

**PROGRESS**  
THE  TRE

**7 - 16 December 2023**

[www.progresstheatre.co.uk](http://www.progresstheatre.co.uk)



# TERRY PRATCHETT'S HOGFATHER

Adapted by Stephen Briggs



**SOUVENIR  
PROGRAMME**

Directed by Chris Moran

This amateur production is presented by  
arrangement with Bloomsbury



# Welcome to Progress!

**Founded in 1946,  
we're the oldest producing  
theatre in Reading.**

A self-governing, self-funding theatre group, run entirely by volunteers. We are members of the Little Theatre Guild and the National Operatic and Dramatic Association, and are a registered charity in England (no. 1182798). Our patron is Sir Kenneth Branagh.



*noda*  
Be inspired by amateur theatre

## 10 Shows per year

We put together a varied and challenging programme of shows every season, including our traditional Open Air Shakespeare production at Reading Abbey Ruins each Summer.



## An Intimate Venue

Our intimate 96 seat venue has a fully licensed bar. There is wheelchair access and a hearing loop, and we are committed to making further improvements in the coming years to make our building more accessible.



## Youth Theatre

We have a vibrant and happy Youth Theatre, split into 4 groups by age. Regular workshops involve theatre games, improvisations and skills development. Youth Theatre shows are often challenging and always performed to a high standard. Many past members maintain an interest in theatre and numerous aspects of performance art as adults, some of them professionally!



The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service

## Award Winners

In June 2020, we were very honoured to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This award is equivalent to an MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire), and is the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK, to recognise outstanding work done in their own communities.



# BRAMBLEDOWN DESIGNS



The artwork on display in the foyer was created by Symon Leech of Brambledown Designs

As an ex-scientist, I bring a little experimentation to my artwork, taking a little from column A and a little from column B and seeing what happens. This makes for an eccentric approach to my work, for instance using smashed vinyl records for portraits of rock stars or using old books as the backdrop for linoprints. My subject matter is similarly eclectic. I do some traditional art but more often my work veers off into the geeky wastelands of a galaxy far, far, away. What I do makes me happy, I hope it does the same for others.



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## noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

### Did you know?

NODA was founded in 1899.

Has a membership of over 2000 amateur groups and 1000 individual members.

Members stage musicals, operas, plays, concerts and pantomimes.

Member venues range from professional theatres to village halls.

Supports the needs of youth and adult theatre, on and off stage.

NODA publishes three magazines a year **NODA Today**, read it for free on our website.

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## [noda.org.uk](http://noda.org.uk)



# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

My first introduction to Discworld was when Progress performed *Mort* in 1998 and I was cast as Ysabell, the adopted daughter of Death. My husband Aidan had always been a Terry Pratchett fan and had all the books, so it was easy for me to read the novel to gain some background information. I learned that Ysabell loved pink and eating chocolate, and I managed to persuade the director to let me eat chocolate on stage in most of my scenes!

The following year I directed my first large cast play, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* followed a couple of years later by *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* and *James and the Giant Peach* in 2006. I really enjoyed the challenge of directing large cast plays which included members of Progress Youth Theatre as well as adults, and the creative opportunities offered in bringing these fantastic worlds to life. I have been very fortunate in having Aidan by my side in my creative journey as he has designed amazing sets and props for these large-scale productions which allow the many, often short, scenes to flow together seamlessly.



When directing other, more traditional, plays we're fine with blackouts and stage managers coming on stage with set and props, but for this sort of play we like to use lighting and sound to create the scene changes as far as possible and have the actors execute any physical scene changes so as not to break the flow of the action. In the same way as many actors play more than one role in this type of play, so the scenery has to be capable of portraying different locations with the clever use of lighting and a set that appears simple but has a few surprises in store.

My next large cast plays were *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Reading Abbey Ruins and then *Five Children and It* (co-directed with Ali Carroll), for which Aidan designed a clever set where the various elements popped up from the floor in the manner of a pop-up storybook. And then it was time for my first Pratchett – *Going Postal* in 2010. To date that remains the only play I have directed when I never actually had the whole cast on stage together until the first night – not even for the final dress rehearsal! That didn't put me off however, although the next play I brought to the stage was John Godber's *Teechers* – multiple characters again but only three actors, so that was a bit of a rest!



But I had been well and truly bitten by the Pratchett bug and went on to direct *The Fifth Elephant* in 2013 and *Maskerade* 2018 (and several non-Pratchetts in between, including *Noises Off* with the most complicated set the Progress stage has ever seen!). *Maskerade* was the first time I had Nanny Ogg and Granny Weatherwax on stage, brought to life perfectly by Liz Carroll and Melanie Sherwood respectively. I loved the witches so much I wanted to do another play with them so I chose *Wyrd Sisters* to stage in January 2020. Auditions were open to all, as all Progress auditions are, but no-one else of a certain age auditioned for Nanny and Granny (I still suspect foul play!) so Liz and Mel reprised their roles to the delight of all the Pratchett fans who came to see the show, and Discworld Monthly who declared they had met 'the real Nanny Ogg'.

