

#####

ENGLISH THEATRES LIST.

#####

INDEX.

- #01. English Theatres in Date order.
- #02. Unknown English Theatres (Date unknown of construction)
- #03. Channel Island Theatre's in Date order.
- #04. Isle of Man Theatre's in Date order.
- #05. Theatres in Scotland in Date order.
- #05b. Unknown Scottish Theatres (Date unknown of construction)
- #06. Theatres in Wales.
- #07. Northern Ireland Theatres in Date Order.
- #08. THEATRE STATISTICS.
- #09. Theatres Round the World.
- #10. Ghost Extra information.
- #11. Theatre Museum Details.
- #12. 2013 Theatre list and Pantomimes.

#####

#01. ENGLISH THEATRE'S IN DATE ORDER (with Ghost Stories)

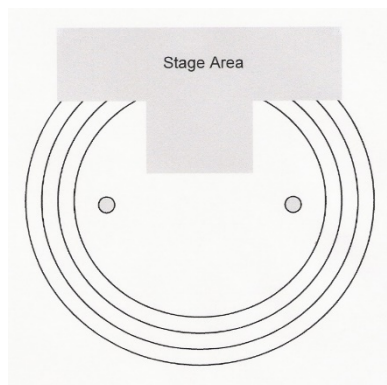
#####

ROMAN AMPHITHEATRES

ARLES / NÎMES / COLISEUM (Abroad)

ROMAN AMPHITHEATRES

During the Roman occupation of Britain they built many theatres and amphitheatre. These were mainly built on mounds of earth in a horseshoe shape with the banks of the mound being the seating with the stage in the middle rather like the theatre in the round but with one quarter taken off to give an entrance. Later wooden structures were built for the seating and stages and scenery were added to the building. As the occupation continues and it became more stable the wooden based were replaced by stone work.



I have tried to list all the theatres in date order but some have not been dated and so I have listed them below.

- Aldborough (Wales)
- Caistor St Edmunds Discovered in 1995 the Amphitheatre measured 40 meters by 33 meters.
- Carmarthen (Wales)
- Charterhouse (South West) It was excavated in 1908.
- Chichester
- Frilford (Oxfordshire)
- Newstead on the Tweed (Scotland) It is 37 meters by 23 Meters.
- Richbrough (Kent)

Tomey-y-mur (Snowdonia National Park -Gwynedd North Wales).

Original Theatre Date	
Pre 5 AD	CIRENCESTER (<i>Corinvm Dobvnnorvm</i>) (Roman Amphitheatre) The Amphitheatre was in use until the 5th Century AD. It was constructed with wooden seats and no stonework.
44 AD	CANTERBURY (<i>Durovernm Cantiacorvm</i>) (Roman Amphitheatre) Dating from either 44 AD or between 80 and 90 AD the first theatre with a second amphitheatre dating from between 210 AD and 220 AD.
44 AD	CATTERICK theatres built by the Romans.
55 - 65 AD	SILCHESTER (South West England) (Roman Amphitheatre) This was an Earth Bank built between 55 & 65 AD.
70 - 80 AD	DORCHESTER (Roman Amphitheatre) in Dorset. This was a 9 Meter (30ft) embankment like amphitheatre. In the 1700's it was used as a place of execution. In 1952 the Queen (Elizabeth) was greeted here by the people of Dorset.
86 AD	CHESTER (<i>Deva</i> - named after the river Dee) Cheshire. This was the largest Roman Amphitheatre built in the United Kingdom at 102 Meters (335 ft) by 91 Meters (298 Ft). It was discovered in 1929 and was properly excavated in 1960. It has also recently been dug up and it is suspected that instead of one theatre on the site there may have been two. A wooden theatre and a later stone building.
90 AD	CAERLEON (In Wales, See also Wales) This brick built Amphitheatre was uncovered by Sir Mortimer Wheeler in 1926-7 and was built in AD90 at the same time as the Coliseum in Rome.
100 AD	GOSBECKS Nr Olchester This Roman Amphitheatre was 82 meters (270 ft) wide with an estimated capacity of 4,000. It was 1.8 Meters (6ft tall) and was constructed in wood. By c150 AD the wooden seats were set into banks of cut turf.
155 -200 AD	St ALBANS (Verulamium) (Roman Amphitheatre) This Roman Amphitheatre was discovered in 1847 and was excavated in 1934.
155 AD	COLCHESTER Theatres built by the Romans. A Roman Amphitheatre has not been found but because of the size of the town it should have had one, and is thought to have been built at this time, along with the town.
605 AD	YEAVINGER Theatre Built.
10th Century	Plays started to be performed in Churches. This was the start of the "Miracle" plays.
16th Century (1500's)	Professional Actors performed on trestle stages. These performances became so popular that Inn's started to take these performances into their courtyards.
1526	FINSBURY PARK THEATRE. John Rastell built the first permanent stage in Finsbury Park. It was an open air theatre with just a stage.
1535	HAMPTON COURT

A theatre was built in the Great hall of Hampton Court. At this time many other great halls also were converted into theatres.

1567 RED LION Stepney, London.
This was a converted public house.

1576 THEATRE Shoreditch, Nr London.
The first public theatre was built in Shoreditch about half a mile outside the city of London. The builder was James Burbage who simply named it THE THEATRE. The building was financed by John Brayne.
In 1597 James Burbage died the same year that the lease on the theatre ran out. His son Richard used the wood from the theatre to build the first GLOBE in 1599.

1576 BLACKFRIARS THEATRE Blackfriars, London.
The first theatre was built by Richard Farrant, the master of the Windsor Children a choir, from an old Monastery at Blackfriars into the first theatre.
The building was replaced by a Second theatre in 1596.
On the 18 August 1660 Samuel Pepys went to see Fletcher's "The Loyal Subject" with Edward Kynaston (.b.c1640 .d. 1706) in the cast as the Duke's sister.

1577 CURTAIN Shoreditch, Nr London.
John Brayne opened his second theatre in Shoreditch a few months after "Theatre".
He called it the CURTAIN after a piece of land it was built on.

Between 1558 & 1603 Theatre's in England started to have apron stages.

Between 1558 & 1603 WHITE FRIARS THEATRE built in London.

1587 THE ROSE THEATRE Bankside, London.
Built in 1587 in London owned by Philip Henslowe (.d. 1616) with a roofed stage and a capacity of between 2,000 and 2,400.
In 1989 the theatre was excavated when it had been discovered during foundation work for a new office block.

1592 or 94 THE SWAN Theatre London.
Built in 1594 in London it had a capacity of 3,000.

1598 - 9 GLOBE THEATRE Bankside, South bank of the Thames, London.
The Globe theatre built (see Above 1597, See this section 1613, 1614 & 1644) at Bankside on the south bank of the River Thames it was opened in the Autumn of 1598. It was built by Richard (.d. 13 Mar 1616) and Cuthbert Burbage it was one of the earliest purpose built theatres and was based on the design of the Inn courtyard as this was where most of the plays at the time were being performed in such venues.
Timbers from the earlier "Theatre" (Built in 1576) were used to build the Globe.
Early performances at the Globe were shows called "Masques", these were productions there graceful movement and elegant costumes along with refined speech were considered more important than the actual words of the play. Writers at the Globe included Ben Jonson (1572 - 1637) and William Shakespeare (1565-1616).
On the 29 June 1613 the Globe theatre was burnt down during a performance of Shakespeare's Henry VIII, a cannon was set off to mark the Kings entrance, it set fire to the thatched roof of the theatre.
It was rebuilt in June 1614 but was eventually demolished in 1644 (Interior demolished).
(See 1868)
In 1996 the International Shakespeare Globe Centre was built to show what the Globe theatre would look like when it was re constructed a little further down the Thames than the original. Primarily a museum to celebrate the work of the "Bard" William Shakespeare.
It was opened on the 21 August (1996) and now stages productions.

1600 FORTUNE THEATRE Finsbury, London.
Built in 1600 in London for Philip Henslowe (.d. 1616) .

In 1621 a Fire destroyed the theatre. It was rebuilt in 1623 (or 1625) but was closed in 1645 when Oliver Cromwell closed all theatres by act of Parliament (In 1642).

- 1601 PALACE OF WHITEHALL
A theatre stage was built at the Palace of Whitehall for the Queen.
In 1622 Inigo Jones (b.1573 .D. 1652) rebuilt the theatre and building.
- 1604 RED BULL Clerkenwell, London.
An open air or converted inn theatre built in 1604.
- 1605 Inigo Jones (1573- 1652) became resident designer for Prince Harry (Until 1613).
He introduced the revolving stage and the PROSCENIUM ARCH to the English stage.
- 1614 HOPE THEATRE London.
Opened in 1614 by owner Philip Henslowe (.d. 1616) and Johnson. The opening show was "Barthomew Fair". It was the last of the "Open Air Theatres" or "Public / Common Playhouses" in London. It held a mixture of Bear Baiting and play acting as most theatres did at the time.
It had closed in 1616 and a "New Hope theatre" was built on the site. This was pulled down in 1656.

During this time there were a number of "OPEN AIR" or Conversions from Inns into theatres. Their dates of construction are not known but below is a list of venues.

"The Bell and Cross Keys" in Gracechurch Street, "The Bull" in Bishopsgate, "The Bel Savage" Nr Ludgate Circus, "The Boar's Head" in Whitechapel,

-
- 1615 COCKPIT THEATRE
Opened in 1615. (See also 1970)
In 1629-30 Inigo Jones rebuilt the theatre the "Cockpit in Court".

- 1629 SALISBURY COURT
Opened in 1629.

Between May 1636 and November 1637 all theatres in London were closed due to a Plague.

-
- 1661 DUKES THEATRE Dorset Garden, London.
Originally known as the DUKE'S PLAYHOUSE it is situated in Lincoln Inn Fields and may be the same theatre as the Lincoln's Inn Fields theatre but the author is not quite sure of the facts. In January 1672 the Theatre Royal (Drury Lane) Company moved into the theatre when their own home had been destroyed by fire. It was the first theatre to introduce oil lamps to the stage.
- 1661 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS THEATRE. Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.
After the restoration of Charles II in 1660 he started to allow theatres to reopen (They had been closed by Oliver Cromwell in 1645) The first new theatre to be built was the LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS THEATRE was opened in a converted tennis court (Lisle's Tennis Court) by William Davenant.
After a closure the theatre reopened in 1695 by order of the Lord Chamberlain who installed a new manager. Its first production was Mrs Behn's passionate tragedy "Abdelazar".
Now owned by the Betterton's Company (Thomas Betterton aged 65 at the time) it employed William Congreve for various parts including "The old Bachelor". It was the first theatre to have a Proscenium arch and a Set (Scenery specially built for the stage).
(see 1729 Goodman's Fields)
John Rich opened a new theatre a few months after his father Christopher, had died in 1732 with a capacity of 1,400 seats he called it "The Covent Garden Theatre" or "Theatre Royal" as it was known at the time, on land leased from the Duke of Bedford. (See 1732)
- 1663 THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE. / DRURY LANE THEATRE Catherine St. London.
The first theatre on the site was built in 1663 by Thomas Killigrew in Bridges Street (Drury Lane) under Royal Charter, with a production of "The Humorous Lieutenant" by John Fletcher

(.b. 1579 .d. 1625).

In 1665 Nell (Eleanor) Gwynne (.b. 2 Feb 1650 .d. 14 Nov 1687) appeared in John Dryden's (1631 - 1700) "The Indian Queen". Nell started as an Orange seller at the "DRURY LANE" theatre who became a favourite with Charles II who had her as his mistress. She retired from the stage in 1669. The daughter of a Covent Garden Brothel madam, she had two children by the King. She was stricken by apoplexy and was partially paralysed when she died at the early age of just 37. She is buried in the Church of St Martin-in-the-fields. The service of committal was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The theatre was destroyed by fire in January 1672. The theatre company moved into the Duke's Playhouse until their own theatre was rebuilt.

The **second theatre was built in 1674 by Christopher Wren**, for theatre manager and resident playwright John Dryden (1631 - 1700), when he died there were problems with the new managers of the theatre and in April 1682 Charles Killigrew closed the theatre.

In November 1682 the "United Company" opened up the theatre again still run by Killigrew and his new partners Thomas Betterton with his friend and fellow actor William Smith.

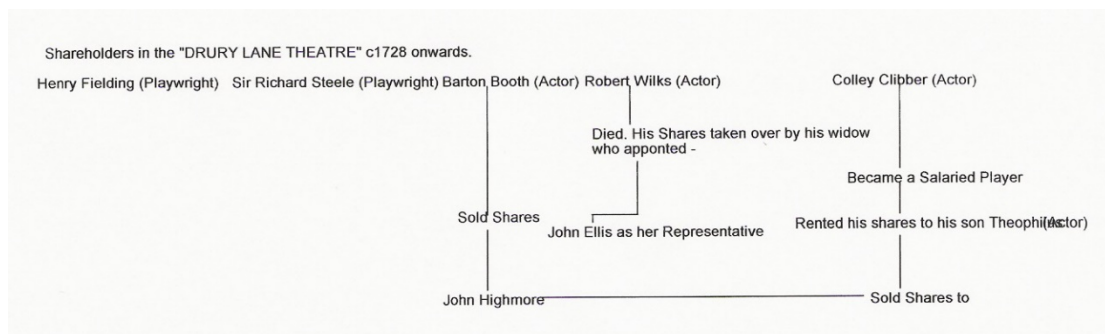
In 1696 Christopher Rich increased the seating capacity of the Drury Lane Theatre by cutting 4 feet off the Apron stage.

In March 1707 Christopher Rich (Father of John?) was silenced by the Lord Chamberlain, effectively closing the theatre down for a period. In 1709 Christopher Rich was silenced again by the Lord Chamberlain, who gave control of the theatre to Tory M.P. William Collier who then installed Aaron Hill as Manager. He stayed in the post for less than a season before moving on to other theatres including in 1711 the Heymarket.

In 1710 Owen Swiney was manager at the Drury Lane Theatre swapping roles with Jeremy Collier who was managing the Heymarket in 1712.

In 1716 the theatre presented the Pantomime "Harlequin Executed". (see Panto History file)

In 1728 Barton Booth sold his shares in the theatre to John Highmore, on his retirement from acting.



In May 1733 Colley Cibber (Actor Manager) decided to sell his shares in the theatre to John Highmore, over the head of his son Theophilus who had been renting his fathers shares. Theophilus also discovered that his acting talents were not needed by the new management and left to form a primitive Actor's Trade Union (Formed in May 1733). He then went to the shareholders of the building (Rather than the Theatre shareholders) and managed to lease the "Drury Lane" theatre from under the noses of the shareholders of the theatre. John Highmore then forcibly seized the theatre from Theophilus Cibber and the actors union. The actors were then exiled to the "Little" theatre for their productions. While there John Highmore tried to silence them forever by invoking an old Vagrancy Law, one of the actors was even put into Britewell jail.

Henry Fielding formed a new company of actors to take over from Cibber's company.

In January 1734 John Highmore was forced to sell his shares in the theatre because he was being Censured by the Lord Chief Justice for his actions against Theophilus Cibber.

Highmore's shares were taken over by Charles Fleetwood who negotiated the return of Theophilus Cibber and his fellow actors at the "Little" back to "Drury Lane" in March 1734.

With Cibber back at Drury lane the company formed by Henry Fielding was then moved to the "Little" theatre to fill their void. In 1734 the company staged "Don Quixote in England".

In January 1735 Fielding's company did return to Drury lane to stage "An old Man taught

Wisdom", with Kitty Clive in the cast.

In May 1743 Charles Fleetwood's patent at Drury Lane was mortgaged due to his gambling debts. Following visits from the bailiffs David Garrick and Charles Macklin led a walkout of nine of the leading actors at the theatre.

In September 1743 Garrick was forced to take some of Fleetwood's shares and to become joint holder of the Royal licence with Charles Fleetwood.

On the 28 September 1745 the Drury Lane theatre became the first in the Country to adopt the National Anthem in their performances in support of the King against the Young Pretender, Bonnie Prince Charlie.

On the 9 April 1747 David Garrick (.b. 1717 .d.1779) became joint manager of the theatre along with James Lacy (Actor / manager .d. 1774).

David Garrick had appeared at the theatre in 1742, and now started reforming the theatre management for the next 30 years until 1776 when he retired from the profession.

In 1762 David Garrick enlarged the "Pit stalls", the last of nine enlargements that took the seating capacity of the theatre from 1,400 to 1,800 seats.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan (.b.1751.d.1816) ran the theatre from 1776.

In 1788 John Philip Kemble took over management of the theatre from Tom King.

In 1791 the theatre was demolished to allow a new building to be constructed.

During 1793- 1794 plans were drawn up for enlargements to the theatre by designer Henry Holland who oversaw the work.

It was opened in 1794 by John P Kemble. In February 1794 during its first Royal Command performance the house was fuller than it should have been. Fifteen people died that night in the crush for seats and many more were injured. It continued to run it as a successful building until it was burnt down in 1809. This also saw the end of R. B. Sheridan's involvement with the Theatre Royal.

15 May 1800 an attempted Assassination of George III at the Drury Lane Theatre.

He later fell asleep during the Interval.

A fourth theatre was built on the site in 1812 by Benjamin Wyatt for Brewery owner Samuel Whitbread (Whitbread beers are still sold today).

By 1814 Edward Kean the actor had shares in the theatre but he was now in debt.

In 1817 The Drury Lane theatre became the first to use Gas for House Lighting.

The new lighting didn't help the theatre as it started to decline in popularity until 1879 when a series of Pantomimes and melodramas started to revive interest in the theatre and performers like Dan Leno appeared in 1889.

In 1819 Robert Elliston took over the theatre lease.

In 1820 Elliston staged a copy of the new Kings coronation procession through the theatre and stage area.

During a production of Moncrieff's "Contract of the Ganges" the stage included a waterfall, the production cost £5,000.

In 1826 Robert Elliston became bankrupt.

In 1827 Edward Kean moved his acting company to Covent Garden.

In 1827 Robert Elliston's replacement at the Drury Lane was American Stephen Prince who hired Edward Kean's 16 year old son Charles as a replacement for his Father's company. He became the first impresario to send his star names on a transatlantic tour.

Between 1832 & 1835 Robert Elliston's stage manager Alfred Bunn took over at the theatre. Alfred Bunn was also running the Covent Garden theatre at the same time. By 1839 he joined the ever-increasing list of bankrupt managers.

Between 1839 and 1843 William Charles Macready looked after the theatre.

In 1843 Alfred Bunn became the manager again after he became solvent.

Between 1879 and 1896 the theatre was under the control of Augustus Harris (.b.1852 .d. 1896) who specialised in large scale Opera's and the famous Drury Lane melodramas.

In 1896 Augustus Harris's assistant Arthur Collins took over as General manager, running the theatre until 1923 when he retired.

By the turn of the century the theatre moved to stage large scale musicals like "Rose Marie" and "Cavalcade".

In 1913 Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson made the theatre the venue for his farewell performance.

In 1922 the theatre was re modelled.

In 1923 Alfred Butt took over the management of the theatre from Arthur Collins.

Between 1958 and 1982 (Aged 71 when he retired) George Hoare was general manager of

the theatre.

It is said that the phrase the "Green Room" started in this building as this was the first theatre to have a rest room called the green room in the UK and this started one of the traditions of the theatre, to call all communal rest rooms or the nearest room to the stage as the Green Room. The Drury Lane theatre still had this room in its building.

Busts of people associated with the theatre are on display in the public rooms, among the heads are Dan Leno, Samuel Whitbread and Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson.

One tradition unique to the Theatre Royal is the "Twelfth Night Cake" it was started by Robert Baddeley in 1794 when he died. In his Will he left money to provide cake and wine for the Green Room every year on Twelfth Night (6 January). (2237 Seats)

The Theatre Royal Drury lane is considered to be the most haunted theatre in the world.

GHOST 1.)

Drury lane's best Ghost is that of the "Man in Grey" who haunts the Upper Circle, especially during matinee performances. It is thought to be the ghost of a body found behind a wall in 1840 (or 1848). The Skeleton was discovered with a dagger plunged between its ribs before being walled up in a secret chamber for many years. The bones were re buried in a graveyard (Now disused) about 100 yards from the theatre. To this day no one knows who the man was or how he came to be killed (See below for an idea). The ghost has a tricorne hat under which he wears a white wig, or his own hair powdered white as was the fashion.

He also has a grey cloak, worn over a white ruffle-fronted shirt, riding britches with a dress sword hanging down and high boots. He was first seen according to records in the 1930's by theatre historian W.L.Macqueen Pope in 1939 just before the War. A Cleaner at the time also saw the ghost sitting in the upper Circle watching a rehearsal on stage. When she passed the time of day with the figure it rose and walked through the wall. The Ghost usually appears just before a long running hit show (A Sign that the show will run for a long time).

Mediums think he may be called "Arnold Woodruffe", with a connection to Edmund Kean (.b.1787 .d.1833) an actor who had his first success as Shylock in the Drury lane theatre in 1814. His manager was a man called Samuel Arnold so there may be a connection.

Another person it could be is a 17th Century nobleman who frequented the theatre because he was in love with one of the leading ladies. A jealous rival stabbed him to death and walled his corpse behind a wall on the left hand side of the stage where the bones were discovered in 1848 (or 1840).

GHOST 2.)

In 1735 early in the evening Charles Macklin killed a fellow actor, Thomas Hallam in the Green room at the theatre during an outburst. Charles, known for his reputation of quarrelling, lunged towards Thomas with his stick, it pierced his eye causing death. It is however Charles who is the ghost (He lived to be over 107 years old) who haunts the building in the early evening as he has been identified from portraits at the time.

GHOST 3.)

Edmund Kean (Actor .b. 1787 .d. 1833) is supposed to be the next Ghost.

GHOST 4.)

Dan Leno (.b. 1860.d. 1904) the Comedian has been seen as a Ghost by various people including Stanley Lupino (Comic Dancer .b. 1893 .d.1942) who had a visit from Dan in his dressing room.

GHOST 5.)

A stage director who on one occasion guided actress Betty Jo Jones into a better position on stage during Oklahoma, in 1947, the following night when she moved into the same 'New' position she was given a pat on the back by the Ghostly director. Some say that the ghost is that of Joe Grimaldi (the celebrated clown).

GHOST 6.)

The ghost of a Jacket puller. It has been felt by many stage hands who have felt someone tugging on them but when they turn round there is no one there. The actor Tony Britain was in the show No No Nanette with Anna Neagle, during the curtain call he felt a tug at his Tails, when he turned round to see who was pulling him there was no one near enough to have done it. In the same production one of the girl dancers complained that someone had goosed her only to find no one was again near enough to have done such a thing.

GHOST 7.)

