Dear Friend of Shakespeare North

Since we were last in touch we have been working hard to get the project to a 'construction ready' stage. In addition, off-site fabrication of the historic oak frame, which is a fundamental element of the design, has started.

You may like to visit our new website and we'll be back in touch soon with news of how the Shakespeare North Playhouse is progressing!



But in the meantime, I'm sending this quick message to let you know about the Shakespeare North Community Symposium next Saturday, 23rd November, at St Mary's Church Hall, Prescot, L34 1LA, from 11.00 am – 5.00 pm: 'Make *passionate my sense of hearing': Shakespeare North, Voice and Sound*. We are very lucky – and quite honoured – to have a line-up of exciting local and nationally-celebrated speakers who are experts on Voice, Language and Sound.

This event has been advertised quite widely across Knowsley, but I've heard from various people that news of it hasn't reached everybody. So I thought, even though I'm afraid it's late notice, that I should let you know that there are still tickets remaining, if you are interested! Here are the details of the event:

To book tickets:

Note: the morning session runs from 11am – 1.30pm and the afternoon session runs from 2.30pm – 5pm.

Tickets cost £5 morning only; £5 afternoon only; or £8 for the full day (this includes a light snack lunch for morning attendees and afternoon tea for afternoon attendees or both for people coming for the whole day.) There will also be a bookstall selling books written by the speakers.

Tickets are available from:

- Jessie and Co, 11 Leyland Street, Prescot, L34 5QP
- or by email from djdavies1942@yahoo.co.uk

Full programme

Morning

11.00 – 11.15am	Welcome and Introduction by Ian Tabbron (CEO Shakespeare North Playhouse) and Elspeth Graham (Trustee, Shakespeare North and Chair of Communities Group)
11.15 – 12.00	Jane Boston and Kathy Dacre on 'Voice in Shakespearean Theatre'
12.00 – 12.20pm	Coffee break
12.20 – 1.15pm	Tony Crowley on 'Merseyside Language'
1.15 – 1.30pm	Sara Liber Salloum on 'Playing and Re-creating Early Music'. Sara will also play lute music during the lunch break.
LUNCH	

Afternoon

2.30 – 3.15pm	Carole Arnold on 'Prescot Loves to Talk'
3.15 – 3.35pm	Tea break
3.35 – 5.00pm	David Crystal and Ben Crystal on 'Shakespeare's Original Pronunciation'

Speakers, Actors and Musicians

Jane Boston is Principal Lecturer in Voice Studies at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London and Head of The International Network for Voice. As well as having extensive international experience as a voice consultant and as a performer, she is a voice practitioner, actor trainer, researcher, performer, poet, singer and guitarist. Her book *Voice: Readings in Theatre Practice* came out early this year.

Professor Kathy Dacre grew up in Prescot before teaching performing arts for over thirty years in conservatoire colleges in both the USA and the UK, including New York University, Vassar College, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and the University of London. Then, as Head of the Centre for Learning and Teaching at Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, Kathy led the College in all aspects of learning, teaching and curriculum development. As a Trustee of Shakespeare North, Kathy celebrates her Prescotian roots.

Tony Crowley, a Liverpudlian, is Professor of English at the University of Leeds. His work on language covers a number of fields, including: the politics of language; the

interrelations between language and history in Britain and Ireland (Renaissance to the present); language and power; language and literature; the use of 'non-standard' language in literature; the language and literature of Liverpool (1850-the present). He has written two important books on Liverpool language: *Scouse: A Social and Cultural History* and *The Liverpool English Dictionary*.

Sara Liber Salloum is a lute and archlute player who is currently studying for a Master's degree in musical performance at Oxford University. She is among the first to study the lute at Oxford University since the English lutenists of the Renaissance. Sara was initially a guitar student at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), but her great passion and natural affinity for Renaissance music led her to become the RNCM's very first principal-study lutenist.

Carole Arnold is Head teacher at Evelyn Primary School in Prescot and initiated the Prescot Loves to Talk project which aims to make Prescot the place where talk is everywhere, where everyone chats. In her talk, she will describe the exciting work that she, teachers and children from Evelyn Primary School have been doing.

David Crystal is a linguist and, as a professor of linguistics, has written on an enormously wide range of topics related to language. He is, in particular, an expert on how the English language, in its different dialects, sounded in the past. David has authored many books, but amongst those most relevant to the theme are: **Shakespeare's Words: Think on My Words**; **Pronouncing Shakespeare**; and the **Oxford Dictionary of Original Shakespearean Pronunciation**.

Ben Crystal, David's son, is an actor, author, and producer. He has worked on original Shakespeare performance practices and, with his father, on Original Pronunciation (OP). Together, David and Ben offer insights into the differences that occur when Shakespeare is performed in OP rather than with modern English pronunciation. Ben has his own Shakespearean theatre company, Passion in Practice, and has continued to collaborate with Shakespeare's Globe and many other companies and performance and musical artists in the UK and overseas. He has also written numerous books on Shakespeare, including: *Shakespeare on Toast* and the *Illustrated Dictionary of Shakespeare*.

I do hope people will be interested in coming along and hearing this wonderful line up of speakers!

With all best wishes

Elspeth Graham

(Chair, Shakespeare North Communities Group)