It's panto time……Oh yes it is!

The stars of Edinburgh pantomime – Allan Stewart, Andy Gray and Grant Stott – got back together again today for the first time in three years, for the launch of 2010/11's panto season where they will lead the cast of this year's spectacular King's Theatre pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk!

As today's photo shows Allan Stewart plays the role of Dame May McTrot whilst Andy Gray returns to the King's Theatre pantomime as King Crumble and Grant Stott will be at his meanest ever as the baddie Fleshcreep – the giant's henchman!

This year's King's Theatre production features the biggest giant and tallest beanstalk in pantoland! The computer controlled giant is so big that he can pick up a human and carry them to cloud land where he lives…and from a few tiny beans the beanstalk grows up through the auditorium and climbs to 35 feet!

Speaking at the official launch of this year's pantomime, John Stalker, Chief Executive of the Festival Theatre, said:

"It is so exciting to have Allan, Andy and Grant back on stage together for this year's fantastic pantomime. Together with yet another great script from Paul Elliott we have all the makings of a great show to take our minds away from all the talk of spending cuts! One thing is certain, no one is cutting back on buying pantomime tickets — we have the highest ever advance sales so I would encourage everyone to book now to avoid disappointment."

Bursting at the seams with brand new comedy and an abundance of laughs, stunning sets and outrageous costumes, Jack and the Beanstalk carries the King's Theatre hallmark of quality and outstanding entertainment for all ages and with ticket prices to suit every pocket, you won't have to sell the family cow to enjoy pantomime at its best!

Presented by Qdos Entertainment, the world's biggest pantomime producer, and written and directed by Paul Elliott, Jack and the Beanstalk is staged by the same team behind the recent record-breaking pantomimes at King's Theatre.

A record number of over 46,000 tickets have already been sold for Jack and the Beanstalk which runs from Saturday 4 December 2010 to Sunday 23 January 2011. Tickets, with concessions and group discounts available at selected performances, can be booked online at <u>www.kingstheatre.org.uk</u> or on 0131 529 6000.