Between 1897 and 1923 the general manager was Arthur Collins who is believed to be our next Ghost. He has been seen by Actress Toni Lee (understudy for Julie Andrews) and Freda Sessions who was appearing in My Fair Lady was in the managers (George Hoare's office) office before going to watch Julie in the musical, suddenly saw a man walk into the room open a cupboard look inside then leave. Their description matched that of ex manager A. Collins.

GHOST 8.)

A former Housekeeper seen in the upper circle matches a lady called Mrs Jordon who managed the cleaning staff at the theatre during the time of George Hoare's management. It was in fact George who confirmed the sighting by Medium Wendy Francis as that of the cleaner.

GHOST 9.)

George Grossmith a former Managing director of the building. He was seen by Medium Wendy Francis watching a performance of "A Chorus Line".

GHOST 10.)

In 1947 during a production of Oklahoma! the spirit of King George II appeared. (See also ghost 5)

- 1664 -8** *SHELDONIAN THEATRE* *Broad Street, Oxford.*
Built by architect Christopher Wren between 1664 and 1668 as a Concert Hall.
(1000 Seats)
- 1671 DORSET GARDEN THEATRE
Opened in 1671.
- 1672 BRIDGES STREET THEATRE
Date Built unknown. In 1672 the theatre was destroyed by fire.
- 1679 BOROUGH THEATRE, High Street East, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28
(Nr Newcastle Upon Tyne)
The original theatre was built on the site in 1679.
Called the Corned Beef Tin Theatre it was burned down in 1905 (or 1906).
J Fleming Davidson and C D James rebuilt the theatre in 1909.
In 1911 alterations to the theatre included an operating box at the rear of the circle giving it the capability of running live shows or Acting as a Cinema.
Some early performances by Stan Laurel (Stanley Jefferson) happened at the theatre as this local boy learned his acting.
In 1946 the Gaumont Cinema Chain acquired the building and used it as a Cinema (however One report says that it was converted into a Bingo Hall at this time. This was however untrue)
In 1960 the building became an Amusement Arcade on the lower floor and a Recording studio called Impulse Studios. The studio recorded some of Lindisfarne's recording as well as "Geordie Aid" Newcastle's answer to band Aid.
In 2005 the amusement arcade went bust and the building closed for the last time.
In May 2010 efforts were made by the Theatre's Trust (London based) to stop the theatre from being demolished by applying for Grade status which was unfortunately turned down.
The Theatre was demolished in May 2011. The Sunburner was salvaged and used as a template for one being made for the Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
- 1683 SADLER'S WELLS Rosebery Ave, London
The present theatre is the 4th that was built on this site the first of which was in 1683 and was called the MUSICK HOUSE.
Between 1844 and 1862 Samuel Phelps was the manager of the theatre.
The current theatre was built on this site in 1931. (1572 seats)
(See 1765)
- 1705 BATH THEATRE
The first playhouse was erected in 1705 on what became known as the Royal Mineral Water Hospital.
The second theatre was built in Orchard Street in 1750 and has since become a Masonic

Hall. In 1768 the theatre was granted a Royal Patent and was recognised as the most important theatre outside London by the end of the century. While the present theatre was built in 1805 at Sawclose, Bath, Avon. (see 1750 & 1805)

- 1705 April HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE Haymarket, London SW1Y
The QUEEN'S THEATRE was built on the site now occupied by "Her Majesty's Theatre" it was opened in April 1705 with the play "The Lovers of Ergasto" by Giacomo Greber starring celebrated beauty Lady Sutherland. Built by Sir John Vanbrugh it was later re- built between 1791 and 1808 by Novosielski with later additions by John Nash and John Johnson.
In 1706 Vanbrugh sold his shares to Owen Swiney.
In 1707 Swiney closed the theatre to allow the ceiling to be lowered.
Between 1711 and 1739 many of the new form of music called the Opera were performed, including the first oratorio to be heard in England, "Esther" (1732). The building was renamed the ITALIAN OPERA HOUSE. In 1789 a fire damaged the building and it was partially rebuilt. As the sex of the Monarch changed from King to Queen the name of the theatre also changed. In 1837 it became HER MAJESTY'S when Queen Victoria came onto the throne.
In 1867 another fire hit the theatre. Charles Lee re-built it and it opened in 1869.
The theatre continued until 1877 when it closed and was knocked down in 1896.
The 4th and present theatre on the site was built in 1897 by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) for Herbert Beerbohm Tree (.b. 1853 .d. 1917). He was the half brother of Max Beebohm, becoming an actor at the age of 25. When the play Trilby became a success at the Haymarket he made enough money to build his own theatre. The first play of the season "The Seats of the Mighty" ran for 14 months. In 1909 he became Sir Beerbohm Tree when Edward VII knighted him.
In 1916 the musical "Chu Chin Chow" opened, it ran for 2238 performances.
Jimmy Tarbuck presented the Television programme "Live from Her Majesty's", from the theatre each Sunday night as a belated sequel to "Sunday Night at the London Palladium".
On the 15 April 1984 Tommy Cooper (Comedian) had a heart attack on the stage during the live broadcast and died as he would have wanted to have gone, making people laugh.
(1210 Seats)
GHOST 1) ~
After the death of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree in 1917 (Manager of the theatre from 1897) it is said that his ghost appeared at the theatre usually on Fridays or on Pay days. When it is seen in the auditorium it is in Tree's favourite seat in the Stage Right Top Box. During a production of "Cause Celebre" by Terence Rattigan in the 1970's, Glynis Johns and the entire cast saw the ghost walking across the back of the stalls.

- 1710 HAYMARKET Haymarket, London.
Date of building unknown but in 1710 Jeremy Collier was the manager alternating with Owen Swiney at the Drury Lane theatre swapping roles in 1712.
1711 Aaron Hill was installed as Manager of the theatre.
By 1714 -15 the Haymarket had been renamed the KING'S theatre and was staging mainly Opera.
(The renaming of the theatre to the THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET / LITTLE)
Before 1720 the "Theatre Royal Drury Lane" and the "Lincoln's Inn Theatre" were the only professional theatres in the UK allowed to perform due to Royal Charter. The old Haymarket was closed down and destroyed so that Samuel Foote could open what he called the LITTLE Theatre in 1720 to stage plays. He was only able to put on plays by the use of subterfuge, making sure that the King didn't find out about his productions otherwise he could have closed down the theatre.
In the summer of 1731 the theatre staged a version of "The Beggar's Opera" called "The Fall of Mortimer". It poked fun at the government so much that the Lord Chamberlain suppressed the production after only 15 performances, throwing the actors in jail and closing the theatre. The "Little" did not reopen until January 1732.
Henry Fielding (.b. 22 April 1707.d. 8 Oct 1754 Writer of "Tom Jones" 1749 and various plays) lampooned the government and the Royal family so much that the King set up the Lord Chamberlain's office to Censor plays. This new censorship started in 1737 (it continued until 1968 see Shaftesbury Avenue Theatre, London).
Henry Fielding managed the theatre in the 1700's.

In 1747 Samuel Foote (a successful mimic) managed to get the royal approval because of an accident. During a high society party he fell victim of a practical joke when he was placed on a horse known for its dangerous nature. The horse threw Foot who broke his leg so badly that it had to be amputated. Feeling remorse, one of the perpetrators who happened to be the Duke of York decided to give the Theatre Royal approval which was bestowed in 1767.

In 1766 Mr Foote finally gained a limited patent for the Little theatre in the Hay (Haymarket) from the King. This allowed the theatre to continue putting on plays, unfortunately it was a limited charter and was only for performances during the Summer months while the Covent Garden and Drury Lane theatres were closed. Many popular actors of the time appeared in the Little Theatre including Fanny Kemble and John Bannister. One play caused riots when it started to become popular. "The Tailors" was a satire on the profession of clothes makers and they protested because of the play's content.

On the 16 January 1769 a Conjuror claimed he could get into a quart tavern bottle and sing various songs. The event would take place at the Haymarket Theatre, London but the conjuror failed to turn up and thus caused one of the worst riots in theatre history.

In 1776 George Coleman took over the "Little" theatre from Samuel Foote who was dying. Colman however had a stroke in 1789 so his son George Jnr took over the running of the theatre.

The building was demolished and rebuilt by John Nash in 1821 next to the site of the original Little Theatre. The first play was "The Rivals" by Sheridan. In 1853 John B. Buckstone a favourite of Queen Victoria's took over the theatre until 1878. One of the actors employed by John was Edwin Booth (1833.d. 1893) the brother of John Wilkes Booth (.b.10 May 1831 .d. 26 Apr 1865) the man who assassinated President Lincoln on the 14 April 1865.

The Bancrofts took over the theatre and hired Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) to remodel the interior of the theatre in 1880. He included the first Picture frame stage in London.

The renovations caused riots on the first night as he had also removed the pit stalls.

Herbert Beerbohm Tree (.b. 1853 .d. 1917) the English actor- manager took over the theatre in 1887 just in time to stage Oscar Wilde's premier of "A Woman of No Importance" in 1893.

The auditorium was rebuilt by C. Stanley Peach in 1905. Grade 1 listed building. (905 Seats)
GHOST 1) ~

The Ghost of ex owner John Buckstone haunts the theatre. He had spent 30 years at the theatre first as an actor then in 1853 he took over as Manager until 1878. His ghost appeared one year after his death in 1879 and has been seen ever since.

He appears in the Boxes dressed in a frock coat. Also the door to his old dressing room has been seen to open and close by itself.

Actress Margaret Rutherford is supposed to have seen the ghost in 1963 when fog stopped her going home after a performance of "School for Scandal". Margaret and her husband Stringer Davis stayed in her dressing room that night. The following morning Miss Rutherford claimed that during the night she had seen a hairy legged man in period clothes, when she saw his face she linked it with that of John Buckstone.

Another sighting happened when Flanders and Swann were on stage in their show "At the drop of Another Hat" also in 1963 when the stage manager saw the ghost standing behind Michael Flanders, just out of sight of the audience. Olga Bennett very nearly brought down the curtain thinking this person might go onto stage and spoil the performance but luckily the stage manager saw the person disappear.

In 1949 Donald Sinden was making his debut at the theatre in "The Heiress" with Sir Ralph Richardson. One day Donald and co actress Gillian Howell were passing Sir Ralph's dressing room on their way to the stage for their first entrance, they passed a figure in 1800's costume, assuming it was the star of the show they said "Good evening" but didn't get a reply. As they moved towards the stage they found that Sir Ralph was already performing his first lines. No one else was dressed like this in the building so it must have been the ghost.

GHOST 2)

The second ghost is also thought to have been an ex actor / manager, Henry Fielding, who looked after the theatre in the 1700's. He is seen as an old man who walks the hallways.

1729 GOODMAN'S FIELDS Whitechapel.
A new theatre opened in 1729 by Thomas Odell.
It was built by designer Edward Shepherd in what was called Goodman's Fields at the time (Later changed to Lincoln's Inn Fields).
In 1731 it was purchased actor Henry Giffard. (see 1661)
The theatre was closed in 1742.

1729 BRISTOL
The first theatre built at Bristol was in 1729.
The oldest theatre in the city today is the Theatre royal built in 1766.
Another theatre was the Princes theatre, Park Row Bristol, which was renovated by Frank Matcham in 1889 and was destroyed in an Air Raid in 1941.

Jan 1731 GRAND THEATRE in Constantinople (First with this name in the World?)

1731 ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Covent Garden, London.
The earliest theatre on this site dates back to 1731. However, a new theatre was opened in 1858 it was designed by Sir Edward Barry on the site of 3 other theatres.
(see 1858)

1732 7 Dec COVENT GARDEN THEATRE Covent Garden, London.
In 1730 the foundation stone was laid for the new theatre in Covent Garden.
In 1732 John Rich (b. Unk .d. 1761) moved out of the "Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre" and built the larger "Theatre Royal" with a capacity of 1,400 seats. Also called "The Covent Garden Theatre", the "Theatre Royal" as it was known at the time was on land leased from the Duke of Bedford. The area of land was named after a medieval 40 acre walled garden built by the monks at Westminster Abbey (see 1661).
The first building was called the THEATRE ROYAL and opened on the 7 December 1732, it was built by designer Edward Shepherd (Who also designed the new Goodman's fields theatre) for actor manager Henry Giffard as a new Playhouse.
In 1767 George Coleman (The younger a playwright / Manager) was the manager of the playhouse along with Thomas Harris.
1792 Thomas Harris approved plans for enlargements to the theatre with designs by Henry Holland. (see 1794 Drury Lane)
The theatre on this site was one of the first to include artificial lighting with candles and oil lamps.
In 1808 the theatre burnt down.
Rebuilt for John Philip Kemble in 1808 it was built without the "Shilling Gallery", this along with a price rise for the rest of the theatre (by Kemble to raise funds for the rebuild) it caused the "Old Price" (or OP) riots in London. After 66 days Kemble had to give in and the management had to restore the Gallery and the old prices to the new Smirke designed theatre.
The rioters were well organised with demonstrations, special badges, banners, hats, an OP dance and an OP version of the National Anthem.
Between 1809 and 1847 the Theatre Royal was the most luxurious in London and staged many of the popular productions of the day. However, it started to fail and in 1842 it closed.
In 1817 John Philip Kemble Handed over control to his brother Charles Kemble.
Between 1833 & 1835 Robert Elliston's stage manager Alfred Bunn took over at the theatre. Alfred Bunn was also running the Drury lane theatre at the same time.
Between 1837 and 1839 William Charles Macready took over as manager.
Between 1841 and 1842 Madame Vestris (1797-1856 Actress / Manager) & Charles Mathews (1803 - 1878) Comedian / Playwright who married Mme Vestris in 1838) managed the theatre (See also 1806 Olympic and 1847-1855 Lyceum, 1794).
During the period of 1842 to 1847 the theatre was intermittently used.
In 1847 it reopened as the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA HOUSE but this theatre burnt down on the 5 March 1856.
The present theatre was built by architect Sir Edward Barry in 1858 with half its original capacity and started to put on predominantly Opera and Ballet productions.
In 1939 it was renamed the ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

Between 1939 & 1945 (World war 2) it had been used as a dance hall.
 During July 1982 the building underwent renovations and extensions with a new rehearsal room and dressing rooms being added. (See 1661, 1858).
 The building was featured in a BBC2 Tv programme called "THE HOUSE".
 By 1997 the building was in financial difficulties and was also in the middle of a total rebuild of back stage facilities and closed while they did this. The two companies in the building (Ballet and Opera) were forced to close without another venue to perform in.
 When the theatre re opened in 2000 (?) after spending £216 Million.
 The building opened with the National Lottery doing their Saturday programme from the building.

1734 YORK THEATRE
 Built in 1734. (See 1744)

1736 IPSWICH THEATRE
 Built in 1736.

1744 YORK THEATRE ROYAL St Leonard's Place, York, Yorkshire.
 The site was a medieval building called St Leonard's Hospital from the 12th to the 18th Century, occupied by Nuns (Remains of the hospital can still be seen in the grounds of the theatre).
 The original theatre on the site was built in 1744, producing touring companies.
 In the 1820's it was reconstructed,
 In 1869 the theatre gained a Royal Patent
 Major alterations took place in 1902 and 1967. In 1978 the auditorium was given a face lift.
 Grade 2 Listed building (863 Seats)

www.yorktheatroyal.co.uk

GHOST 1) ~

The Ghost in Leeds is a Grey and White Lady who appears in a small room just off the Dress Circle and is possibly a Nun who was one of the occupants of the hospital that was on the site of the theatre between the 12th and 18th century. One legend says that the Nun was bricked up alive in her convent cell as a punishment for breaking her religious vows.

In August 1975 Evelyn Laye was starring in "Dear Octopus". During rehearsals she was playing on the piano 'The Kerry Dance' when she looked up and saw the shape of a Nun in the Dress circle. As she stopped playing the shape looked as though it was being sucked into a ball before disappearing in front of her eyes.

In December 1976 Julie Dawn Cole (Actress) was in the Green room going over her lines for a lunch time performance of "Charlie's Aunt" she saw the figure of the Grey lady in front of the wrought iron gate in the room. The figure had its back to the actress and started to turn, however instead of revealing her identity the ghost just disappeared in front of her eyes.

1748 **HOLYWELL MUSIC ROOM c/o Music Faculty, St Aldate's, Oxford.**
Built in 1748 it is the "oldest purpose built Concert Hall in Europe"? (See 1664-8)
(200 Raised Benches)

1750 BATH THEATRE Oxford Street (or Orchard Street)
 The first playhouse in Bath was erected in 1705 with the second theatre being built in Orchard Street (or oxford Street) in 1750, despite the 1737 ban on building theatres outside London. In 1768 after a lengthy campaign it received a Royal Patent allowing it to officially produce plays. This set a president allowing other theatres to be built in the country.
 The building has since become a Masonic Hall.(see 1705 & 1805)

Pre 1752 MARYLEBONE GARDENS London
 A theatre was built some time before 1752 on this spot.

1758 THEATRE ROYAL NORWICH Theatre Street, Norwich, Norfolk
 The first theatre on this site was opened in 1758 with rebuilding in 1801 and 1935

when the present Art Deco theatre was erected by Tom Foster Architects.
(1308 Seats)

- 1762 THE CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL Leeds.
The City Varieties Music Hall claims to be the oldest theatre having put on a "Concert of Musick and a specimen of Rhetorick" but as it was then a singing room at the time it does not qualify as the oldest theatre, that honour goes to the Royal in Bristol built in 1766.
(See 1865)
- 1765 SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE West End, Islington, London.
The site started as the "Old Music House" in 1683 at Islington spar of Sadler's Wells, in pleasure gardens surrounding the medical wells.
It was rebuilt as a stone theatre in 1765 and housed 2,600 seats.
By the 1840's and 1850's Phelps had become the manager and made its name as a theatre. But it soon fell into decline and was derelict for some years until 1931 when Lillian Baylis (b. 1874 .d. 1937) opened a new building on the site she named it the SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE to put on productions by the Old Vic Company. (See also Old Vic Theatre 1818).
GHOST 1) ~
A Clown has been seen in the theatre. It is thought to be that of Joseph Grimaldi (1778-1837) who visits one of the theatre boxes at Midnight.
GHOST 2) ~
It is the celebrated manager Lilian Baylis (1874 - 1937) who haunts the Sadler's Wells Theatre in the upper Gallery area.
(See 1683)
- 30 May 1766 THEATRE ROYAL / Bristol Old Vic King Street, Bristol.
Built to the Architectural designs of Thomas Paty the Theatre Royal opened on the 30 May 1766 and is **the oldest continuous working theatre in the Country.**
The foundation stone was laid on the 30 November 1764. (645 Seats)
In 1943 CEMA took over the running of the theatre (1939 the C.E.M.A., Council for the Encouragement of Music & Arts was funded by the Treasury through the Ministry of education, and the Pilgrim trust. Its main job was to organise arts events in areas where people had been evacuated. From 1942 the treasury took over the finance of the fund completely and the name was changed to "The Arts Council".
(See also 1972 New Vic Bristol & 1729)
GHOST 1)
Sarah Siddons an actress who starred in the theatre between 1778 and 1782 along with her daughter Sally. After a performance in November 1982 in front of Prince Charles (The Prince of Wales) four of the cast standing in the empty theatre saw a figure moving across the back of the gallery. The gallery was closed at the time to the public and no staff were there either.
GHOST 2)
A Scenic artist who died when the handle of the paint frame hoist hit him in the face while he was in the paint dock. He has been described by Jane Cooke another scenic artist as being dressed in a brown sleeveless jerkin.
- 1768 (STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE) ORIGINAL TITLE NOT KNOWN
27 St Mary's Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire.
The original Georgian theatre was built in 1768 with a ballroom built in 1727 they make up the bulk of the Stamford Arts Centre opened in 1978. (Theatre 166 Seats)
- 1768 NORWICH THEATRE
A theatre was built in Norwich in 1768 (Title unknown)
- 1769 YORK THEATRE
A theatre was built in York in 1769 (Title unknown)

BETWEEN 1769 and 1789

Theatres were built in the following cities. Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and Newcastle.

1780 7 Apr GRAND THEATRE

Opened on the 7 April 1780 architect Victor Louis (1731-1800) designed the theatre at Bordeaux in France. He had designed the Chartres Cathedral, The Palais Royal and the Theatre Francais in Paris. The stage was 88 meters by 47 meters.

1782 GRAND THEATRE / THEATRE ROYAL

St Leonardsgate, Lancaster, Lancashire. (GRADE 2)

One of the oldest provincial theatres in the Country, founded in 1782 it is considered to be the 3rd oldest theatre in the Country (Continual use as a place of entertainment).

Refurbished in 1908 by Albert Winstanley after a fire it has a beautiful Edwardian interior. Grade 2 Listed building. (468 Seats)

There has been a theatre on this site since 1782, which has been much altered.

The building originally had 500 seats and was made up of a Pit, Upper and lower boxes and gallery. Opened in June 1782 (Architect unknown) by Joseph Austin and Charles Whitelock who had arrived in the town in 1781 where they had decided to build their own theatre, having leased the Theatre Royal in Manchester.

In 1785 Charles Whitelock married Elizabeth Kemble in Lancaster who was from a famous theatrical family which included her sister Sarah Kemble otherwise known as Sarah Siddons. Between 1791 and 1794, the building was managed by Stephen Kemble and included a season by Sarah Siddon in 1799.

In 1843 local architect Edmund Sharpe acquired the building for £500 and extended the facilities with £680 of alterations before he reopened it in 1848 as a concert hall with two dwellings (Cottages) next to the theatre and houses beneath it along with and a museum run by the local Literary and Natural History Society. It was at this time that the Georgian stage was removed from the building and windows were added to the outer walls. Mr Sharpe also extended the building and added an organ and a platform to accommodate a Choir or Orchestra.

During this time both Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins appeared with Dickens performing some of "A Christmas Carol" and "Pickwick Papers".

Another appearance was by J H Pepper of the Royal Polytechnic of London who demonstrated his famous Ghost illusion now known as "Pepper's Ghost".

From 1860 the theatre was owned by the Lancaster Athenaeum Company who unfortunately had to close the building when it was declared unsafe in 1882. New owner Henry Wilkindon improved the staircase galleries and the stage before opening the building as the Athenaeum Theatre.

In 1869 the theatre opened its doors for the first time to amateur groups.

By 1884 local pub owner Henry Wilkinson had taken over the theatre and it was he who introduced Electric Lighting to the building in 1895 (The theatre kept the Gas lighting for emergencies until 1978)

In 1897 Frank Matcham was given the task of installing a new stage and extending the small fly tower.

In 1908 a Fire gutted the building losing the interior completely. Albert Winstanley the architect designed a new theatre to fit inside the remaining walls.

The interior has stayed pretty much the same since it's re design however the exterior is that of the original 1782 building.

The theatre at this time was described so, "There is a single balcony with the front returned to the stage wall, culminating in a single elaborate box on either side. The Proscenium is almost square with rounded corners has delightful Edwardian Plasterwork. The foyer space is very small and the box office is nearly out in the street". Within the year the theatre reopened under the name "The Grand" on the 14 September 1908.

