

Cressrelles

Pantomimes
and
Seasonal Plays

August 2017

*Please see our separate list for
Religious Plays for Christmas*

J. Garnet Miller

Kenyon-Deane

New Playwrights' Network

One Act Pantomimes

Code A1 applies unless indicated otherwise.

Aladdin

Jean Griffiths

Easy to stage, easy to cast, no scenery to build - the ideal last-minute pantomime. 60 minutes.

17m or w + extras

Beat the Piper

Leo Wyatt

1836 is a bad year for Herr van Vinkle Picker, Hamelin's Berger-meister. The rats are back and the rate-payers are about to lynch Hertz van Rental, the Municipal Rodent Operative. His success on the game show *Beat the Piper* soon fades when he realises that he who beats the piper pays the price.

25 mixed

Charity Begins at Christmas

Florence Edwards

A seasonal homecoming brings two sisters together. A heart-warming play for middle-aged women.

7w

Christmas Balls

Coleen Sadler

The stage crew get involved in the sinister onstage tale of lust, greed and murder! Outlandish and hilarious, it reveals more than just the relationship between two sisters and their husbands.

4m 2w

Code B1

Christmas Cheer

Sam Bate

Xmas as many of us see it - extra work, extra expense, but with a spirit that makes it all worthwhile. The rehearsal of an ageing Fairy Queen is stunning.

6w

Christmas Crackers

Sam Bate

The caterwauling from next door ruins Mrs Carter's Christmas preparations. But no ordinary cat is making the ear-splitting noise! First-rate comedy.

6w

Christmas Spirit

Sam Bate

An authoress seeks peace over Christmas in which to finish her book. The country cottage would be ideal if it wasn't for the kindly neighbours. She persuades a nervous ghost to return to its natural haunt, which causes her neighbours to return to theirs!

7w

Do You Believe in Fairy Tales?

Margaret Bower

Cinderella and company get together for tea and sympathy, 30 years after *Happily Ever After* - they are due for a new set of happy endings.

7w

Double Bill

Kay Macauliffe

A Christmas Carol - 2 speaking parts, mime parts + 15 extras;
Cinderella - A Potted Pantomime for 11 women.

Fag Ash Ellie

Pat Ogram

With Cinders as a punk princess, this anti-panto is suitable for any time of year. It is easy to stage and the cast can be of either sex.

4m 5w

The Foiling of Festus

Marion Kemp

Gladys is transported into the future, where the romance between Festus's niece and his popstar son, Asteroid, seems doomed. Aided by court ladies, Dot and Dazzle, guards Flash and Ajax and a fat lady called Rotunda, Gladys thwarts Festus's wicked plans.

6m 6w (variable)

A Happy Christmas

Beatrix Carter

Seasonable gifts, merrily wrapped, unwrapped and re-wrapped.

4w

Happy Christmas, Dear Edward

Jean Garstang

With a gullible secret locked in the guest room, Christmas is no time for two elderly spinsters to receive cousin Helen as a house guest. Curiosity almost kills Helen and will startle the audience into howls of laughter!

5w

Parting Shot

Edward Murch

The third of the popular Captain Savage series is as comic, racy and romantic as *Things That Go Bump* and *Thin Red Line*. Set on Christmas Eve in 1815 it is a rollicking good Christmas play.

3m 3w

Season of Goodwill

Jack Booth

Alf's friendship with his new employer and neighbour is shattered when his eagerly-anticipated Christmas without his mother-in-law is ruined by Humphrey's rooster. The rift is widened when Alf vetoes their childrens' marriage. The wounds are eventually healed, but Alf is left with a further problem.

3m 4w

Code B1

A Very Small Turkey

Jan Rocliffe

Mrs Blake's unusual Christmas presents bring great joy to her guests, but what is the reason for the very small turkey?

7w

Two Act Pantomimes

Code A2 applies unless otherwise indicated.

Aladdin

Joe Graham

A hilarious version of the classic story including all the usual elements and characters but written in a contemporary style. Aladdin, Wishee Washee, Widow Twanky and the beautiful Princess thwart the evil Abanazar's plans with a little help from the Genie and the incompetent police double-act of Ping and Pong! Premiered in 2007 by the *Watford Palace Theatre* for their annual pantomime, directed by Joyce Branagh. Running time: 100 minutes.

