

# **WHO IS WELCOME?**

A Play

*(with suggested songs and poems)*

**by Jenifer Hillman**

**SchoolPlay Productions Ltd**

THE CHRISTMAS CRACKER  
and  
WHO IS WELCOME?

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## **Suggested Poetry for WHO IS WELCOME?**

1. **They're Fetching in Holly and Ivy**  
by Charles Causley
2. **The Spanish Main**  
by E.V. Knox
3. **The Snowman**  
by Lynn Zirkel
4. **Sir Winter**  
by Jean Kenward
5. **Eddi's Service**  
by Rudyard Kipling
6. **Timothy Winters**  
by Charles Causley
7. **My Mother Saw a Dancing Bear**  
(Charles Causley?)
8. **Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening**  
by Robert Frost
9. **How Far is it to Bethlehem?**  
by F. Chesterton
10. **What the Donkey Saw**  
by U.A. Fanthorpe
11. **Christmas**
12. **Christmas Eve**  
by Thomas Hardy

## Suggested Musical Items for WHO IS WELCOME?

1. ***Follow the Star.***  
Words by Wally K. Daly, Music by Jim Parker *from Follow the Star.*  
Christmas Musical. *Pub:* Chappell.
2. ***Good Looking Guys.***  
Words by Tom Stainer, Music by Jim Parker *from Blastoff.*  
*Pub:* International Music Publications.
3. ***Do You Hear What I Hear?***  
Words and Music by Noel Rigney and Gloria Shayne.  
*Pub:* B.B.C. Educational Publishing.
4. ***Follow the Star [Reprise].***
5. ***I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In.***  
English Traditional.
6. ***Frosty The Snowman.***  
Words and Music: Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins.
7. ***Winds Through the Olive Trees.***  
Words translated from **Gasion Carol.** Music: Westcott from **Carol Gaily Carol.**  
*Pub:* A & C Black Ltd, London.
8. ***Let Him Come In.***  
Words: Daly, Music: Parker, *from Follow the Star.*
9. ***Three Kings***  
Words and Music by Eileen Diamond, *from Sing the Christmas Story.*  
*Pub:* Ward Lock Educational Ltd.
10. ***Watching Sheep Blues***  
Words and Music by Yvonne Holmes, *from Sing the Christmas Story.*
11. ***Starlight Carol***  
Words and Music by Ian A. Lawrence, *from Sing the Christmas Story.*
12. ***Now Light One Thousand Christmas Lights***  
Swedish Traditional carol, Words & Music by Haig and Regina Skerjian, *from Carol, Gaily Carol.*

13. ***Rejoice***  
Words by Rita Stokes, Music by Colin Tarn, *from* **The Saint Saviour's' Carols.**  
Private Publication.

## CAST

**Captain Alien**  
**Shock**  
**Zorber**  
**Ollie**  
**Buzz**  
**Zig**  
**Zag**  
**Si-Si the Siamese Cat**  
**Kate**  
**Peter**  
**James**  
**Sam**  
**Captain Hook**  
**Captain Flint**  
**Long John Silver**  
**Fiery Fiona**  
**Pirate Pete**  
**Sir Winter**  
**Eddi the Priest**  
**Ox**  
**Donkey**  
**Timothy Winters**  
**Barnaby**  
**Page**  
**Balthazar**  
**Casper**  
**Melchior**  
**Gabriel**  
**Angel 1**  
**Angel 2**  
**Mary**  
**Joseph**  
**Shepherd 1**  
**Shepherd 2**  
**Shepherd 3**  
**Snowflakes**  
**Snowballs**  
**Shepherds**  
**Angels**

**Stars.**



## WHO IS WELCOME?

by Jenifer Hillman

*MUSIC 1: [Intro] FOLLOW THE STAR*

*MUSIC 2: GOOD LOOKING GUYS*

*SCENE 1: INSIDE AN ALIEN SPACESHIP.*

*(A group of ALIENS are at the controls).*

**Captain:** How's our fuel situation, Shock?

**Shock:** We have three tanks full at the moment, Captain. We should be able to keep going for another hundred light years.