In 1931 the building was sold to the Hippodrome Lancaster for £4,860.

In 1936 the building was taken over by "Union" and converted into a cinema with the projection box situated behind the rear of the Balcony.

When ABC took over the "Union" company they continued to run the cinema renaming it the ABC until 1951 when they sold it to the Lancaster Footlights Club an Amateur Dramatics group who put on small scale professional tours and Amateur society performances and is run by the Lancaster Footlights Club.

BRIEF HISTORY

1782 Opened June 1782 (Architect unknown)

Owner / Management Joseph Austin and Charles Whitelock

1791-94 Owner / Management Stephen Kemble (Manager)
 1794?-1801 Owner Elizabeth Wilson
 1801 Owner / Management Lodge Family
 1843 Owner / Management Edmund Snape
 1848 Alterations by Edmund Sharpe to Concert hall with added dwellings to front.
 1857 Alterations by Edmund Sharpe to include fitting of an Organ.
 1860 Owner / Management Lancaster Athenaeum Company.
 1884 Owner Henry Wilkinson (of the Black Cat Public House)
 1884 Alterations (Architect unknown) to staircase, galleries and stage.
 1897 Alterations by Frank Matcham with new stage and small fly tower.
 1908 FIRE
 1908 Albert Winstanley altered the interior after the fire.
 1919 Owner / Management Stanley Rogers (Sold in same year)
 1919 Owner / Management John McLaughlin and James McVey.
 1921 Owners Grand Empire Theatre Ltd.(John McLaughlin and James McVey
 1931 Owner / Management Union Cinemas (Hippodrome, Lancaster)
 1931 Projection Box added and minor alterations to front.
 (Architect unknown)
 Unkn ABC Cinemas
 1951 Owners Lancaster Footlights Club
 1978 Alterations and improvements (Architect unknown).

- 1782 ROYAL CIRCUS OPENED London.
 Opened in 1782 it was built on the Surrey side of the Thames along with the Astley's Amphitheatre (See 1788).
 In 1809 Robert William Elliston acquired the lease of the theatre. He renamed it the SURREY and opened it with a production of "The Beggar's Opera".
 As the first "Music Hall" (see 1843 Theatre act) the "Surrey" was renamed the WINCHESTER.
- 1784 SPRING GARDENS Buxton, Derbyshire.
 The first theatre in Buxton it was opened in 1784. By 1804 it had become the BUXTON THEATRE. It closed in 1828.
- 1784 GROUNDINGS THEATRE 42 Kent Street, Port Sea, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 3BT
www.groundlings.co.uk
 Originally a school known as "The Old Benny" and was the first Free school in the city. In 1939 it was closed due to a Second World War Bomb dropped on the building when a Nazi sympathiser used the roof to direct enemy aircraft to the city with a torch. In 1962 it became a training centre for the young and in 2010 became known as the Groundlings Theatre.
- 1787 THEATRE ROYAL Addington Street, Margate, Kent.
 Originally built in 1787, the second oldest provincial theatre in England.
 It was reconstructed in 1874 by Jethro T Robinson.
 In 1964 it ceased operating as a theatre and was used as a Bingo Hall for the next 20 years.
 In December 1988 it re-opened as a theatre.
 By 1993 it was again closed with hopes for its re-opening under new management in late 1994.
 It is now again a live theatre.
 Grade 2 Listed Building. (520 Seats)
- 1787 ROYALTY THEATRE Wellclose Square, London.
 Built for John Palmer (who also was involved with Drury lane) in 1787.
 It was burnt down in 1826.
- 1788 GEORGIAN THEATRE ROYAL Victoria Rd, Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Georgian Theatre Royal built in 1788.
In 1848 it was closed until it was restored and reopened in 1963.
It is the 2nd oldest working theatre in the country.
Grade 1 Listed building. (220 Seats)

- 1788 ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE
Opened in 1788 it was built on the Surrey Side of the Thames. (See 1782 Royal Circus)
Between 1830 and 1841 Andrew Ducrow (.b. 1793.d. 1848) ran the theatre.
In 1841 it was burnt down.
- 1792 ANGLES CENTRE Alexandra Rd, Wisbech, Cumbs.
Built in 1792 as a Georgian Playhouse, THE THEATRE, WISBECH. Between 1845 and 1978 it was closed. In 1978 it reopened as the ANGELS THEATRE.
In 1987 it was renamed again as the ANGLES CENTRE. (112 Seats)
- 12 Aug 1793 THEATRE ROYAL High Street, Windsor, Berkshire
First theatre of this name in Windsor was opened on the 12 Aug 1793. (see 1815)
- 1794 LYCEUM THEATRE 21 Wellington Street, Strand, London.
In 1794 the Lyceum became a playhouse on this site after being an exhibition hall.
The first purpose-built theatre on this site was built in 1816 as the ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.
In 1817 the Lyceum became the first theatre to install gas lighting on the stage.
By the 1830's the 1816 theatre was burnt down and was replaced by the current building 1834 for Samuel Beasley and stayed in use until 1904 when it was demolished.
Between 1847 and 1855 Madame Vestris (1797-1856 Actress / Manager) & Charles Mathews (1803 - 1878) Comedian / Playwright). (See Covent Garden 1732 Olympic 1806) Managers of the theatre included Sir Henry Irving (1838 - 1905) who took over in 1878 (He was knighted in 1895).
On the 31 December 1904 the Present theatre was opened. It was built by Bertie Crewe and J Parkinson it was originally a Music Hall. In 1907 it became a Theatre and continued till 1939 when it closed again it was due to be demolished but the War postponed this. After the War it again opened this time as a Mecca ballroom in 1946. In 1985 it closed and apart from a few performances by the National Theatre Company performing "The Mystery Plays" (directed by Bill Bryden) it has been disused. It was hoped that in 1996 it would again re open as a theatre. (2000 Seats)
- 1804 KENTON THEATRE New Street, Henley on Thames, Oxon.
4th oldest continuous working theatre in the Country (240 Seats)
- 1805 THEATRE ROYAL BATH Sawclose, Bath, Avon.
The third theatre in the city's history the Theatre Royal was opened in 1805 to designs by George Dance the Younger.
The first playhouse was erected in 1705 on what became known as the Royal Mineral Water Hospital.
The second theatre was built in Orchard Street in 1750 and has since become a Masonic Hall. In 1768 the theatre was granted a Royal Patent and was recognised as the most important theatre outside London by the end of the century.
In 1805 the present theatre opened. However, on Good Friday 1862 a fire virtually destroyed the building. An architectural competition was held to design the new building on the site and in 1863 Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps), a local designer, restored the theatre, with renovations again in 1902 by Thomas Verity and 1981 by Carl Toms. It was also re decorated in 1892 and 1974 with major renovations in 1984.
Between 1926 and 1976 the theatre was run by the Maddox family (see Ghost 3+). In 1948 Rex Maddox the manager of the theatre, died during pantomime week starting a tradition or spiritual experience.
Grade 2 listed building (900 Seats) (see 1705 & 1750)
www.theatreroyal.org.uk
GHOST 1) ~
A Grey Lady who became romantically involved with a gentleman who booked a box

seat every night to see her. However, when her Husband found out about the affair and challenged the suitor to a duel. The Lover lost when her husband's sword pierced him through the heart. Grief stricken the actress gave one last performance dressed in a grey gown and a head-dress of Grey feathers, she then went to her room in the Garrick's Head Hotel and hanged herself. The ghost is seen in the box that her lover used to occupy. (She has also been seen in the Hotel accompanied by the strong perfumed scent of Jasmine).

Another story connected to the lady in Grey is that it was she who fell in love with an actor on stage and spent all her time watching him from the box. As her love was unrequited she committed suicide. Theory's about her death also include the story that she threw herself out of a window at the theatre.

Ballet dancer Anna Pavlova is said to have seen the ghost in one of the boxes, but staff at the theatre were unable to find anyone there and the box was closed that night.

Actress Anna Neagle is also said to have felt the presence of the ghost.

GHOST 2) +

This is of an 18th century Doorman

GHOST 3) +

This is the most unusual ghost of them all, it is of a Butterfly. It began in 1948 when a pantomime was being rehearsed. A large butterfly set had been constructed for manager Reg Maddox to include a Butterfly Ballet to make the dance routines interesting and add colour to the production. One day just before rehearsals a dead Tortoiseshell Butterfly was discovered on Stage. Shortly afterwards Reg Maddox died of a heart attack, leaving his son Frank to continue with the pantomime rehearsals. Unsure what to do with the dance routine he dropped the Butterfly ballet. From that point on everything went wrong. Frank put the butterfly set piece back on stage in the wings to remind him of the omen of disaster. When the rehearsal started a real butterfly flew around the feet of the dancers. From then on the show was fine. Ever since then each successful Pantomime has had a butterfly appearing on stage (In Winter). The Butterfly scenery (12ft X 8ft) from that first production can still be seen in the theatre's fly tower as a Mascot and guardian of the theatre.

Usually a dead butterfly signifies (in normal superstitions) that a death will follow shortly but it seems that it is a good omen for the Theatre Royal Bath.

On Boxing day 1979 when the butterfly had not appeared on stage to give the production good luck, Leslie Crowther who was playing Wishee Washee in "Aladdin" was worried that the show would fail. However, during his opening sequence of the pantomime he looked up into the spotlight to see a peacock butterfly descending towards him, in front of the audience the butterfly landed on his right shoulder lapel causing relief and applause all round. The butterfly then moved off Leslie for a moment before returning to his lapel. Leslie then cupped his hands round the butterfly and took it into the wings. The butterfly stayed in the building for several weeks, and the pantomime was a great success.

In later years Honor Blackman appearing as the Wicked fairy in "Jack and the Beanstalk" also attracted the butterfly during her performance.

DEATH AT THE THEATRE (Butterfly superstition)

Between 1948 and 1952 a dead butterfly was found outside the dressing room of an actor. Within hours the actor who had occupied that dressing room was found dead. As mentioned above it is usually unlucky to find a dead butterfly in the theatre as it is an omen of someone dying. In 1952 the Company manager found a dead butterfly while looking in a dressing room for an actor who had gone missing. The actor was later found at his lodgings. He had hanged himself!

A BOX OF BUTTERFLIES

In 1981 a box was found in the theatre that had not seen daylight for many years. When it was opened, out flew a flurry of Butterflies revealing inside the box a photograph of the Butterfly Ballet's director Reg Maddox (Strange).

1806 ADELPHI THEATRE The Strand, London.

The latest theatre was built in 1930 on the site of 3 earlier Theatres.

The first theatre on the site was built in 1806 and named the SANS PAREIL

In 1819 it became the ADELPHI and was the first London theatre to be constructed with cantilevered construction to build overhanging balconies instead of tiered galleries.

In 1829 & 1858 it was named the THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.

In 1834 the first mechanical sinking stage in Britain was installed.

From 1837 to 1845 the theatre staged the first adaptations were performed of the Charles Dickens novels.

In 1867 it became the ROYAL ADELPHI THEATRE.

In 1897 popular actor in the Adelphi melodramas William Terriss was assassinated at the stage door of the theatre on the 16 December.

In 1901 another name change to the CENTURY.

In 1902 ROYAL ADELPHI THEATRE

It was rebuilt in 1930 by Ernest Schaufelberg

In 1942 it again became the ADELPHI.

During the above name changes it was demolished once and reconstructed three times. The present building from 1930 retains the 19th century outer walls and the Royal entrance. (1486 seats)

GHOST 1) ~

The Actor William Charles James Lewin Terriss (.b. 1847 .d. 16 Dec 1897 – William Charles James Lewin) haunts the theatre after he was stabbed to death as he left the stage door on the 16 December 1897 by small part actor Richard Arthur Prince. William Terriss was starring in the box office success "Secret Service" when jealous actor Richard Prince decided to kill the star. Known as "Mad Archer" (his real name being Richard Arthur) he waited for his victim before the evenings performance. As Mr Terriss fumbled for his pass key to the theatre Prince jumped out of the shadows and stabbed him three times with a kitchen knife. Mortally wounded he staggered into the theatre finding his mistress and leading lady Jessie Milward before making his farewell speech, dying in her arms some twenty minutes later. His last words were "I Will come back". A Mime artist called Lane is said to have had a premonition about the murder and told the victim and his friends that he saw William Terriss was lying in a pool of blood with his friends and himself standing over the body. Unfortunately, everyone he told laughed at him. The following day the murder took place.

The usual moving items are part of the legend including an incident in 1928 when a dressing room couch moved on its own with a young lady sitting on it. The ghost of W Terriss has also been seen at Covent Garden Underground station.

EXTRA INFORMATION The famous actor Seymour Hicks was William Terriss's son in law as he had married his daughter Ellaline. Seymour is said to have heard the dying actor mutter the words "Are there men living such fools as to think there is no hereafter?"

(Seats 1,500)

1806 OLYMPIC THEATRE Wych Street, off the Strand, London.

Built for Philip Astley in 1806.

In 1818 the theatre installed gas lighting.

In 1830 Madame Vestris (Lucy Elizabeth Bartolozzi 1797 - 1856) was able to take over as manager of the Olympic theatre in the Strand becoming the first woman manager of a London theatre. Between 1831 and 1838 it was managed by Madame Vestris and her 2nd husband Charles Mathews (1803 - 1878) Comedian / Playwright who had married Mme Vestris in 1838.

In 1813 she renamed it the Little Drury Lane theatre. She lost her licence soon after, falling foul of the authorities.

In 1849 the theatre burned to the ground.

It was then rebuilt but in 1904 it was demolished.

(See 1732 Covent Garden / Lyceum 1794).

27 June 1807 THEATRE ROYAL BRIGHTON. New Rd, Brighton

Built in 1807, rebuilt and altered in 1866 by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps). Grade 2 Listed Building which first opened on the 27 June 1807.

(951 Seats)

1810 - 1820 PENNY THEATRE'S (Type of Theatre) Opened in London.

- 1814 REGENCY THEATRE Tottenham Court Rd, London.
 The theatre opened in 1814. It later became known as the PRINCE OF WALES with the nick name "Dust Hole".
 Marie Wilson and H.J. Byron ran the theatre. H.J. Byron left to be replaced by Sir Squire Bancroft who along with Marie Wilton (They Married in 1867) remained in charge at the theatre until 1879.
 In 1855 Marie Wilton (Actress and Manager) had a carpet laid in the stalls of the Prince of Wales theatre.
- 1815 THEATRE ROYAL 32 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire.
 Built in 1815 on a different site from a 1793 building the Theatre Royal survived until October 1869 it closed and became a church.
 An appeal for a theatre led to its reconstruction but after an electrical supply was installed in the theatre and reopened on the 30 October 1900 it only lasted until the 18 February when a fire broke out and only a small section of the auditorium survived.
 It was reconstructed by Frank T Verity and opened on the 13 December 1910 (or 1902) for Sir William Shepley and Captain Reginald Shipley and it is this theatre that survives to this date and is run by Bill Kenwright who as an actor had appeared at the theatre.
 Grade 2 Listed building.
 (633 Seats)
- 1818 THE OLD VIC Waterloo Road, London.
 Built in 1818 as THE ROYAL COBURG THEATRE in Waterloo Road, London.
 In 1833 it was renamed the "ROYAL VICTORIA" and gained the nick name "Old Vic".
 In 1876 it was restored.
 In 1880 it was taken over by Miss Emma Cons as a temperance (Abstinence especially from Alcohol) music hall under the name "ROYAL VICTORIA HALL AND COFFEE TAVERN".
 Miss Cons's niece Miss Lillian Baylis (1874 - 1937) joined her Aunt to put on a mixture of music, lectures, films and opera when she managed the theatre from 1898 becoming manager of the Old Vic on her own in 1912.
 In 1914 Miss Baylis started a Shakespeare season. The theatre became the first in the World to have staged all of Shakespeare's 37 plays in the first Folio from 1915 to 1923. The feat was repeated again between 1953 and 1958.
 In 1926 the theatre was again renovated.
 In 1931 Lillian Baylis acquired the Sadler's Wells theatre to stage opera and Ballet keeping the Old Vic for drama productions a programme that continued after her death in 1937 for another two years. In 1939 the theatre was closed suffering damage in 1940 when the theatre was bombed.
 The building stayed closed until 1950 with the theatre's drama company continuing to perform on tour and at the New theatre, London, until the "OLD VIC" was rebuilt in 1950.
 In 1963 The National theatre company under the direction of Laurence Olivier moved into the theatre as a temporary home until their own theatre on the South Bank was ready in 1976.
 The Prospect Theatre Company made their base at the Old Vic for four years putting the future of the building into doubt until Canadian businessman Ed Murvish bought the property in 1982 renovating it ready for its opening in October 1983 with Tim Rice's musical "Blondel".
 Part of the restoration work involved installing a replica of the famous 'Mirror Curtain' of solid glass which was hung in 1822, but was taken down because of fears that the roof may not hold the weight. The 1982 version was made up of small mirrors rather than one solid structure and survives to date. Grade 2 Listed theatre (1067 seats)
- 11 Oct 1819 THEATRE ROYAL Westgate Street, Bury St Edmonds, Suffolk.
 Built in 1819 and opened on the 11 October by Architect William Wilkins this Grade 1 listed building is a late Georgian Playhouse now owned by Greene King who leased it to The National Trust, who then leased it on to the Bury St Edmonds Theatre Management to run the shows etc.
 The Theatre includes a Sunburner which is a copy of a model made by Phipps. (352 Seats)

- 4 July 1821 THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET City of Westminster.
 Opened on the 4 July 1821, this is the third theatre on the site with the original being built in 1720 by John Potter a carpenter.
 In 1749 a hoaxer advertised that he would place his body inside an empty bottle while on stage at the theatre in full view of the audience. However, the hoax conjuror failed to turn up and the audience rioted and gutted the theatre.
 On the 14 May 1767 a new theatre with extensions into the adjacent building was opened.
- 1826 THEATRE ROYAL Theatre Street, Norwich, Norfolk.
 The Theatre Royal was built in 1826 and was destroyed by fire in 1934.
 In 1936 a new theatre was built to take over from the earlier building (Seats Unknown)
 See 1936.
- 1828 PAVILION Whitechapel.
 The Pavilion theatre was opened in 1828.
- 1830 THE BROAD WALK Shakespeare Inn, Hall Bank, Buxton, Derbyshire.
 Also known as the NEW THEATRE it was opened in the 1830's inside the Shakespeare Inn public house it was the second theatre in Buxton. It closed in 1854.
- 1830 CITY THEATRE Cripplegate, London.
 This short-lived theatre opened in 1830.
- 1830 MARYLEBONE Church Street, off Edgeware Rd, London.
 Opened in 1830.
- 1831 GARRICK Lemn Street, Whitechapel, London.
 Built in 1831 (See 1889)
- 1831 CREMORNE London ?
 In 1831 the Cremorne theatre was opened.
- 1832 WESTMINSTER London
 The Westminster theatre was built in 1832 on the site of what is now the Central Hall.
- 1832 STRAND THEATRE Nr Somerset House, London.
 Built in 1832. In 1836 Douglas Jerrard took over as manager of the theatre.
 In 1942 the play "Arsenic and Old Lace" ran for 1337 performances with Naughton Wayne in the cast.
- 1835 GREENWICH THEATRE Cooms Hill, London.
 Originally The "Greenwich Hippodrome" a Victorian Music Hall, it was converted in 1969 by Brian Meeking to the current theatre. (423 seats)
- 1835 STANDARD Shoreditch, London.
 Built in 1835
- 1835 ST JAMES THEATRE 12 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JA
www.stjamestheatre.co.uk
 Built in 1835 near the Lord Chamberlains office.
- 20 Feb 1837 THEATRE ROYAL Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne.
 Originally built and opened on the 20 February 1837 in Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne by J and B Green.
 In 1899 after a performance of "Macbeth" a fire broke out destroying the interior of the theatre.
 The interior of the building was reconstructed in 1901 by Frank Matcham.
 During the renovation Frank Matcham installed a Sunburner in the roof of the auditorium.
 In 1988 it was refurbished by RHWL Partnership.
 In 2011 as part of a £4.75 million restoration the theatre has acquired a Sunburner from a

nearby theatre that had been demolished. The Borough Theatre in Wallsend was demolished in May 2010 and the team at the Theatre Royal salvaged the Sunburner unaware of its potential.

Unfortunately, it is too wide to fit into the decorative plaster hole in the Theatre Royal but the team are using it as a template to build a smaller replica. On the 14 March 2011 the theatre was closed while it was being restored back to Frank Matcham's original 1901 designs.

The building is due to be reopened on the 12 September 2011 after reaching the halfway point in its restoration.

It is a Grade 1 listed building. (1294 Seats)

www.theatreroyal.co.uk

- 1837 THE BOWER Lambeth, London.
The Bower was opened in 1837. It later became a Music Hall.
- 1837 CITY OF LONDON THEATRE Bishopsgate, London.
Built in 1837.
- 1838 THE EAGLE SALOON City Road, London.
Opened in 1838.
- 1838 GRECIAN THEATRE London.
Opened in 1838.
- 1840 THE MUSIC HALL The Square, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
Georgian building opened in 1840. In 1983 it was refurbished. It presents plays Pantomime and variety shows in the heart of Shrewsbury town centre. (400 Seats)
- 1840 PRINCESS THEATRE Oxford Street, London
Built in 1840 it was also known as the LITTLE PRINCESS.
Between 1851 and 1859 Charles Kean was the manager of the theatre.
- 1840 ROYALTY Dean Street, Soho, London
Built in 1840.
- 1841 THEATRE ROYAL Pall Mall, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire.**
Originally built as the ROYAL POTTERY THEATRE in 1841 for Mr Elphinstone. It was extensively rebuilt in 1871 and was reconstructed in 1888 and enlarged. In 1894 it was partially reconstructed by Frank Matcham.
In 1934 a small fire caused more renovations. On the 2 June 1949 at 5am a fire completely destroyed the building within one hour.
It was rebuilt in 1951, opening on the 14 Aug with Annie Get your Gun (Amile Littler's production) but after poor attendance it was sold 10 years later to MECCA Bingo halls. In 1980 it closed as a Bingo hall. 18 months later it was opened by local Theatre enthusiasts in August 1982 by the Theatre Royal Restoration Trust.
On the 7 September 1982 it again closed. On the same day, 7 September in 1984 it was opened by Theatre Royal Hanley PLC. During the 1990's it went through various managers before closing on the 23 April 1996.
It was taken over by Mike Lloyd in November 1996 who after redeveloping the building, managed to get Ken Dodd to open it on the 29 November 1997. Mr Lloyd ran the theatre as a "theatre and live music venue". It then became a Night club "Jumping Jacks" in 2000. (1438 Seats) (See 1898 GRAND THEATRE)
- 1841 BRITANNIA THEATRE Hoxton, London.
This Music hall was opened in 1841.