10m 4w + Children's Chorus + Extras

Code B2

Alice in Wonderland

Don Carroll

A delightful and faithful adaptation of Lewis Carroll's story with suggestions for songs. A novel Christmas pantomime or an ideal children's show at any time of the year.

15m 4w or 4m 4w

All Washed Up! David Valentine

Tensions rise during the local repertory company's rehearsals of Jack and the Beanstalk. But technical and emotional problems ensure that the dress rehearsal runs far from smoothly: the Stage Manager is the Health and Safety Representative; the leading man's wandering hands get him into trouble with his wealthy wife; whilst the Director is on the verge of a nervous breakdown! Can Jasmine, the leading lady, persuade an "old flame" to grant them a stay of execution?

Premiered by the East Bridgford Drama Group in 2012 to sell-out audiences. Running time: 100 minutes.

5m 5w

Part Mayhem/Part Panto

Code B2

Babes in the Wood

Tony Edwards

A strong storyline with all the usual elements of pantomime: plenty of audience participation, chorus routines and great comedy.

17m 5w (variable)

Beauty and the Beast

Susan Sachon

A magical family show, suitable for mixed age and youth groups. The spirit of the original tale is retained and offers great scope for dance, mime and humour. The enchanted servants come to life with stunning effect!

8m 5w + extras

Code B2

Cinderella

Joe Graham

A wonderful, magical pantomime including all the usual elements and characters but with up-to-date and highly original touches. *Fairy Godmothers R Us* save Cinderella from her servitude to her wicked stepmother, Sadista, and the two very ugly sisters, Adorabella and Fruitella. Will Cinders get her Prince Charming? Oh, no, she won't! Oh, yes, she will – with a little help from Buttons and her Fairy Godmother! Premiered in 2006 by the *Watford Palace Theatre* for their annual panto, directed by Joyce Branagh. Running time: 100 minutes.

5m 6w + Children's Chorus + Extras

Code B2

Hunchback of Notre Dame - or Quasimodo A Gogo

Joe Graham

Quasimodo must hide his true identity from his beloved Esmerelda or she will be doomed to an ugly fate! But, aided by Esmerelda, some lively Gargoyles and a tuneless minstrel, Quasi is able to thwart the evil Mayor's plans and restore order to Paris. Running time: 120 minutes. With original music by Jim and Jo Graham and Alan Cobb.

5m 4w + 3 of either sex + Chorus

Code B2

In On the Act

Robert Briggs

Gerald's greatest love is understudying as the Dame in the local panto. This year he should be the star! But his future son-in-law plans to upstage him. Gerald's pride in his costumes leads to suspicion that he is stealing his neighbours' underwear. The police are called, but all comes out right in the end and peace is restored.

5m 3w

Jack and the Beanstalk

Steve Burgoyne and Jennie Bowen

Traditional pantomime with credible characters like Jack the student entomologist, his melodramatic mother, Penny his person-friend and a Giant whose size leaves a lot to be desired! The storyline is familiar, with novel twists, a sense of fun, audience participation and original music.

8m 5w + Chorus

Jack and the Beanstalk

David McCandlish

Minimal scenery required.

7m 8w + 1 cow

Little Red Riding Hood

Pat Bisson

Red Riding Hood, tricked into entering the Forbidden Forest, is imprisoned by the Queen of Trees. Meanwhile, greedy Sid Sly is preparing to eat Grizzly Granny for dinner. Join Calamity Pain, Soldier Blue and a host of OTT characters as they bring the wicked wolf and his cronies to justice and re-unite Dame Ditherer and Rufus Red with their daughter.

8m 6w

Little Red Riding Hood

Pat Santer

Mother Hubbard's despair of her lodger, Simple Simon, is tempered by her designs on his friend, the Pie Man. The wicked Witch Craft lures her daughter, Red Riding Hood, to her Granny's cottage where the wolf waits. A fairy makes the Prince intervene. He decides to protect Red permanently and the story ends with a ball to celebrate their engagement.

6m 7w + Chorus

The Magic Christmas Tree

Melvin Warhurst

A robotic look-a-like of the King, confuses everyone, including the Wicked Baroness and her two henchmen. But her evil plot to seize power and steal the Magic Christmas Tree is thwarted by the Queen, two children, a band of gnomes and some unusual technology.

