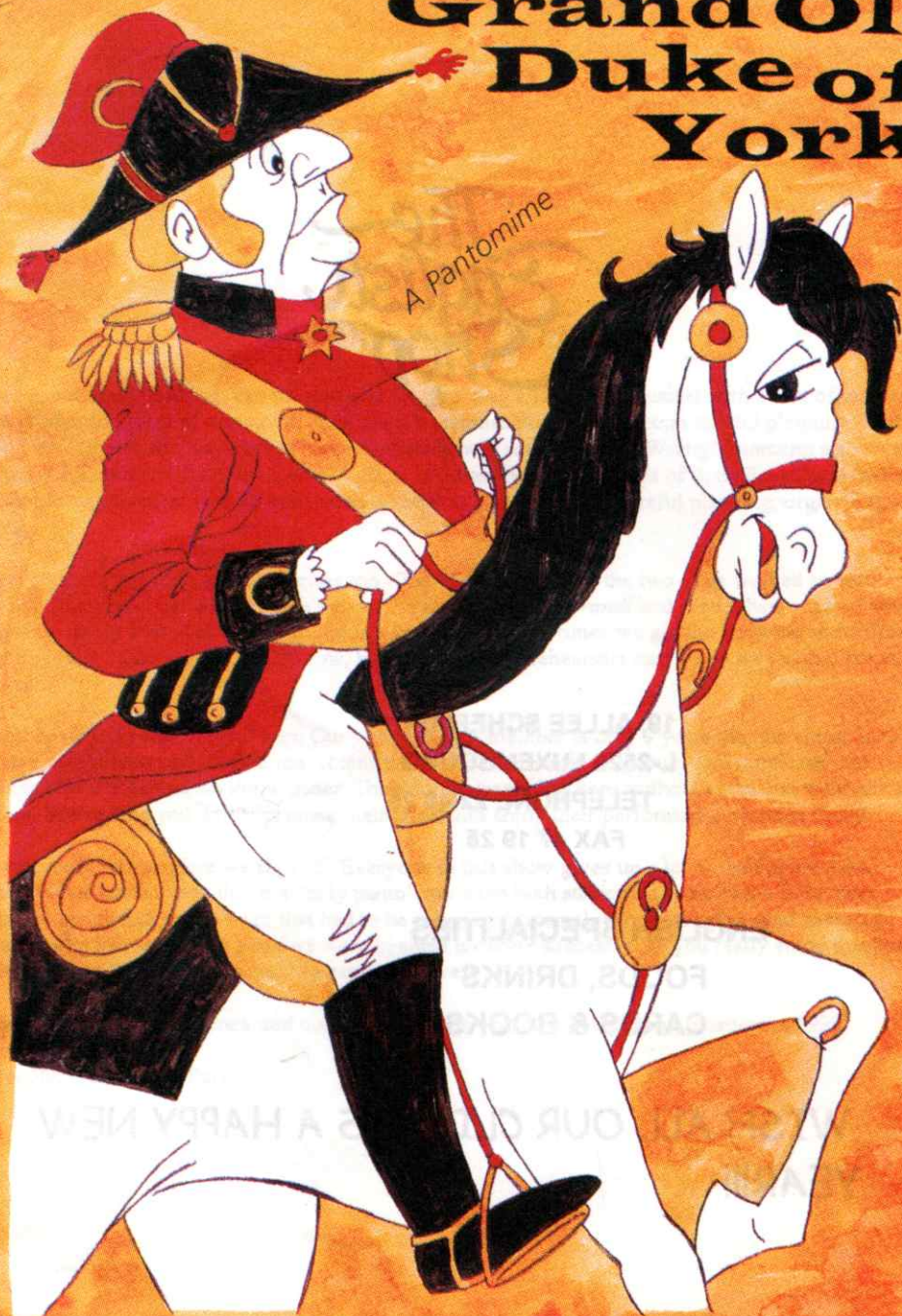


Pirate Productions Present  
asbl

# The Grand Old Duke of York

A Pantomime



Chateau de Bettembourg  
Jan 14, 15, 16 at 8pm  
Jan 17 at 3pm & 8pm

Bookings 356339 3pm-6pm Mon-Fri from 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Adults LUF400 Children LUF250

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## Director's Note

Nothing, but really nothing, can prepare you for directing a full-scale musical with a cast of around 40 and a production team of around 50. One always assumes that given enough careful planning, a lot of talking beforehand and just a bit of luck, everything will sort itself out. Wrong! Directing a show of this size requires more than just a bit of luck, it requires great big dollops of it, oodles of goodwill and immeasurable patience from all concerned – and that's on top of the careful planning, organising and talking.

