

The Mummers Are Back

Boxing Day 2021



Last year we had to be virtual but in 2021 the show was legally allowed to return to the streets. Rehearsals were indifferent as two years off seemed to be long enough for the mummers to have forgotten everything. However, we put something together and it was mostly alright on the day.



The 2021 charity, Leukaemia UK, was chosen in commemoration of the death in 2021 of a long-standing member of the Wantage Mummers



Usual stuff to start with:

- Molly makes a lot of room
- King Alf and Beau Slasher do a bit of shouting
- They fight (resulting in a broken sword in Faringdon)
- King Alf is slain



(This year King Alf was sponsored by The Party Party – slogan “You know it’s a Con”)



"You are number 61 in the queue"



With the surgery covid restricted Molly had to use a phone to summon help.

Which refused to come until a photograph of the severed arm was sent to the Doctor.



Following an NHS miracle King Alf arose and disposed of the French Officer who had to rely for treatment on an EU qualified locum, Juan Vinney. Success required help from community volunteers. (Assisted in Wantage by a police car going round the square with blue lights and siren)





Old Father Sleaze then appeared and, for a bung, recited the woeful news highlights of 2021



Followed by rough-sleeper Happy Jack – loaded down with a Thatcherite family- who made the usual appeal to the crowd's generosity. Was that a fresh face under the hat?

There was an even fresher face under the beard.





And it all finished off with the usual dance (with everybody on the correct foot for once)

We were really pleased with the number of people who turned out – it might even have been a record crowd at Faringdon. (Numbers counted were Faringdon 170, Wantage 210, Childrey 150). Being a Sunday, pubs were shut so we were especially grateful to the Bell in Faringdon for opening its coffee shop and letting us use it as a changing room. Thanks were also due to BBC Oxford who interviewed us during the tour.

The collection raised £1500 for **Leukaemia UK** – who thanked us almost instantly through Facebook.



Leukaemia UK

Thank you so much for supporting us! This is absolutely incredible and we couldn't be more grateful. All the best for 2022!

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