



THE GRIFFIN PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT
THE FANTASTIC FAMILY PANTOMIME

NODA
For every stage



Dick Whittington and his Wonderful Cat

Written by Joshua Thompson



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Fifteen years ago, I had the pleasure of being cast in my first ever Family Pantomime. It was a wonderful experience, making new friends, cementing old friendships and bringing joy to people in the audience. That pantomime was Dick Whittington and his Wonderful Cat, directed by the incredible Eileen Kirby.

It seems quite fitting that my first attempt at both writing and directing a family panto would be with Dick Whittington, and to say it has been a joy would be a huge understatement. Watching the story unfold in the rehearsal room with a fantastic cast, some of which were in my first show 15 years ago, has been something incredibly special to me, especially helping to build the love of panto in our next generation of performers.

I would like to thank everyone that has made this journey possible, from Costumes to Lighting, from Sound to Chaperones and everything in between.

A huge thanks must go to Paul Ramsey and Kyra Spratley, my formidable creative team, without whom, this production would be a fraction of the show that it is. Thank you for supporting me in this journey. It has been my honour!

I would like to thank Eileen Kirby. My wonderful Auntie Eileen. Thank you for believing in me 15 years ago and giving me the opportunity to play Idle Jack in your wonderful show. You started my love for panto, a love that has continued to live on in me for years.

Finally, I would like to dedicate this show to my dear friend, Paul Rogers. It is 5 years since he left us too soon, and I remember the amazing fun that we would have backstage performing this 15 years ago. He is missed every day.

So without further ado, sit back, relax, and enjoy the magic of Pantomime!

Joshua Thompson



PRODUCTION TEAM

Written and Directed by	Joshua Thompson
Musical Director	Paul Ramsey
Choreographer	Kyra Spratley
Programme Design	Joshua Thompson
Stage Manager	Mike Desborough
Back Stage Crew	Luke Walsh, Holli Wheeler, Bella Thorpe and Martin Myers
Props	Alex Currie
Costumes	Izzy Wheeler
Band	MD/Keys 1—Paul Ramsey, Keys 2—James Driver Guitar—Steve Peters, Drums— Joe Cooper
Lighting Design	Dave Houghton
Lighting Programmer	Zackary Pugh
Lighting Team	Graeme Halls and Andrew Maxted
Sound	Aidan Brown, Ken Brown and Liam Whiteside Equipment provided by EventTech Ltd
Publicity	Nicole Read, Alex Currie, Luke Walsh, Rosalind White, Nico Whitney-Bamford and Joshua Thompson
Production Manager	Izzy Wheeler
Chaperones	Abbie Walsh, Nichola Johnston, Jo Evans, Catherine Pound, Cheryl Desborough
Front of House Manager	Katy Elliott

We would like to thank everyone that has made this show possible.

We would especially like to thank Bushmead Community Hub for their support through our rehearsal process, and LCC for all their help and continued work making The Luton Library Theatre a wonderful space to perform in.



T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE PANTO

By Joshua Thompson

T'was the night before Panto, and we're here for this show,
The scenery is ready, the lights are aglow;

The cast are all ready to help bring Christmas joy,
And to bring panto magic for each Girl and Boy;

The band are all ready, music plays in your head,
While dances are perfected to every last tread.

See Fairy Bow Bells try to help out our team,
But with Villains lurking, things are not what they seem!

Will Remy and Rizzo help King Rat prevail?
Tommy the Cat will make sure Dick can't fail!

Alderman's cook, Sarah, will help to whip up a flan;
can good defeat evil, and beat King Rat's plan?

Help Idle Jack not fall asleep all the time,
And sit back and enjoy our fun pantomime!

So, with panto-land looming,
and the cast ready to go,
Happy Christmas to all,
and have fun at our show!

THE SHOW

ACT ONE

Scene 1: **There Will Be Sun** (Ensemble)

Scene 2: **London Street** **H.O.T.T.O.G.O/A.P.T** (Fairy Bow Bells & Full Cast)
Man I Need (Alice & Girls)

Scene 3: **Alderman Fitzwarren's Store**

Scene 4: **King Rat's Dungeon** **Bad Guy** (King Rat & Ensemble)

Scene 5: **A Nearby Woods** **Gold** (Dick, Alice, Jack and Tommy)

Scene 6: **Alderman Fitzwarren's Store** **Sail On, Boys** (Alderman)

Scene 7: **Outside London** **This Time** (Fairy Bow Bells, Dick, Tommy and Full Cast)

ACT TWO

Scene 1: **London Street** **One Short Day** (Full Cast)

Soda Pop (Jack and Ensemble)

Scene 2: **The Saucy Sally** **Sail on, Boys Reprise** (Ensemble)

Scene 3: **A Desert Island** **I'm All Alone** (Sarah and Jack)

Stick it to the Man (Remy, Rizzo and Ratlings)

Scene 4: **Home of the Island Queen** **Teenage Dream/Break Free** (Sarah & Alderman)

Scene 5: **On the Way to the Wedding**

Scene 6: **The Wedding** **Sparkle and Shine** (Full Cast)

Santa Claus is Coming to Town (Full Cast)



