

George Critchley for PMA Productions presents
a traditional family Pantomime



£1.50

Jack and the Beanstalk

The comedy talents
of **TIM POPE**
as Dame Dolly
Dimplebottom

with the beautiful
and fabulous
presenter from



**LEIGH
MORRISON**
as Jack

Lancashire's own
mischief-maker,
**GEORGE
CRITCHLEY**
as Silly Billy

Rachel Slater as
Princess Jill
Scott Worsfold as
Fleshcreep
Helen Kent as the
Fairy
Fiona Egan as
Queen Bee

PLUS full
professional
supporting cast

Directed by
Matthew
Townshend
Musical Direction
by Malcolm Bennett
Script by
George Critchley,
Terry Morrison
and Matthew
Townshend



PMA Productions in association with

Jack Dimplebottom

Leigh Morrison



Leigh is currently presenting a new series for **CBBC The Agency**, a show where she challenges teenagers to stage competitions to find out who will make it as a star! She was seen as a regular face on **CITV** presenting live studio links, location filming and presenting competitions.

Earlier this year she was a regional presenter for **ITV's Record of the Year**. Leigh is a naturally energetic and talented presenter being able to relate to audiences of all ages. She can make fun of herself and has starred in spoof features such as 'We've Been Framed'.

In 2002 Leigh was a regular on **SM:tv Live**, and in the summer **CITV** took to the road with the **White Knuckle Tour** for **ITV1**. Over 7 weeks Leigh co-presented the programme that involved live stage performances to massive crowds and location inserts and interviewing bands such as **Blue**, **Liberty X** and **Atomic Kitten**. After 2 months at **CITV**, Leigh was asked to present **Wanted.com** an **SMG** programme for **ITV1**, filmed over three days in **Glasgow** Leigh solely fronted the live show.

At 18 Leigh launched her career in broadcasting when she joined a local radio station as a trainee journalist and newsreader. For two and a half years she presented on air, wrote scripts, edited and interviewed the country's major political noises and eventually joined one of Scotland's biggest stations, **Radio Tay**.

When Leigh left her position as senior journalist she attracted major press attention by becoming one of the three new presenters on **CITV** in 2001 following a national televised vote. She has featured in articles for **The Radio Times**, **What's on TV**, **The Scottish Sun** amongst others. Leigh is passionate about cars and driving, as well as being a karaoke Queen!





Princess Jill

Rachel Slater

Rachel was born and raised in Shropshire where she learned to sing and dance and then furthered her career at the Doreen Bird College of Performing Arts.

Her varied career has seen her perform in pantomime repertory theatre, national and international tours and is well travelled after a world tour with the **National Youth Choir of Great Britain**.

Her first job after college was a UK tour of **Singing in the Rain** starring Paul Nicholas and directed by Tommy Steele. She then went on a UK tour of Barry Manilow's **Copacabana**.

She has a great deal of musical theatre experience performing as Dinah and Pearl in **Starlight Express**, Janet and Magenta in **The Rocky Horror Show** and in the West End cast of **Smokey Joe's Café**.

In pantomime she has played Maid Marion in **Babes in the Wood** in Cheltenham, Prince Charming in **Cinderella** at Oldham Coliseum, Fairy Bowbells and Alice Fitzwarren in **Dick Whittingham** alongside Hale and Pace.

Rachel joins the cast of **Jack and The Beanstalk** straight from a UK tour of **A Night At The Musicals**.

Rachel would like to thank her mum and Dad for all the love and support they have given her so far throughout her life and career.

Fairy Tinkle My Bell

Helen Kent

Helen began her career at the age of 5 training as a gymnast and dancer with many successes in competitions including Champion Child of the Year, a Carl Alan Award and Miss Dance of Great Britain.

She continued her training at Brian Rogers Performers College and went on to tour throughout Europe and the UK playing various roles in musicals such as **Cabaret**, **Mamma Mia**, **Catherine**, **Spirit of the Dance** and **Cinderella**. She has also appeared in West End theatre's including the Palladium alongside stars such as Jim Davidson, Ted Rogers, Bea Arthur, Tommy Tune and Cliff Richard. She is now looking forward to playing Fairy Tinkle my Bell in this years production of **Jack and the Beanstalk** in Oswaldtwistle, Cannock and Colne.





Dame Dilly Dimplebottom

Tim Pope

Tim's career began in 1990 as a Butlins Redcoat but he soon began to make his name as a stand-up comic in the clubs and theatres. In 1992 Tim appeared in *Jack and the Beanstalk* in Hunstanton before moving to the South West where he received the Best Comedy Act award at The Entertainer of the South West Awards.

