

HENLEY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, HENLEY DRAMATICS PRODUCTION AND COMMUNITY PROJECT

BUTTONS

SIMON MACDONALD

CINDERELLA

MANJIT DOSANJH

CHARMING

AMANDA STEWARD



Cinderella

THE FAIRY GODMOTHER OF ALL FAMILY PANTOS

Funds go to Beaudesert & Henley Christmas Lights

Beaudesert
& Henley
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

WELCOME TO

Cinderella

A MAGICAL, 'CHARMING' PANTOMIME

Kind and beautiful Cinderella (Manjit Dosanjh) is forced to do all the terrible chores at the hard-up hall by her two awful, ugly stepsisters, Dolce (Steve Wilkes) and Gabbana (Brian Westmacott). She dreams of the day her prince charming (Amanda Steward) will take her away to a "happily ever after".

But her wicked stepmother, the baroness hard up (Sheena Ison), will stop at nothing to make poor Cinderella's life a misery.

With magical intervention from her fairy godmother (Claire Mangan) and her lovable best friend Buttons (Simon MacDonald) by her side, will Cinderella make it to the royal ball?



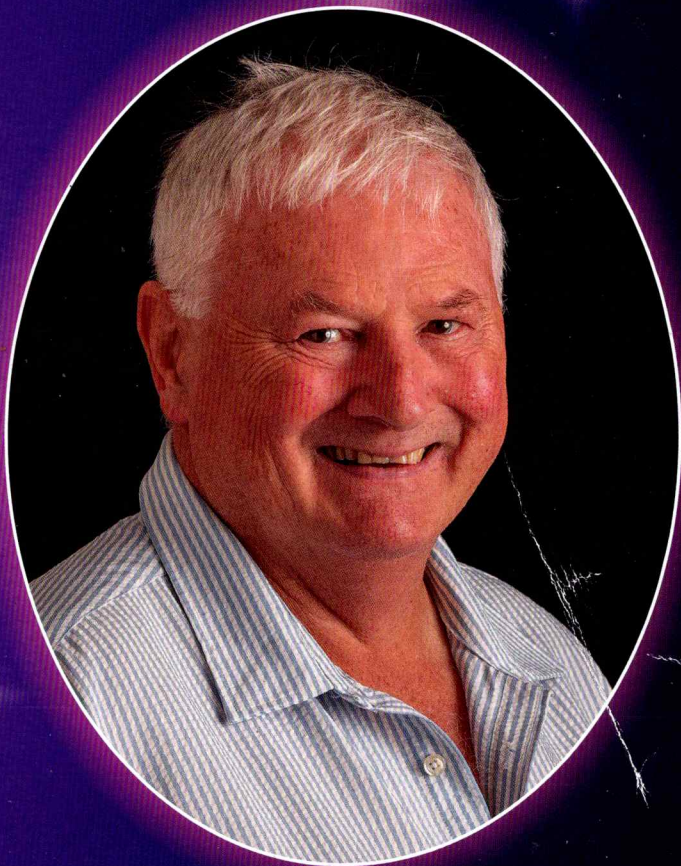
A MESSAGE FROM BRIAN

It was after our post-Christmas meeting at the Three Tuns, when the Chairman shared his experience of the Hippodrome Pantomime. Sheila Roy said, "We could do that" and the idea of a Pantomime fundraiser for the Christmas Lights was born.

Acting was a new experience for all of us, but we were determined to succeed. Laurence Marshall, the renowned Producer and Director of Henley's Arts4All, helped us along the way and made our dream come true! He also invited Henley Amateur Dramatics Society (H.A.D.S.), local residents and our local school to be part of our team. And now we are excited to share our work with you.

We hope you enjoy our show as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Brian Westmacott
Chairman



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

A very warm welcome to this joint community collaboration between Beaudesert & Henley Christmas Lights & Henley-in-Arden Drama Society (HADS).

We are thrilled to be here at the aptly renamed Hardup Hall for six performances of the most Charming of all pantomimes, Cinderella.

I've been involved in drama in one way or another for many years and without doubt have never witnessed such dedication and enthusiasm, not only from the cast, but also the Production Team, the backstage crew and indeed the Christmas Lights Committee and for that I thank you.

I also must add my personal thanks to Sandy McCaskie the Ghost & Glue that's held this together!

