

From Cowshed to Catalogue:

Pentabus Theatre Company Archives

Celebrating 40 years of rural theatre

Rachael Griffin, Managing Director





About Us

Our vision is to be the nation's rural theatre company.

Our mission is to develop and produce quality new theatre about the contemporary rural world. To tour the country with plays that have local impact and national resonance. To turn up in peoples' village halls, theatres and digital backyards, connecting audiences nationwide.



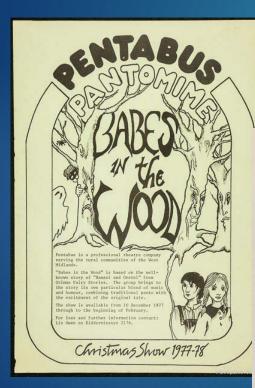


- Why Archive?
- Who Cares?
- The Project
- Access
- Relevance
- Outcomes
- Ripple Effect

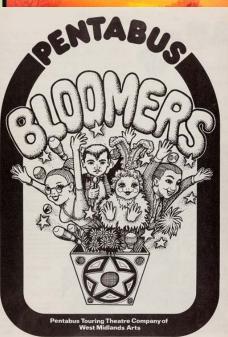


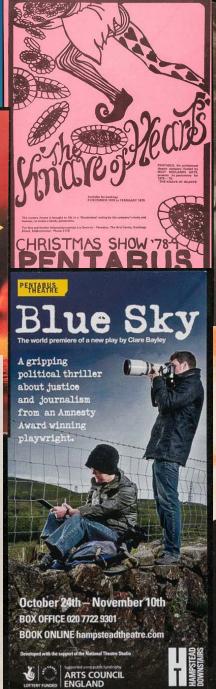


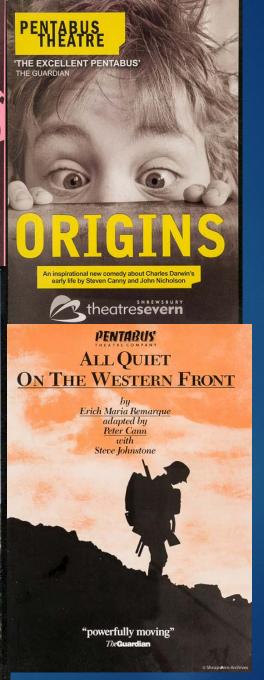
Why Archive?













Who Cares?





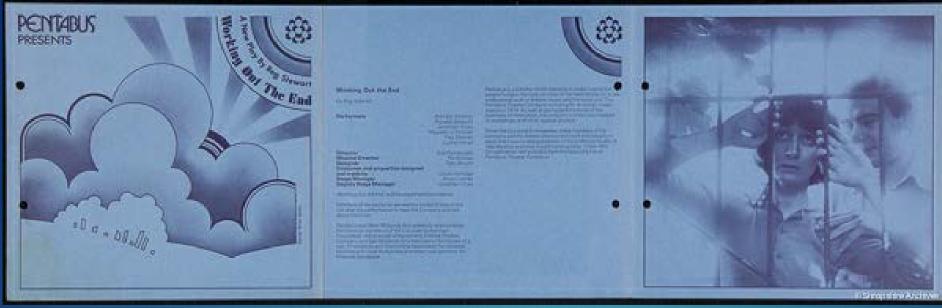
The Project had 3 key strands:

- Sourcing new material
- Archiving and cataloguing the collection
- Volunteering

We worked in partnership with Shropshire Council's Archive Service and Senior Archivist Sal Mager, as well as Pentabus and Shropshire Council archive volunteers



New Material







New Material





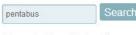
Archiving and cataloguing the Collection

