

Students bring powerful performance to the stage

YOUNGSTERS took to a Winchester stage by storm for three sell-out performances of a much-loved musical. Seventy-three students from Barton Peveril College in Eastleigh and Hampshire schools brought Les Misérables to Theatre Royal Winchester last weekend. The show was every bit as powerful as the original, and remained faithful to its spirit and songs. Music was provided by a 20-piece orchestra, backed by an equal number of production team and crew. Director Gemma Witcomb praised the cast's commitment throughout the six months of rehearsals. She said: "The casting process was so exciting and the final decisions were some of the hardest we've ever had: the sheer volume of passionate, talented students auditioning for each part was astounding. "Tickets sold out two months in advance and we had to open up the final dress rehearsal to meet



demand. Les Mis inspires a deep and enduring love in so many people!" The secondary schools involved

were: Kings', Wyvern, Swanmore, Wildern and Thorden, together with three younger actors from Hordean, Halterworth and

Whiteley primary schools. In 2014 the college won the Daily Echo Curtain Call award for best youth ensemble for Cabaret.



Gallery will host summer show of art

A STOCKBRIDGE gallery is launching its summer show this weekend.

The Wykeham Gallery is hosting the mixed exhibition of gallery artists, including Norman Smith, Lindsay Keir and Sophie Bartlett.

Organisers said on its website: "We are delighted to welcome these artists to the gallery for our summer show.

"Whilst their styles may vary there is a clear unity in the quality of their work and this promises to be a very exciting and well-supported exhibition.

"Work is available for sale immediately by contacting the gallery."

Opening drinks are on Friday July 3 at 6.30pm-8.30pm and the exhibition runs until September 2.

For more information go online at wykehamgallery.co.uk

