

Dick Whittington



The family pantomime adventure

by Gavyn Lugsden

CAST (in order of appearance)

Emperor Rat

Fairy Bow Bells

Dick Whittington

Fluffy, the Cat

Alice Fitzwarren

Els Belles

Beau Belles

Alderman Fitzwarren

Dame Winifred Whittington

Queen Rat

Weasel

Rat 1

Rat 2

Rat 3

Sultana of Exotica

Servant 1

Servant 2

ACT 1

Scene 1

(Emperor Rat Underscore)

(Emperor Rat enters front of curtain SL)

Emperor Rat (laughing) I made it! At last I am free and can create some misery and upset for all those who are nice and good... There is nothing worse than happiness... and I'm going to ensure that every single one here tonight will leave all sad and depressed... You see, I am Emperor Rat, head of all the King and Queen rats in the whole universe... I have such a lovely job and best of all, everybody loves me... So go on then what are you waiting for, give me a big cheer..! (*audience react*) So, it's going to be like that then is it? Suit yourselves... Right, it's time to deploy a King or a Queen rat to infest these lands, as I have heard that everyone around these parts are all kind and happy... and frankly I find that putrid and disgusting! So, who should I choose...? Belching Brian from Bognor... Ummm, maybe Putrid Percy of Newport Pagnall could be just what this village needs... No, I have a better idea... how about keeping it local? Yes! I know, I will summon Diseased Deirdre of Dagnal...! Queen Rat Deirdre is just what this village needs... together with her army of rats, I can safely say that Eaton Bray and all the surrounding villages will be doomed forever... ha ha ha...

(She exits)

(Fairy intro music)

(Fairy enters front of curtain SR)

Fairy Oh, I'm glad that's stopped. I had this terrible banging in my head. Fairy music please..!
(FAIRY UNDERSCORE MUSIC)

Hello everybody. Hello Mums and Dads! Hello Boys and Girls! Hello Grannies and Grandads, Aunt and Uncles, Old and Young, Happy and Sad, Alive and Dead... I'm Fairy Bow Legs...sorry Bow Bells and I'm here to welcome you to Eaton Bray's biggest and best panto ever! Oh, it's going to be so much better than last years! What a load of old rubbish that was?

(Child 1 enters and exits quickly)

Child 1 Fairy Bow Bells! I have a message for you.

Fairy One minute please. Do excuse me...

(Fairy reads the note)

Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls, we would like to welcome you to Eaton Bray's *only* panto Snow White and Aladdin's Beast!

(Child 2 enters and exits with another note)

Child 2 Fairy Bow Bells! I have another message for you.

Fairy I can see the director's giving you more to do this year. What a star!

(Fairy reads the note)

"You've got the name of the show wrong." It's....ah yes! Welcome to Dick Whittington and his Dog

Director (Off) Cat!

Fairy Cat! Of course...! Right then, are you ready for a fun packed adventure? You've got your part to play! Don't forget to boo the baddies! And to cheer the hero! And if anyone says...*oh yes I am...*you have to say *oh no you're not!* And if anyone says *Oh yes I do!* You have to say *Oh no you don't* you'll get the hang of it. Oh yes you will.....(???)

Audience Oh no, we won't!

Fairy Hang on, hang on, we haven't started yet...! Well it's time to start, oh yes it is...!
(Audience react) Stop it... behave yourselves. Let's meet Dick. He's on the road to Birmingham.

Director (Off) London.

Fairy London ...off to seek his fortune.

(Child 3 Enters and exits with yet another note)

Child 3 Fairy Bow Bells! I have another message for you...!

Fairy Oh another note! I wonder what this one says? (Her face drops) "You're fired. Don't forget to leave the wand." Oh dear...! I'm sure he's just joking, I hope... it's time to get this show started... (she clears her throat)

I am the Fairy... and I think it's time
To do my job... and talk in rhyme!
One handsome hero, a cat in tow,
Will go to London, but that you know!
He'll lose his job 'cause life's not fair!
Then by the end... be London's Mayor.
So to the job centre I must go!
While you sit back... and enjoy the show!

