

# Headley Theatre Club

## NUTCRACKER

January, 1997

Welcome to the start of our 45th season, and to our very first production of *Nutcracker* - the pantomime which Tchaikovsky nearly wrote!

His well-known ballet was based on a version by Alexandre Dumas of an original tale by Ernst Hoffmann: *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*. We have gone back to Hoffmann for our script, but have stayed with Tchaikovsky for much of the music.

It's Christmas Eve at the Stahlbaum's house, and old Uncle Drosselmeyer brings a very special present for Clara and Frederick. A nutcracker in the shape of a soldier. But is that all it is? Uncle Drosselmeyer has the habit of giving most unusual gifts, so surely there must be more to it than that.

And sure enough, that night when they go to bed with the nutcracker tucked safely away, it comes to life as Prince Nikki. He leads them in a fight against an evil army of mice, and takes them on a visit to the enchanted Land of Sweets and to meet the Sugar Plum Fairy. Or is it only a dream?

*Jo Smith*  
*Author/Director*

### **HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION IN CORNWALL**

Bungalow situated in peaceful hamlet on the south edge of Bodmin Moor in Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

5 miles from Liskeard - ideal centre for touring with both north and south coasts within easy reach. Sleeps 4/6.

**For further details contact Tony Nelson on (01428) 713169**

## The Scenes

Prologue        Before the Party

Act I    Scene 1        In the Stahlbaum's house, Christmas Eve

          Scene 2A    Behind the skirting board

          Scene 2B    Clara & Frederick's bedroom

          Scene 3        The Battle of the Bedroom

          Scene 4A    Drosselmeyer's den

          Scene 4B    Behind the skirting board

          Scene 5        At the Fortress of Sweets

                  \*\*\*\* INTERVAL \*\*\*\*

Act II    Scene 1        At the Fortress of Sweets

          Scene 2A    The Mice advance

          Scene 2B    The Sugar Plum plan

          Scene 3        In the enchanted forest

          Scene 4A    Drosselmeyer's den

          Scene 4B    Clara & Frederick's bedroom

          Scene 5        In the Stahlbaum's house, Christmas morning

## The Songs & Dances

'Deck the hall'	Chorus
'I could be happy with you'	Clara and Drosselmeyer
'Christmas time is here, by golly' *	Gnawman, Twitchnose, Whiskers
'Lullaby' *	Drosselmeyer
'Nut Rocker'	Entry of the Mice
'Somewhere out there'	Nikki, Clara, Frederick
'Mack the Knife' *	Drosselmeyer, Kurt and Weil
'Memories are made of this' *	Gnawman, Twitchnose, Whiskers, Pip, Squeak, mice + chorus
'Sugar Plum Fairy'	Dance of the Sweet Fairies
'A Guardsman's lot is not a happy one' *	Rock and Fudge + chorus
'1812 Overture'	The mice escape
**** INTERVAL ****	
'Big Rock Candy Mountain' *	Chorus
Chinese, Spanish, Arabian & Russian Dances	Chorus members
'Tree Elves can help themselves' *	Nikki, Sugar Plum, Clara, Frederick, Rock, Fudge + chorus
'Waltz of the Flowers'	Dance of the Flower Fairies
'It's no picnic' *	Nikki, Sugar Plum, Clara, Frederick, Rock, Fudge
'If you want a mouse to go, please' *	Drosselmeyer, Kurt and Weil with Nikki, Sugar Plum, Clara, Frederick, Rock, Fudge + Twitt
'Sing a rainbow'	Drosselmeyer, Kurt and Weil + audience
'The holly and the ivy'	Chorus

(\*) Special words written for these songs.

## Cast List

Clara, a young girl .....	Gemma McCartney
Frederick, her brother .....	Lester Woodger
Dr Hans Stahlbaum, their father .....	John McGregor
Lisa Stahlbaum, their mother .....	Kay McGregor
Uncle Drosselmeyer, their uncle .....	Anthony Nelson
Kurt, Drosselmeyer's assistant .....	Caroline Potter
Weil, Drosselmeyer's other assistant .....	Emma Dixon
	( <i>Second weekend</i> Dil Williamson)
Twitt, the Owl in the Clock .....	Ben Torrens
Prince Nikki, the Nutcracker .....	Karina Farnlucher
Gnawman, the Mouse King .....	Laurie Lewis
Twitchnose, a Mouselier .....	Vicky Jones
Whiskers, a second Mouselier .....	Simon Tanner
Pip, a third Mouselier .....	Sam Woods
Squeak, a fourth Mouselier .....	Kate Taylor
Speaking mice .....	Becky Radford, Naomi Potter, Laura McCartney Becky Marker
Sugar Plum Fairy .....	Mel Bower
	( <i>First Saturday</i> Dil Williamson)
Sergeant Rock, at the Fortress of Sweets .....	Nikki Jewell
Corporal Fudge, at the Fortress of Sweets .....	Hannah Dallow
Chinese dancers .....	Ruth Bower, Pat Nelson
Spanish dancers .....	John & Kay McGregor
Arabian dancers .....	Wendy Downs, Jill Turner
Russian dancers .....	Maggie Farnlucher, Nick Webb
Grandmother .....	Joan Parkinson

