

Barton Players



Present...

A COVID safe, socially
distanced Panto for all
the family

Written and Directed by
Keith Badham

Dick Whittington



Tuesday 8th - Sunday 13th
December 2020

Programme £1.50

noda
Be inspired by amateur theatre


ANNOUNCEMENTS

DICK WHITTINGTON 2020

Curtain up at **7:30pm** (evening) and **2:00pm** (Matinee)

The Bar will be open before the show and during the interval. There will be an order sheet on your table where you can place orders for drinks, guess a name for the cat, purchase light up wands/windmills and programmes.

There will be an interval after Act 1

We will be encouraging all payments to be done through the use of our PayPal card machine. 

Please remain seated at your tables at all times. You may remove your mask when seated but it must be worn when moving around. A full list of our COVID safety information will be on each table.



Turn off all mobile phones and please note that photography and video recording is strictly **prohibited**.

NAME THE CAT

The winner will be announced at the end of the evening

THE BAR

The bar will not be open during the performance or at the end

NO SMOKING

Barton Village Hall is a No Smoking building

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

RACHAEL BOWIE

Thank you for coming to see our COVID secure, post lockdown pantomime "Dick Whittington". We are all in need of a pick me up after the year we've had and we here at Barton Players hope our unique Pantomime ticks all the boxes. It's been sad year for us at Barton Players, losing our dear friend and much loved Vice Chairman, Alan Baldwin, we are proud to have known such a great man and this pantomime is dedicated to him.



The cast have very much thrived being back rehearsing together, albeit a little different with social distancing in place. It's been a year since our last show "A Carol Christmas" and we have very much have missed performing for our loyal audiences. This pantomime is a bit different due to the current guidelines that are in place, although we hope to make it a fun and engaging experience for everyone, while bringing some Christmas magic along the way. We are very lucky at Barton Players to have such a talented writer who was able to create this amazing pantomime for us. I am very thankful for all the cast, crew and the rest of the committee who had faith in my leadership as chairman and held their nerve to allow us to put on this show. Drinks will be served by waiter/waitress service to your tables and the raffle will be a bit different too with a name the cat competition, the winner will get to take home a cuddly cat! This will also be the first show we've done with light up wands/windmills available to buy which is very exciting! So sit back, relax and enjoy our family friendly pantomime "Dick Whittington."

Rachael Bowie

DIRECTOR'S SPOT

KEITH BADHAM

Well what an interesting journey we have been on. When the pandemic kicked in earlier this year, we were determined to put on some kind of performance whatever it took. We have watched as other groups have abandoned plans for any kind of performance, and as the time got closer, we have been holding our breath....Will the rules change? Will we be allowed to perform? Well...here we are....This has been a huge exercise in ensuring that we are working within a set of ever changing regulations. We are on probably the 8th version of the script. We have followed government guidance on performances, tried our best to ensure that we looked after ourselves, and then went into our own self induced isolation from each other for the two weeks leading up to the show. Was it all worth it? Well we think so! We've had great fun doing what we love doing, and we hope that our humble offering will bring some much needed Christmas cheer to our audiences. I would like to pay particular tribute to the cast, crew and fellow committee members, who have stuck together through moments of difficulty and doubt to put this show on. You are all amazing! I would also like to say a huge thank you to the rest of our members who were unable to take part this time. Your support is always there, and we miss you. A huge thank you to all of you in the audience, who have supported this venture...we've missed you.....and finally, as you will see elsewhere in this programme, massive love to Dot and family. This one's for you Alan x



**DICK
WHITTINGTON**

Written by
Keith Badham



A COVID Secure
Pantomime

Barton Players

Are proud to be
members of
NODA

noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

The National
Operatic and
Dramatic
Association

SCENES AND SETTINGS

Act 1

Prologue

- Scene 1 - The outskirts of London**
- Scene 2 - The Kitchen of Alderman Fitzwarren**
- Scene 3 - The Alderman's shop**
- Scene 3 and a half - The streets of London**
Stray Cat Strut.....Tiddles
- Scene 4 - Outside the Alderman's shop**
Put on a happy face.....Good Spirit
- Scene 5 - Date Night**
Don't Cha.....Dame Sarah
- Scene 6 - Inside the Alderman's shop**
Money, Money.....Alderman Fitzwarren and
Passer-by
- Scene 7 - The outskirts of London**

Act 2

- Scene 1 - On Board the Passage to India**
In the Navy.....Captain
- Scene 2 - The Beach**
- Scene 3 - Another part of the Beach**
- Scene 4 - Another different part of a clearly large
Beach**
New York, New York.....Idle Jack
- Scene 5 - The Kitchen of Alderman Fitzwarren**
- Scene 6 - St Pauls Cathedral**
- Ain't no Mountain High Enough - Dick and Alice**

OUR CAST



RACHAEL BOWIE
DICK WHITTINGTON



JOHN MURPHY
TIDDLES THE CAT



MICK GEORGE
DAME SARAH THE COOK



STEPH BOWIE
IDLE JACK



LINDA FORSTER
PASSER-BY



HAROLD LIBERTY
ALDERMAN FITZWARREN



REBECCA-LOUISE SMITH
ALICE FITZWARREN



GILL GEORGE
THE GOOD SPIRIT



BRIAN COFFEY
KING RAT



HAYLEY BLOODWORTH
SCURVY



KEITH BADHAM
CAPTAIN SWASHBUCKLE



JADE FRANKS
POOPDECK



JUDY BARCLAY
GRUMBLE



CLARE COFFEY
GRIPE

OUR CREW

Director.....Keith Badham

Producer.....Rachael Bowie

Choreographers.....Jade Franks, Hayley Bloodworth
and Keith Badham

Costume.....The Cast

Properties.....The Cast

Make up.....The Cast

Stage Manager.....The Cast

Lighting.....Keith Bowie

Sound.....Adam Bowie

Set/Prop Building.....Keith Bowie

Scenery Painting.....Kirsty Badham

Front of House Manager.....Kirsty Badham

Bar Manager.....Kirsty Badham

Box Office.....Keith & Kirsty Badham

Photography.....Ron Knight

Video.....Keith Bowie

Programme.....Rachael Bowie

Special thanks to...

