



MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT™

A new musical *lovingly* ripped off from the motion picture
MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail

"SPAMALOT" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW)

www.theatricalrights.co.uk

Monty Python's
SPAMALOT

Book and lyrics by Music by
Eric Idle John Du Prez & Eric Idle

A musical lovingly ripped off from the film "Monty Python and the Holy Grail".

From the original screenplay by Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, Michael Palin. Original Broadway Production produced by Boyett Ostar Productions, The Shubert Organization, Arielle Tepper Madover, Stephanie McClelland/Lawrence Horowitz, Elan V McAllister/Allan S. Gordon, Independent Producers Network, Roy Furman, GRS Associates, Jam Theatricals, TGA Entertainment, and Clear Channel Entertainment.

GOD video presented by arrangement with Ambassador Theatre Group.

All songs published by Rutsongs Music & Ocean Music Ltd., © 2004. All rights Reserved, except songs from Monty Python & the Holy Grail, published by EMI/Python (Monty) Pictures as follows: "Finland," music and lyrics by Michael Palin; "Knights of the Round Table," music by Neil Innes, lyrics by Graham Chapman and John Cleese, "Brave Sir Robin," music by Neil Innes, lyrics by Eric Idle; and "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life," music and lyrics by Eric Idle from Life of Brian, published by Python (Monty) Pictures.

SPAM® is a registered trademark of Hormel Foods LLC.

Monty Python

Is he God or Godot, an agent of the devil or an agent of the William Morris Agency, or is he, as some have argued, a fictitious character invented in 1969 by Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, and Michael Palin in a desperate attempt to find a title for their rather silly TV show? Whatever the truth, he is the eponymous impresario who fronts "The Flying Circus," The Holy Grail, The Life of Brian, The Meaning of Life, And Now for Something Completely Different and who appeared Live at Drury Lane, City Center and the Hollywood Bowl.

He has fronted numerous books including The Big Red Book and the Papperbok as well as many CDs, DVDs and matching ties and handkerchiefs. He is currently in retirement in an old jokes home near Dover, anxiously awaiting Nighthood and a Knightnurse. This is his first Broadway show. Further details: www.PythOnline.com

Message from Our President

June Edwards



Greetings, noble knights, peasants, and lovers of musical mayhem!

On behalf of SMTC, I bid you welcome to this most serious and historically accurate retelling of the Arthurian legend. (Disclaimer: It is neither serious nor historically accurate. In fact, there may be dancing cows!)

Following the success of last Christmas' Nativity! The Musical and our very first play, Stepping Out, earlier this year, we are thrilled to now bring you this comedy extravaganza. Our brave cast, under the fearless guidance of Director, Joanne Young, Musical Director, Brandon Corfield, and Choreographer, Megan Austin, have endured months of singing, prancing, and pretending to be French, or dead. All so that you might laugh, clap, and perhaps even sing along.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share our 2026 season with you. In April we will present Calendar Girls: The Musical, followed in the autumn by Come From Away and We Will Rock You – a year of music, laughter, and powerful storytelling.

Beyond our mainstage productions, our Glee Club rehearses regularly, performing at community events throughout the year. Most recently they appeared at Orbit Rocks in Wellington, Shropshire Oktoberfest and on stage in the square for the Shrewsbury Pride Festival.

We are also proud to have launched Mini SMTC, our inclusive youth musical theatre classes. These sessions give young people the chance to explore their creativity, build confidence, and, perhaps, become the future stars of our company!

Our sincere thanks go to Theatre Severn for their continued support, to Shrewsbury School for the use of the Barnes Theatre in December, to our sponsors, advertisers, and to the dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes. And, of course, to you – our wonderful audience – for your ongoing encouragement and support.

So polish your coconuts, beware of killer rabbits, and prepare to laugh yourselves silly. For tonight, dear friends, you are about to witness... Spamalot!

Now get comfy, enjoy the show, and always look on the bright side of life.

From Camelot to “Spamalot”

David Morgan

“Let’s not go to Camelot—it is a silly place”

In 1974, after creating some of the most inventive sketch comedy ever to enliven television screens, the six members of the group Monty Python (Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin) eyed the movie screen with a cheekily hilarious romp that would become a classic, “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.” With a script that shredded Hollywood conventions about mythic heroes, chivalry, damsels in distress, and shrubberies, the troupe headed to Scotland on a threadbare budget, acting out multiple roles in disused castles and proudly extolling the film’s low-budget roots amid the lofty scenery. (Can’t pay for horses? How about we pretend to ride them?)

In the film, a stoic King Arthur (played by Chapman) gamely leads a quest for a sacred chalice, while his knights gambol and frolic – and sing! The musical number “We’re Knights of the Round Table” was a joyous destruction of movie musicals, featuring whirling-dervish knights and squished cats. The knights had their limbs hacked and mangled (when they weren’t being cruelly insulted by the French), but it was all in good fun. Funded by a consortium of rock groups that were fans of the TV show, production was by all accounts a somewhat miserable affair thanks to dependably wet Scottish weather, a tight shooting schedule, and the tensions that arise when two people (in this case Gilliam and Jones) are directing. But besides the pantomime horse-riding, “Monty Python and the Holy Grail” was grittily realistic in its photography and design, which made the profuse bloodletting from gladiatorial amputations and killer rabbits even funnier.