As well as raising much needed funds for the wonderful Henley Christmas Lights, this coming together of the community will rekindle the Henley-in-Arden Drama Society now in its seventieth year.

The Cinderella Pantomime is not just a fairy tale, but also a reflection of our own community, it shows that with courage, kindness and a little bit of magic, anything is possible.

Now, sit back relax & enjoy Cinderella and remember dreams really do come true!!

Laurence Marshall



ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Henley Christmas Lights owe their existence to our late founders, Mr Les Goodman and Mr Brian Jackson. We, the new Christmas Lights Committee are proud to continue their vision, legacy and work. But we had a challenge: how to replace the old, faulty and costly light bulbs that were 25 years old.

Every year, the High Street is decorated with almost 2,000 lights using two miles of cable that spread festive happiness to Henley residents, neighbouring villages and visitors alike.

We are a hardworking group of volunteers who work all around the year to raise funds for the upkeep of the lights. Fundraising events such as this Pantomime and the 100 Club are some of the ways of raising the needed funds to maintain the lights every year.

This year, we will finish our latest project of replacing all the light bulbs on the High Street with new LED bulbs that are energy efficient and eco-friendly.

If you would like to contribute, volunteer or find out more, visit us at bhchristmaslights.co.uk



ABOUT HADS

Henley-in-Arden Drama Society (HADS) was formed in 1954. It has been entertaining the community ever since with a mix of comedy, drama, thrillers and pantomimes, catering to different tastes and audiences.

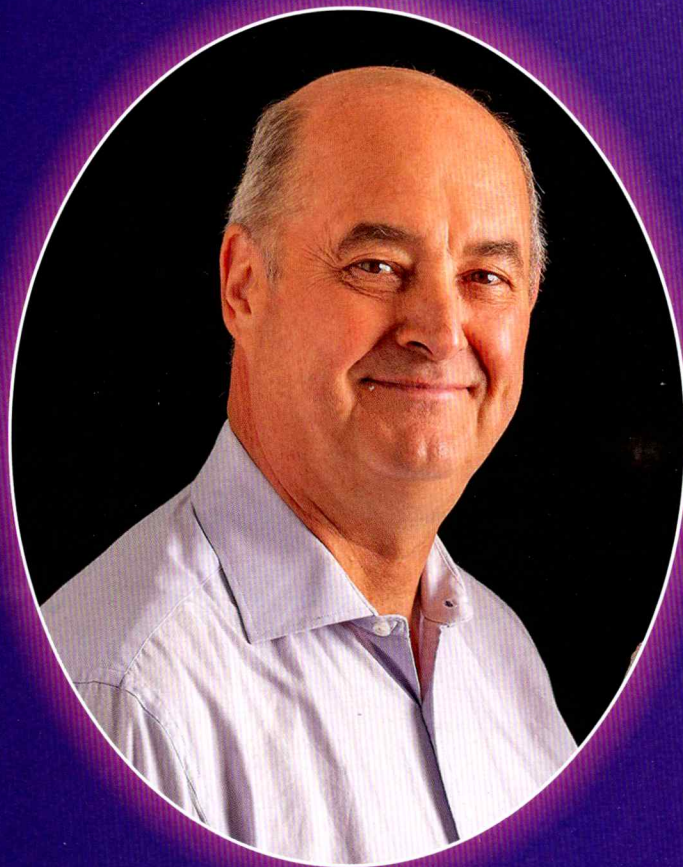
Now approaching its Platinum Anniversary, HADS has seen a recent upturn in membership from the local community and that augurs well for the future.

This year, HADS is proud to support the Henley Christmas Lights, a popular annual event that celebrates the festive season with lights, music, food and fun.

As part of the festival HADS are joining with the community to present a production of Cinderella, a pantomime version of the classic fairy tale. This is sure to be a hit with all ages.

A lively and thriving drama society that has a long history of providing quality entertainment to Henley-in-Arden and beyond, HADS is always on the lookout for new talent, be it on or off stage and welcomes anyone over the age of 18 who shares their passion for theatre.

If you are interested in joining HADS or watching their shows, you can contact us by email webmaster@hads.org.uk and we are on Facebook as Henley-in-Arden Drama Society (HADS). We look forward to hearing from you.



