

All Saints Weston Village Pantomime

Robin Hood
and the
Babes in Wefton Wood



Thurs 30th, Fri 31st Jan & Sat 1st Feb 2020

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Robin Hood and the Babes in Wefton Wood

A long time ago, in a place not too far, far away, life was definitely not perfect. The king was out of the country fighting wars as they did back in the day. The country's coffers were pretty empty, the rich were getting richer and the poor were getting poorer. Huh! What's changed I hear you say?

Our story begins in the famous little village of Wefton where the local entrepreneur, Robin of Locksbrook, is doing his best to help the poor and needy inhabitants. He's been forced, by the new sheriff, to live as an outlaw deep in the Wefton Wood with his band of trusty followers - The Hoodies. The sheriff is a nasty greedy individual intent on taxing anybody and anything. The poor people are beginning to feel as if even the very air they breathe is taxed. Why, there's even a tax to be paid on taking a cart into the nearby town, under the pretext that the wheels of the cart churn up dust on the roads which in turn pollutes the air. How can life continue under such a regime? Can anyone be found to stop such a money grasping overlord?

We invite you to sit back and join an entertaining host of loveable characters who will "fire" the imagination as they lead us on a thrilling journey of good versus evil, love versus hate, loss and forgiveness in this fairytale adventure.

This Production is dedicated to the memory of Dave [Pascoe] Clark 1941-2020

Big Dave, as we tended to call him, died unexpectedly and suddenly just over a fortnight ago. He was a key player in our current production, taking the Dame's role as the Babes' nurse and hamming it up beautifully.



Dave was not merely our Dame but one with a great pedigree; pantomimes were his favourite form of acting. He had played the Dame in over 40 productions. Once he won an award as the best amateur Dame in the South West. His costumes were fabulous and his superb timing and 'grasp of the audience' such that he always brought the house down. He was a true professional. For many years he acted in a wide range of plays in many theatres including the Theatre Royal and the Ustinov.

In the inaugural All Saints' pantomime some years ago he took the title role as well as directing our efforts. His wealth of experience together with

his thoughtful advice, encouragement, sense of fun and vast knowledge of the pantomime genre, was invaluable. Dave took the Dame's part for us again in the 2018 production of 'Cindyrella'. He was also the High Priest in an All Saints' Passion Play and a statuesque and terrifying King Herod in our Christmas production of 2018.



As a key member of the Hanham players Dave normally acted in as many as four productions each year; he did so for 26 years. Dave with Cindy his lovely, patient and, almost certainly, long-suffering wife, was a regular at All Saints. There his height as well as his 'presence' again made him stand out. He was normally accompanied 'pewside' by his daughter Ally, her husband Ernie, and granddaughter Olivia. To all these as well as his other daughter, Tracy, her husband Andy and grandchildren Tom and Ollie we extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers.

We shall miss Dave dreadfully and we only trust that our amateur attempts on the stage now in front of you are worthy of his dramatic memory.



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A photograph of a dining table with a white chair, a large mirror, and a pendant lamp. The scene is set in a modern dining room. A large, silver, dome-shaped pendant lamp hangs over a wooden dining table. On the table, there is a white chair with a colorful, patterned seat cushion, an open magazine, a white mug on a saucer, and a potted plant. In the background, a large mirror reflects the room, showing another similar lamp and a kitchen area. The overall atmosphere is bright and contemporary.

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A Message from Mark (Rector of All Saints Wefton Weston)

We hope you enjoy this performance of Robin Hood and the Babes in Wefton Wood - in fact we insist on it. We expect you to laugh, cry, be surprised and call out "Oh no he didn't" at the appropriate time.

Everyday life is full of these moments too, it's just that we don't get to see the script or learn our lines. There is joy, pain, laughter and surprise as well searching for the obvious (he's behind you) and arguments (Oh no she didn't).

At All Saints we think that one of the best ways to deal with whatever life throws at you is to walk with the One who designed and made us. We have found that following the way of Jesus in the midst of the confusion and delight of life means we can live at peace - whatever the circumstances.

We would love to invite you to share the journey. Want to know more? Have a look at our website (allsaintsweston.org.uk) or drop in on a Sunday. God bless.

