

Reviews of shows at the North Wales Theatre and Rhyl Pavilion



JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT:

**OPENING NIGHT REVIEW. PAVILION THEATRE, RHYL.
REPORT BY DON HALE.**

THIS show lived up to its top billing and great expectations with a dazzling performance to fully match its title. Amanda Claire as the narrator and Craig Adams in the lead role as Joseph particularly excelled, and ably led a rather inexperienced yet enthusiastic and very promising cast to glory with a biff-bang-wallop interpretation with modern pop and rock

imports, that continually had the crowd on their feet applauding. Despite a few obvious first night nerves, enhanced by a young and eager audience, the strong acting ability, ambitious choreography and memorable music soon rallied generous support, and gave Rhyl a spectacular night to remember. ■



MARTY & JOE TOGETHER AGAIN

REVIEW BY STÉPHANIE DURRANT AT THE NORTH WALES THEATRE.

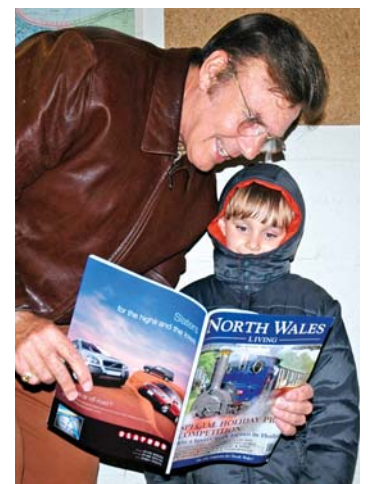
The first song set the standard. The great Orbison Ballad "Blue Bayou" with Joe Brown and Marty Wilde sharing the lyrics. Then came what everybody wanted, Rock and Roll. Messer's Cochran, Holly and Cash were paid homage to with Joe reminding us what a Guitar should sound like. After Marty went off for a rest, Joe Brown and the Bruvvers lifted the standard higher with beautiful instrumentals mixed with the old

hits like Henry VIII and Picture of You. Just before the interval, Marty returned for an acapella rendition of 'The Three Bells,' the harmonies were so pure it's easy to see the 100 years of combined experience were paying dividends. The second half opened with Mr Wilde himself, in great form leading the Wildcats through a set laced with R&R standards and Wilde hits like Bad Boy & Teenager in Love.

He then paid tribute to the men who paved the way for others to follow. Presley, Orbison, Perkins et al. As Marty attacked the first line of "Be my love" Joe's voice finished it, bringing the audience to their knees in laughter. Joe swiftly reminded his Dad that they were there to rock, and rock. Songs from Berry & Ricky Nelson shared the stage with some home-grown R&R from the Cliff/Adam Faith/Frankie Vaughn songbook. All too soon the end had come; the two friends stood centre stage looking 18 again not their 67 and 64 respectively. The crowd took to their feet in appreciation of the two legends on stage.

After the show Marty told me that North Wales was very close to his heart. "During the war I was evacuated to Capel Curig, I spent a lot of time there as a child and I love to get back to the village whenever time allows. I had such a

Below Marty meets young admirer Darren Durrant backstage at midnight after the show



happy time." On the other hand Lincolnshire born Joe's family moved to the capital to run a pub in Plaistow. Joe's wife Vicky was born just over the border in Liverpool, so the area is important to both of them. ■

