

## Past Christmas Shows

- 1974 Cinderella, Charleston!
- 1975 Jack and the Beanstalk
- 1976 Turn again Scrooge
- 1977 Turnabout!
- 1978 Ghoul, Frankenstein and Mirth
- 1979 Idol Days
- 1980 Superdame, the Panto
- 1981 Way Out West
- 1982 Acropolis Now!
- 1983 Sir Merryman
- 1985 Backstage!
- 1986 Haggis in Wonderland
- 1987 Dame Sherlock
- 1988 Jack and the Beanstalk
- 1989 Pantomummy
- 1990 Cindy-Ella
- 1991 Oedipuss in Boots
- 1992 Way Out West
- 1993 Snow White
- 1994 Home Alone III, (A Lad in London)
- 1995 P.A.N.T.O.O.7.
- 1996 Dick Whittington
- 1997 Ready Steady Goose
- 1998 Robin Hoodlum
- 1998 Turnabout!
- 2000 The Millennium Dame
- 2001 Cindy-Ella
- 2002 Aladdin & his Marvellous  
Limehouse Lamp
- 2003 Beauty and the Beast
- 2004 Peter Pan
- 2005 Robinson Crusoe
- 2006 Sir Merryman
- 2007 Cinderella, Charleston!



# Sleeping Beauty

by Julian Chenery  
and  
Colin Warnock



January 2008



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### GULLIVER'S TRAVELS PRESENTATION EVENING

Sunday 20th January 2008 at 7.30 pm.

OMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead

Details: Julia Ascott: 020 8239 1010

### AUDITIONS FOR GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

Sunday 27th January 2008 at 6.00 pm.

OMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead

Details: Julia Ascott: 020 8239 1010

### ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

Saturday 23rd February 2008

Surrey National Golf Course, Rocks Lane, Chaldon

Details: Anna Warnock: 020 8657 0972 or Julia Gibbs: 020 8686 2693

### A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL

Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th April 2008 at 7.30 pm.

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon.

Tickets: 0845 2255799 (Lo-call) from 1st February 2008

### GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

Thursday 17th to Saturday 19th July 2008 at 7.30 pm.

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon.

Tickets: 0845 2255799 (Lo-call)

and

The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno, Cornwall

Monday 18th to 22nd August 2008

Box Office: 01736 810471

Please make a note of the Box Office Details:

0845 2255799 (lo-call rate) or 07914 763422

or [tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk](mailto:tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk)

This applies to ALL our productions (apart from The Minack Theatre)

# The Mitre Players

*The Dramatic Society of The Old Boy's Association of Trinity School*

*Present*

# Sleeping Beauty

*Book and Lyrics by  
Julian Chenery*

*Music by  
Colin Warnock*

*Thursday 10th to Sunday 13th January 2008*

*Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon*

The Mitre Players would like to thank the Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for allowing us to perform *Sleeping Beauty* in Big School and Robin McKinley, Mario Sammut, Martin Doolan and team for their invaluable help as well as Mr Joe McKee and all the school staff for the patience and understanding they have shown whilst we invade the school.

Please note that smoking is prohibited throughout the premises. We would also respectfully remind you that the taking of photographs and the use of audio and video recording equipment is strictly forbidden.

Please remember to switch off all mobile phones & pagers. THANK YOU.

# CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Welcome to Trinity School for our Christmas Pantomime. Our presentation this year is **Sleeping Beauty** written by Julian Chenery (a seasoned Mitre who has written and directed many shows for us) with Colin Warnock (founder member, prolific writer and this year's Dame). This traditional story has been adapted in typical Mitres style and we hope you will find it entertaining and enjoyable.

Again we have several Trinity boys (and recent leavers) involved in the show and look forward to them maintaining their links with the Mitres as they get older, leave the School and return from university. This is the essence of what the Mitre Players are about - maintaining and nurturing friendships that are formed in youth and continuing them into adulthood.

Our Easter production, **A Chorus of Disapproval** by Alan Ayckbourn, is directed by Di Jones. This comedy should give the thespians amongst us something to get their teeth into. The cast are eagerly looking forward to starting rehearsals as soon as we finish the pantomime!