BETWEEN 1843 and 1870

No New theatres were built between these two dates in Central London.

- 1847 NEW LONDON THEATRE Parker Street, London.

The site started with a Music hall in 1847, the first of three such buildings before it became the present theatre.

In 1911 it opened as the NEW MIDDLESEX THEATRE OF VARIETIES becoming the WINTER GARDEN THEATRE in 1919 presenting musicals and other shows until 1959 when it closed and was knocked down in 1965.

The NEW LONDON THEATRE opened in 1973 with a production of "The Unknown Soldier and his Wife" starring Peter Ustinov.

Between 1977 and 1980 the building was used as a television studio.

In 1981 the Musical "Cats" opened at the theatre.

1847 MOGUL SALOON Drury Lane, London.

In 1847 the Mogul saloon opened.

In 1851 it became the MIDDLESEX MUSIC HALL affectionately known as "OLD MO".

pre1847 CANTERBURY ARMS Lambeth, London.

The theatre was built as a public house originally. In 1848 Charles Morton the "Father of the Halls" took over the building and ran it as a Music Hall. (see 1852)

1850 KING'S HALL AND JUBILEE HALL Glebe Street, Stoke on Trent, Staffs.

The Jubilee Hall was built in 1850 with the King's Hall in 1910. They are run by the Stoke on Trent City Council. (Jubilee 300 Stacking Seats, Kings Hall--1372 Stacking Seats)

1851 CRYSTAL PALACE Hyde Park, London / South London.

Built in 1851 the Crystal palace was erected for the Great Exhibition from the 1 May 1851 to the 15 October 1851 when it closed. It was designed by Sir Joseph Paxton (.d. 8 June 1865). After the exhibition it was moved to South London and was used as a concert hall until it was burnt down in a fire on the 30 November 1936.

1852 CANTERBURY HALL Lambeth.

In 1852 Charles Morton built the "Canterbury hall" alongside the Canterbury Arms (See 1848). The building seated 700. Two years later it was extended to hold 1400 seats.

29 Aug 1853 ST GEORGE'S HALL Bradford

1854 PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART Leicester Square, London.

The "Panopticon of Science and Art" was built in 1854.

In 1858 it was converted into the ALHAMBRA music hall, seating 3,500.

1856 NEW THEATRE ROYAL Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Converted from a hall in 1856. It was rebuilt by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) in 1884 and was subsequently reconstructed by Frank Matcham and opened on the 6 August 1900 for J.W. Boughton (See 1907 King's Theatre).

In 1995 it was again renovated and rebuilt by architect Rod Ham.

Grade 2 Listed Building. (250 Seats)

1858 FREE TRADE HALL (Concert Hall) Peter Street, Manchester.

Originally built in 1858, it was bombed in 1940 and was rebuilt after the war. The Frontage of the building is Grade 2 Listed. Leased to the Hale Concerts Society. It was knocked down in 2003. (2385 Seats)

1858 ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Covent Garden, London.

Opened in 1858 it was designed by Sir Edward Barry on the site of 3 other theatres.

The earliest theatre on this site dates back to 1731. This was rebuilt in 1802 with the present theatre being erected in 1858. (See 1732) (2090 seats)

1859 WILTON'S MUSIC HALL Grace's Alley, off Cable Street, London.

Opened in 1859 under the ownership of John Wilton it had previously been the "Prince of Denmark" public house. It is the oldest Music hall still standing. During 2003 it appeared on a BBC Tv programme called "Restoration" to help raise funds to keep the building open.

(The building contains a Sun-burner ventilation system)

- 1859 THEATRE ROYAL Wednesbury Earps Lane.
The theatre was built in 1859 as the Theatre Royal.
In 1878 the Salvation Army was formed and in 1879 a year after its formation it arrived in the town of Wednesbury, holding its meetings at the old Methodist chapel in Holyhead Road.
In 1882 they moved into the "Theatre Royal" in Earp's lane until 1905 when they again moved in Upper High Street.
It became the Rialto Cinema.
In the 1960's the Midland Cinema and Bingo Club took over the building however it was not a success and closed in 1969 and was demolished. (see New Theatre Royal Wednesbury 1891)

DURING THE 1850'S

Music Halls were built in Birmingham, Blackburn, Manchester and Sheffield.

BETWEEN 1860 & 1870

The BEDFORD Camden Town and the "METROPOLITAN Edgware Road, London were built.

-
- 1861 THEATRE ROYAL (Now the Citadel Arts Centre) Waterloo Street, St Helens, Merseyside.
Built in 1861 as the Theatre Royal by A Beattie. The interior was altered in 1889 and was reconstructed in 1901 by Frank Matcham. The theatre was taken over by the Salvation Army in 1889. It was renamed the Citadel Arts Centre in 1987. (150 Seats) (See 1889)
- 1861 LONDON PAVILION Haymarket, London.
The Theatre opened in 1861 just a few weeks before Morton's "Oxford Music Hall". It was originally a Music Hall.
- 1861 OXFORD MUSIC HALL Oxford Street, London. .
The Music Hall was opened in 1861 for Charles Morton on the corner of Oxford Street and Tottenham Court Rd.
In 1879 Music hall comedian Charles Coborn made came to prominence at the theatre.
- 1863 PAVILION THEATRE North Pier, The Promenade, Blackpool.
Built in 1863 at the end of the North Pier in Blackpool the original Pavilion was replaced in 1939 with the present Theatre. (1529 Seats)
- 1864 HOXTON HALL 130 Hoxton Street, Inner London.
Built in 1864 as a Music Hall the building was restored in 1979 and has been given Grade 2 listed status.
In 2007 it was used as a film location for a production called "Miss Marie Lloyd" starring Jessica Wallace as the music hall star. (BBC4 9 May 2007)
- 1864 OLD JOINT STOCK THEATRE 4 Temple Row West, Birmingham
0121-2000946
Named after the buildings former use as the Birmingham Joint Stock Bank it was designed as a library before becoming a theatre.
- 1865 HAYMARKET THEATRE Wote Street, Basingstoke, Hampshire.
Built in 1865 as the Corn Exchange, the building was adapted in 1891 for entertainment use.
In 1910 it was converted into a skating rink.
In 1913 it was reopened as a Cine/Variety theatre called the Grand Cinema.
In 1925 fire damaged the building and it had to be re-modelled.
In 1939 to 1940 it was the home of a Repertory Theatre.
In 1951 it was renamed the Haymarket Theatre.
During 1983 the building was fully renovated with major renovations starting in June 1992 re- opening in September 1993. (460 Seats)
- 1865 CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL Swann Street, Leeds.
Grade 2 listed building opened in 1865 as the THORNTON'S VARIETIES Theatre. It is the oldest continuous music hall in the country.
The home of the BBC Tv Series "The Good Old Days" (BBC 1 between 1953 -1983).

(534 Seats) (See Wilton's Music Hall)

- 1865 THEATRE ROYAL Theatre Square, Nottingham.
Built in 1865 by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) the building was reconstructed in 1897 by Frank Matcham.
In 1978 it was refurbished and reopened. This Grade 2 Listed building is connected to the "Royal Concert Hall", (See1898) (1186 Seats)
(The building contains a Sun-burner ventilation system)
www.trch.co.uk
- 1866 EMPIRE THEATRE Lime Street, Liverpool, Merseyside.
The original EMPIRE THEATRE was built by Solomons and Charles J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) in 1866.
In 1896 it was refurbished by Frank Matcham.
In 1924 it was demolished, with a replacement being built by W & T R Milburn in 1925.
Grade 2 Listed building. (2348 Seats)
- 1866 LIVERPOOL PLAYHOUSE Williamson Square, Liverpool.
Built in the 1866 as a Music Hall it was converted into a Repertory theatre in 1911.
In 1968 an extension was added. Grade 2 listed building (758 Seats)
Owned by Bill Kenwright.
- 1866 THEATRE ROYAL *Washington Street, Working, Cumbria.*
Amateur theatre built in 1866 it was altered in 1878, 1888 and the auditorium was reconstructed in 1912. It was again closed for refurbishment in 1976 when dressing rooms and a workshop were added. (249 Seats)
- 1867 TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE 105- 111 Westgate Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Built in 1867 by William B Parnell. It was used as a Cinema from 1919 until 1974.
It was a Stoll Picture Theatre.
All the original stage machinery survives intact. The Backstage area was destroyed by fire on Christmas Eve 1985 but was subsequently rebuilt with as much of the original material as could be salvaged. Grade 1 Listed building.
The theatre is now known as the "Journal Tyne Theatre" it still has much of the original stage equipment for moving the stage itself. (Not licenced for use but still available to be seen under the stage) (1150 Seats)
GHOST 1).
In 1887 a 36lb cannonball used in a thunder-roll machine along with 7 others, broke through the safety net and killed a stage carpenter. It is said that it is this man who haunts the theatre. The machine had been restored and is I am told very impressive, however, the ghost may or may not exist as no real evidence exists.
- 1868 GAIETY THEATRE London.
The Theatre opened in 1868.
- 1868 THE GLOBE Between St Clement Dane and St Mary le Strand / Newcastle Street (Aldwych)
In 1868 Globe was built between St Clement Dane and St Mary le Strand back to back with "Opera Comique" (1870 building).
It was owned by Sefton Parry who demolished the Lyon's inn for the space to build the theatre.
The building was so thinly built it was said that you could hear the play in the Opera Comique next door while watching a play at the Gobe.
In 1870 it was rebuilt by Walter Emden.
W. S. Gilbert's "Committed for Trial" was at the theatre in 1874.
1882 "The Vicar of Bray" by Sydney Grundy and Edward Solomon.
1884 "The Private Secretary" starring and written by Sir Charles Hawtrey.
1890 "Hamlet" by Sir Frank Benson's Company.
The play Charley's Aunt was opened at the Royalty Theatre on the 21 December 1892 and transferred to the larger Globe Theatre on the 30 January 1893 for the rest of its 1,466 shows.

1899 Sir Arthur Wing Pinero's "The Gay Lord Quex" showed ladies smoking cigarets for the first time on stage. The production ran for 300 performances with John Hare in the cast. The building was also known as the "ROYAL GLOBE", and the "GLOBE THEATRE ROYAL".

The last managers of the theatre were Fred Terry and Julia Neilson.

In 1902 the building was closed and the site was demolished to make way for Bush House.

(This is not connected with THE GLOBE of William Shakespeare See 1598 - 9)

The building had been demolished.

1868 NEW THEATRE ROYAL Croydon.

Built in the late 1800's the theatre was opened on the 29th August 1868 as the NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

The owner was Mr Solomon who along with Messrs M'Collum and Charman they ran a company called the "Royal Amphitheatre and Circus, London".

In 1873 the building was run by Edward Darbey (Check Details)

In 1890 the variety act Arthur Lloyd appeared at the theatre (See Website dedicated to his work and the theatres he performed at. A very interesting site.)

In 1897 the theatre was altered into a Louis XV style building by George Veale to the designed of well known architect Bertie Crewe. The theatre was reopened on the 20 September 1897 as the Croydon Empire (Monday).

In 1898 the company was forced to close the theatre.

On the 30 July 1899 it reopened under new management as the "New Theatre Royal" with the play "When London Sleeps" by Charles Darrell.

The building was later known as the HIPPODROME (Not the Croydon Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties).

In 1906 architect W.G.R. Sprague redesigned the building again and it opened as the EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES with 1,868 seats.

In 1946 the "Hyams Brothers" converted the building again, this time into a Variety Theatre in which format it continued until the 9 May 1953 when it produced its last show "Soldiers in Skirts".

The building then became the EROS CINEMA.

1870 ROYAL COURT THEATRE Sloane Square, Chelsea, London.

Opened in 1870 in a converted chapel it was called the NEW CHELSEA THEATRE. It was soon renamed the BELGRAVIA but even this name change didn't bring success to the building.

In 1871 the theatre was rebuilt by new owner Marie Litton and changed its name to the ROYAL COURT.

In 1887 it was demolished to make way for a road widening scheme.

In 1888 it reopened, but it wasn't until 1898 that it started to become popular after a production of Pinero's "Trelawney of the Wells".

Between 1904 and 1907 it was the home of the "Barker-Vedrenne Company".

In 1932 the Royal Court became a Cinema.

In 1952 it became a theatre again. Success still eluded the building until 1956 when it became the home of the "English Stage Company".

1870 OPERA COMIQUE Between St Clement Dane and St Mary le Strand

In 1870 OPERA COMIQUE was built between St Clement Dane and St Mary le Strand back to back with "The Globe" (1868 building).

16 Apr 1870 VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand, London.

Built in 1870 it was opened on the 16 April by Charles J Phipps (C.J. Phipps) it was much larger than the present theatre.

Its first production was "For Love or Money". Since then various productions have been staged including "Our Boys" by H.J. Byron which ran for 1,362 performances between 1875 and 1878.

The theatre was reconstructed in 1891 which reduced the capacity of the building and a neo-Georgian facade was added.

From 1915 the theatre staged revues before closing in 1925.

In 1926 the interior was rebuilt and the theatre was reconstructed by Robert Atkinson.

The building contains a Sun-burner ventilation system built by “Stode’s Sunburners”.
Grade 2 Listed building (690 Seats).

- 1871 LONDON PALLADIUM Argyll Street, London.
Built on the site of the Corinthian Bazaar (Dating from 1870) It was first called HENGLER’S GRAND CIRQUE (1871) (Circus) and was owned by Frederick Charles Hengler, a circus showman. It was re constructed in 1884 by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps). The present theatre was built in 1910 by Frank Matcham and opened on the 26 December as a Variety Theatre. (2298 Seats) (See 1910 for full history)
- 1871 29 Mar ROYAL ALBERT HALL Kensington Gore, London.
(This Concert hall is included in this list of theatres as it has put on everything from opera to pop as well as many other events.)
In 1851 Prince Albert proposed a Hall of Arts and Sciences should be built to help fund the Great Exhibition. This didn’t happen as it wasn’t until 1867 that the Queen approved the scheme.
On the 20 May 1867 Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone for the Royal Albert hall. The building was officially opened on the 29 March 1871 it was inspired by Prince Albert’s love of music and was opened by Queen Victoria. At the opening Ceremony the Bishop of London discovered the famous echo when his "AMEN" was repeated around the hall. The acoustics were improved in 1968 with the additions of sound dampers.
The design for the building was by Captain Fowke and Major-General Scott of the Royal Engineers and is based on Roman architecture. A feature of the hall is the largest ever built pipe organ. The Willis organ has nearly 9,000 pipes and at one time was powered by a steam engine.
The building is now famous for the Henry Wood Promenade concerts which were moved to the Albert Hall in 1941.
It had an original capacity of 8,000 however in 1906, 9,000 people crammed into the hall to hear the first Gramophone Concert.
In 1919 the hall held its first boxing match.
The finance for the hall came from the sale of seats on a 999 year lease. This gave owners of the seat free admission to performances and over 1,000 seats were sold at £100 each. The contract still stands and owners still use this privilege although the practice has been restricted to about 80 events each year. In the 1890’s at the height of the Charity Balls in the Albert Hall, two sisters had a special trapdoor cut into the dance floor so that they could reach their seats without missing out on the fun of the dancing! (5200 seats- 5 tiers)
- 1871 7 Oct THEATRE ROYAL Spring Gardens, Buxton Derbyshire.
Short lived theatre in Buxton opened about this date and closed about the 28 October as the management absconded with all the funding and everything else they could lay their hands on.
- 1871 ALEXANDRA THEATRE (Corn Exchange / Alexandra Cinema)
Market Street, Newton Abbot.
Designed by Unknown
Redesigned in 1900 and 1927.
The building is now a Cinema.
- 1872 THEATRE ROYAL Effingham Street, Rotherham.
The original theatre in Rotherham was a former Zion Chapel in Henry Street.
In 1872 a new “Theatre Royal” was built in Effingham Street. It closed in December 1892.
(See Theatre Royal, Howard Street 1894)
- 1873 ALEXANDRA PALACE Alexandra Palace Way, Wood Green, London.
Situated in 196 Acres of Park Land the original Alexandra Palace was built in 1873 by Alfred Meeson as the People’s Palace it burnt to the ground 16 days after its opening. Rebuilt in 1875 by E Johnston. Between 1935 and 1981 it was used by the BBC for the first British Television transmissions. In 1980 it was again destroyed by fire but has been restored to its former glory and is now an entertainment venue again.
The Area of Land at Alexandra Palace was used between 1868 and 1970 as London’s only

Racecourse nicknamed "The Frying Pan" because of its layout.

Between 1858 and 1859 Owen Jones published plans for a rival to the Crystal Palace with the intention of making the "Palace of the People" a reality.

24 May 1873 Opened to the Public.

23 July 1873 Alexandra Park Opened to the Public.

1873 16 days after it opened a Fire destroyed the Alexandra Palace.

1 May 1875 A new ALEXANDRA PALACE was opened .

It contained a Concert Hall, Art Gallery, Museum, Lecture Hall, Library, Banqueting room and a Theatre.

1875 The "Willis Organ" was installed.

(Vandalised in 1918, restored and reopened in 1929)

1888 Alexandra Park Cricket and Football Club played in the middle of the Racecourse.

1889 Alexandra Palace closed due to financial problems with 200 acres sold off to pay the debts.

1898 The Palace reopened.

1900 Hornsey Urban District Council took over running the building.

1917 Closed to the public and became an Internment camp for German and Austrian civilians. Lt Col Robert Sandilands Frowd Walker was Commandant until his death in May 1917.

1918 Re-opened to public?

1920's General Manager W.J. MacQueen-Pope altered the Theatre in the Building with refurbishing of the auditorium and taking out the understage machinery (Now in Storage) used for Victorian melodrama.

1920's After the refurbishment Archie Pitt (Husband of Gracie Fields) leased the theatre.

1935 The BBC started its Television Service from the Palace.

The Antenna was designed by Charles Samuel Franklin of the Marconi Company.

The BBC made its first broadcast on the 2 November 1936.

1935 The Theatre was closed to the Public and used as a Scenic Storage Space by the BBC.

1937 to 1938 The "National Brass Band Championship of Great Britain" took place at the venue.

1937? (or 1934) Fodens Motor Works Band recorded the 78 "Martial Moments" at the Alexandra Palace on the Rex Label.

1939-45 The BBC stopped Television broadcasts and the transmitter was used to jam German Bomber navigation systems.

1944 A Doodlebug exploded outside the organ end of the Great hall blowing out the Rose Window.

1947 to 1948 Ministry of Works employed architects including E T Spashett to repair the building and to replace the Rose Window.

1955 The BBC Started regular News Broadcasts from Alexandra Palace.

1960's A Roller-Skating Rink was installed.

1963 to 1977 Venue for the "News of the World Darts Championship".

1967 Greater London Council took over the building and grounds.

28 Apr 1967 "The 14 Hour Technicolour Dream" took place. Organised by the International Times it was a concert to develop the UK Underground scene. Headlining acts included Pink Floyd, The Pretty Things, The Crazy world of Arthur Brown and The Move.

1969 BBC News Broadcasts stopped being broadcast from the Palace.

1971 The Italian / Spanish horror film "A Lizard in a Woman's Skin" was filmed at the Palace.

1971 The Open University starts broadcasting from the venue.

1973 The "Divine Light Mission" held a "Festival of Love".

22 Dec 1973 Wishbone Ash played "Christmas at the Palace" along with Al Stewart.

9-11 Sept 1974 Grateful Dead played at the Palace.

1980	Haringey Council took over the Building and grounds.
10 July 1980	Six months after Haringey took over a fire started under the Organ and quickly spread destroying half the building. The BBC Theatre, Studios and Aerial mast survived.
1980's	The Open University Stopped broadcasting from Alexandra Palace.
Jan 1985	The BBC Stopped broadcasting 405-line television which had been launched in the Palace back in 1936.
10 Jan 1985	The Sinclair C5 was launched at the Alexandra Palace.
1986	50 th Anniversary of the BBC television service celebrated at the Alexandra Palace Studios.
1988	After spending over £30 million on the renovation and rebuild including the Organ, the building was again opened to the public.
1990	An Ice Rink was installed.
12 Aug 1990	The Squeeze and the Kinks performed at the Alexandra Palace which was broadcast by BBC Television.
13 Aug 1990	Hugh Cornwell played his last gig with the Stanglers at this venue.
1990	The formation of the Alexandra Palace Television Trust to create a TV Museum.
1993 to 1995	The Brit Awards were held at the Alexandra Palace.
Oct 1994	Blur made the concert video for "End of a Century". (Footage from the concert used in the video)
1996	The department of National Heritage confers Grade II Listed status on the building.
1996	MTV Awards held at the venue. They were hosted by Robbie Williams.
7 Dec 2002	The 60 th "Miss World Competition" was held.
20 Dec 2003	Travis played Ally Pally (Possibly nicknamed by Gracie Fields) It was filmed for the DVD "Travis at the Palace".
June 2004	The Theatre was opened again to the public. The first time in 70 years with a performance in the Foyer and on the 2 July 2004 in the theatre itself. Plans are to open it on a longer term basis but it was only opened for a couple of days and instead of the 3,000 seats it held in the 1920's it now only held a few hundred.
2006	Dr Who filmed the episode "The Idiot's Lantern" at the Palace.
2 Nov 2006	To mark 70 years of Television the BBC held an event called "TV70" and used old equipment to reproduce the early days of broadcasting which could be seen in house on closed circuit televisions.
2007 to date	Venue for the "PDC World Darts Championship".
2008	A regular Antique Fair was reinstated at the venue.
25 Sept 2011	"Songs of Praise" recorded its 50 th anniversary show. (Broadcast 2 Oct 2011)

21 Mar 1874 CRITERION THEATRE 218- 223 Piccadilly Circus, London.
(Originally Regent Circus)
Built in 1874 by Thomas Verity and is the only London theatre built entirely underground with only its entrance above ground level. The building was built below the Criterion restaurant. Opened on the 21 March 1874.
The theatre was reconstructed to meet safety requirements in 1884.
Up until 1899 Charles Wyndham was lessee and manager of the theatre.
In 1939 it became a BBC Sound Studio for the duration of the Second World War because of its unique location below ground level.
In 1945 it reopened with Edith Evans as Mrs Malaprop in "The Rivals".
In 1992 it was again redeveloped. (600 seats)

1875 CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE Wheeler Street, Cambridge.
The Corn Exchange was built in 1875. It closed in 1981 to be refurbished and was reopened in 1986. (1411 Seats)
Between 1989 and 2009 the Corn Exchange held the All England Brass Band Championships.

