



## Jill Nalder

Jill was born in London, but grew up in the town of Neath, Wales. She trained at Mountview Theatre School.

Her West End credits include Madame Thenardier in *Les Miserables* and the original cast of Oscar winner Sam Mendes' production of *Oliver!* at the London Palladium. On tour and in repertory she has appeared in *Annie* no less than three times (!), *Cabaret*, *Godspell*, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Hobbit*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Nunsense*, *Stepping Out*, *Whistle Down the Wind* and the world premiere of the musical version of 'Some Like It Hot', entitled *Sugar* at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. She also appeared in two productions of *Gypsy* (Sheffield Crucible and Grand Theatre, Swansea), playing the trumpet as the burlesque artiste Miss Mazeppa.

Other work includes numerous appearances as Principal Boy in pantomimes around the UK including Brighton Theatre Royal and Mayflower Southampton. Her catalogue of extensive concert work includes *Hello Dolly* with Carol Channing and Chita Rivera, and *My One and Only*, *The Cole Porter Centennial* at The Prince Edward Theatre, and the *Les Miserables 10th Anniversary Concert* at the Royal Albert Hall.

Jill is one of the founders of WestEnders. She loves performing with the group all over the world. She appears on all three of their albums, and their critically acclaimed release of Ivor Novello's *Valley of Song* remains the only extant recording of the show. Jill was passionate about recording it after appearing in a production at London's Finborough Arms Theatre.

The other passions in Jill's life include her environmental commitment which spans three decades. She fundamentally believes in the climate emergency we are all experiencing and that the world must take action. She belongs to several environmental groups, including working with the

Royal Parks in London to track the endangered and diminishing hedgehog population in Regents Park. With her colleague Linda Jarvis, she spent time in Borneo helping at a sanctuary for orangutans.

Jill has also appeared (with Joanna Lumley, Imelda Staunton and many others), in the British film *Finding Your Feet*.

Jill is close friends with writer Russell T Davies, and he based the character of Jill Baxter on her in his acclaimed Channel 4 drama *It's A Sin*. Jill continues to be recognised for her HIV and LGBTQ allyship and work and to that end was invited to write her memoirs. *Love from the Pink Palace* was published in July 2022 by Headline and it is Jill's sincere wish to continue paying tribute to all the brave boys who lost their lives. Many of them were colleagues and friends of the WestEnders and the entire group shares her mission. #bemorejill

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