

## Review

### Ikon

**Script by Sheila Telfer**

**Lyrics by Andrea Varnavides**

**Music by Una Robertson**

**Production: March 2007**

On 30 March I went to see a production of **Ikon**, the Christian musical written by members of St Andrew's Church. This was a show that I had seen five years earlier and I knew the story. I remember thinking that the setting of the Passion of Christ in the 21st century worked well: Jay Davidson, or Jesus, sending out his message through pop songs; Jude his manager being lured by money to betray Jay; the crowd feeling cheated and turning on Jay, only to begin to understand what has really happened after his death.

But why go again? Of course I wanted to support the cast, musicians and all those who had worked so hard, but I felt that perhaps there were stronger reasons. As I sat watching the performance, the reasons came flooding in. What is more uplifting than seeing a whole community working together to tell the Easter story with a new energy? The sight of people of all ages and backgrounds working together is something quite special. As I watched the drama of the events unravel, listened to the lyrics of the songs, and enjoyed the music, I too felt part of the occasion.

But more importantly, I found myself asking questions. How would I have reacted if I had lived in Jerusalem all those years ago? Would I have just followed the crowd? Would I have had the strength to stand up for what I believed? Would greed or fame have been a greater pull than faith and charity?

Of course, I can't give the answers to these questions, but the fact that I found myself asking them must surely show that **Ikon** was a real success. On behalf of all in the audience, I would like to thank Sheila Telfer for the drama, Andrea Varnavides for the lyrics and Una Robertson for the music, Steve Furness for playing Jay Davidson, Sarah Clarke for her sensitive piano playing, Jane Murray and her team for the costumes and all the cast, choir, musicians, stage managers and those behind the scenes for all their hard work. Most of all however I would like to thank the community of St Andrew's for making it happen – a truly memorable evening!

**Betsey Whiting**