### *Junior Chorus: –*

Soldiers .....	Rae Becker, Christie Drinkall, Jenna Gedsyk, Ben Levy, Daniel Levy, David Levy, Robert Priestley, Jody Stevens
Fairies (* = Tree Elves) .....	Michaela Blofield*, Leanne Drinkall, Nikki Gedsyk*, Saffire Hulks, Ashleigh Keach, Lianne Smith*, Suzy Taylor*

## Acknowledgements

Author/Director .....	Jo Smith
Choreography/Co-director .....	Dil Williamson
Musical Director/Pianist .....	Jo Levy
Junior rehearsals .....	Mo Cooke & Laurie Lewis
Set Design .....	Tony Nelson
Stage Manager/Publicity .....	Pru Harrold
Set construction/Backstage crew .....	Members of the Club
Sound, lighting & special effects .....	Paul Kosinski, Simon Lucas
Box Office .....	Pat Nelson
Front of House & Refreshments .....	Ruth Bower and members of the Club
Our thanks to <i>Cadburys</i> for confectionery	

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## Cast Notes

### **Mel Bower - (*Sugar Plum*)**

Mel has played many roles, including *Maid Marion* in 'Robin Hood', *Harriet* in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and the title role in last year's 'Sinbad.' She was last seen as *Paula* in 'Confusions.'

### **Hannah Dallow - (*Corporal Fudge*)**

Having first appeared for HTC in 'Humpty Dumpty,' Hannah took the leading role of *Talida* in last year's pantomime 'Sinbad' and then played *Sandra* in 'Breezeblock Park'.

### **Emma Dixon - (*Weil*)**

Emma was in the chorus of 'Sinbad' last year. This is her first role as a Principal.

### **Karina Farnlucher - (*Prince Nikki*)**

Since starting with HTC as a junior, Karina has been in many of our pantomimes, and last played *Tom* in 'Humpty Dumpty.'

### **Pru Harrold (*Stage Manager*)**

Pru is a long-serving member of HTC, and has played varied parts, in pantomimes, comedies and more serious plays, including *Mustapha* in 'Sinbad' and *Vera* in 'Breezeblock Park.' She has also stage-managed a number of other productions.

### **Nikki Jewell (*Sergeant Rock*)**

Nikki has played *Boy Blue* in 'Humpty' and *Princess Pearl* in 'Sinbad'. She is also an avid supporter of Manchester United.

### **Vicky Jones (*Twitchnose*)**

Vicky was the *Old Man of the Sea* in 'Sinbad,' and has since taken a lead role in this year's excellent Youth production. She also played a *Waitress* in 'Confusions.'

### **Paul Kosinski (*Lighting/Sound/Effects*)**

If the show is not full of all the gizmos and effects seen in the West End, blame it on a lily-livered Director who likes a simple life, not on Paul and his crew who would have given you the lot if budget had permitted.

### **Jo Levy (*Musical Director/Piano*)**

Good humour and patience are prime requirements of a pantomime musical director, and we are very lucky that Jo has both. She also plays a mean piano!

### **Laurie Lewis (*King Gnauman*)**

Laurie joined HTC in 1988, and has performed in various roles, including *Bimbo* in 'Sleeping Beauty,' *Jiminy Cricket* in 'Pinocchio,' the title role in 'Humpty Dumpty' and *Tinbad* in 'Sinbad'.

**Gemma McCartney - (Clara)**

Gemma played *Coco* in 'Sinbad,' *Jean* in 'Breezblock Park,' and also appeared as a *Waitress* in 'Confusions.' She also plays the clarinet and sings in school & church choirs.

**Laura McCartney - (Mouse)**

Laura has risen from the ranks of last year's junior chorus to become a speaking Mouse.

**John McGregor (Hans)**

John joined HTC in 1991, and has played *Squire Aldworthy* in 'Tom Jones,' *King George* in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' the *Duke of York* in 'Humpty Dumpty,' *Sinistro* in 'Sinbad' and *Terry* in this year's 'Confusions.'

**Kay McGregor (Lisa)**

Kay also joined us in 1991. Since then has been involved in most of our productions, both on and off the stage.

**Anthony Nelson (Uncle Drosselmeyer)**

Tony played the *Wazir* in last year's 'Sinbad' and *Pearce* in 'Confusions.' He also directed our acclaimed production of 'Breezblock Park,' and this February will be responsible for 'Educating Rita'.

**Caroline Potter (Kurt)**

Caroline played *Cola* in 'Sinbad' and has been in the chorus of previous pantos. This is her first principal role.

**Naomi Potter (Mouse)**

Previously a member of our Junior group, this is Naomi's first pantomime with us.

**Becky Radford (Mouse)**

Becky continues a long-established family tradition of involvement in HTC pantos.

**Jo Smith (Author/Director)**

Jo joined HTC in 1978. Since then he has played many roles in the Club, particularly enjoying pantomimes. He now writes for a living, and is responsible for today's script.

