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■ Cash help . . . Central TV's Elizabeth Thomas (right) presents a cheque to Camilla Hale co-ordinator of the project with workshop members looking on

Boost for a bumper play

ORGANISERS of a community play at Stroud say it will be the biggest event in the town for 80 years.

Central Television is giving £700 to Dr Foster's Travelling Theatre to help pay for workshops for the Stroud Community Play.

The play will give more than 1,000 local people the chance to show off their acting talents.

Dr Foster's is designing and directing the production in Stratford Park Leisure Centre and Stratford Park in October.

Public skills workshops in music, writing, performance, movement and singing are currently taking place at the theatre to encourage as many people as possible to take part.

Dr Foster's is also taking workshops at six centres throughout Stroud.

Community play co-ordinator Camilla Hale said: "This production will be the largest event staged in Stroud since the 1911 pageant."