

Theatre Royal Plymouth Re-Opens with Three Fantastic Christmas Shows!

Theatre Royal Plymouth was forced to close their doors to the public over eight months ago in March but are now set to welcome audiences back from Tuesday 08 December with their fantastic Christmas Season. They will be bringing the much-needed Christmas sparkle back to Plymouth as the only Theatre in the country offering not one, but THREE, social distanced festive shows!

2020 has proved an extremely difficult time for people across the world. TRP were forced to close their doors along with most businesses in March, with 91% of their income vanishing overnight. But after the success of their Culture Recovery Fund application and a fantastic initiative from The National Lottery, Theatre Royal Plymouth is bringing Christmas back to the city with a full socially distanced theatre programme.

The Gingerbread Man, presented by Stuff and Nonsense will be kicking off the season from Tuesday 08 December, with pantomime Robinson Crusoe starring Les Dennis, Connor McIntyre, Simon Webbe, Andy Ford and Jennie Dale raising the curtain for the first time on Saturday 12 December.

For an alternative Christmas comedy, Gonzo Moose will present The Thing That Came From Over There from Wednesday 09 December - inspired by the Horror movies of the 1950's, a fast-paced rollicking ride, mixing paranoia, suspense and hilariously gruesome deaths awaits its audiences.

Adrian Vinken, CEO at Theatre Royal Plymouth said: *"2020 has been really tough for TRP, usually drawing 360,000 people into Plymouth's city centre each year, we saw more than 90% of income disappear when we sadly closed our doors. But this re-opening marks an important moment for TRP and the city as we welcome back our audiences in a socially distanced and safe way to bring some Christmas sparkle back to our stages.*

"All of this would not have been possible without our successful Culture Recovery Fund application and the bold commitment from The National Lottery. Christmas is officially back at TRP!"



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TRP stands in the heart of the city and since its opening has boosted Plymouth and filled people's lives with theatre and creativity. In 2019/20 the economic impact of TRP on Plymouth's retail, hospitality and accommodation sectors was £43m. In the same year nearly 42,000 members of the local community took part in one of their engagement or learning programmes.

Staff, artists and practitioners at TRP are thanking all of those who have supported them during this very difficult time by donating and buying tickets, all of which help to ensure the future of the Theatre. But they still need your support to keep the magic of theatre alive in Plymouth.

For their *Appeal Over Christmas* TRP have said 'Without your support and your donation, we couldn't continue the wonderful work that we do for our community through our regular workshops, which have been a real lifeline to many vulnerable people this year. We understand that this is a difficult time for everyone, but if you can please make a donation to TRP this Christmas, we'll be here for you once this is all over'.

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For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives as the South West's principal centre for performing arts. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists.



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It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.



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The Theatre Royal Plymouth is a registered arts and education charity.
Registered charity number 284545.