CAST



DICK WHITTINGTON
ALEX CURRIE



ALICE FITZWARREN
KATICA BLANCHARD



SARAH THE COOK
ALEX PARSONS



IDLE JACK
KATE JOHNSON



ALDERMAN FITZWARREN
BEN JAGGERS



FAIRY BOW BELLS
MEL RAMSEY



KING RAT
LUKE MURPHY



TEAM REMY



TOMMY THE CAT
SOPHIE-SUE H



REMY
INDY H



RIZZO
GRACE C



Grace J, Katie E, Zara H, Effie D, Ivy J, Lucas S, Darcy E, Callie D, Isabella M

TEAM RIZZO



TOMMY THE CAT
ELODIE R



REMY
TEGAN W



RIZZO
ALICE B



Rosie B, Mia Y, Lizzie P, Mae W, Bethany J, Emily B, Eddie K, Evelyn M, Ava L, Cassie R

ADULT ENSEMBLE



Emma Carter, Katie Allen, Lewis McIntosh, Izzy Wheeler, Ellen-Marie Farrar



Kyra Spratley, Cheryl Desborough, Rosie Till, Allanah Rogers



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Have you **enjoyed** the show today?

Looking for a **fun** way to get involved in your community
and meet some **great people** along the way?

The Griffin Players are run entirely by volunteers, and we have lots of opportunities for volunteers to help us out to play the big part in our community that we do.

Firstly, we are always interested in new people who would like to help out with one of productions; whether it's front of house, backstage, set design, lighting, costumes, sound, or another element of production, there is plenty of opportunity for you to get involved.

Secondly, if you want to get involved in the running of this group, then you could join our Committee members in helping behind the scenes to create the magic that is seen onstage.

Finally, we are looking for new Directors, Musical directors and Choreographers for future shows. If you are interested in letting your creative side out, then get in contact with us.

Community theatre has an amazing place in giving opportunities to people of all ages, and as volunteers, any help given is greatly appreciated. Previous experience is not always necessary.

Why not speak to one of our team members today if you are interested, or visit us online via our Facebook page or at thegriffinplayers.co.uk.

**Thank you for your continued support from everyone here at
THE GRIFFIN PLAYERS!**

OUR NEXT PRODUCTIONS

THE GRIFFIN PLAYERS PRESENT
THE ANNUAL NAUGHTY ADULT PANTO



Dick Whittington

Written by Tom Whalley



**COMING TO THE LUTON
LIBRARY THEATRE
23RD-24TH & 30TH-31ST JANUARY
2026**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
THEGRIFFINPLAYERS.CO.UK**