Opening in 1975, the film was a hit – a cherished comedy to be quoted for years to come by generations of fans.

‘Course it’s a good idea!’

During the 1980s, while meeting with Mel Brooks, Idle suggested to the comedy legend that he adapt his Oscar-winning 1968 film “The Producers” (in which a pair of Broadway shysters scheme to defraud investors by staging a sure-fire flop about Adolf Hitler) into a musical.

Brooks demurred (only to return to the idea several years later, with a show that copped 12 Tony Awards), but Idle took the notion of musicalization and ran with it in the direction of medieval England.

With “Spamalot” Idle sought a return to the traditions of musical comedy in the vein of music hall/vaudeville productions of years past, when sparkling songs, blackout sketches, slapstick and silliness reigned – and “Holy Grail” seemed rich with inspiration for ribbing Broadway tropes. But Idle had to win over his fellow Pythons, who always have been protective about re-use of their material.

So, rather than ask for approval first to tinker with one of their most popular collaborations, Idle teamed up with composer John Du Prez (a former member of the band Modern Romance, who was arranger of the score for “Life of Brian” and composer for “A Fish Called Wanda”) to devise the show’s book and create demo versions of their new songs in secret.

The two adapted the story of the knights’ quest for the Holy Grail into a quest for Broadway, a magical land filled with song – and, oddly, Grails – and where (as Sir Robin sings) there are obstacles a-plenty to attaining your goal (the song “You Won’t Succeed on Broadway”). The film’s sketch-y narrative served the show well, allowing for the insertion of power ballads and musical numbers. Its story also provided a traditional tenet of musical theatre: A protagonist striving to achieve his or her dreams (“Find Your Grail”).

While the movie’s Grail quest was kept, some of the characters were dropped or condensed. In the “Bring Out Your Dead” sketch, the two people bickering over a tentative victim of the plague “He Is Not Dead Yet”) become Sir Robin and Sir Lancelot, who join King Arthur’s coterie. Dennis, the argumentative prole in “Constitutional Peasants,” becomes Sir Galahad. He in turn joins the Lady of the Lake in “The Song That Goes Like This,” a Broadway duet that knocks the stuffing out of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s power anthems.

Still, Arthur remains the royal center of the proceedings, but with more of a wink to the artificiality of the show (how can you be otherwise when you’re surrounded by your own cheerleading section of chorus girls?).

“Follow only if ye be men of valor!”

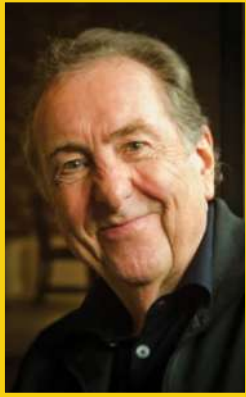
Idle forwarded the script and a CD of songs to the Pythons, who gave their hearty consent to the show (Cleese would even contribute a cameo appearance), in what would be the first major presentation of Python material performed by non-Pythons. A first-rate cast (Tim Curry, David Hyde Pierce, Hank Azaria, Christian Borle, Michael McGrath, and Sara Ramirez as the diva Lady of the Lake) all dove into the lunacy with vigor, while director Mike Nichols (whose comedic resumé extended from stand-up routines to classic stage shows, musicals and films such as “The Odd Couple,” “Annie,” and “The Graduate”) brought the music hall frivolity to a fever pitch. Changes made to the beloved film to transform it into a stage show might understandably have alienated fans, who might greet fiddling with the Pythons’ holy canon with taunts worthy of a French knight. But rather than fart in their general direction, audiences and critics adored the show “lovingly ripped off” from the classic film. . The original Broadway production, which opened at the Schubert Theater on March 17, 2005, received 14 Tony nominations, and won three awards – for Best Musical, Best Director (Nichols), and Best Featured Actress in a Musical (Ramirez). It also won Drama Desk Awards for New Musical, Lyrics, and Costume Design, and the original cast album picked up a Grammy.

The Knights of the Round Table would dance “impecc-able” on Broadway for four years, while the show went on to international success, with a 2006 London production pulling in seven Olivier Awards. Touring companies brought the show to Australia, Canada, and throughout Europe and Asia. [Malaysians, however, were prohibited from enjoying the Pythonesque hijinks, when that country’s government banned the show, in part because of how Sir Lancelot finds his Grail, nudge nudge.]

Today, more that four decades after the Pythons first pranced over the hills of Scotland on their merry quest, the hilarity of “Spamalot” continues to entertain, with performers in touring troupes and high school productions around the world reveling in the Pythons’ infectious ethos of silliness.

