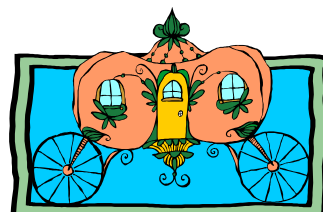
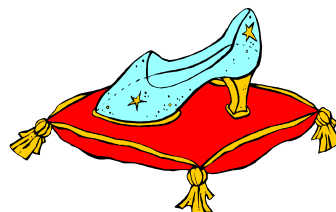


Spotlight Publications

Cinderella

A pantomime in rhyming couplets
By Dave Buchanan



Cinderella

CAST (in order of appearance)

Dandini, the Prince's PA

Tiger Lily)

Trixibelle) the Ugly Sisters

Baron Hardup

Lady Hardup

Buttons

Cinderella, the Baron's daughter

Prince Charming

Fairy Foozle

Sandy)

Andy) the Handymen

Leilani, a native princess

Graham the Gorilla

Tess Daly, Craig Revel Horwood, Shirley Ballas & Bruno Tonioli, of *Strictly* fame

Chorus of servants, native girls and ballroom guests

Scenes - the village square of Much Mincing-in-the-Marsh, Hardup Hall, a South Seas island, and Hambleton Hall

Time - long ago

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

1. "Shine" (Take That) (Dancers & Chorus)
2. "Price Tag" (Jessie J) (Tiger Lily & Trixibelle)
3. "My Favourite Things" (The Sound of Music) - new words by D Buchanan (Cinderella)
4. Aerobics Dance (Ugly Sisters & Dancers)
5. "I Want To Break Free" (Queen) (Prince)
6. "Tomorrow" (Annie) (Cinderella)
7. "Born This Way" (Lady Gaga) (Cinderella)
8. "Blue Suede Shoes" (Elvis Presley) (Buttons)
9. "Yellow Bird" (Chorus & Dancers)
10. "King of the Swingers" (Jungle Book) (Gorilla & Chorus)
11. "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" (Junior Dancers)

ACT 2

12. "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (Baron, Lady Hardup & Sisters)
13. Waltz (Guests)
14. "Rapping" (Words - D Buchanan) (Sisters)
15. Strictly Come Dancing Interlude (optional)
16. "Supercallifragilistic Expiialidocious" (Mary Poppins) (Foozle)
17. "If I Were Not In Pantomime" (Trixibelle, Tiger Lily, Baron Hardup, Dandini and Buttons)

ACT 1 Scene 1

The village of Much-Mincing-in-the-Marsh. A typical village square, with backdrop of shops, etc.

The Chorus of villagers is onstage for the first number

Song 1

The Chorus exits after the song

Dandini appears R with a bell and a scroll

Dandini Hello there, are you all okay? *(Yes)*
 What was that? What did you say? *(Yes!)*
 I'm Dandini, *(bows)* and I work for the Prince,
 And this is the village of Much-Mincing *(minces)*
 In-the-Marsh. Good name, d'you agree?
 Now why am I here? Let's see.
 Oh yes.

He rings the bell, and the villagers assemble

Oyez! Oyez!

Villagers Oh no! Oh no!

Dandini I've got good news, I'll have you know!

Villager 1 Well get on with it then!

Boy You twit.

Dandini *(looks at the boy)* Watch it. *(He clears his throat, and holds up the scroll)* "His Royal Highness, Prince Charming—"

There are Oohs and Ahs from the mainly female crowd

It's alarming how charming he is—

The crowd goes "Ooh!"

"Lord of Hambledon and Hertford,
 Rochester and Dartford—"

(Note. These names can be localised.)

Villagers Ooh!

Dandini "The venue is Hambledon Hall,
 And the Prince has invited you all!
 So remember, remember
 The fifth of December,
 Prince Charming's fantabulous Ball!"

Everyone is very impressed and they start discussing it animatedly

At this point, enter R Tiger Lily and Trixibelle, the Ugly Sisters

Tiger Lily Oh, Trixi, look! A proclamation!

Trixibelle Oh goody, that's an excitation!

Tiger Lily Alright, you plebs, just step aside.
 We have quality, you just can't hide.

There are loud jeers

Villager 1 Quality, you two?! That's a laugh!

