



MARCH 2010 SPOTLIGHT

IT'S BEHIND YOU!!

I think we can safely say our Pantomime this year was a resounding success. Well done to Lloyd, Nikki and the team for all your hard work and efforts. All the worry and hassle that you all went through was worth it in the end. Now you can relax in the knowledge that you have ticked that particular box. Fabulous critiques in the "Algarve Resident" and the "Portugal News" but here is the all important critique from Sandra Wilkinson:

How good it was to go to a real, 'oh no it isn't, oh yes it is' pantomime! It may be silly but the old adage about people being comfortable with familiarity is so true with Panto. We know the story and we are anticipating the result and in pantomime particularly it has to be what we expect. It **has** to be predictable and if it isn't, then we are disappointed - without perhaps quite knowing why. The only real thing I missed from previous memories of Jack and the Beanstalk (and yes I know this was not exactly Jack and the Beanstalk) was 'fee-fi-fo-fum' and 'the goose that laid the golden eggs'. Now this is possibly not a problem for anyone except for me, but it is perhaps a gentle 'heads-up' to producers when choosing a panto to think about what the audience will expect from their panto memories – no matter how long ago – and to see if it cannot be incorporated somehow. Having said all that, the 'new' concepts that this panto produced made it modern and fresh without losing the traditional appeal and were acted out brilliantly by the cast. I loved young Jordan with his Dr Who lift – excellent! And the Giant (even without saying fee-fi-fo-fum!) although one can only imagine the difficulty of playing quite a large part and directing at the same time. However, Lloyd Delderfield gave his usual professional performance without seemingly losing control of



the rest of the cast! One thing I had forgotten from my years in Panto was the 'local' jokes. These went down very well and clearly can be built on in future productions. It was so funny to hear a joke about the quality of food in a local cafe and to hear someone shout back from the audience!! Also audience participation opportunities were exploited well. And so to the main cast and it is difficult to find something fresh to say individually about a team that so clearly knew what they were doing, knew what the audience expected from them and put everything into their performance. Tony Sanders (the Dame), Karen Barroso (Principal Boy), Natalie Ribeiro (Principal Girl) and Chris Winstanley (the Baron) had to make the story credible and keep it moving along and this they achieved very well. Gloria Costa and Lara Costa worked very well together to bring us real dim-witted humour with

Diddly/Squat; and I did like Clover the Cow. I have never seen a four legged animal played by one person before and it was done very well indeed. Nikki Weijdom I think is also the choreographer and she did an excellent job. If I had to choose a favourite part, it was Fairy Liquid. Of course the rhyming couplets helped but Barbara Briggs made her 'mature' fairy lovable and believable. Excellent casting too, because often a young girl is cast in this role and personality had to be the main criteria for Fairy Liquid. Fabulous supporting cast, chorus and dancers and as always with the Algarvean's a fantastic Production Team. From Prompt to Set to Scene shifting – everything ran smoothly. Keep up the good work. [Thanks Sandra, you've got the job!](#)



No time to rest on your laurels, 'ALLO, 'ALLO! Is up next in May!



Based on the hugely popular TV comedy series, this stage version follows the adventures of René, the hapless café owner in war-torn occupied France. He conducts simultaneous love affairs with his two waitresses, just a step ahead of his highly suspicious wife, Edith. At the same time, his café becomes a safe house for the French résistance and the hiding place for two British airmen and German war trophies, in particular the portrait of the Fallen Madonna with the big boobies. How will René avoid the attention of Herr Flic of the Gestapo and a bunch of vicious unscrupulous German officers? He will need all the wit he can muster to save his café and his life...! David Butler-Cole