After that, Julia Ascott will be directing **Gulliver's Travels** which is to be this year's touring show and will be presented both here in Croydon and at the beautiful Minack Theatre, Cornwall. The show is another original one, based on the famous stories by Jonathan Swift. Andy Rapps and Chris Chambers have

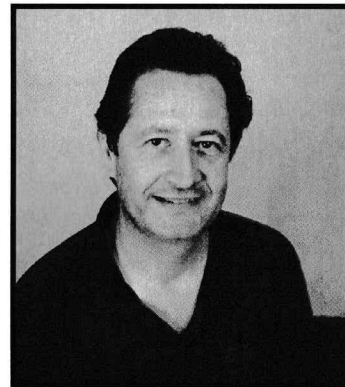
adapted this Lilliputian tale to take full advantage of our talents. With original music and a book that both simplifies and enhances the novel, the show promises to be another Mitre extravaganza!

We always attempt to stretch ourselves in our productions and rely heavily on the team of very skilled people that give their time, in all areas of production. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those unsung heroes, without whom our shows would simply not happen. We are always on the lookout for anyone who would like to help in any way.

May I thank you for supporting us and wish you all a peaceful and prosperous 2008. I look forward to seeing you again, at some of this year's other productions.

*Andy Thompson.*

Chairman.



# THE MITRE PLAYERS



## Officials

**President** Mark Bishop  
**Past Presidents** Chris Tarrant, Robin Wilson  
**Vice-Presidents** Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle,  
John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Martin Garnett, Warwick Jones,  
Peter Stockwell, Martin Tyrrell, Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

## Current Committee

**Chairman** Andy Thompson  
**Secretary** Kelly Bennett  
**Treasurer** Alan Bishop  
**Additional Members** Ian Brown, Julia Gibbs,  
Di Jones, Dave Price, Anna Warnock

## Additional Contacts

**Box Office Hotline** 0845 2255799  
**Theatre Club Organiser** Colin Warnock  
**Membership Secretary** Julia Ascott

The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Old Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 4 or 5 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design, build and paint our own sets, find and make our own props, make many of our own costumes and use "in house" musicians whenever possible.

We would welcome any new members, so if you have any aspirations to act, sing, dance or play a musical instrument, we would like to hear from you. If you prefer to remain out of the spotlight, building scenery,

lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing "Front of House" or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

Most of our rehearsals take place at the Old Mid Whitgiftian Association Clubhouse in Sanderstead. The bar facilities at the clubhouse lend a social and convivial atmosphere to our rehearsals and all members are encouraged to use the facilities at Sanderstead as often as possible.

If you would like more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on 020 8239 1010 or visit our Web Site at [www.mitreplayers.org.uk](http://www.mitreplayers.org.uk)

# THE CAST



Princess Aurora, *the Sleeping Beauty* ..... Cat Coe  
 Dame Dolly Dumpling, *the Palace Cook* ..... Colin Warnock  
 Muddles, *her son* ..... Paul Longhurst  
 Carabosse, *an evil witch* ..... Kelly Bennett  
 King of Slumberland, *a King* ..... Alan Merricks  
 Queen of Slumberland, *a former screen actress* ..... Lorraine Price  
 Prince Colin, *a handsome Prince* ..... Mark Curtis  
 Prince Keith, *would-be suitor to Aurora* ..... Neil O'Gorman  
 Prince Keith's Horse ..... Nathan Ascott  
 Graham Horne, *the Leprechaun, TV compere* ..... Joss Brazier  
 Lord Andrew Lloyd Warnock, *a legend* ..... Fraser Macdonald  
 John Barrowboy, *a celebrity judge* ..... Sam Cook  
 Martini Phillips, *a sexy celebrity choreographer judge* ..... Tamsin Reeve  
 Bill Can'twright, *a randy celebrity producer judge* ..... Peter Bramwell  
 Fairy 1,2,3,4,5,6 ..... Georgina Chenery, Anna Frost, Vicky Gunner  
 ..... Amy Knott, Hannah Pepper, Emily Stockwell  
 Fairy 7, *a very good - if not a little dippy Fairy* ..... Cathy Longhurst  
 Spinning Dick, *a redundant spinning wheel manufacturer* ..... Dave Price  
 Herald 1, 2, 3, ..... Jack Alexander, Sam Naish, Adam Roddie  
 Chamberlain, *The Palace Newscaster* ..... John Bartle  
 The Doctor, *a Time Lord* ..... David Payne  
 Richard III, *Carabosse's little hunchback henchman* ..... Adam Roddie  
 Olivia, *a TV Aurora* ..... Olivia Chenery  
 Mary, *a TV Aurora* ..... Mary Holton  
 A Bishop ..... Paul Cohen  
 James Backway, *a West End Star* ..... Nathan Ascott

