

# Rogues Gallery (Most Recent Roles)

## Beauty and the Beast



**Adrian Wells** (Beast)

Adrian has appeared in a number of FDS productions from **Lark Rise** (1998) to **Candleford** (2008), enjoying such outings as **The Crucible**, **The Importance Of Being Earnest**, **Albert** and **Outside Edge** along the way.



**Karen Whiffen** (Teller of Tales)

Karen has been a member of FDS for over twelve years, and has been involved in many productions as actor, backstage and director, (including the award-winning **Snow White**. More recently, she appeared as the servant Dunyasha in **The Cherry Orchard** and was last seen as grumpy Mrs Gubbins in **Candleford**. She is looking forward to her first stage appearance in a glamorous frock!



**Alan Taylor** (Dad)

Alan has for the last few years specialised in cameo roles (most recently as the tramp in **The Cherry Orchard**) and the part of Beauty's Dad is his biggest for some time. However he has been one of the stalwarts of the society behind the scenes, particularly in set construction and stage management.



**Katie Dyet** (Bad)

Embarking on her seventh panto with FDS, Katie observes, recalling her previous roles as judge, gypsy, simpleton, queen and pirate, that she has been the good, the bad, and the ugly. In her most recent appearance on stage she didn't say a word, yet received critical acclaim as the mute Loony Joe in **Candleford**. She's enjoying getting her teeth into the part of the Bad Fairy!



**Gary Field** (Bo Peep)

Gary joined FDS in February 2005 and has worked backstage as well as being the current chairman of the society. His first role was the cynical manservant Yasha in **The Cherry Orchard** and he was most recently seen as the matrimonially troubled Bob in **Outside Edge** and as one of the blacksmiths in **Candleford**.



**Joan Lee** (Dobbin – front)

After making the mistake of admitting that she could sew, Joan was co-opted onto the wardrobe team in 1987 and has been there ever since. She acts and dances too, and not only has she specialised in animal parts (being in her time a lion, a fish and a toad), she has equine experience as the back end of Black Bess in **Dick Turpin**. She is pleased to have been promoted to the front for Dobbin.



**Debbie Lock** (Dobbin – back)

Debbie has been with FDS for over twenty years as an actor and director – She has appeared in a variety of productions from **The Crucible** to **Cabaret** and has directed pantomimes as well as the last production, **Candleford**. She has once before appeared on stage in animal costume - as the tap dancing crocodile in **Peter Panto** – but Dobbin is her first equine role.



**Carolyn Taylor** (Author and director)

Carolyn has appeared in and directed many productions, recent highlights being directing **Outside Edge** which FDS took to Canada last year, and the role of Zillah in **Candleford**. **Beauty and the Beast** reveals yet another of her talents as it marks her debut as a playwright.

## **Candleford**



**Amanda Linstead** (Dorcas Lane)

Amanda trained in dance and drama in London, and worked professionally until she got married. She is very happy to be performing again with the Faringdon Dramatic Society, after a five year break! Previous productions include **Daisy Pulls it Off**, **Brush Up Your Shakespeare**, and **Cabaret**. She is looking forward to being part of further productions with FDS.



**Roger Leitch** (Matthew)

Roger is one of that rare breed who has featured as actor, director and writer with FDS. His director's credits include such diverse productions as **Separate Tables** and **Oh What a Lovely War!**, and his last stage appearance was as Selsdon Mowbray in **Noises Off**.



**Allan Dover** (Bavour)

Allan trained as an actor alongside Matt Lucas (of Little Britain) whom he remembers as a practical joker! He has worked in TV and theatre, appearing with, among others, Paul McGann from Dr Who. His first appearance on stage with FDS was as a terrifying Captain Hook in this year's **Peter Panto**.



**Richard Lock** (Solomon)

Richard has been involved with FDS for many years and is most often found playing in the panto band, or working backstage. He has made occasional forays onto the stage, most recently in **Outside Edge**. His misspent youth included many stage appearances in pantomimes and musicals.

## Outside Edge



**Harriet Williams** (Sharon)

Harriet has acted in many plays in the past, but this will be her first appearance with the Faringdon Dramatic Society, and she's very much looking forward to performing here.



**Simon Wisbey** (Roger)

Simon has been with FDS for twelve years and has taken part in many productions, including **Blood Brothers, The Crucible, Much Ado About Nothing, Educating Rita** and **Noises Off**. However, it is his role as the Pantomime dame in **Snow White** that continues to be remarked upon by many. His propensity to reveal his knees while on stage continues in this current role.



