

# There has never been a shortage of wannabee thesps in Port Isaac to put on make-up, wigs and dresses (and that's just the men!) and get up on the Village Hall stage for the pantomime ...

## P.I.Ps. Panto

The Port Isaac Players are well into rehearsals for their pantomime: **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**. The cast has swollen so much that we are beginning to wonder if anyone will be left for an audience.

November 1982



**SANTA IN SPACE**  
Last year's production of 'Hansel and Gretel' was highly commended in a Cornwall Community Rural Council Village Hall Pantomime Competition sponsored by Calor Gas. This year's P.I.P.s Christmas production 'Santa in Space' was entered, and after being nominated in eight categories, picked up four top awards. A group of us attended the presentation night at Truxo Town Hall which was overflowing with thespians representing no less than 40 village halls. After a buffet supper the awards began. Congratulations to: Niki Slater – best female support, Greg Hingley, Richard Hambly, and Dominic Davis – best comedy song, Vic Hingley – best male lead, and to a host of backstage helpers including Pat Hingley, Niki Slater, Katie Childs, Linda von Lintzgy...

May 1991



‘As standards go, we aim low!’ is the new mantra of the Drekkly Theatre Company. That way you will never be disappointed!

Never ones to shirk a challenge, we gave ‘The Wizard Of Oz’ the Port Isaac treatment. And so, once again, thank you to our loyal and faithful audiences for supporting us and giving our over-blown egos yet another boost.

Acting? What's all the fuss about? As for singing and dancing, we may hit the right notes occasionally, but who's counting? We all start the songs together and occasionally all finish on the same note and in between ... it's every man for himself! That's right, isn't it Janet?

The show opened with Dee (The Wig) Randell, Alyson (The Walk) Lorimer and Mark (I'm NOT Dancing) Rowe as our travelling hillbilly musicians. They set the tone for the evening, which rapidly moved downhill from then onwards. This musical trio have been nominated for the Brit Awards with their moving fret work and their script was so hot off the press that Mark was still writing it on the first night! (*ed: and the second, third and fourth night!*). You don't get more cutting edge than that. And, you'll be pleased to know, the rather angry boil on his face was not contagious and did wash off eventually. Dee, however, had to have that wig surgically removed and Alyson definitely deserves the glamour role next year. (Did I just say next year? Slip of the tongue!)  
February 2006



February 2013



and the final word goes to the Trio theatre critic ...

This production had it all ... a disillusionary storyteller, cute children, henchmen, a wicked stepmother, singing and dancing garden gnomes, a talking mirror, a ghost, a handsome prince, a Cornish maid, very cute woodland animals, a flamboyant Dame, a beautiful heroine, talking signs and, last but not least, “a present of a pheasant”.

February 2017

## P.I.P'S. PANTOMIME

This year's panto - 'Aladdin' was a riot of laughs from the opening 'round' song, to the forest chase (plus hostage!) and to the Treasure Cave dance routines. An ambitious and successful production despite the far from ideal conditions of the Hall. It was a delight to see the whole cast of 29 lined up on the stage at the finale.

December 1983

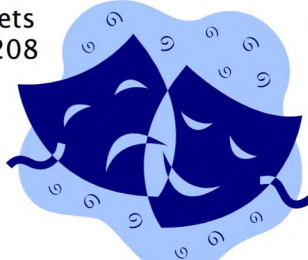
## LOOK BEHIND YOU - IT'S PANTO TIME AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Cross dressing, dysfunctional families, poverty, neglect and untold riches, shoe fetishes and wild over-acting ... yes, Cinderella comes to Port Isaac at Christmas.

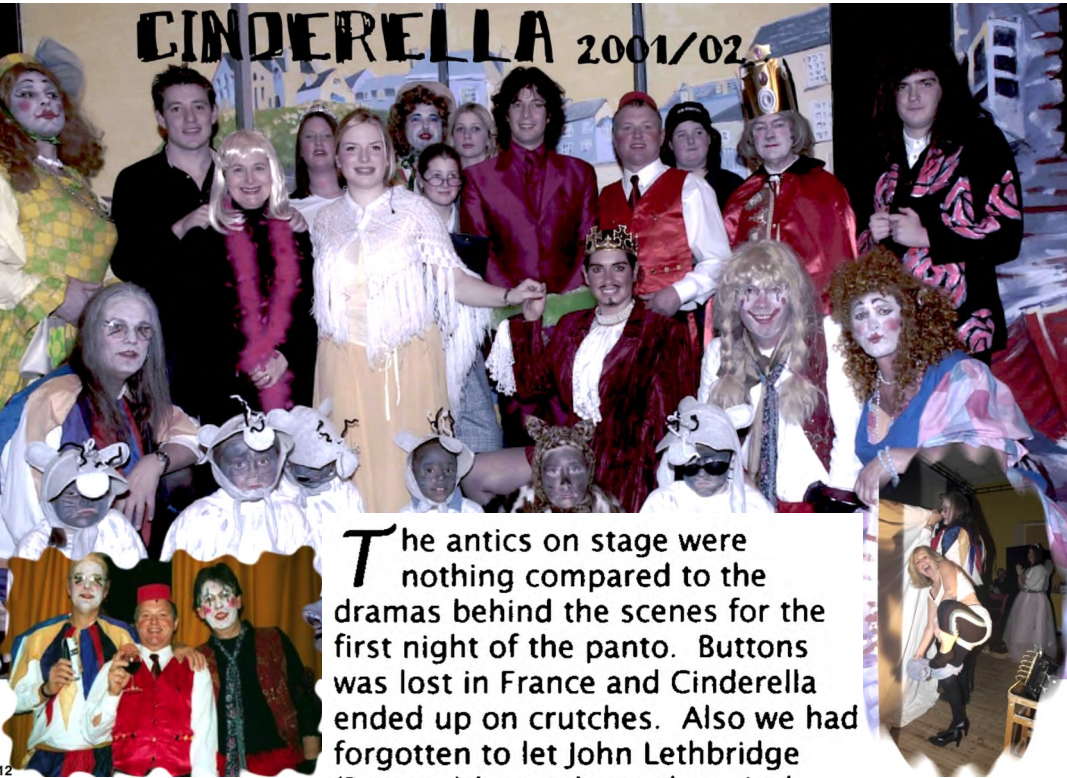
It's pantomime time in the Village Hall on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th December. There's a chance for a third evening on Saturday 5th January if popular demand proves overwhelming.

