

Pilton Theatre Productions



**Sleeping
Beauty
The Pantomime**

written by Lee Smith

**Thursday 16th - Saturday 18th
February 2023
in Pilton Church Hall**

**Price
£1**

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History of Sleeping Beauty—the Story



PRINCE FLORIMOND FINDS THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Thanks to Wikipedia for this image.

Sleeping Beauty or Little Briar Rose was published as a story in 1528 by Giambattista Basile but probably dates back to 1330 (in published form). The Brothers Grimm adopted it later on. It is known as a *410 folk tale type* (in the Handbook of Folk-Lore which identifies different types of story) about a Princess forced into an enchanted sleep and later awakened. Traditionally, Beauty was called Zelbudine and the original tale is Pretty Horns, and resembles an allegory for early female Christian martyrs. The fairies were added in the Charles Perrault versions of the story.

The Brothers Grimm version is probably the best known in the UK. However, it is thought that the original story actually dates back to Persia around 900 AD and was passed on as an oral story or tradition.

Sleeping Beauty—The Pantomime



The first pantomime version of Sleeping Beauty was performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London in 1806. Typically within a pantomime there are straightforward characters, but in Sleeping Beauty the structure is a lot more loose. Usually the pantomime has a Princess, a Prince, a bad Fairy, a good Fairy, a Dame, and a Fool. Sleeping Beauty has a narrative structure that allows deviation in terms of character and situation.

For me, as Writer/Director, I needed to look at the context of the pantomime in 2022. There were two aspects of concern, the main characters' passivity and the issue of consent. Modern princesses are written in the era of feminism, and Beauty needs to be an individual, neither naïve nor passive. The issue of consent and a true love kiss was removed as it doesn't fit our times. So I have created a traditional pantomime with all the funny stock moments and characters you would expect in a traditional Pilton pantomime. Please sit back and prepare to join in the shouts "He's behind you!" and booing at the baddie. Welcome to you all and thanks for your support!

Lee Smith

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Cast

Norman Gnome
Fairy King
Titus Wormcrawl
Young Magenta
Young Adam
Britany Legover
Witney Legover
Queen Jane
King John
Nick O'Bockers
Clive
Snap
Crackle
Pop
Crow
Magenta
Older Adam
Guards

Villager
Beauty
Cavemen
C3PeeO

Angus Basil
Sarah Ford
Gary Kennedy
Lucy Meller
River Smith
Dave Newman
Darryl Ransom
River Smith
Lucy Meller
Simon Barnes
Kevin Baynham
Marion Choules
Carol Smith
Marion Cox
Helen Wardle
Lynne Rabbett
Rafe Bulpett
Lucy Meller, River Smith,
and Sarah Ford
Angus Basil
Sarah Ford
River Smith and Lucy Meller
Helen Wardle



ACT I

Prologue—In the Fairy Kingdom
Scene One – In the Human Kingdom
Scene Two – The Servant's Wing at the Palace
Scene Three – The Enchanted Forest
Scene Four – The Aftermath of the
Coups D'état in the Palace Gardens
Scene Five – The Christening at the Palace

Interval

ACT 2

Scene One – The Aftermath of the Christening at the Palace
Gardens
Scene Two – The Eve of Beauty's 16th Birthday at the Palace
Scene Three – The Time Machine at the Palace
Scene Four – Back from the Future at the Palace
Scene Five – The Festival of the Snake in the Enchanted Forest

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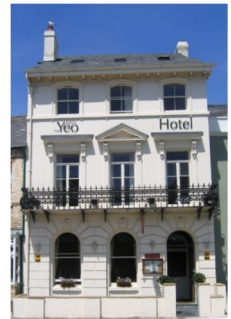
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THE CAST (in no particular order)

Angus Basil Another Pilton Pantomime! For me this is the 14th I've performed in. From Rumpelstiltskin where I gatecrashed the wedding party, I have played a number of different character types and enjoyed playing all of them. In Sleeping Beauty I am playing a different type of character again, I hope you enjoy my portrayal of him.



Carol Smith I first became involved in Pilton Panto in 2008. I played a snail, didn't say a word, enjoyed myself, came back for more and find myself still here in 2023. As the years went by I became more involved in props and making the costumes and have continued to play small parts.

Dave Newman What an awesome privilege it is to not only be a part of such an amazing group of people, but to play the Dame once more. Such fun!

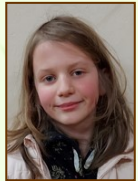


Kevin Baynham Having played my first main character last year, I am really excited to be involved again and looking forward to the last few weeks of rehearsals and then a highly successful performance week in the company of great people..

Lucy Meller This is my fourth Pilton Panto and I work hard to learn our lines for our small but significant parts. I enjoy it every year, so I hope you do too.



River Smith This is my third Pilton Panto and I am 10 years old now. I really enjoy acting with my friend Lucy. I hope you enjoy it too.



Simon Barnes Panto is really fun and I am thoroughly enjoying my role as Nick (village idiot) this year. A great group of people make up the cast—very supportive of a relative newcomer. So thanks to them!



Darryl Ransom Darryl is appearing in his second panto for Pilton, this year as half of the Ugly Sisters Britney and Witney. Having appeared in shows over the last ten years, this is not his first time as a Dame. Since last year he has been developing the comedy duo known as 'Laurel and Hardy do Devon' popping up at events across the county. Watch out 'He's behind you!'