Author Biographies

ERIC IDLE (Book, lyrics, and music)



Has multi-hyphenated his way through life, from being a writer and actor in the legendary "Monty Python" TV series and movies, to the creator and Director of "The Rutles." He has appeared on stage singing rude songs with John Du Prez at Carnegie Hall and the Hollywood Bowl as well as performing in two highly successful tours, Eric Idle Exploits Monty Python (2000) and The Greedy Bastard Tour (2003), for which they journeyed 15,000 miles across North America in a bus.

His Greedy Bastard Diary of that tour is available from Harper Collins. Their latest work, a comic oratorio called Not the Messiah, will be performed shortly in Toronto. His play Pass The Butler ran for five months in London's West End; he has written two novels, Hello Sailor and The Road to Mars, a children's book, The Quite Remarkable Adventures of the Owl and The Pussycat, and a bedside companion, The Rutland Dirty Weekend Book. Spamalot has already won him a Tony, a Grammy and the respect of his wife and children.

JOHN DU PREZ - (Music)

A Trevelyan Scholar at Christ Church, Oxford, and Associate of the Royal College of Music, he entered the film industry in 1978 composing additional music for Monty Python's Life of Brian. This began a long association with Eric Idle, leading eventually to their current writing partnership. He has scored more than 20 feature films including The Meaning of Life, A Private Function, A Fish Called Wanda, Once Bitten, UHF and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles I, II, and III.



Other Python projects include the Contractual Obligation Album, Monty Python at the Hollywood Bowl and The Fairly Incomplete & Rather Badly Illustrated Monty Python Song Book. He was musical director for Eric Idle's two North American stage tours, Eric Idle Exploits Monty Python (2000) and The Greedy Bastard Tour (2003). This was his Broadway debut.

Synopsis

Spamalot is “lovingly ripped off” from the 1975 film Monty Python and the Holy Grail. Packed with madcap humour, toe-tapping songs, and cheerfully anarchic storytelling, the show follows King Arthur and his hapless Knights of the Round Table on their quest to find the Holy Grail.

The story begins in plague-stricken medieval England, where King Arthur and his trusty coconut-clapping companion Patsy attempt to recruit noble knights to join him at Camelot. Along the way, Arthur gathers the cowardly Sir Robin, the dashingly preened Sir Galahad, the fearless and later fabulously flamboyant Sir Lancelot, and the brilliantly flatulent Sir Bedevere. Each knight has his own quirks, but together they form the legendary Round Table.

No sooner have they arrived in the glitzy, Vegas style halls of Camelot than Arthur and his knights receive a message from God, who commands them to set out on a sacred quest to find the Holy Grail. What follows is a whirlwind of absurd adventures, including a battle with the fearsome yet surprisingly tiny Killer Rabbit, an encounter with the eccentric Knights Who Say “Ni!” and their increasingly complicated shrubbery demands, and the timely interventions of the glamorous Lady of the Lake and her loyal Laker Girls.

True to Python form, the quest takes unexpected turns. Knights are lost and found, showbiz numbers burst forth without warning, and the story itself gleefully acknowledges that it is in fact a musical. In the end, Arthur and his knights discover that the Holy Grail has been waiting much closer to home than they ever imagined, with a joyous finale reminding everyone to always look on the bright side of life.



Musical Numbers

Act I

Overture (Orchestra)

Fisch Schlapping Song (Mayor and Ensemble)

Monk's Chant (Monks)

King Arthur's Song (King Arthur and Patsy)

I Am Not Dead Yet (Not Dead Fred, Lancelot, Robin, and Ensemble))

Come with Me (Lady of the Lake, King Arthur, Ensemble))

Laker Girls Cheer (King Arthur, Patsy, Laker Girls)

The Song That Goes Like This (Galahad, Lady of the Lake, Ladies)

All for One (King Arthur, Patsy, Robin, Lancelot, Galahad, Bedevere, Men)

Knights of the Round Table / The Song That Goes Like This (Reprise)

(King Arthur, Patsy, Lancelot, Robin, Galahad, Bedevere,
Lady of the Lake, Ensemble))

Find Your Grail (Lady of the Lake, King Arthur, Ensemble)

Run Away! (French Taunter, French Guards, King Arthur, Patsy,
Robin, Lancelot, Galahad, Bedevere, Ensemble)

Act II

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life (Patsy, King Arthur, Men)

Brave Sir Robin (Minstrels)

You Won't Succeed in Showbiz (Robin, Ensemble)

Diva's Lament (What Ever Happened to My Part?) (Lady of the Lake)

Where Are You? (Prince Herbert)

He's Going To Tell (Prince Herbert, Concorde, Guards)

His Name Is Lancelot (Lancelot, Prince Herbert, Men)

I'm All Alone (King Arthur, Patsy, Men)

The Song That Goes Like This (Reprise) - (King Arthur, Lady of the Lake)

The Holy Grail's Been Found (Ensemble)

Finale (Herbert, Robin, King Arthur, Guinevere, Ensemble))

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life (Full Company)

Creative Team

Director – Joanne Young

Jo is a long-standing member of SMTC, first appearing as a youngster in 'The King and I' back in 1980. Over the past 45 years, the company has played a huge part in her life, giving her the chance to both perform and direct. Earlier this year she was delighted to return to the stage as the hapless Vera in 'Stepping Out'.