9m 3w

The Magic Snowflake

Jo Brooks

A girl yearns for a white Christmas. When she falls asleep, she is transported to a magical, wintry world. The King, under a witch's spell, has promised his daughter's hand in marriage to an evil duke, but the girl's arrival and the efforts of the fairy put things to rights.

9m 8w

The Magic Snowman

Angela Lanyon

Why did the reindeer run away on Christmas Eve and who will help Father Christmas recapture them? Plenty of audience participation for younger children as they help Mother Christmas with her spells and ensure the safe delivery of Christmas presents.

4m 2w

The Magic Tractor

Pat Bond

Widow Lackpenny is about to be evicted by wicked Baron Grabalott. Fairy Gardenia tries to help her by replacing her wooden plough with Tinny the Magic Tractor. Bill and Ben steal the Thingumajig. Tom and Lucy save the day and all ends happily when Baron and Widow form a co-operative!

8m 13w + extras

Mr Ulysses

Georgina Reid

A Greek pantomime. A hilarious story of the experiences of a group of Greek soldiers following demobilisation after the Trojan war.

10m 9w

Peter and the Princess

Melvin Warhurst

Has some elements of pantomime. There are a number of catchy songs and the play can easily be performed on a small stage.

6m 4w + extras

Pied Piper of Hamelin

Geoffrey Thornber

Hamelin Town Council refuses to honour its pledge to pay the Piper for ridding them of a plague of rats, so he takes the children away. Brave Hans must find the children, return them safely and win the hand of his beloved Gretchen.

1m 5w

The Princess and the Frog

Pat Bisson

A dastardly French Baron sets out to foil King Richard's plan to wed his daughter to a Prince. Baron Rene waylays the Prince, captures the Princess and bundles her into his laboratory where he intends to brain-wash her, take control of England and sell the country to France! Very entertaining pantomime.

7m 12w

Quest for the Golden Key

Geoffrey Thornber

Sybil the Witch hates happy children. She plans to steal the key to the Toy Factory and stop production. A Magician and Cat join forces to defeat her. A magical adventure which captivates all ages. Extremely popular and provides much scope for audience participation.

6m 7w

Right Royal Pack of Nonsense

V. Wilkes

Light-hearted fantasy with playing cards enacting their own "game of life". Written in pantomime-style with the Joker as the Principal Boy and the Queen of Diamonds as the Dame, it gives scope for audience participation and simple or elaborate special effects.

9m 9w + Extras

Robin Hood

Peta Duncombe

A lively, action-packed panto. Robin Hood outwits the scheming Sheriff of Nottingham and claim the lovely Maid Marion as his own. Much scope for audience participation, slap-stick, song and dance. Running time: approximately two hours.

10m 4w + Extras

Robin Hoodwinked

Joe Graham

Robin and his Merry Men have a fine time saving the peasants of Nottingham from the evil King John, the sexually-harassed Sheriff and the mincing Guy of Gisborne! Maid Marion is more a hideous, sex-starved harpy than the beautiful damsel of yore - but all is not quite what it seems! Great fun to be had by all!

7m 6w + 6 of either sex + chorus

Code B2

Robin's Last Stand

Sonia Fellowes

The depleted band of Merry Men is planning one last raid to provide for their retirement. Unfortunately their loveable incompetence leads to a catastrophe-laden plot. Simple to stage with original music.

8m 6w + 13 small male roles + extras

Code B2

Rumplestiltskin

Judith Shone

Tom the Miller's outrageous tales are infamous. Major Larf overhears his latest claim and reports back to greedy King Fumblum, who summons Tom's daughter Maria to the palace for her to spin straw into gold. Maria is helped by evil Rumplestiltskin, but at a terrible price.

12m 3w + extras

Rumpus in Regalia

Geoffrey Thornber

Three young men try to win the Princess's hand by killing the local giant. The giant is exposed as a ruse to eliminate all opposition to the throne! The usual panto characters, and some unexpected ones, are met. The audience, as citizens of Regalia, is involved most of the time. A two-act 'funniment'.

"A well devised and beautifully-told story." - Amateur Stage.

