

# SIDS CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

2021

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT



I always used to say that that you only really understand how an Amateur Dramatic Society works if you have Produced/Directed a play or pantomime, acted onstage and twiddled the knobs upstairs in the gallery. I will add a further task to that list now, having been asked by Tanya to help in the backstage crew for 'Dick Whittington' at the Manor Pavilion. I entitled the photo the 'invisible man' because that is what we were. Operating usually in darkness, we opened tabs and gauzes, changed sets and props and, while the cast were enjoying their well-earned coffee and cake, we were changing all the flats - which at the Manor are over 3m high - and clearing the floor of ever-accumulating layers of dust. It was great fun but quite a slog, particularly on days when there was a matinee too. My stint finished at Christmas, but my admiration goes to Emma Murdoch and her team, who have signed up for the long haul.

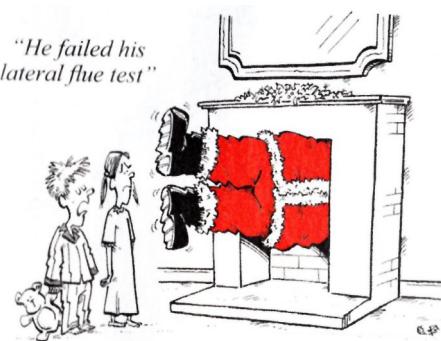
## MURDER MYSTERY

After eighteen months of restrictions a window of opportunity opened and we were able to plan for our usual production in November. We would normally put on a stage play in this slot, but the WI had booked their coffee/mince pie morning for the weekend that we would have normally erected the stage so we were obliged to look for an alternative.

It turned out to be a fortunate turn of events when I found a Murder Mystery by Chris Martin. 'Who Killed the Farmer' morphed into 'Who Killed Farmer Chris Masse' - or - 'Murder Most Fowl' and this was performed on 26th and 27th November. The event was a sell-out on both evenings and, judging by comments made afterwards it was a huge success. My thanks go out to the cast, who grappled with quite a lengthy script, and to all the team who ensured that the evenings ran smoothly.



Simon Blyth



## NEW MEMBERS

We have some new members. Hello Katherine Ward, Sheila Lennox, Ashleigh Wilday, and Ian Mackenzie- Edwards.

Hope you all enjoy the Pantomime!

**IT'S PANTO TIME—OH, YES IT IS**

We are fast approaching Panto time which—fingers crossed—is booked for Wednesday 23rd February until Saturday 26th February (incl.).

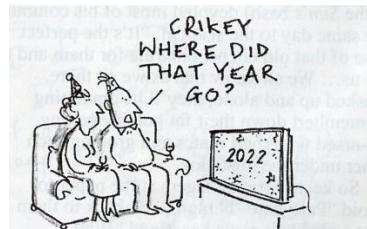
I'm certain that you all know that this time it's GOLDILOCKS, which has again been written by Dave Wiken and colleagues from the All Saint's Pantomime Society. I really hope that their efforts will be properly credited on the advertising literature.

Maggie should take credit for getting it fully cast before Christmas and the first read-through is due to take place in the Village Hall on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

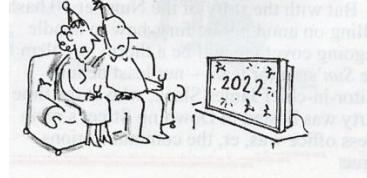
It is a great script, which should be fun performing.



*"No one said anything about a PCR test when we started following the star..."*



PROBABLY NOWHERE  
/ LIKE US



# WHEN GRANNY STAYED FOR CHRISTMAS

I really hope you can download this. It's pure Devon Gold , delivered in a completely deadpan style. Ctrl Click on the link below— or just copy and paste the following

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUiETH4le20>

- into the address bar of our browser



THAT'S ALL FOLKS!!!

All that is left is for me to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas and a hope for better things in 2022. Please take care, your Drama Group will need you next year!



John