

✉ e-mail your reports to tegan.chapman@northeast-press.co.uk



WEEKENDER

It's one for the road for revamped theatre

A BOROUGH theatre director is looking forward to presenting the first play in the group's refurbished theatre.

Director Hayley Moy is preparing to stage the first play of Tynemouth Priory Theatre's new season, *One For the Road*, by welcoming new audiences to have a look around the theatre's new foyer.

The play, written by Willy Russell, is a comedy set in the north of England, and is the first directed by Hayley.

With a number of 'new' elements to celebrate, the theatre is looking forward to the 2011-

12 season and is delighted to open with this particular play.

"*One For the Road* will be a hit with anyone who is a Willy Russell fan," said Hayley.

"It's an hilarious class-based comedy which has an earthy charm, very memorable characters and a tiny bit of choice language.

"It only features four cast members, three of whom have appeared in the play before – they have very much enjoyed reprising roles they played together several years ago but they've still had to do lots of work learning their lines."

The fourth member of the cast, acting alongside David Hakin, Jo Cosgrove and Ali Broughton, is Hayley's husband Dave.

Rehearsals for the play have been taking place throughout the summer, alongside extensive building work for the theatre's brand new foyer.

Previously featuring a small entrance, waiting area and ticket booth, the new foyer has 'borrowed' some space from the rear of the theatre's



Cast members David Hakin, Jo Cosgrove, Ali Broughton and Dave Moy.

auditorium to provide more space for audience members to enjoy before, during the intervals and after each performance.

Chairman of the theatre, Christine Coaster, said: "We are delighted to have completed the building work in such good time to enable the first audiences of the 2011-12 season to enjoy its benefits.

"All of our members are

very proud of the theatre and I'm very excited for everyone to see the new foyer after all the planning, preparation and fundraising that has gone into the project in recent year."

The show opens on Monday, September 26, and runs until Saturday, October 1.

Tickets for *One For the Road* are available by calling (0191) 292 9292 or e-mailing priory.bookings@sky.com