A Drama teacher by profession, Jo has directed many productions, but describes this one as the most delightfully bonkers yet. Rehearsals have been full of laughter, and she is enormously proud of the stellar cast and creative team who have worked so hard to bring Monty Python's mayhem to life.

Jo also wishes to highlight the Jack The Lad Charity, for which there will be a post-show collection. She is passionate about supporting young people as they embark on their own adventures, and warmly thanks you in advance for any donation you are able to give to this worthy cause.

Musical Director – Brandon Corfield



Brandon made his stage debut with TADLOP in 2006 in 'Scrooge the Musical'. He has been a proud member of SMTC for 14 years, performing in numerous productions. Recent roles include Ned Schneebly in 'School of Rock' and Peter in 'Jesus Christ Superstar', with other credits such as The Arbiter in 'Chess' and Perchik in 'Fiddler on the Roof'. Although he loves performing, Brandon feels most at home in "the pit," where his passion for musical excellence truly shines.

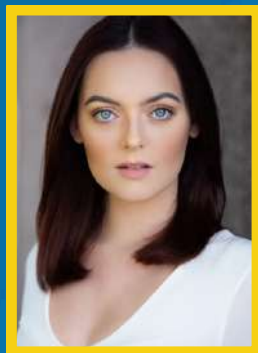
As Musical Director, he has led our productions of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet', 'A Tale of Two Cities', 'Oliver!', 'Sunshine on Leith', and most recently, 'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical'. He is excited to bring this hilarious musical comedy to life and dares anyone to leave the theatre without singing 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life'!

Choreographer - Megan Austin

Megan trained at The Hammond School from age 13 to 16 before gaining early entry to Bird College, completing her Level 6 Diploma in Musical Theatre at 18. Professional credits include ensemble and first cover Wicked Queen in 'Snow White' pantomime.

She has choreographed dance showcases, musicals and wedding dances, and continues to teach Mini SMTc whilst training in aerial skills and fitness.

Megan has thoroughly enjoyed choreographing, creating costumes and performing in 'Spamalot' (as a Laker Girl) and is proud to be part of such a fantastic cast and team!



Mini
SMTc
Inspiring Young Stars, One Stage at a Time!



LEARN MORE HERE



MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES

AGES 4-15

THURSDAY EVENINGS

Orchestra

Reed 1 - Hollie Whittles
Reed 2 - Claire Fitton
Trumpet - James Pearson
Trombone - Reuben Alldridge
Keys 1 - Adam Joy
Keys 2 - Gareth Howard
Guitar - Gary Hickey
Bass - Rob Lewis
Drums - Olly James

Company



Headline Sponsor



Based in Sundorne, Shrewsbury, Impact is a multi-disciplinary training and performance centre offering a blend of creative, fitness, and therapeutic services. Their focus is on education, wellbeing, and community engagement.

What's on offer:

Performing Arts: Training in dance, drama, and musical theatre, with opportunities for public performance and development.

Facility Hire: Studios, halls, and performance spaces available for community use, rehearsals, or private events.

Sports Therapy: Injury rehabilitation, massage therapy, and movement-based recovery programs.

Personal Training: One-on-one fitness coaching tailored to individual goals and abilities.

Qualifications: Accredited courses in fitness, therapy, and performing arts ideal for those pursuing careers in these fields.



King Arthur – Mark Salmon

This is Mark's third show with SMTC, following *Sunshine on Leith* (2023), where he was a voice in the wings, and a cameo as a bass player in *Beautiful* (2024). A retired maths teacher, Mark's journey has taken him from stand-up comedy and fronting cover bands to the joy of singing in choirs—and now to the delight (and silliness) of being on stage with Arthur and his knights.

He finds incredible joy in singing and in being part of an ensemble, and has relished the chance to combine that with the ridiculousness of 'Spamalot' - acting, following choreography, and wielding a battered sword in this ignominious quest. Being part of the company has shown Mark just how amazing, creative, and hard working the group is. For him, the collective effort is beguiling, and he feels SMTC really is something special.

Lady of the Lake Jilli Gray

Jilli has been performing on stage, screen, and in film since the age of 16. Her television credits include 'Crackerjack', 'Only Fools and Horses', 'The Bill', 'EastEnders', 'Silent Witness' and 'Holby City'. She has appeared in numerous pantomimes as Principal Boy, and starred in 'Run for Your Wife' at the Criterion Theatre in London for three years.



Since moving to Shrewsbury, Jillie has embraced a wide variety of roles, including the Baroness in 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', Velma Von Tussle in 'Hairspray', Hannah in 'Flashdance', Jean in 'Sunshine on Leith' (with SMTC), and Paula in 'Sister Act'.

Playing the Lady of the Lake is truly Jillie's dream role, and she is thrilled to be bringing this iconic character to life for you.

