

Rouse Hill Times

news local



Centre of attention

Local boys Brendan Godwin and Sam Wood are centre stage, sharing a key role in the new Hayes Theatre musical, *Big Fish*.

Sharing in the spectacular

Two local boys sing and dance in a new musical, **Lawrence Machado** reports

IT'S a fabulous tale which will take you to a spectacular world and bring further evidence that Sam Wood and Brendan Godwin are among our brightest young acting talents.

The youngsters will share the role of a young Will, the sceptical son of the amazing Edward Bloom, whose incredible stories are the stuff of fairy tales where there are mermaids, giants and flying fish.

The Hayes Theatre production of *Big Fish* is a remake of the successful and emotional Hollywood movie and is based on the Broadway musical.

Sam Wood's acting career is soaring with the Acacia Gardens local appearing on ABC2's *Nay Nay* while his singing and dancing have won him awards at the Sydney Eisteddfod.

"I am really having a great time with the cast of *Big Fish* as it's a great story," said Sam, 12, who has several successful shows under his belt.

"I will be sharing the role with Brendan and have worked with him in shows including *Mary Poppins*.

"I love the characters in *Big Fish* and one of the fun parts we get to do is to pray the audience with water. I think this musical is better than the movie and I like to convince the audience what a character he (Will) is."



The Rouse Hill Anglican College student is trained in singing by Natalie Pratt-Davis.

For Brendan, the most challenging part is learning new songs, dances and lines and playing a character different from himself.

"Yes, I watched the movie prior to rehearsals in order to understand the character and the story," said Brendan, who recently played young Bobby Darin

in the musical *Dream Lover*.

"I enjoy the catchy songs and the funny moments in the show and I like that all of the cast get along and we can have fun together.

"Will doesn't believe the stories and wants to find out the truth from his father ... I think that the greater meaning of this show is about being a big fish in a small pond, following your dreams and believing in the extraordinary."

Brendan and Sam Wood in rehearsals for the Australian premiere of *Big Fish*. Picture: Peter Kelly

Now playing

- » **What:** Big Fish
- » **Starring:** Sam Wood, from Acacia Gardens, and Brendan Godwin, of The Ponds
- » **When:** Until May 14
- » **Where:** Hayes Theatre Co, 19 Greenknowe Ave, Potts Point
- » **Times:** Tuesday- Saturday 7.30pm; Saturday 2pm; Sunday 3pm
- » **Prices:** \$65/ \$59 concession
- » **Details:** 8065 7337 or hayestheatre.com.au