1875 ST ANNES PALACE Garden Street, Lytham St Annes.
 Built in c1899 (or after 1875) for the St Annes Public Hall Company at a cost of £11,000 by John Dent Harker. John Dent Harker was a local Councillor and Chairman of the St Annes Urban Council who was born in Manchester in 1860. He studied architecture under Mr Edward Robson FSA, ARIBA and in 1881 became a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. http://www.amounderness.co.uk/john_dent_harker.html
 John designed many buildings in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire and The Blackpool Hippodrome (Formally the Empire), St Annes Pier and Blackpool Public Hall. The building had a seating capacity of 800 and was licenced for dramatics and Musical Events.
 In 1906 the Company went into liquidation after competition from the Pier Pavilion which had opened in 1905.
 By 1910 the building was taken over by local businessmen who renamed the theatre "The Public Hall Picturedrome".
 In 1922 it was renamed "The Palace Cinema and Cafes" with a seating capacity of 1050 seats, a café, shops and a Masonic Hall on the ground floor.
 In 1925 the building was sold to the Blackpool Tower Company for £40,000 and renamed the Palace Cinema and restaurant and included a ballroom, assembly room, billiard tables and a Masonic Hall.
 In the 1930's the Cinema had a Western Electric Sound System. The Blackpool Tower Company continued to run the theatre until 1954 when it was sold to the Lytham St Annes Freemasons who reopened the building in 1957.
 In 2009 the building was refurbished.
 The building now houses an indoor market and retail buildings.
 By 2015 a Friends of St Annes Palace held an open day which was opened by Anne Nolan (Nolan Sisters) on the 7 February 2015.

1877 12 Mar THEATRE ROYAL DARWEN

In January 1875 a plan was submitted to build a Temperance Hall in Railway Road, Darwen with a hall to seat 1000. However, by December 1875 when plans had been drawn up by Messrs Kay and Rucklidge of Darwen it was decided to adopt the building for theatricals as there was a need to have a theatre in the town. However, many of the townsfolk of Darwen objected to the building as it was situated next to a Wesleyan Chapel.
 The main building was in the Italian Style, fronted by four shops with spacious cellars, above the shops were offices for "Professional Men". The Stage of the theatre was designed by Mr Hawley of the Prince's Theatre, Manchester. The building had a dress circle and gallery which were lit by two hydrocarbon gaslights. Two sculptured panels depicting Music and Drama decorated the exterior and were produced by Thomas Allen of Blackburn.
 With a Total cost of between £9,000 and £10,000 the theatre was opened on the 12 March 1877 with a production by Mr Walsham's English Opera Company.
 The theatre continued to flourish despite the local Newspapers who started to accept the idea of a theatre in the town. The first pantomime was "Babes in the Wood" in 1877 with the first Music hall bill being offered in 1878.
 In 1879 the theatre was offered for sale by the Temperance Hall Company and was purchased by the first Mayor of Darwen, William Snape. The new management didn't help the finances of the project and in December 1879 Mr Jimmy Wearden ("Owd Peg Leg") became the new owner. He changed the name to the ROYAL STAR MUSIC HALL AND THEATRE OF VARIETIES but by February 1880 he also sold the building. Mr Campbell who also ran the Alhambra Music Hall in Blackburn became its new owner.
 In 1890 one of the shops at the front of the building became the Post office for the town. Among the acts staged by Mr Campbell in 1891 was the "Van Bienne's English Opera Company" which reputedly had Albert Chivallier in the cast.
 Also that year a variety show appeared in the town with the previous owner Mr Jimmy Wearden ("Owd Peg Leg"). Unfortunately, Mr Wearden had a reputation for the ladies and was forced to leave town after he is said to have assaulted a lady Artiste in the middle of the night.
 One lady a mademoiselle Norrie even had to remove one of his wooden legs and locked him in the wardrobe because he was bothering her.
 Financial trouble haunted the theatre as one company was forced to rely on a collection from the audience to get them to their next destination on the Isle of Man.

In 1897 Steen's American Mystifiers" visited the Theatre Royal with Arthur Jefferson the father of Stan Laurel as "Sole Manager and Director" of the company.

A number of short term managers looked after the theatre until 1900 when Animated Pictures began to creep into the theatre. Among the artists that appeared alongside the films was the Magician Chung Ling Soo who appeared at Darwen twice.

Another act Leoni Clarke included 170 performing cats, rats, mice, canaries, cockatoos and various other livestock.

On the 11-16 November 1907 Stan Laurel or Stanley Jefferson as he was then appeared at the theatre in "The Sleeping Beauty" as part of the Levy and Cardwell Company. The previous week they had been at the Lyceum Theatre in Crewe.

In February 1908 the theatre became known as THE HIPPODROME with a mixture of various Music Hall Variety acts including "Mlle Florence and her Rolling Globes" a balancing act.

At the end of 1908 the theatre became the DARWEN PICTURE PALACE AND THEATRE ROYAL a mixture that was becoming predominantly a Cinema. Variety acts were included alongside the films including Harold Pyott the Smallest man in the world at only 23 inches high.

In 1909 Stan Laurel returned with the same company as before on the 18-23 January in the show "The House that Jack Built" as Percy.

By December 1909 the theatre had reverted back to live entertainment and the name changed back to the THEATRE ROYAL.

But in 1910 the theatre was forced to change to the THEATRE ROYAL PICTURE PALACE with a programme of "Pictures, Drama and Variety". This didn't last as by August the theatre had closed. In September 1911 the THEATRE ROYAL was reopened still with a mixture of variety and films including Eva Lancaster the "Lancashire Singing Pit Girl" and a film about the Titanic.

By this time Mr Baker was enjoying his second term as manager and brought entertainers like Lilly Langtry to the HIPPODROME as he renamed it.

In 1918 the theatre was refurbished and on the 3rd November 1918 General Bramwell Booth the founder of the Salvation Army preached at the theatre.

In 1919 Boxing was introduced to the programme and Randolph Sutton (On Mother Kelly's Doorstep) burst onto the stage.

In 1920 the Savoy theatre opened in the town and the "Public hall" became the "Premier Picture Palace de-luxe" giving the theatre more problems.

In 1923 radio hit the airwaves and the theatre responded to this with acts like Jimmy James, Norman Shelly, Jimmy Jewell and Sid Field.

In October 1930 the theatre closed so that it could be converted into a Picture Palace.

It opened again with the Harold Lloyd Film "Welcome danger" but by 1932 it had changed to the ROYAL CINEMA limiting its output of live entertainment to a few shows and a pantomime.

In 1934 business ceased to be profitable and in March 1936 the Darwen Musical Society presented "The Waltz Dream" the final performance at the theatre.

During the Second World War the building was used by the Ministry of Supply as a storage depot.

In 1960 the building was converted into a Public House called "The McKillup Arms" for the Norman Wisdom film "There was a Crooked Man".

In 1961 the building was demolished another historic theatre gone forever except in the historical mind. (Written with help from Roger Booth's Website about theatre)

1878 WINTER GARDENS THEATRE

Part of the WINTER GARDENS COMPLEX BLACKPOOL

Built in 1878 as a Theatre it was converted in 1987 into a function room and was renamed the PAVILION, AND EMPRESS BALLROOM. This like the original OPERA HOUSE in Blackpool (Also in the same Complex) was designed by Frank Matcham.

1878 18 Nov LEEDS GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE

46 New Briggate, Leeds, Yorkshire.

The building was actually designed by James Robinson Watson the chief assistant at the Leeds based architects George Corson in an eclectic neo-Gothic style.

The theatre was opened on the 18 November 1878 with an exterior of Romanesque and

Scottish Baronial styles with an interior in the Gothic Style.
Grade 2 Listed building (1550 Seats)

- 1878 PAVILION COMPLEX Westcliff, Whitby, North Yorkshire.
The original WESTCLIFFE SALOON was built in 1878 as a theatre by J.O. Mayhew and E.H. Smiles.
In 1915 it was renamed the SPA THEATRE.
The Pavilion built in 1920 was demolished in 1989 when the complex was refurbished.
The new PAVILION complex was built in 1990 with the SPA THEATRE being renamed the PAVILION THEATRE. (513 Seats)
- 1879 BARNESLEY CIVIC THEATRE Eldon St, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.
Opened in 1879, Architect Mr Hill. In 1962 it was converted into the Civic theatre.
- 1879 POMEGRANATE THEATRE / WINDING WHEEL
Corporation Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
According to some histories the building was also an Odeon Cinema, Fusion Nightclub and is now the WINDING WHEEL and is owned by the Chesterfield Borough Council.
In 1879 the STEPHENSON MEMORIAL HALL opened in Corporation Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire it was named after George Stephenson the town's most famous resident.
In 1889 the Hall was purchased by Chesterfield Corporation.
The theatre was reconstructed in 1898.
In 1904 an additional Fly Tower and dressing rooms were installed creating the theatre we know of today.
At some point the building was leased by a cinema company and it gained the reputation of being called "The Ranch House" possibly because of the amount of Cowboy films it showed.
On the 31 December 1946 Cinema Company lease on the Hall ran out.
New regulations in 1947 allowed local authorities to fund entertainment in their towns.
Starting on the 1 June 1947 a public appeal by local Amateur Societies raised £5,000 for the theatre. With extra funding from the Local Authority the building became known as the CIVIC THEATRE in 1948. As the new management stepped in the building was again reconstructed and opened to the public on the 19 February 1949 under this new management by Miss Kathleen Harrison (.b. 1898) a well known star of "Rank" Films including "Our Boys" (1915), "Hobson's Choice" (1931), "Night Must fall" (1937) and the 1969 film "Lock up your daughters".
On the 21 February 1949 the opening show "See How They Run" by Philip King was staged. The cast included Peter Sallis (Last of the Summer Wine).
In 1951 the resident repertory company performed the 100th production "Queen Elizabeth Slept Here". The cast included Margaret Tyzack and John Arnatt.
The 200th presentation in 1954 was "Hobson's Choice" and starred Nigel Davenport and David McCallum (Man from UNCLE / NCIS). The play was directed by Gerald Glaister (Howards Way creator?)
Diana Rigg (Avengers) made her stage Debut in the 1958 production "The passing of the Third Floor Back". (She was also the ASM)
1959 and more new actors who were to become famous joined the Repertory company including Penelope Keith (The Good Life), Edward Fox, Hal Dyer and Robin Hawdon.
Derek Coleman became manager of the theatre in 1963. He continued until September 1994.
On the 31 March 1981 the Borough Council withdrew its funding for the lease from "Chesterfield Civic Theatre Ltd" thus ending the Repertory season at the theatre and leaving the Council in sole charge of the theatre. The final Repertory show of the season by the "Chesterfield Civic Theatre Ltd" being "Joseph and the amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" which ironically played to 98% capacity.
Now in sole charge of the theatre the Chesterfield Borough Council staged its own production of "Rock Star" a Christmas show with Michael Praed (ITV's 1980's Robin Hood) in the cast.
The "Chesterfield Theatre Ltd" was formed on the 6 February 1982 with a policy of staging touring companies rather than staging its own repertory shows.
On the 10 June 1982 after an appeal for suggestions as to what to call the CIVIC THEATRE it became known as the POMEGRANATE THEATRE with seating for 549, taking its name from the town's original "Coat of Arms".
40 years on from the first production at the theatre run by the Amateur societies they again

staged "See How They Run" in 1988.

The theatre closed on the 27 May 1989 for its first Major set of structural repairs.

The theatre reopened in August 1993 with new access points for the disabled and improved Foyer and Toilets (Shared with the Museum next door).

In January 1994 the theatre closed for three weeks for the seating to be replaced.

In September 1994 Derek Coleman (.D. 2007) retired as manager. He had started in 1963.

In 1997 the Borough Arts department decided to join together the management of the Museum and the Theatre.

Peter Sallis returned to the theatre in 2007 for the first time since he first appeared at the theatre in 1949 when he was part of the original Repertory Company.

In 2009 Colin McIntyre celebrated his fiftieth Anniversary at the theatre having started as a Company Stage Manager / Associate producer for the 1959 Repertory Season. Colin then became Artistic Director and now is an Independent producer for various productions at the theatre. On the 22 February 2009 Jean Ferguson (Marina in Last of the Summer Wine) joined Colin for a Gala performance that included readings and reminiscences followed by a celebratory supper.

2009-10 the current manager is Liz Woodall.

- 1879 SPA THEATRE Spa Complex, South Bay, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
Built in 1879 by Verity and Hunt it was part of the Spa Complex, the Spa Theatre and Grand Hall. It had replaced Sir Joseph Paxton's Saloon built in 1858 and burned down in 1876.
Grade 2 Listed building (619 Seats)
- 1879 MEMORIAL THEATRE / ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire.
As the birthplace of William Shakespeare, it was decided to hold an annual festival in celebration of the "Bard". In 1769 Garrick staged a celebration.
In 1879 a site was donated for the MEMORIAL THEATRE and the festival began.
On the 23 Apr 1879 the first Shakespeare Memorial Theatre was opened in Stratford upon Avon.
In 1925 the Memorial theatre was granted a Royal Charter, but in 1926 it burned down.
In 1932 a new building had been erected to the designs of Elizabeth Scott and was opened by the Prince of Wales. The first plays were Henry VI Parts 1 and 2.
In 1961 the Memorial Theatre Company became the ROYAL SHAKESPEARE Company.
Between 1945 and 1948 Barry Jackson (1879 - 1961) was the director of the Theatre (He was knighted in 1925). (1412 Seats) (see also Swan Theatre 1986)
- 1879 ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE Elephant and Castle, London.
Built in 1879 to the plans of J.T Robinson and Frank Matcham, his first theatrical experience, when he took over as Architect. It was opened on the 31 May 1879, the site is now an A.B.C. Cinema.

1 February 1880

The STAGE newspaper was published for the first time.

- 1880 THE ROYAL, Wilson Street, Castleford
The first theatre in the town it was built inside a Salvation Army Barracks in 1880.
In 1911 the building was demolished and replaced by a new three story building with Stalls, Dress Circle and Gallery to seat 900 to see twice nightly shows until January 1955 when it closed.
In 1959 it reopened as the Las Vegas Continental and later the Costa Constantine Night Club before it was demolished in 1964.
- 1880 10 Oct SAVOY THEATRE Savoy Court, The Strand, London.
Opened on the 10 October 1880 for Richard D'Oyly Carte it become the first theatre in Britain to have Electric Lighting front of house and on stage (1881).
Built to stage the comic operas of Gilbert & Sullivan the first new opera to be staged here was "Patience" (1881).
The auditorium was re-done in 1929 when an art decor interior was added by Basil Lonides.

As part of the Savoy hotel the theatre was closed in 1990 when fire broke out.
By 1993 it was again opened after a complete restoration. (1158 Seats)

- 1881 COMEDY THEATRE Pantom Street, London SW1Y
Pantom Street during the 19th Century was an unsavoury area with ladies of the night, whore houses and it had a criminal element. An unusual place to put a theatre but within 6 months a theatre had been built in 1881 by Thomas Verity as the ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE. The first performance was "The Mascott" which was attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales.
In 1884 the Royal was dropped. In 1893, 1903 and 1933 alterations were made.
In 1954 major reconstruction took place. In 1956 the New Watergate Theatre Club was formed to allow audiences to see controversial plays staged by writers like Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams. The club played an important role in changing the view of censorship which led to its abolition in 1968.
In 1981 the theatre was redecorated in Gold and Red colours in honour of its Centenary year celebrations. (798 Seats) (The building contains a Sun-burner ventilation system)

1881 Started building LYCEUM THEATRE, CREWE Heath Street, Crewe, Cheshire
Built into an old Roman Catholic Church (Built in 1852) the first Theatre was opened on the 13 January 1882 by Henry Taylor. On the 21 November 1887 the 2nd theatre was opened to the designs of Alfred Derbyshire AJBA (Overall Design), George Cawdery (Stage Area), and Charles Brew (Act Drop).
On the 11 March 1910 a fire burnt the theatre to the ground. It was rebuilt by Albert Winstanley and opened on the 4 September 1911. (693 Seats)

OWNERS

**Henry Taylor
Terence Byron Ltd
Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council
Cheshire East Council**

GHOST 1)

This is a Monk from the burial ground next to the Roman Catholic church situated on the site of the theatre. He has now moved to a public house next door.

GHOST 2)

Supposedly a Ballet dancer who committed suicide by either by jumping off the balcony into the stalls or hanging herself in her dressing room after her boyfriend jilted her. Unfortunately, there is no evidence of a death at the theatre in this way and no one can recall a ballet dancer doing such a thing in Crewe. The Ghost of a lady has been seen by one of the ushers / front of house managers who in the original bar area next to the circle saw a lady sitting at the window after she had closed up for the night. Glennis spoke to the lady but she didn't reply. Turning away for a moment when she looked back the lady in the window could not be seen. The lady ghost does have a distinctive smell of perfume and this has been smelt in the old toilet area before it was knocked down to make way for a new extension to the front of house.

GHOST 3)

An Actor. The description I have of him is that he is a more mature person who is known by the smell of a cigar he smokes.

All Three GHOSTS

They have been seen together and separately in the back of the stalls

EXTRA INFORMATION

Other Ballet dancer stories are in 1891 at the Palace theatre, Shaftsbury Ave, London (another suicide story) and 1907 Darlington.

FRANK RANDLE

.b. 1901 Arthur McEvoy

The Wigan born comedian specialised in toothless old codgers started as a circus performer in his teenage years.

He was often difficult to work with and it was not unknown for him to turn up late for a show or drunk. His act was very blue for the time and he was not liked in the south of England for his very northern comedy sketches and jokes.

Entertainer Roy Castle worked with him on tour in Frank's later years.

His "Old Hiker" sketch was later re done by John Inman on the "Good old days" (BBC Tv) and at the Lyceum Crewe on John's return to the theatre in 1997.

Frank made some 11 films starting in 1940 with "Somewhere in England" and ending in 1953 with "It's a grand life", which had a young Diana Dors in the cast.

His last ever show was at Crewe on the 8 June 1957.

.d. 7 July 1957 in Blackpool.

- 11 Mar 1882 THE PLAYHOUSE The Embankment, Northumberland Ave, London.
Opened in 1882 as the ROYAL AVENUE THEATRE it has been rebuilt and renamed many times.
Originally built by F.H. Fowler with a seating capacity of 1,200 it was opened on the 11 March 1882.
In 1905 part of Charing Cross Station collapsed on the building. This meant that the interior had to be redesigned and rebuilt, opening in 1907 as THE PLAYHOUSE.
The BBC used it as Radio studios from 1951 to 1975 becoming the home of light entertainment shows like "The Goon Show", "Hancock's Half Hour", and "the Navy Lark".
In 1987 it was restored by David Wilmore, who reinstalled Victorian Stage machinery ready for the opening production of Howard Goodall's new musical "Girlfriends" in September that year. Grade 2 Listed Building (789 seats)
- 1883 GRAND THEATRE Islington, London.
Built by Frank Matcham on the site of the PHILHARMONIC THEATRE it was opened on the 4 August 1883.
On the 7 May 1886 a 5 Act play by Percy Shelly called "The Cenci" was performed at the building with a cast that included Miss Alma Murray as Beatrice, Miss Maude Brennan as the Gauntest Cenci and Mr Herman Vezin as Count Cenci, LS Outram as Orsino, W Farren Jnr as Cardinal Camilla along with other actors Ben Greet, Mark Ambient, R de Cordova, GR Foss, WR Staveley, Cecil Ramsey, Cecil Crofton.
The building was destroyed by fire on the 29 December 1887.
Rebuilt and opened on the 1 December 1888 it was again destroyed by fire in February 1900.
In 1901 it was rebuilt and re-opened.
In 1908 it changed its name to the ISLINGTON EMPIRE before it was demolished before 2002 it is now the site of an office block.
- 1883 ROYAL HIPPODROME THEATRE Seaside Rd, Eastbourne, East Sussex.
Built by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) as the NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE in 1883.
It was named the Royal Hippodrome Theatre in 1904. (643 Seats)
GHOST 1)
The ghost is a Stage Manager who fell to his death from the fly floor. Reports of a ghostly figure in a flat cap have been recorded unlike the death of the stage manager, making the legend just that a good story.
- 1883 ROYALTY THEATRE Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
The Old ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE dates back to 1883, on the sea front of this coastal town. (1242 Seats)
- Jan 1884 PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE
31 Coventry Street (Off Piccadilly Circus), London
The first theatre on the site was built by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) in 1884 as "THE PRINCE'S THEATRE" and opened in January.
It was re-named in 1886 as "THE PRINCE OF WALES".
In 1937 it closed to be demolished. It was rebuilt by Robert Cromie to be opened by the management later in that year with a production of "Les Folies des Londres et Paris". This new building was designed by Robert Crombie and is an ideal location for musicals, notably "Funny Girl" with Barbara Streisand in 1966. (1133 Seats)
- 1884 THEATRE ROYAL STRATFORD EAST Gerry Raffles Square, London
Built in 1884 by J.G. Buckle. In 1953 The Theatre Workshop takes up the lease on the theatre. Grade 2 Listed building. (467 Seats)

- 1884 DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE 8 Compton Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex.
Grade 2 Listed building built in 1884 to designs by Henry Currey with additions by Frank Matcham in 1903 with a capacity of 995 Seats. (936 Seats)
In 1968 Charles Vance took over the running of the theatre until the late 1970's.
(See 1963 Congress Theatre)
GHOST 1)
The ghost seems to be a Violinist. It could have been a variety entertainer or musician from the orchestra pit who liked the theatre but there doesn't seem to be any evidence of a death of a musician at the theatre, so who is he?
Dressed in Black tails, a white shirt, a bow-tie and carrying a violin and bow he has been seen on many occasions. On a Sunday in 1968 Electrician Mr Geoff Standfield was setting the lights in the Balcony area of the theatre when he looked into the orchestra pit to find the violinist sitting there. He gave a few short notes on the violin then disappeared. As the theatre was locked up completely and there was no one else in the building it must have been the ghost.
- 5 May 1884 ROYAL AND DERGATE THEATRE /
ROYAL THEATRE Guildhall Rd, Northampton, Northants.
Built in the style of the 18th Century Italianate Opera houses. Designed by Charles John Phipps (C.J. Phipps) it was opened on the 5 May 1884. The Fire Curtain was painted by the artist Henry Bird.
In 1887 the theatre was rebuilt by C J Phipps after a fire.
It was a touring theatre until 1926 when it became the home of the Northampton Repertory Players.
In 1933 Errol Flynn joined the Northampton Repertory Company for seven months after leaving his native Australia.
In 1946 the theatre became a Repertory theatre.
In January 1977 the BBC used the theatre to film scenes for the DR WHO story "The Talons of Weng-Chiang" because it was the nearest theatre to London with an Original fly gallery.
In 1999 The Royal Theatre was joined operationally with the Dergate theatre.
In 2005 the theatre was refurbished and in October 2006 the complex became known as the ROYAL AND DERGATE THEATRE and is run by the Northampton Theatres Trust.
By 2011 they had installed a reproduction Sunburner made from original plans by the Great British Lighting Company.
In 2011 the Royal and Dergate was named "Regional Theatre of the Year" at the first Stage 100 awards.
In 2013 the Errol Flynn Film-house was added to the complex.
Grade 2 Listed Building. (583 Seats)
www.royalandderngate.co.uk
- 1885 BRIXHAM THEATRE New Rd, Brixham, Devon.
Built in 1885 as part of the Brixham Town Hall. (340 Seats)
- 1885 MALVERN FESTIVAL THEATRE Midlands.
The theatre was opened in 1885.
In 1929 Sir Barry Jackson (.b. 1879 .d.1961) started the MALVERN FESTIVAL with a season of plays by George Bernard Shaw (.d. 1950) indeed it is thought that his ghost haunts the theatre. He however was a non-believer in the coming back to life of the dead so it is unlikely that Shaw's ghost has returned.
Between 1929 and 1939 seven of Shaw's plays were premiered in England at this festival.
www.malvern-theatres.co.uk
GHOST
George Bernard Shaw ? (see above)
During a rehearsal for the production "The Confidence Tricks" a French comedy in 1966, footsteps were heard in the fly bridge although no one was there, seats tipped up and down on their own in the dress circle. Michael Bakewell co-director of the production dismissed the rehearsal occurrences but when he returned later to recover a script he had left behind the same thing happened again but not in a random way seats

moved up and down on their own.

