

The Windmill Players Proudly Presents:



The Windmill Players

The Windmill Players held their first meeting on 8th May 2002. It was decided that all ages would be welcome and we range between 6 to 80 plus years.

A Victorian Weekend had been planned by The Memorial Hall committee for November, and it was decided that The Windmill Players would be responsible for one evenings entertainment. Songs from “Oliver” and “My Fair Lady” were performed by the younger members, a Monologue and a one act play “The Twelve Pound Look” became the programme for Friday.

In January 2003, a Pantomime was staged; “The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood”, which played to full houses on both evenings. All scenery, costumes and properties were made by the members, the music kindly provided by friends from Witney and the stage lighting expertly set up by the Memorial Hall’s electrician.

In the summer of 2003 a varied programme of songs and sketches, including “Alice’s Tea Party” was performed ‘al fresco’, and greatly enjoyed by the audience and the performers alike. Luckily the rain held off long enough!

Now our 2004 winter production is about to begin and we welcome you all to “The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz”.

If you would like to get involved with The Windmill Players, either on the stage or behind the scenes, please call either:

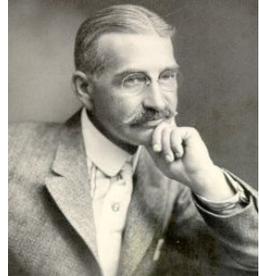
Pat Pymmer, Chairperson: 882848

Jo Reichmann, Secretary: 883132

The Wizard Of Oz

The story of 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' is over 100 years old, and is known by millions of people all over the world. Most of us know the story from the 1939 MGM musical 'The Wizard of Oz' starring Judy Garland, but the story was written long before that. In fact there were 5 films made before the 1939 musical was released featuring the Wizard of Oz.

Oz first started as a book, which grew into an entire series of books. One man, L. Frank Baum, first wrote these books but others wrote more after him, and more books are being added to the series even now. There have also been many movies, plays and television productions of these stories which have attracted an international fan following.



Like most of Lyman Frank Baum's early writings, 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' started off as a story he was telling his sons and their friends in 1898. At that time, a number of children would come to the Baum's house to listen to his stories in the evening. On one of these evenings Baum was telling how Dorothy met the Scarecrow, when one of his listeners asked, "Mr. Baum, where did they live?" He thought about it for a moment, looked around the room and saw his filing cabinet. The drawers were labelled A-J, K-N and O-Z, "The Land of Oz," he replied and continued the story. Later that night, his wife, who had also been listening, urged Frank to write the story down, and he quickly produced a manuscript. His friend W. W. Denslow agreed to illustrate it, and they tried to find a publisher. At that time American publishing firms were only interested in children's stories from European, and especially British, writers. Nobody was interested in an American fairy tale. Finally, Baum and Denslow struck a deal with the publisher of their previous book. 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' was published May 15, 1900, and became the biggest selling children's book of the year.

L. Frank Baum went on to write fourteen other Oz novels, a number of short stories and one related book, all dealing with the Oz characters.

The Windmill Players production of 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' is based on a stage adaptation by Michele L. Vacca, and the 1939 MGM film musical.

The cast and production team have made a few amendments and additions to the script, just to 'make it our own'. One of the major changes is that our version is not based in Kansas, but here in North Leigh...After all, 'There's No Place Like Home!'

Cast - In order of appearance

The Windmill Players have a wide ranging cast of all ages and backgrounds. Our youngest player in this production is 6-year old India and our most senior member is Bert, who informs us he is as old as his tongue and slightly older than his teeth!



**Bryony
Woodruff**

'Dorothy'



**Sylvia
Kearns**

'Aunt Em'



**Bert
Edmunds**

'Uncle Henry'



**Steve
Mellin**

*'Mr. Crowe/
Scarecrow'*



**Tom
Burgum**

*'Mr. Woodman/
Mayor Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**Michael
Pymer**

*'Mr. Lyon/
Gatekeeper'*

★ THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ ★

ACT 1

Scene 1: Gale's Farm, North Leigh

Dorothy lives with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry on their lonely, little North Leigh farm. As she does her chores, Dorothy dreams of being in a place where there are no chores to do. Somewhere far, far away. Behind the moon, beyond the rain. But be careful what you dream of Dorothy, as dreams really do come true...

Scene 2: Munchkinland

After a vicious storm Dorothy lands in the mysterious Munchkinland in the land of Oz. The Munchkins, who live in this county greet her as she has freed them from a dreadful curse. But Dorothy hasn't pleased everyone by landing in Oz. In fact Dorothy has made a new enemy...