Wannabee Auroras in the TV show "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Aurora?"  
 Katherine Bottomley, Iris Brown, Olivia Chenery, Heather Dawe, Julia Gibbs,  
 Mary Holton, Fiona Lilley, Morven Rae, Karen Rapps

Winged Monkeys - slaves of Carabosse: Jack Alexander, Nathan Ascott,  
 Tom Harper, Sam Naish, Liam Upson, Sam Westgate

Citizens of Slumberland, TV audience members, TV dancers etc.:  
 Members of the Company

Mini-Mitre Chorus of Bed-Bugs: Christopher Backway, Will Chenery,  
 Charlie Hammond, David Harries-Rees, Gemma Lilley, Ellie Rapps, Rebecca Rapps

# THE PRODUCTION TEAM



**Director**  
 Julian Chenery

**Musical Director**  
 Colin Warnock

**Choreographers**  
 Kelly Bennett  
 Lorraine Price  
 Tamsin Reeve

**Set Coordinator**  
 Alan Bishop

**Lighting Designer**  
 Matt Beal

**Sound**  
 James McLeod

**Special Effects**  
 Andy Thompson

**Costume Coordinators**  
 Carolyn Chenery  
 Anna Warnock

**Assisted by**  
 Gill Frost  
 Jo Gunner  
 Teresa Zamielska

**Dame's Costumes**  
 Sue Shimell

**Costumes**  
 Eclectia Costumes  
 Mitre Wardrobe

**Stage Management**  
 Gillian Bartle  
 Alan Collins  
 Derek Lee

**Scenic Artists**  
 Paul Bowles  
 Pat Price  
 Jill Wilson

**Backstage Assistance**  
 Carolyn Backway  
 Craig Backway  
 Kelly Bennett  
 Mark Bruggemann

Paul Cohen  
 Liz Dolman  
 Paul Grace  
 Mary Holton  
 Di Jones  
 Fraser Macdonald

Pete Marr  
 Sue Marr  
 Jon Lee  
 Nic Lee  
 Julian Parsons  
 Dave Price  
 Dave Richards  
 Charles Thomas  
 Dave Turner