Liz appears again on stage in this production. I cast her as the Tooth Fairy and the Narrator, but at the first rehearsal she sidled up to me and said 'I want to play Nanny Ogg again, I miss her'.

I have really enjoyed bringing *Hogfather* to the stage and it has been fantastic to work with such a talented cast, both young and still young-at-heart, including six Youth Theatre members, many familiar faces and several people new to Progress. Casting was particularly difficult with forty-five people auditioning from which we had to choose a cast of twenty.



I would have been happy casting all forty-five as there are at least that many roles but there is no way to fit that many people backstage – even twenty is pushing it!!

And finally I have to say thank you to the wonderful team behind the magic: creating the set, lighting, sound, costumes, props, managing things backstage, promoting the show, helping at rehearsals, creating the programme, chaperoning the youngsters and filling the front of house roles to make sure the theatre can open – I couldn't have done it without you all and I truly appreciate everyone's contributions and hard work.

Enjoy the show!

**Chris Moran** – Director





# IT'S IN THE BONES

## THE UNIQUE ANCESTRY OF SUSAN STO HELIT

Long ago, Death himself took on a human apprentice, a well-meaning, but rather dim-witted young man called Mortimer, though he preferred to be called Mort. The young man tried his best but had a habit of allowing his curious mind to wonder about the meaning of death. And during his apprenticeship, Death with a capital D, decided to take a sabbatical, leaving Mort to carry the burden of the Duty. While Mort was eager to please, he soon found that he wasn't very well suited to the Duty of ushering souls to the next world, but Mort wasn't alone: someone tagged along to criticize him...

That someone was Ysabell, Death's daughter. Well – his adoptive daughter. Many years before Death took on Mort as an apprentice, he found the infant Ysabell after her parents were tragically killed and, moved by pity, he raised her as his own. But after many, many years of living in Death's domain, Ysabell began to grow bored. By the time she first met Mort she had been sixteen years old for the past thirty-five years.\*

After an initial frosty reception, then a long period of despising each other, on top of all the chaos that ensued when Mort failed to reap the soul of a princess, Mort and Ysabell grew to tolerate each other and eventually fell in love.

When the mess that Mort had created was finally set right, Mort and Ysabell married and became the Duke and Duchess of Sto Helit – well, they did save the princess-now-queen of Sto Lat's life. And of course, it helped to having Death as your father-in-law.



Later, Mort and Ysabell had their first and only child, whom they named Susan. But sixteen years after her birth, both parents died in an accident. Up until that point, Susan had no memory of Death being her grandfather, and only makes this discovery because Death, driven by grief at Ysabell's passing, abandoned the Duty to try and forget.\*\*

Susan Sto Helit had to temporarily step into her grandfather's role. She did her best, but she too did not take well to the Duty – like father, like daughter. Although unlike Mort, Susan did not alter causality and upset the flow of time, she merely tried to prevent the untimely death of a musician for whom she developed feelings. She inherited her humanity from her parents, but she also inherited many of the same powers as her grandfather. The power of Death runs in the family. It's in the bones.

### Sources:

*Mort*, *Soul Music*, *Hogfather* by Terry Pratchett

The Discworld Wiki: [Discworld Wiki](#) | Fandom

Discworld and Terry Pratchett Wiki: [Discworld & Terry Pratchett Wiki](#) (lspace.org)

\* BECAUSE DEATH'S DOMAIN EXISTS OUTSIDE OF TIME AND SPACE.

\*\* IT'S DIFFICULT TO FORGET WHEN YOU CAN REMEMBER THE PAST, PRESENT AND THE FUTURE ALL AT ONCE PERFECTLY.





# THE ASSASSINS' GUILD

NIL MORTIFI, SINE LUCRE\*

Founded by Sir Gyles de Munforte, the de Munforte School for Gentlemen Assassins first opened its doors to the bright young noblemen of Ankh-Morpork society on August 27th in the fifteen-hundred and twelfth year since the founding of Ankh-Morpork city.

Achieving official Guild status in 1576 AM, the name of the school was changed to the Royal Guild of Assassins, but later dropped the 'Royal' title in 1688 AM after the events of the Ankh-Morpork Civil War.

Located in Filigree Street, situated next to the sinister building of the Guild of Fools and Joculators, the light and airy building of our fine institution is now a co-ed facility open to teach all who show promise in the noble service of assassination.

We offer the very best all-round education in the world. On top of this, our bright and brilliant students are taught the arts and sciences of properly inhuming someone with the utmost discretion and always with elegance. Students are also taught the monetary value of human life to the penny.

The entrance exam is not strenuous, in fact our school is very easy to get into and also easy to get out of (the trick being just to get out of it upright). We encourage cutthroat competition amongst our students.

