

BERKHAMSTED & TRING Gazette



A NATURAL: Joseph Sissens

Joseph's dream comes true

A REAL life Billy Elliot is living his dream performing in not one but two top London productions.

Whilst other children play with their gifts on Boxing Day, 10-year-old Joseph Sissens, who will also be celebrating his birthday, will be dancing in *The Nutcracker*.

He is part of a Christmas production with the English National Ballet at the London Coliseum.

And the busy student from the Arts Educational School is also currently

performing in *Oliver!* at the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane. It stars *Blackadder* and *Mr Bean* actor Rowan Atkinson as Fagin.

Joseph said: "It is really amazing. I get to meet all the famous people and work with my favourite choreographer Matthew Bourne. I really just love doing it."

The youngster won a scholarship to attend the top performance school in Tring after going along to a one-day workshop.

"It was just a dream

come true for me," said Joseph.

He first became interested in dance when, as a toddler, he was taken along to his sister's dance classes.

Mum Adele said: "He was desperate to have a go. Once he joined in it was clear to everybody that he picked it up very quickly and was very good at it."

By the age of eight Joseph had already won many medals and trophies and hopes to have a career as a professional dancer.