**Dave Headey** (Kevin)

One of the FDS veterans, Dave has directed several productions (most recently **Noises Off** in 2006) and appeared in many more. His last stage appearance was as Firs, the 85 year old servant in **The Cherry Orchard**, and he has enjoyed reprising the role of the 30 year old Kevin – which he last took on twenty years ago. Dave has also appeared with the ActIV Theatre Company at the Edinburgh Fringe.



**Sarah Varnom** (Maggie)

Sarah first trod the boards at the age of six. Since joining FDS she has enjoyed all manner of roles from Wicked Witch, to prompt, to Chairman, to man-eating Muriel in **Habeus Corpus**, Fraulein Kost in **Cabaret**, Maggie in **Dancing at Lughnasa**, and Belinda Blair in **Noises Off**. Sarah was last seen wielding her handbag as Lady Bracknell in **The Importance of Being Earnest**.

**Peter Panto**



**John Taylor** (Mr Darling)

John is relieved to be playing George Darling rather than Alastair! He also plays a pirate which is a bit like performing as Jekyll and Hyde – perhaps his next role?



**Verity Roberts** (Peter Pan)

After her first appearance for FDS as Cecily in **The Importance of Being Earnest**, Verity took time out to marry Austen (see below). She is looking forward to playing Peter Pan but is disappointed that no flying is involved.



**Alex Oliver** (Tinkerbell)

Alex first appeared in the FDS panto **Sleeping Beauty** aged nine. More recently she was Princess Amanda in **Dreamers** and Brooke/Vicki in **Noises Off**. She has also appeared in productions for Swindon New College and Swindon Youth Project. She is looking forward to causing havoc as Tinkerbell!



**Rob Thorpe** (Smee)

This is Rob's fifth FDS panto. Previous roles include a singing barman and Auntie Bee and he looks forward to tackling Smee. Singer as well as actor, Rob is also a member of Wantage Stage Musical Company where he has enjoyed leading roles and singing in the chorus.



**Austen Roberts** (Starkey)

Austen, whose first appearance for FDS was in **The Importance of Being Earnest**, is now Peter Pan's other half. He is delighted to be acting with his wife even though as a ruthless pirate he is intent on hunting her down – or perhaps that is what is so delectable!



**Jeff Barry** (Director)

Jeff has been acting for many years and has also appeared with the Leach Valley Players and the Stratton Drama Group. His first role with FDS was in **Dancing at Lughnasa** and has also been seen as impoverished landowner Pishchik in **The Cherry Orchard**. Recently, many people will recall his fall down two flights of stairs in **Noises Off**. **Earnest** is his directorial debut: "At least I haven't got lines to learn"



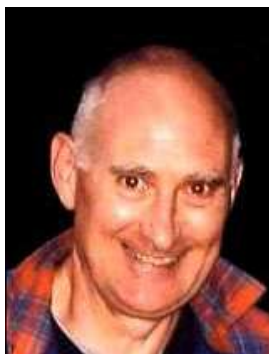
**Daniel Lander** (Algernon)

This is Daniel's sixth production with FDS. Previous credits include Lloyd Dallas in **Noises Off**, Mortimer Brewster in **Arsenic & Old Lace**, Nico in the award-winning **Albert**, and Lopakhin in **The Cherry Orchard**. Professionally trained, Daniel has worked with Gordon Kaye from 'Allo 'Allo and was a contributing writer on a BBC comedy sketch show along with Ricky Gervais.



**Jayne Isham** (Gwendolen)

Jayne has been appearing on stage since primary school, in musicals at secondary school and involved in over forty productions during her time at Swindon New College where she studied performing arts. She has more recently appeared as Helga in Stanford in the Vale Amateur Dramatic Society's performance of 'Allo,'Allo. This is her first experience of FDS - but hopefully one of many!



**Peter Webster** (Gaev)

Although he is seen on stage from time to time, most recently as the psychopathic Jonathan Brewster in **Arsenic & Old Lace**, Peter is more likely to be found with a paintbrush or screwdriver behind the scenes. Or with a pen – he is the author of six pantomimes, all of which have been produced by FDS.



**Sandra Keen** (Varya)

Sandra has been acting for six years, starting with a production of *Cinderella*, and has since performed a variety of roles including Lady Sneerwell in Sheridan's *School for Scandal*. This is her third appearance for FDS following her roles as Rose in **Dancing at Lughnasa** and Pasqualine in **Idle Chatter**.