While it is true that our school has a rather dubious reputation, we at the Assassins' Guild feel this is unfair as we can proudly boast an illustrious list of famous alumni who have not only survived their education but have gone on to do great and notorious things throughout all of Discworld. Previous students include Edward d'Eath, Dr Cruces, 71-Hour Ahmed, Lord Downey (our incumbent Master of Assassins) and none other than the Patrician of Ankh-Morpork himself, Lord Havelock Vetinari.

So now you've had a chance to look through what the Assassins' Guild has to offer, why not consider enrolling in our prestigious school today? There really is no other school like ours - at the Assassins' Guild we quite literally eliminate the competition.

Sources:

*Turtle Recall: The Discworld Companion ...so far*  
by Terry Pratchett and Stephen Briggs

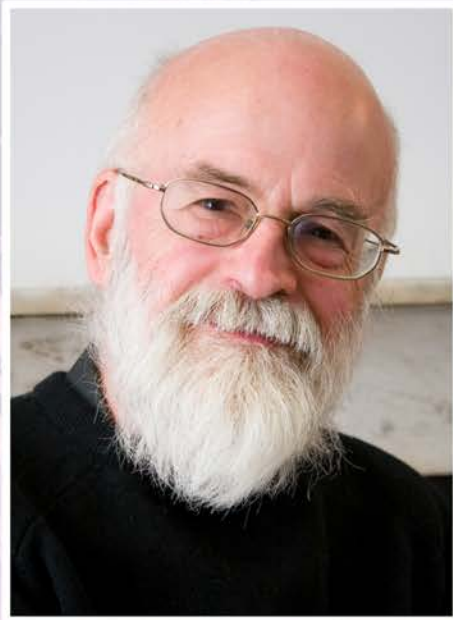


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\* NO KILLING WITHOUT PAY.



# SIR TERRY PRATCHETT



Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE (28 April 1948 – 12 March 2015), better known as Terry Pratchett, was an English author of fantasy novels, especially comical works. He is best known for his Discworld series of 41 novels. Pratchett's first novel, *The Carpet People*, was published in 1971. The first Discworld novel, *The Colour of Magic*, was published in 1983, after which he wrote two books a year on average. His 2011 Discworld novel *Snuff* was, at the time of its release, the third-fastest-selling hardback adult-readership novel since records began in the UK, selling 55,000 copies in the first three days. His final Discworld novel, *The Shepherd's Crown*, was published in August 2015, five months after his death.

Pratchett, with more than 85 million books sold worldwide in 37 languages, was the UK's best-selling author of the 1990s. He was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1998 and was knighted for services to literature in the 2009 New Year Honours. In 2001 he won the annual Carnegie Medal for *The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents*, the first Discworld book marketed for children. He received the World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement in 2010.

In December 2007, Pratchett announced that he had been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. He later made a substantial public donation to the Alzheimer's Research Trust (now Alzheimer's Research UK), filmed a television programme chronicling his experiences with the disease for the BBC, and also became a patron for Alzheimer's Research UK. Pratchett died on 12 March 2015 aged 66.





# LETTERS TO THE HOGFATHER

Dere Hogfather,

For Hogswatch I would like a drum an a dolly an a teddybear an a Ghastley Omnian Inquisition Torchure Chamber with Wind-Up Rack and Nearly Real Blud You Can Use Again, you can get it from the toyshoppe in Short Strete, it is \$5.99. I have been good an here is a glars of sherre an a pork pie for you and turnips for Gouger an Tusker an Rooter an Snaet Snouter. I hop the chimney is big enough but my friend William says you are your father really.

Yrs. Virginia Prood.

+++ Insuff

+++ This Is Just Calculating  
Aloud, You Understand +++

+++ Out Of Cheese Error +++  
MELON MELON MELON  
+++ Redo From Start +++

+++ Big Red Lever Time  
+++ Query +++

+++ Yes +++

+++ Yes +++

+++ Yes +++

+++ Dear Hogfather, For  
Hogswatch I Want -

+++ Yes. I Am Entitled +++

+++ Mine! Waaaah! +++





# ALL I WANT FOR HOGSWATCH IS...

Albert would like the big model horse in the shop window.

Anaglypta Huggs would like all alcohol to be banned.

~~The Auditors would like for Hogswatch to be cancelled, the Hogfather to be eliminated, for the suspension of all Human belief and to have control over everything.~~ No = Ω

Arnold Sideways doesn't want much for Hogswatch. All he would like is a simple penny. If you haven't got a penny, then any spare change would do. If you haven't got any spare change then he'll happily take a dollar. And if you can't part with a single dollar, then he'll graciously accept two dollars. Hogswatch is all about giving after all – so give generously.

Banjo would like a puppy.

Bilious would like a lifetime's supply of paracetamol.

The Carollers would like better quality jackets and fluffy scarves to keep warm.

Charlie would like a lifetime's supply of pencils.

