

Noda Report

Show	Return To The Forbidden Planet
Date	16 th March 2013
Venue	Cecil Hepworth Playhouse
Director	Lynda Barrett-Mercer
Choreographer	Jenny Jones
Musical Director	Martin Sargeson
Reviewer	John W Barnes

The opening got off to a good start with all the safety procedures enthusiastically performed by the crew and the audience alike, with clear instructions projected onto a screen above the rear of the stage. The set by Phake and Foney of Leatherhead provided a good size spaceship with the various controls and screens flashing their coloured lamps which, with good technical lighting effects, enhanced the whole show. Kevin King (Announcer) somewhat digitised on the screen provided good clear announcements. Alex Heap as Captain Tempest was totally in command of his crew with his fine voice and body movement, and ably supported by Emily Marrison as Bosun Arrus and Helen Whittle as Navigation Officer. Bee Cassidy gave us a carefully structured performance as the Science Officer who turns out to be Doctor Prospero's wife Gloria. Jon Fox was the mad evil scientist, Doctor Prospero, and did justice to the part. Eleanor Inglis was Prospero's delightful daughter Miranda. Elliot Mackenzie as Ariel gave an excellent performance as the Robot, and considering he stepped into the role only a few weeks before curtain up, is to be congratulated on not missing a line and on his robotic movement. Ziggi Szafranski as the love sick Cookie was a delight to watch and again another good voice. The main crew were well supported by the flight crew with both their actions and fine voices. All the songs were sung well with good diction, which together with the well choreographed movements, made it a very enjoyable entertainment.