**Zorber:** What exactly is our mission, Captain?

**Captain:** There's a new star in the sky. We are to follow it and see where it goes.

**Zorber:** It sounds like a long trip. Perhaps I should have had more breakfast.

**Shock:** We have plenty of food to keep you happy, Zorber.

**Ollie:** Is it a special star, Captain?

**Zig:** Will there be anyone to meet us at the end?

**Zag:** Will they be friendly?

**Captain:** Mission Control don't know. Nobody from our planet has seen it before.

**Ollie:** It's shining brightly. And, how strange, it looks as if it wants us to follow it.

**Buzz:** Yes! I can see one of it's points moving.

**Captain:** You're right! Amazing! I've never seen a star do that before! Perhaps it's the atmosphere we're in.

**Zorber:** Captain! What's that out there? *(He points out to the audience).*

**Ollie:** It seems to be heading straight for us.

**Shock:** It is heading straight for us! Everyone duck!

*(There is a huge crash as everyone ducks on the floor).*

**Buzz:** What's happened?

**Zorber:** Emergency! Emergency! We've been hit by a meteorite!

**Captain:** What's the damage?

**Ollie:** There's a fire in the fuel tanks!

**Captain:** We must use the super ejector to beam off the ship.

**Zorber:** I'll just get my supply of milky ways.

**Captain:** There's no time! Where's the nearest planet, Shock?

**Shock:** There's one called Earth that's only seven hundred light years away. It has food on it, and oxygen!

**Captain:** Right, into the beamer everyone. Shock! Plot the course.

*(They all stand in the centre of the stage and countdown).*

**All:** Five .... four .... three .... two .... one!

## **BLACKOUT**

*SCENE 2 IN A WOOD.*

*MUSIC 3: DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?*

**Zorber:** Where are we Captain?

**Captain:** We seem to be in a forest of some kind. But the trees are green and brown. Not like our lovely red trees at home.

**Shock:** Captain, according to my calculations, we have reached a planet called Earth. It has water and plants and things called people on it.

**Ollie:** What a strange sound. What is it?

**Zorber:** On my information phaser it says that it's music. The sound of carols. On Earth everyone is getting ready for something.

**Buzz:** What are they getting ready for?

*(Enter SI SI the Siamese cat).*

**Si Si:** That's exactly the question I keep asking myself.

*Poem 1: They're fetching in holly and ivy.  
(SI SI)*

**Captain:** Who are you?

**Si Si:** My name is Si Si. I am a Siamese cat, and this is my wood. Who are you?

**Captain:** We are from a spaceship, but we crashed into a meteorite and had to land here. We're following a star.

**Si Si:** Oh yes, everyone's doing that at the moment. I can't think why. I prefer to stretch in front of the fire and sleep. Far more relaxing. Who wants to meet a silly old king anyway. Not me.

**Zorber:** A king?

**Si Si:** Yes. The new king has been born. People are following the star to see him. You might have some trouble getting in though. You're not very smart.

**Ollie:** Captain! Look! The star is still in the sky!

**Zorber:** And it's still beckoning!

**Si Si:** Well, you'd better go. If you're quick you may catch up with the children who came by earlier. They were following it too. I think it's time for a saucer of milk. Goodbye.

*(Exit SI SI).*

**Captain:** Children? What are they?

**Zorber:** My information Phaser says they are small creatures with grubby knees. Very intelligent.

**Captain:** Well, if they're intelligent they'll know all about this king. Let's go.

#### *MUSIC 4: FOLLOW THE STAR*

#### *SCENE 3. IN THE WOOD, A LITTLE LATER.*

*(The CHILDREN enter).*

**Kate:** What are they?

**Peter:** They look like aliens.

**Kate:** Are they dangerous?

**Captain:** These must be the children. Look at those grubby knees.

**Peter:** Who are you?

**Captain:** We're from the Planet Nig. We are following the star to see the king.

**Kate:** Oh so are we!

**Shock:** Can you tell us where the king is?

**James:** He's in a place called Bethlehem.

**Sam:** We have to follow the star to see him.

**Captain:** Is this king very important?

**Kate:** Well, our teacher at school said that all the stars would shine more brightly and the angels would sing round his cradle when he is born, so he must be quite important.

**James:** My teacher said that the king would want to see everyone.

**Captain:** Then let's go together.

*SCENE 4. BY THE SEA.*

*MUSIC 5: I SAW THREE SHIPS COME SAILING IN*

*(The PIRATES enter).*

*Poem 2: The Spanish Main  
(PIRATES)*

**Hook:** Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum. Why fry my gizzards in a pint of rice pudding! Children! And in fancy dress.

**Buzz:** We are not in fancy dress.

**Zorber:** Did I hear you mention the pudding?

**James:** Be quiet! They're Pirates! Pirates can be very tricky.

**Captain:** What's a pirate?

**Peter:** They sail the seven seas, rob ships and take prisoners.

**Flint:** Not at the moment. We're not even allowed to make anyone walk the plank.

**Kate:** Why not?

**Silver:** A strange man in a white dress visited our ship and took away our rum and our treasure.

**Hook:** And he said there was a new king being born in Bethlehem, and we should go there straight away.

**Fiery F:** We were getting a bit old for pirating anyway. My cutlass arm isn't what it used to be.

**Silver:** And I was starting to get very seasick.

**Hook:** Actually, we were hoping this new king could give us a different job.

**Flint:** Yes, like guardsmen.

**Silver:** Or cooks.

**Hook:** Mind you, I do miss that rum.

**Fiery F:** We shouldn't be standing here talking. Pull up your socks, Flint, and Hook, comb your hair. They'll never let us see the king with you all looking as if you're part of the crow's nest.

