

TOWNSEND PRODUCTIONS in association with the official Shrewsbury 24 Campaign,
Harrogate Theatre and Leighton Buzzard Library Theatre

United We Stand

A new play by Neil Gore

Musical Director

John Kirkpatrick

"A striking piece of work..." – *The Observer*

"...not just a good night out, but a vital piece
of recent history" – *Herald Scotland*

★★★★★ "...excellent...a bravura display of
folk theatre" – *Morning Star*

★★★★ "Passionately delivered..."
– *Liverpool Echo*

★★★★ "...intriguing, engaging and thoroughly
entertaining from first to last" – *Click Liverpool*

The Story of Des Warren, Ricky Tomlinson and the Shrewsbury 24

Bierkeller Theatre, Bristol

Bristol Bierkeller, All Saints' St., Bristol, BS1 2NA

Monday 16 – Tuesday 17 February 2015 at 7.30pm

Tickets: £10/£5 (unwaged/students/senior citizens)

Box office: 0117 9302464

Book online: bierkellertheatre.fatsoma.com/events/115173 (Mon)

bierkellertheatre.fatsoma.com/events/115174 (Tues)

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



and public funding by

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

United We Stand

A new play by Neil Gore
Director – Louise Townsend
Musical Director – John Kirkpatrick
Designer – Amy Yardley

Townsend Productions presents **UNITED WE STAND**, a powerful new play based on the true story of one of the most turbulent industrial battles – the 1972 Builders' Strike.

By the 1970s the UK's building companies were making millions re-building the country, whilst building workers faced the most dangerous working conditions and poorest wages of any trade. In the summer of '72, for twelve weeks, 300,000 building workers launched their industry's first national all-out strike to end cash "lump" wages and seek better pay by using the controversial tactic of 'Flying Pickets'. Five months after the apparent success of the strike, which had enraged the construction industry and government, 24 builders in North Wales were charged with offences including conspiracy and affray, and were prosecuted at Shrewsbury Crown Court in 1973. They became known as "The Shrewsbury 24", and three of them were jailed, including building workers Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson.

Combining Townsend Productions' entertaining theatrical style developed through their previous productions with 1970s popular and political songs arranged by renowned folk musician John Kirkpatrick, **UNITED WE STAND** tells the story behind the dispute in a way that is both compelling and thought-provoking.

The events surrounding the strike are still making headlines to this day, and forty two years on, the high-profile Shrewsbury 24 Campaign, led by picket turned actor, Ricky Tomlinson, is still seeking to overturn the unjust prosecution of the 24 building workers.

Reviews of Townsend Productions' previous productions

We Will Be Free!

"MUST SEE: Grand Populist theatre... determined to keep history alive."
– **The Stage**

★★★★★ "Excellent ... a five star triumph!" – **The Morning Star**

★★★★ "Vigorous and engaging" – **WhatsOnStage**

The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists

★★★★ "Tremendous – **The Times**

"Strong and robust... you'll leave the theatre and join the struggle!"
Ken Loach (Film Director)

10/10 "Sensational" – **Liverpool Echo**

SPRING 2015 TOUR DATES

JANUARY 2015

- 23-24 **The Lowry, Salford.** 0843 208 6000
Groups Line: 0843 208 6003. www.thelowry.com
30 **The Civic, Barnsley.** Box Office: 01226 327 000
www.barnsleycivic.co.uk
31 **The Place, Bedford.** Box Office 01234 718112
www.theplacebedford.org.uk

FEBRUARY 2015

- 5 **The Hat Factory, Luton.** 01582 878100
www.lutonculture.com/hat-factory
6 **Bridport Arts Centre.** 01308 424204
www.bridport-arts.com
7 **The Light House, Poole.** Box office:
0844 4068666 www.lighthousepoole.co.uk
13 **Dorchester Arts Centre.** 01305266926
www.dorchesterarts.org.uk
14 **Marine theatre, Lyme Regis.** 01297 442394
www.marinetheatre.com
18 **Crampton Theatre, Chelmsford.**
01245 606505 boxoffice@chelmsford.gov.uk
chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres
19 **Diss Corn Hall.** 01379 652241
www.disscornhall.co.uk
20 **Medway Downs.** TBC
21 **Arden Theatre Faversham.** 01227 771121
dantleingham@gmail.com
24-25 **The Castle, Wellingborough.** 01933 270 007
www.thecastle.org.uk
26 **Derby Guildhall.** 01332255800
www.derbyville.co.uk
27 **The Maltings Theatre & Cinema, Berwick On Tweed.**
01289 330 999 www.maltingsberwick.co.uk
28 **Miners Community Arts and Music, Manchester.**
0161 682 6253 www.theminers.org.uk
5 **The Met, Bury.** 0161 761 2216 www.themet.biz

MARCH 2015

- 6 **The Georgian Theatre, Richmond.** 01748 82525
www.tickets.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk
7 **Helmsley Arts Centre.**
01439 771700 www.helmsleyarts.co.uk
10 **Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough**
<https://www.sjt.uk.com>,
Box Office 01723 370541, tickets@sjt.uk.com
13 **Quorn Grange Hotel, Leicestershire.** 01509 412167
www.quorngrangehotel.co.uk/events-and-offers
14 **Lansdown Hall & Gallery, Stroud.** Subscription
Rooms: 01453 760 900
17 **Hull Truck Theatre.** 01482 323638
www.hulltruck.co.uk
18 **Harrogate Theatre.** 01423 502 116
www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk
19 **The New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich.**
01473 295900 www.wolseytheatre.co.uk
20 **Nottingham Arts Theatre.** 0115 947 5925
www.nottingham-theatre.co.uk/
24 **Oxford Brookes Student Union.**
Tickets: £5.00 / Pay on the door
25 **Haverhill Arts Centre.** 01440714140
www.haverhillartscentre.co.uk
26 **Hertford Theatre.** 01992 531500
www.hertfordtheatre.com
28 **Chatfield Theatre, Ellesmere Port.**
0151 339 2907 or 07947 343229
31 **Carriage Works, Leeds.** 0113 224 3801
www.carriageworkstheatre.org.uk

 @UWSstour

 www.facebook.com/UWSshow

www.townsendproductions.org.uk

Phone: 07949 635 910



www.townsendproductions.org.uk

"TOWNSEND PRODUCTIONS...making a name for delivering, vivid, politically committed theatre" – *The Observer*