



PRESS RELEASE

RISEN: THE HOWARD WINSTONE PHENOMENON

LORD OF THE RINGS ACTOR, JOHN NOBLE SIGNS UP TO PLAY EDDIE THOMAS!

A Lord of the Rings star will be coming to Merthyr Tydfil this summer to join the cast for the feature film about Howard Winstone, entitled Risen. Australian born actor John Noble agreed to take the part of legendary and iconic boxing manager Eddie Thomas after a number of meetings and phone conversations with the films producers Stuart Brennan and Neil Jones. John said he was very excited about the role, and has already been sent a number of books and articles for help with his research, including the latest book by local professional boxing referee Wynford Jones.

John came to fame, after a long and illustrious stage and TV career in 2004 with the release of the final instalment of Lord of the Rings, The Return of the King, where John memorably portrayed the king of Minas Tirith; Denethor, for which he won a Screen Actors Guild Award.

The film 'Risen' has been gaining momentum ever since the premiere of the short film 'The Fifteenth' at the Bessemer Hotel a few weeks ago, the short film is now available for all to watch on a commemorative DVD about Winstone, available to buy online at www.howardwinstone.com – on the website you'll also be able to find out the latest news and gossip regarding the feature film, and also contact details about how to get involved, as the producers are continuing to look for local people to invest and businesses to support the film, which will begin filming on August 1st this summer and be out in the cinema's later next year.

The films producer and also the actor who is taking the role of Howard in the film, Stuart Brennan said he was 'over the moon' about signing up John for the role of Eddie, 'John is such a terrific actor, everybody remembers him from Lord of the Rings, and his incredible performance, he's the right height and build to play Eddie, and we think he will really turn the role in to a memorable performance.' The director of the short film, who will also be taking the helm of the feature, Neil Jones was also delighted; 'We've been speaking to a number of well known actors for various parts, and John is the first of what will hopefully be a long line of recognisable names that we will be bringing to Merthyr to really put the story and town on the map globally and cinematically.' Neil also went on to say; 'We're really hoping that people get behind the DVD that's come out and show interest in both the film and documentaries on it, so they get a taste of what's to come!'

Most of the filming will be done in and around Merthyr and the producers are hoping to announce some more famous names in the coming weeks!

Stuart Brennan

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