**Simon Tanner (Whiskers)**

Simon has previously appeared(?) as the back end of a pantomime cow in 'Jack and the Beanstalk,' as part of a camel in 'Sinbad,' and the *Captain of the Guard* in 'Humpty Dumpty'.

**Kate Taylor - (Squeak)**

Kate has been seen and heard in the chorus of previous pantomimes. She is also an active member of our Youth group.

**Ben Torrens (Twit)**

Ben came over from Australia in January 1994. He is 11 and is interested in singing and travelling by air. He played *Wednesday* in 'Humpty Dumpty'.

**Nick Webb (Chorus/Russian Dance)**

Nick joined HTC as a junior more years ago than he cares to remember. He is the current Chairman, and only got out of playing a principal role in this show by planning to move house at a critical time!

**Dilys Williamson (Choreography/  
Co-director/Weil/Sugar Plum)**

Dil has been in numerous pantomimes, Music Halls and other productions for HTC. She played title roles in 'Snow White' and 'Puss in Boots', and has performed most recently in 'Confusions.' Appears as both *Weil* and *Sugar Plum* (certain performances only) - though not at the same time!

**Lester Woodger (Frederick)**

Lester joined HTC in 1994 and has performed as *Thursday* in 'Humpty Dumpty' and in the chorus of 'Sinbad. This is his first major role in pantomime.

**Sam Woods - (Pip)**

Sam was in the chorus of 'Sinbad' and is an active member of our Youth group.

# Future Local Dramatic Events in 1997

## By Headley Theatre Club:

Feb 14/15 - 'Educating Rita' by Willy Russell

Apr 11/12 - An Entertainment by the HTC Youth Section

Apr 25 - Auction of Talents & Promises (with The Headley Society)

May 16-25 - 'Flora's Peverel' by Jo Smith - on tour (to Headley 22/23 May)  
(see below for further details)

Jul 3/4/5 - Music Hall

*To go on our Mailing List, contact Kay McGregor, 11 Bluebell Road, Lindford,  
Bordon, Hampshire GU35 0YN - (01420) 477682*

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## For the *Flora Thompson* celebrations in 1997: '*Flora's Peverel*' by Jo Smith

- a community play covering the period 1916-1928 when Flora Thompson

(author of *Lark Rise to Candleford*) lived in Liphook

- to be performed in Liphook, Bedales School, Headley and Bordon.

**If you would like to be involved in this project, come to the Public Meeting  
in the Peak Centre, Liphook at 2.30pm on Sunday 2nd February.**

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## *By the Author of Nutcracker ...*

### **Pantomimes:**

*Ali Baba, Cinderella, Humpty Dumpty, Jack and the Beanstalk, Nutcracker,  
Puss in Boots, Robin Hood.*

### **Plays:**

*This Bloody Crew, A Balance of Trust, Flora's Heatherley, Flora's Peverel;  
(for radio) Condemned, Jobsworth*

### **Books:**

*One Monday in November - Headley & Selborne Workhouse Riots, 1830*

*All Tanked Up - the Canadians in Headley during World War II*

*A Balance of Trust - 50 years of history around Hindhead and Haslemere*

*Sir Robert Hunter Trail - a dramatised walk over Hindhead Common*

**(Books on sale in the foyer)**

John Owen Smith, 12 Hillside Close, Headley Down GU35 8BL - (01428) 712892

## Past Winter Productions

1953	Robinson Crusoe	1977	Jack and the Beanstalk
1954	Ali Baba	1978	Cinderella
1955	Goody Two Shoes	1979	Ali Baba
1956	Sleeping Beauty	1980	Christmas Entertainment evening
1957	Pantomime (title unknown, written by Mrs. Fry)	1981	Mother Goose
1958	The Rose and the Ring	1982	Red Riding Hood
1959-63	<i>Records lost</i>	1983	Sleeping Beauty
1964	Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe	1984	Sinbad the Sailor
1965	Little Red Riding Hood	1985	Goody Two Shoes
1966	Pantomime (title unknown)	1986	Dick Whittington
1967	Cinderella	1987	Aladdin
1968	Charlie's Aunt	1988	Snow White & the 7 Dwarfs
1969	Albert Laddin	1989	Puss in Boots
1970	Toad of Toad Hall	1990	Cinderella
1971	Robinson Crusoe	1991	Robin Hood
1972	Ring Around the Moon	1992	Jack and the Beanstalk
1973	Sleeping Beauty	1993	Sleeping Beauty
1974	Robin Hood & Babes in the Wood	1994	Pinnochio
1975	Aladdin	1995	Humpty Dumpty
1976	Dick Whittington	1996	Sinbad the Sailor

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### 'Sing a Rainbow'

Red and yellow and pink and green,  
Purple and orange and blue,  
I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too.

Listen with your eyes,  
Listen with your eyes, and sing everything you see -  
You can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow,  
Sing along with me -

Red and yellow and pink and green,  
Purple and orange and blue,  
Now we can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow,  
Sing a rainbow too.