**Props**  
 Andy Holton  
 Mary Holton

**Make Up**  
 Di Jones

**Photography**  
 Charles Marriott

**Handbill Design**  
 James Beal

**Programme**  
 Alan Bishop

**Production Manager**  
 Kelly Bennett

**Rehearsal Pianists**  
 Colin Warnock  
 James Beal

**Musical Arrangements**  
 Colin Warnock

**Band Fixer**  
 Pat Price

**Box Office**  
 Peter Stockwell

**Front of House**  
 Julia Gibbs  
 Alex Greenslade  
 and Friends  
 of the Mitre Players

**Refreshments**  
 Val Lee  
 and Friends  
 of the Mitre Players

# Act One

## AURORA'S BEDROOM - 100 years ago

Morning in Slumberland *Princess Aurora*

## THE PALACE SQUARE - KINGDOM OF SLUMBERLAND - 118 years ago

It's a Boy! *Chamberlain and Company*

It's a Girl! *Chamberlain and Company*

Muddles and Me *Dolly Dumpling and Muddles*

## A REALITY TV STUDIO - the present

Don't Let The Bed Bugs Bite *The Bed Bugs*

You Could be Aurora *Graham and the Judges*

How Do You Solve a Problem like Aurora? *Wannabees, Graham and the Judges*

## THE GREAT HALL OF SLUMBERLAND PALACE - 118 years ago

No Time For Sorry *Carabosse*

They Shall Not Spin! *Spinning Dick and Company*

## A REALITY TV STUDIO - the present

Don't Let The Bed Bugs Bite *The Bed Bugs*

Sleep is the Word *Olivia, Mary*

## NEAR THE GREAT HALL AND THE DARK TOWER - 100 years ago

Spinning *A Mysterious Woman*

## THE GREAT HALL OF SLUMBERLAND PALACE - 100 years ago

# Act Two

## THE GREAT HALL OF SLUMBERLAND PALACE

I am a Handsome Prince *Prince Colin*

How Do You Solve A Problem like Aurora? *The Judges*

(Reprise)

## CASTLE CARABOOSE - 100 years ago

The House of Carabosse *Winged Monkeys and Carabosse*

## A PRODUCTION OFFICE IN TELEVISION CENTRE - the present

What Are We Going To Do? *Graham and The Judges*

She Could Be Aurora (Reprise) *Judges, Graham, Prince Colin,*

## ON THE WAY TO SLUMBERLAND PALACE - the present

## THE SITE OF SLUMBERLAND PALACE - the present

## THE AUDITORIUM OF THE GRAND THEATRE, SLUMBERLAND

I Wanna Be a Celebrity *King, Queen, Fairy 7, Spinning Dick*

## ON STAGE AT THE GRAND THEATRE, SLUMBERLAND

She'll Die in Her Sleep *Carabosse*

Sleeping Beauty *The Company*

It's a Boy! / It's a Girl! *The Company*



# The Band

Conductor	Keith O'Gorman
Keyboards	James Beal
Woodwind	Hannah Widger
Woodwind	Nigel Crane
Trumpet	Chris Hickox
Trumpet	Pat Price

Trombone	Paul Buckley
Oboe	James Maragone
Flute	Nicola Dempsey
Percussion	Craig Backway
Bass	Bob Ward

Julian Chenery (Book, Lyrics and Director)

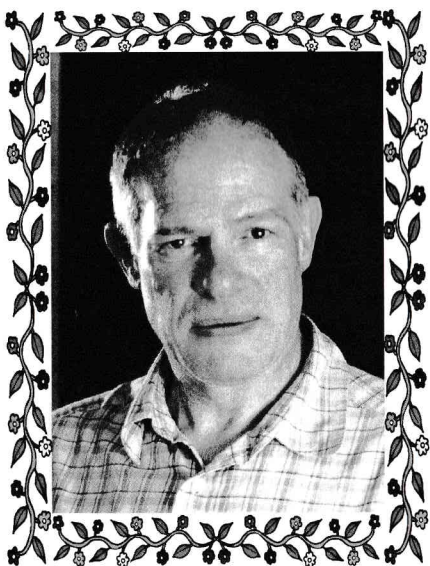
Julian, aka The Broker, has recently discovered that he has been a member of the Mitre Players since 1984, that's 24 years! Two thirds of the Mitres' existence! And three years longer than he's been married to his wife (The March Hare)! "Is it time for a divorce?" she asks. He has written (with The Bellman) and directed (without The Bellman) recent Mitre Christmas successes **Beauty and the Beast**, **Peter Pan** and **Robinson Crusoe**, helmed our hit Minack production of **Just So** and last appeared on stage as Merlin in **Sir Merryman**. He is a professional theatre producer, director, writer and actor (you'd think he'd know what he was doing, wouldn't you?) and is the creative force behind the internationally acclaimed Shakespeare 4 Kidz Theatre Company. His latest S4K show - a musical adaptation of **Hamlet** - was premiered in workshop form by the Junior Mitre Players in March 2007 and is currently on a full UK tour.