However, there are some good surprises too. One of them was that the two of us worked so well together. Somehow we had the same vision, the same *modus operandi* and each others support when things inevitably started to get tough. I don't know how many times we got the knowing smirk from other directors "Oh yes, you're OK now, but just wait until rehearsals start". We waited and are still waiting...

The other surprise was the children. Our youngest cast member is only 8 years old, the eldest is 13 yet we have rarely seen such dedication, commitment and hard work. We could fool ourselves into thinking that it's us, but we know better. Their commitment has been without equal and we thank them for that. We're sure you will appreciate their talent and enjoy their performance on stage today.

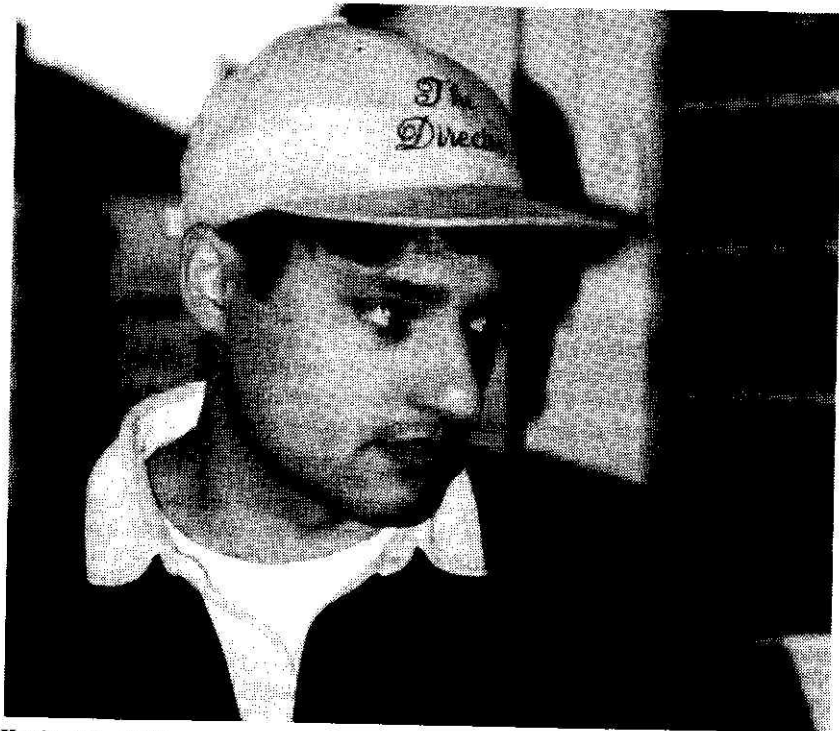
Just one more thing before we sign off. Everyone in this show gives up a lot of their spare time. Although one tends to say that it's "only panto", we have both attempted to make it a little more theatrical and therefore the work that had to be put in by principal, chorus member, and backstage crew has also been increased. We hope we were in some measure successful so you really enjoy this post-Christmas traditional pantomime. We certainly have.

On behalf of the cast and crew and ourselves we wish you all a healthy and prosperous 1998.

Karim Hyatt and Brian Parker,

# *The Grand Old Duke Of York*

## *Cast Cameo's*



***Karim Hyatt Director***

Karim first appeared in on the Luxembourg stage in *Hickoway Dickoway Dock* (1991) as a wicked Wizard. He managed to give the younger members of the audience nightmares for weeks afterwards. He next appearance was in the panto *Dick Whittington* (1992) in which he played King Rat (typecast of course) . To make up for the lack of nightmares in that show, he then played Macduff in *Macbeth* (1993), which even gave the adults nightmares. There was, however a bonus in that he was allowed to wear a ninja turtle outfit for a good part of the production. He then took to cross dressing like a duck to water and played a Greek soldier in a mini dress in a production of *A Phoenix too Frequent* (1993). He then quit acting for a while much to the relief of the Luxembourg audience and directed the *Monkeys Paw*(1995) by W.W.Jacobs and *Same Time Next Year* (1996) by Bernard Slade. Just as everyone thought it was safe to get back into a theatre seat, he appeared on stage in Easy production's *Beyond Therapy* (1996) as Bruce. He has served both on Pirates committee and, more recently on the New World committee. You will probably be able to spot him somewhere in the audience tonight wearing a silly hat and biting his nails. Give him a valium if you see him.

***Brian Parker Director***

Brian was kidnapped from the safety of the George and Dragon Pub in October 95 and made to appear in the Pirates musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. Surprisingly enough he wasn't booed off stage and subsequently decided he rather liked it all. Several Pirates shows later he foolishly agreed to co-direct this pantomime extravaganza. Hopefully you'll all enjoy it and maybe he'll do it again!!