NODA
For every stage

COMING NEXT YEAR

THE GRIFFIN PLAYERS
PROUDLY PRESENT



Pippin

SOME LIVES ARE MEANT TO BE
EXTRAORDINARY



Coming to Luton Library Theatre
18th - 20th June 2026

FROM THE CREATOR OF
WICKED & **PRINCE OF EGYPT**
THE HIT MUSICAL

OTHER PRODUCTIONS IN THE LOCAL AREA



DUNSTABLE REP PROUDLY PRESENTS

BILL BRYSON'S

Notes from a SMALL ISLAND

By Tim Whitnall

Directed by Christine Rayment

16-24 JAN

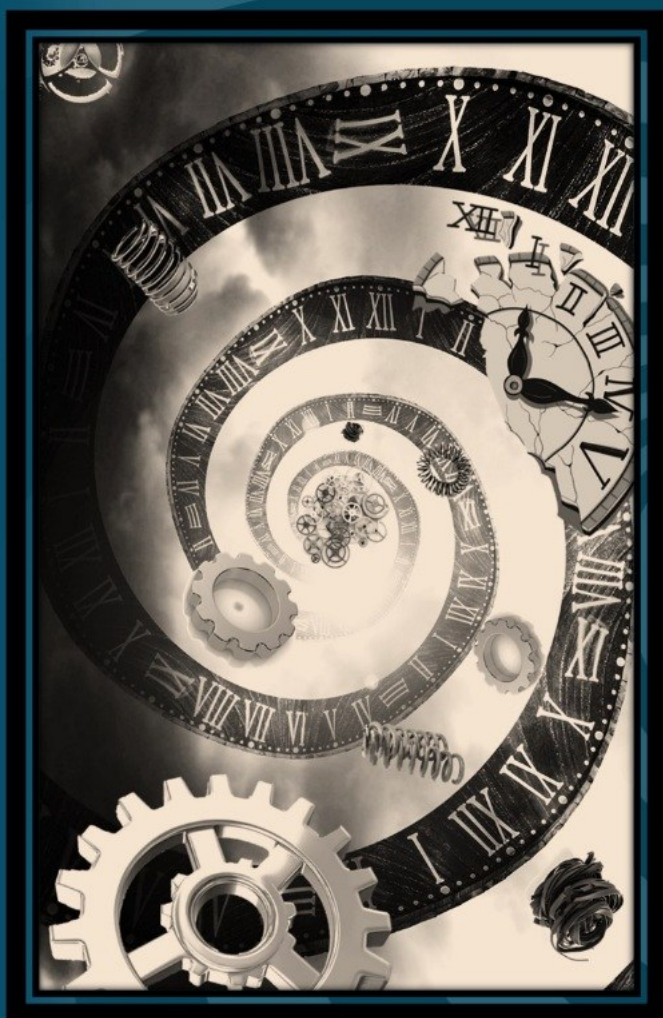
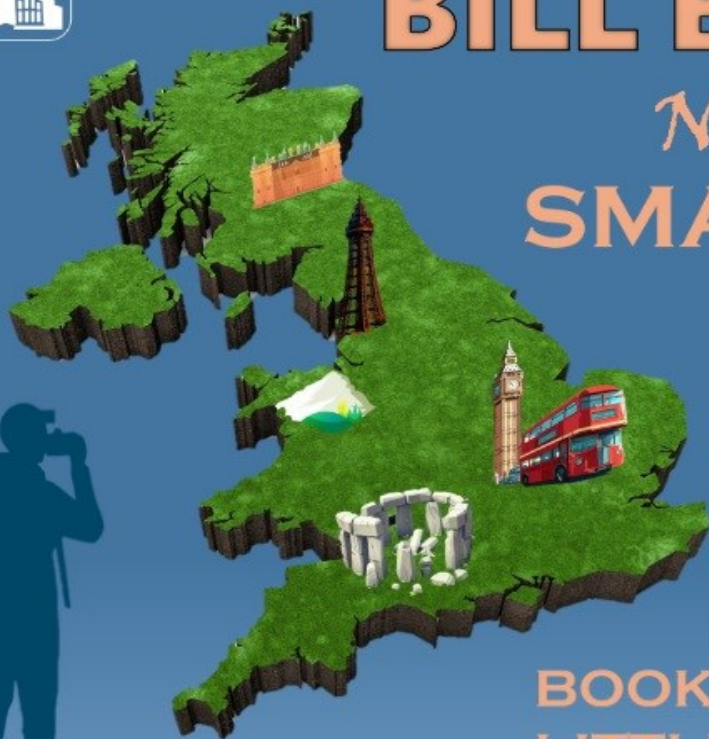
2026, 7.45PM

(Saturday 17 Jan matinee at 2pm)

BOOK NOW:

LITTLETHEATRE.ORG.UK

An amateur production by arrangement with Nick Hern Books



Adapted (very loosely!) from the novel by H G WELLS

THE TIME MACHINE A COMEDY

By Steven Canny & John Nicholson
Directed by Joshua Thompson

13-21 MARCH 2026

7.45pm (matinee 2pm 14 March)

BOOK NOW: LITTLETHEATRE.ORG.UK

An amateur production by arrangement with Nick Hern Books



St Andrew's Players

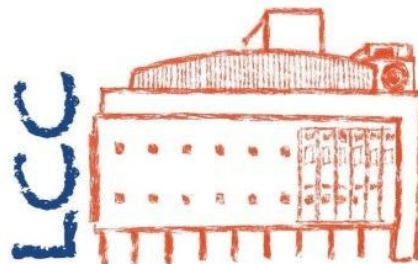
Proudly Presents

THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF *Musical*

Book and Lyrics by Jake Brunger
Music and Lyrics by Pippa Cleary

*Coming
Spring
2026*

The Great British Bake Off television programme produced by Love Productions. Original Theme Music by Tom Howe. The Great British Bake Off is a registered trade mark of Love Productions Ltd. Originally produced in London at the Noel Coward Theatre by Mark Goucher Productions. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI (www.mtishows.co.uk)



Luton Creative Community

Luton Creative Community (LCC) warmly welcome the Griffin Players back to the Luton Library Theatre, a community theatre for the community, run entirely by a small team of volunteers.

We would like to thank the Griffin Players for their continued support of the Library Theatre, and also thank their members, many of whom have played an invaluable role in LCC, as we battle to save the Library Theatre as a performance space, when there was a real danger it would close forever.

As we welcome you to our theatre, it may appear that everything is finished, but sadly that is not the case. The running of a Theatre takes a lot of time and money, and we are always looking for ways to improve this theatre to make your viewing experience as special as possible.

Much has been donated for which we are hugely thankful, but we are still in desperate need of additional funds to help us complete the many outstanding tasks.

You can easily donate using any of the QR codes around the theatre, for which we would be immensely grateful.

Thank you for supporting the Griffin Players and LCC. We hope to see you back at the Library Theatre very soon.

LCC Executive

Whether you are staging a musical, an opera, a play, a concert or a pantomime, as the UK's leading amateur theatre membership organisation, NODA is here for, every show, every rehearsal, every curtain call – here for our members every step of the way.

From just starting out to centre stage; village halls to professional venues; NODA exists to celebrate, connect, support and amplify amateur theatre and theatre groups across the UK.

We provide invaluable services, expertise and resources – that help thousands of our member groups create and produce theatre, that enhances lives and benefits communities everywhere.

Whatever your passion, level of experience or stage of life, we are here to help everyone enjoy the unique benefits, opportunities and sense of community that live performance can bring.

NODA

For every stage

NODA
For every stage

noda.org.uk