Scene 3: Cornfield on the Yellow Brick Road

Dorothy meets a new friend on her journey to the Emerald City to see the Wizard. A talking scarecrow with only straw for brains! Dorothy suggests the wizard might be able to help him, so the scarecrow joins Dorothy on her journey.

Scene 4: Woodland

Dorothy, Scarecrow and Toto stumble upon a woodsman made entirely of tin who has rusted solid. After helping him, the Tinman joins the journey to Oz in hope that the Wizard can give him a heart.

Scene 5: The Forest

Deep in the dark forest, our intrepid travellers are worried about meeting Lions and Tigers and Bears! (Oh My!)...but the only animal they meet is a cowardly lion!

Scene 6: The Gates of The Emerald City of Oz

At last! - The Emerald City! Our tired friends eventually make it to the city of Oz but first they must get past the awkward gatekeeper.

Scene 7: The Wizard's Chamber

It takes a lot of persuasion to get to see the mighty Wizard...but eventually our friends get their wish to speak to the man who could make all their dreams come true...but their dreams come at a cost...

ACT 2

Scene 1: Journey to the West/ Witches Castle

Dorothy, Toto, Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion set off to the land of the West to fulfil their promise to the Wizard, but unbeknown to our friends their every move is being watched by the Wicked Witch!

Scene 2: Inside the Witches' Castle

Captured by the witch and her two evil sidekicks, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion are held as slaves and Dorothy finds that there are even chores to do in Oz. The only way to escape is to destroy the witch....but how?

Scene 3: The Wizard's Chamber

Our heroes return to Oz to claim their rewards from the great Wizard...Will Scarecrow get his brain?...Will Tinman get a heart?...Will Lion get some courage?...and will Dorothy and Toto ever get back home to North Leigh?

Scene 4: There's No Place Like Home

Dorothy opens her eyes slowly and finds herself back in North Leigh. She is greeted by her relieved Aunt Em and Uncle Henry. Dorothy tells them of her wonderful adventure...

...or was it all just a dream? Do dreams really do come true?

Production Credits:

Based on the famous book by L.Frank Baum (1900)
Adapted by Michele L. Vacca and The Windmill Players.

Musical credits

All music written by Harold Arlen and Dan Coates except:
'Morning' (Greig), 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' (Greig), 'The Arrival' (J.Williams),
'Flag Parade' (J. Williams), 'Imperial March' (J.Williams), Devil Woman (Britten/ Authors),
20th Century Fox Fanfare,
The Lion Sleeps Tonight (Weiss/Peretti/Creatore)- adapted by The Windmill Players

New recordings performed by 'Butterface'.
All music recorded and mixed at Fabbey Road Studios, Oxfordshire



**Hannah
Brackston**

*'Mr. Switch/
Oz Citizen'*



**Helen
Mellin**

'Glinda'



**Zac
Spink**

*'Coroner
Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**Brad
Millar**

*'Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**Roberta
Millar**

*'Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**Hayley
Maycock**

*'Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**India
Edmunds**

*'Munchkin/
Oz Citizen'*



**Alison
Merryweather-
Clarke**

*'Wicked Witch
of the West'*



**Jo
Reichmann**

'Tin Man'



**Sam
Burgum**

'Lion'



**Guy
Fenn**

'Ozma'



**Rebekah
Mitchell**

'Ozma'



**Terry
Glossop**

'The Wizard'



**Dominic
Fenn**

'Flocus'



**Jo
Massie**

'Pocus'

*"We Hope
You Will
Enjoy The
Show!"*



Credits

Director:	Carolyn Woodruff
The Wimoweh Band:	Paul Spink (Bass) Nick Crow (Guitar) Paul Woodruff (Percussion)
Music:	Steve Mellin, Paul Spink
Sound:	Paul Spink, Nick Crow
Lighting:	Jez Reichmann
Costumes:	Shiona Rolfe, Carolyn Woodruff, Steve Mellin, Peggy de Buriatte
Scenery:	Diana Cranfield, Carolyn Woodruff, Steve Mellin
Prompt:	Sylvia Kearns
Posters/Tickets:	Steve Mellin
Marketing:	Jo Reichmann, Steve Mellin
Tab operator:	Neil Merryweather-Clarke
Make-up:	Sammi Woodruff
Stage hands:	The cast and crew!

Special thanks to:

Joan and David Barnett, Mike Gibson, Stagecoach,
t-shirtsunlimited.co.uk, and to all of the parents who
taxied their children to and from rehearsals.



"There's No Place Like Home"