Don Wiench - Sir Lancelot

All round good egg Dan is absolutely thrilled to be taking on the role of the outrageously camp Sir Lancelot in this SMTC venture into the world of Monty Python.

Dan has been treading the boards with Shrewsbury Musical Theatre Company since 2018; most recently as the music mogul Don Kirshner in the musical 'Beautiful'.

Never one to shy away from crazy roles (this is the third time his silver hotpants have been used in an SMTC show), this role, and whole show, takes crazy to another level. Dan says "Rehearsals have been an absolute joy, filled with laughter and, on occasion, the very silliest of walks. The talent and humour of the cast and crew will be sorely missed after the show run. At least until next time". And now for something completely different...

Sir Robin - Rik Pover-Shaw

Rik began his theatrical journey in the 1970s with Shrewsbury Musical Theatre Company, back when it was known as Shrewsbury Amateur Operatic Society. Since then, he has taken part in more than 130 productions across Shropshire, Cheshire and North Wales, both on stage and as a director, earning numerous awards along the way.

In 2023 Rik directed SMTC's sold-out production of 'Sunshine on Leith', and earlier this year he directed 'My Fair' Lady for Bridgnorth Musical Theatre Company. More recently he appeared as Bishop O'Hara in 'Sister Act' with Curtain Call Productions. He is delighted to be back with SMTC for 'Spamalot' and hopes the laughter and energy shared in rehearsals with cast and crew will shine through to every audience member.



Dennis/Sir Galahad - Scott Sutherland

Last year Scott took on the role of Barry Mann in 'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical' and appeared as the Hollywood Producer in 'Nativity!' He is now looking forward to the comedic challenge of playing the roles of Dennis/Sir Galahad in this production of 'SPAMALOT', his first venture into comedy on stage. Previous performance highlights include playing the lead singer of No Vacancy in 'School of Rock' and Ally in 'Sunshine on Leith', a particularly memorable experience.



Portraying Barry Mann and sharing his story through the timeless songs he co-wrote with Cynthia Weil was a rewarding and exciting chapter in Scott's theatre journey. With SMTC, Scott has also appeared in 'Ghost' (Hospital Ghost), 'Titanic' (Frederick Fleet), 'Oliver!' (Knife Grinder), and 'Backwards Broadway'. Other theatre credits include 'We Will Rock You', 'Footloose', 'Pirates of Penzance', 'Grease' and 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers'. Scott is proud to serve as a Company Director of SMTC, dedicating much of his time and energy to the company's continued success and development. He is passionate about community theatre and the opportunities it provides to performers and audiences alike. He hopes you enjoy the show and have as much fun watching it as the cast have had bringing it to life!



Sir Bedevere - Adam Giblin

With over twenty years of performance experience, Adam has taken on roles ranging from Chorus to Principal in a wide variety of musicals, dramas, and farces across Shropshire. Beyond the amateur stage, he has stepped into the professional realm with live performances of 'The Polar Express', independent film projects, and the occasional music video.

Adam is also a self-published author, always pursuing creative outlets while waiting for that big breakthrough. This production marks his first musical in more than five years, and he is delighted to be treading the boards once again!

Patsy - Jonathan Head



This is Jonathan's second production with SMTC, having previously appeared as Geoffrey in 'Stepping Out', for which he was grateful to have the opportunity to dust off his tap shoes. Some of his other favourite roles include Kipps in 'Half a Sixpence', Seymour in 'Little Shop of Horrors', Leo Bloom in 'The Producers', Will Parker in 'Oklahoma!', Anthony Wilding in 'Enchanted April', William Smith in 'Murder on the Nile', and Duke Orsino in 'Twelfth Night'.

Behind the scenes, Jonathan has produced a number of critically-acclaimed plays at the Burton-Taylor Studio in Oxford, including sold-out runs of Kafka's 'Metamorphosis' and Philip Pullman's 'I was a Rat'. He was also invited to perform as part of the Oxford University Drama Society's 125th Anniversary Gala at the Oxford Playhouse. In addition, Jonathan was a founding member of the improv comedy troupe, Oxford Comedy Deathmatch. Away from the stage, Jonathan teaches and writes about philosophy at Keele University. Rehearsing for this production has been huge amounts of fun. He would like to thank everyone in SMTC for continuing to make him feel so welcome, and hopes that you enjoy the show!

Prince Herbert/Not Dead Fred - Crayg Wellbeloved

Crayg has been performing in musicals since the age of 11. After studying Performing Arts at Chester University he moved to Telford and joined SMTC. Crayg has played a number of lead roles in SMTC shows, including Judas in 'Jesus Christ Superstar', Bernadette in 'Priscilla Queen of the Desert', Ariel in 'Return to the Forbidden Planet', Motel in 'Fiddler on the Roof', Eddie in 'Sister Act', Willie Lopez in 'Ghost' and Gabe Brown in 'School of Rock'.



Crayg most recently tried his hand at directing last year's SMTC production 'Beautiful - The Carole King Musical' and is excited to return to the stage for 'Spamalot'.