Villager 2 (*pointing to Trixibelle*) She's size seventeen and a half!

Loud laughs

Tiger Lily Beasts! (*To Dandini*) Oy! You with the bell!

Dandini Who me?

Tiger Lily Yes. Be so good as to tell

Us what you've told them.

Dandini But I've finished! It's over, kaput.

I've gone and given it the boot.

Tiger Lily What?

Dandini That's right. And now I've gotta go

And watch TOWIE. It's my favourite show.

Laughs

Tiger Lily Oh alright. Trixi, give him a quid.

Trixibelle (*to Dandini*) There you are, sweetie. (*To Tiger Lily*) I just did.

Dandini Prince Charming is having a ball—

Chorus Girl 1 In Hambledon Hall—

Chorus Girl 2 He's invited us all!

Trixibelle Ooh fancy!

Dandini All females in the town—

Tiger Lily (*looking round archly*) No problem there.

Laughs and expressions of doubt

Dandini And villages all around,

Whose age is under—

Trixibelle Fifty?

Dandini Down.

Tiger Lily Forty?

Chorus Down!

Tiger Lily (*horrified*) Under thirty?

(*Shrugs*) Oh well, I still qualify. Just.

Looks and cries of disbelief from the Chorus

Don't get shirty!

Dandini That's a lot of tosh, a saga,

If you're twenty nine, I'm Lady Gaga!

Tiger Lily (*rolling up her sleeves*) I've a mind to bop you one.

Trixibelle I'll join you, after what he's done.

Laughs

Tiger Lily Trixi, we are goin' to forget

We're ladies, so let's go get 'im!

The Sisters converge on Dandini, but he ducks and they barge into each other and fall heavily, amidst laughter

Trixibelle Boo-hoo! I landed on me bum!

It's paralysed and gone quite numb!

Tiger Lily Never mind, Trixi, don't bother.

After all we've got each other.

The Chorus exit as the Sisters sing:

Scene 2

Front of curtain. Tiger Lily and Trixibelle sing:

Song 2

The Sisters exit L as Baron Hardup enters R

Baron Ladies and gents, boys and girls, how do?
I'm truly delighted to meet all of you.
I'm Baron Hardup – I'll give you a hint.
I'm really hard up, in fact I'm skint.
I've had to marry for money –
And that's not so funny.

A raucous female voice is heard offstage. Enter Lady Hardup, L

Lady Hardup Horace! Ah, Horace, there you are.
I knew you hadn't gone far.
I want you -

Baron And I want you, my little chickadee.

Lady Hardup What was that you called me?

Never mind. I want you to dismiss -

Baron Dismiss?

Lady Hardup Yes, give him the sack.

Fire him, no way back.

Baron Just who are we talking about?.

Lady Hardup Buttons, of course, without a doubt.

Baron No, not Buttons, he's my pal.

You can't.

Lady Hardup I can and I shall.

Baron But he's good to have about.

I can't do without him!

Lady Hardup He's useless.

Baron No, there's none better.

You've gone too far, Henrietta.

I mean, who would put my crown on?

Who would stir my tea?

No, sirree!

I'm putting my foot down.

Lady Hardup (*firmly*) Dismiss him now, you clown!

Baron (*sadly*) Alright, okay, right away.

Lady Hardup Good. And no pay.

Do it now, without delay!

The Baron shrugs his shoulders and slinks off R

What a wimp! (*She exits L*)

Buttons appears UR

Buttons Hi, everybody! Hi, girls and boys!

Come on then, feel the noyse!

Listen, kids, when I come on will you shout

"Hi, Buttons"? Will you do that? ("Yes!") Let's try it out.

Practice ad-lib

Then he goes over to L of the proscenium arch where there is a large mock-up of a bell push with a notice underneath saying "Do not push this button"

Listen, kids, will you help me out? ("Yes!")
 I want you to shout
 Loudly, if you see anyone go
 Near the button, just let me know,
 Will you do that? ("Yes!")

Have you met the Baroness? What a rotter!
 Godzilla! Then there's her daughters!
 Tiger and Trixi, that awful twosome,
 They're absolutely truly gruesome!
 But there's someone in my life, (not a fella)
 Her name is Cinders, Cinderella.
 I love her (*aah!*) but I daren't show it;
 I feel it, but she doesn't know it.