Sundays

You're invited

**All Saints**
A CHURCH ON THE WAY

09:00 Sanctuary

a quieter start to the day, with a traditional communion and some sung worship

11:00 Engage

suitable for all ages with band led worship and groups for children most weeks

18:30 Encounter

extended worship, teaching and the opportunity to respond

Taste and **SEE** that the Lord is good Psalm 34:8

Robin Hood and the Babes in Wefton Wood

Act 1

Prologue

Scene 1 The Sheriff of Wefton's office

Scene 2 Wefton Village

Scene 3 The Sheriff's office

Scene 4 The Wefton Manor House

Scene 5 Wefton Wood

Interval with refreshments (20 minutes)

Act 2

Scene 1 A Boot Camp training session at the Hub
in Wefton Wood

Scene 2 Wefton Manor

Scene 3 The dungeon

Scene 4 Weftfest on the Village Green

Scene 5 Robin's Camp in Wefton Wood

Scene 6 The Walk - down



REFRESHMENTS

Cup of tea - £1

Cup of coffee - £1.50

Soft Drinks - 50p
(see counter for selection)

Wine - £2 a glass
(Red/Rosé/White)

Beer/Lager - £3 a bottle

Popcorn - 50p a bag

Cake bites - 50p a bag
(see todays selection)

**Ice cream will be sold in the hall
and the foyer during the interval
at £2 per tub**





Cast in order of appearance:

Benedict the Bold *Dave Saunders*

Impoverished Child 1 *Ruben Hutt*

Impoverished Child 2 *Ella Markell*

Soldiers *Vera Podger and Peter Stoneley*

Minstrel *Peter Heywood*

Sheriff *Robert Groezinger*

Grovel *Matt Searle / Sophia Day*

Estate Agent *Kit Johnson*

Villagers *John Gilmour, Derek Hall,
Stephen Lillicrap, Vera Podger,
Alison Stoneley and
Peter Stoneley*

Children *Bruno Sziuba, Polly Wynne,
Sydney Garan, Ruben Hutt
Rebecca Atkins, Matt Searle
Sophia Day, Hope Bennett,
Ella Markall, Bethany Gleave,
Lucy Gleave, Iris Day and
Penny Day*

Robin *Dave Parr*

Friar Tuck *Bill Strath*

Wills Scarlet *Paul Bright*

Marian *Alice Tomkinson*



Mistress Kate	<i>Catherine Bright</i>
The Babes - Isabel and Alyce	<i>Iris Day and Penny Day</i>
Nurse	<i>Geoff White</i>
Big Joan	<i>Joan Shearman</i>
Karen	<i>Caroline Radford</i>
Claude	<i>Robin Lewis</i>
Stodge	<i>John Gilmour</i>
Plank	<i>Derek Hall</i>
Snitch	<i>James Couchman</i>
Snivel	<i>Martin Radford</i>
Bear	<i>Lucy Gleave</i>
Fairy	<i>Caroline Radford</i>
Woodland Birds	<i>Ella Markall, Polly Wynne, Rebecca Atkins, Bethany Gleave and Sydney Garan</i>
Alan-a-Dale	<i>Arthur Perdicchia</i>
Hoodies	<i>Rob Page, Rod Vowler and Dave Saunders</i>
Lawyer	<i>Jo Lewis</i>
Constable	<i>Paul Bright</i>
Flag Bearer 1	<i>Ruben Hutt</i>
Flag Bearer 2	<i>Bruno Sziuba</i>
King Richard	<i>Andrew Baines</i>



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Behind the scenes

Director	<i>Meg Searle</i>
Children's Assistant Director	<i>Alice Tomkinson</i>
Music	<i>Chris Carrick and Pippa Page</i>
Lighting	<i>Don Hewit and John Wherry</i>
Sound	<i>Gary Oaten</i>
Choreography	<i>Marie Strath</i>
Children's Choreography	<i>Lilley Markell</i>
Stage Construction	<i>David Shearman</i>
Set Design	<i>Pip Wynne, Finola Colvin</i>
Stage Management	<i>Marie Strath, Barbara Gilmour, Jackie Heywood and Catherine Slade</i>
Electricians	<i>Ken Slade and John Wherry</i>
Children's Costumes	<i>Gemma Day</i>
Room Design & Decor	<i>Liesl Wherry</i>
Publicity	<i>Tom Searle, Ben Wynne and Naomi Cox</i>
Box Office	<i>All Saints Centre</i>
Marketing	<i>Nigel Dyer and Peter Merchant</i>
Honorary Treasurer	<i>Nigel Dyer</i>
Front of House	<i>Naomi Cox, All Saints Centre Staff and Volunteers</i>
Script	<i>Jenny Lewis</i>
Producers	<i>Robin and Jenny Lewis</i>

