Well hello Dolly

I WAS greatly entertained at the Civic Theatre on Monday

night.

Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society's latest production, "Hello Dolly!" opened to a full house. If there are any tickets left by the time you read this then grab them. It is a pacy, racy, humdinger of a show, which never seems to pause for breath. There are some super performances and terrific costumes which all add up to a colourful exciting show not to be missed if you can help it.

Yes, the orchestra could have done with another six months rehearsals and the

disappear as quickly or as completely as it might have done but given the time for preparation in the theatre and the fact that it was a first night the spit and final polish will come.

The Dolly of the title is played with all the panache and oomph at her disposal by Betty Worrall. It's a lovely gutsy performance if not 100 per cent Yiddish. She's most ably partnered by Stan Parsons as the mean Horace Vandergelder. Mr. Parsons does not put a foot wrong. His performance is a joy from start to finish.

JON RICHARDS