He encourages the audience to say, "Ah!"

One day I'll go right up to Cinderella
 Summon up courage, and tell her -

He goes down on his knee just as Cinderella appears R

Cinderella Hello, Buttons, tell me what?

Buttons Cinders, I -

Cinderella Yes?

Buttons Cinders, I've got

Something important to say.

Cinderella Well tell me, right away.

Buttons Would you like a little bet with me?

Cinderella What sort of bet, Buttons?

Buttons Fifty p.

For fifty pence, this is the bet:

To kiss you on the lips, and yet -

Not touch you.

Cinderella Fifty pence, that doesn't make sense.

And not touch me?

Buttons I'll show you how it's done.

It really is a lot of fun.

Cinderella All right then, I bet.

Buttons Close your eyes

For a big surprise.

She closes her eyes and he kisses her full on the lips, then falls flat on his back

Cinderella But you did touch me, Buttons. You did!

Buttons (*getting up*) Yes, I know. You win, no kidding.

Here's your fifty p. (*Gives it*)

Worth every penny, wowee!

She chases him off

Scene 3

The living room of Hardup Hall

Seated downstage, is Cinderella

Cinderella Hello. I'm Cinderella, and life is tough,
I clean and dust, and if that's not enough
I've lots of other chores that keep
Me going: I cook and sew and sweep
All day long. *(Pause)* I said, all day long— *(Aah!)*
I think I'll have to sing a song.
I often dream about twenty nineteen,
Bet it's nothing like I've ever seen.

Song 3

Toffees and chocolates and strawberry ices,
Burgers and doughnuts and chicken fried rices,
Nice Christmas prezzies all tied up with strings,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Makeup and perfume and gel for my tresses,
High heels and lipstick and tight little dresses,
Blue jeans and hipsters and lockets and rings,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Love my mobile -
And my Ipod -
And my DVDs;
I take all my credit cards,
Go to the shops,
And then I buy what I please!
(Sighs) But it isn't twenty nineteen, is it?

Buttons appears R

Hi, Buttons!

Buttons Hi, Cinders! Singing the blues?

Cinderella I guess.

Buttons Heard the big news?

Cinderella No.

Buttons His Royal Nibs is having a ball.

Cinderella So what's new? Is that all?

Buttons No, a Grand Ball. Everyone's invited.

Cinderella Fancy! Bet they're all excited.

At this point Lady Hardup enters L, to boos. She glares at the audience

Lady Hardup *(to Cinderella)* Why aren't you doing your chores?

Cinderella I've finished, stepmother. Early doors.

Lady Hardup What, watered the flowers and blooms,

Untangled the brushes and brooms,

Polished the brass,

Cut all the grass,

And dusted the hallway and rooms?

Cinderella Yes, stepmother.

Cinderella and Buttons give each other the thumbs-up sign

Lady Hardup (*to Buttons*) Don't give me any of your lip!

Buttons I'm trying, Your Battleship!

Lady Hardup Ladyship! Call me Your Ladyship, you twit!

Buttons Alright, Your Ladyship, you twit!

Lady Hardup Get out! Get out of my sight!

Buttons Yes, Your Flagship! Okay, alright!

Lady Hardup I'm fed up of looking at you.

You, Cinderella, can go too.

Cinderella in Rhyming Couplets

Dave Buchanan's full-length version of Cinderella in verse concentrates on comic set pieces, especially those involving the Ugly Sisters. Outstanding are a vintage car scene and a classic ballroom scene involving several musical styles, hilarious dialogue and a take on *Strictly Come Dancing*.. There is some knockabout comedy with the Handymen, and a colourful scene set in the South Seas, which occurs when Fairy Fozzle loses her bearings.

Plot Summary

Cinderella lives at Hardup Hall with her father, Baron Hardup, but has rather a hard time at the hands of stepmother Lady Hardup and stepsisters Tiger Lily and Trixibelle. The latter are determined that Cinderella shall not go to Prince Charming's Grand Ball, but the Baron and his staff, Buttons, are equally determined that she *shall*. And of course she does, with the help of Fairy Godmum Fozzle.