

# PRESS RELEASE

the Lions part

I will roar that I will doe any mans heart good to heare me.

for immediate release

# TWELFTH NIGHT

*the Lions part* invites everyone to their 22<sup>nd</sup> TWELFTH NIGHT CELEBRATION beginning on the Bankside near Shakespeare's Globe and continuing by procession to the historic George Inn in Southwark.

**A collective celebration of the New Year, TWELFTH NIGHT mixes ancient Midwinter seasonal customs and contemporary festivity**

**On Bankside by Shakespeare's Globe  
Sunday 8th January 2017  
at 1.45pm**

## THE HOLLY MAN FROM THE THAMES

To herald the celebration, the extraordinary **HOLLY MAN**, the winter guise of the **GREEN MAN** (from our pub signs, pagan myths and folklore), decked in fantastic green garb and evergreen foliage, is piped over the River Thames, with the devil Beelzebub.

## THE BANKSIDE WASSAILS

With the crowd by Shakespeare's Globe, led by the **BANKSIDE MUMMERS** and our London Beadle, the **HOLLY MAN** will 'bring in the green' and toast or '**WASSAIL**' the people, the River Thames and the Globe (an old tradition to encourage good growth).

## THE MUMMERS' PLAY

The **MUMMERS** will then process to the **BANKSIDE JETTY**, and perform the traditional 'freestyle' St. George **FOLK COMBAT PLAY**, featuring the Turkey Sniper, Clever Legs, the Old 'Oss and many others, dressed in spectacular costumes. The play is full of wild verse and boisterous action, a time-honoured part of the season recorded since the Crusades.

## KING BEAN AND QUEEN PEA

**CAKES** distributed at the end of the play have a **BEAN** and a **PEA** hidden in two of them. Those from the crowd who find them are hailed **KING** and **QUEEN** for the day and crowned with ceremony. They then lead the people through the streets to the historic **GEORGE INN**, Southwark, for a fine warming-up with the **FOWLERS TROOP**, **STORYTELLING**, the **KISSING WISHING TREE**, **DANCING** and **MULLED WINE**.

**TWELFTH NIGHT is FREE, FUN and PHOTO-FRIENDLY for ALL THE FAMILY**

###Ends###

info@thelionspart.co.uk [www.thelionspart.co.uk](http://www.thelionspart.co.uk)

Reg. Charity No: 108312 • Patron: Mark Rylance

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## Media Enquiries

For more information, please contact [info@thelionspart.co.uk](mailto:info@thelionspart.co.uk) / 07736150225

## Notes to editors

1. **TWELFTH NIGHT** is free to attend for everyone.

2. **the Lions part** is a group of professional performers who come together every year to celebrate the changing seasons and explore our English heritage. Performances often involve local artists & community groups making costumes, banners and props, often using recycled or unwanted materials. The company has strong links with storytellers, musicians, dancers, street performers, re-enactors, costume-makers, conservation groups & food producers.

3. **Trinity Tide**, the Thames Waterman Cutter is owned and managed by the Corporation of Trinity House, home to the General Lighthouse Authority. Trinity Tide is a beautiful blue cutter with the grey canopy. She is 34 feet long with a beam of 4 feet and 6 inches, and in keeping with the traditional rowing concept it has fixed seats, for up to six rowers, a Cox and passenger. The boat is used as a Ceremonial Livery barge with extra passenger seating under a canopy at the stern. In this form the Cutter resembles the decorated craft so often depicted in the historical prints and pictures of the River Thames in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. This is how you will see Trinity Tide on Twelfth Night with the Holly Man and Piper on board.

\* The Trinity Tide will appear subject to the weather conditions.

4. **The George Inn**, Southwark, is London's only surviving galleried coaching inn. Dating from the 1600s, The George, was rebuilt in 1676, after a devastating fire swept Southwark. It was one of many such inns in the area, perhaps the most famous being the Tabard, where Chaucer began his 'Canterbury Tales' in 1388. The Tabard too was rebuilt after the fire, but was demolished in the late 19th century, despite a public outcry. In the 17th century the Royal Mint failed to produce enough coins and the George issued its own coinage to keep business flowing. The George was mentioned in Dickens' Little Dorrit.

4. Information about **the Lions part** & their event partners can be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/TTRALondon>

<http://www.trinityhouse.co.uk/>

[www.thelionspart.co.uk](http://www.thelionspart.co.uk)

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-georgeinn](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-georgeinn)

5. There is a wide range of photos of the event, some of which have been sent with this press release. If you would like others or larger versions, please contact us.



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