

LOOSERVILLE

Braintree & Witham Times Review by Ron Fosker

Boy meets girl, loses her and then gets her back again is the theme of a thousand musicals. But not many come with a backdrop of computer science.

This one, by British writers but set in America, capitalises on the possibilities in looking back to look forward with various knowing references to things we now take for granted, such as computers talking to each other, or emails as we know them.

It is given the now expected slick high-energy performance from WAOS's under 21s with sparkling choreography by director Cathy Court – the black-out torch scene was particularly effective – and lively musical backing under the direction of Thomas Duchan.

As chief nerd Michael, Chris Tierney captures his character's inner torment, exasperated both by his computer and his love life, while Lucas (Harry Tunningley) is more up front in his angst, appealing to the audience for a chance in life and an apology for wronging his mate - and then ends up writing Star Wars.

Serenely floating above the male frustration is the outstanding Isabella Chapman (Holly) whose natural charm shines through everything.

James Harris and Jake Collis give solid support as Michael's mates while Amy Seymour, Daisy Greenwood and Yasmin Sharp make the most of their moments in the spotlight as the anti-heroines come good.