Colin Warnock

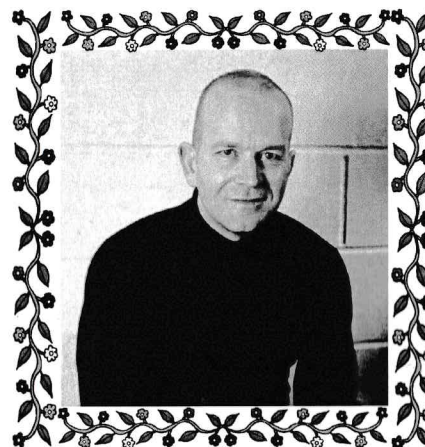
(Composer & Dame Dolly Dumpling)

Colin, aka The Bellman, first attended Trinity School in 1965, when it was brand new. After leaving school, he co-founded The Mitre Players and is proud to be still heavily involved 35 years later. Since appearing here last year as an Ugly Sister, Colin has appeared in the Barnstormers' production of **Putting It Together** and Mitres' summer production, **It's Only Make Believe**. He has also been Musical Director for productions of **The Scarlet Pimpernel**, **Just So**, **Bye Bye Birdie** and **42nd Street** - what a busy year! This is the 4th Mitre collaboration with Julian Chenery, having previously written music for **Beauty and the Beast**, **Peter Pan** and **Robinson Crusoe**. For 25 years, Colin has worked at Laine Theatre Arts in Epsom, helping to train the stars of tomorrow.



Kelly Bennett (Carabosse and Choreographer)

Kelly plays the part of an old witch on a daily basis in her role as teacher of maths at Riddlesdown High School so playing this character hasn't really been difficult. Anyone who regularly watches Mitre shows would have last seen her playing the part of Carol in last year's summer musical, **It's Only Make Believe**. Kelly is looking forward to a quieter 2008 after a busy year where she got married, started a new job and turned 30!



Peter Bramwell (Bill Can'twright)

It has been too long since Peter last performed with the Mitre Players and he hopes not to leave as long a gap before the next one. He hopes you enjoy his attempt at a Liverpool accent but apologises if you can't understand a word he is saying. Peter is co-directing CODA's production of **Copacabana** early in 2008.

Joss Brazier (Graham Horne)

Being asked to play the role of an Irish "faerie" thrilled Joss in this, his sixth Mitre pantomime (2003-2008). He has been able to call on his love of all things Irish (playing the harp, potatoes and....Westlife!) to fine tune the part. He is now fully able to play with his shillelagh after much practice in the last few weeks and says "top o'the morning" to you all this evening.



### Cat Coe (Sleeping Beauty)

This is Cat's first show with The Mitre Players, having recently moved to the lovely Croydon area from Southampton. Although she usually plays slightly more risqué parts (recent roles include a lingerie-clad witch, a man-eating plant, and an adulterous secretary), she is looking forward to playing the innocent Princess for a change. Cat wishes that, like her on-stage counterpart, she had a maid to boss about, handsome Princes fighting over her, and the ability to sleep for a 100 years without ageing.



### Cathy Longhurst (Fairy 7)

Having not been in a Mitre show since **Robinson Crusoe**, Cathy has missed the buzz of The Mitre Players! Playing the Good Fairy gives her a great opportunity to cover herself in glitter and shiny stuff - perfect for the festive season! For the last couple of years Cathy has been treading the boards at the Barn Theatre, Oxted in **Crazy for You**, **The Scarlet Pimpernel** and **Sweet Charity**. She has also been setting up a new company selling handmade goods with a heart theme - this is going very well, which means the whole house is covered with material, needles and pins so watch where you sit if you ever get invited round. Her next theatre venture is **Copacabana**, at the Barn Theatre.



### Sam Cook (John Barrowboy)

Sam thinks this year's Mitre panto is "Fantastic, fantastic, fantastic" and he hope you think so too. His experience this year as one of the judges has made him think twice about auditioning for the X factor himself. You may have seen Sam playing a B movie character called Brad in our summer touring show, **It's Only Make Believe**.