Since then he has been in demand for the summer season in theatres in Torquay, Weston-Super-Mare and Eastbourne.

Tim has performed in the famous theatre 'City Varieties' Leeds and in the West End at the Lyric Theatre. His TV credits include **Stand Up Live**, **West Country Stirling Salute**, **Inspector Alley** and many more.

He has also cruised extensively with Fred Olsen and Thomson as far afield as the Amazon, the Caribbean and last year in the Canaries and North Africa.

Tim last appeared in **Cinderella** at the Prince of Wales Theatre (Cannock) and the Municipal Hall (Colne), and is delighted to be returning to these fabulous theatres as Dame Dilly Dimplebottom in his fourth pantomime for George and PMA Productions.

Choreography

Natalie Cleverley

Natalie hails from Portsmouth where she started dancing at the age of six.

Since graduating from Laine Theatre Arts stage school, Natalie has appeared in theatres throughout the UK with stars such as Ken Dodd, Petula Clark, Dickie Henderson, Marti Webb, Tom O'Connor, Leslie Grantham, Jim Davidson and many more.

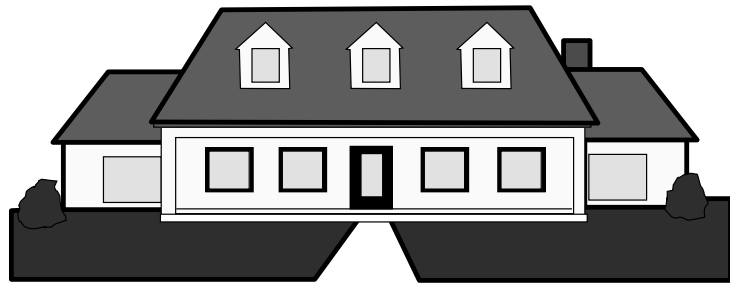
Her work has also taken her to the Falkland Islands, Toronto, the Caribbean, Germany and Northern Ireland.

Natalie now combines performing all over the country in production shows as well as choreographing many other shows. She has directed and choreographed many summer seasons and pantomimes in the last 10 years and has taught many people to dance in these productions from Michaela Strachen, Joe Pasquale and Leslie Grantham to the Krankies, Bobby Crush and Jeremy Spake.

Natalie is delighted to be working with George Critchley having worked together many years before.



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DAPA

Principal: Jayne Vernon

The Wharf Studios, Eanam Wharf Blackburn, Lancashire



DAPA has been established for over over 21 years. Taking over from the founder in 1994, principal Jayne Vernon was a professional dancer and had her own caberet group. Graham Vernon, is a British Latin American Champion, exmodel and singer.

Many students are now performing and teaching around the world. DAPA prides itself on a fun, friendly, family centre in the beautiful wharf side studios in Blackburn.

For more information about DAPA call Jayne on (01254) 699221 The Wharf Studios, Eanam Wharf, Blackburn BB1 5BY.

SENIORS: Katie Fry, Alex Duxbury, Claire Fisher, Carly Ralph, Jane Harrison, Lauren Grogan-Emmett

INTERS: Becky Worthy, Jessica Rowe, Samantha Harrison, Ruth Jeffrey, Siobhan Jackson, Chelsea Pickup

JUNIORS: Seana Nicholson, Faye Regan, Libby Render, Helana Marshall, Hannah Reeves, Stephanie Ralph, Alessandra Trisorio

Studio 5 Dancing School

Principal: Heather Peskett

Brewery Sreet, Rugeley, Staffordshire

Principal of Studio 5 Stage School, Heather started the Studio seventeen years ago. Her pupils are trained from 3 years old in becoming young entertainers of the performing world.

Opportunities for pupils to perform, competitions and pantomimes provide them with the knowledge and experience of the theatre, indeed Studio 5 Stage School has provided pantomime dancers at all the professional pantomimes here at the Prince of Wales Centre and the Red Rose theatre in Rugeley.

Both Heather and her talented pupils are proud to be associated with George Critchley and PMA Productions in this year's pantomime, **Jack and the Beanstalk**.

If you would like to know more about Studio 5 Stage School, contact - Heather Peskett RAD (Adv) , MTD (Adv). Telephone: (01889) 584387.