Moss Westwood
Chairman

100 CLUB

Can you afford £1 per month to keep the lights glowing?

The 100 Club is one way we are raising funds. This is a membership plan that involves a monthly draw by the committee.

Winners will be announced on social media, via email and by post. We will be giving out monthly cash prizes. Only £1 per month; £12 per year

Better odds than the lottery.

Money goes for the upkeep/renewal/replacement of our unique Christmas lights.



SCAN ME



Win a Monthly cash prize.

Your invited to the

100 Club

JOIN TODAY

Each number costs a £1 per month or £12 for the year to have a chance to win every month.

ACT 1

PROLOGUE

A welcome and introduction to our magical adaptation of Cinderella, the everlasting fairy tale of love, bravery, and kindness.

SCENE 1 - Hardup Hall

After the untimely demise of her beloved father, Baron Hardup, Cinderella finds herself at the mercy of her wicked stepmother and ugly stepsisters.

SCENE 2 – The Road to the Village

The monarchs enjoy a stroll, Buttons is smitten with Cinderella, but the wicked Baroness and her daughters soon disrupt them with their own troubles.

SCENE 3 - A woodland Clearing

Will Cinderella ever meet the prince of her dreams? What dastardly plan is the Baroness hatching? And who's the picnic in the clearing for?

SCENE 4 - A Forest path

The Royals meet Charming. The Mail is on strike. Will Button aid the Baroness with her evil plan and will the Bailiffs finally catch up with her?

SCENE 5 - Cinderella's Kitchen

Cinderella's secret lover is revealed. The Uglies come face to face with Prince Charming and Cinderella has to decide between staying with the orphans or attending the ball.

ACT 2

SCENE 6 - The Royal Ball

The mysterious Lady Eleanor captures the prince's heart. Cinderella faces a dilemma, but will all be revealed when the clock strikes midnight.

SCENE 7 - Outside the Palace

The Baroness, her daughters, and the prince want to know more about the mysterious lady who stole the Prince's heart. Will everything be exposed?

SCENE 8 - Next day in the Village

The whole village are talking about the ball. Cinderella's hopes are fading. Does Button's have a plan to save the day?

SCENE 9 - Returning to Hardup Hall

Button's and the Fairy Godmother think things have taken a turn for the worse for Cinderella? But what can they do?

SCENE 10 - Cinderella's Kitchen

Cinderella has been incarcerated. The prince comes knocking whilst looking for the mysterious Lady Eleanor. Can Dandini ride to the rescue? Will there be a happy ending?

SCENE 11 - The Songsheet

Cinderella finally gets her happy ending with the prince, while Button's dreams are shattered. How will the wicked stepsisters be punished for their abuse towards Cinders?

SCENE 12 - The Wedding & Walkdown

We are back in the Ballroom for a fond farewell.

Henley-in-Arden Christmas Lights Panto

Community Song...

How much is that doggie in the window? (Woof-Woof!)

The one with the waggly tail

How much is that doggie in the window? (Woof-Woof!)

I do hope that doggie's for sale

-

You must take a trip to Wootton Wawen

I hear they've some lovely sights

But wait until Yuletide is over

Cos they ain't got our Christmas lights!

-

How much is that doggie in the window? (Woof-Woof!)

The one with the waggly tail

How much is that doggie in the window? (Woof-Woof!)

I do hope that doggie's for sale

MANJIT DOSANJH

AS CINDERELLA: THE PUT-UPON HEROINE

I joined Henley Amdrams earlier this year just for the experience and thoroughly enjoyed making new friends, and completing a podcast called 'Henley Whispers'. Today I am overwhelmed to play Cinderella.