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Especial Thanks are due to the following:

The Babe's Nurse

The entire cast and crew wish to thank Geoff White for taking on the part of the Babe's Nurse at very short notice. Geoff is highly experienced; for many years he has taken leading roles in, for example, BLOG's productions. We count ourselves particularly blessed that he was both available and able to take this on - not many could [nor would!]. As well as thanking Geoff we need to thank his wife and family for giving him up for the duration. At this point we should mention **St Philip and St James' church** on Odd Down, whose drama group has helped us out with Geoff's costumes.

Marshfield Ice Cream

We want to say a big thank you to Will and Dawn Hawking, the proprietors and founders of Marshfield Ice Cream who have supplied the ice cream on sale during the interval. Profits from this sale will go to support **The Primrose Hill Community Woodland** [The Millennium Wood]. This wonderful facility on the side of the hill towards Lansdown is open to everyone and is this year celebrating its 20th birthday. It may contain unusual wildlife! For more information visit www.primrosehillwoodland.com

Thanks are also due to **all those** who have supported us through advertisements in the programme. Do please use these local businesses. Using them does, of course, mean that you are supporting the local economy.

And finally, thank you all, every one of you in the audience, for coming and, of course, taking part....because, after all, Panto is a participative performance. We do hope and trust that you will enjoy the show. 'Oh Yes we do!'



How Babes in the Wood started

- Babes in the Wood is based on an old English Ballad (preserved in the British Museum) of 1595, it tells the story of two children, abandoned deep in the forest upon the orders of their Wicked Uncle.
- It was first presented on the stage in 1793 as "The Children In The Wood", an Opera performed at the Haymarket Theatre. It was created by Dr. Samuel Arnold. In this version the children survived, and were restored to their parents, but other versions stuck to the more gloomy conclusion of the original ballad.
- The children succumbed to the elements in "Harlequin and Cock Robin: or, The Babes In The Wood" at Drury Lane in 1827, in what was the first "pantomime" version, and again in 1856 at the Haymarket.
- In 1867 the character of Robin Hood was introduced to the story. He rescued the babes from their fate, but this was not always the case. Covent Garden's pantomime in 1874 kept the unhappy ending, and also saw their Wicked Uncle meeting his death. In modern versions the babes always survive their ordeal, and the evil uncle is unmasked.



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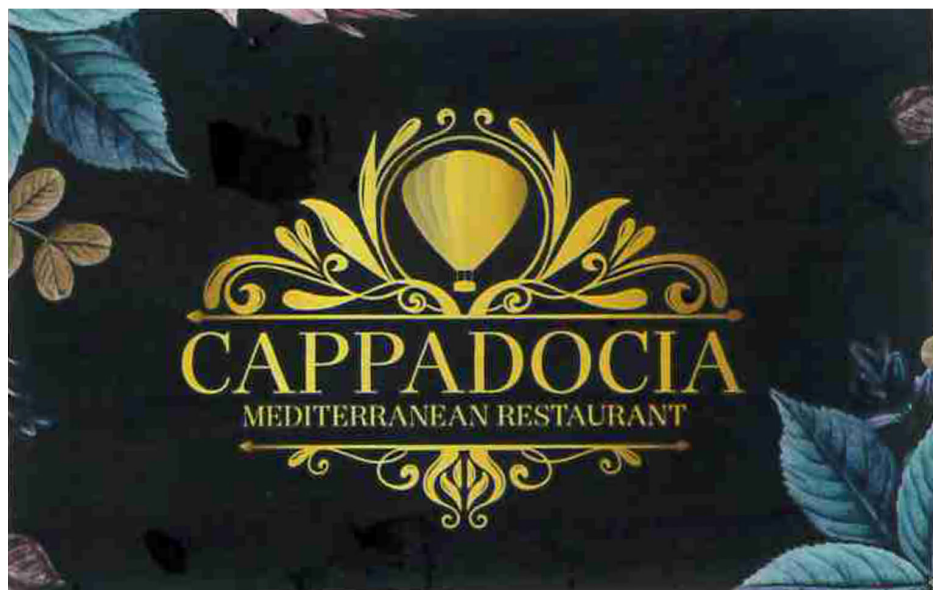
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