Concorde – James Pinches



James first stepped into the spotlight with Shrewsbury Amateur Operatic Society's 'Anything Goes' in 2008. Since then, he has performed many times at Theatre Severn, taking on roles such as Leo in 'The Producers' and 'Bill Sykes' in 'Oliver!'. Life-saving surgery prevented, James from performing for a while, but 11 years on he is thrilled to return to the stage with SMTC - coconuts poised!

French Tourter – Simon Muxworthy

Since Simon's first role as the Subway Ghost in 'Ghost - The Musical' in 2022, he has established himself as a keen member of SMTC and, when he's not undertaking his regular role as barman no.3 (ie. chief glass collector in bar scenes), he's helping out 'backstage' or carrying out supporting roles where his characteristic decibel output can be utilised to the full.



Simon moved from the South East to Shropshire in 2020, having previously had a long and illustrious career in pantomime (if there is such a thing), and was overwhelmed by the warm welcome and incredible talent within SMTC. Spamalot is a real treat for Simon as it showcases the silliness of Monty Python and the talents of some of Shropshire's very best performers, and he hopes you are getting as much enjoyment from watching as he and his fellow cast members are getting from performing it.

Ami Price – Mrs Galahad



Ami has performed in a host of musicals since joining SMTC in 2009 including 'Fiddler on the Roof' (Tzeitel), 'School of Rock' (Rosalie Mullins), 'Sister Act', 'The Wizard of Oz', 'Ghost', 'Sunshine on Leith', 'Chess' and 'Oliver!' amongst others.

Ami hopes you have as much fun watching Spamalot! as she has unleashing her inner hag as Mrs Galahad!



Mayor of Finland/III Knight Steve Taring

Spamalot is the ideal show for Steve, who is a medieval history graduate and former reenactor, and a great lover of Monty Python.

Having been a teacher for many years, he now works with historic churches by day and performs as a storyteller by night. This is his first show with SMTC.

Michael Houghton - Tim The Enchanter

This is Michael's first show with SMTC, having previously performed in two productions with GYWO. It also marks his first time playing a named character and his first non-Christmas themed show. A long-time fan of 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail', he will be doing his best not to quote the rest of the cast's lines throughout the performance!



Andrew Wright - Black Knight



Andrew is celebrating twelve years in musical theatre, having made his debut in 'Chess' back in 2013. Since then, he has taken on a wide variety of roles, including Caiaphas in 'Jesus Christ Superstar', Reverend Moore in 'Footloose', and Rab Henshaw in 'Sunshine on Leith'. His dramatic talents also extend to straight theatre, performing with the Abbey Foregate drama group in productions such as Alan Ayckbourn's 'Confusions', Agatha Christie's 'And Then There Were None', and Mike Leigh's 'Abigail's Party'.

A lifelong Monty Python fan, Andrew has thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing for 'Spamalot' and is delighted to be playing the Black Knight. He looks forward to bringing the absurdity, defiance, and hilarity of this iconic character to life—one limb at a time.

Richard Taylor Prince Herbert's Father

Richard takes on the role of Prince Herbert's Father in 'Spamalot', bringing a regal dose of reluctant parenting and comedic timing to the stage. Having recently retired from a successful career in restauranteuring, Richard is now embracing the fun side of life—and 'Spamalot' has delivered laughs in abundance.

He describes the dance rehearsals as exhausting, the singing as uplifting, and the acting as a revelation.

Combining all three has been a challenge, but one he's tackled with gusto and good humour. Richard wouldn't have missed a minute of the experience and hopes audiences enjoy the show as much as he's enjoyed being part of it.



Emma-Jane Brazier The Historian

Em-J joined SMTC in 2023 for the production of 'Sunshine on Leith' before stepping into the role of Lucille in 'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical'. Prior to joining SMTC, she performed with two major Manchester theatre companies, first taking to the stage in 2012.

Over the past 14 years, Em-J has been deeply involved in theatre as an actor, director, producer, writer, and stand-up comedian.

Career highlights include performing at an arena event for 'Stand Up to Cancer', directing a reimagined production of Willy Russell's 'Breezeblock Par'k, and taking on leading roles such as Hannah in Tom Stoppard's 'Arcadia' and Angelique in Molière's 'The Imaginary Invalid'.



Mel Bailey - Singing Minstrel

Mel began her SMTC journey in the ensemble of Sunshine on Leith, quickly establishing herself as a dynamic performer. She went on to appear in 'School of Rock' and 'Beautiful', showcasing her versatility and passion for musical theatre. A standout member of our Glee Club, Mel has graced stages at events including Oktoberfest, Pride, and Irish & Country Night, earning admiration for her mesmerizing and expressive voice.

Most recently, Mel stepped into her first principal role with Curtain Call Theatre Company, portraying the iconic Ouiser in 'Steel Magnolias', a performance that marked an exciting new chapter in her theatrical career.