Chickenwire would like everyone else's presents (forcefully taken!)

Coffin Henry would like a soft bed and some hot food.

Crumley would like a rotary bowtie.

Lord Downey would like poisoned humbugs.

Drumknott would like more pencils and paperclips.

Gawain would like a train set and a new football.

Sir Geoffrey would like an exquisite timepiece and a golden monocle.

Hibicus Dunelm would like a night, or perhaps a week, off.

Medium Dave would like a cigarette rolling machine.

Nanny Ogg would like a motorised broomstick with a padded seat.

Nobby would like anything but bath stuff!

The Party Guest would like a bottle of vinage wine.

Ridcully would like a new smoking pipe made from rosewood. Also some of that particularly strong pipe tobacco that he confiscated from a student that one time.

Sideney would like to finish his wizard training.

Susan would possibly like some chocolate. Although don't tell anyone.

~~Teatime would like the death of the Hogfather.~~

The Tooth Fairy would like a starring role in a Stephen King film.

The Tooth Fairy Guard would like a nicer paying job.

The Toy Maker would like a big ol' retirement package.

Twyla would like a doll.

Violet would like a purple sparkly ladder.

Lord Reginald Waffleton would like a more united Discworld.

don't forget abot thes  
onse – Q

Squeak

well thats popple for yuo. its  
wat they arksed for – Q

Squeak

yuo try writin wth no  
thums – Q

Checked Twice = Ω

There is an irony  
here. No = Ω



These seeme to bee from Roundworlde, Master  
Perhaps we should visit, in the spirit of Hogswatch - Ω  
NO Grandfather! Do NOT do this.

Aidan would like Time.

Callie would like a better computer.

For Hogswatch I would like a week at home with no emails to respond to and no other demands on my time! - Chris M

Flora would like a book subscription.

I would ask the Hogfather for tickets to see Luke Combs in concert, a new motorcycle and lots of Lego! - Gareth

John G would like climate change to stop right now.

Jordan doesn't celebrate Hogswatch on account of their... beliefs. But they wish for their family to always be happy and healthy.

Liz would like time with family and friends.

Noah would like a new phone.

Penny would like permanent personal chef.

I thought about asking for a decent fabric shop in Reading but that is about as likely as winning the Lottery so instead I settled on something I have at least half a chance of getting: good health and kind friends - oh, and pork pies! - Wendy

Dear Hogfather, how are you? I hope you are well. I have been very good this year and have even been nice to my brother! For Hogswatch it would be super awesome if I could have some sort of device that actually wakes me up from my nap.... not an alarm clock though, they don't work! Also a soup maker and lots of lego. Happy Hogswatch, from Laura (aged 39)

Dere Hogfather,  
For Hogswatch I would like some toffee an a teddy bear an a ETC lon Xe 20 lighting console and some ColorSource V fresnel LED lights to use with it, you can get them from the lighting emporium in Candle Strete, it is \$59,999.

John C

All I want for Hogswatch is a magically responsive back stage area of the theatre that automatically expands and contracts to accommodate any cast size in comfort. I'm sure Discworld must have the ability to arrange this for us - we just need it implemented for December! Fiona

What would I most like for Hogswatch? I sometimes think "What do you get for the man who has everything"? Well, apart from a small vial of powerful antibiotics, I think I am most looking forward to just being able to stop for a few days and not have to actually think about anything. Just a few days of peace and quiet would do me fine, thank you.  
Stuart





# CAST



(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Anaglypta Huggs (Choirmaster)	Sam Sladden
Narrator (Nanny Ogg)	Liz Carroll
Lord Downey	Joseph O'Leary
Susan Sto Helit	Megan Turnell Willett
Gawain Gaiter	Noah Thomas/Callie Wenham
Twyla Gaiter	Flora Alden/Niamh McConalogue Bracewell
Mrs Gaiter	Steph Dewar
Sir Geoffrey	Gareth Davidson
Lord Reginald Waffleton	Iesa Khan
Other Party Guests	Ali Carroll, Dimitrios Paximadas
Auditor One	Steph Dewar
Auditor Two	Gareth Davidson
Auditor Three	Harriet Wooldridge
Jonathan Teatime	Dean Stephenson
Hibiscus Dunelm	Iesa Khan
Chickenwire	Michael Webber
Medium Dave Lilywhite	Ali Carroll
Banjo Lilywhite	Dimitrios Paximadas
Virginia Prood (voice)	Isabelle Alvarez
Violet Bottler	Flora Paulo
Mr Sideney	Sam Sladden
Tooth Fairy Guard	Iesa Khan
DEATH	JAKE TURNELL WILLETT
Albert	John Goodman
Crumley	Joseph O'Leary
Corporal Nobbs	Liz Carroll