I am grateful to Laurence and the production team for their guidance and confidence in myself, and all the support from all my friends in Henley-in-Arden. It has been a challenging and rewarding journey, full of fun and learning

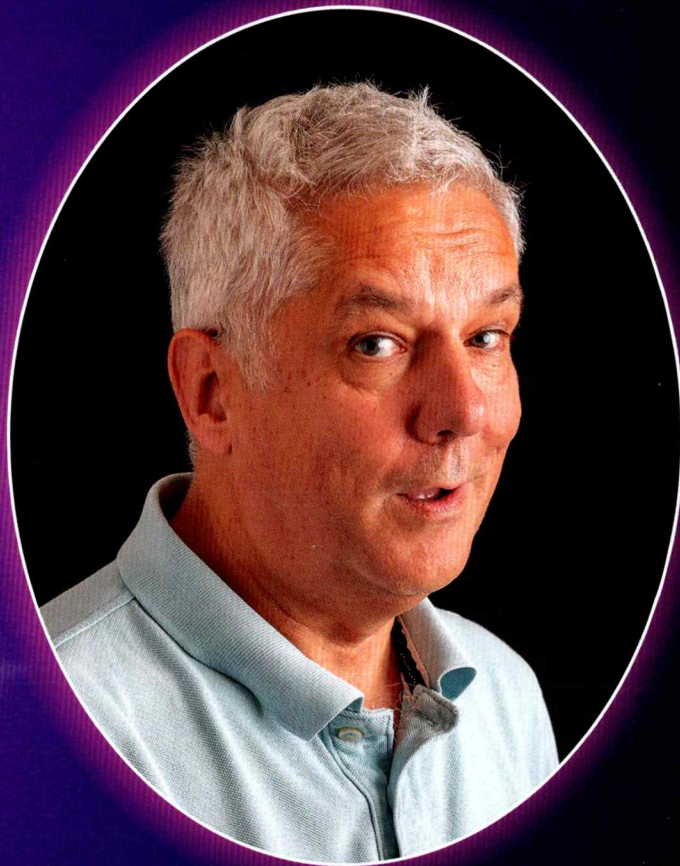


SIMON MACDONALD

AS BUTTONS: CINDERELLA'S BEST FRIEND

First time on the stage and hope it doesn't show! I've become very fond of Buttons over the last few months and hope you will too.

We need more like him. Perhaps he should stand for election and who knows where it might end... No.10 or even the Whitehouse? Vote Buttons!

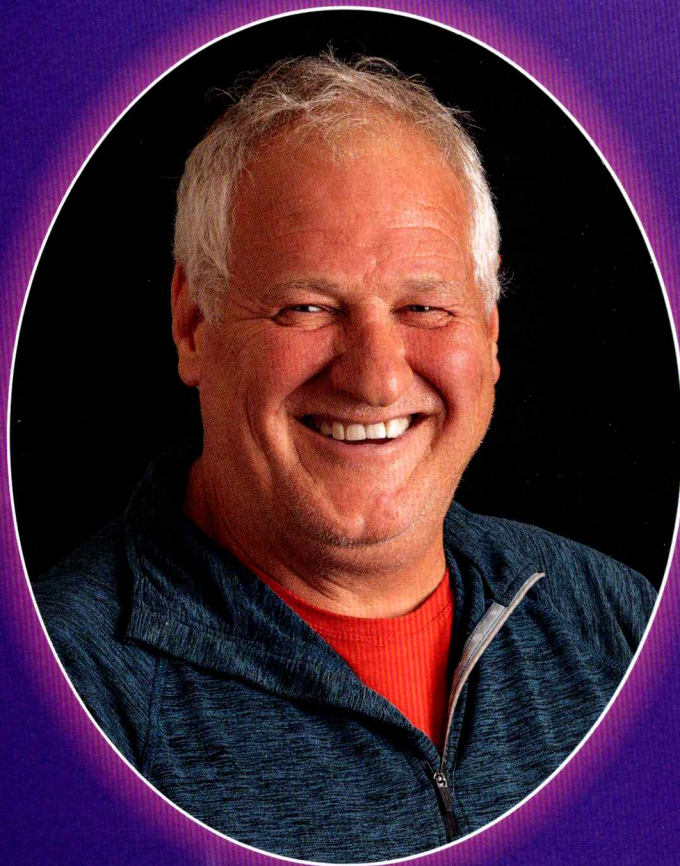


STEVE WILKES

AS DOLCE: UGLY STEPSISTER

When the call came for potential “actors” to join HADS, my wife, Jane, suggested I give it a go.

I hadn't done it for years, but it was going to give me a chance to revisit a potential career in acting that, sadly, had never materialised. So, forty years later, here I am again - not making a career out of acting, but hopefully providing a few laughs as Dolce! Enjoy.



