

29 June 2022

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

For Immediate Release

Principal cast announced for *Fisherman's Friends: The Musical*, coming to Theatre Royal Plymouth in September

The producers of the world premiere production of *FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: THE MUSICAL* are delighted to announce principal cast members and additional tour venues for the UK & Ireland Tour, **setting sail from 1 September 2022 at Theatre Royal Plymouth.**

James Gaddas (*Casualty* (BBC One), *Bad Girls* (ITV), *Coronation Street* (ITV), *The Girls*, *Billy Elliot*, Monty Python's *Spamalot*, *MAMMA MIA!* (All West End) will play Jim, with Parisa Shahmir (*The Snow Queen* (The Rose Theatre), *The Last Ship* (Northern Stage, UK & Ireland Tour) and *MAMMA MIA!* (UK Tour) will play his daughter, Alwyn.

Robert Duncan (*Drop the Dead Donkey* (Channel 4), *Casualty* (BBC), *Where the Heart Is* (ITV) *Twelve Angry Men* (Garrick Theatre, UK & Ireland Tour) will play Jago with Susan Penhaligon (*Bouquet of Barbed Wire* (ITV), *Emmerdale* (ITV), *A Fine Romance* (ITV), *Three Sisters*, *The Real Thing*, *Mr Love*, *The Maintenance Man*, *Dangerous Corner* and *Of Mice and Men* (all West End) will play his wife, Maggie.

Anton Stephans (finalist in *The X Factor* (ITV), *Blues Brothers Meet Soul Sisters* (Theatre Royal, Windsor), *Porgy and Bess* (UK Tour), Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Starlight Express* (UK Tour) *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (1st UK Tour/Broadway and US Tour) will play Leadville.

Further cast to be announced.

The UK & Ireland Tour follows a highly successful, sold-out season at Hall for Cornwall, where box office records were smashed, making it the biggest selling production in Hall for Cornwall's 25-year history. The production will also make its North American premiere in Toronto this Christmas in the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: THE MUSICAL is based on the true story of the Cornish singing sensations, Fisherman's Friends, and the hit 2019 film about their life.

When a group of Cornish fishermen came together to sing the traditional working songs they'd sung for generations, they hoped to raise a few quid for charity. Nobody, least of all the fishermen, expected their story to end on the Pyramid stage of Glastonbury. Packed with sea shanties, *FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS* is a feelgood voyage about friendship, community and music.

Featuring hit shanties made famous by the band including *Keep Haulin'*, *Nelson's Blood*, *No Hopers* *Jokers & Rogues* and many more.

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: THE MUSICAL is directed by James Grieve and written by Amanda Whittington with choreography by Matt Cole, musical direction by James Findlay, set and costume design by Lucy Osborne, musical supervision and arrangements by David White, sound design by Dan Samson, lighting design by Johanna Town and casting by Jim Arnold.

The hit 2019 *FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS* movie, with a screenplay by Nick Moorcroft, Meg Leonard and Piers Ashworth delighted fans across the world with the sequel film, *Fisherman's Friends: One and All*, set to be released in the UK on 19 August 2022.

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: THE MUSICAL is produced by ROYO, Flying Fish Productions, Mighty Village, with Island Records, David Mirvish and Cornwall Playhouse Productions.

ENDS

Images can be downloaded here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzPkrb>

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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