# CAST



(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

**Lance Constable Humpeding**

Harriet Woodridge

**Mustrum Ridcully**

Gareth Davidson

**Ponder Stibbons**

Steph Dewar

**Bilious**

Freddie Meader

**Charlie**

Joseph O'Leary

**Rufus Drumknott**

Sam Sladden

**Hex (voice)**

Iesa Khan

**Tooth Fairy**

Liz Carroll

**Toymaker**

Michael Webber

**Duck Man**

Liz Carroll

**Foul Ole Ron**

Ali Carroll

**Coffin Henry**

Dimitrios Paximadas

**Arnold Sideways**

Steph Dewar

## Wassailers

Flora Alden, Gareth Davidson, John Goodman, Iesa Khan,  
Niamh McConalogue Bracewell, Freddie Meader, Joseph O'Leary,  
Flora Paulo, Dean Stephenson, Noah Thomas, Michael Webber,  
Callie Wenham, Jake Turnell Willett, Megan Turnell Willett, Harriet Wooldridge



## YOU BETTER WATCH OUT.



**THE HOGFATHER KNOWS IF YOU ARE PEEPING, OR  
BEHAVING IRRESPONSIBLY IN OUR THEATRE... PLEASE:**

- DO NOT SMOKE
- KEEP THE AISLES OF THE AUDITORIUM CLEAR AT ALL TIMES
- DO NOT TAKE PHOTOS OR RECORDINGS OF THE PERFORMANCE
- TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE DEVICES DURING THE PERFORMANCE

Ho. Ho. Ho.





# PRODUCTION TEAM

## Director

Chris Moran

## Assistant Director

Tom Ripper

## Producer

Penny Wenham

## Production Assistant

Jordan Emmett

## Fight Director

Steph Dewar

## Stage Manager

Fiona O'Neil

## Assistant Stage Manager

Shannon Martindale

## Lighting Design & Operation

Jon Churchill

## Sound Design

Stuart McCubbin

## Sound Operation

Stuart McCubbin, Beckie Moir

## Poster Design

Aidan Moran

## Costume Design

Wendy Hobson

## Set Design & Team Lead

Aidan Moran

## Costume Team

Wendy Hobson, Shannon Martindale,  
Laura Mills, Chris Moran, Rowena Sterry

## Set Build Team

Kevin Alden, Trevor Dale, Stuart McCubbin, Niamh  
McConalogue Bracewell, Theresa McConalogue,  
Catherine Mewes, Mark Taylor, Callie Wenham

## Set Painting

Liz Carroll, Gareth Davidson, Beth Grace, Jane Harris,  
Fiona McNeil, Niamh McConalogue Bracewell, Aidan Moran,  
Chris Moran, Flora Paulo, Tom Ripper, Callie Wenham, Harriet Wooldridge

## Props

Aidan Moran, Chris Moran, Shannon  
Martindale, Neolodian Props, Tony Powell

## Marketing & Publicity

Lauren Boys, Emily Goode, Chris  
Moran, Mark Taylor, Penny Wenham

## Chaperone Co-ordinator

Fiona McNeil

## Chaperones

Avril Bird, Stuart Bracewell,  
Laura Mills, Helen Wernham

## Programme Content

Jordan Emmett, Chris Moran

## Photography

Aidan Moran



# BIOGRAPHIES

## Albert ~ *John Goodman*

Formerly known as the great Wizard Alberto Malich, the original founder of the Unseen University, who once sought to gain eternal life by performing the Rite of Ashk'Ente backwards, Albert now works as Death's faithful servant, a position he has maintained for thousands of years. Albert is also a very good cook – if you don't mind fried food. Who knew you could fry a Hogswatch pudding?



## The Auditors of Reality ~ *Steph Dewar, Gareth Davidson, Harriet Wooldridge*

The civil service of the universe, in charge of making sure that it runs logically, maintaining the proper function of time and space and seeing to it that atoms spin correctly. The Auditors are of the same mind, and all agree that messy, nonsensical distractions like humanity and belief need to be removed!



## The Hon. Sir Geoffrey Bibbleton ~ *Gareth Davidson*

A well-to-do nobleman and friend of the Gaiter Family. He is in attendance at the Gaiter's Hogswatch party.



## Bilious ~ *Freddie Meader*

The O God of Hangovers and the antithesis of Bibulous the God of Wine, who can drink as much as he likes and wake up the next morning as fresh as a daisy because Bilious is the one who gets his hangover. Bilious appears along with the Verruca Gnome and the Eater of Socks due to a void in the collective human belief created by the sudden disappearance of the Hogfather.



## Violet Bottler ~ *Flora Paulo*

When Violet is not working as a tooth fairy for The Tooth Fairy herself, she is an active member of Offler's League of Temperance\* - a group which abstains from alcohol, for which she wears a blue ribbon.



## Charlie ~ *Joseph O'Leary*

Charlie is Violet's boss and runs bulk collection and despatch for the tooth fairies. He feels as if he is much put upon and likes to tell people so.