- 1885 21 May PARAGON THEATRE Mile End Rd, London,
Built by Frank Matcham init opened on the 21 May 1885. It was renamed the MILE END EMPIRE in 1912. It later became a Cinema.
- 1886 THEATRE ROYAL Ainsworth Street, Blackburn.
Demolished in 1967 it was Renovated by Frank Matcham in 1886
(Date of construction unknown)
- 1887 COLISEUM THEATRE Fairbottom Street, Oldham, Lancashire.
In 1885 Thomas Whittaker built a wooden arena for his American Circus a project that never happened and he was left with a building and nothing to use the venue for. He rented it out to other circus shows, for a time it was a ballroom and a Music Hall before it was Converted in 1887 into a theatre.
Finding the theatre more profitable he decided to build a new venue and started this new building on a site over a filled in reservoir near to Holebottom Colliery. The new building was built using parts of the original theatre and was called the "Coliseum".
In 1912 the theatre had new owners and changed into a Cinema with occasional variety acts. In 1931 it became a full time cinema only staging the odd Pantomime and plays.
It eventually closed for a 7 year period.
Just before the second world war a group of amateurs reopened the theatre as part of the PLAYGOERS CLUB.
In the 1950's the theatre was modernised but as Tv took away the patrons it started to decline. The theatre was again modernised in 1965 but this still didn't stop the rot and in 1978 the Council were forced to take over the running of the building, and again in 1993.
(576 Seats)
GHOST 1)
Henry as he had been called is thought to be Henry Norman an actor who died in 1947 after a stage fight went wrong during a production of "Macbeth". The actor was wounded during the final scene of the play when Macduff stabs Macbeth, only the dagger in this production doesn't miss the actor and he is hit in the stomach. Henry died 4 weeks later in Hospital from Peritonitis.
The police said that the wound was only superficial. In 1988 the Coliseum staged a play called "Stage Fright", written by Peter Fieldson it tells the story of the incident in the play in 1947.
Sightings have mainly been by Animal but in 1979 a stage had reported seeing a man in a Grey Polo-neck jumper on the front row of the dress circle before vanishing in front of his eyes.
DEATH IN THE THEATRE
Another candidate for the above ghost is a Carpenter who usually slept in the fly gallery in the theatre after a "get in" as he lived in Halifax (Yorkshire). On one morning after the night scene shifting Clive Pickerell found the carpenter hanging in the fly gallery. As the area where the body was found is still quite cold and spookey and is also next to the wardrobe department where a lot of sightings have happened this could be the ghost.
- 1888 LYRIC THEATRE King Street, Hammersmith, London (See also Shaftsbury Ave)
Built in Bradmore Grove, Hammersmith, 1888, it was rebuilt by Frank Matcham in 1895 and was eventually demolished in 1972. The Interior (by Matcham) was kept and is now incorporated into a modern shopping precinct which was opened in 1978. Between 1918 and 1934 the theatre was managed by Mr Nigel Playfair. (537 seats)
- 1888 ROYAL COURT THEATRE Sloane Square, London
Built by Walter Emden and Bertie Crewe in 1888 as a theatre.
After being used as a Cinema from 1935 In 1940 it closed due to War damage.
The Interior was altered in 1952 and Rod Ham again altered it in 1980. (395 seats)
- 1888 VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE Wilder Rd, Ilfracombe, Devon.
The original theatre was built in 1888, a Victorian exterior with an Art Deco interior dating

from 1928 when it was rebuilt after a fire. In 1970 two wings were added to the structure.
(500 Seats)

- 1888 VICTORIA HALL Albion Square, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire.
Built in 1888, It was refurbished in 1998 and is now run alongside the Regent Theatre (See 1999) by The Ambassador Theatre Group. (1580 Seats)
- 1888 EDEN THEATRE North Street, Brighton.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1888 it had a capacity of 1,700. It was re named the GRAND THEATRE but in the late 1950's it was demolished.
- 1888 ALHAMBRA THEATRE King's Rd, Brighton.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1888. In the 1960's it was demolished.
- 1888 SHAFTSBURY THEATRE Shaftsbury Ave, London
The Shaftsbury theatre opened in 1888.
- 4 June 1888 THEATRE ROYAL St Peter's Square, Stockport.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 4 June 1888. It had a capacity of 3,000. In the 1960's it was demolished.
- 19 Nov 1888 THEATRE ROYAL Churchgate, Bolton, Lancashire.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 19 November 1888. It had a capacity of 2,150. In September 1963 it was demolished.
- 17 Dec 1888 LYRIC THEATRE Shaftsbury Ave, London
This is a different theatre than the other Lyric Theatre in London (built in King Street). The entrance to the dressing rooms of the theatre was built in 1767 as the entrance for anatomist Dr William Hunters anatomical theatre and museum.
Opened on the 17 December 1888 with a revival of the Comic opera "Dorothy", thankfully it was a success as the money from the profits helped to finance the theatre building.
Owned by Henry Leslie it was built by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) in a record breaking 10 months.
The theatre was redecorated in 1932-33. It is now one of the Stoll Moss theatres.
It was redecorated in 1932. (967 Seats)
- 1889 BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME Hurst Street, Birmingham.
Built in 1889, refurbished in 1981 by Architect F W Lloyd. (1901 Seats)
- 1889 THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE Corporation Street, St Helens, Lancs.
Built in 1889 as the Theatre Royal and Opera House (See 1861 Theatre Royal St Helens), by Frank Matcham it was destroyed by fire on a Friday the 13th in October (Year not known). In 1901 F Matcham reconstructed the theatre after the fire.
During World War 2 an airman begged theatre staff to allow him to stay the night at the theatre on a sofa in the foyer. In the morning he was given a cup of tea and sent on his way. An hour later he had been arrested for Murder, he was eventually convicted and hanged.
In 1964 it was dramatically reconstructed by Westwood, Piet and Partners after the theatre was required by the Pilkington Glass Company in 1960. They renamed it the PILKINGTON THEATRE (1964).
In 1975 St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council took over the building renaming it the THEATRE ROYAL letting "Rigoletto Ltd" take over the running of the theatre. (703 Seats)
GHOST 1)
In 1923 a manager at the theatre committed suicide in his office by hanging himself. There have been sightings of a ghost, The Man in Black", presumably the manager in the dress circle. Before a redesign in the 1960's the managers office had been in the spot where the ghost has been seen.
In December 1986 usherette Bernadette Critchley was descending a staircase during a production of "Wait until Dark" (Story of a blind woman who uses the darkness to turn the tables on a murderer), to take up her place in the stalls when she noticed she was being followed by a man in a dark suit, black pinstripe trousers a long black coat and

black shoes with spats. When she turned back a few seconds later to ask the man if he needed any help he had disappeared.

Mr "Slim" Ingram manager at the theatre tells us that unknown to Bernadette the story of the manager had appeared in the newspaper 48 hours earlier with certain omissions. The following day from the incident a lady rang "Slim" to tell him of the inaccuracies in the story. Her mother it seemed had discovered the body of the manager. His death was not by hanging as had previously been reported but by Gas poisoning a frequent occurrence in the days before an odour was added to the mixture of gas by the gas company to stop this sort of thing happening. The body had been found on the floor of his office covered in a long black coat (presumably to keep warm if the gas fire had gone out). The article didn't report what the manager was wearing but the lady confirmed that he had died with black pinstripe trousers, and shoes with spats on.

DEATH AT THE THEATRE

Coincidence or what ?

During the variety days of the theatre an act called Balliol and Merton were rehearsing at the theatre on a Monday when Carl the male member of the duo was injured in a fall. He was taken to dressing room number 1 where he died on his 47th birthday. The coincidence was that he was born in number 1 dressing room at the Palace theatre (Now known as the Hippodrome) a couple of streets away.

- 1889 PRINCES THEATRE Park Row Bristol.
Renovated by Frank Matcham in 1889, it was destroyed in an Air Raid in 1941.
- 1889 THEATRE ROYAL Exeter
An original building was erected on the site of the 1889 theatre however in 1885 it was destroyed by fire killing a Pig owned by a clown who had been performing on the stage.
The second THEATRE ROYAL was constructed in 1889, however it too succumbed to a Fire at the in September 1887 killing 186 a figure released when all the bodies had been found. The fire started in the flies back stage at the theatre on Monday the 5th September. Mr Blunsone the Stage Manager was one of those first on the scene and tried to put out the fire but within 10 minutes the fire had taken hold of the building. A Memorial was erected to commemorate those who died.
A final theatre was built in 1889 and opened with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company's performance of the Yeoman of the Guard.
In the 1950's it was turned into a cinema and then back to a theatre until 1962 when it closed and was demolished to be replaced by an office block.
Attempts to save the building failed but it did lead to the creation of the Northcott Theatre.
- 1889 THEATRE ROYAL Rochdale.
Renovated by Frank Matcham in 1889 it was destroyed by Fire in 1954.
- 1889 GRAND THEATRE Colchester.
In 1889 Frank Matcham renovated the theatre.
- 1889 April GARRICK THEATRE 2 Charing Cross Rd, London.
Opened in April 1889 by Walter Emden & Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) for William Schwenk Gilbert (.b. 18 Nov 1836 .d. 29 May 1911) (Gilbert & Sullivan) who put John Hare in as manager.
Built in the neo-classical style with both Portland and Bath stone on the facade of the theatre the building may not have been started 2 years previously as when they dug down to build the foundations they found a river running under where the auditorium was going to go.
W.S. Gilbert said that he "Contemplated letting the fishing rights rather than going ahead with the theatre!". Luckily he decided to build and the theatre was a great success.
One play did however get a boost from an unexpected source. In 1895 the theatre staged the play "The Notorious Mrs Ebbsmith" with Mrs Patrick Campbell as the lady. The box office was enhanced when a woman called Mrs Ebbsmith drowned in the Thames with a ticket for the play in her pocket. It is said that she had written to a friend that the play had prayed on her mind !
The theatre was run by Arthur Bouchier from 1900 to 1915. **It is said that Bouchier's**

ghost walks the theatre. During the 1930's there were plans to turn the theatre into a cinema.

By 1935 Walter Greenwood's play "Love on the dole" brought stardom to Wendy Hiller and success to the theatre. From the 1930's until 1945 the theatre was devoted to mainly revue production. Between 1967 and 1971 it staged the Brian Rix farces (See Whitehall Theatre 1930), this includes "No Sex Please, We're British" starring Ray Cooney and Brian Rix which broke box office records in its run from 1982 to 1987. (656 seats)

GHOST 1)

Arthur Bouchier who had started acting with Lily Langtry's company, ran the theatre from 1900. He starred in many of the Shakespeare productions at the theatre, along with his wife Violet Vanbrugh. He left the Garrick in 1906 but while on tour in South Africa he died. For many years it was thought that the ghost was that of David Garrick himself but when a postcard was discovered showing Bouchier and his wife those seeing the ghost then managed to identify the real name of the ghost.

The ghost has raised and dropped the main curtain, knocked on doors, sat in an upstairs room, and of course the tap on the shoulder. He has been described as dressed in a long cloak and a tall, wide-brimmed hat.

GHOST 2)

During the run of a play called "Death Trap" in 1980 a voice insisted on prompting lines and even speaking the lines of the play a fraction of a second earlier than the actors. The mystery voice did this a couple of nights and seemed to have come from the old prompt corner.

10 June 1889 OPERA HOUSE BLACKPOOL.

Winter Gardens Complex, Church Street, Blackpool, Lancashire

First Theatre built on the site in 1889 by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 10 June 1889 with a seating capacity of 2,500. It was however demolished in 1911 when a new theatre was built by Mangall and Littlewood (Opened 5 June 1911). This again was demolished before 1939 when its replacement was opened on the 14 July 1939. It was designed in Art Deco style by Charles McKeith and is a Grade 2 Listed building (2920 seats)

The Grand was a good theatre for companies to try out their shows for the West End and for touring. If the show was a success at the Grand then the tour continued. If it failed to appeal to the audience then the rest of the tour was cancelled.

In the 1960's the popularity of the shows stopped and

Littlewoods wanted to demolish the theatre and build a new store. The application was refused and the Friends of the Grand Theatre started fundraising to take over the theatre.

In 1982 the theatre reopened with a Shakespeare play and then an old time variety show. "Stars who made the Music Hall" Sandy Powell, Bob and Alf Pearson, George Lacy and Adelaide Hall were on the bill.

In March 1986 the Competition for the "The North West Area Brass Band Contest" was moved from the Preston Guild Hall to a new permanent home at the Opera House.

(see also Winter Gardens 1878)

5 Aug 1889 GRAND THEATRE Northgate, Halifax, Yorkshire.

Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 5 August 1889 with capacity of 1,800.

In 1958 it was demolished.

Aug 1889 PAVILION THEATRE Buxton, Derbyshire.

Opened by J.L. Toole a friend of Sir Henry Irving in August 1889. It was originally called THE ENTERTAINMENT STAGE but soon became the NEW THEATRE, changing to the PAVILION THEATRE. When the Opera House (Buxton) opened in 1903 it changed again to the OLD THEATRE eventually becoming the HIPPODROME when it was turned into a cinema.

In 1935 it became the PLAYHOUSE and started to stage music events.

In 1979 it closed as a theatre but by the 1990's it became known as the PAXTON SUITE and operates as a night club, Disco, and Conference hall as well as staging a few drama productions.

26 Dec 1889 THEATRE ROYAL Market Street, Bury, Lancashire.

Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 26 December 1889. It has been drastically

altered for use as a Cinema.

Aug 1890 CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL Westminster Bridge Rd, London.
Renovated by Frank Matcham in August 1890 it was bombed in 1942.
In 1950 it was demolished.

1891 *The Independent Theatre Society was formed.*

Jan 1891 PALACE THEATRE 109 Shaftsbury Avenue (Cambridge Circus), London.
Designed for Richard D'Oyly Carte by Thomas Edward Colcutt (and G H Holloway)
it opened as the ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE in 1891. Its objective was to stage home
grown productions only, but with the failure of Arthur Sullivan's "Ivanhoe" and the lack of
any real English Opera to stage at the theatre, Richard D'Oyly Carte gave way and started to
stage foreign productions as well at the theatre.
In 1892 in acknowledgement of this change in policy the name was changed to the PALACE
THEATRE OF VARIETY, and offered Music hall programmes as well as opera.
The Russian born ballerina Anna Pavlova (.b. 31 Jan 1885 .d. 23 Jan 1931 in Holland)
appeared in 1910, her London debut.
In 1911 the comic "Grock" made his first appearance in London and the name of the theatre
changed to the PALACE THEATRE.
On the 1 July 1912 it became the venue of the first Royal Command (Variety) Show in front
of King George V & Queen Mary. The cast included, The Palace Girls, Harry Tate (Motoring
Sketch), Vesta Tilley, Little Tich (The Game Keeper), George Robey (Mayor of
Mudcumdyke sketch), Anna Pavlova, and Harry Lauder (Scottish Singer).
Since then it has had some notable box office successes with record breaking runs by
"The Sound of Music" (1961 - 7) and "Jesus Christ Superstar" (1972-80).
In 1983 Andrew Lloyd Webber acquired the theatre on behalf of his Really Useful Theatre
Company staging many notable musicals including the Boublil and Schönberg production
"Les Miserables" in 1986.
The theatre boasts two of the longest serving members of stage staff to stay in the one place.
Door keeper Charles (Second name unknown) who was in the job for 47 years and Chief
electrician Eric Willett who was at the Palace for over 33 years. (1394 Seats)

GHOST 1)

**Anna Pavlova the ballet dancer is identified as the first ghost, unfortunately no one
seems to back up this idea or has seen her to our knowledge.**

GHOST 2)

**Name unknown but the theatre doesn't have a number 13 dressing room, having instead
a number 12A. During a production in 1958 the room was occupied by Petula Clark's
(Downtown) pianist. When he returned to his dressing room he found it trashed. The
manager sorted it out and advised him to lock his room and keep the key with him.**

**When he returned the following night after the show he again found the room in a mess.
A stage hand is supposed to have gone to a spiritualist who told him that the ghost was
that of a ballet dancer who had been jilted by her lover. She developed a hatred for men
so much so that when a woman is housed in the dressing room she used to occupy they
are left alone, but any man in there and that means trouble.**

GHOST 3)

**Ivor Novello (.b. 15 Jan 1893 David Ivor Davies in Wales) the composer is another claim
to be haunting the theatre. He died on the 6 March 1951 in his flat above the Strand
Theatre London a few hours after performing in the run of his "King's Rhapsody" at the
theatre and returned to a place he loved in life. It is said that in life Ivor liked seats in
the back row of the Dress Circle. In 1980 during auditions for a production of Sweeney
Todd one of the actors complained about a man walking at the back of the Circle. He
was seen by members of the cast and crew but by the time someone had gone to remove
the person the man had disappeared.**

GHOST 4)

**During the run of the Sound of Music (1961-7) the principles of the show saw a man
dressed in a scarlet lined cloak, sitting in the royal box When the management were
asked who was sitting in the Royal box the reply was that no one was occupying the
space. When Eric Willett gave the house manager a description of the man he was told
that it was a remarkable likeness to Charles Morton who had succeeded D'Oyly Carte**

as manager of the theatre.

- 18 May 1891 PALACE THEATRE Oxford Street, Manchester.
Built in 1891 by Alfred Darbyshire and F.B. Smith of Manchester, to perform the classics.
It failed within three years as Manchurians were more interested in variety show.
The theatre had to then change its programme for such events and became the premier variety theatre in the north west.
It was reconstructed in 1893 by Frank Matcham and again in 1913 by architect Bertie Crewe.
In 1953 the Darbyshire façade was obliterated by “Unprepossessing faience tiles”.
In the 1970's Norwest Holst, a construction and civil engineering company took over the theatre along with the "Opera House" (also in Manchester).
1972 Moss Empires took over the building.
In 1979 Mr Raymond Slater purchased the building from Moss Empires to stage touring productions. He formed the “Manchester Palace Theatre Trust” who started restoration on the building.
In 1981 it was refurbished by Smith and Way (Architect Derek Boulton).
Grade 2 Listed building (2,000 Seats)
GHOST 1)
A Grey Lady, said to have been one of the cleaners who died at the theatre. Just before renovations were completed in 1981 a workman was using the ladies toilets, as they were the only ones working, when he suddenly saw an old lady looking at him when he looked away for a minute the figure that had been sitting in one corner had moved to another part of the room, again sitting down. The figure then disappeared. On another occasion a member of the front of house staff, "Geordie" decided to take a shower in one of the dressing rooms. as he approached the room he noticed a cleaner going into Dressing room 15. Deciding to tell her not to clean out number 14 where he was going to shower he approached dressing room 15, opening the door to find it empty. A patch of Grey mist has also been seen in the Upper Circle.
- 1891 PALACE THEATRE Piccadilly Circus, London
Opened in 1881 as the ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA Theatre it was later renamed the PALACE.
- 1891 GLADSTONE THEATRE Greendale Rd, Port Sunlight, Wirral, Merseyside.
Built by the first Lord Leverhulme for his workers in the Village of Port Sunlight
(Which he built to house his workers in the 1880's) the theatre was built in 1891 by architect William Owen. It was opened by the Prime Minister William E Gladstone for the workers of the Soap factory to enjoy entertainment without leaving the village. (493 Seats)
- 1891 NEW THEATRE ROYAL Upper High Street, Wednesbury (Midlands)
Opened as the New Theatre Royal after another building in Earps Lane, it became known as the Hippodrome Theatre until April 1959 when it closed before being demolished in the early 1960's (see also 1859 Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, Earps Lane).
Between 1892 and 1895 the theatre was run by Edward Darbey. (See Lyceum Crewe)
Among the acts were the “Billy Cotton Band Show” and supporting act Bruce Forsythe.
- 1891 7 Sept OPERA HOUSE Lord Street, Southport.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 7 September 1891 with a capacity of 2,000.
It was destroyed by fire in 1929.
- 1891 14 Sept THEATRE ROYAL Oldham Rd, Ashton under-Lyne
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 14 September 1891. In the 1960's it was demolished.
- 1891 1 October EVERYMAN THEATRE / OPERA HOUSE Regent Street, Cheltenham, Glos.
It was opened on the 1 October 1891 as the Opera House. The Architect was Frank Matcham.
In 1937 the theatre was restored.
The theatre closed for 18 months between 1958 and 1960.
In 1960 it was renamed the EVERYMAN THEATRE and is a grade 2 Listed building.

Between 1983 & 1986 extensive redevelopment, restored the auditorium and created a studio Theatre, New Workshops and a dressing room block, they also extended the foyers. (Original Theatre 679 Seats to 658 in the current venue)

www.everymantheatre.org.uk

GHOST 1)

The unseen ghost at the theatre is supposed to be that of a labourer who fell to his death off some scaffolding during the restoration work in 1927.

In the 1950's Al Koran a clairvoyant with a touring show appeared at the theatre and announced to the staff that the theatre would be in serious financial trouble and that the closure of the "Opera House" would happen. The upheaval of the reopening of the theatre would in turn disturb the ghost. When the theatre closed and subsequently reopened strange things started to happen, fire hydrants came on, on their own at night. In June 1959 Ernest Dyson an ex stage hand was re-employed as night security for the building just before it reopened. This particular night he was joined by two policemen for a cup of tea. Just after midnight they heard footsteps in the area of the fly floor, they set out to investigate, splitting up to cover both exits from the fly's. When they reached the floor above them they found no one and the footsteps had stopped. The policemen decided this was not an urgent call and left leaving Ernest alone in the building. He locked himself in one of the dressing rooms from which he heard more strange noises during the night.

When he exited the room in the morning he found two 18ft flats (Scenery) one on top of another without and form of support. As he walked towards them they fell down.

