

PRESS RELEASE

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June 25 2009

SHAKESPEARE AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE

The first event of this year's Cardiff Festival is the **Cardiff Castle Open Air Theatre** July 2-3, and the return of the ever-popular Lord Chamberlain's Men performing Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* as it was in his time, with an all-male cast, in a magical setting as entertainment for the whole family.

Currently on an extensive UK tour, the Lord Chamberlain's Men is Britain's premier all male theatre company, and a modern version of Shakespeare's original troop of the same name, for which he acted and wrote plays. They are all accomplished actors and never fail to amuse and entertain in the ideal location for an evening picnic and a glass of something chilled.

Twelfth Night is Shakespeare's magical summer comedy written four hundred years ago, a tale of cross-dressing and mistaken identity featuring well known characters Malvolio and Sir Toby Belch. There are still some tickets remaining, including a discount rate of £12.50 adults, £8.50 children if booked before July 1. Please call **029 2087 8100** or go to **www.cardiffcastle.com**

Cllr. Nigel Howells, Executive Member for Sport, Leisure and Culture said: "The Lord Chamberlain's Men are experts at really bringing Shakespeare's work to life, and in the magical setting of Cardiff Castle this is a great evening's entertainment, and a fitting way to launch this summer's Cardiff Festival."

There is more open air theatre in the Cardiff Festival courtesy of the annual **Everyman** programme in the equally scenic location of the National History Museum, St Fagans, with productions of *King Lear*, and *Toad of Toad Hall*.

(more)

(Open Air Theatre/2)

Cardiff Festival starts on July 2 and runs all the way through to the August Bank Holiday on August 31, featuring 16 events over 53 days, including annual favourites such as **Admiral Cardiff Big Weekend**, the **Welsh Proms Cardiff**, **Cardiff International Food & Drink Festival** and **WOW on the Waterfront**, along with newcomers for this year, **Horrid Henry**, **Blysh**, the **Cardiff Harbour Festival**, **Grand Medieval Melee**, **Wet Sounds**, and **The Sound of Music**
www.cardiff-festival.com

Ends

Editor's Notes

This year's Cardiff Festival events include:

2 – 3 July	Cardiff Castle Open Air Theatre
8 July - 1 Aug	Everyman Open Air Theatre Festival
9-25 July	Welsh Proms Cardiff
10-12 July	Cardiff International Food & Drink Festival
17 – 26 July	Blysh
20 July	Wet Sounds, Splott Pool
24-25 Jul	WOW on the Waterfront
26 Jul – 29 Aug	The Sound of Music at Wales Millennium Centre
26 Jul	The Red Dragon Centre Family Festival
28-29 July	The Fringe @ Cardiff Festival
30 Jul-2 Aug	Horrid Henry at the New Theatre
31 Jul-2 Aug	Admiral Cardiff Big Weekend
1 Aug	MAS Carnival
16 Aug	Classic Motorboat and Car Rally
15 – 16 Aug	Grand Medieval Melee
29-31 Aug	Cardiff Harbour Festival

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