SENIORS: Gayle Peskett, Katie Phizacklea, Katie Jones, Carly Trusler, Megan Wood, Dominique Hucks, Jodie Hall

INTERS: Shara Alexander, Gabriella Kucmucz, Tammy Bywater, Hayley Shaw, Jessica Pugh, Sian Richards, Gabrielle Walsh, Stephanie Jefferies, Amy DiBartolomeo, Luke DiBartolomeo, Jordan Taylor

JUNIORS: Jade Groves, Saffron Ball, Kayleigh Dewhurst, Ellie-May Hannant, Megan Pugh, Sophie Best, Ellianne Taylor, Larabeth Taylor, Ellen Burtoft, Imogen Potts, Rachael Phizacklea



The Chippendale School of Dance

Principal: Susan Chippendale

Great George Street, Colne, Lancashire



Susan Chippendale is a fully registered teacher of the Royal Academy of Dancing and affiliated member of the Imperial Teachers Society of Dancing. Her school in Colne has been established for 37 years. During this time many pupils have gone on to perform professionally or have qualified to become teachers of dancing.

Fully qualified teachers provide an opportunity for pupils to dance on theatre stages in amateur and professional productions with regular examinations to keep a high standard in all aspects of dance.

The Studio, Unit 3, Colne Commercial Centre, Great George Street, Colne, Lancashire, BB8 0SQ. Tel: (01282) 866298

SENIORS: Catherine O'Connell, Stephanie Lincoln, Helen O'Connell, Jennifer Lonsdale, Sophie Greenwood, Lucy Barrett

INTERS: Alison Lonsdale, Samantha Burniston, Cathryn Burniston, Cathryn Osborne, Samantha Storey, Jessica Hemmingway, Lydia Waddington

JUNIORS: Katie Chadwick, Dayna Edington, Emma Burniston, Jessica Balderstone, Faye Collins, Rheannon Davies

★ Act ONE

- 1: Prologue
- 2: The village of
- 3: Near the village
- 4: Dame Dilly's kitchen
- 5: Near the village
- 6: Dame Dolly's kitchen
- 7: Woodland

★ Act TWO

- 1: The Giant's Castle
- 2: The Giant's corridor
- 3: The lair of the Giant
- 4: Silly Billy's Silly Singalong
- 5: The Wedding finale (but whose?)

Help Silly Billy to find the following words:

- Jack
- Beanstalk
- Dimplebottom
- Daisy
- Fleshcreep
- Silly Billy
- ★ Cow



Silly Billy's Silly Wordsearch

J	A	C	K	Z	D	B	C	E	B	T	J
X	D	G	H	E	V	E	G	H	J	K	L
D	C	G	F	L	E	A	C	G	T	O	M
A	I	F	L	L	E	N	L	K	J	H	Y
I	R	T	E	L	E	S	I	L	L	Y	B
S	I	M	S	L	A	T	O	T	T	O	I
Y	I	M	H	T	W	A	Y	U	O	H	L
T	F	H	C	P	O	L	U	R	X	N	L
H	I	M	R	L	E	K	O	T	T	O	Y
E	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	Z	X	C	V
C	O	W	E	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I
D	I	M	P	L	E	B	O	T	T	O	M



Cast

in order of appearance

Fairy Tinkle my Bell..... Helen Kent
Jack Dimplebottom..... Leigh Morrison
Fleshcreep..... Scott Worsfold
Silly Billy..... George Critchley
Princess Jill..... Rachel Slater
Queen Bee..... Fiona Egan
Dame Dilly Dimplebottom..... Tim Pope
Daisy the Cow..... British Beef
The Giant..... A conscience near you
Villagers, Giant's assistants, Sprites of the
Beanstalk..... Dance Schools

Production Team

Directed by..... Matthew Townshend
Written by..... George Critchley,
Matthew Townshend & Terry Morrison
Musical Director..... Malcolm Bennett
Percussion..... Michael Martin
Costume Design..... Irene Whitehall
Technical Manager..... Neil Dolman
Produced by..... George Critchley for
PMA Productions
Choreography..... Natalie Cleverley
Assistant Choreographer..... Helen Kent
Dance School Choreography.....
in Oswaldtwistle..... Jayne Vernon
in Cannock..... Heather Peskett
in Colne..... Susan Chippendale

Theatre Staff, Oswaldtwistle

Nigel Green - Theatre Manager

Helene Heyes and Kerry Smith - Front of House and Marketing

Lynn Mather, Janet Flanagan - Front of House, Box Office Staff

Gordon Smith, Allan Dobson, Warren Hargreaves-Duty Staff

Blake Slater - Stage Manager

Glynn Hughes - Lighting Technician

Greg Hughes, Warren Hargreaves, Joshua Green - Lighting Support Technicians

Sarah Dobson, Elliott Green - Refreshments

Theatre Staff, Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock

Theatre Manager **Richard Kay** • Duty Officers **Sandra Conroy, Alison Handley**