Marion Choules This is my first time taking part in the Panto. Although I do not have many lines to say (as one of the Fairies) there is so much fun to be had partaking and being part of such a lovely group of people. Such enthusiasm is truly infectious.

Helen Wardle I moved to Pilton in February 2021, shortly after taking early retirement, and last year was my first Panto. I enjoyed it so much that I have come back for another year.

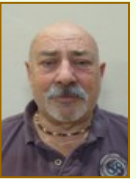


Sarah Ford This is my first time appearing in the Pilton Panto and I have enjoyed playing the part of Beauty and working with all the cast and crew who have all made me feel very welcome! I have appeared in several plays and musicals but this is my first ever pantomime.

Marion Cox I have been making a fool of myself on stage for many years, first in London, then Berkshire and finally North Devon where I was a member of Fremington Players until they disbanded. Plays in Pilton have included the *Farndale Macbeth*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Nightmare* and *Who Killed the Pop Star*, as well as the Pantomimes *From Benidorm with Love*, *Cinderella*, *Aladdin* and *Dick Whittington*.



Gary Kennedy I got the performing bug at school in *Murder in the Cathedral* and subsequently acted in amateur productions of *Royal Hunt of the Sun*, *Oh What a Lovely War*, *Outside Edge* and *Straight & Narrow*. I love working with other cast members, the buzz that performing gives and the fun of interacting with the audiences that is so special in pantomime. This will be my 4th Pilton panto playing the villain so I guess I'm typecast now! This is the funniest panto script so far but we rely on you to laugh, boo and cheer in all the right places.



Rafe Bulpett I really wanted to do panto after I performed in my school production of *Matilda* and enjoyed it so much that I wanted to do something again. Panto is really good fun, so being in it must be even more fun!



Lynne Rabbett I have been involved with amateur dramatics since the *Open Theatre Group* at N D College. I have also been in several theatre companies including the *ND Renaissance Theatre*, at Bideford College, performing Shakespearean productions and , murder/mysteries. More recently I was in Pilton Pantos including *Hansel and Gretel* and *Aladdin*, and productions for the *Woodcott Players* in Lovacott.



Crew

Director	Lee Smith
Stage Manager	Simon Friend
Props Manager and Raffle	Susan O'Grady
Stage Crew	Chris Bulpett
Set Build	Chris Bulpett and Simon Friend
Transport	Don Hearn
Costumes	Carol Smith and Barbara Vercoe
Scenery Designer & Painters	Howard Porter and Sue Boyd
Artist	Linda Payne
Makeup	Sandra Huxtable and Steph Long
Compère	Ian Roome / Lee Smith
Sound	Neil Rolfe and Mark Cartmell
Lights	Don Hearn and Martin Hadrill
Front of House	Paula Friend, Venetta Withecombe, Julie Wicks, Carol Cole, Anna Kennedy and Ginny King
Programme/Publicity	Martin Hadrill
Production	Pip Cartmell

Thanks

Many thanks are due to all the other people and organisations who have helped this production take place, including:

Hosting the Scenery	Tim Webster
Script	Lee Smith
Photography	Julie Wicks
Chaperones	Donna Sibley and Mark Meller
Green Man CIO Liaison	Martin Hadrill and Susan O'Grady
Rehearsals and Tickets	Tim Webster and Janet Keating at The Reform Inn and Kim and Chris Dibble at The Green Man Bar & Bistro
Location	Pilton Church Hall
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It is the home of the Parish Office of the parish of Pilton & Ashford, opening hours Tues & Thurs 4.30pm-7.30pm. The Main Hall is available for bookings like children's parties, evening events, coffee mornings, wedding receptions, quizzes and much more. We have a fitted five star rated kitchen, one upstairs and one downstairs meeting room for hire as well as the Main Hall. At an extra cost we can also provide a licensed bar, projector screen and stage lights, please enquire at the time of booking.

Contact Helen on piltonparish@gmail.com or tel: 01271 345649 during the office hours above. For information of what is going on in the hall check out our Facebook site "Pilton Church Hall".

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Obituary : Carol Chick



Carol Chick was the most lovely, kind, up-beat and fun person. She was so full of the joy of life and had so many interests and talents it was quite remarkable. She was a great and very amusing actor and took part in many Pilton Pantomimes over the years, including *Aladdin*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Cinderella*, *To Benidorm with Love*, *Panto Goes West* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

A long-serving member of the Pilton Arts Group, she also helped paint the pantomime scenery on several occasions. She served on the Pilton Arts Group Committee and was a very talented artist producing stylish colourful paintings. She played bowls at Rock Park and was a good table-tennis player, always bringing fun to the USA sessions. She danced regularly with a Circle Dance group and even in this she brought pizzazz to the dances! She loved to travel and travelled alone to various far-flung countries. She took everything in her stride and would 'give anything a go'.

She was a loyal, much-loved friend and amazing sister, mother and grandmother and, most of all, was a wonderful wife to her husband Alan – untiringly looking after him and doing her utmost to give him a stimulating life in his dementia.

She will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her and it is tragic that Carol, such a unique character, has gone out of our lives far too soon.

Christine Leggett

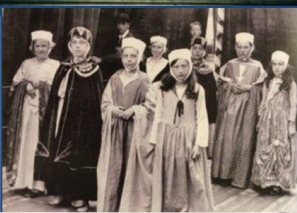
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