Brother Maynard/Frenchie Andrew Munnay

Andrew is thoroughly enjoying being part of this hilarious show, catching up with friends he's known for years, and now new members in this superb SMTC production. In Spamalot, he finds himself working with his first SMTC leading lady, Joanne, who's directing the production. Earlier in the year the roles were reversed, in his directorial debut, for SMTC's 'Stepping Out'.



A pivotal mini cerebral infarction has caused him to think, and what now? His love of acting, singing, musical theatre; a company's friendship and love, still shines through. Andrew says he's been very, very lucky.

(Andrew appears by kind permission of MSO)



The voice of Eric Idle appears
courtesy of Theatrical Rights
Worldwide Ltd.

LAKER GIRLS



HEAD LAKER GIRL
Megan Austin

Chloe Parry



Chloe Richards



Emma Leigh



Jess Foxall



Chrissie Purslow



ENSEMBLE

Sylvia Harrison



Sophie Mackey



David Williams



Karen Muxworthy



Hattie Finch Craven



Isaac Houghton



Gill Dorricott



Jo Robinson



Terri Dyke-Prior



Jeremy Bolton



Steve Chadwick



Steve West



Richard Lyle



Harriet Jones



Proud to support

SMTC Shrewsbury Musical Theatre Co.

WHY VAN MONKEY

The Key To Your Next Van Purchase

What We Do:

- We take time to understand your specific requirements.
- We evaluate, source, and provide only the best vehicle & finance solutions for our customers.
- We work promptly and efficiently to ensure a stress-free service.
- We add value to our customers businesses by saving time and money.
- We provide an excellent service from start to finish, keeping our customers at the centre of everything we do.
- We offer industry leading customer service, always striving to honour our commitments.
- We ensure all vehicles are delivered within a timely manner.
- We can confidently provide a solution to those with more bespoke requirements.
- We only sell used vehicles from reliable and reputable sources.



VM VEHICLE SOLUTIONS

LEASING, CONTRACT HIRE & RENTAL SPECIALISTS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ✓ Car & Commercial Vehicle Lease | ✓ Finance Lease |
| ✓ Car & Commercial Vehicle Rental | ✓ Hire Purchase |
| ✓ Personal Contract Hire | ✓ Lease Purchase |
| ✓ Business Contract Hire | ✓ Short & Mid Term Contract Rental |
| ✓ Personal Contract Purchase | |



GET IN TOUCH



VM VEHICLE SOLUTIONS
Leasing, Contract Hire & Rental Specialists



VM ASSET FINANCE
Leasing, Contract Hire, Vehicle Purchase & Finance



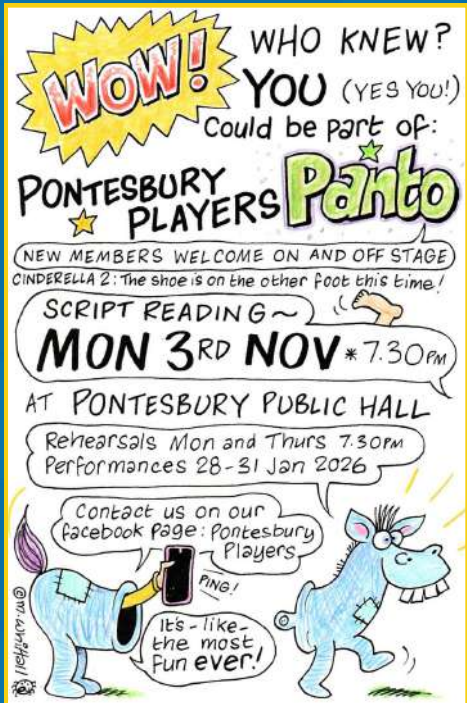
ONE STOP VEHICLE
FINANCE SOLUTIONS

- Van Monkey Limited
7, The Hayes,
Lye, Stourbridge
DY9 6NX
- 0184 270 471
- enquiries@vanmonkey.co.uk
- www.vanmonkey.co.uk
www.vmvehiclesolutions.co.uk
- FCA Number: 750652
ICO Number: ZA214962
BVRLA Number: 7275
Company Registration Number: 07437813

GET SOCIAL:



Local Community Productions



SMTC is delighted to support our fellow local community theatre groups!

Pontesbury Players – They're looking for cast members to join their show taking place in January. A brilliant chance to get involved in some panto fun!

TADLOP – The Telford & District Light Operatic Players – While the Telford Theatre is being refurbished, they'll be performing Andrew Lloyd Webbers powerful production of Jesus Christ Superstar in the Walker Theatre, Shrewsbury – and it's happening in just a few weeks! Don't miss this iconic show.

Let's continue to support, get involved and celebrate the incredible talent in our local theatre community. ♥

ON LOCATION

Shrewsbury Castle





IN REHEARSAL





Monty Python
SPAMALOT
A Musical Comedy
MONTY PYTHON in the Hall



RETIRING COLLECTION



Our story:

Our son and brother Jack Howe was born on 19 April 2000. He lived in Kings Hill, near Maidstone in Kent, all his life. Jack was a cheeky, lovable, handsome boy who had a huge group of friends. He was a talented sportsman and excelled at football and rugby. He loved life. He loved his twin sister Lucy and big sister Hannah. He adored his Mum Steph and his Dad, Tony.