\* OFFLER, A CROCODILE HEADED GOD, IS WORSHIPPED ALL OVER THE DISC. HE IS AN OLD GOD AND KNOWS THAT PEOPLE WANT COMMANDMENTS, BUT DON'T WANT RULES THAT THEY ARE CERTAINLY GOING TO BREAK. E.G. HIS WORSHIPPERS ARE FORBIDDEN FROM EATING BROCCOLI. NOBODY WILLINGLY EATS BROCCOLI, ANYWAY, SO THIS COMMANDMENT IS EASILY OBEYED AND MAKES HIS BELIEVERS FEEL GOOD IN THEMSELVES. QUITE HOW HE GOT INVOLVED WITH TEMPERANCE IS ANYONE'S GUESS, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE AN ALCOHOLIC DRINK WHILE IN THE HOME OF THE GODS ON DUNMANIFESTIN.



### Chickenwire ~ *Michael Webber*

A criminal who is part of Medium Dave's gang. He got his name by wrapping chicken wire around people in concrete overshoes before dumping their bodies into the river so they wouldn't float to the surface piecemeal and would give the crabs a chance. Chickenwire is deathly afraid of wardrobes and cupboards.



### Vernon Crumley ~ *Joseph O'Leary*

Owner of Crumley's Department Store. Hogswatch is a very special time for Mr Crumley, because it is the time when people spend a lot of money. Oh, the joy he feels when people come into his store to spend lots of money, so Mr Crumley always makes sure his store is appropriately festive to get people to come in and spend lots and lots of money. Crumley likes money.



### DEATH ~ JAKE TURNELL WILLETT

The anthropomorphic personification of the event that coincides with the end of life, appearing as a 7ft tall skeleton wearing a black hood and wielding a scythe, is Death with a capital D. Yet despite his sinister appearance, Death is rather fond of humans and the way they live their lives. In fact, helping humans and participating in the act of living has become a sort of hobby for him. Death possesses a unique memory and can remember everything that ever was or will be. Death likes cats and also enjoys an occasional curry.



### Lord Downey ~ *Joseph O'Leary*

The Master of the Assassins' Guild, a position he inherited after the death of the former Master, Dr Cruces. A very shrewd businessman and a key political player in Ankh-Morpork society, Lord Downey is an Assassin with a capital 'A', with a penchant for poisons, although no-one has ever been able to connect him to any cases of poisoning. He is allegedly credited with inventing Poison Peppermints (the secret ingredient is arsenic).



### Rufus Drumknott ~ *Sam Sladden*

The senior clerk, secretary and personal assistant to the Patrician of Ankh-Morpork, Lord Vetinari. Drumknott is described as being a man with no discernible character, yet it takes a certain character to take on the responsibility of working for the Patrician as diligently as Drumknott does.





### **Hibiscus Dunelm** ~ *Iesa Khan*

As the current landlord of the infamous Mended Drum – Ankh Morpork's oldest Public House – Hibiscus is the latest in a long line of landlords, since the Drum has been knocked down and rebuilt so many times in the city's known history. Due to the pub's sinister reputation, unsavoury clientele and the unfortunate habit it has of attracting natural and man-made calamity, Hibiscus is not likely to last long as proprietor... Time will tell!



### **Mrs Prudence Gaiter** ~ *Steph Dewar*

An overly ambitious social climber, Mrs Gaiter is always looking to better her family's position and status in Ankh-Morpork society. She has read books on etiquette although is not always sure when a serviette should be called a napkin, but she is sure that every family of the wannabe upper-class should have a governess in their employ.



### **Twyla Gaiter** ~ *Flora Alden/Niamh McConalogue* *Bracewell*

The only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gaiter. She has a habit of trying to sound ingratiatingly cute to get her own way. She'd believe in anything if she knew there was a dolly in it for her. She may be young in years but in cynicism she is 35.



### **Gawain Gaiter** ~ *Noah Thomas/Callie Wenham*

The only son of Mr and Mrs Gaiter. Gawain is a curious child, with an overactive imagination which is prone to bringing monsters and imaginary creatures into existence. Gawain enjoys watching imaginary bears (which appear if you step on a crack in the pavement) get beaten up by his Governess Susan.



### **Hex** ~ *Iesa Khan*

The University's first (and only) mechanical thinking machine. Built by Ponder Stibbons and the student Wizards from odds and ends and various occult sundries from around the university, it is no surprise that Hex has magically developed its own sentience. If any Wizard has a problem, then Hex knows the answer.





### Anaglypta Huggs ~ Sam Sladden

A very respectable folklorist and a choir master of the Ankh-Morpork Wassailers, Anaglypta has assembled the choir to spread Hogswatch cheer and collect donations for the poor – or rather the poor who are suitably picturesque and not too smelly and who can be relied on to say ‘thank you’. Anaglypta, always vigilant and slightly prudish, has made sure to censor all the Hogswatch carols and erase any suggestive content.