· *Julia Vinicombe "Melody"*

Since arriving in Luxembourg with my family in 1994, I have experienced warmth, hospitality and laughter and that's just at the George and Dragon Pub!! After a long child bearing gap, I returned to tread the boards with the Pirate's production *The Old Time Music Hall*. I knew I had won my family's support when my eldest son remarked in the interval "Well Mum, you've got balls" I haven't looked back since!!





***Rachel Parker "Colin"***

Rachel first took to the stage in Pirate's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and has been in several shows since. This is her first Panto, but with one of the co-directors, the set builder and the rehearsal pianist all in the family it is always going to be difficult keeping away! It's a good job she enjoys it!

### ***Ian Brooks "Martha Muffett"***

After much pestering this great recluse finally granted an interview for this program by telephone conference call!! The editor was requested to note that Ian does not always dress up in women's clothes just in case he starts enjoying it!

Besides his tutu performance as a dying swan in *The Music Hall* he has played Dame two other times in other Panto's. So it looks like, its too late, he does enjoy wearing women's clothes!!! Ian joined Pirates in 1988 when he was in *Jack and the Beanstalk*. He met his Fiasco! and now Trouble and Strife! while playing in *Oedipus Tyrannus* in 1992 and now he's up to his neck in nappies! So be warned about what being a thespian can do for you!!



### ***Geoff Stevens "Tommy Tucker"***

Geoff Stevens, plays the part of Tommy Tucker who is always trying to get out of the reach of his fiancée, Martha Muffett. In real life Geoff is a kindergarten teacher and marketing coordinator at the American International school. He is a house husband and has been for the last 16 years, has successfully brought up two boys - well they are still alive anyway and he is very happy with his life. He likes to dance and it was dancing that got him first stage role in Luxembourg for the Round Tower Players. He got hooked on being on stage - it's like being in front of a class - and has been in different productions on stage and back stage over the last four years. Playing Tommy 'a funny sort of fella' shouldn't be too far from Geoff's real life.





***Steve Preston "Baron Snatcher"***

Will admit to being in a couple of school plays and the school choir. Followed this by doing nothing musical or thespian for nearly twenty years. On arrival in Luxembourg, was press ganged into joining the chorus of *Hickoway, Dickoway Dock* in 1991, and has been in almost every Pirates show since then (even when he actually lived in Frankfurt)!! Most recently seen in the Pirates production of *The Mikado* as the pretentious Lord High Everything Else Pooh Bah. Has been described as having a voice like a tornado. You have been warned.

Pirates Productions "*Thank God, At Last*" Presents

*The Grand Old Duke Of York*

Directed by Brian Parker and Karim Hyatt

Musically Directed by Alan Carlisle

**PRINCIPALS**

Baron Snatcher

Martha Muffett

Jack

Jill

Colin

Mother Shipton

Tommy

Pye

Peas

Melody

Grand Old Duke

Maleficent

Monster

Monster

Steve Preston

Ian Brooks

Doug Haley

Heidi Connolly

Rachel Parker

Barbara Thomson

Geoff Stevens

Jonathan Hearfield

Neil Johnson

Julia Vinicombe

Campbell Thomson

Valerie Scott

Alexander Atkins

Alex Scott-Perry

**CHORUS**

Alex Teligadas

Caroline Brady-Hayes

Fiona Urquhart

Hubert Wellenstein

Janice Wakem

Lenneke Willems

Mike West

Roger Clough

Stephan Dahm

Ben Lion

Carole Williams

Edith van der Heuvel

Gavan Guilfoyle

Jane Philpott

John Hall

Lucinder Jobe

Pauline Saunders

Ros Jones

Stephen Wilkie

## **JUNIORS**

**Erin Kahn  
Natasha D'Ancona**

**Kim D'Ancona  
Vincent McAviney**

## **THE PARCEL GAG**

**Erin Kahn  
Caroline Brady-Hayes  
Fiona Urquhart**

**Hubert Wellenstein  
Stephen Wilkie**

## **THE GYPSY DANCE**

**Edith van der Heuvel  
Hubert Wellenstein  
Mike West**

**Gavan Guilfoyle  
Lenneke Willems  
Erin Kahn**

## **THE STATELY GAVOTTE**

**Edith van der Heuvel  
Janice Wakem  
Lenneke Willems**

**Fiona Urquhart  
John Hall  
Stephen Wilkie**

## **THE MONSTER DANCE**

**Alexander Atkins  
Erin Kahn  
Vincent McAviney**

**Alex Scott-Perry  
Natasha D'Ancona  
Kim D'Ancona**

## **BAND**

**Conducted by Alan Carlisle**

**Lana Smith  
Liz Turner  
Paul Barker  
Romain Gros  
Nadine Bichler**

**Bassoon  
Piano  
Trumpet  
Clarinet  
Sax**

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Producer**  
**Stage Manager**  
**Asst Stage Manager**