• Box Office Assistants **Barbera Sutherland, Val Cunningham, Rachel Dean, Laura Treadwell**

• Steward **Jim Gray-Davis**

• Housekeepers **Ann Massey, Hazel Booth, Lorraine Veste**

• Acting Technical Manager **Andrew Kennerley**

• Sound Operator **Adrian Peskett** • Stage Manager **Gareth Hughes**

• Technicians **Mick Perry, Andrew Kennerley, Charlotte Perry, David Barr, Joanne Dyer**

THANKS TO ALL FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Theatre Staff, Municipal Hall, Colne

Phil Storey and all the staff: **Gary Hood** – Entertainments Manager

Michelle Barlow - Publicity

• **Ric Hodson** – Promotional Production Assistant

• **Sam Wilson** – Modern Apprentice

• Front of House: **Tony Dodd** – Venue Manager

• Box Office: **Harold Hogarth & Chris Cordingly**

• Stage Crew/Technical staff: **Steve Dolman** – Stage Manager

VIKINGS and GIANTS

Viking Tales

The stories that the Vikings and Norsemen told were full of giants and magic and magical things, such as Jack the Giant killer's coat, shoes and sword.

In many of these tales there was a giant who had no heart in his body. The Giant seemed unkillable because he kept his heart locked away in a box or under a tree or in the body or egg of a bird. When he was tempted by the innocent questions of the hero into telling where he kept it, the hero immediately set out to find the secret hiding place, destroy the heart and so kill the giant!

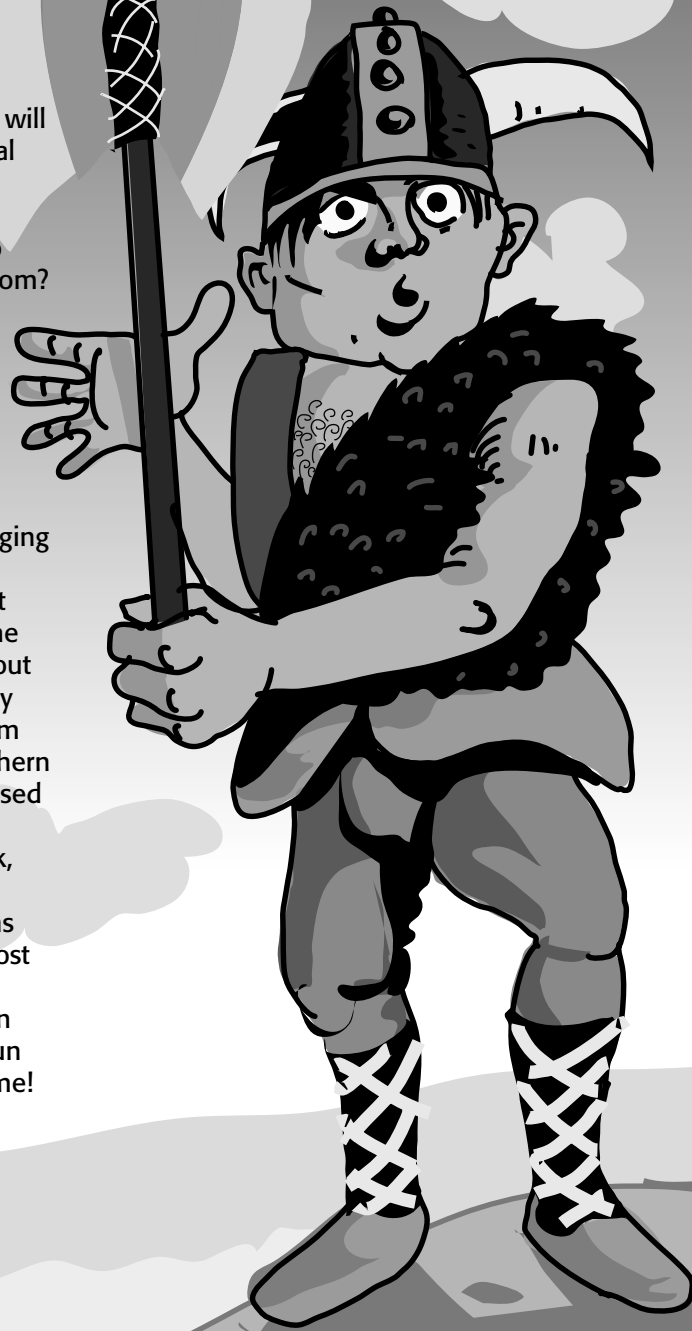
The Vikings and Norsemen told these tales while they lived in Britain. People listened to them again, perhaps changing the tale a little. The people they told them to in turn told them again.

