

New take on old nursery rhyme

AUDIENCES at the Chideock Players Christmas Pantomime were left mesmerised by the talented cast's take on an old nursery rhyme.

The show, written by Moira Lucas, developed an excellent story from the classic nursery rhyme 'Old Mother Hubbard.'

The show had everything you would hope from a pantomime with its dame, Paul Evans (Old Mother Hubbard), to its villain, Nick Baker (The Great Mesmero).

There was the classic tale of star-crossed lovers played by Aiden Simpson (Tom Hubbard) and Alyssa West (Ashley Laura) and a dramatic

Review by Tom Glover

happy-ever-after twist at the end.

The stars of the show were Old Mother Hubbard's two daughters Dulcie (Natalie Williams) and Cabana (Catherine Batten) and their lovesick admirer Jobsworth (Pete Moores).

All three provided some great comedy moments and led the audience participation.

There were also great performances from the supporting cast with Chris Lambert always drawing a laugh in his brief appearances as Davido Loco.

The future of the group looks promising as well, with a talented group of children in the chorus.

Ryan Williams stood out playing the young Tom Hubbard.

The show was a memorial to the group's popular former member Mary Anne Rimer who passed away in September.

After the show the group presented its annual 'Maggie' awards - in memory of another former member lost to cancer, Maggie Imber.

The joint winners this year were Natalie Williams and Catherine Batten for their portrayal of Old Mother Hubbard's daughters.



■ **MAGIC MAN:** The Great Mesmero with his family and debt collector Jobsworth