

# 2017-18 Jack & the Beanstalk Southend

[johartuk](#)

May 17, 2017 - 10:53AM

**Re: Lee In Panto**

Lee's doing panto in his home town this year!

## Cast Revealed For Southend Panto

17 May 2017, 08:00



**The Cliffs Pavilion has confirmed the stars heading to Essex for this year's festive panto.**

Lee Mead, Stacey Solomon, Bobby ~~Daxo~~, and Robin ~~Askwith~~ will lead the cast of Jack and the Beanstalk from Saturday 16 December 2017.

Playing the lead role of Jack is Southend-born actor Lee Mead. Best-known for winning the TV talent show Any Dream Will Do, Lee won the title role in the West End revival of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Starring alongside him as the Spirit of the Beans is X Factor and Loose Women star Stacey Solomon. Since coming third in the sixth series of ITV's The X Factor, Stacey rose to fame winning the tenth series of I'm a Celebrity...Get me Out of Here!

Bobby ~~Daxo~~ is well-known for his television career which has seen him present his own series Bobby ~~Daxo~~ on the Box, Bobby's Sketch Pad, Rock With Laughter and Run the Risk, and host 65 episodes of Winner Takes All. He has also appeared in EastEnders playing the loveable rogue Vinnie Monks

Completing the line-up as the evil villain ~~Fleshcreeper~~ is film and television star Robin ~~Askwith~~. A regular on the big screen throughout the 70s Robin went on to appear in numerous television shows including Dixon of Dock Green, Z-Cars, and, most recently, Emmerdale, Coronation Street and Benidorm.

Theatre Director Ellen McPhillips said, "We are, of course, very excited about having two of Essex's own in the cast with Lee and Stacey, and are very much looking forward to welcoming back old favourites Bobby ~~Daxo~~ and Robin ~~Askwith~~ who have both appeared in previous pantomimes here to great acclaim."

Jack and the Beanstalk will be at the Cliffs Pavilion from Saturday 16 December 2017 until Sunday 7 January 2018.

He'll be able to walk to (and from) work! 🚶

[johartuk](#)

Oct 23, 2017 - 1:27PM

**Re: Lee In Panto**

Qdos Pantomimes

Verified account

@QdosPantomimes 46m

46 minutes ago

Today we're launching another GIANT panto. @SouthendTheatre with @leemeadofficial and @StaceySolomon



Lee Mead  
Verified account  
@leemeadofficial 2m  
2 minutes ago

It's a long way up ! @SouthendTheatre #JackandtheBeanstalk



Loving Lee's outfit! 🍷

LCBoniti

Dec 23, 2017 - 12:05AM

## **Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

And apparently, looks gorgeous doing it! At least, that's according to Jane W's review - the NO SPOILER version now on the website.

Note: The first and only panto I ever saw was Lee's very first in Southampton. It was quite the experience as Lovely England was in the throes of a crazy snowy winter and cold as . . . well, you get the picture. But Lee warmed up the place quite nicely so it felt like January in So Cal . . . almost. lol

Anyway, it did not convert me to being a panto-fan (I'm not) but let's face it. I was there for the Mead.

Enjoy Jane's review - And we'd love to hear some more!

johartuk

Dec 23, 2017 - 4:32PM

## **Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

Great review! Thanks Jane!

Tanith Panic

Dec 23, 2017 - 11:41PM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

These reviews make my day.

Another Liz

Dec 28, 2017 - 5:54PM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

YESSSS! The Forum is working properly again! Love the new banner too.

I *may* have been to the panto a couple of times .....

I can't beat Jane's review. The only thing to add would be spoilers - although, to be fair, I think everyone knows the story of Jack and the Beanstalk! Lee looks absolutely gorgeous (I have to confess here, I have been wearing specs for reading for years, but for nothing else. Finally, I have a pair for looking further afield, so wore them here for the first time, and saw Lee with fresh eyes - he is no longer fuzzy around the edges, whoo hoo!).

There are so many 'mistakes' in the show - which you only realise are deliberate when you see it a second time. However, during the second show the when the beanstalk fell down accidentally, just as Jack was about to climb it, and no one on stage knew what to do, it was hilarious!

There are lots of local jokes and place names thrown in for good measure - Jane, if you read this, the Shrimpers is the nickname for Southend United.

We went again yesterday, battling through wind and snow (what a sight we must have been heading into the wind along the cliff top - bracing was a polite way of putting it), and it has come on in leaps and bounds from the cautious opening afternoon. Bobby's ad libs are increasing daily, and the 12 Days of Christmas routine is now positively manic!

Lee apart, I have to say my favourite is Stacey. She has a great voice, and there is something really endearing about her.

A word of warning to anyone coming who hasn't already been - be prepared for babies, lots of babies - in the audience, that is. I have never seen so many tiny tots in all my life, we are talking babes in arms a few weeks old here, plus toddlers in nappies - there seems to be no age restriction in Southend!

LCBoniti

Jan 2, 2018 - 6:34PM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

A/Liz - your comment about babies reminds me of another Meadaholic (who shall remain nameless) who said she had forgotten that a matinee would have so many children there! Thanks so much for your mini-review. I have seen some photos taken in Southend and, although the sea looks lovely, it also looks very cold! Brrrrr . . . #SpoiledSoCalGal

Tanith Panic

Jan 12, 2018 - 10:38AM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

I just want to thank Jane for her fabulous review on the home screen. This one's stuffed with treats and spoilers and was almost as good as being there. I'm convincing myself that the loud bang (read the review to find out why) every night would have shaken me up too much!

johartuk

Jan 12, 2018 - 4:20PM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

Yes, it's a great review. Thanks Jane!

Joan

Jan 17, 2018 - 11:32AM

**Re: Jack Climbs the Beanstalk Again!**

Thanks JaneW for another spell binding review.

I did manage to go to the first and last performances of Jack and the Beanstalk and maybe a couple in-between.

Well you know how it is when you just can't think of what to get your husband for Christmas.

I figured out a pair of panto tickets would be perfect for new years eve.

I agree with A Liz. The Cliffs Pavilion seems to be a very child friendly venue.

I did sneak off to a matinee just befor Christmas and found myself sitting next to a group of girls with Downs Syndrome. After chatting with them it turned out that they go to MTC. So we had lots to chat about. But mostly we chatted about Lee. Every time Lee came on stage they screamed and shouted his name and waved their sparkly wands in the air.

During the interval I took out my phone to text home and the girl next to me saw my screen was a pic of Lee. Well this was extremely exciting and she insisted that I show her all the Lee pics on my phone. The interval passed by very fast.

After that performance Lee tweeted that days matinee was like a "One Direction" concert.

Whoops