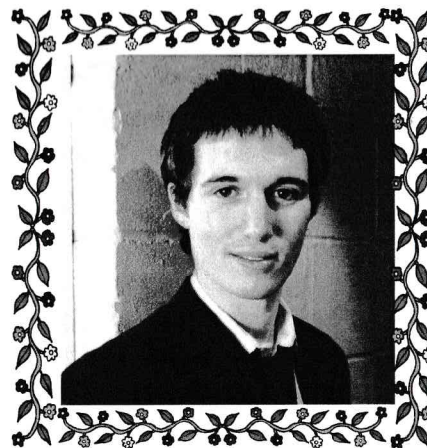


### Paul Longhurst (Muddles)

Paul has crammed a lot into his theatrical "career". As a director and performer, he has been a part of the amateur scene since he was ten. As a Mitre Player, Paul has played **Cookie (Return to the Forbidden Planet)**, **Buttons (Cindy-Ella)**, **Max (Biograph Girl)** and **Robinson Crusoe (Robinson Crusoe)** and he directed **Bye Bye Birdie!** Recently he has been in the director's chair more than on stage, taking **The Scarlet Pimpernel** and **Into The Woods** down to The Minack, and will soon be staging productions of **Kiss Me Kate** (for ESOS in Reigate) and **We Will Rock You** (for Epsom Players, in Epsom).

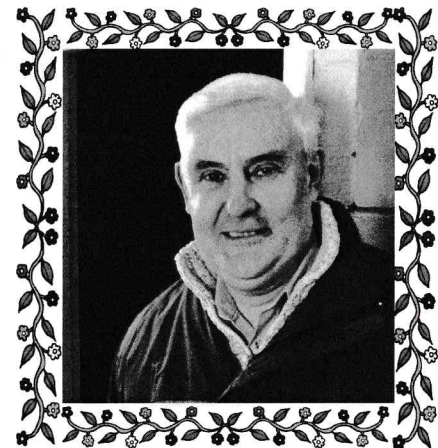
### Mark Curtis (Prince Colin)

Returning from university Mark picked up the audition notice for **Sleeping Beauty** and immediately noticed "genuine HANDSOME actor to play a genuine HANDSOME PRINCE". Disappointed, he screwed it up and chucked it in the bin. However, Lady Luck had clearly decided to pay him a little visit, as the audition panel consisted of Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder and David Blunkett. And so now you, the unwitting paying public, will be subjected to his ugly mug. But fear not! The Prince doesn't appear until Act Two. This is only Mark's second Mitre panto, despite being a Mitre member for 8 years.



### Fraser Macdonald (Andrew Lloyd Warnock)

Having played the Dame frequently in our past pantomimes, Fraser is happy this year to leave his bra and frocks hanging in the wardrobe. Recent appearances have seen him as Fagin in **Oliver!** and a bagpipe-playing Headmistress in the Easter parody of **Miss Brodie**. This year he plays a hybrid Lloyd-Webber/Warnock creation although the resemblance is poor since he is neither short, fat nor balding. In his spare time he runs the Spanish Department at Trinity School.



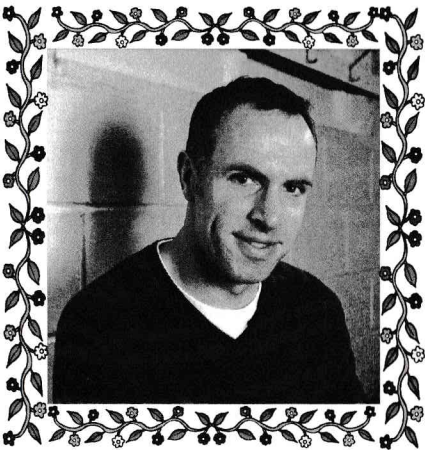
### Alan Merricks (The King)

Having finally managed to straighten up after playing Sir Cuthbert in **Cinderella, Charleston!** last year, Alan is relishing a more regal role, far more in keeping with his dramatic pedigree (not counting a pirate and a monster). As always, it has been a pleasure working with such a fine company - particularly with Queen Loz - watch out, Liz and Phil - Loz and Al are on your case!



