



# Sleeping Beauty

NORWICH  
**THEATRE**  
ROYAL



**Autism  
Anglia**  
Registered Charity No. 1383711



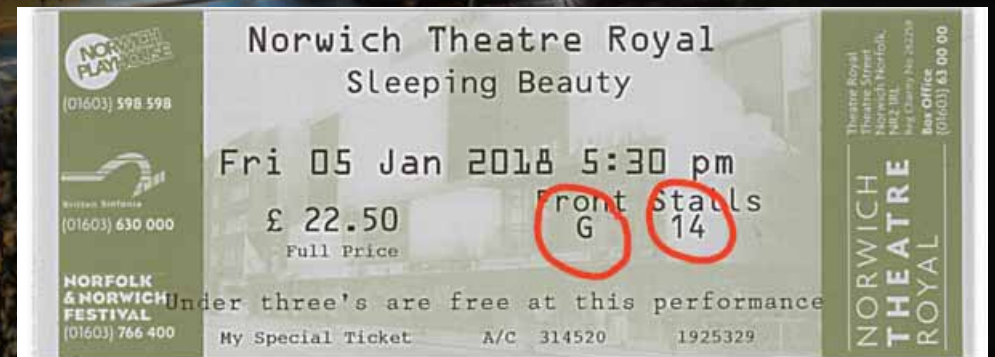
We're off to the pantomime!  
Our story is called 'Sleeping Beauty' and is told at  
Norwich Theatre Royal.

Have you ever been to the theatre before?  
It's a big building where stories are told and magic can happen –  
especially in pantomime!

There'll be lots of people and it will be really busy so  
remember to stay close to the person you've come with.



You'll have a theatre ticket which is just for you. It lets you into  
the theatre and helps you find your seat.



Look for the letter and the number on the ticket.  
Each row of seats in the theatre has a letter;  
each seat has a number.



When the show begins the lights will darken, just a little bit.  
There's no need to be scared – it means our pantomime's  
about to begin!

Actors on stage will tell a story.  
There'll be singing and dancing and lots of laughter.

Some parts will be funny and make you laugh.  
Some parts might be sad or even a little scary.

It's OK though.  
Theatre is make-believe  
and the actors are only pretending.

Half way through our story there will be a  
break called an interval.  
It's a chance for you to go to the toilet and  
for the actors to have a rest.

After the interval the lights will darken a little  
and the rest of our tale will be told.

Let's meet some of the people in our story.

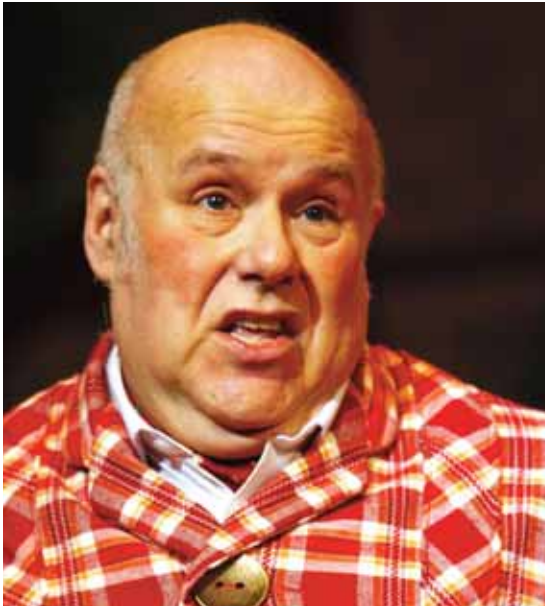




This is Timothy. He lives at Norbridge Abbey with his father.



Timothy's father is called Lord Teddy Norbridge. He's Lord of the Manor.



Lord Norbridge has a butler called Chortwood.

Timothy has just returned home from university. He's looking forward to seeing everyone again and one person in particular. Patience is a Chambermaid at Norbridge Abbey.



