

AN EVENING WITH MANDY WINTERS

THE MARLOWE STUDIO

SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2013

For many years The Marlowe Friends have had the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of music at their Sunday night concerts, from Mozart to Cole Porter, opera and musicals but the latest concert arranged by Chairman June Brewer was a startling break with tradition – The Marlowe Studio rocked!

Set out in intimate café style, every table was full. Glamorous singer Mandy Winters had attracted an audience of not only Friends but also many Country and Western fans, including well known pianist Carole Anne Wells and broadcaster Barbara Sturgeon.

Accompanied by her musical director, guitarist Adrian Brown and his Trio, Ivan Thompson on saxophone, Chris Hall on drums and Jonathan Burrows, soon to be first keyboard in the Marlowe pantomime orchestra, Mandy began with the beautiful ballad *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*. But then the tempo increased and she soon had us clapping and singing to the music of Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton, who, with her blonde hair and bubbly personality, she so closely resembles. Mandy has a wonderful sense of humour and quickly established a rapport with the audience, teasing her musicians and making everyone feel relaxed – she even persuaded us to yodel!

A moving interpretation of *Je ne Regret Rien*, a lively *Lowdown In Lodi* (which features on her new CD) and an encore of *My Way* brought loud applause a standing ovation and a very happy audience. We look forward to spending another evening with Mandy Winters.

ANN POWELL