**Kate:** Do you think the pirates will be allowed to see the king? They have probably done some awful things.

**Peter:** Well, they look as if they want to be good. We are going the same way as them, so we might as well travel together.

*SCENE 5. IN THE SNOW.*

*MUSIC 6: FROSTY THE SNOWMAN*

*(The SNOWFLAKES and SNOWBALLS come out to dance, with SIR WINTER).*

*Poem 3: The Snowman*

**Snowflake:** Look! It's Sir Winter! Watch out for the frost bite!

**Sir Winter:** Where are you going my friends, on this lovely cold and snowy night?

**Hook:** We are following the star to see the new king.

**Fiery F:** You must be freezing! You're blue with cold!

**Snowflake:** We love the cold! Winter is our favourite season!

**Sir Winter:** I always come in the winter to scatter snowflakes over the ground, and to freeze the rivers and ponds. Look at my icicles hanging on your window ledges, and see the swirly patterns I make on your windows! I love the icy coolness and the crisp clear air of winter!

*Poem 4: Sir Winter*

**Kate:** What else can you do?

**Sir Winter:** I can make the wind blow like this! *(He twirls around).* And I can

make the blizzards rage like this!

*(More stormy music and the SNOWFLAKES run offstage as SIR WINTER keeps twirling).*

**Peter:** Find shelter everyone!

*(EVERYONE crouches down on the ground as SIR WINTER twirls off with his storm. Enter the OX and the DONKEY, and EDDI).*

*SCENE 6. INSIDE THE CHURCH.*

*MUSIC 7: WINDS THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES*

**Eddi:** Welcome to my church. I never expected so many people to be here on such a terrible night.

**Ox:** We needed shelter from the storm.

**Eddi:** Then will you listen to my story while you are here?

**Captain:** I love stories. I'll listen.

*Poem 5: Eddi's Service*

**Fiery F:** That was a beautiful story.

**Hook:** And the storm has stopped.

**Kate:** Thank you for letting us shelter in your church.

**Eddi:** You are very welcome. Please call again.

**Donkey:** Did I hear you saying that you were following the Star?

**Flint:** Yes. We're going to see the king.

**Donkey:** We're following it too. We have been told that the king loves animals, so we thought we might be useful to him.

**Ox:** I'm going to kneel at his feet.

**Donkey:** Look the star is getting impatient. We must go.

SCENE 7. IN THE WOODS.

MUSIC 8: **LET HIM COME IN**

(Enter TIMOTHY WINTERS and dancing bear, BARNABY).

Poem 6: **Timothy Winters**

**Captain:** Well, he's definitely a child! He's got grubby knees, and arms and legs!

**Zorber:** He's very thin.

**Shock:** And there's a funny smell coming from him. It's not very nice.

**Donkey:** You poor boy. You look very tired and hungry.

**Timothy:** We haven't eaten for three days. I heard about the king being born and wanted to sit outside his palace.. This is Barnaby. I found him yesterday.

Poem 7: **My mother saw a dancing bear**

**Donkey:** Did you escape?

**Barnaby:** Yes. My master forgot to lock the door of my cage one night, so I climbed out. I wanted to see how the sky looks through the branches of tall pine trees again, and to watch the sun going down on a winter's evening. And to smell the fresh pine cones, as I used to, before I was captured.

**Ox:** Are you coming to see the king too?

**Barnaby:** Oh I'm far too ugly and untidy for the king to see me. Besides I have a bit of a flea problem. I shall sit outside with Timothy.

**Fiery F:** Well, we have some food for you, and you are welcome to join us. We are following the star to see the king. So we can look after you.

**Hook:** I have some flea powder you can have mate. I used to have a few myself, when I was sailing the seas.

**Barnaby:** Thank you.

SCENE 8. IN THE WOODS.

(Enter the PAGE to the THREE KINGS).

Poem 8:                   **Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening**  
(PAGE)

(PAGE finishes the Poem and turns to see everyone standing there).

**Page:** Oh! I'm sorry! I didn't realise you were there.

**Peter:** Are you travelling alone?

**Page:** Oh no. I'm the Page to the three richest kings in the land. I'm travelling with them to see the new baby king. We have brought precious stones and valuable cloth and all sorts of treasures to give him. Why, Caspar has even got some frankincense, which is so difficult to get these days.