Catalogue

- X8872: PENTABUS COLLECTION (1973-2014)
- X8872/1: Business records (1974-2014)
- X8872/2: Show records (1974-2012)
- X8872/2/1: Magic Map, Lost in London and Working Out the End (Aug Nov 1974)
- X8872/2/2: The Charlie Chaplin Show and Bloomers with The Terry Bull C
- X8872/2/3: A Cottage in the Country, Heads and Tales (1976)
- X8872/2/4: Dr Klaw's Amazing Medicine Show and Komic Kuts (1977)
- X8872/2/5: Babes in the Wood (Dec 1977- Feb 1978)
- X8872/2/6: Schools Out (Sep Oct 1978)
- X8872/2/7: Rubbisch yn Latwegia (1978)
- X8872/2/8: The Knave of Hearts (Dec 1978 Feb 1979)
- X8872/2/9: One Over the Eight (1979)
- X8872/2/10: The Last Straw Show (1979)

http://search.shropshirehistory.org.uk/





Search Our Collections







Senior Archivist Sal stated of her time with us:

"It's been a delight working with Pentabus to help bring this fascinating collection to life.

The project will, I hope, not only ensure the longterm preservation of this unique record spanning 40 years of Pentabus, but also help to generate interest in its potential to throw new light on the development of the performing arts in this period."



Search Our Collections

ARCHIVES MUSEUMS LOCAL HISTORY ARCHAEOLOGY MAP IMAGE CLOUD OPEN DATA

-Search-

Keyword

Search

Back to search results



72/6/14 2/6/14

tabus in garh,



Larger Image











Volunteers







Volunteer Mike has said of his time with the project:

'it's been fascinating and fun to see the past 40 years come to life, and frustrating to encounter the gaps. Its gratifying when some of those gaps are filled, definitely not 'shooting the past' - hopefully a net with more threads than holes! I feel very privileged to have been involved



Access

- Physical collection at Shropshire Archives
- Online catalogue via Shropshire Archives
- Past productions section of Pentabus website
- Universities made aware of collection
- Local press release

PENTABUS THEATRE COMPANY

Home About us Current productions Part productions

Blog News Sign up to our mailing list

Past Productions

Pentabus turns 40 in 2014

Over the past 4 decades the company has delivered high quality theatre to local and national rural communities.

You can visit our archive collection at its brand new home in Shrewsbury at the Shropshire Archives. Through the process of cataloguing archivist Sal and volunteers tilks and Stephen have discovered that Pentabus has commissioned well over 150 shows, worked with over 47 writers, toured to nearly 350 different venues and delivered in excess of 1000 performances... and we're still counting. You can read more about the project fiers.

The archive contains our company history and a show by show archive record consisting of scripts, photos, promotional materials, newsletters and reports. You can find out how to view the collection by visiting the archive service website here: http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/archives/ or search the catalogue online here:

http://search.shropshirehistory.org.uk/. You can view what is held within the collection here.

We want to thank the <u>Business Archives Council</u> for providing funding to ensure our archive is preserved for future generations.

More details of our past productions can be found before. This is a new feature and new material is being added all the time - check back soon for more!



The late 70's Penta-bus



PENTABUS RURAL THEATRE COMPANY

Access



In This Place







Tour Dates

Pentabus Theatre Company's ground-breaking production in This Place enjoyed a sell-out success in September 2013.

Written by Lydia Adetunji and Frances Brett, walkers and theatre-goers from across the county and beyond donned boots, audio headsets (and anoraks!) and headed off from The Bog Centre near the Stiperstones, to enjoy a walking adventure with stunning Shropshire views. The audio theatre adventure was experienced by over 500 audience members and ran at at 97% capacity. Over 25% of all audiences were new not only to Pentabus but to theatre going in general.

Audience member Fiona Gomersall from Shropshire Wildlife Trust (and one of the original contributors for the interviews that inspired the show) described in This Place as "beautiful, evocative, haunting and wistful - and it's so great to see such an impressive range of ages and ethnicities in the audience."

Follow links to the right to find out more about the show and its team.

Creative

Find out some more about the creative people behind In This Place

Writer

Find out some more about the writer of In This Place

Cast

Find out some more about the cast of In This Place







Look differently. Hear differently. Be In This Place.