(Dick Enters USL – Dick Intro Music)

(Fairy Exits USR)

Dick Hello everyone. I didn't see you all there. Are you alright? I said... are you alright? My name is Richard Whittin... Richard Wh... Wichard Witting... Witchard... Witty Witting... This name is a nightmare! My name is Richard Whittington, but my friends call me Dick..! And I'm on my way to London to make my fortune. Apparently, according to my mother the streets are paved with gold! Hey, I've got a great idea.....do you want to be my friends? Do you? Every time I come on I'll shout out HELLO PEOPLE! And you shout HELLO DICK! Shall we have a practice?

(He Exits and returns)

Hello people!

Audience Hello Dick...!

Dick Have you done it yet? Oh dear...! Let's try again.

(He Exits and returns)

Dick Hello people!

Audience Hello Dick...!

(Fluffy Enters)

Dick That's brilliant! Here, let me tell you something, because we're all friends now... Right, where was I? Ah yes, I'm off to London to seek my fortune and when I'm rich, I'm going to buy a big house, a nice flash car, wonderful new clothes! And I think I'll get myself a pet! Yes, I'll get a dog!

Puss Miaow.

Dick Yes, a nice big dog, with flappy ears and a waggy tail...

Puss Miaow...

Dick And a wet nose... and a licky tongue... and a loud bark...

Puss Miaow...

Dick That's perfect..! A nice loud bark... Miaow! (*realising*) Miaow...? No don't be silly. I said a loud bark...! Look, copy me.... WOOF...!

Puss Miaow...

Dick Dogs don't go miaow! Cats do!

Puss Miaow...

Dick Oh hello, I didn't see you there. What's your name?

Puss Miaow.

Dick Fluffy? (*To audience*) Yes, I can talk to cats. That happens in panto.

Puss Miaow. Miaow.

Dick Fluffy, Fluffy...?

Puss (*Angry*) Miaow, Miaow, Miaow...!

Dick Fluffy, Fluffy, Fluffy...?

Puss (*Shaking his head*) Miaow!!!

Dick Fluffy...? I'm only joking, what are you saying?

Puss Miaow miaow miaow miaow...

Dick You're on your way to London?

Puss (*Nodding*) Miaow. (*Shaking head*) Miaow. Miaow.

Dick You haven't got any friends?

**SONG - ONE FINE DAY (WICKED – One short day)
(Intro Starts)**

Puss Miaow.
Dick Well Fluffy! I'm on my way to London.
Puss Miaow?
Dick And *I* don't have any friends either!
Puss Miaow?
Dick Are you thinking what I'm thinking?
Puss Miaow!
Dick Alright Fluff! We'll go to London together!
Puss Miaow.
Dick Come on! Let's go!

(Dancers and Chorus Enter)

Cast ***One fine day in the beautiful city.
One fine day full of so much to do
Every way that you look in the city
There's something exquisite
You'll want to visit
Before the day's through***

Dick **There are buildings tall as Cedar trees!
Dress salons! Libraries! Palaces! Museums! A hundred strong!**

Cast **There are wonders like you've never seen
It's all so grand and so serene!**

Dick **I think I've found the place where I belong!**

Cast **I want to be in the big city**

Dick **And you'll be sure I'm here today
To make my life and make my way**

Cast **So come along to wander and enjoy.**

Puss Miaow!

**(Repeat Chorus)
(Fairy Enters DSR)**

Fairy Hello Dick Whittington!
Dick Look everyone! My very own Fairy!
Fairy I'm here to watch over you. (I got reinstated!)

