The Winter’s Tale
Tuesday 29 September – Saturday 3 October
Presented by Northern Broadsides in partnership with Harrogate Theatres
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Conrad Nelson
Designed by Dawn Allsopp

Acclaimed Yorkshire theatre company Northern Broadsides return to Oldham this autumn with a daringly theatrical and heartbreakingly human new staging of Shakespeare’s tale of reconciliation, love and forgiveness – The Winter’s Tale.

Directed and featuring Northern Broadsides’ Resident Director Conrad Nelson and created in partnership with Harrogate Theatre, this is the first time in the company’s 23 year history that the company will have staged The Winter’s Tale.

The play opens on New Year’s Eve in 1999; the Millennium bells ring out with hope for a new century. But a lower, ominous note underscores the festivities and the characters are quickly plunged into darkness. Seized by sudden, irrational jealousy, King Leontes falsely accuses his pregnant Queen of infidelity with his closest friend, who flees without answering the accusation. Leontes then proclaims his newborn daughter a bastard and condemns the innocent to death. But the child, Perdita, survives.

What follows is a beautiful and beguiling love story where the cold hand of winter gives way to the brightness and vibrancy of spring.

Northern Broadsides is a unique theatre company with a true northern voice. Their work is characterized by theatrical inventiveness and large ensemble casts of multi-talented and charismatic northern actors who perform in their natural accents.
Director Conrad Nelson takes the role of Leontes, in his first stage role for Northern Broadsides since his acclaimed performance as Iago opposite Lenny Henry in Othello in 2009.


They will joined by **Hannah Barrie** (Macbeth, Chester Performs); **Ruth Alexander-Rubin** (Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Northern Broadsides); **Vanessa Schofield** (The Borrowers, New Vic Theatre); **Jordon Kemp**; **Michael Hugo** (Around the World in 80 Days, New Vic Theatre); **Andy Cryer** (King Lear, Northern Broadsides); **Andrew Whitehead** (She Stoops to Conquer, Northern Broadsides) and **Jessica Dyas** (I Don’t Want to Set the World on Fire, New Vic Theatre).

Northern Broadsides’ last visit to the Coliseum saw them win the Manchester Theatre Award for Best New Play 2014 for An August Bank Holiday Lark.

- Ends

Notes to Editor:

The Winter’s Tale runs at Oldham Coliseum Theatre from Tuesday 29 September – Saturday 3 October
Tickets can be booked on 0161 624 2829 or at www.coliseum.org.uk
Link to production page: http://www.coliseum.org.uk/plays/the-winters-tale/

For further information, images, or for interview / press review ticket requests, please contact Shelly Ramsdale on 0161 785 7012 or shellyramsdale@coliseum.org.uk

The Oldham Coliseum Theatre is a cultural and educational charity that works with over 150,000 individuals per year.

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Northern Broadsides

Northern Broadsides is a unique theatre company with a true northern voice. Its work is characterised by a high degree of theatrical inventiveness and robust performances from a large ensemble cast of multi-talented and charismatic northern actors who all perform in their natural voices. For the past 22
years, it has delighted audiences here and abroad with a growing classic repertoire that has won the company many awards.

Harrogate Theatres
Harrogate Theatres produce and present a programme of quality drama, dance, comedy, music and festivals across 4 venues that celebrate the diversity and richness of British and world cultures, whilst identifying opportunities through its Development Hub that challenge audiences and support artists.

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Tour Dates

18 - 26 September at 7.30pm (Mat: 26 Sep at 2.30pm) Harrogate Theatre
Box Office 01423 502 116 or www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk

29 Sept – 3 Oct at 7.30pm (Mat: 30 Sep & 3 Oct at 2.30pm) - Oldham Coliseum Theatre
Box Office: 0161 6242829 or www.coliseum.org.uk

6 - 10 October at 7.30pm (Mat: 7 Oct at 2pm & 10 Oct at 3pm) - Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds
Box Office: 01284 769505 or www.theatreroyal.org.uk

13 -17 Oct at 7.30pm (no eve performance on 17 Oct -instead1.30pm) - Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield
Box Office: 01484 430528 www.thelbt.org

20 – 24 October at 7.30pm (Mat: 22 Oct at 1.30pm & 24 Oct at 2.30pm) - Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough
Box Office 01723 370545 or www.sjt.uk.com

27 – 31 October at 7.30pm (Mat: 29 & 31 Oct at 2pm) - Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham
Box Office 01242 572573 or www.everymantheatre.org.uk

3 – 7 November at 7.30pm (Mat: 7 Nov at 2.15pm) - New Vic, Newcastle-under-Lyme
Box Office 01782 717962 or www.newvictheatre.org.uk

10 – 14 November at 7.30pm (Mat: 11 & 14 Nov at 2pm) - The Dukes Theatre, Lancaster
Box Office 01524 598500 or www.dukes-lancaster.org

17 – 21 November at 7.30pm (18 Nov at 5.30pm; Mat: 19 Nov at 1.30pm and 21 Nov at 2pm) - Liverpool Playhouse
Box Office 0151 7094776 or www.everymanplayhouse.co.uk

24 – 28 November at 7.30pm (Mat: 28 Nov at 2.30pm) - The Viaduct, Halifax
Box Office 01422 255 266 or www.deanclough.com