A walking adventure in the Shropshire Hills

This project from acclaimed Pentabus Theatre offered a thrilling new way to explore the Shropshire Hills. Experienced through headphones whilst following a circular walk from the Bog Visitor Centre, the new play immersed audiences into a world of stories and events connected to the landscape, a compelling and inspiring experience about what shapes our relationship to where we are.

As walkers moved through landscapes ranging from open fields with vast skies, dappled woodland and stoney outcrops coloured with purple heather and winberries, they experienced the call of the curlew, the tinkle of tea cups and the clatter of horses' hooves as a soundscape backdrop to the narrative. The stories were brought to life by a cast of 12 professional actors (with Olivier and Carlton Hobbs winners amongst them).

ENTABUS RURAL THEATRE COMPANY

Relevance





Today's #throwbackthursday One Over The Eight from @pentabustheatre in 1979 #Pentabusat40









View

Theresa Heskins @Theresa... 6d
@PentabusTheatre: oh, those
posters on the right bring back
such fond memories.
pic.twitter.com/4ngXPeaRq0





Outcomes

Discovered:

- 150 shows, 47 writers, 350 venues visited, over 1,000 performances and still counting...
- Our touring history mapped in detail show by show
- Connections to old Pentabus company members
- 5 volunteers contributing over 250 hours to the project

Created:

- A physical archive collection
- An online archive record on Shropshire Archives website
- A past productions part of our website



Outcomes

Delivered:

- An archive talk at Shropshire Archives
- A 40th birthday party
- A 40th profile raising leaflet

Legacy:

- University connections
- Interviews and company history
- Still plugging the gaps....

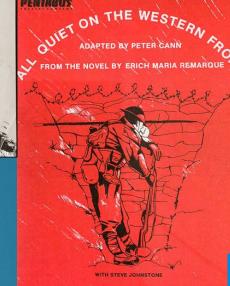


PENTABUS RURAL THEATRE COMPANY





Questions?







AVAILABLE FOR BOOKINGS 27 SEPTEMBER to 21 OCTOBER 1978.

Contact: Liz Owen , Pentabus, The Arts Centre, Exchanga Stre Kidderminster, Phone 2176

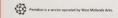


SCHOOL'S OUT is the first play by Percabus specially written 6 young people. It was finded by the group after a period of research within we informitised a cross section of young people and adults who work prings there into direct content with young people. It is mo simble for 14-1 by and also.

Using original contemporary neck music, performed by a line election band, the story follows a yearing set, lanks, through the paried aftering shook, the story follows a yearing set, lanks, through set parts are fittened. The environment which are fitt by vector people designed in terms of the set of the se

After the performance members of the Pentalus will talk reformall to the audience about the questions raised in the play.

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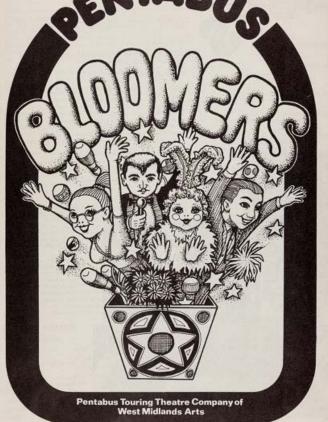




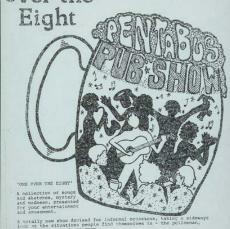
GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS

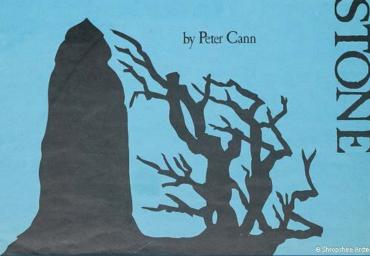


PENTABUS



One over the Eight SINGING





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