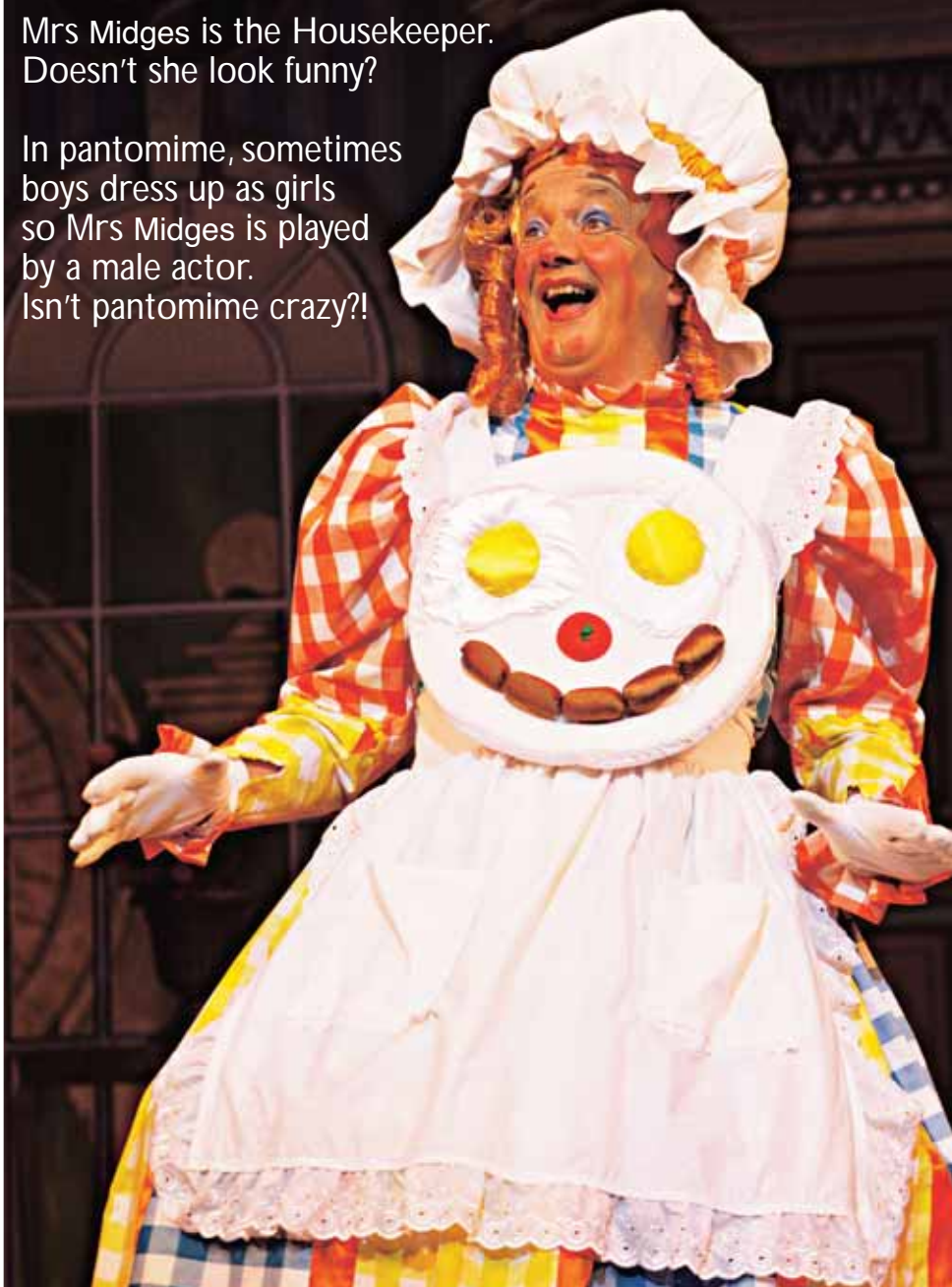
Timothy and Patience have a secret. They're in love!  
Aaaaah...  
No-one else knows so keep it a secret, won't you?



Patience lives with her mum, Mrs Midges, and her brother, Muddles. They both work at Norbridge Abbey.

Mrs Midges is the Housekeeper.  
Doesn't she look funny?