BRIAN WESTMACOTT

AS GABBANA: UGLY STEPSISTER

The things I do for the Christmas Lights. I never thought I would be an actor in my later life. I'm definitely out of my comfort zone being an Ugly Sister. The moral of the story is don't make life-changing decisions after a pint at The Tuns!

If we can raise enough money to pay off the new lights, it will all have been worth it. Laurence Marshall has been amazing and has encouraged me all the way.



SHEENA ISON

AS BARONESS HARDUP: WICKED STEPMOTHER

Most of you will know me from the Henley stage as a member of HADS for some 20+ years.

I have played many roles, both lead and support, my favourites being "Peggy" in Hi De Hi and "Therese Raquin" in the Emile Zolas' classic novel.

A pantomime baddie is all new to me having always been the goodie, so I look forward to entertaining you all in true Cruella De Vil style as the Baroness.



FRED DOWLING

AS GRABBIT: A BAILIFF

I am thrilled to return to the stage after a long break and play the role of Grabbit, one of the ruthless bailiffs who make life miserable for Baroness Hardup.

I first joined HADS in 1999, when I performed in a Christmas Carol. Since then, I have been in many HADS shows, as well as taking part in the Birmingham Mysteries at Birmingham Cathedral in the early 2000s. It's great to be back.



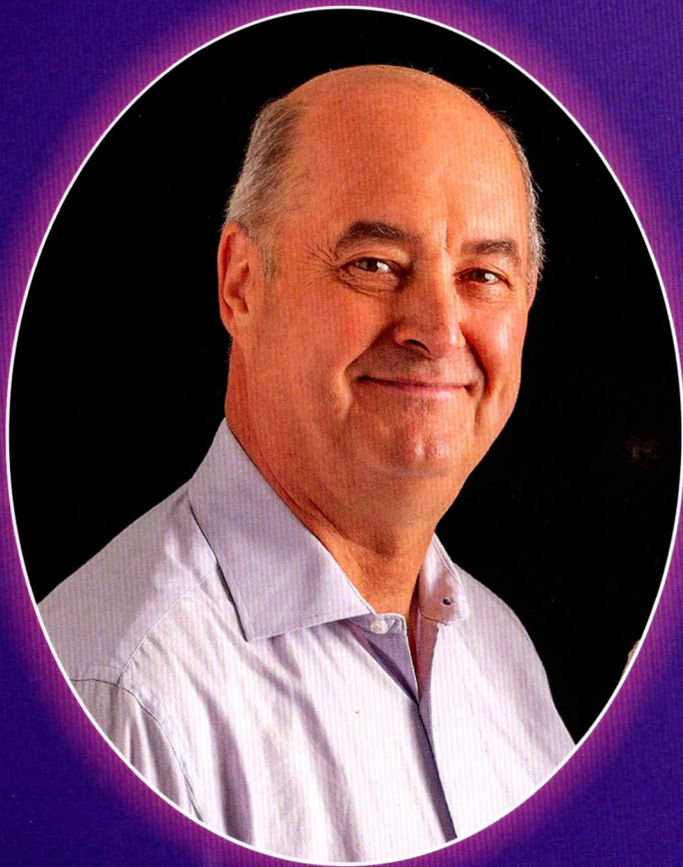
MOSS WESTWOOD

AS KEEPIT: A BAILIFF

Moss returns to the stage as Keepit, one half of the bailiffs who are there to sort out the wayward Baroness Hardup.

Most recently Moss was the slightly incompetent stressed chairman of the Little Grimley series by David Tristram.

Definitely art imitating life as Moss is the slightly more competent and slightly less stressed chairman of HADS - Henley-in-Arden Drama Society as it enters its Platinum Anniversary year, 2024.



CLAIRE MANGAN

AS THE FAIRY GODMOTHER: THE TRADITIONAL FAIRY

Other than my childhood love of the Christmas “panto” the nearest I got to the stage was dancing lessons when 8. So, the invitation to audition for Fairy Godmother was a total surprise and although “learning my lines” was a new and challenging experience, the thrill when I “got the call” made it all worthwhile.

The support and encouragement from the whole team has been amazing. So Enjoy our Show! All created by MAGIC!