Fairy/Cast **Where's the place you want to be?**

Dick Um? **Here?**

Fairy **Come have fun with folk like me!**

Dick **I just know I will!**

Cast **Everything you want to be**

And every place you want to see

One fine day in the beautiful city

One fine day full of *wonder*

Every way that you look in the city

Dick **There's something exquisite**

Cast **Something exquisite**

Dick **I'll want to visit**

Cast **You'll want to visit**

Dick **All with you!**

Puss Miaow!

Dick Come on my friend! Are you ready for an adventure?

Puss Miaow!

Dick Yes, so am I

Fairy Good luck to you both!

Cast **One wonderful**

Chorus 1 Welcome to London!

Cast **Day!**

(BLACKOUT)

(Dick, Puss and Fairy Exit)

(FITZWARREN & ALICE ENTER)

Fitzwarren I love that music it's so cheesy! Good Morning everybody. Please let me introduce myself. My name is Alderman Fitzwarren. And this is my lovely "bricks and mortar" Alice.

Alice Daddy! Not everyone knows what you mean. "Bricks & Mortar" is Cockney rhyming slang. They don't know that it means 'daughter'.

Fitzwarren They don't?

Alice No! They don't.

Fitzwarren They'll soon learn it! Look, I am the owner of that lovely little *lollipop*.

Alice "Shop"

Fitzwarren In the shop is lots of *knobbly knees*.

Alice He means "cheese."

Fitzwarren That's what I said. In our lollipop, we sell lots of knobbly knees to put on your *Uncle Fred*.

(He signals to the audience to answer)

Fitzwarren That's right! Bread! And, I've ended up doing this job, as my Dad is a Banker...

Alice Stop...! That's not Cockney slang, he really is a banker...!!!

Fitzwarren Yes, and he has got England into a complete mess, which lost me my wonderful job in the stock market, and forced me to open this shop, to make ends meet...

(3 shop workers enter carrying boxes)

Alice Good Morning!

Els Belles *(In French)* Oh, good morning and what a lovely sunny morning it is. I'm so pleased to be working in London, I can't believe how lucky I am

Alice Els Belles, what are you saying? Please speak in English!!

Els Belles Oh sorry. Hello Alice, Hello Alderman Fitzwarren, what a lovely sunny morning it is. I'm so pleased.....

Fitzwarren Yes, yes, OK Els Bells, we get the message. Another delivery? That's what we like to see.

Beau Belles Oh we're very busy today, we have such a lot to do...

Fitzwarren Good, good, and what do we have today...?

Els Belles These boxes are loaded with lots of lovely....

(A rat appears behind Fitzwarren)

All R.....R ...R....R...

Fitzwarren Oooh goody a guessing game...! Radishes?

All R.....R ...R....R...

Fitzwarren Not radishes, how about Rhubarb?

All R.....R ...R....R...

Fitzwarren Rolls...?

All No, Rats!

Alice Oh no!

Fitzwarren Rats? I can't remember ordering any of those...!

(Rats start appearing out of everywhere and running across the stage)

 Isn't there a lot of them..? I'm sure I never ordered them, and if I did, certainly not this many!

Alice No Father, they have come up from the sewer, they're everywhere... they're after the cheese...!

Beau Belles That's it. I can't work here any longer! I quit!

Els Belles So do I! I can't work in the same place as those filthy creatures!

(The shop workers start to exit)

Fitzwarren No, wait, don't go...

Beau Belles Too late! I'll deliver this box of cheese then I'm....

(A rat appears of the box)

 finished.....aaagggghhh.....

Els Belles Look another one!

Beau Belles They're everywhere! It's a plague!

Els Belles Run for your lives...!

(Els and Beau exit)

Alice Oh no daddy, whatever are we to do?

Fitzwarren All the staff have gone! What do we do now? We're over-run with rats! There's only one thing for it, you'll have to work with me in the shop.

Alice Me? Work?

Fitzwarren It will be good experience for you. Because next week I'm chartering a ship and going to explore new worlds.

Alice Why do that?

Fitzwarren So I can bring back exotic new cheeses for the lollipop!

Alice How exciting. Travelling to new worlds!

