SANDERSTEAD DRAMATIC CLUB'S
84th TRADITIONAL FAMILY PANTOMIME

Dick Whittington



SOUVENIR PROGRAMME £1.50

6th - 13th January 2024

All Saints Church Hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead

OUR SHOW – DICK WHITTINGTON

This year we follow Dick Whittington, a poor boy from Gloucester, who goes to London to seek his fortune. On his travels he meets a cat with killer instincts and a girl who helps him get a job in her father's store.

Meanwhile King Rat and his sidekick have other ideas to try and thwart his plans.

The origins of the panto are based on the true story of Richard Whittington in 1350. He was the youngest of three brothers, and realising he would not inherit his fathers estate he made his way to London. There he set about becoming a successful merchant and in 1397 he became Lord Mayor.

I have enjoyed directing this show and working with everyone involved. I would like to thank them for all their hard work in making this show come to life. Please sit back and enjoy the show.

Catherine Roberts - Director (& Tommy the Cat in 2008)



THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Catherine Roberts - *Director*



Catherine has been involved with SDC since appearing in the children's chorus back in 1980. She has moved up in the ranks, taking part in the senior chorus and graduating to the main cast, where she has had numerous comedy parts as well as some more serious parts, like the Wicked Queen in Sleeping Beauty and the Wolf in Red Riding Hood . She is also used to working with animals - Snozzle the snake, Henrietta the hen and the Cat in a previous Dick Whittington. Catherine finally graduated to Director and has now directed 3 shows.

Mandy Grace - *Choreographer*



Mandy appeared in SDC pantomimes from 1996 to 1999 in the senior chorus. She is now Principal of the Dance With Grace school of dance and drama in New Addington. As well as choreographing the children from her dance school, she has enjoyed the challenge of teaching the main cast to vaguely look like they know what they are doing...

Catherine Nicholson - *Musical Director*



This is Catherine's first time as Musical Director for SDC. It's been great to return to panto land and be able to have her own musical project, as the vast majority of her teaching is normally with children. She is enjoying rehearsing with friends but also making new friends. This is something fun before she heads to sing at the O2 immediately afterwards taking 100 children from her choir with her! Oh no she isn't...

THE CAST *(in order of appearance)*

Ernie McGirr – *Alderman Fitzwarren*
Ernie enjoys performing in Pantos and musicals which he has also done in the Middle East and Holland. He is delighted to be working with such an enthusiastic group of people as this is his fourth Panto with the group. Despite his 'superb' singing and dancing in last years show, this year the director has decided to spare you a repeat.



Aimee Steele – *Alice Fitzwarren*
Aimee Steele has loved performing from a very early age. This is her first time with the SDC and she's had an amazing time getting to know everybody. She has been in multiple amateur productions and has starred in a film. This year she plays the role of Alice who can't decide whether she loves Dick Whittington or not. You'll have to wait and see what happens…



Gordon Drayson – *Sally*
For the first time, Gordon dons the dresses as the dame for this year's extravaganza. He is no stranger to the SDC stage having appeared in 18 past pantomimes. One day he'll get it right (oh no he won't). He has enjoyed working with such a fun and talented cast and crew, and hopes you enjoy the show as much as we have rehearsing.



Charlene Edwards – *Jack*
This is Charlene's 15th pantomime with the SDC, having started in the junior chorus. This year she plays Jack, a simple fellow who is easily led astray and who makes a new friend in Humphrey.

She is looking forward to taking on new challenges this year and hopes the audience enjoy the performances.



John Desbottes – *King Rat*
John has been involved, on and off-stage, in more SDC productions than he cares to, or indeed can, remember. Having directed our previous pantomime, 'Hansel & Gretel', he returns to the stage this year to take on the role of the very nasty King Rat. Playing a real 'baddie' is quite a change for John but he is enjoying the battles with the Fairy Bow Bells and our eponymous hero Dick.



Sharon Slingsby – *Fairy Bow Bells*
This is Sharon's first pantomime and first performance with SDC. It has been many years since Sharon has been on stage, previously performing in her high school musicals. She has also been a member of a work choir. Having promised her daughter Eileen she would try out for the pantomime with her this year, they now find themselves on opposing sides; good vs. evil!



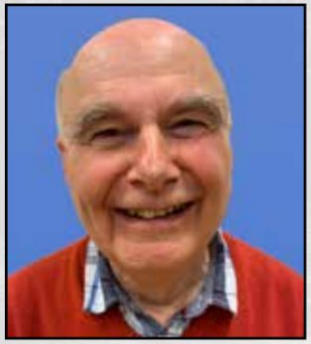
Connie Goswell – *Dick Whittington*
Connie is excited to return for her second pantomime with SDC after playing Gretel last year. She can't wait to play Dick and hopes to bring a smile to all your faces. The real question is, will Dick eventually find fame and fortune, and win the heart of his true love before the end of the show?