TOM MANGAN

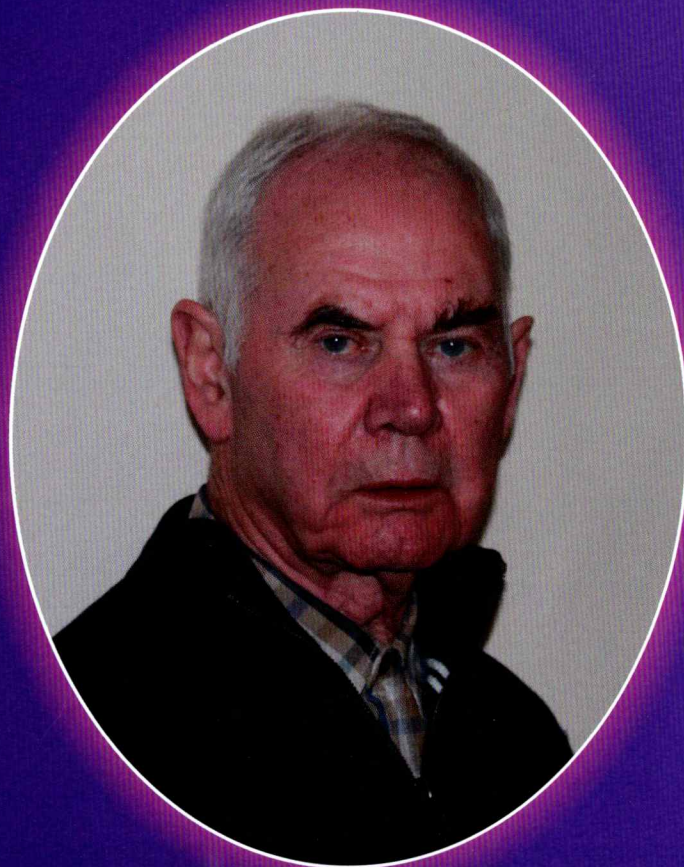
AS THE KING

My only previous theatrical experience, “dancing” Reel and Jig in a Dublin Feis aged 8 achieved neither winner’s medal nor Flatley invitation! Later my School Choir Master suggested football practice outside.

So, the challenging invitation to play King was less surprising than my earlier “Chorus” role.

Learning my part and seeing the show coming together with so much skill, determination and direction from the top and mutual support throughout has been a brilliant experience.

Enjoy!



AMANDA STEWARD

AS PRINCE CHARMING: A DASHING YOUNG ROYAL

I loved drama as a child, so I decided to join Henley Amateur Dramatics society at the start of the year.

When auditions for Cinderella were announced I jumped at the chance to audition for the part of Prince Charming and was so excited to be selected. What an amazing experience and journey it has been. It is such a privilege to work alongside the most amazing, talented people.

I hope you enjoy our production!



PAULINE GUNTON

AS DANDINI: PRINCE CHARMING'S VALET

I discovered my passion for singing and acting at school and then I became a part of the local amateur operatic society.

When I relocated down here, I had the opportunity to play Puss in Boots at the Swan Theatre and later, as a Northfield Society member, I performed at the Old Repertory Theatre.

I joined Henley-in-Arden Drama Society in 2013 and I have enjoyed every moment with them.



SUE WESTMACOTT

AS THE QUEEN

When Brian said they wanted him to be Chair of the Lights, I said I would support him. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be acting in a Pantomime at the Memorial Hall for him!

Anyway, I hope you all enjoy it as we have had a lot of fun preparing for this community event. I was once in a school play when I was 9 and other than that, my acting career is zilch - it shows!



JOAN MACDONALD

AS THE PAGE

There's an Irish lass who lives in Henley,
Who was happy to help in the wings quite gently,
But then Laurence hoodwinked her,
Into taking the stage,
And now she's ready to play the "Page"!