**Fiery F:** Oh dear, we haven't brought anything.

**Page:** Are you travelling to see the king too?

**Hook:** Yes, we're following the star that's shining in the sky.

**Page:** That's great news! We could travel together and then I won't get blamed when we keep getting lost! Oh! here they come now!

MUSIC 9:    **THREE KINGS**

(Enter the THREE KINGS).

**Balthazar:** My dear Melchior, this is getting ridiculous! The star is going the wrong way! My charts say very clearly that the palace is in that direction.

**Melchior:** I can't understand it! The universe is completely upside down. Why have we stopped?

**Balthazar:** What is this group of beggars doing here? Page! Tell them to get out of our way.

**Page:** Oh your majesty, they are travelling the same way as us. We could travel with them and then we wouldn't get so lost.

**Balthazar:** We are not lost! There is something wrong with the galaxies, that's all.

**Melchior:** Who are these people anyway? Is that a bear?

**Casper:** They look very dirty! The King won't want to see them! Look at this one's grubby knees! And that one has green hair!

**Balthazar:** And the bear looks as if it has fleas!

**Melchior:** And he's got a hook instead of a hand.

**Balthazar:** We can't wait any longer here. If we travel with these people they won't let us in at the palace gates. Come along Page. Keep walking. This way.

**Page:** But the star is telling us to follow him. Look.

**Melchior:** The star is wrong.

**Casper:** Follow me. I know the way.

*(The KINGS and the PAGE exit).*

**Barnaby:** Oh dear, I said we wouldn't be wanted. We might as well turn back now.

**Captain:** Well, we're not going back. We have a mission to complete.

**James:** And I'm not going back. My knees are only grubby because my Mummy forgot to wash them last night.

**Hook:** And a pirate never gives up!

**Peter:** Come on, Barnaby, I'm sure when the King hears how far we've come it won't matter to him if we have green hair or smell a bit.

**Shock:** I'm getting terribly tired. Do you think we could rest a bit?

**Flint:** And my wooden leg is aching.

**Kate:** How much further is it?

**Donkey:** I'm not very sure, but there's a fire over there, and some people resting by it. Maybe they can give us some food, and tell us how much further it is.

**Kate:** Let's go and ask them.

*SCENE 9. ON THE HILLS ABOVE BETHLEHEM.*

*(Enter THE SHEPHERDS).*

*MUSIC 10: WATCHING SHEEP BLUES*

*Poem 9: How far is it to Bethlehem?*

**Shepherd 1:** Come and sit around our fire.

**Shepherd 2:** It's a cold night, but you are nearly at the end of your journey.

**Shepherd 3:** Would you like some hot soup?

**Kate:** Thank you Shepherds.

**Captain:** What is that strange light in the sky? It seems to be getting closer.

**Ollie:** I hope it's not another meteorite!

**Donkey:** I think it's angels.

*(The ANGELS enter).*

*MUSIC 11: STARLIGHT CAROL*

**Gabriel:** Well done travellers. Bethlehem is over the hill and the baby has just been born.

**Barnaby:** Well, perhaps I'd better stop here. You go and I'll stay by the fire.

**Timothy:** I'll wait with you.

**Angel:** Everyone is welcome to come and meet the baby Jesus.

**Captain:** But he is a king and far too important for us.

**Gabriel:** That does not matter to the king. He wants to see all of you.

**Zorber:** Even me with my green hair?

**Hook:** And even me with my hook and my nasty habit of making innocent people walk the plank?

**Peter:** And me with my grubby knees?

**Timothy:** And me?

**Barnaby:** And what about my fleas?

**Gabriel:** Everyone is welcome, even the fleas. Come on. The star is getting impatient. Let's follow it together.

*SCENE 10: IN THE STABLE WITH MARY AND JOSEPH.*

*(The DONKEY lets everyone in).*

*Poem 10: What the Donkey saw*

*(Enter the KINGS and PAGE).*

**Balthazar:** This must be the place. The star is hanging right over it.

**Melchior:** Funny place for a king to be born. Is that a donkey on the door?

**Page:** Do you think we will be allowed in?

**Donkey:** Everyone is welcome to the stable. Come in.

**Caspar:** Thank you.

**Joseph:** There are some strange looking people here, Mary. I hope they don't frighten the baby.

**Mary:** Of course they won't. Look! he's smiling at them all.

*Poem 11:     **Christmas***  
*(MARY)*

*MUSIC 12:   **NOW LIGHT ONE THOUSAND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS***

*Poem 12:     **Christmas Eve***

*(At the end of the poem the OX kneels by the Stable).*

*MUSIC 13:   **REJOICE***

**THE END**