GHOST 2)

Another candidate for the role of the ghost is a clergyman who died in one of the back row stall seats during a production of the play "Tom Jones" in 1965.

- 1892 PRINCES THEATRE Lake Rd, Portsmouth.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1892 it was bombed in 1940 and has now been demolished.
- 1892 THEATRE ROYAL Great Yarmouth.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1892 it was demolished in 1930.
- 10 Sept 1892 DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE St Martin's Lane, London
Designed by Walter Emden it opened on the 10 September 1892 for first owner Violet Melnotte. It was originally named the TRAFALGAR SQUARE THEATRE.
In 1895 it was renamed the DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
Between 1902 and 1908 it premiered Pater Pan and other J.M. Barrie plays.
In 1910 Charles Frohman tried out a repertory season of 10 plays at the theatre.
During the second world war it was damaged and did not reopen until 1943.
Robin Beynon renovated the plasterwork.
Since 1978 it has been owned by Capital Radio, London's largest commercial Radio station, who runs shows that it can broadcast as well as keeping it running as a professional theatre.
(640 Seats)
- GHOST 1)**
The theatre has a resident Ghost in the shape of the theatre's first owner Violet Melnotte who died in 1935. She used to live upstairs at the theatre and watch shows from her private box. It is the door to this box and other noises that convince people of the ghost. The very heavy door is heard to slam as though Violet was in a bad temper, just like she used to do when she was running the building.
- 1893 EMPIRE THEATRE Rochdale Rd, Bacup, Lancashire.
Opened as the ROYAL COURT THEATRE in 1893 when it was converted from an Iron Founder's premises.
In 1918 it changed its name to the Empire Theatre (485 Seats).
- 1893 THEATRE ROYAL Clasketgate, Lincoln.
Built in 1893 by Bertie Crewe and R Sprague. It was rebuilt in 1907. Grade 2 Listed building
In 2009 Ian and the team took over the Lincoln Theatre Royal to use as their base of operations.
(482 Seats)

GHOST 1)

Moving seats and strange noises have been heard in the auditorium of the theatre.

- 1893 CITY THEATRE Tudor Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
Built in 1893 it was demolished to make way for the new "Lyceum Theatre" built in 1897 by W G R Sprague.
- 1893 DALEY'S THEATRE Unknown
Built for George Edwardes it was built by Augustine Daley in 1893.
George Edwardes was born on the 14 October 1857 and presented the "Gaiety Girl" on the 14 Oct 1895. It is considered to be the first Musical Comedy.
- 1893 9 Jan GRAND THEATRE George Street, Hull
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 9 January 1893 with a capacity of 1,200.
It is now closed.
- 1 Jan 1894 THEATRE ROYAL Howard Street, Rotherham.
The original theatre in Rotherham was a former Zion Chapel in Henry Street.
In 1872 a new "Theatre Royal" was built in Effingham Street.
It closed in December 1892.
In 1893 William Thornton and son of Rotherham were given the task of building a new theatre to the designs of Joseph Platt's also of Rotherham. Seating was provided by Dean's of Birmingham, Gas Chandeliers by Guest and Chrimes Ltd of Rotherham with Fire Hydrants provided by J Blakeborough and Son of Brighthouse.
On the 1st January 1894 on the corner of Howard Street and Nottingham Street the THEATRE ROYAL was opened. It had two square towers and a central entrance. The pitched roof and High Stage Tower were topped with a central ventilation system. "Built of Horton stone in the Renaissance style with a steep mansard type roof with wrought iron cresting at the eaves. The windows were of the French casement style with coloured glass.
The building was fitted with the latest "Blakeborough Patent Fire Hydrants" and boasted that it was fireproof.
The interior foyer entrance had a staircase of green moor stone leading to a landing and Crush Halls leading to the circle and gallery". The proscenium was 29 feet wide and had a plaster centrepiece illustrating "Music and Arts". The plasterwork also decorated the balcony.
When it was opened on the 1st January 1894 it was owned by Edward Darbey with Mr W Manning as general manager. The opening play at 7.30 was "Manhood" by J. James Hewson with the band for the evening being conducted by Mr W.H. Ashmore.
In 1892 Edward Darbey left the theatre. It was taken over by the "North of England Theatre Corporation Limited" with John Dunbar as manager until the 17 July 1915 (Sat) when it closed for conversion into a Cinema. With a Projector and Screens, it reopened as the ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE and a Variety Hall on the 6th September 1915 (Mon) a "Kine-Variety" venue. Using a Rear projection system, the building was managed by Wilfred Bryan. He was succeeded by E.B. Ibbotson, William H Brooks and Charles Daemon.
On the 6th December 1930 it was again closed for refurbishment with a new carpet, new seating and a new projection room at the back of the Circle along with a new Western Electric Sound System. It opened again on the 15 December 1930 this time called the REGENT and showing the black and white film "The Grand Parade" (1930 USA Film).
The cinema was now owned by "Cinema (Rotherham) and Electra Ltd" with manager Alfred Blank followed by Horace W Routledge.
When a new Regal Cinema (Odeon and Scala) was opened in the town in 1932 the Royal lost out to the newer building.
In September 1935 the building reverted back to being a theatre and Variety hall under the new name REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
During the 1939-45 war Reginald H Otten was the manager followed by John W Steward.
On the 28th December 1942 the "Royal Circus" was on the stage with ringmaster Carl Dane (Ex Heavy-Weight Boxing champion) He was also the 1930's face of Rank films when he Struck the Gong at the beginning of the films.
In 1950 the building was owned by "Regent Theatre (Rotherham) Ltd".
On the 15 June 1957 after a number of unsuccessful shows the band were handed their notice

and the last show took place appropriately Phillis Dixie (Striptease Artist) in "Goodbye to Striptease".

The building was demolished in October 1957 making way for shops including a Boots store. (Good history of the building by Colin Sutton on the Web)

- 1894 BROOMHILL THEATRE David Salmons House, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
Built in 1894 by Sir David Salomons it is a Victorian oak chamber private theatre.
Grade 2 Listed building it is now a producing theatre. (250 Seats)
- 1894 SHOREDITCH EMPIRE Kingsland Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1894.
It was demolished in 1935.
- 1884 GAIETY THEATRE Peter Street, Manchester.
Opened in 1884 to the designs of Alfred Darbyshire of Manchester replacing a previous Gaiety Theatre on the site which had been destroyed by fire.
1884 - Owned by United Theatres Co. Ltd.
On the 9 November 1908 it was purchased by Annie Horniman (Miss A.E. F. Horniman) for £25,000 who renovated the building with the help of the architect Frank Matcham.
The capacity of the building was reduced from 2,500 to 1,300 seats.
During this time local writers wrote productions to be staged at the theatre. Among the writers were Harold Brighouse (Hobson's Choice) and Stanley Houghton (Hindle Wakes).
In 1920 the theatre was taken over by Samuel Fitton and Associates however it was closed in 1922.
Between 1945 and 1947 it reopened.
In 1959 the building was demolished.
- 7 May 1894 EMPIRE THEATRE Hurst Street, Birmingham.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 7 May 1894 with a capacity of 2,000.
It was Bombed in 1940.
- 23 July 1894 GRAND THEATRE BLACKPOOL Church Street, Blackpool.
Opened on the 23 July 1894 it is said to be the prettiest theatre designed by Frank Matcham. It is a Grade 2 Listed building. (1215 Seats)
- 27 Aug 1894 GRAND THEATRE Churchgate, Bolton, Lancashire.
Originally called GRAND CIRQUE it was opened on the 27 August 1894 with its design by Frank Matcham it has a capacity of 2,800. The building was demolished in September 1963.
- 11 Oct 1894 THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE
12 Drury Lane, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.
Opened as the WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE on the 11 October 1894 it was designed by Frank Matcham in a similar style to the old Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, in London. Grade 2 listed building. It was used as a Bingo Hall for many years until April 1986 when it was again made into a theatre.
Also known as the Essoldo (Cinema?) (504 Seats)
- 1894 10 Dec GRAND THEATRE Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, West Midlands.
Opened on the 10 December 1894. It was designed by Charles John Phipps (C.J. Phipps).
The building was not the first theatre in Wolverhampton but it has outlasted them all.
Other theatres in the town included the "Star Theatre" (Later known as the Theatre Royal), "Clifton Cinema in Bilston Street", The Empire Palace", "The Hippodrome in Queen Square" (Destroyed by fire in the 1950's).
In the 1970's the theatre closed for 3 years before reopening after £1 million pounds had been spent on restoring the building.
It was restored in 1983. Grade 2 Listed Building (1200 Seats)
GHOST 1)
This is supposed to be the ghost of Percy Purdey a former Manager of the theatre who died after 1945 and who had lived in a flat in the theatre after his retirement. A man of habit he would go to the bar as soon as the curtain had gone up on a show, for a

whisky. It is said that his footsteps could be herd at this time by front of house staff. In the 1950's two ladies who were preparing the interval ice creams were convinced they had experienced this.

- 1895 THE ACADEMY 570 Christchurch Rd, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Dorset.
Built in 1895 as the GRAND PAVILION THEATRE it was re-named the BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME in 1910. It was closed for a while but was reopened in December 1993 as The Academy. Grade 2 Listed Building (1000 Seats)
- 2 Sept 1895 REGENT THEATRE Cross lane, Salford.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 2 September 1895.
It was destroyed by fire in 1952.
- 16 Sept 1895 ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE Friar Street, Reading.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 16 September 1895 with a capacity of 1,200. It was destroyed by fire in 1937.
- 1895 EMPIRE THEATRE Charles Street, Sheffield.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 4 November 1895. It had a capacity of 2,500. It was demolished in 1959.
- 1896 EMPIRE THEATRE Commerce Street, Longton.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened in 1896. It is now a Bingo Hall.
The first date I have is a postcard from 1921. The building stood near the railway station.
Unfortunately, it had a fire that destroyed the building.**
- 31 Aug 1896 BOROUGH THEATRE High Street, Stratford, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 31 August 1896 with a capacity of 2,000.
It became the REX CINEMA in 1930, and is now closed.
- 21 Sept 1896 BRIXTON THEATRE Brixton Rd, London
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 21 September 1896, with a Capacity of 1,500.
It was destroyed by Bombs in 1940 and is now a Car Park.
- 1897 THE MARINA THEATRE The Marina, Lowestoft, Suffolk.
Originally built by R.F. Brett in 1897. It was reconstructed by E Runtz in 1901 and was converted in 1930 into a Cinema. In October 1988 it reopened as a Theatre.
This is Britain's most Easterly Theatre.
- 1897 THE WINTER GARDENS / VICTORIA PAVILION
Marine Road Central, Morecambe, Lancashire.
Built in 1897 as a Victorian Music Hall / Theatre. Situated on the sea front next to the old Winter Gardens ballroom (Built in 1878) which is was an international Snooker Centre.
The building was designed by Magnall and Littlewood (of the Frank Matcham Company) in 1897 and 1910.
In the Second world war the building was used as a lecture theatre for RAF personnel.
In 1959 Laurence Olivier filmed "The Entertainer" at the theatre. He is seen on the stage of the Winter Gardens at the very end of the film.
The theatre closed in 1977.
In 1985 a group got together to look into the possibility of reopening the theatre and in 1986 the Friends of the Winter gardens was formed. Famous performers include Ted Heath, Jack Parnell, Richard Tauber, George Formby and Gracie Fields. Vera Lynn announced her engagement at the theatre. Eric Morecambe (& Wise Fame) appeared at the theatre, it was also the place that his parents George and Sadie met for the first time at one of the dances held at the Winter Gardens.
Abbott and Costello who also judged the local beauty contest (Film of them at Manchester Metropolitan University's film file).
Many of the stars stayed at the Midland Hotel (see file end).
2004 saw two television appearances on ITV it was "Derelict Discoveries" (Feb) while on

BBC 2 it was "Bee in your Bonnet" (23 March). In 1992 it was made a Grade 2 star Listed building. (2200 down to 2150 Seats)

- 1897 LYCEUM THEATRE Tudor Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
Built in 1897 by W G R Sprague it was built on the site of the old City Theatre of 1893. Grade 2 Listed building it was a major touring theatre until the mid 1960's when it was used as a Bingo Hall and pop concert venue. After extensive restoration and refurbishment, it reopened in December 1990 as a Theatre and Touring house once again. (1130 Seats)
(See also 1901 Theatre Royal Sheffield)
www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk
- 1897 PALACE THEATRE in Attercliffe
1897 Opened
1898 The Alhambra
1907 The Palace Theatre
1913 The Picture Palace
1919 The Palace Theatre
1931 The Palace Cinema
1937 Variety and Music Hall
1955 Demolished to make way for a Carpet Shop.
- 26 July 1897 PEOPLES THEATRE Attercliffe.
On the 26 July 1897 the "Peoples Theatre" was opened with the play "No Cross, No Crown". It was opened by Edward Darbey about 100 yards from Burton's Corner and Stanisford Road and just around the corner from the rival PALACE THEATRE.
In 1897 it was renamed the THEATRE ROYAL.
The building was once a McNaughton House.
Between 1933 and 1935 the theatre was totally rebuilt as a Cinema.
In 1935 it became the Regal Cinema but closed in 1961 it was converted into shops.
- 7 Aug 1897 OPERA HOUSE Topsfield Parade, Crouch End, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 7 August 1897. It was badly damaged by fire in 1942. It then reopened as a Dance Hall before becoming offices.
- 6 Dec 1897 PALACE THEATRE Anlaby Rd, Hull.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 6 December 1897 with a capacity of 1,800. It closed in 1965 and has now been demolished.
- 22 Dec 1897 METROPOLITAN THEATRE Edgware Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 22 December 1897 with a capacity of 1,800. It was demolished in 1963.
- 27 Dec 1897 ALEXANDRA THEATRE Stoke Newington, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 27 December 1897 with a capacity of 2,800. It closed in 1950 and was demolished.
- 1898 GRAND THEATRE Trinity Street Hanley, Stoke on Trent, Staffs.**
Opened to designs by Frank Matcham on the 22 August 1898. It was destroyed by fire in 1932 just four months after it was converted into a Cinema (2,500 Seats)
(See 1841 Theatre Royal)
- 1898 EMPIRE THEATRE Sherwood Street, Theatre Street, Nottingham.
Built in 1898 by Frank Matcham it was closed in 1958. It was demolished in 1969. (2,200 Seats).
In 1982 a new building was opened on the site by architects Renton Howard Wood Levin. It adjoins the Theatre Royal (See 1865) Called the ROYAL CONCERT & CONFERENCE HALL (2496 Seats)
- 1898 PALACE AVENUE THEATRE Palace Avenue, Paignton, Devon.
Built in 1898 (398 Seats).

- 1898 THE ACADEMY 121- 122 Union Street, Plymouth, Devon.
Formerly the PALACE THEATRE, built in 1898- it has been used as a Bingo Hall.
It is now a Grade 2 Listed building and used as a conference hall and Disco. (1350 Seats)
- 4 April 1898 ROYALTY THEATRE Market Street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 4 April 1898 with a capacity of 1,220.
It was demolished in 1957.
- 29 Aug 1898 EMPIRE THEATRE Briggate, Leeds.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 29 August 1898 with a capacity of 1,750.
It closed on the 25 February 1961 and was demolished in 1962.
- 19 Sept 1898 GRANVILLE THEATRE Walham Green, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 19 September 1898 with a capacity of 1,500.
It closed and was demolished in 1971.
- 1899 SPA THEATRE South Marine Drive, Bridlington, Humberside.
Originally called the NEW SPA THEATRE it was built in 1899 by Mangnall & Littlewood.
It was destroyed by fire in 1906, rebuilt in 1907 as the SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. This was again destroyed by fire in 1932 when the present complex was built.
Now known as the THE BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND ROYAL HALL.
(1000 Seats)
- 1899 EMPIRE THEATRE Middlesbrough
Built in 1899 it is now the EMPIRE NIGHT CLUB (by 1990).
- 1899 QUEEN'S THEATRE, Jessop Street, Castleford.
Demolished 1990.
The 2nd theatre in the town the building opened in 1899 as the Queen's Hall a concert hall.
In 1904 it was renamed the Hippodrome Music Hall after a change in the lease.
In 1909 it was reopened as the Queen's Theatre after being altered by Albert Winstanley.
The theatre seated 1,700 and had 5 dressing rooms and a stage measuring 23 feet by 49 feet.
In the 1920's the theatre became the Queen's Cinema and seating was reduced to 980.
In 1931 live performances stopped at the venue only showing films.
In 1959 the building closed and was later reopened as a Bingo Hall, DIY Store, Public House and a Night Club.
In 1963 it was one of the first self-service supermarkets in the ASDA Chain before being demolished in 1990.
- 1899 13 Feb EMPIRE THEATRE King Street, South Shields.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 13 February 1899. It is now a Bingo Club.
- 1899 3 July EMPIRE THEATRE Charles Street, Newport.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 3 July 1899. It has now been demolished.
By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
- 1899 31 July NEW CROSS EMPIRE New Cross Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 31 July 1899 with a capacity of 2,000.
It closed in July 1954 and was demolished in January 1958 it is now the site of a Petrol Station.
- 18 Sept 1899 RICHMOND THEATRE The Green, Richmond upon Thames.
Built by Frank Matcham with a capacity of 1,600 it was opened on the 18 September 1899.
It is a grade 2 listed building. In 1991 it was reopened after being restored, extended and refurbished. (830 Seats)
- 16 Nov 1899 WYNDHAM'S THEATRE Charing Cross Rd, London.
This is a Victorian playhouse designed by W.R. Sprague and built for Charles Wyndham and his wife Mary Moore. It was opened on the 16 November 1899. It was a dream come true for

Charles Wyndham as he produced the first play at his own theatre, the production was a revival of "David Garrick". The land was sold by the Marquess of Salisbury on condition that only Charles Wyndham could build a theatre on the site.

The longest running production at the theatre was of Sandy Wilson's "The Boyfriend" which opened in 1954 and ran for 2,078 performances. (See 1903 Albery Theatre)
Grade 2 listed building. (759 Seats)

- 1900 BEDFORD CIVIC CENTRE St Paul's Centre, Home Lane, Bedford.
In the 1850's the building started life as a School Hall. In 1900 it was converted into a Theatre. It had one major refurbishment in 1950. (289 Seats)
- 1900 EMPIRE THEATRE Front Street, Consett, Co Durham.
This Edwardian looking theatre was built in 1900. (535 Seats)
- 1900 GORLESTON PAVILION Pier Gardens, Gorleston on Sea, Great Yarmouth.
Built in 1900 on a sea front location by Architect J.W. Cockrill in Art Nouveau decor, it has a typical Victorian seaside music hall interior with a small gallery. (400 Seats)
- 1900 HARROGATE THEATRE Oxford Street, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.
Opened in 1900 as the HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE. It was built by J.P. Briggs. In 1972 it was refurbished by Rod Ham and Partners. Grade 2 Listed building (500 Seats).
- 1900 JUBILEE THEATRE St Nicholas Hospital, Jubilee Rd, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Built in an old Victorian psychiatric hospital in 1900 it is a Grade 2 Listed Building with a proscenium arch of Doulton tiles designed by W.J. Neatby (The only other example of his work is the Food hall at Harrod's). The stage is a replica of the Newcastle Theatre Royal, and was in use until 1954 for rehearsals of their Pantomimes. (400 Seats)
- 1900 ROYAL OPERA HOUSE St Thomas Street, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
Built in 1876 as the PRINCE OF WALES CIRCUS it was converted into a theatre in 1900 and renamed the ZELVA'S HIPPODROME. In 1908 it was reconstructed by Frank Tugwell and reopened as the NEW HIPPODROME. It was Renamed the ROYAL OPERA HOUSE in 1910. In 1971 it closed. It reopened in 1976. From 1989 - 1993 it was used as a Cinema. It is closed awaiting new ownership (By 1995). Grade 2 Listed building (939 Seats)
- 1900 ROYAL VICTORIA HALL London Rd, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
The first Municipal Theatre to be opened in England in 1900 (412 Seats)
- 1900 EMPIRE THEATRE Beresford Street, Woolwich, London
The Date the theatre was built is unknown but it was refurbished by Frank Matcham in 1900 and was demolished in 1958.
- 1900 GRAND THEATRE Derby.
The date the theatre was built is unknown but Frank Matcham renovated the building in 1900 with a capacity of 2,000.
- 1900 3 Feb QUEEN'S THEATRE Keighley.
In the 1870's Keighley had the "Britannia Music Hall" which was run by Joseph Bainton in Market Street. I am told that the first 50 customers were given free cigars and one lucky member of the audience, whose name was drawn out of a bag was given a fake silver pocket watch. Abraham Kershaw a piano tuner played at the theatre. Mr Bainton was sued by Abraham for back wages of £10/11/3d which he didn't have. The theatre was then put on the market. Among those who formed the "Keighley Concert Hall Company" was Abraham Kershaw who made his money from selling music as well as playing and tuning pianos. The other investors soon pulled out of the venture leaving Abraham to run the "Kershaw's Varieties" on his own. In 1877 a young Vesta Tilly appeared.
At Easter 1880 a new theatre was opened and called the "Queen's Theatre and Opera House" and was also run by Mr Kershaw. It was built of wood in the American style but failed to attract an audience and in the first week he lost £30.
The salvation army were persuaded to take over the building allowing the building to be

- exempt of rates or tax as it was a place of worship. In 1887 Abraham sold the theatre and moved to Morecambe where he opened a shop and an Arcade.
- # Between the 22 July 1887 – 1898 the Queen’s was run by Edward Darbey who also owned a number of other theatres including between 1896 and 1898 the Lyceum in Crewe. Making more money in Morecambe, Abraham returned to Keighley in 1900 having helped to put the resort on the seaside map. He opened a new theatre called the “Queen’s Theatre and Opera House”.
- Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 3 February 1900 with a capacity of 1,800. In 1906 Abraham died aged 63.
- Within 10 years of its opening the name was changed to the “Hippodrome”.
- It had performers like Gracie Fields, Tommy Handley and George Formby.
- The building was demolished in 1961 after its final show by the Keighley Amateur Operatic Society performing “Oklahoma”. The space is now a Multi-story Car park.
- 1900 CAMDEN THEATRE (Camden Hippodrome Picture Theatre)
1a Camden High Street, Camden Town, London.
Designed by W G R Sprague (1900)
The building is now a Concert hall and Nightclub
- 1900 VICTORIA THEATRE 14-18 Great Clowes Street, Salford.
Designed by Bertie Crewe (1900)
The building is now a Bingo Club.
- 15 Jan 1901 LONDON HIPPODROME Cranbourn Street, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 15 January 1901 with a capacity of 1,340. It is now a Night club / Disco.
- 21 Feb 1901 APOLLO THEATRE 31 Shaftesbury Ave, London W1D 7ES
Built in 1901 by Lewin Sharp it is the fourth theatre in Shaftesbury Avenue and opened on the 21 February.
It was built for Henry Lowenfeld. It was thought that Lowenfeld was going to call the building the “Mascot” after a feature of the decoration. The lucky Silver Mascot is of a Chain and Buckle with a flying Lizard supported by rampant Lions and was the original badge of a German tribe of gypsies connected to the Lowenfeld family.
The Gods of the theatre or “Third Tier” is considered to be the steepest in London.
In 1932 the theatre was renovated and saw the addition of a private foyer and anteroom for the Royal Box.
In 1975 the theatre was purchased by the Stoll Moss Group.
In 2000 the theatre was sold to Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Really Useful Group”.
In 2005 Nica Burns and Max Weitzenhoffer bought the theatre along with a number of others to create the “Nimax Theatres” group.
In 2006 the theatre staged “Summer and Smoke” with Rosamund Pike followed in 2007 by “The Glass Menagerie” starring Jessica Lange.
During a performance of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” the roof and the centre chandelier collapsed into the stalls of the theatre on the 19 December 2013. 81 people were injured with 4 taken to hospital with serious injuries but no fatalities.
(756 Seats)
- 1901 WIGMORE HALL 36 Wigmore Street, London.
Originally called the BECHSTEIN HALL it was built for the German piano manufacturer Friedrich William Bechstein who had a studio next door to the site. Opened on the 75th birthday of its owner (Bechstein) in 1901 it was designed by Colclutt with the Cupola over the stage designed by Moira, with a total cost of the hall at £100,000. The Cupola (Dome) is arched with Numidian marble, over the platform with a picture of the "Soul of Music lifting his hands to the Genius of Harmony - a ball of eternal fire with rays reflected around the world".
Between 1914 and 1916 it staged a number of charity concerts but after the war in 1916 the theatre closed. Bechstein was bankrupt and so the hall was put up for sale along with some 137 pianofortes that were auctioned for a mere £56,500.

