



The Cuddington and Dinton Christmas News

Reported live from the scene by ace reporter: Jessica Faller

The Duke and Duchess and their family attended a special performance of The National Lottery's Pantoland at The Palladium, which was held to thank key workers and their families for their phenomenal efforts this year. One of the families to attend were the Faller Family from Chearsley in Buckinghamshire. Dr and Mrs Faller, who are both doctors, attended with their three children, Jessica, eight, Joshua, seven, and two-year-old Benjamin. During the first lockdown the children continued to go to Cuddington and Dinton CofE School and Tiny Acorns nursery where they were supported by more marvellous key workers.



The Duke of Cambridge paid tribute to Dame Barbara Windsor during the trip with his family to watch the special pantomime put on to thank key workers for their efforts during the pandemic. Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis watched the performance of Pantoland at the London Palladium with their parents in the royal box. When the Cambriges first arrived at the Palladium, George, seven, Charlotte, five, and two-year-old Louis stopped briefly to watch actors dressed as elves entertaining the guests on the red carpet.

He told the audience sitting in family groups with social distancing between them: 'It's wonderful to be back here in the West End and see theatres reopening their doors. Catherine, George, Charlotte, Louis and I are all really looking forward to the show.'

'We are here tonight for a very special performance. Special, because of you – the key workers here in the audience.'

'You include community workers, volunteers, teachers, NHS staff, representatives from the emergency services and military, researchers working on the vaccine, people helping the homeless, those manning vital call centres, and staff from a wide range of frontline charities – to name but a few.'

'You have given your absolute all this year and made remarkable sacrifices.'

'So too have your families, who I'm sure have seen far less of you than they would have liked. It is lovely that you are all here together tonight.'



Julian Clary led the star-studded cast which also included panto favourites Paul Zerdin, Nigel Havers and Gary Wilmot, as well as past stars Ashley Banjo & Diversity and Charlie Stemp. Making their debuts were Beverley Knight and Jac Yarrow. Andrew Lloyd Webber said: "Christmas 2020 needs a Pantomime, and this one at The London Palladium has never meant so much to our industry and our audiences." Pantoland at The Palladium is the first of a number of productions at theatres across the country to be announced, with further venues to be confirmed in the coming weeks.



The Faller family walked the red carpet, meeting the elves from Hamley's Toy shop. There they were asked about their Christmas wish list before entering the Palladium to watch the pantomime. After watching the first half of the hilarious performance, ice-cream was given out to all the key workers and their families. Once the pantomime finished the crowd roared with excitement and people left the theatre. Jessica, Joshua and Benjamin then stepped back out on the red carpet where they were met by Santa and his elves and a scattering of snow. The elves had worked their magic during the show and the children were gifted with presents from their Christmas list. Jessica given a necklace, Harry Potter book and pen while Joshua received technic lego and Benjamin given some cars. What a day to remember – thank you Pantoland!