Fitzwarren Oh no my girl, you'll have to stay here and look after the shop.

Alice Oh daddy.

Fitzwarren No! Just think how much money you'd spend in the Duty Free Shop! Come on. Let's get this place cleared up, we only have a few minutes until we open.

(Fitzwarren & Alice exit USL)

(Dick & Puss enter USR)

Dick Come on Fluffy, walk this way!

Puss Miaow.

(Dick does a silly walk & Puss tries to copy him)

Dick Oh Fluffy you are funny.

Puss *(To audience)* Miaow!

Dick Hello people!

Audience Hello Dick..!

Puss *(Sad)* Miaow.

Dick What's the matter Fluffy?

Puss *(Very sad)* Miaow. Miaow, miaow, miaow...

Dick Don't be silly. I'll still be your friend.

Puss Miaow?

Dick Of course, I will! Listen..

MUSIC SEVEN – YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME

Dick **You've got a friend in me
You've got a friend in me
When the road looks rough ahead
And you're miles and miles
From your nice warm bed
Just remember what your old pal said
Yes! You've got a friend in me
You've got a friend in me!**

Dick So, hey? Are you feeling better? What, what is it?

Puss **Miaow. Miaow. Miaow. Miaow. Miaow. Miaow.
Miaow. Miaow. Miaow. Miaow. Miaow... (etc).**

Dick **Some other folks might be
A little smarter than me
Bigger and stronger too....Maybe
You've got a friend in me.
And as the years go by
Our friendship will never die
You're gonna see it's our destiny
You've got a friend in me...**

(They start to exit)

Puss **Miaow..!**

Dick **You've got a friend in me...**

Puss **Miaow!**

Dick **You've got a friend in me!**

(They exit)

(Blackout) (Dame Intro Music)

(Dame enters through audience on a scooter)

Dame Stand clear everybody, coming through...! Hello! Hello everybody! Oh come on it's (Friday/Saturday/Sunday) night you can do better than that! Hello everybody...! That's better. You've spent your money buying the ticket, and there's no refunds, so you might as well enjoy yourself...! Oh, it's so lovely to have a nice warm hand on my entrance. Right then lets see who's here... Hello left side! Hello right Side! Hello front side! And hello back side!

My name is Mrs Winifred Whittington and I'm Dick's dear old Mother! Do you know what close friends get to call me? Twice a week...! No, I'm only joking, my close and dear friends call me Ninny Winny, now, you all look like nice people, so I'm sure you all qualify... I'll tell you what, when I come on, I'll shout 'I'm a ninny Winny, what am I?' and you all have to shout back 'Ninny Winny'! Let's give that a little go shall we? I'm a Ninny Winny, what am I?

Audience NINNY WINNY!

Dame Lovely, Splendid, Wonderful..! Right, you all know me, but you don't know each other, so, I'm going to split you up the middle. And this side I want you to say '*Good Evening How Are You?*' And this side I want you to reply '*I'm very well, thank you.*' Right, off you go... (*Audience react*) Lovely, now we'll try it round the other way... This side I want you to say '*Hello, it's nice to meet you, would you like to pop round for a cup of tea?*' and the other side will reply '*No, but thanks for asking... wierdo'...!*'. Off you go... (*Audience react*)

(Audience react – Repeat if necessary)

See, we're all friends now...! And what are friends best for...? That's right... lending you money..! (*To audience member*) So, can you lend me a tenner...? No...? Well, what was the point of all that 'ice breaking' if you're not going to give me your money? I'm only kidding, although I am old and poor, I do still have my beautiful looks though don't I...? And I have lots of sweets to share...! Now that's got you interested, hasn't it? Right, who want's some then...?