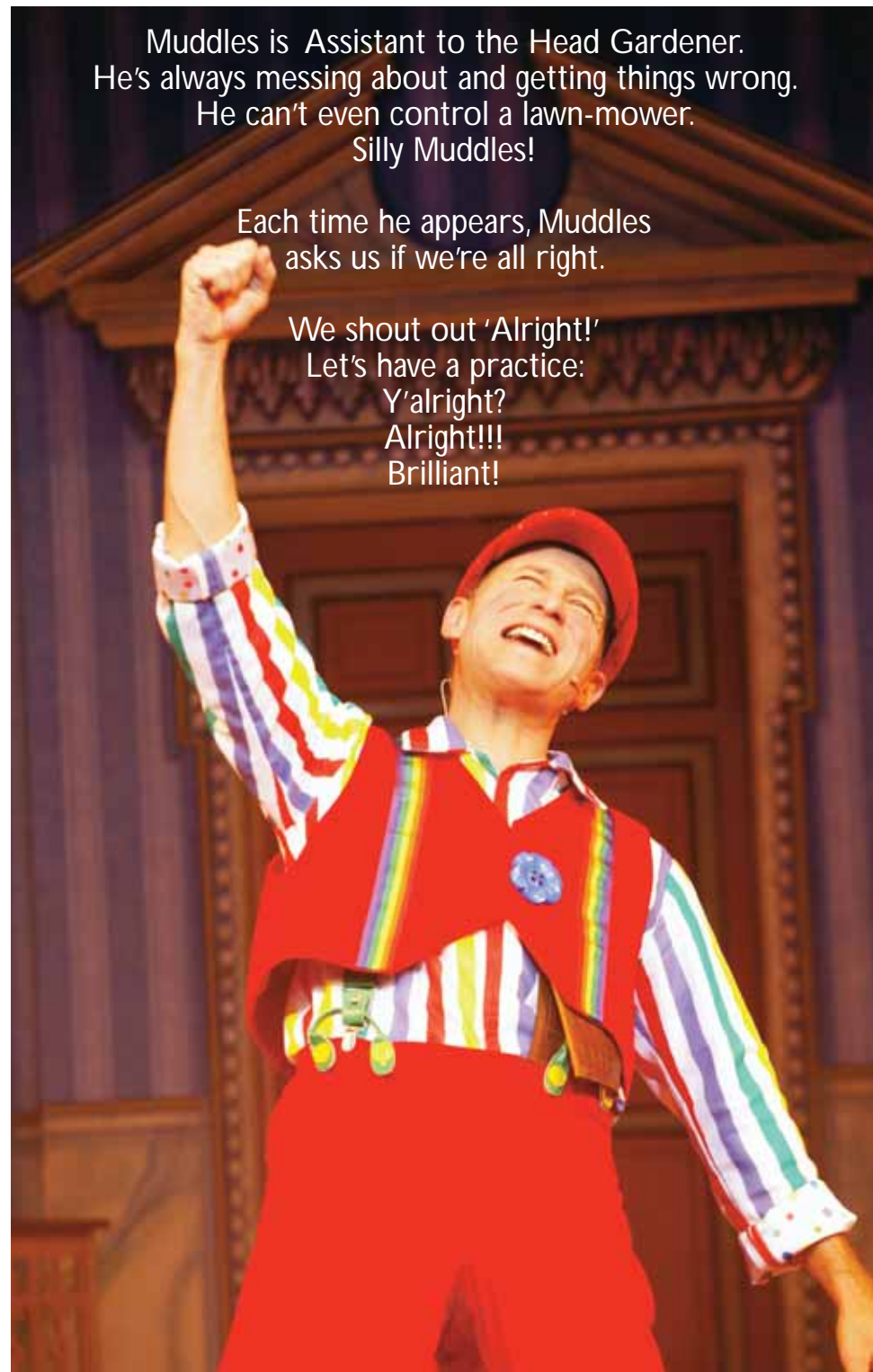
In pantomime, sometimes boys dress up as girls so Mrs Midges is played by a male actor.  
Isn't pantomime crazy?!




Muddles is Assistant to the Head Gardener.  
He's always messing about and getting things wrong.  
He can't even control a lawn-mower.  
Silly Muddles!

Each time he appears, Muddles asks us if we're all right.

We shout out 'Alright!'  
Let's have a practice:  
Y' alright?  
Alright!!!  
Brilliant!







Not everyone in pantomime  
is kind or nice.  
Sometimes there are baddies!

Remember, theatre is  
make-believe and there's  
nothing to be frightened of.

The actor is only pretending  
to be bad and isn't really  
wicked at all.

In pantomime, when the  
baddie appears we  
'boo' and 'hiss' to let them  
know we want good to win.

The baddie in our story is  
called Vipera.  
She's a very wicked woman.  
Boo!!!!!! Hiss!!!!!!

Years ago, Vipera appeared as  
a magical serpent in a dream  
to the King and Queen of  
Norbridge.

The serpent made a deal to  
use its powers to grant the  
royal couple the baby they so  
wanted to have.  
In return, the child would  
belong to the serpent.

The King and Queen were so  
desperate to have a child they  
agreed and a beautiful baby  
girl was born.

Look out, here comes our  
baddie now.  
Here comes Vipera!  
Boo!!!!!! Hiss!!!!!!





Greetings commoners!  
Allow me to introduce  
myself. I am Lady Vipera.  
You may address me as  
Ma'am.

You can 'boo' and 'hiss' all you  
like but I'm here to make  
sure this story has a happy  
ending – for me!!!!

When this baby girl was born,  
I went to claim the child for

my own. The silly Queen (my  
older sister) and the King  
were besotted with the brat  
and refused to hand her over.

That child belongs to me!  
I am a sorceress and have  
magical powers. I have put a  
curse on this land. Before the  
child is 18, she will prick her  
finger on a spinning wheel  
and fall asleep for 100 years!

That baby was hidden  
from me.

The King and Queen are no  
longer alive. It's only the  
chance that the child still lives  
that prevents me from being  
crowned Queen.

I must find the girl before her  
18th birthday for after then  
my powers will fail. I have  
just a few hours to discover  
where she has been hiding.

I'll need the help of my  
beetles. They'll search far and  
wide to try to find the girl.

If my curse succeeds and the  
child sleeps for 100 years, her  
youth and beauty will be mine  
for ever more.

A royal title, youth and beauty  
– mine, all mine!!!  
So long, losers!



Goodness!

What a horrible woman!  
Don't forget to 'boo' and 'hiss'  
when you see her.

Have you guessed yet who the  
child is?

That's right, it's Patience!  
To save her life, the King and  
Queen hid their baby with Mrs  
Midges who brought her up as  
her own, alongside Muddles.

What do you think will  
happen?

If Patience pricks her finger  
before her 18th birthday she  
will fall asleep for 100 years!  
No-one will be able to help  
her then. After all, no-one  
can travel through time.

Or can they?

We'll just have to  
wait and see!