So they moved on, picking up new and amazing details, changing with each teller, just like a secret told in the game of Chinese Whispers. And one of them, a special one, became Jack the Giant Killer. And Jack the Giant Killer became the basis for Jack and the Beanstalk.

Where's the Beanstalk?

Having got to this point you will have noticed that the original story has no beanstalk. Jack the Giant Killer didn't scale a huge plant into the sky, so where did that idea come from?

Over time different tellers changed the tale, creating new details and forgetting others. King Arthur, the coat, shoes and sword were lost, for example; while a cow, magic beans, a golden egg laying hen, a singing harp and, most importantly, a beanstalk were added. But why a beanstalk? Perhaps the beanstalk originally started out as something different; many people believe it derives from the magical ash tree of northern mythology. Perhaps it was used because, as with mistletoe, white heather and shamrock, it was a charmed plant and grew up somewhere and has since become one of the most famous pieces of magic in any story anywhere – and an essential ingredient in the fun and excitement of pantomime!



Panto Time

As a pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk was first produced by David Garrick at Drury Lane in 1773. It featured the actress Eliza Povey as Jack, and a beanstalk which reached all the way from the stage floor to the very roof of the theatre.

So tall was this beanstalk that Miss Povey refused to climb it, a job which ended up going to a young boy called Sullivan. In true rags to riches style, young Sullivan went from working on a coach stand in Covent Garden, through his nightly climb of the beanstalk, to become Principal dancer with the Academic Royale in Paris with a reputation as an artist of considerable merit and a highly respectable member of society!

Since Drury Lane in 1773, Jack and the Beanstalk has gone on to become one of the most popular of all pantomimes. Often described as one of the 'big four' alongside Cinderella, Dick Whittington and Aladdin, it guarantees a Christmas of fun and laughter year after year. Like all pantos, its place names change from town to town, it is peppered with topical references from time to time, and even introduces new jokes along with the old occasionally. But its story, the bones of which first reached our shores in the long boats of the Vikings, forever remains the same, not only on stage but also in our hearts and minds.



Drummer/ percussionist

Michael Martin

Mike is 19 and from Chesham, Buckinghamshire. He is a self-taught drummer and has been playing for about 7 years (so he is very tired...).

This is Mike's first professional appearance, but he has been in various amateur productions including Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk and Buggy Malone, and regularly plays at church. Mike spent the last year studying at the Nexus music college in Coventry, where he learnt how to hold drumsticks properly and was inspired to make a career out of music. Mike is off travelling for 5 months in March, after which he will be going to university.



Fleshcreep

Scott Worsfold

Scott first began his acting career with the Cambridge Theatre Company and then went on to work with the National Youth Theatre before attending Mountview Theatre School which is now all behind him. *Oh no it isn't – Oh yes it is!* Although this is Scott's first pantomime with PMA, Scott is no stranger to wearing sequins and breeches having played the Sultan last year in **Aladdin** at the Lowry Theatre, Manchester, The King in **Sleeping Beauty**, Buttons in **Cinderella**, Alan-a-dale in **Robin Hood**, The Wizard in **The Wizard of Oz** and Tiny Tim in **Marley's Ghost**. Aside from sequins, Scott has appeared in many Shakespeare plays, including *Touchstone*, **As You Like it**, *Petruchio*, **The Taming Of The Shrew**, and Master Page in **The Merry Wives Of Windsor**. Other credits include; **Jumbo**, **Moonlight Serenade**, **Ginge**, **Too Much Too Young**, **Boney**, **The Missing Mood Pants** and Pete in **Ten Tiny Fingers**, **Nine Tiny Toes**. Scott is also a big lover of Musical Theatre and has enjoyed performing in two reviews at the Mill Theatre performing songs from the West End and Teddy Klein in the new musical **That Perfect Tonic**. He has also co-written, directed and produced his own musical **Making Waves** in London. TV credits include; **The Secrets of Scotland Yard** (BBC), **Science In Focus** (ch4), **Knights** (BBC), and **The Mulatto Song** (ch4). Scott is very pleased to be spending his Christmas season here in **Jack and The Beanstalk** being Booed and getting hissed, hic! and he wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New year.

