

What's On

Your guide to what's on, where and when

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Young Ones is classic entertainment

First class acting and dancing from Queen's Theatre's resident group

by Lee-ann richards

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The Queen's Theatre's adapted version of the 1961 movie starring Cliff Richard, *The Young Ones*, was classic entertainment.

The all-singing and all-dancing show at the theatre in Billet Lane, Hornchurch, begins the new autumn season at the theatre.

The plot of the musical, perhaps a little less known than Cliff's earlier film *Summer Holiday*, centres on a group of friends desperately trying to save their youth club from being demolished by the ruthless property mogul Hamilton Black.

They put on their own show. But their path is not as easy as it sounds with every avenue blocked by the ruthless Hamilton Black.

There were chart toppers including *The Young Ones*, *Livin' Doll*, *We Say Yeah*, *Do You Wanna Dance* and many more.

The show is also laced with plenty of unknown rock and roll songs, but many of which are catchy and easy to get in your head.

There are also plenty of 1950s-inspired outfits.

Look out for some first



■ The cast of *The Young Ones*

class acting from the theatre's resident group of actors/musicians, *Cut To The Chase*.

Favourite of the night was Mark Stanford's take on teen heart throb Nicky, the part played by Cliff Richard.

His dulcet voice made numbers like *Livin' Doll* soothingly popular with the audience.

There was also plenty of humour thanks to Jared

Ashe's part of the geeky Ernest and Simon Jessop's play on *Hamilton Black*.

Popular also was Fiona Finsbury as Nicky's love Alma.

The Young Ones continues at the Queen's Theatre until Saturday, September 17.

■ Tickets are £15 to £24 from the box office on 01708 443333.



■ Fiona Finsbury and Mark Stanford in *The Young Ones*



■ *The Bang Bang Club*

A gripping tale from era of apartheid

It is hard to know whether *The Bang Bang Club* is a good film because it's a great real-life story or a really good movie in itself.

Dramatising the experiences of four South African photographers catching the atrocities in the townships of Johannesburg at the end of the apartheid era, the film is gripping and startling.

The most shocking aspect is the effect, or lack of it, witnessing the brutality carried out by both sides has on those behind the camera.

The dilemma of helping the victims or telling their stories through images is a theme that runs throughout.

But the film is more than a drama about apartheid.

It has feel-good elements, namely the camaraderie between the photographers.

Conflict

The story centres around Greg Marinovich (a dusty but credible Ryan Phillippe), a freelance snapper whose risk-taking gets him into *The Bang Bang Club*, whose reputation for capturing the conflict between the ANC and white government-backed Inkatha movement is starting to grow.

The film will have you glued to the edge of your seat as the consequences of the club's decisions unfold.

The Bang Bang Club is available to buy on DVD from October 3.

Eleanore Robinson

TAKE FIVE: Stuck for something to do? Here are our picks of the week

TO PARTY

Audiences can party the night away when international soul singer Glyn Carelse heads into the City Pavilion. The singer will be entertaining you with renditions of Barry White, Luther Vandross and Lionel Richie on Friday September 16 at the venue in Collier Row Road, Romford.

Tickets are £26.95 per person including a three course gourmet buffet, from 0208 924 2225.

TO READ

Fiction's finest villains and their true-life inspirations is behind Adam Nightingale's new book, *Masters of Crime Fiction*, published by The History Press.

The copiously-illustrated work explores the work of writers from Thomas Middleton to Charles Dickens and Arthur Conan Doyle and the discovery of people behind the characters such as Fagin and Professor Moriarty.

TO VIEW

It lasted 250 years until Victorian times and can be seen as a forerunner of the modern multinational.

Now the life and times of the East India Company are to be explored at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. It examines the commodities, the people that shaped its tumultuous career, and the conflicts and rebellions that were its ultimate undoing. Opens September 28.

TO DISCOVER

For one day only, visitors have the chance to discover the secrets of Valentines Mansion, Ilford, in a hands-on event.

Visitors can join in the interactive family fun when they become investigators to uncover clues to unlock the Mansion's impressive history.

Take part on Sunday from 11.30am-3pm. No need to book for the free event.

TO LISTEN

Romford Salvation Army will be holding a concert at the Queen's Theatre.

It will take place at the theatre in Billet Lane, Hornchurch on Wednesday September 7 at 2pm.

For more information contact 01708 443333.

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