assisted by his wife Sue presided over auditions last week at Silves Cine-Theatre Club. Hopeful Algarvean's turned out in their droves to audition for the fabulous parts on offer. David was overwhelmed by the turn out, thinking he would be struggling to fill all the parts, he was actually spoilt for choice. It has to be one of the funniest auditions we have ever had and readers were throwing themselves into their characters with gusto. David burnt the midnight oil trying to decide who should get the parts and the successful candidates were announced the following day with a telephone call from the director. The show has been booked at the Lagoa Auditorium for commencing **12th May**. For more information contact David Butler-Cole on colectoram@hotmail.com or ring 968 335 856 or 282 330 242. The following Algarvean's were selected as the cast:

| The French | | The Germans | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| René | Trevor Herrington | Gen. Von Klinkerhofen | Tony Saunders |
| Leclerc | Greg McDonald | Col. Von Strom | John Havery |
| Edith | Gloria Costa | Capt. Hans Geering | Lloyd Delderfield |
| Yvette | Sandra Inca | Lt. Gruber | Charlie Bedingham |
| Edith's Mother | Sian Hughes-Roberts | Herr Flic | Leonard Oblowitz |
| Maria | Barbara Briggs | Helga | Boe Williams |
| Michelle | Jenny Dackombe | | |

| The British | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Policeman Crabtree | Des Briggs |
| Airman Fairfax | Robert Wilkinson |
| Airman Carstairs | Derrick Watts |
| Extras | |
| Onion Seller 1 | Nick Reynolds |
| Onion Seller 2 | Tracey Reynolds |

Rehearsals commenced the following day with a complete read through of the script. This proved to be extremely difficult due to the amount of laughter. I think our audiences are going to really enjoy this one, excellent choice David. Only 10 weeks 2 days to curtain. Watch this space for further news and progress on set building, costume making etc.



Panto Back Stage



Not having a part in the Pantomime this year was difficult to cope with especially when my Barbara was successful in being awarded the part as Fairy Liquid, I know my place! However, the director came to my rescue and asked me to be his assistant. It soon became apparent that this was in the main, a non job, especially during show time, so I offered my services to Debbie Gaines, Brian Pemberton, Peter Morley and Dick Purcell in the gloom room back stage. These guys prepare and provide the hoops for the actors to jump through. If there is anyone out there who thinks this is easy, think again. These guys do a difficult job and don't get the credit and applause they deserve from our audiences. The actors receive all the applause while these guys virtually go un-

noticed. Trish Delderfield, as our much trusted prompt and Linda Roshdie as best girl kept everything ticking over nicely. During show time, unlike the actors, the back stage crew have no time to relax between their deliveries. If you do relax or switch off for one minute, you are in trouble. Our wonderful actors all of a sudden become a pain in the backside, milling around and trying to watch the show from the wings, getting in the way of this well oiled machine working away to reveal the Swan gliding through the water. Let us just face facts, without these willing backstage moles these productions would not happen. I take my hat off to these guys and I will not hesitate in future to opt for back stage work should I not be lucky enough to get a part in the show. They have a great working relationship with each other and have a lot of fun, which is why we all

get involved in what ever role with this organisation. I strongly recommend that all actors try their hand at this work. They will then better appreciate the hard work, worries and problems involved. By the next production we are hoping that all our back stage crew will be linked to each other via new radio communication technology. They deserve this kit and how they have managed so far without it is beyond me. I know we all think that we are more important in whatever role we undertake, but let's face it, after all the gnashing of teeth etc, we all really do need each other. [Des the Ed](#)



A Word from the Chair



I hope you all enjoyed the Panto as much as I did - and as much as the local newspaper reviewers did. A lot of people put a lot of work into the show, as ever happens, and the result was a great show. We had a slightly less young (!) chorus than sometimes, and the usual off-stage amateur dramatics at times (!!), but the end result was a credit to all concerned. No sooner has one show ended than the next begins, and our Spring production of 'Allo, Allo! is already in rehearsal. I'm sure that David and his cast & crew will put on a show that will do us credit, and will appeal to a wide audience. If you feel that you can help with the preparations for the show, please come along to the production meeting on Tuesday, or contact David directly. We have not yet set an Autumn production, so come on fellow thespians, whether you have directed before or not, if you feel you can add to

what promises to be a successful year for The Algarvean's, let me know. Help and advice are always available for Directors - but not compulsory!

