

Edinburgh panto stars keep it local

It is all about swashbuckling adventure and high flying at the Festival Theatre this December where the Pantomime Adventures of Peter Pan will play until Hogmanay.

Join the boy who never ages in a new telling of an old tale complete with special effects, stunning sets, colourful costumes and a lot of laughs and fun.

The trip to Neverland is one which will captivate audiences young and old with the well-known cast which includes Allan Stewart appearing as his 25th panto dame, Grant Stott as the big bad Captain Hook who fights off Jock the Croc, and Jordan Young as Smee. Clare Gray makes a welcome return to the panto and Britain's Got Talent finalists Flawless will form the Pirate Crew.



Three members of the cast are locals – Kieran Lynch (23) is from Portobello and plays Peter Pan. He said: “I went to the panto since I was 5 years old and watched Allan and Grant on stage. Now getting to be in it, in the rehearsal room, getting to fly to Neverland with them is amazing.”

Kieran actually only went to dancing classes to get back at his wee sister Chloe, and until then played football. He said that “everyone he has ever met” along with Chloe and his

parents will all be at the Festival Theatre to cheer him on in his first big character role of his career. He said: "The best bit is the energy. I am having so much fun – flying is so exciting."

Rebecca Stenhouse who is photographed top right above plays Tink and told The Edinburgh Reporter she used to visit the panto with her school – St Mary's RC in Leith – each year. Rebecca was Kieran's dance teacher and they were members of the same amateur company at one stage. She was very clear that with a little pixie dust and some happy thoughts she can actually fly. She said that staying with her folks while she is here is a definite advantage as well as looking forward to time at the Christmas market and seeing friends.

Robyn Whyte is a new graduate from the Urdang Academy in London, and studied at the Central School of Ballet in South Queensferry. She previously appeared in the ensemble in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang with Jason Manford at the Festival Theatre in 2016. She said that on the first night of the panto run her family had booked out the entire front row of the stalls to give her their support. She said: "It is lovely to be here in Edinburgh. I really have been made to feel welcome by all the cast."

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Pic Greg Macvean Capital Theatres – Press launch of Peter Pan Panto at Festival Theatre