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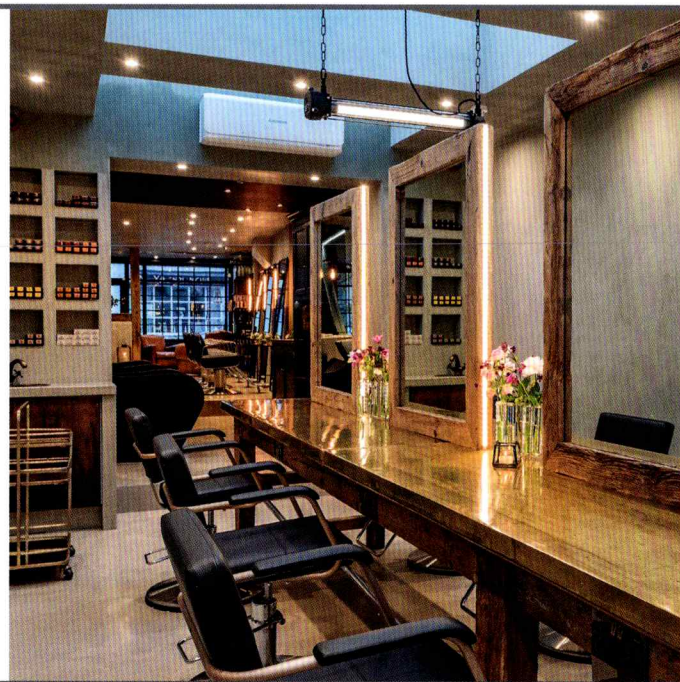
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CHORUS:

**PAULINE GUNTON, LYNDIA MARSHALL, ROBERT SEAGER,
ALAN CONWAY, GAIL MOORES, JOAN MACDONALD,
TOM MANGAN & PETER GLAZE**

From experienced singers of The Alcester Male Voice Choir to novices who have never performed on stage, our chorus team is full of passion and energy to delight you today.

Nobody was more surprised than them when asked to dance, but that's the charm of panto where anything is possible. We invite you to join them and sing along to some well-known tunes.



CHILDREN

SOPHIE JONES, LILY HUGHES, ISABELLA LEONARD & LYLA PAGE

Prepare to be dazzled by the Children's performance, as they have practiced hard for today's show and will be showcasing their talents in singing, dancing, and acting.



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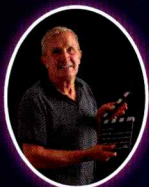
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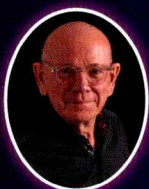


PRODUCTION TEAM



DIRECTED BY
Laurence Marshall

Delighted to be directing his first full production having retired, not too early some would say, from performing various stereotypically grumpy, self-centred American characterisations.



CO-DIRECTED BY
Theo Theobald

I've acted for 25 years, so I was eager to help direct Cinderella. It's a local project with a lot of dedication and spirit. I hope you enjoy our show!



TECHNICAL DIRECTOR SOUND LIGHTING & SPECIAL EFFECTS
Ian Smedley

I joined HADS as the lighting operator and all round 'techie' over 20 years ago after being involved in productions at the school.



PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR / GHOST
Sandy McCaskie

It has been a wonderful journey and fulfilling experience to be part of the team that brings the magic of panto to life on stage.



CHOREOGRAPHER
Anne Bowman

My IDTA (Dance) School in the Midlands is the culmination of my dancing career where I danced worldwide, including in Cinderella on television in Malta.



STAGE MANAGER & PROPERTIES

Sue Tootill

I joined HADS in 1995 to help backstage having no desire to act and was asked to stage manage for The Wizard of Oz the following year.



UNDERSTUDY

Marsha Hughes

Started dancing at 4yrs, I've spent most of my life dressing up, dancing, performing and trying to sing. Living the dream with teaching classes locally now. Panto with my daughter Lily will be fabulous.



MAKE UP

Gilly Seager

Having been Head of Makeup for The Bill Police Drama series, it's good fun to exchange Blood and Guts for Christmas Glamour and Glitter.



WARDROBE

Lynda Marshall

Helping our town is always enjoyable, so I eagerly accepted the task of arranging costumes for the upcoming Cinderella Panto with my friend Joni's assistance.



PROMPT

Sue Pearce

Making my debut as a prompt. Delighted to join HADS and even more delighted, as a retired teacher, to get back to my role of giving instructions to others.

