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TRP Press Contact: Chris Baker, chris.baker@theatroyal.com

For Immediate Release

Theatre Royal Plymouth pilots new drama project for vulnerable and socially isolated over 50s in Plymouth

Watch a video – <https://youtu.be/DkeL6oU4OZk>

Theatre Royal Plymouth has teamed up with The Elder Tree, to launch a new drama group for people over 50.

The Elder Tree is a Plymouth-based befriending charity, supporting older people who are often vulnerable and socially isolated in Plymouth.

TRP has been working with the charity for a number of years, having hosted dance groups for some time.

This latest initiative is a 10-week pilot project with sessions held every Tuesday morning. Participants have been learning different skills and various ways of making theatre including concepts such as character development and proxemics.

Jane Pawson, Head of Learning at Theatre Royal Plymouth, said:

“These sessions are very much about building community and theatre is a brilliant way of building relationships.”

“We started this project in January just to see whether there would be any interest, and I think it’s been an overwhelming success. From the first session there was a real enthusiasm and interest and it’s just been really joyful. It’s been brilliant.”

Participant Jill said:

“I’ve always been interested in the theatre. I live alone and so it was something that sparked an interest for me. It’s absolutely great, we’re learning a lot, and of course it’s a community as well, we’ve all become really friendly.”

“During these difficult times, I think a lot of us have been quite lonely.”

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on

public.relations@theatroyal.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. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

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



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