### Lance Constable Salacia Deloresista Amanita Trigestatra Zeldana Malifee... von Humpeding\*

~ Harriet Wooldridge

A young 51-year-old vampire from Überwald, who works for the Ankh-Morpork City Watch and plays the cello in her spare time.



### Banjo Lilywhite ~ Dimitrios Paximadas

Banjo is the younger brother of Medium Dave. A ridiculously strong man capable of lifting two men in each hand by the neck, although he is not fond of violence, Banjo just has a simple mind and always does what he is told like a good boy. Banjo has never had to think for himself: he’s had his mother or brother to do his thinking for him.



### Dave (Medium Dave) Lilywhite ~ Ali Carroll

A violent thug from the Shades in Ankh-Morpork and the older brother of Banjo – where Banjo is the muscle, Davey is the brain by default. In his own way, Medium Dave has looked out for Banjo ever since the passing of their formidable mother, Ma Lilywhite, whom they loved dearly – and feared even more.



### Narrator (Gytha (Nanny) Ogg)\*\* ~ Liz Carroll

Nanny Ogg is a Witch from the Kingdom of Lancre in the Ramtop mountains. She has been married three times, has fifteen children, an army of grandchildren and great grandchildren, and a cluster of indentured daughters-in-law whom she keeps in a constant state of terror. No tyrant in the whole history of the world has ever achieved a dominion so complete. Nanny adheres to the Witches’ tradition of not leaving their homes on Hogswatch night, by inviting the whole village into her home to celebrate, with lots of drinking.



### Toby Nash ~ Iesa Khan

Toby is a guard entrusted with protecting the Tooth Fairy’s Castle. He suffers from a wide variety of nightmares.



\* LIKE ALL VAMPIRES (WHO HAVE A PROPENSITY FOR LONG NAMES) LANCE-CONSTABLE VON HUMPEDING’S FULL NAME RUNS TO A FURTHER TWO PAGES. SHE PREFERS ‘SALLY’ FOR SHORT.

\*\* NANNY OGG DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE ‘HOGFATHER’ NOVEL. HOWEVER, SHE WAS ON STAGE IN OUR RECENT PRODUCTIONS OF ‘MASKERADE’ AND ‘WYRD SISTERS’ AND WAS FEELING LEFT OUT. SHE REMINDED US THAT “THREE MARRIAGES AND AN ADVENTUROUS GIRLHOOD HAD LEFT NANNY OGG WITH THIGH MUSCLES THAT COULD CRACK COCONUTS”, SO ENTIRELY INDEPENDENTLY, OF OUR OWN FREE WILL, WE’VE LET HER PLAY THE PART OF THE NARRATOR...



### Corporal Nobby Nobbs ~ *Liz Carroll*

You can trust Nobby with your life, but you'd be daft to trust him with half a dollar. Nobby is a filthy looking, foul smelling, kleptomaniac who works for the Watch. Nobody who meets Nobby is certain of his species, which has made it necessary for him to carry a certificate signed by the Patrician, to (almost) prove that Nobby is human.



### Mustrium Ridcully ~ *Gareth Davidson*

Ridcully is the Archchancellor of the Unseen University, and he is determined to whip those damn lazy Wizards into shape! So far, he has not been very successful, but Ridcully never changes his mind and never gives up. He is very practical for a Wizard and, to the horror of his colleagues, loves the outdoors and nature. He earned the monicker of Ridcully the Brown for his love of endangered animals and for keeping the buggers on the endangered list.



### Mr Sideney ~ *Sam Sladden*

A student Wizard at the Unseen University, who is currently a bit down on his luck due to huge gambling debts. If anyone asks, you haven't seen him. He's incognito.



### Ponder Stibbons ~ *Steph Dewar*

Head of the Inadvisably Applied Magic department as well as Praelector and the Reader in Invisible Writings, making Ponder the youngest member of the faculty at the Unseen University. The other Wizards view him as a bit of a 'know-it-all'.



### Susan Sto Helit ~ *Megan Turnell Willett*

The daughter of the late Duke and Duchess of Sto Helit, and the Granddaughter of Death, Susan is determined to have as much of a normal life as one who can walk through walls, stop time and see what is really there, can. She is burdened with an exceptionally above average level of common sense. Currently she works as a Governess for the Gaiter family.



### Jonathan Teatime ~ *Dean Stephenson*

Pronounced Teh-ah-tim-eh – at least that's the way he likes it and very few care to ask why that is. People tend not to last very long in Mr Teatime's company. He came to join the Assassins' Guild in Ankh-Morpork shortly after the mysterious death of both his parents. He excelled in the Guild of Assassins due to his brilliant, albeit fractured mind. But unlike his fellow colleagues in the Guild, Mr Teatime is not motivated by silly distractions like money – which only gets in the way of a good killing.