Help and Membership

Calling for help! As you must be aware, we the Algarvean's are always trying to improve our productions. One of the things we need help with is someone who knows anything about personal stage radio microphones. Those tiny little things that the producers hope you don't see on the top of the foreheads of actors or singers. We need to know which type would be the best for us to go for and of course prices. If any one knows anyone out there who can give us some ideas can they contact Nikki 917 776 245 or nikki.luz@hotmail.com You should also contact Nikki if you want to join the Algarvean's or pay your membership subscription.

Fit to Dance - Dance and Fitness Classes in Alvor

Aerobics – Tums & Bums - Fitball etc. Baby Ballet-Jazz (Combination Class) 2-5 yrs.
Ballet 6-12 yrs. Jazz Dance 6-12 yrs. Tap for beginners/Intermediate. Premier Boys, just for the Lads, dance movement and Singing. New Classes Starting Soon. Phone Karen 96 8890671 for more details.

SILVES CINE-THEATRE CLUB

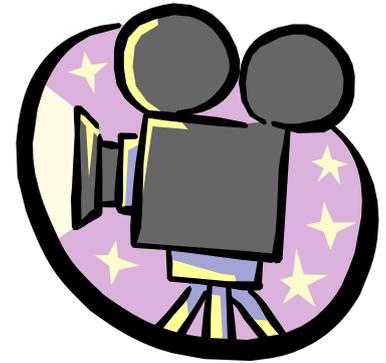
THEATRE - 5th and 6th MARCH

We have pleasure in welcoming back to the Cine-Theatre "The BENE*FACTORS" to present for us a riotous evening of comedy - in the form of four short comedies-

DATA ENTRY and FANTASY BOND by Jules Tasca

ONE NAKED WOMAN and a FULLY-CLOTHED MAN by Diana Amsterdam

SILVER WEDDING by John Bowen



The show is directed by JOHN MOUNTFORD and the star-studded cast is Diana Cantillon-Ings, Thomas Hartman, John and Barbara Mountford and Sandy Whittle. The show will run for two evenings - Friday, 5th March and Saturday, 6th March at the time of 8 p.m.. sharp. The bar will be open from 7.30pm. Don't miss it! Book now! Proceeds to Castelo de Sonhos! Tickets are €8 for members and €10 for non-members. BOOKINGS 282-330242 or 962 991 036 - email coleloram@hotmail.com

Trevor's Joke!!

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patricia Whack. "Miss Whack, I'd like to get a \$30,000 loan to take a holiday." Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says His name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager. Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral. The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed. Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office. She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$30,000, and he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what in the world is this?" The bank manager looks back at her and says... "It's a knick-knack, Patty Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone." You're singing it, aren't you?

AND FINALLY

Welcome back to us Anita Pugsley, great to see you looking so well and great to see you back on stage even with the aid of a stick, what fantastic determination, well done. I still have photographs of the Panto cast which members are welcome to as an email attachment, just send me an email and I will forward by return. Are you involved with another group that would benefit in receiving this Spotlight newsletter? If so, feel free to post it at your website or circulate via your email list. The more people we can get the message to and bring to our live shows the better. Forward it to your friends and neighbours. Please don't forget your letters to the editor, just send your input via email Desbabs@hotmail.com alternatively, you could write to me; Des Briggs BEM, Apt 1123 Carvoeiro, Lagoa 8401-910. If it is easier, ring me at 282 084438. Do you want to advertise another group or organisation then send input to me, at the above address. Maybe you have something for sale, a joke or cartoon, an article, a photograph or information on forthcoming shows or just information of a general interest. "Ta-ra" everybody, see you next month. [Des the Ed.](#)

