

PRODUCTION TEAM

PETER SWINGLER OBE - WRITER

Peter has been writing pantomime scripts since 1976; some cynics say that he is still using the same jokes this year! He has written over 40 versions of various subjects his favourite being...Cinderella. Peter enjoys the challenge of writing for the intimate space at the Forum as it allows greater audience participation. Peter received the OBE in 2009 for services to local theatre and public service.

STEVE DAVIES – PRODUCER & DIRECTOR

Steve has worked with Tip Top since the company was formed in 1989! In that time he has acted, produced, directed, stage crewed and for five years was theatre manager at The Forum Studio Theatre. He is currently Artistic Director.

On stage Steve's credits are many and varied; including no less than fifteen pantomimes, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*, *Emcee in Cabaret*, *Oliver!*, *Art*, *Brassed Off* and *Hold Tight It's Sixties Night*. Steve has directed for Tip Top Productions, Theatretrain, The Gateway Theatre, Grove Park Theatre and LHK Productions

On screen he has been seen in *Shameless*, *Home Front*, *Living The Dream*, *The Driver* and adverts for *Camelot* and *Frozen Food*!

Steve leads children's drama workshops at primary schools in the area and is artistic director of Theatretrain with schools of performing arts in Wrexham, Chester and Mold: www.theatretrain.co.uk

RHIAN LYON - CHOREOGRAPHER

Rhian trained at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds, graduating with a BPA(Hons) in Contemporary Dance Performance.

Her choreography credits for Tip Top Productions include: *Cinderella* (2012); *This Is My Musical* (2013); *Snow White* (2013); *Aladdin* (2014); *This Is My Musical* (2015); *Love Story* (2015); *Dick Whittington* (2015); *Grease* (2016); and *Jack and the Beanstalk* (2016).

Rhian is also an experienced teacher and is currently working alongside her husband Rob, running two Pauline Quirke Academies which are based on the Wirral and in Liverpool.

BRIAN FRAY – MUSIC/VIDEO PRODUCTION

Brian is currently Head of Sound for Tip Top and has been with the company since 2004. Brian heads up sound creation and design for most of the productions at the Forum. However he relishes the fast paced challenges that Panto brings each year. When he isn't creating sound tracks Brian is an Actuary for Mercer based in Manchester and London.

CRAIG PRICE – MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Craig is a music graduate from Cheshire and an experienced musical theatre musical director. He has worked as musical director for over 90 productions, musicals, concerts and pantomimes working with both professional and amateur production companies and taught singing at Stagecoach Theatre Arts Schools for eight years. Craig was nominated as Best Musical Director for a 2010 production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and a 2016 production of *Disco Inferno* in the North West NODA Awards.

Recent productions include *Whistle Down The Wind*, *Our House* and *The Producers*. He has been musical director of Footloose Youth Theatre since its conception in 2001 and musical director of Ellesmere Port Musical Theatre Company since 2002. He is currently also working as Musical director with Zodiac Operatic Society and Rhyl and District Musical Theatre Company.



tip top
productions
presents

Cinderella

Producer/Director
Choreographer
Musical Director
Writer
Company Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Music/Video Production
Set Designer/Scenic Painter
Set Construction
Lighting Design
Lighting Operators

Wardrobe
Candy and Floss's Dresses
Work Experience Trainee

Steve Davies
Rhian Lyon
Craig Price
Peter Swingler OBE
Abbie Taylor
Joe McDermott
Brian Fray
Sarah Oxley
Nick Tiernan
Mark Shenton
Mark Shenton, Nick Roberts, Claire Roberts,
Amelia Hawkes, Chris Griffiths
Clare Thompson
Mel Regan, Allan Forrest
Markus Daynes

Our Dancers:

Red Team: Amber Woodbury, Eve Elverstone, Georgia Burton, Holly Elverstone, Jessica Hazeldine, Josie Roberts, Libby-Anne Parsonage, Lucy McCarthy

Blue Team: Annabel Wright, Daisy Cooper, Elise Metcalfe, Gabriella Brown, Katie Sarath, Katy Snape, Leah Dovey-Evans, Leah Taylor

Green Team: Amelia Cullen, Elise Devoy, Ellie Brickland, Emma Ray, Emma Rogers, Lily-Mae Beamish, Millie Eaton, Nicole Birt

With thanks to our licensed chaperones and supportive parents

The performance will run for approximately 2 hours 15 minutes with two intervals

Join the cast in the theatre foyer after the show for a great photo opportunity

Meet the Cast

FAIRY GODMOTHER - JULIE BLAGROVE

Julie is originally from Scunthorpe and has performed on stage from the age of 3. She originally trained in dance/musical theatre at the Joyce Mason School of Dance. Julie then went onto study Drama and Theatre Arts BA Hons at Staffordshire University. Since moving to Wrexham in 2004 she has taken part in many shows in the Chester and Wrexham areas. Roles have included Bet - April in Paris, Jan - Grease, Slave of the Ring - Aladdin, Alice - Dick Whittington, Fairy Godmother- Cinderella, Connie - Habemus Corpus, Babette - Beauty and the Beast, Gail - Teachers, Irene - Funny Peculiar, Gloria - Brassed Off and many more. Julie has also appeared in the feature film In Love With Alma Cogan. Cinderella will be Julie's 4th Tip Top Panto and it just so happens to be her favourite one, so she is extremely excited and honoured to be part of such a magical show!