Tickets will be on sale from November 20th from Secrets (tel: 01208 880862/880905) or the Pottery (tel: 01208 880625) priced £5 for adults and £3 for children and concessions.

Make this Christmas one to be remembered! You won't believe the talent to be found in Port Isaac ... and if you can't find it, come to our pantomime!



November 2001



The antics on stage were nothing compared to the dramas behind the scenes for the first night of the panto. Buttons was lost in France and Cinderella ended up on crutches. Also we had forgotten to let John Lethbridge (Buttons) know that a theatrical explosion would take place as the Fairy Godmother appeared. His look of surprise wasn't acting! But the audience was on our side. We all felt among friends as we ad-libbed, sang, danced, strutted and stripped through 'Cinderella'. We started rehearsing in the late summer. Yes, it took nearly 14 weeks just to reach THAT standard of performance (maybe we should get going now for next Christmas!). But during that time we transformed from a motley group of amateurs into a finely tuned bunch of actors. In fact, the first time everyone turned up for a complete run-through was the first performance. That's how confident we were!

February 2002



## Sleeping Beauty: a revue!

Laurel and Hardy, Abbott and Costello, Eric and Ernie ... Mark and Dee. There are just some classic combinations that fate throws together. However, Mark and Dee are now officially a 'ménage à trois' as THAT wig has become a permanent part of the act with a personality all of its own.

Dee, as Mrs Muppet, the domestic goddess, showed us that all you need to clean the palace were a flurry of feathers and a posh accent - and a French maid with a six o'clock shadow. Tout alors! Mark gave a marvellously convincing performance as that very French maid by adding that authentic dash of thong. It certainly gave us all an insight into "life below stairs", especially back stage.

After seeing Alyson Lorimer last year with straw tucked behind her ears I decided that the poor girl deserved a glamour break this year. The effect was slightly marred by the rather enthusiastic birthing 'pangs' and her



Speaking of which, Steve Appleby gave us another wonderfully understated performance - a masterclass of subtle characterisation giving us the whole range of emotion from evil to ... evil. His rendition of 'Dor you wish your girlfriend was hot like me' has probably scarred George Cleave for life.

And George - once again we were delighted that he agreed to join the pantomime. He managed to juggle college, ferreting and acting in a way that only the young can. We salute him for being prepared to be ridiculous with the rest of us. What a star!

Our two Sleeping Beauty "principals", Jo Stafford and Kathryn McDonnell, made us all be-

lieve that fairy tales can come true. Indeed if you live for 120 years and look that good, there's hope for us all.

February 2007



February 2015

## P.I.P's

The Christmas Pantomime, with a cast of thousands, is now well under way. Performances: Saturday 22nd, Thursday 27th, and Friday 28th December. Help wanted backstage, with make-up, and at front of house. Please ring Cindy Powell P.I. 371. The Players may present 'Strawberry Jam' and 'Cove Cottage' on the 7th and 8th of this month providing they can get some men to help with scenery, etc.

December 1984



November 1985



February 2003

## Panto time is here again

Already the walls of the Village Hall are having their annual stretch to encompass the egos of the group of 'wannabees' who call themselves the Drekkly Theatre Company. You might think that summer has only just ended but, as far as they are concerned, Christmas is not far away and someone told them that 'practice makes perfect' so they are out to prove them wrong!

So, if you can't find anything better to do over Christmas, come along and marvel at this Port Isaac performance of *Snow White and the Six and a Half Dwarfs*. It will bear little or no resemblance to the fairy story you know so well, but this group of local thespians will astound and amaze you with their 'talents' and their acting and singing skills.

Performances are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday December 20th & 21st and Saturday and Sunday December 27th & 28th starting at 7.30pm each night.

All the seats will be numbered and once they've gone, they've gone. We will not be able to squeeze anyone else in so, learn from your experiences of the last two pantos, and buy your tickets early. Tickets will be on sale for locals up until the end of October and then internationally yes, we did say internationally! from November 1st onwards. Seats on the first four rows are

priced at £6 for adults and £4 for children under 16 and OAPs. All the rest are £5 for adults and £3 for children under 16 and OAPs. They can be purchased from Secrets. Telephone bookings can be made on 01208 880905 or 880862 or by email on [deesam@btopenworld.com](mailto:deesam@btopenworld.com) (Please note that tickets have to be paid for within five days of making your reservation)

November 2003



February 2009

## Pantomime Scenery & Props Painting Day

Even if you can only spend an hour or two your help would be very much appreciated

Thursday November 18th

Port Isaac Village Hall

10am – 4pm

with refreshments



November 2010

## Jack and the Beanstalk



February 2011