

Year Six Rolle Canal Gig Project Autumn Term 2017

On Wednesday 15th November 2017, the Year Six class took part in the Rolle Canal Gig in the Garden Room at Rosemoor Gardens, Torrington.

*Please see separate **programme notes sheet** which explains how the idea grew, who was involved and a very brief story line.*

The class had worked with Mrs Smale during their music sessions since the start of the Autumn Term 2017. They had learnt five of the songs from the musical, one of which they would be taking a leading role. Robert Barber (Dramatise Learning) had spent time with them on two afternoons during the term to lead the stimulus for the drama which depicted the bringing in of the limestone from Wales, unloading it at Bideford Quay and then further transportation of it along the River Torridge to Landcross Sea Lock. During the sessions with Robert Barber, they worked in a spontaneous improvisation style which they later developed after carrying out additional historical research.

*On the day of the evening performance, the class had a busy day's schedule during which they discovered and experienced how the drama and songs they had been learning fitted in with other schools' and adults' performances (please see separate **Timeline Sheet**). During all of their songs they needed to maintain their melody line while at least two other harmonies were being sung. Here are some photos that show the orchestra, community choir and stage.*



Drama rehearsal in the morning.



rehearsing the songs in the morning.



Orchestra and composer.



Community Choir including children's choir conductor (Debbie Kent) and Jan (Community Choir conductor).

By 6:15, the Garden Room was already beginning to be filled by the audience and by the start time, the capacity for the audience had been reached (300). There were no spare seats in sight.

Here are Debbie Kent's comments:

Debbie Kent – Professional Lead (Babcock LDP Music Service)

*Appledore Primary's contribution to **The Rolle Canal Gig** school and community production was inspirational. A group of year 6 boys were absolutely brilliant in leading the singing in their reggae number "Where Does it Come From?" commissioned especially for them. They were first class vocal ambassadors and excellent role models for their peers. All the children showed real professionalism, commitment and dedication to their work both on and off stage in both disciplines of Music and Drama. Appledore – you were a pleasure to work with and I look forward to working with you again in the near future. Huge congratulations to you all!*



Whole cast