Queen Bee

Fiona Egan

This is Fiona's first time working for PMA productions but not her first time as Queen! Previously she has donned the crown in **Sleeping Beauty** at the Lowry, Manchester, and donned the nose twice as the **Wicked Witch of the West** in **The Wizard of Oz**, at the Charter Theatre, Preston and **The Neptune**, Liverpool. She has also been booed off the stage playing **Eliza Scrooge** in an adaptation of **A Christmas Carol**, at the **CragRats Theatre Holmfirth**, and at **Batley Town Hall**.

Aside from panto, some of her most recent roles to date have taken place outside. Summer touring productions have included **The Merry Wives of Windsor**, as **Mistress Ford**. Kate in **The Taming of the Shrew**, **Rosalind** in **As You Like it**, and **Maria** in **Twelfth Night**. An autumn tour of local theatres and village halls in Lancashire and Yorkshire, saw her taking on the role of **Stella** in **New Life**, a play by **Maureen Lawrence**, focussing on rural issues.

In the past Fiona has also toured Germany for the **White Horse Theatre Company** in **A Picture of Dorian Gray**, and produced and performed in fringe theatre productions in London and Edinburgh.

For those of you who are soap fans, Fiona is soon to be seen as a nurse in **Emmerdale** in the New Year. Blink and you'll miss it! To relax Fiona enjoys working out at the gym, watching **Danny Kaye** movies and has a healthy appetite for **Holsten Pils**.



The Production Team

Matthew Townshend

Director/Writer

'**Jack and the Beanstalk**'
Original script by
Terry Morrison and George Critchley.

Adapted and directed by
Matthew Townshend.

This Christmas is Matthew's twelfth pantomime season and his fifth with PMA productions.

He is delighted to be back at Colne and in Cannock and is looking forward to discovering the delights of Oswaldtwistle.

Matthew has appeared as Villain, as Robin Hood and several times as Dame. He has worked with many well-known faces, including Jack Smethurst, Barbara Windsor and Ann and Maureen Nolan.

In another life, Matthew is a recognised expert in the field of educational drama. He has been the Artistic Director of **Spectrum's Nextage** and of the **Young National Trust Theatre** and has worked as director for **Sixth Sense**, for TyneWear Theatre-in-Education and for the **National Youth Theatre**. He spent two seasons as an assessor on the Lloyds Bank Theatre Challenge for the **Royal National Theatre's** Education department.

In 1999 Matthew started his own company, **mtp**. He continues to tour nationwide with unique participative plays for schools, working with organisations that include the National Trust and the Imperial War Museum.

In 2004 mtp will tour the UK with the official fiftieth anniversary production of **Salad Days**.



Malcolm Bennett

Composer/Arranger/Musical Director

Malcolm Bennett started out in the music business as a classical trumpeter, playing on a freelance basis with all of the top symphony orchestras in the UK before changing tack to become the Lead Trumpet at the London Palladium in 1979.

Over a period of 12 years in the West End, Malcolm was lead trumpet for the shows; **Sing'in In The Rain, Barnum, Annie, Chicago, Starlight Express, Jesus Christ Superstar, Beyond the Rainbow**, and short seasons at the palladium with **The 2 Ronnies, Bruce Forsythe, Lena Horne and Ken Dodd**. During this period Malcolm was also in demand as a session player for both feature including: **Frank Sinatra, Shirley Bassey, Danny Kaye and Bob Hope**.

Malcolm has written for (amongst others) **Tori Amos, The Beautiful South, Jools Holland**, and **Elton John** to name but a few.



Malcolm has written for various Pop Groups, Choirs, Brass Bands, Wind Bands and Chamber Ensembles. He has had works performed by the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra, The BBC Big Band and The BBC Radio Orchestra (Friday Night is Music Night) and he has composed a number of radio station idents, jingles and signature tunes.

Irene Whitehall

– Costume Designer

Irene Whitehall has been a seamstress since the age of 16, attending courses at Luton College in Bedfordshire and at the Isle of Wight College. Having been in the theatrical business for the last 13 years she now feels she has found her niche in life.

Irene has worked on many professional shows over the years including: Paul Nicholas' **Rocky Horror Show**, and more recently the **Pirates of Penzance**. In the last few years Irene has worked on many pantos and not least **Snow White, Jack and the Beanstalk** and **Pinocchio, Aladdin** and **The Wizard of Oz**, all for PMA Productions.



