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## Open's fundraising climb challenge

Local businesses are being urged to get involved in a climbing challenge to raise funds for OPEN Youth Trust.

The young people of OPEN are organising the Sponsored Climbing Challenge 2012 with the aim of raising £5,000.

Businesses are being encouraged to book a slot for their staff to take part in the fundraiser which will take place at OPEN in Bank Plain, Norwich, between Tuesday, August 14, and Friday, August 17.

Individuals of all ages can also take part. The London Challenge, for ages seven to 12, is a team attempt to climb the height of London's 10 most iconic buildings. The Skyscraper Challenge, for ages 11 to 19, is a group attempt to climb the height of the 10 tallest skyscrapers in the world. The 10K Challenge is for people aged over 16.

■ **Companies or individuals interested in getting involved should call OPEN on 01603 763111. To donate funds to OPEN visit [www.justgiving.com/oyt](http://www.justgiving.com/oyt)**

# The stage is set for the second Hostry Festival

By Emma Knights

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The stage is being set for a celebration of the arts at Norwich Cathedral.

The second Hostry Festival will take place from October 26 until November 4, and the 2012 programme promises audiences an array of events ranging from the world premiere of a sequel to Shakespeare's Hamlet to an afternoon with Norfolk authors to children's theatre and staged readings of newly commissioned works from the county.

Stash Kirkbride, the festival's artistic director, said the festival would be a great showcase of creativity in Norfolk, with more than 90pc of the programme being commissioned work from the county.

He said: "It is about being made in Norfolk and celebrating Norfolk. This year is all about pushing the boundaries creatively. It is about specially commissioned works and community and seeing really great performances in one of Norfolk's most prestigious and welcoming venues."

Topping the festival bill is a newly-created sequel to Shakespeare's Hamlet. Called Hamlet: The Undiscovered Country, it is written by Mr Kirkbride and festival co-producer Peter Beck.

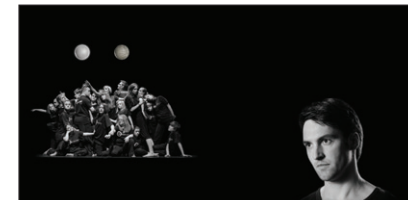
Mr Kirkbride said: "It is a brand new story which is a sequel with a major twist, taking some very familiar characters and placing them in very unfamiliar surroundings."

Before each of the Hamlet performances the inclusive theatre company Total Ensemble will perform a piece of movement theatre exploring themes from the Bard's tragic masterpiece. Other highlights are the staged readings of A Visit to the Villa Edouard VII by Julian Maclaren Ross and Voices: Moments from the Lives of Others by Adrian Drew.

Five Marys Waiting, a new play by David Banks, is also being presented as a staged reading in a double bill with a



**READY FOR THE FESTIVAL:** Stash Kirkbride, artistic director, getting ready for the Hostry Festival at Norwich Cathedral; Right, Tom Harper, who is playing Hamlet in Hamlet: The Undiscovered Country. PHOTOS: DENISE BRADLEY/MATT DARTFORD



concert starring cellist Clare O'Connell and violinist Marcus Barcham-Stevens.

Younger audiences can enjoy watching Thumbelina presented by Norwich Puppet Theatre and also Tilly the Talespinner and Obee Joyful.

Literary fans can enjoy an afternoon with Norfolk authors Simon Gough, Sarah Ridgard, Elspeth Barker, Dennison Smith, Doug Stroggins, Stash Kirkbride and Peter Beck. There will also be a 2012 Norfolk Arts Awards to celebrate creative talent in Norfolk.

The closing event will be a free

screening of the classic Hamlet film starring Laurence Olivier.

Mr Kirkbride established the festival last year along with Peter Barrow, Peter Beck and Rebecca Chapman. It is now supported by a number of local businesses.

The principal sponsor of the festival is Fosters Solicitors.

■ **For more details, including dates and times of events and ticket prices, visit [www.hostryfestival.org](http://www.hostryfestival.org).**

■ **Tickets can also be bought at the Cathedral Shop and by calling 01603 218450.**



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## Avanti

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Sun 5th Aug	Beth Chatto Gardens & Walton-on-the-Naze	£22.00
Tues 7th Aug	Hatfield House & Gardens	£33.00
Wed 8th Aug	Bury St Edmunds	£12.00
Wed 15th Aug	Springfields Shopping Village	£14.00
Fri 17th Aug	Lincoln Cathedral Flower Festival	£24.50
Fri 17th Aug	Lincoln - travel only	£17.00
Wed 22nd Aug	The Wizard Of Oz (2:30 pm show)	£50.00
Wed 22nd Aug	Singin' in the Rain (3:00 pm show)	£55.00
Thur 23rd Aug	Fakenham & Wells	£13.00
Tues 28th Aug	Cromer Pier Show (2:30pm)	£27.50

### HOLIDAYS

#### PAIGNTON & DEVON HIGHLIGHTS

Marine Hotel, Paignton

Thursday 20th Sept. to Monday 24th Sept. - £310.00

Includes dinner, bed & breakfast (4 nights - with entertainment),

Bicton Park, steam railway & ferry journey from Paignton to Dartmouth.

Also visits to Plymouth, Dartmoor, Exmouth, Sidmouth

#### THE LAKES & LIGHTS, ST ANNE'S & SOUTHPORT

Clifton Park Hotel, Lytham St Anne's

Friday 28th September to Monday 1st October - £230.00

Includes dinner, bed & breakfast (3 nts - two nights with entertainment).

Full day tour to the Lake District including a boat trip on Lake Windermere.

Visits to Southport & Churchtown and evening excursion to Blackpool Illuminations.

Instead of excursions you could have one or two free days in Blackpool

Prices shown are per person sharing a twin / double room

\*\*\* *Thursford Christmas Spectacular - dates & prices now available \*\*\**

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## Sasha puts her torch to good use

An Olympic torchbearer has put her torch to good use, by raising money for her swimming club.

Sasha Dyke, **right**, carried the torch in Aylsham, after being nominated by her mother for her positive attitude and enthusiasm, training early in the mornings before school.

The 12-year-old, from Costessey, swims competitively with the City of Norwich Swimming Club and supports younger club members too.

At the club's recent Mid Summer Madness Meet, the Wymondham College student took along her torch with the idea of charging a small amount for people to have their photograph taken with it, with all monies raised going towards the swimming club.

The torch proved to be very popular and raised £117 for the club.