### The Tooth Fairy ~ *Liz Carroll*

The Tooth Fairy is an ancient entity and actually started out as the very first Bogeyman way back in the early days. But over time the Tooth Fairy grew to like humans and wanted to protect them instead of scaring them, and to keep everyone safe she started to collect people's missing teeth – you can't just leave them lying about you know. And when the Tooth Fairy started to grow very old, she started employing others to collect the teeth and protect her castle.



### The Toymaker (Henry Whittle) ~ *Michael Webber*

The Toymaker owned a little toyshop in Ankh-Morpork thousands of years ago when Albert himself was a little boy. He specialised in carving wooden horses.



### Lord Reginald Waffleton ~ *Iesa Khan*

A rich and noble guest attending the Gaiter's Hogswatch party.



### The Beggars Guild

The Beggars Guild is the wealthiest Guild in the city of Ankh-Morpork – because they don't pay for anything. They have decided to get into the festive spirit and spread some Hogswatch Cheer – they are going to make a fortune.

### The Duckman ~ *Liz Carroll*

A well-spoken man, dressed in torn and dirty clothing that was once expensive, who appears sane. He cannot figure out why everyone keeps claiming he has a duck perched on his head. What duck?

### Foul Ole Ron ~ *Ali Carroll*

A foulmouthed and even fouler smelling beggar who is a mutterer- BUGGRIT!!!

### Coffin Henry ~ *Dimitrios Paximadas*

A professional beggar with a constant cough and a collection of skin diseases. He is paid money to not attend important social occasions.

### Arnold Sideways ~ *Steph Dewar*

A beggar who has the distinct advantage of having no legs. He moves around on a small four wheeled cart. He is a master of causing cerebral confusion.



\*SPARE CHANGE, GUV'NOR?



## The Ankh-Morpork Wassailers

They have been practising for weeks to sing the old songs and spread Hogswatch cheer.



The Ankh-Morpork Wassailers invite you to join  
them in this final Hogswatch carol

{1}

We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
Full of pork pies and beer!

{Chorus}

Glad tidings we bring  
To you and your kin  
We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
Full of pork pies and beer!

{2}

Oh, bring us a bag of scratchings;  
Oh, bring us a bag of scratchings;  
Oh, bring us a bag of scratchings and  
a crispy pig's ear

{Chorus}

{3}

We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some, so  
bring some out here

{Chorus}

{4}

We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
We wish you a Merry Hogswatch  
Full of pork pies and beer!



Celebrating  
70+ years of

**PROGRESS**  
YOUTH

1950 - 2022



## SAVE THE DATE

### SUMMER WORKSHOPS - AUGUST 2024 BOOKING OPENING SOON

#### A PLAY IN A WEEK

An exciting opportunity for young theatre makers! Students will devise and rehearse a play, working together to stage a production in five days, culminating in a performance for family and friends at the end of the week.

Through games, acting exercises, and a dynamic rehearsal process, we will develop theatre skills and build confidence in performing. Creativity and kindness go hand in hand at Progress Youth Theatre, and we encourage young people with any level of experience who would like to learn, create and perform in a friendly and supportive atmosphere, to get involved!

- **Monday 5th - Friday 9th August 2024**
- For students aged 7 - 12 years old (approx School years 3 - 8)
- **Monday 12th - Friday 16th August 2024**
- For students aged 13 - 18 years old (approx School years 9 -13)

**Booking will open after February half term.**

**PROGRESS**  
YOUTH

**Theatre workshops  
for ages 7 - 18**

From £80 per term



We teach  
**LAMDA**  
— Exams & Qualifications



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# 2023/24

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Fiona McNeil

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#### LTG Rep

Helen Wernham

#### PPC

Sahar Hemami

Liz Paulo

Mark Taylor

Alison Tooth

#### Digital Theatre

Aidan Moran

Tony Travis

#### Marketing Team

Sam Bessant

Lawrence Bird

Lauren Boys

Ken Deeks

Emily Goode

John Goodman

Chris Moran

Mark Taylor

Megan Turnell Willett



# Our 77th Season

2023

**4 – 9 SEPTEMBER**

*The Effect* by Lucy Prebble

**27 – 30 SEPTEMBER**

17th Annual WriteFest

**1 – 4 NOVEMBER**

*Blood Wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca, translated by A. S. Kline

**PROGRESS**  
Y♥TH

**7 – 16 DECEMBER**

*Hogfather* by Terry Pratchett, adapted by Stephen Briggs

2024

**29 JANUARY – 3 FEBRUARY**

*Albion* by Mike Bartlett

**11 – 16 MARCH**

*The Last Quiz Night on Earth* by Alison Carr

**26 APRIL – 4 MAY**

*Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas

**12 – 15 JUNE**

Progress Premiers Presents:

*Moles* by Sarah Wright and *Dirt* by Caroline White

**3 – 6 JULY**

Youth Week

Showcase performances from all our Youth Groups

**PROGRESS**  
Y♥TH

**17 – 27 JULY**

*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde  
Open Air at the Abbey Ruins

**PT.**