

Christmas just wouldn't be the same without a trip to the theatre to see your favourite pantomime - it's such a treat for the whole family. There's a great selection on offer throughout South Essex and further afield, so have a look at our Christmas panto guide to see what's on in your area.

Barking

THE BROADWAY

Box Office: 020 8507 5607 www.thebroadway barking.com

Thu 29th Nov Mon 31st Dec **BEAUTY &** THE BEAST

A classic story for all the family, whether you are 3 or 103 years old! Makebelieve, magic, music and mayhem provide a beauty-full Christmas treat! Performance times and ticket prices vary.



Basildon

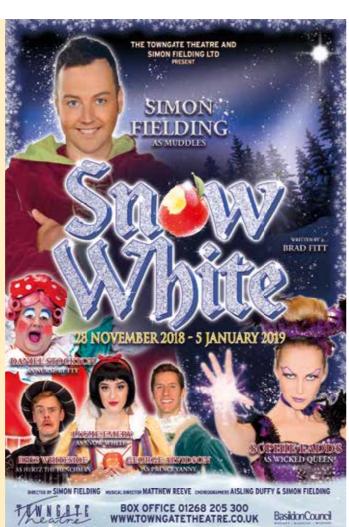
TOWNGATE THEATRE

Box Office: 01268 205300 www.towngatetheatre.co.uk

Wed 28 Nov - Sat 5 Jan **SNOW WHITE AND** THE SEVEN DWARFS

IT'S PANTO TIME... OH NO IT ISN'T. OH YES IT IS! The countdown to panto time has begun at the Towngate Theatre! This year they are proud to present the magical tale of Snow White! Basildon's favourite panto stars, Simon Fielding and Sophie Ladds, will be returning to the stage – and their magnificent Dame, Daniel Stockton, will be returning for a third year with more madcap mayhem and side-splitting

> silliness! The Towngate's pantomimes are fast becoming the jewel in the crown of Basildon, and their productions are renowned for stunning scenery, colourful costumes, dazzling dancers and fantastic live band at every performance. With Snow White's ticket sales already breaking all previous box office records, and with limited availability on a number of performances, they highly recommend that you book now to get the best seats for what promises to be another awardwinning production! Performance times and ticket prices vary.



Chelmsford

CIVIC THEATRE

Box Office: 01245 606505 www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres

Friday 30 Nov - Sun 6 Jan **CINDERELLA**

Cinderella has just lost her beloved father. To pay her way Cinderella is

made to live below stairs and do all the cleaning, mending and cooking for her two lazy step-sisters! Will Cinderella be rescued by her prince and live happily ever after? Oh yes she will! Meet the wicked and elaborately dressed Ugly Sisters, Buttons, the Fairy Godmother, the dashing and handsome Prince Charming and of course, beautiful Cinderella herself. There will also be a special appearance from two Shetland ponies who will be taking Cinderella to the ball in her sparkling coach! In association with the Chelmsford Civic Theatre, One From The Heart brings another action-packed family show to Chelmsford, featuring all the traditional pantomime ingredients; sparkling storybook sets, energetic song and dance routines, beautiful costumes, plenty of audience participation and the most important ingredient of all - a generous helping of pantomime magic! Performance prices and ticket prices vary.

Brentwood

BRENTWOOD THEATRE

Box Office: 01277 200305 www.brentwood-theatre.co.uk

Tue 4th Dec - Sun 30th Dec **LEGENDS OF KING ARTHUR**

This magical show retells the legends of the Sword in the Stone & Arthur with his Knights of the Round Table. Along the way, Arthur falls in love with the beautiful Guinevere as he battles the evil Morgana and a fiery dragon! Tickets: £15/£14. Performance times vary

Harlow

PLAYHOUSE

Box Office: 01279 431945 www.harlowplayhouse.co.uk

Fri 30th Nov - Sun 6th Jan ALADDIN

A magical carpet ride all the way to Peking! Featuring an exciting blend of live music, quality professional performers, stunning sets, lavish costumes and jaw dropping effects. Times and ticket prices vary.

Hornehurch

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE

Box Office: 01708 443333 www.queens-theatre.co.uk

Wed 28th Nov - Sun 6th Jan **JACK & THE BEANSTALK**

Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum, it's panto fun for everyone. This actor musician version of the popular panto tale is peppered with pop hits from across the decades, bundles of audience participation and hilarious slapstick Times and ticket prices vary.

View the magazine online at www.primarytimes.co.uk/essex

Thurrock

THAMESIDE THEATRE

Box Office: 0345 300 5264 www.thurrock.gov.uk/theatre

Fri 30th Nov - Sun 6th Jan ALADDIN

With spectacular scenery, dazzling costumes, spellbinding special effects and lots of audience participation this show will entertain the whole family. Starring Dan Osborne from TOWIE as the genie and Luke Coldham as Widow Twanky. Times and ticket prices vary.

Southend

CLIFFS PAVILION

Box Office: 01702 351135 www.thecliffspavilion.co.uk

Fri 14th Dec - Sat 5th Jan **ALADDIN**

Ashley Banjo and Diversity will be starring in Aladdin. Ashley Banjo is a dancer, choreographer and creative director. He is the founder and leader of dance group Diversity who won the third series of ITV's Britain's Got Talent in 2009. Aside from the group's achievements Banjo has presented and appeared as a judge on a host of primetime entertainment programmes and documentaries for ITV, BBC and Sky 1. Ashley and Diversity will star as the Genies of the Ring, the nimble-footed group charged with changing the fortune of Aladdin and helping him to outwit the evil Abanazar. Aladdin will once again be produced by Qdos Entertainment. They will be joined by David Phipps-Davis making a welcome return after last year's impressive appearance, once again playing the role of the dame with an operatic voice (this year Widow Twankee of course) and Britain's Got Talent warm-up man lan Royce in the comedy role of Aladdin's brother Wishee Washee. Tickets are selling incredibly fast, so urgent booking is recommended to avoid disappointment. Performance times and ticket prices vary.