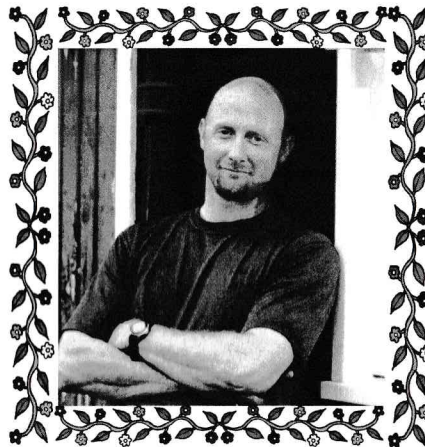
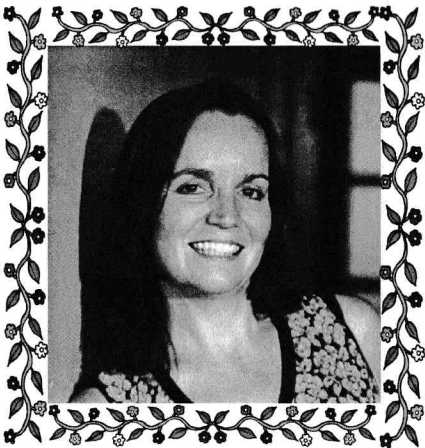
### Neil O'Gorman (Prince Keith)

Neil is happy to be playing the part of 'Prince Keith', described in the script as an 'arrogant pratt', as he feels that this is a role that comes naturally to him. In his spare time he enjoys talking about himself, listening to other people talk about himself and looking in mirrors wishing he had more hair. He would like to dedicate his performance to his brother who, by an uncanny coincidence, is also called Keith.



### Dave Price (Spinning Dick)

Dave just can't get enough of Trinity school. Not only did he attend the school as a boy and performs here regularly with the Mitre Players, he has just started working here as a teacher of DT. Dave hopes you enjoy his number and promises not to milk his performance too much....



### Lorraine Price (Queen and Choreographer)

Lorraine has been in more pantomimes than she has had hot dinners, although she is partial to salad. She is thrilled to be playing the Queen of Slumberland as she has always wanted to rule the country!.....and fall asleep in Act 2. Lorraine wishes you sweet dreams but please try to stay awake during her performance.

### Tamsin Reeve (Martini Phillips and Choreographer)

Having played the chameleon-like Fairy Hollywood in last year's **Cinderella, Charleston!**, Tamsin is delighted to be back with the Mitres for another stab at panto, as part of the Sam, Tam and Bram trio. Rehearsals have been hysterical and she hopes that she can do justice to the "hot, hot, hot" line! Thanks, also, to the wonderful wannabees for their help and encouragement.



## THE ART OF PANTOMIME

For 35 years now we Mitre Players have bravely sacrificed our Christmas holidays to create our own unique style of pantomime. All of it home-written and every song an original gem - well almost! In the early days the shows were written by Mitre Player founders Martin Tyrrell and Colin Warnock and in recent years, a number of others have stepped forward to fill their formidable creative boots.

Rather than the commercial fare that is served up in most other theatres across the kingdom, the ingredients of each Mitre Christmas show have been a combination of traditional fairy tale, a fashionable theme of the day, a contemporary twist, a liberal dose of childish sixth-form humour and a smattering of intellect. We've even created our own traditions with 'big red curtains', signposts pointing to The Crown and a bloke in a dress proclaiming he is "this year's Mitre Players pantomime dame!" You could, I suppose, call it "posh panto".

Now there are a couple of new boys on the block in the shape of the Barbican and the

Old Vic, who in recent years have also discovered the fun that can be had by tweaking the pantomime formulae towards one's own eclectic audience. They too have discovered that the result can be either a bit hit and miss or a five-star smash.

This year we celebrate the success of reality TV audition shows that help to discover Marias, Josephs, Nancys and Olivers. Of course, in reality, these aren't casting exercises at all, but brilliant pieces of marketing using prime time Saturday night TV to tell millions people about a West End show, to create a buzz around the brand, and a huge demand for tickets. In fact, it's the first time that TV and theatre have successfully combined to work together to promote the theatre industry.

It won't be too long before "Xmas-Factor" or "Panto Idol" fills your small screen with wannabee Whittingtons, potential Peter Pans or even aspiring Auroras.

But then - remember where you saw it first.