Alan Auston and all the village hall volunteers and regular customers
who are always so accommodating

KVB Property Services

The Up-Stage Theatre Company

Members and Friends of Barton Players who help out Front of House

And of course you, our wonderful audience who always support our
productions

JOIN US

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME.....



Barton Players

BP
Barton Players

est. 1984

JOIN OUR FABULOUS GROUP

Have fun helping to put on great shows either on stage or back stage
& be involved in social events by joining our wonderful inclusive group

We produce 2 or 3 shows a year and operate a Summer School for children aged 5 – 18 years
We rehearse once a week in the **Village Hall** in Barton-le-Clay every
Wednesday evening from **8pm – 10pm.**

We have a **Variety** of ages in our group from 16 to those who are retired. If you've never been involved in an amateur dramatic society – no problem! There are plenty of people to show you the ropes – all you need is enthusiasm. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in then please give us a call.



www.bartonplayers.co.uk

 **CALL US**
0843 886 7996

ALAN BALDWIN

1947 - 2020

Alan joined us for the first time for Dick Whittington in 2004, performing for the first time in 2005. We often spoke about his reticence in stepping over the proscenium arch and onto the apron. I found myself having to encourage him to come forward to deliver his lines which were about the King's procession....they came really early in the show. Talking in the dressing room after the opening scene he said..."I don't mind that they can see me, I just don't want to see them". We often laughed in later years that this



was the last display of any kind of shyness on stage from him. Alan's next role was probably the most unusual we have ever had in a production, in that he played a body hanging in a cupboard.

No lines, just a really uncomfortable harness! We took the play, "Overtime" to the One Act Play festival, and received the Adjudicator's award for



"the hanging scene". Alan was especially delighted about this. I remember aching with laughter when we tried the harness on for the first time, and he was swinging in a rickety cupboard, suggesting that if nothing else, he would be able to sing soprano after the harness placement was a little too close for comfort. Soon after this was our



very first Summer School, Dinosaurs and All that Rubbish. My stand out memory from the week, was watching Alan's face at the back of the hall when a very tiny Megan took to the stage, and sang her heart out. It was the first of many special moments, and Alan was a convert to the Summer School cause, and attended the vast majority of them to help out, and support the youngsters.

He was responsible for most of the photographs that were taken during the week, and built a special bond with the youngsters. We then move on to My Fair Lady. By now, Alan was a big part of the group already. John and Jason were appearing with us for the first time, and I know he made them feel welcome, and built a special bond with that cast. The opening of "Wouldn't it be Luverly" still makes me smile to think about them all together. Then on to his beloved Grimley. Sometimes casts just instantly click, and this little quartet of Alan, John, Sue and Janet created belly laughs galore on the



run of this comedy. I think we all found out what Alan's sense of humour was during this show, and he kept us all laughing ever since. If I were to list all of Alan's performances it would take up the whole programme, but I couldn't finish without

mentioning one or two of my own personal highlights. I think everyone would have their own choices after all. I think War to War, our much loved Variety show brought three generations of Alan's family together on stage and was all the more special for it.

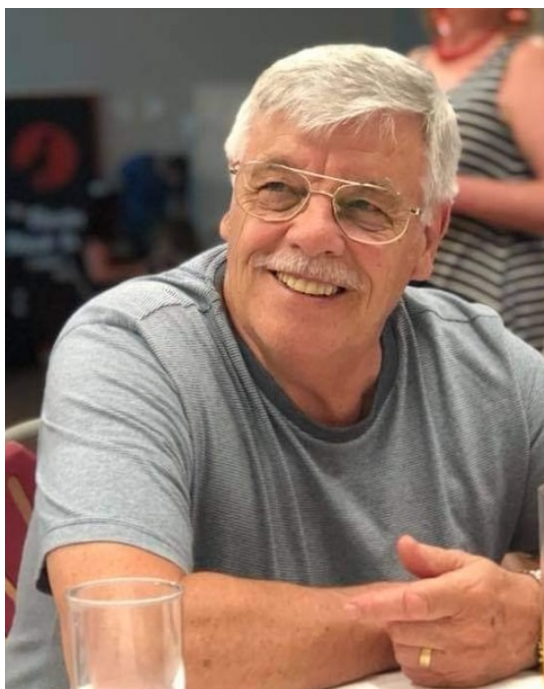


Oliver!, which we have performed twice, always has a place in my heart...Alan was always there quietly in the background, encouraging and praising. He was always the most generous of people to work with. Lastly, I look back to this time last year. Alan and I directed "A Carol's Christmas" together, and it was such a warm happy experience for us. There's never a good time to say goodbye, but if we were to choose one, then I think this would be perfect. Alan leaves behind him a beautiful family and the most wonderful set of memories for all of us here in the Players.



He was the best of men.

- Keith Badham x



Alan Baldwin

1947 - 2020



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