

- ♥ Affordable person centred care
- ♥ Short and long term
- ♥ Independent living
- ♥ Stay close to loved ones and pets
- ♥ Care provided within 3-5 days
- ♥ Europe's largest specialist provider of 24/7 support
- ♥ Choose from a selection of recommended carers
- ♥ Fully managed service

Please call **0800 060 8383** or visit  
[www.care.promedica24.co.uk](http://www.care.promedica24.co.uk)



Good

ed by Tobias Ringborn had soothed our stress.

After a clever introduction in English, I was glad when Pagliacci began in Italian with subtitles, which I find much easier, despite having studied Italian.

ing is a rehearsal room but there seems to be an awful lot of moving chairs.

We did like many of the humorous touches, particularly the scene where Nedda (Elin Pritchard) in her stage role has cooked chicken and a visible

Stoughton), Lucia (Rosanna Plowright) and Alfio (Phillip Rhodes) give powerful performances and Giselle Adams is impressive as the betrayed Santuzza.

Both operas are about love and jealousy.

tense feelings exaggerated and expressed in the most exquisitely beautiful way.

Opera North return in March with Puccini's Madam Butterfly, Mozart's Don Giovanni, and Verdi's Un Ballo in Maschera.

## Stage Two Downham

# Laugh-out-loud play is also poignant

The Weekend is a play by Michael Palin.

It is laugh-out-loud funny but has some poignant revelations about the central character Stephen Febble (Bob Cleeve).

Irascible Stephen faces his worst nightmare, a weekend visit from his daughter, Diana (Jenny Spurrett) and her road routes, containers, gadget-obsessed husband Alan (Richard Hubbard),

their daughter Charlotte (Megan Dickinson) and their incontinent dog, Pippa.

Matters get worse when neighbours Duff (Gerry Purchase) and his wife Bridget (Glen Purchase) come for dinner. They bring along smooth talking London chiropodist, Hugh (Kenny Entwistle) who is suspected of having an affair with Bridget. Stephen's long suffering wife Virginia, (a powerful

performance from Sue Chadwick) tries to keep everything going.

Helen Coles plays the Febbles' outspoken cleaning lady.

Clearly this is a wonderful opportunity for Bob Cleeve and he is impressive in the role of Stephen, never off stage delivering his bitter comments with biting wit.

However, he shows another side of himself in Act Two and this is very well supported by his wife

Virginia who comes into her own.

The production is well staged with good use of music, clever lighting and a strong cast. The audience enjoyed it thoroughly when I was there. Of course, for me, the unsung star of the show is Pippa, who I think is actually called Henry! I was really glad when she/he returned for the curtain call. After all, we "Pippas" must stick together.

ments reach critical levels.

The plea comes as high numbers of residents are using the service when they could be accessing minor injury units, pharmacies or GP practices.

John Bonfield, Director of Clinical Services at the trust, says: "The plea comes as high numbers of residents are using the service when they could be accessing minor injury units, pharmacies or GP practices. We need to ensure that those who need it most get treatment first."

"This can mean a longer wait for those who are not in danger, and, occasionally, very long waits for people who do not attend accompanied by multiple visitors."

"We are working hard to