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The Editor,
The Farnham Herald,
114/115 West Street,
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15 December 2009

Dear Sir,

Last week we paid a visit to Basingstoke to see the first night of Rosemary Wisbey's delightful play "Papa Porcupine" about the life of William Cobbett. What a joyful experience this was! The sixth form students of Queen Mary's College brought exuberance and charm to the production and with a very strong performance by the student in the lead role.

These Basingstoke students are very lucky to be able to perform in their own small theatre. Hampshire architects have created a very effective and pleasing venue for the college and the students with recording and dance studios as well as seating for about 150 around the performance space. Basingstoke of course has also two larger theatres, the Haymarket and the Anvil for the public to enjoy.

It seems that young people in the surrounding areas are blessed with theatre facilities – Alton Sixth Form College and now St. Nicholas School near Fleet are the latest to benefit. But here in Farnham our college and university students are being left out and so are the public. The Farnham Theatre Association would love to see our town with a community theatre as a facility which can be shared by our schools, colleges and the University of the Creative Arts and we will be campaigning hard for this in the coming year.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Cooper