9m 9w + Chorus

Sinbad and the Voyage of the Seven Souls

Joe Graham

Returning from another adventure laden with tacky treasure, Sinbad is reminded of his Faustian pact with Hedes: either Sinbad settle his debt or Hedes will take his beloved Princess in his place! Aided by Aphrodite, an inept magician and a couple of scrofulous sailors, Sinbad braves the Sirens, storms at sea and cannibals to save his fiancée from Hedes' army of demons! Running time: 110 minutes. With original music by Jim and Jo Graham and Alan Cobb.

"... lots of original stuff ... I enjoyed the characters very much with good and entertaining dialogue for all the main ones ... Aphrodite is a good alternative to a Dame and one I would relish having a go at ... excellent panto ... would grace any stage, large or small ... a professional homespun panto and is sure to be a winner." - John Hicks reviewing for Amateur Stage February 2010

7m 3w + 3 of either sex + Chorus

Code B2

Snow White

Eleanor Fossey

The traditional story of Snow White doesn't leave much to play with: there's no fairy godmother; no nurse; washerwoman or cook and little animal interest. And as for the poor Prince, he only appears at the end of the story - hardly worth putting a pair of fishnet stockings on for! But Ellie has come up with a new take on this well-loved tale: there is a fairy, a dame and a loveable dog. The Prince appears in Act One complete with stockings. Snow White, the Wicked Queen, the Magic Mirror and Huntsmen are all there, along with the traditional battle between good and evil. But who are the cheerleaders, talking trees and the occupants of the cottage in the wood? You will have to read it to find out. Oh, yes, you will!

7m, 14f, 5 of either sex, 8 children + chorus (Scope for doubling) Code B2

Spring the King

Mark Green

The Gypsy folk of Romaland must spring the King from the clutches of evil Cornelius Haddock, who has taken over the land. This done, they go off in search of the legendary Jo-Jo Stick - a magic wand of enormous power that could put an end to Haddock's reign of terror.

7m 4w + Extras

Code B2

Storymaker

Christine Dearden

Tired of being themselves, Cinderella, Aladdin, a witch and a fairy throwaway their traditional trademarks - the slipper, lamp etc. Next day at work, they find an angry note from the Storymaker - he orders them to perform two good deeds each in order to win back their trademark symbols. Music available.

8m 7w

Three Little Pigs

Jean Dallman

Pun-packed panto about the perils of pig-poaching. Wolfgang T. McDonald wants Fats Ham, Sus Dumpling and Hamlet to fill a vacancy in his burger bar - inside a bun! But first, he has to deal with their mother, Dame Trotter, their slightly-soiled brother, Wee Willy, and the Good Fairy from the Housing Department. But with two half-brained cooks like Jack and Jill, he may have trouble bringing home the bacon! Dame Trotter, Wolf and Good Fairy are best played by men.

8m 6w (most can be played by either sex)

Code B2

The Witch and the Wiffler

Geoffrey Thornber

An unusual and exciting pantomime/magical adventure. A school-girl wanders into Fairyland and meets the Wiffler. The cast includes a member of the audience who helps the plot along.

5m 10w

Three Act Pantomimes

Code A3 applies unless otherwise indicated.

Adventures of Mr Pickwick

Anthony Hinds

This witty adaptation is especially suitable for groups with limited facilities as no actual sets are required. All the visual values come from colourful costumes and lighting.

16m 8w

Cinderella

Elizabeth Bratt

Many new characters - Maurice the Mouse, a trainee Fairy God-mother, various broker's men and other comics. It has some new, inventive ideas and can be easily staged. Music score available.

9m 19w

Richard Wellington and His Cat With No Boots

Peter Redmond

Richard Wellington tries to get boots for his cat and to win the hand of the beautiful Stiletto, whose father, Professor Galoshes, has betrothed her to Jack Boot, a villain. With help from such unlikely characters as Fairy Nuff and Freeman, Hardy and Willis, he eventually succeeds, despite difficulties arising from highly comical situations. Music available.

8m 8w

Simple Simon

Pat Bisson

Fairy Liquid gives Simple Simon a brain transplant and soon every-one knows of his intelligence, including Kermit-a-crime, a highwayman who devises a dastardly plan. The chase is on. Who will win - good or evil? And who is the mysterious pie-man?

7m 5w

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