

The magical costume change was jaw-dropping and the wildly colourful dancing troupe were expertly handled by director and choreographer Claire Carr.

**Ron Fosker**