Dave Sawyer – *Captain Cockle*
Once again Dave is back, this time with another hapless helper in the shape of Mussel. After his experience last year as part of the dodgy duo Nutz & Boltz, he is hoping for more success this year as captain of The Providence. Will he manage to stay afloat, or just be all at sea?



John Shepherd – *Mussel*
John has been treading the SDC Pantomime boards since 1985 when he appeared as one of the comic duo. Things have now gone full circle and he finds himself once again playing the more stupid of the two. It's either great acting or somebody is trying to tell him something!



Christine Wade – *Sultana / Town Crier*
This is Christine's first pantomime with SDC. Having chaperoned her daughters at many shows over the years, she thought she would like to give it a go herself. Christine is very excited to play the role of the Town Crier and the Sultana of Morocco!



Eileen Slingsby – *Mini Rat*
This is Eileen's first pantomime and first performance with SDC, although she is an experienced member of Stagecoach Croydon having trained and performed with them since 2019. Eileen aspires to perform in larger roles and to continue building her experience within drama and performing arts. She now finds herself as King Rat's sidekick, taking on her mum on stage!



Benedict Roberts – *Mini Rat*
Ben Loves to sing, dance and act. In his free time he enjoys playing the cornet and video games and playing rugby. He attends Starsteppers musical theatre & dance club. He has enjoyed playing Mini Rat and has loved trying to upstage his Boss, King Rat. This is Ben's first time performing for SDC.



Amélie Chandler – *Tommy, the Cat*
Amélie is excited to be in her first pantomime with SDC as Tommy the Cat. She loves meow-sic and is looking forward to the singing and dancing. Amélie can't wait to be on stage and hopes the panto won't be a cat-astrophe.



Lucinda Roberts – *Tommy, the Cat*
Lucy spends most of her time singing and dancing. She is in the school choir and also attends Starsteppers. Lucy has found being a cat challenging, as normally she can't stop talking! Lucy has two cats at home and has used them for inspiration. She is very excited to be allowed to fight her brother without being told off. Lucy hopes this will be the first of many pantos she will be in for SDC.



CAST

Alderman Fitzwarren ..... **Ernie McGirr**
Alice Fitzwarren ..... **Aimee Steele**
Sally ..... **Gordon Drayson**
Jack ..... **Charlene Edwards**
King Rat ..... **John Desbottes**
Fairy Bow Bells ..... **Sharon Slingsby**
Dick Whittington ..... **Connie Goswell**
Captain Cockle ..... **Dave Sawyer**
Mussel ..... **John Shepherd**
Sultana / Town Crier ..... **Christine Wade**
Humphrey the Camel ..... **Helen Johnson and Hazel Istead**
Mini Rat ..... **Benedict Roberts and Eileen Slingsby**
Tommy ..... **Lucinda Roberts and Amélie Chandler**

Chorus

Ima Bojko, Nicola Catley, Olivia Catley, Olivia Dauris, Jess Grace, Sophie Oziminska, Jemma Rapley, Isabelle Waite, Sarah Wood

Childrens Teams

Team Cockle

Lacey Barden, Sophie Bashford, Amber Elliott, Evie Greenaway, Lily-Rose McKinley, Lily Wade, Ruby Wade, Xanthe King

Sat 6th 6pm, Sun 7th 2pm, Tue 9th, Thur 11th, Sat 13th 2pm

Team Mussel

Amelia Frost, Leo Frost, Emma Mahoney, Jessica Mahoney, Ruby Marchant, Elsie Smoothy, Willow Stone, Renee Williams

Sat 6th 2pm, Sun 7th 6pm, Wed 10th, Fri 12th, Sat 13th 6pm

For future shows, visit our website
www.sdclub.org.uk

SCENES

Act 1
Scene 1 - **London Town**
Scene 2 - **The Streets of London**
Scene 3 - **Fitzwarren's Stores**
Scene 4 - **Heading to Highgate Hill**
Scene 5 - **On Highgate Hill**

There will be an interval of 15 minutes

Act 2
Scene 6 - **The Port of London**
Scene 7 - **Below Decks**
Scene 8 - **On The Top Deck**
Scene 9 - **The Shores of Morocco**
Scene 10 - **The Sultana's Palace**
Scene 11 - **Below Decks Again**
Scene 12 - **The Wedding**





TEAM COCKLE

Lacey Barden - Lily-Rose McKinley - Xanthe King - Ruby Wade
Amber Elliott - Evie Greenaway - Sophie Bashford - Lily Wade



TEAM MUSSEL

Ruby Marchant - Willow Stone - Jessica Mahoney - Leo Frost
Renee Williams - Elsie Smoothy - Amelia Frost - Emma Mahoney

CHORUS & CHILDREN'S TEAMS

Dancers from Dance With Grace

Chorus - *every performance*
Team Cockle - *Sat 6th 6pm, Sun 7th 2pm, Tue 9th, Thur 11th, Sat 13th 2pm*
Team Mussel - *Sat 6th 2pm, Sun 7th 6pm, Wed 10th, Fri 12th, Sat 13th 6pm*