CINDERELLA - JADE PRITCHARD

Jade is thrilled to be back at the Forum Studio Theatre this Christmas after two successful seasons here as Jill in Jack and The Beanstalk and Alice Fitzwaren in Dick Whittington and his Cat.

Growing up in North Wales - she trained and performed with The Gay Harris Dancers before studying for a BA Hons in Musical Theatre at Colchester Institute and then training for a year at Italia Conti Theatre Arts.

Credits whilst training include Bird Girl "Seussical the Musical" (Swinburne Hall), Starbuck "Moby Dick the Musical" (Mercury Studios), Patty "Personals" and ensemble "Lucky Stiff" (both at the Headgate Theatre, Colchester). Jade has played Snow White, portrayed Mrs Fitzwaren in "Dick Whittington" (both touring the UK) and she is extremely proud to be part of the original cast recording for "Paradise Lost Musical" (Sim G Productions). She has filmed and provided the voice overs for educational online videos for BBC Bitesize.

This year Jade has sung principal and ensemble roles with the London Musical Theatre Orchestra, workshopped a new musical 'Perfectly Ordinary', and took part in a Tap Masterclass with Adam Garcia. In March, Jade will be embarking on the Silver Muse Ship and sailing around the world for 6 months as a Lead Production Vocalist with Luna Rossa Productions.

BUTTONS - DAN ELLIS

Since graduating with a degree in drama from LJMU in 2011, Dan has acted across the North West in shows such as 'Equus' and 'The History Boys', and has directed several plays, most recently 'Whipping It Up' and 'The 39 Steps'. Dan continues to teach acting at Theatretrain Mold. He is thrilled to be back for his fourth panto with Tip Top after playing Silly Willy in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' last year.

DANDINI - ANDREW RAWLINSON-HEATH

Andrew trained professionally at Phil Winston's Theatreworks where his focus was on musical theatre and dance. He is now working within the industry and recently finished a UK tour with CBB's 'In The Night Garden Live' and recently in Tip Top Productions Jack and the Beanstalk. Andrew is thrilled to be back at the forum for another fun filled year, and hopes you enjoy this year's Panto as much as he has! 'Watcha mates'

PRINCE CHARMING - JOE WOOLFORD

Joe is a 23 year old singer originally from North Wales. Joe has grown up around a musical family and has been singing since the age of 8. He began his career singing in open mic nights and competing in some of the UK's biggest open mic competitions where he reached the grand final of 'Open Mic UK' in 2014. In 2015 Joe also auditioned for BBC1's hit show *The Voice UK*. He managed to get 3 of the 4 celebrity coaches to turn for him (Sir Tom Jones, Ricky Wilson & Rita Ora) and opted to go with Rita Ora. Out of around 40,000 contestants who auditioned, Rita Ora took Joe all the way to the semi finals where he finished in the final 8.

Once *The Voice UK* was over Joe formed a duo with singing partner Jake Shakeshaft (Joe and Jake). Since they formed as a duo Joe & Jake have been signed to Sony Music UK and represented the UK in the 2016 Eurovision. They have featured on shows such as *The Graham Norton Show*, *The Ryan Show*, *Radio 1's Innuendo Bingo* and many more.

CANDY HARDUP - ETHAN HOLMES

This is Ethan's first time as a panto dame - a long held ambition! Theatre includes Value Of Nothing (Northern Tour), A Kidnapping (Hope Mill/Stephen Joseph Theatre), A Bright Room Called Day (Southwark Playhouse), One Hand Clapping (Bolton Octagon/The Cockpit) and Tram (On board Metrolink!). Film includes Surf (BFI/ishorts) and Skye (Genesis Flux)

FLOSS HARDUP - KEVIN DEWSBURY

Kevin trained at The Central School of Speech and Drama and is a former member of the National Youth Theatre. He is also a stand-up comedian and resident maze master at the Crystal Maze experience in Manchester. Upcoming feature films include Destination: Dewsbury and Sheltered Life. He is thrilled to be back in Chester playing an Ugly Sister after two previous years as Dame!