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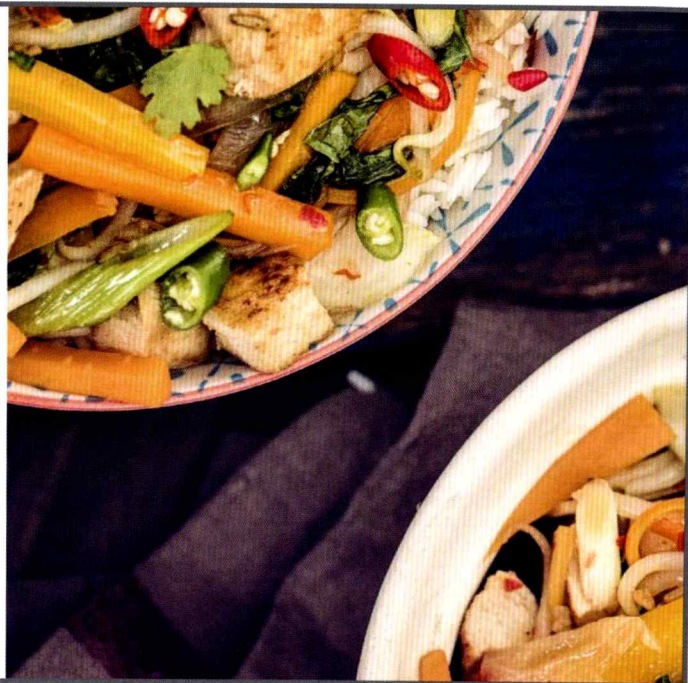
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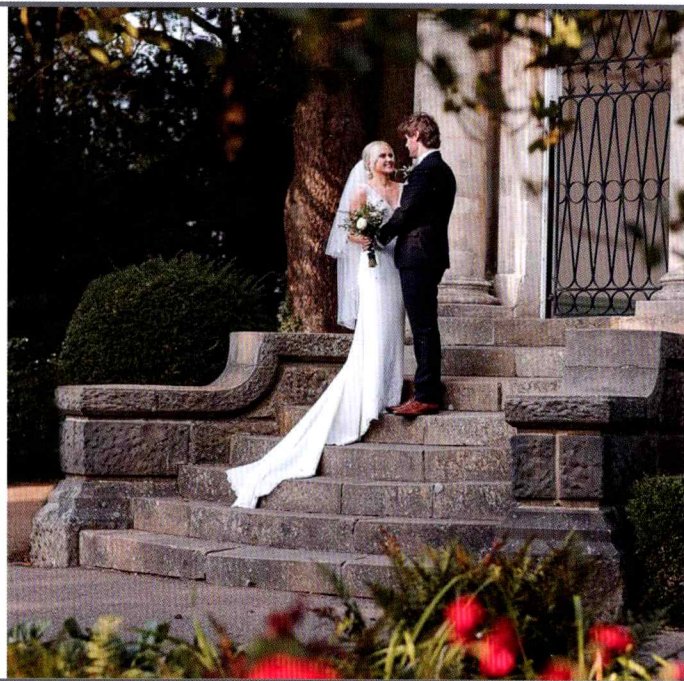
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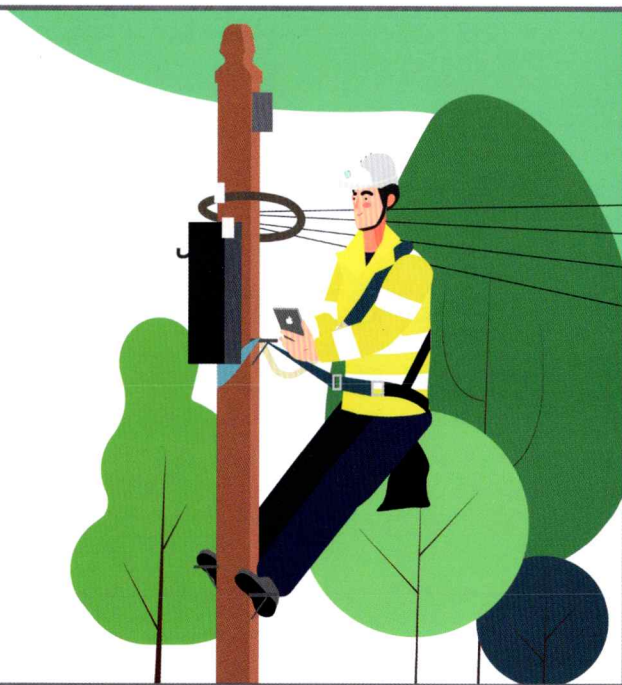
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