**Angela Milne**  
**Linda Myers**  
**Sam Hariton**

## **SET DESIGN**

**Liz Turner**

**Malcom Turner**

## **BACKSTAGE CREW**

**Malcom Turner**  
**Simon Crotchlow**

**Ken Saunders**  
**Simon Hughes**

## **PROPS**

**Fiona D'Ancona**

## **COSTUMES**

**Hilary Brown**  
**Shirley Urbing**

**Liz Alexander**

**Ria Mordjck**  
**Joelle Adam**

## **MAKE-UP**

**Judy-Anne Milne**  
**Louise Curwin**  
**Mairead Cranfield**  
**Katia Stockhausen von Hoyer**

**Sally Cardew**  
**Iris Karambais**  
**Caroline Brady-Hayes**

## **LIGHTING**

**John Brigg**

## **SOUND**

**Parminder Plahe**

## **HAIR**

**Pat Chambers**

## **REHERSAL PIANIST**

**Liz Turner**

## **POSTER DESIGN AND AT WORK**

**Liz Turner**

**Jeff Short**

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

**Eileen Nober**

## **SWORD FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY**

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**Janice Wakem**

**Angela Milne**



**Valerie Scott "Maleficent"**

Cameo of a Bad Fairy!! Denied the opportunity to attend full-time ballet school at the age of thirteen as the result of flat feet and being 'too old' she turned her attention to school extravaganzas. Her first taste of power came as a soldier when she had to yell 'Silence!' - the effect was extremely satisfying as 500 girls plus teachers jumped out of their skins. After leaving school, Valerie played more tame roles as Minnie Fay in *Hello Dolly*, Lady Fiona in *Charlie Girl* and Ursula in *Sweet Charity* and took part in a Ray Cooney comedy. Her presence in the pantomime, her first with the Pirates, is thanks(?) to her 10 year old son Alex who wanted to audition as a monster. Once at the auditions, Valerie could not resist the opportunity to have a bit of fun. Her efforts were noticed and the directors felt she had what it takes to be a bad fairy with Alex as one of her monsters. She feels that many in the audience will identify with the character, envying her the opportunity to strop around the place wielding a magic wand which can inflict untold devastation!

### **Campbell Thomson "The Duke"**

To prove that typecasting is alive and well and living in Pirate Productions, Campbell will be playing the title role as *The Grand Old Duke of York*. his follows his Mikado in *The Mikado* and the romantic lead's father/guardian in *Dick Whittington*, Pirate's last panto. There is another connection, but you will need to pay attention to the plot to find it! Of his role Campbell says "I won't so much be playing *The Grand Old Duke of York* as beating him into submission."



### **Barbara Thomson "Mother Shipton"**

"I'm not one to make predictions" sang Barbara in her first principal role, twenty - ahem! years ago. Now she is playing a psychic who gets to tell all the young people how to behave, type casting, according to her sons. What they don't know or haven't known until they read this, is that, in their case her ability to see through walls and predict the future is based on experience not prescience.

### **Jonathan Hearfield "Pye"**

This is Jonathan's most comical role yet. Regular Pirate Show goers may recognise him as Fyedka in *Fiddler*, Rock Quarry in the *Old Time Music Hall*, Nankie-Poo in *The Mikado* and recently in *Oklahoma* as Ike Skidmore, making it a Pirates '5 in a row'.



### **Neil Johnson "Peas"**

A relative newcomer to the Luxembourg stage, Neil was last seen waving a large fan about in the chorus of *the Mikado*. This time round his comic talents get an airing as one of the Baron's evil henchman.



## *Sing along Time!!*

### *For Audience Participation!!*

Some things in life are bad, they can really make you mad  
other things just make you swear and curse  
when you're chewing on life's gristle, don't grumble, give a whistle  
and this'll help things turn out for the best.....and

always look on the bright side of life!  
(whistle) always look on the bright side of life...

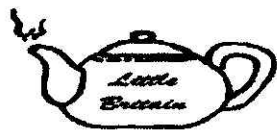
If life seems jolly rotten,  
there's something you've forgotten!  
and that's to laugh and smile and dance and sing,  
when you're feeling in the dumps, Don't be silly chumps,  
Just purse your lips and whistle---that's the thing!

And...always look on the bright side of life! (whistle) Come on!  
always look on the bright side of life...(whistle)

For Panto's quite absurd, and we're near the final word  
you must always face the curtain with a bow!  
forget about your sin -- give the audience a grin,  
Enjoy it -- it's the last chance anyhow!

so always look on the bright side of life!  
always look on the bright side of life.

Life is just the pits, when you look at it.  
life's a laugh it's all a joke, it's true.



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