Ima Bojko



Nicola Catley



Olivia Catley



Olivia Dauris



Jess Grace



Sophie Oziminska



Jemma Rapley



Isabelle Waite



Sarah Wood

Sanderstead Dramatic Club are proud
to be supporting The Children's Society



The Society works with and for children and young people across the nation, putting their needs at the heart of everything it does, focusing on those most in need — children and young people pushed to the edge of society, those whose needs are not met by government services or other agencies:

Children at risk on the streets, Young refugees,
Children in trouble with the law, Disabled children

The Society is seeking more charity box-holders - a small box in your home for collecting those excess coins weighing down your pocket or purse, which is emptied once a year.

If you are interested in helping the Society's fundraising in this way, or wish to make a donation, please contact Lynda on **020 8657-7584** or come to our box opening and coffee morning on **Saturday 10th February from 10am to 12pm noon** at All Saints Church Hall.

WWW.CHILDRENSSOCIETY.ORG.UK

PRODUCTION CREW

Director	**Catherine Roberts**
Choreography	**Mandy Grace**
Musical Director	**Catherine Nicholson**
Assistant to MD	**Hannah Chandler**
Drummer	**Michalis Lempidakis**
Pianist	**Millie Longman**
Pianist	**Catherine Nicholson**
Set Design & Painting	**Chris Bryan, Frankie Garton-Adams and Andy Nicholson**
Scenery Manager	**John Desbottes**
Assisted By	**Tim Crump, Barry Goswell, Barry Nicholson, John Shepherd and Ernie McGirr**
Costumes	**Catherine Roberts and Andrew Roberts**
Character Makeup	**Hazel Istead**
Prompt	**Theo Spring**
Lighting	**Paul Hornsby and Tim Crump**
Sound	**Tim Crump**
Stage Manager	**Richard Seagroatt**
Assistant Stage Managers	**Andrew Nicholson and Karen Weeks**
Stage Crew	**Members and Friends of SDC**
Front of House Managers	**Barry Nicholson and Gordon Burnett**
Box Office	**John Desbottes**
Poster & Programme	**Gordon Drayson**



PREVIOUS PANTOMIMES

1932	Aladdin
1933	Babes in The Beeches
1934	Jack and the Beanstalk
1935	The Sleeping Beauty
1936	Dick Whittington
1937	Babes in the Wood
1938	Aladdin
1939	Jack and Jill
1947	The Tailor of Gloucester
1948	The Sleeping Beauty
1949	Jack and the Beanstalk
1950	Dick Whittington
1951	Cinderella
1952	Robinson Crusoe
1953	Mother Goose
1954	Aladdin
1955	Babes in the Wood
1956	Puss in Boots
1957	Red Riding Hood
1958	The Tailor of Gloucester
1959	Jack and the Beanstalk
1960	Sinbad the Sailor
1961	Little Bo Peep
1962	Cinderella
1963	Mother Goose
1964	Goody Two-Shoes
1965	Aladdin
1966	Old King Cole
1967	Hansel and Gretel
1968	Goldilocks and the Three Bears
1969	Queen of Hearts
1970	Robinson Crusoe
1971	Puss in Boots
1972	Mother Hubbard
1973	Dick Whittington
1974	Aladdin
1975	Snow White
1976	Humpty Dumpty
1977	Pinnochio
1978	Cinderella
1979	Hansel and Gretel
1980	Sinbad the Sailor
1981	Sleeping Beauty
1982	Jack and the Beanstalk
1983	Dick Whittington
1984	Aladdin
1985	Robin Hood
1986	Wizard of Oz
1987	Robinson Crusoe
1988	Goldilocks and the Three Bears
1989	Mother Goose
1990	Dick Whittington
1991	Aladdin
1992	Cinderella
1993	Babes in the Wood
1994	Snow White and 7 Dwarfs
1995	Hickory Dickory Dock
1996	Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves
1997	Robinson Crusoe
1998	Jack and the Beanstalk
1999	Dick Whittington
2000	No Show
2001	Cinderella
2002	Aladdin
2003	Puss in Boots
2004	Humpty Dumpty
2005	Red Riding Hood
2006	Pied Piper of Hamelin
2007	Sleeping Beauty
2008	Dick Whittington
2009	Jack and the Beanstalk
2010	Princess Crystal's Magical Dream
2011	Robin Hood
2012	Cinderella
2013	Robinson Crusoe
2014	Aladdin
2015	Snow White
2016	Three Musketeers
2017	Jack and the Beanstalk
2018	Red Riding Hood
2019	Cinderella
2020	Sinbad the Sailor
2021	Postponed - Covid-19 Pandemic
2022	Goldilocks and the Three Bears
2023	Hansel & Gretel
2024	Dick Whittington



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