

# DITCHLING PLAYERS

## Play Reading and Show Launch

TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026

at 7:30pm

in Ditchling Village Hall

*for the November production of*

**‘Twas The Night Before Christmas**

by

Ken Ludwig

You know the poem. *"And all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse."*

Well, one mouse is very much stirring, and that's when the fun begins!

**This fast moving, funny seasonal play has lots of audience participation and is sure to be a big hit with both adults and children with its blend of humour and adventure.**

Young girl Emily, (played by an adult) won't accept that Santa skipped her house last Christmas. Teaming up with a mouse and an elf they find their way to the North Pole to get to the bottom of it and find the missing "Naughty or Nice" list.

There's adventure and chaos along the way, with an aeroplane journey, sword fight, mistaken identity and hectic chases as characters pursue each other.

There's an updated rap version of the poem, and a different "take" on "Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly".

*Ken Ludwig has won multiple Tony and Olivier Awards and his work has been widely performed in the West End and on Broadway.*

Whether you're drawn to playing the determined heroine, a scene-stealing mouse with rhythm, a bumbling elf with hidden depths, or a swashbuckling villain, there are roles here to get your teeth into.

- Nine of the ten characters are played by four actors (doubling or trebling). Overall we need 3 male and 2 female or vice versa
- The mouse/mice can be played by either a female or a male.
- Emily is 10 years old and played by an adult actor.

## The Roles at a Glance

*All the characters engage with the audience and encourage their participation*

**EMILY** — The unstoppable girl on a mission who refuses to let Santa off the hook.

**AMOS (the mouse/mice)** — A hip-hop dancing, wisecracking mouse and his identical rather confused, but brave, twin!

**CALLIOPE / BRITANNIA SNEED** — The sharp, secretly heroic elf who becomes the gang's unlikely secret agent / The just as dotty wife of Wendell Sneed.

**SIR GUY OF GISBOURNE/UNCLE BRIERLY** — An OTT sword-wielding villain determined to ruin Christmas, / Emily's warm and bumbling uncle

**MULCH / WENDELL SNEED / SANTA CLAUS** — A loyal elf who keeps the workshop running / A clueless sidekick to Sir Guy / Just Santa – but Is he really in charge?

A partial preview of the script and characters can be [found online here](#)

**Come along on June 9<sup>th</sup> and try a role (or two) on for size!**

*Production dates are Wed 18th to Sat 21st Nov  
(The Saturday show will be a matinée)*

***For more rehearsal and other admin information please see***

**[www.ditchlingplayers.org.uk/audition](http://www.ditchlingplayers.org.uk/audition)**