

HELLO!

Welcome to Bispham CastAways' first Christmas event, "A Christmas Cracker". We are delighted that you have chosen to spend your Saturday evening with us. Attempting a new concept, where we emphasise the "Community" in Community Theatre Group, is always scary but it has been a privilege to see our new group blossom and be totally supportive of each other. The concept of not just performing a pantomime but bringing in our partner charity, Aspired Futures, to perform, then include Christmas stalls and a visit from Santa has required a lot of organisation but we hope you agree that it has all been worthwhile. There are far too many people who have had a hand in making this event possible that we would like to thank to name here! However, to name a few...

- Gary Tunnicliffe for being our magic elf... he came for a stall and stayed to build a whole set!
- Ian Fleetwood and Martin Thompson for being roped in as the extra worker elves by Gary.
- Cllr's. Colin Maycock and Don Clapham for helping us secure funding to fix our sound problem.
- Ainé and the whole team at Aspired Futures, what you do makes us feel humble and inspired!
- Angela Crossley, Mark Marsden, Debbie Flavell, Hayley Price and Shannon Poleon (my fellow managers) for dealing with the day-to-day running of the group and putting up with my rambling, forgetful ways.
- And Christine Hope for being a most excellent chauffeur (minus the hat), wing man, secretary and, most importantly, Mum!



On a personal note, I would also like to thank every single member of our CastAways family! Hearing the groans then laughter when I say "one more time... again", seeing smiles on everyone's face during rehearsals, having volunteers for every job imaginable, joking about hair, dancing and costumes that use ballcocks, and then having someone reach out to offer a supporting hand, has meant the world to me after a hugely difficult year. Thank you!

Finally, we have one thing to say to you, our audience... Sit back, enjoy and...

"Merry Christmas... God bless us everyone!"

Susan Hope

Business Manager (Trustee)

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