In June 2019, Jack was on his first ever lads' holiday in Zante, Greece. On the fifth day, Jack and his friends hired ATVs (Quad Bikes). Surprisingly, they only needed to show one driving licence for every two quad bikes and were advised not to wear helmets as it would make them sweat, resulting in poor vision.

On Midsummer's Day, 21st June 2019, two days before he was due to return home, Jack was out with two of his group of friends, on a sunny Friday morning. Jack lost control of his quad bike and – tragically – was taken from us.

We were fortunate to be able to organise and fund Jack's journey home as quickly and efficiently as possible. Jack's positive attitude to life and our reflection on the circumstances of his death and the issues that surround it, have inspired us to set up the #JackTheLad Foundation, in his memory.

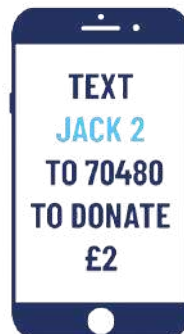
We thank you for your support. And we thank Jack for all he gave us and continues to give us. He will always be here.

The Howe Family.

Young people will always go away and have fun – and that's only natural and right. What is not right is when accidents happen after avoidable risks are taken. #JackTheLad campaigns for Safer Holidays Abroad for the UK's young people.

We are a partner in the UK Government's TravelAware initiative, working to assist in awareness of risk and accident prevention. If the worst happens, repatriation costs are often not covered by insurance, and we can assist with grants for bereaved families.

DONATE BY TEXT



Or please donate any amount up to £20. For example JACK 5 will make a £5 donation

JACKTHELAD.ORG.UK
Safer Holidays For Young Brits

BACKSTAGE TEAM

Assistant Director - Crayg Wellbeloved

Stage Manager - James Parry

Assistant Stage Manager - Heidi Brown

Props Master - Lynne Carney

Prop Support - Laura Rollason

Costumier - Maria Leel

Costume Support - Jan Murray, Megan Austin, Zoe Haylock,
Emma Leigh, Chloe Parry, Chrissie Purslow, Elizabeth
Richardson, Viv Rosario, Pam Davies (Curley)

Lady of the Lake and Black Knight Costume/SFX & Make Up -
Caroline Howells

Calls - Kathryn Nilsson

Production Support - Scott Sutherland

Programme Design - Scott Sutherland

Promotion & PR - Scott Sutherland, Karen Muxworthy, David
Williams

Set Provision - All In One Productions

Technical - All In One Productions

Costume Provision - Wacky Wardrobe Costumes, Banbury

Photography - Richard Hammerton/Michael Brookes
Shutterspeed Photography & Design

Stage Hands - Harriet Newton Jones, Laura Rollason, Ryan O' Mahony, Daisy May Wyatt, Nina Maxwell, Caroline Howells, Greg Howells, Ros Hodges, Ella Davies, Phoebe Harrison



ALL-IN-ONE

Production Services

All-In-One Production Services for all your productions needs
Lighting, Sound, Set design and Build
Take your show to the next level!



Honorary President - June Edwards

Company Directors - Scott Sutherland, Joanne Young
& Karen Muxworthy

COMING SOON

April 15th-18th - Walker Theatre



CALENDAR GIRLS THE MUSICAL

Exclusive 15% discount code
15CALGIRL



7000 STRANDED PASSENGERS, ONE SMALL TOWN, A REMARKABLE TRUE STORY.

COME FROM AWAY

MAIN AUDITORIUM, THEATRE SEVERN

15TH -17TH OCTOBER 2026



OCTOBER 29th to November 1st 2026
Centenary Theatre - Wellington

WE WILL ROCK YOU

Music and Lyrics by **QUEEN**
Story and Script by **BEN ELTON**

Original Vocal Score by
BRIAN MAY, ROGER TAYLOR & MIKE DIXON

15% Discount - SMTCWWR15
Until 31st Dec 2025

JOIN US!

Love to sing, dance, or perform? Or just looking for a fun, welcoming community to be part of? We'd love to have you!

As a member, you'll get the chance to:

🌟 **Star in our productions** – It's not too late to sign up and audition for our next big show Calendar Girls!

🎵 **Join our Glee Club** – Performing at events around Shrewsbury and beyond.

👨👩 **Children's Classes** – Inspiring the next generation with fun, creative sessions.

🍷 **Social Events** – From nights out to get-togethers, we're as much about socialising and friendship as performance.

Whether you're a seasoned performer or brand new to the stage, there's a place for you with us.

*Come and be part of the magic - join Shrewsbury
Musical Theatre Company today!*

Scan & Find out more on our website



✦ Thank you so much for being part of
our audience! Your support truly
means everything!

Your feedback also means the world to
us. A quick review on Facebook or
Google helps us grow our audience and
keep creating shows for you to enjoy.

Facebook



Google



Love what we do?
Get updates straight to your
inbox – subscribe now!

