Charity play is hit by a banner theft

AN AMATEUR dramatics company was shocked after a banner advertising their forthcoming play was stolen.

The Rochford District Players are renowned for their annual pantomimes and charity work, and about 30 members from around Essex club together to raise funds for events.

Vicky Gammon, spokeswoman for the group, said members were appalled when they learned a banner, costing £100, to advertise their latest play had been stolen, from outside Greensward College, Hockley.

She said: "When we got the phone call to say the sign had been stolen, we couldn't believe it.

"We do a lot of work to fund our projects and we also fundraise for local charities, so this is a quite a blow to our activities.

"We were shocked someone would do it. I don't understand why anyone would want to take it."

The sign was advertising the group's first summer play, Local News, by Sean Dooley, which will be performed on Saturday, August 11, at the college, in Greensward Lane.

Shows start at 5pm and 8pm. Tickets cost £7.50 and will be available on the door, or through the box office on 07722 154052.