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It can be no secret that I have been with CAODS for many years, sixty two in fact, and for sixty of these I appeared in, or had very close contact with, every production.

CAODS has always had a great reputation for quality shows and I, for one, am proud to have been part of that success. However, of all the brilliant shows we have staged I honestly feel that "*Beauty and the Beast*" comes out top. How fortunate that *Disney* should release this show in time for our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations and how fortunate that we should be able to assemble such a Dream Cast for our production.

Over the years we have staged some wonderful productions but however great the production was, one could always find some small weakness - not so this year, for me it was perfect., from a magnificent "Beast" and a gorgeous "Belle" to an utterly cute "Chip" x 2, from a giant "Gaston" to a diminutive "Lefou", all the cast were brilliant as were the costumes the scenery the orchestra etc., etc., etc.  
Incidentally one former member likened Jimmy Hooper to a younger ME !!! Flattered or what ! - but I was never that good.

I was privileged to see three performances from a seat amongst some of the happiest audiences I can remember - and standing ovations every time.

So, congratulations everyone and on to Hello Dolly.

Love

Peter