(Some sweets are thrown out to the audience, or handed out)

Now I know not everybody got a sweet, but I also know that you lot are a nice sharing bunch, so I think its only fair to share some of your sweets with those sitting on the other side of the audience! So, after 3 I want you to chuck some sweets to the other side, and in return you'll get some back... This is going to be good, isn't it...? Blinking dangerous... but fun...! Okay, are you all ready...? One, two three... fire...!!! Are we all in one piece, no broken glasses..? We've never done that before... and you can probably see why now, can't you...?

Now, where was I...? Oh yes, I've come here looking for my son. Twenty miles to London and still no sign of Dick. Do you know him? My, Dick? Come on, has anyone seen my Dick yet? *(To audience member)* Don't make your own jokes up!

Well I've come down to London because I'm worried about him. I'm the only person he's got, you see, I'm on my own now. Ah...I'm a bigger widow than that. *(Audience react)* Oh, my dearly departed husband, a Chinese man, Ting-Tong Whittington. I do miss him. He was hard to please though. He described our marriage as a very expensive way to get his laundry done for free.

But I'm not looking for a husband anymore. I'm just looking for a single man. So I'll just have a look around here amongst you lot... Let's have a look. *(1st man)* Hello, you're handsome. *(2nd Man)* Ooh, you're handsome. *(3rd Man)* Evening. *(4th Man)* And you're handsome what's your name? *(reply)* Sorry? *(reply)* No, I did hear you, I'm just sorry...! I want a man who will pick me up, whirl me round and drain me dry. But I think I'd have more chance with a spin-dryer!

SONG - CHIEF COOK AND BOTTLE WASHER (FROM THE RINK BY KANDER & EBB)

But I've always had a hard life. Do you know why?

**Chief cook and bottle washer
That's what I always was.
Doing what a cook and bottle washer does
Go stand and take the tickets
Go make the corn go pop
Bread to make and beds to make
And rugs to shake and floors to mop
And then we break at seven
Up comes my thoughtful pet
Saying "hey aint my dinner ready yet?"
Oh what heaven life can be
When you're Chief cook and bottle washer like me!
Chief cook and bottle washer
That's what I always did
Then I had the great good luck to have a kid**

(Dick enters with shop workers)

Dame Dick!

Dick Hello People!

Audience Hello Dick.

Dame **So now it's warm the bottle
See what's he's crying for
Wash and wipe and rock and dipe
And bake and take and mop and pop
Exactly like I did before
Then daddy's up at seven
He'll see what he can get
Saying "Hey aint my dinner ready yet?"
Oh what heaven now we're three
When I'm Chief cook and bottle washer**

Cast ***She's Chief cook and bottle washer***

Dame **Chief cook, bottle washer, baby maker like me!**

Dick What's the matter Mum?

Dame I work too hard! Not *one* hard *too* hard!

Dick Has anyone ever told you that you dance well?

Dame No they haven't

Dick I'm not surprised.

Dame I'll have you know I have dancing in my blood.

Dick Shame it hasn't got down to your feet.

Dame You should try it in heels! I'll have you know, when I was younger I used to make a fortune dancing...!

Dick Oh...?

Dame Yes, I have a great pair of dancing legs... My left leg was brilliant, my right leg was fantastic... and between the two I could make a fortune...!!!

Dame **I'm selling off this rattle
I'm getting off my knees
On my way and in my prime
And at my ease**

Cast **So let them burn the bunting
Let all the mopping stop
There'll be no more bread to bake
Or beds to make or floors to mop**

Dame **Hey porter grab my luggage
I'm climbing on some jet
And hear me say "ain't my dinner ready yet?"**

Cast ***Oh what heaven life will be***

Dame **When I've got cooks and bottle washers
Loads of cooks and bottle washers for me!**

Dick Anyway... Mum! What are you doing here?

Dame Singing, what did you think I was doing? Was it that bad?

Dick I mean...what are you doing here in London?

Dame London? I thought this was Eaton Bray, I'll kill that taxi driver!

Dick Are you following me?

Dame I might be.

Dick Why?

Dame You never know when you'll need your old mum. And there are lots of dirty old men around in the big city.