In 1917 it reopened as the WIGMORE HALL with a concert by Albert Sammons and Vassily Safonoff playing Violin and Piano Sonatas by Beethoven. (540 Seats)

27 May 1901 ALEXANDRA THEATRE Station St, Birmingham.
Built in 1901 as the LYCEUM. Within a year it was sold for £4,000 half its original cost. To Lester Collingwood (An actor known for his portrayal of a moustache twirling villain in his own shows). Lester renamed the theatre the ALEXANDRA (In honour of Queen Alexandra). The theatre moved under Lester Collingwood's management more towards Melodrama and Pantomime. In 1910 Lester was driving to Sheffield to meet a young lady (For an assignation) when his car hit a milk float and he was killed, posthumously he became one of the first in Britain to be killed in a road accident (in a car). With his popularity at the theatre the funeral procession went through the town with thousands lining the streets in respect. In 1911 the theatre passed into the hands of Leon Salberg. The theatre was altered in 1935 with a major rebuilding programme. In 1938 Leon Salberg died in the theatre. His son Derek Salberg took over the theatre at the age of 24 becoming the youngest theatre manager up until this point in time. In the late 1960's the building was acquired by Birmingham Corporation, who then leased it back to Derek Salberg and a new company he had set up. With new funds the theatre was altered in 1967 when a new Bridge link and entrance foyer being added. In 1968 a new extension was built across the road via a closed in connecting bridge that gave the theatre a new frontage in a prominent position. In 1977 Derek retired from the theatre. He was awarded an OBE for his work and this was later upgraded to a CBE. From 1977 until 1987 Mr Tony Pugh was manager and Licensee (Between November 1988 and 1991 he was House manager at the Lyceum theatre Crewe). In 1989 it was refurbished with the Auditorium being renovated 1990. It is one of the E & B Chain of theatres.

(1374 Seats)

GHOST 1)

Leon Salberg is said to be the ghost at the theatre. He died in the theatre in 1938 giving him a tie to the building.

In 1982 Tony Pugh (Manager) was in the Leon bar area once used as Leon's office. Tony was talking to barman Derek Evans when the both turned towards the public entrance to see a shadowy figure that walked straight past them and through the wall where a door had been blocked off many years before. Another sighting by Tony was near the Bridge bar along with Raymond Savage a doorman. They both heard the sound of keys jingling despite there only being the two of them in the whole of the building.

GHOST 2)

This is the ghost of a woman possibly an ex wardrobe mistress. She was first seen in 1987 by a cleaner at the theatre. She was cleaning the Garrick Bar when the cleaner stopped working. After fiddling with the plug the cleaner looked up to see a grey lady as she looked at her the figure faded and disappeared in front of her eyes.

8 Feb 1901 THE VICTORIA THEATRE Wards End, Halifax, West Yorkshire.
Built in 1901 as the VICTORIA HALL it was opened on the 8 February 1901. It was purchased by the local authority in 1964 when the name was changed to the HALIFAX CIVIC THEATRE. Its name was again changed in 1993 to the VICTORIA THEATRE. Grade 2 Listed building. (1585 Seats)

1901 GARRICK THEATRE Exchange Street, Stockport, Cheshire.
Built in 1901, it was modernised in 1963 and 1985. Nothing of the original building survived the modernisation and by 2014 it had become an amateur theatre with a connection to the Plaza in the town for ticket sales. (155 Seats)

1901 THEATRE ROYAL Tudor Street, Sheffield.
The date of the original building is unknown but in 1901 Frank Matcham renovated the building. It was demolished in 1936 (See also 1897 Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield)

- 1901 17 June PALACE THEATRE Belgrave Gate, Leicester.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 17 June 1901 with a capacity of 2,750.
It had its last performance on the 21 February 1959 and in 1960 it was demolished. The space is now shopping and offices.
- 1901 28 Aug HIPPODROME THEATRE Middle Street, Brighton.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 28 August 1901 with a capacity of 2,800. It is now a MECCA Bingo hall.
- 1901 Dec HACKNEY EMPIRE 291 Mare Street, Hackney, London.
Built by designer Frank Matcham it opened in December 1901 as a theatre with 1,900 Seats.
In 1956 it became a Television studio and was used until 1961 when it became a Bingo Hall continuing until December 1986 when it again became a Theatre.
(1000 Seats + 200 standing)
- 1902 THEATRE ROYAL Angel Lane, Stratford, London.
The date of the original building is unknown but in 1902 Frank Matcham renovated the building.
- 1902 GRAND OPERA HOUSE Cumberland Street, York, Yorkshire.
Built in 1902 by J.P. Briggs as the GRAND OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE, in a converted 1888 Corn Exchange and Warehouse.
In 1989 it was extensively refurbished with Art Nouveau design, reinstating sympathy the 1902 auditorium. (1032 Seats)
- 1902 OLYMPIA THEATRE Northumberland Rd, Newcastle.
The date of the original building is unknown but in 1902 Frank Matcham renovated the building.
- 1902 THEATRE ROYAL Corporation Street, Hyde, Tameside, Manchester
Built in 1902 it was designed by Campbell and Horsley.
It closed in 1992.
In 2006 it was sold at auction.
Among the artists at the theatre have been Julie Andrews and Laurel and Hardy
(not in Laurel and Hardy Tour Book)
- 1902 OPERA HOUSE 88 Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
Designed by John Priestly Briggs (1902)
The building is now a Bar.
- 1903 HAMPTON COURT THEATRE The Green, East Molesey, Surrey
Adapted from a Victorian ballroom it was finished in 1903. (100 Seats)
- 1903 *THE HIPPODROME St George's Rd Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.*
An early example of a purpose-built Circus venue it was built in 1903 by R.S. Cockrill behind the Marine Parade. It is a Grade 2 Listed building (1200 Seats in the round. What else?)
- 1903 WELLINGTON PAVILION THEATRE Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
Built at the same time as "The Hippodrome" in St George's Rd. The theatre was built in the middle of the Pier in 1903, 500 feet from the centre of the sea front. In 1960 the auditorium was reconstructed. (1200 Seats)
- 1903 FUTURIST THEATRE Foreshore Rd, Scarborough, Yorkshire.
The Futurist Theatre is classed as a concert hall, but it was built on the site of two ARCADIA THEATRES dating from 1903 and 1907 respectively. The FUTURIST CINEMA was designed by Frank Tugwell with work commencing in 1920 and opening as a "Super" Cinema in June 1927. In 1957 it was converted into a theatre by Captain Ritson. In 1969 it was redecorated and the stage was enlarged. (2155 Seats)

- 12 March 1903 NOEL COWARD THEATRE /
ALBERY THEATRE St Martin's Lane, London.
Originally called the NEW THEATRE it was built by W.G. R. Sprague as a Victorian Playhouse with Louis XVI cupids. It was Sprague's 13th theatre design with interior design by Claude Ponsonby. The owners were Charles Wyndham and his wife Mary Moore who had previously commissioned the Windham theatre in 1899 (See 1899). Adjoining the Wyndham theatre this new building was joint managed by the same management team. It was opened in March 1903.
After Charles Wyndham's death his stepson Bronson Albery managed the theatre.
In 1973 the theatre was renamed after Bronson as the ALBERY THEATRE. The building was managed by his grandson up to the 1980's (1988 Reference book).
Now known as the NOEL COARD THEATRE it is operated by the Delfont Mackintosh Theatre company. (900 seats)
- 27 May 1903 ROYAL HALL Ripon Rd, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.
Built by Frank Matcham as the KURSAAL it opened on the 27 May 1903 with a capacity of 1,300 seats. It was renamed the ROYAL HALL in 1914. Grade 2 listed building. (772 Seats)
- 1 June 1903 BUXTON OPERA HOUSE (See also Separate File on History)**
Water Street, Buxton Derbyshire.
Built to designs of Frank Matcham it was opened on the 1 June 1903 with a capacity of 1,000 Seats.
In January 1979 renovations started with designs by Arup Associates and work by Bovis to put the theatre back to how it was when Frank Matcham had originally built it.
The theatre reopened in July 1979 after the £506,663 restoration project had been completed. It is 1000ft above sea level and is Grade 2 listed. (943 Seats)
- 17 Aug 1903 SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE Shepherd's Bush Green, London.
Built in 1903 by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 17 August 1903 with a capacity of 1,650 Seats. Its last performance before it closed was on the 26 September 1953.
From 1953 to 1991 it was the home of BBC Variety programmes. It was reopened as a theatre in 1994 after refurbishment. (1230 Seats)
- 5 Oct 1903 MARLBOROUGH THEATRE Holloway Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 5 October 1903. It was demolished in 1962 and now has an office building on the site.
- 14 Dec 1903 EMPIRE THEATRE Newgate Street, Newcastle.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 14 December 1903 with a capacity of 2,200. It was demolished in 1963.
- 1904 TAMESIDE HIPPODROME 40 Oldham Rd, Ashton under Lyne.
Built in 1904 as the EMPIRE HIPPODROME by J.J. Alley, F E Drury, Joseph Gomersall (at Drury and Gomersall).
The Interior was redesigned in 1934 when the 'Gods' and the boxes were removed, with renovations in 1976 and 1982 when it was known as the TAMESIDE THEATRE. In 1992 it was again refurbished and renamed the Tameside Hippodrome. (1262 Seats)
(The building was also known as the ABC – Date Unknown)
GHOST 1)
Manager Bert Walsh tells the story that he passed through an invisible cloud of what he described as ectoplasm, like a cobweb that made it difficult to breath, after hearing someone playing the Violin in an empty theatre. This ghost has been nicknamed Ernie.
GHOST 2)
Possibly a woman
GHOST 3)
More like two sightings by manager Jack Clark the first was when he was re spraying the new Cinema Screen when it was shaken violently while he was on top of it. He was the only person in the theatre at the time. Jack was also working on another night in the projection room changing the film reels when he felt a hand on his shoulder, he turned and found no one there.

GHOST 4)

In January 1977 Comic actor Jack Douglas and Keith Harris (Orville) were walking across the front of the stalls when a figure beckoned them to join him at the back of the stalls. When they arrived at the back they found the person had disappeared.

DEATHS at the theatre

The first happened in the early 1900's when the son of a senior police officer hanged himself in the balcony area.

The Second was in 1934 when the 'Gods' and the boxes were removed, a stage hand decided to hang himself on the stage due to financial difficulties.

- 1904 18 July EMPIRE THEATRE Hyde Rd, Ardwick, Manchester.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 18 July 1904 with a capacity of 3,000.
In 1935 it was renamed the NEW MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
In 1964 it was demolished.
- 24 Dec 1904 LONDON COLISEUM St Martin's Lane, London
Built in 1904 by Frank Matcham with a capacity of 2,358 seats. It was built for Sir Oswald Stoll (Stoll Moss Empire theatres) at a cost of £300,000. It was the first theatre in England to have a revolving stage (With three separate revolves). It also is the first in Europe to have lifts installed. Between 1909 and 1931 it became a Music Hall.
The Coliseum was closed between 1939 and 1945 one of the few theatres to stay closed during the war.
It was partly restored in 1968 by Martin Carr and became the home of the Sadler's Wells Opera (Now English National Opera from 1974). (2358 Seats)
- GHOST 1) ~**
The ghost of a World War 1 Soldier haunts the theatre in his uniform he can be seen sitting in the Dress Circle just as the show is about to begin. The story goes that he was a young soldier who was in love with the leading lady in a show at the theatre, the last show he saw before going to the Battle front where he was killed. He returns to the theatre on the anniversary of his death every year.
- 26 Dec 1904 HIPPODROME THEATRE Oxford Street, Manchester.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 26 December 1904. It was demolished in 1935.
On the site now is the GAUMONT CINEMA, by 2003 it had become a night club.
- 1905 ALDWYCH THEATRE Aldwych, London
Built by G.R. Sprague (See Albery) in 1905 for Seymour Hicks and impresario Charles Frohman. From 1960 to 1982 the Royal Shakespeare company made its home in the Aldwych. (1200 seats)
- 1905 OLYMPIA THEATRE West Derby Rd, Everton, Liverpool.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1905 with a capacity of 2,300.
It became a Bingo Hall.
By 2009 it had become a Live Performance and Special Events venue.
- 1905 TERRY'S THEATRE The Strand, London.
The Date of the original theatre is not known but it was rebuilt by Frank Matcham in 1905, with a capacity of 900.
It was closed in 1923 and has since been demolished.
- 27 Mar 1905 HIPPODROME THEATRE St Nicholas Street, Ipswich.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 27 March 1905 with a capacity of 1,200 Seats.
It was demolished in 1985.
- 1905 May STRAND THEATRE / NOVELLO THEATRE Aldwych, London.
Built on the site of a former theatre called PUNCH'S PLAYHOUSE, the strand.
This Edwardian Theatre was built as the WALDORF by W.R. Sprague and opened in May 1905 as part of a grand Aldwych / Kingsway plan. The two theatres were to compliment the Wardorf Hotel (Opened in 1907).
In 1909 the theatre was renamed THE STRAND.

Between 1911 and 1913 it became the WHITNEY reverting back to the "Strand" afterwards. In 1912 Louis Meyer was in charge of the theatre until 1916. He was succeeded by Arthur Bouchier in 1919.

Between 1913 and 1951 Ivor Novello lived in a flat above the theatre, in fact he died there on the 6 March (1951) (See Palace theatre Shaftesbury avenue).

In 1940 Donald Wolfitt performed Shakespeare at lunch time in the theatre until the building was bombed. In 1942 the theatre reopened with "Arsenic and Old Lace" by Kesselring, with 1,337 performances.

In 1955 "Sailor beware" was staged at the theatre making Peggy Mount an overnight star, at least a star after 1,231 performances of the show.

From 1963 to 1965 Frankie Howard and Robertson Hare starred in "A Funny thing happened on the way to the Forum" the forerunner of "Up Pompeii" on BBC Tv.

The play "No Sex please were British!" opened in June 1971 to poor reviews. It did pick up and ran for a record-breaking run until 1982 when it transferred to the Garrick, continuing until 1987. Grade 2 Listed Building. (1069 Seats)

1906 GIELGUD THEATRE (Previously known as the GLOBE THEATRE)

Shaftesbury Avenue, London.

Built in 1906 by W. G. R. Sprague It was originally called the HICKS THEATRE.

In 1909 it was re christened as The GLOBE before its final name change to the "Gielgud" (After Sir John Gielgud) in October 1994.

It has had a number of eminent managers starting in 1906 with Charles Frohman, and including Anthony Prinsep and H.M. Tennent.

Tempting fate in its early history the theatre staged "The Clock Goes Round" a play written with 13 Characters, one carried a fan of Peacock Feathers and wore a Green Dress.

Superstition triumphed: the play only ran for 13 performances.

In 1927 the theatre again tempted fate, this time with the censors. The Globe staged the production "Potiphar's Wife" in which actress Jeanne de Casalis appeared on stage in Pyjamas, Naughty! (889 Seats)

1906 PAVILION THEATRE The Pier, Cromer, Norfolk.

Built in 1906 as an end of the Pier theatre, it was reconstructed in 1953. Grade 2 Listed Building. It hosts the "Last Authentic End of the Pier Show". Seasonal Shows only. (467 Seats).

1906 Jan HOLBORN EMPIRE High Holborn, London.

Reconstructed from an earlier theatre. Built by Frank Matcham it was opened in January 1906 with a capacity of 2,000. It was bombed in May 1941 and was demolished in 1960. The site is now a Pearl Assurance building.

1907 DARLINGTON CIVIC THEATRE. Parkgate, Darlington.

Built in 1907 this Edwardian Theatre was called the NEW HIPPODROME PALACE OF VARIETIES. Designed by G Gordon Hoskins it was built under the supervision of G.F. Ward of Owen and Ward, Birmingham. It was owned by Rino Pepi who had been a Quick change artist. The first season's programme included variety acts and the "Periscope" his own form of bioscope or moving picture machine.

In November 1927 Rino Pepi died

In 1958 it was renamed the CIVIC THEATRE. In 1966 the town Council officially took over the building keeping the name Civic theatre. During renovations workmen found the grave of Signor Pepi's Pekinese dog. (909 Seats)

GHOST 1)

This is the ghost of the theatres first owner's dog as barking has been heard in the theatre, circle staircase.

GHOST 2)

The ghost of a shadowy figure has been seen standing in the centre stalls. One story as to its identity could be that it is Rino Pepi himself. When he died he wanted to be buried with his wife Countess Rossetti at a graveyard in Barrow-in- Furness. Unfortunately, a storm delayed the burial and he was kept overnight at a roadside inn giving his spirit time to go back to the theatre?

GHOST 3?)

In 1955 Ray Mancell a young singer was in one of the dressing rooms when he saw the ghost of a man. He was later told that some years before a flyman had been found hanging upside down from one of the fly ropes after an argument with his wife or girlfriend. The fly area had later been partitioned off to make a new dressing room, the one Ray was staying in.

GHOST 4)

The ghost of a Ballet Dancer was seen in the 1960's by one of the early cleaners.

GHOST 5)

The ghost of an old stage manager was seen locking up by one of the "Second Generation Dance company" who asked him the way out of the theatre. Later they were told the theatre did not have any elderly employees at the moment, when the dancer described the figure it matched an old stage manager who had died a few years ago. This may account for another sighting when Stephen Luck locked up the theatre in 1987. When he went over to the pub over the road he was later asked what was going on at the theatre that night, when he looked back at the theatre all the lights were switched back on.

1907 The MANCHESTER REPERTOIRE THEATRE Unknown.

The Manchester Repertoire Theatre gave its first performance. It was founded by Miss A Horniman; it was the first repertory theatre.

1 July 1907 SUNDERLAND EMPIRE THEATRE High Street West, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear.

Built as an Edwardian Variety Theatre in 1907 by W & T R Milburn.

Listed Grade 2 Building (1900 Seats to 206 Standing)

On the 26 April 1976 the opening night of the play "The Mating Season", Sid James suffered a heart attack on stage during his first scene, he was sitting on the stage apparently asleep, it was only when he missed his cue that they thought things were wrong. He died on the way to hospital. (The Tour had started at the Grand theatre, Wolverhampton in March 1976).

1907 WILLESDEN EMPIRE London.

Built by Frank Matcham in 1907 it was later renamed the HIPPODROME.

In 1940 it was bombed.

1907 30 Sept KING'S THEATRE Albert Rd, Southsea, Hants.

Built and designed by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 30 September 1907 for J.W.

Boughton (of Portsmouth). He had employed Frank Matcham to rebuild the Theatre Royal Portsmouth in 1900 (See 1856) and almost at once decided to build another theatre in the neighbouring Southsea. When a Rival company decided to do the same, threatening to beat him to be the first to build a stage there he secretly employed Frank Matcham to build the theatre at his own expense opening the King's Theatre on the 30 September 1907.

Broughton's great granddaughter is the actress Kate O' Mara (Triangle /Howards Way etc.) who appeared in Southsea in the play "The Exorcist" in 1983.

In the 1960's the theatre was taken over by factory owner Commander Reginald Cooper and his wife Joan Cooper.

Grade 2 listed building. (1450 Seats Originally 1700 seats)

GHOST 1)

In recent years the stage team have decided to find out if there is a ghost in the theatre. To do this they set up a microphone and tape recorder to be switched on (Via a timer) in the early hours of the day. When they replayed the recording, apart from the usual theatre creaks and other noises, could be heard the sound of a single piano note being played.

Mark Skipper, an electrician at the theatre was walking round the building via a passage in the dress circle when he saw a man sitting in one of the boxes. Dressed in brown the figure was no one that Mark recognised and as he approached the man he suddenly disappeared.

1907 9 Dec GRAND THEATRE Corporation Street, Birmingham.

The original theatre opening date is not known but, on the 9 December 1907, a renovated theatre by Frank Matcham was opened. In 1963 It was demolished.

- 1908 5 Oct HIPPODROME THEATRE Halifax Rd, Todmorden, Lancashire.
 Built in 1908 by an unknown architect it has over the years been known as the EMPIRE THEATRE and the NEW TODMORDEN HIPPODROME. (495 Seats)
 Since 1850 travelling theatres had erected wooden structures on the local Market place or on Stansfield Road (Near the Railway Station) to perform for the local people of Todmorden.
 In 1875 the Town hall staged plays and Music hall shows. In the 1800' the town had a number of unsuccessful theatres including the "Todmorden New Theatre", which in 1895 was owned by Edward Darbey. The most successful theatre in the town was the HIPPODROME.
 In the 1900's Richard Dewhurst who owned a Printing works in Halifax Road purchased land adjacent to build a theatre. The 1,000-seat building was opened as the HIPPODROME on the 5th October 1908 with the Hardie and Von Leer Company production of "Two Lancashire Lasses in London".
 In 1909 local amateur societies started staging productions at the theatre.
 Before long the theatre started showing Silent films before the main performance.
 In 1911 Richard Dewhurst became bankrupt and sold the building in September 1912 to the Hartleys who had theatre and cinema interests in Nelson and Burnley, Lancashire.
 Under the new Management Stanley Jefferson (Stan Laurel) appeared at the building as well as various films shown in Technicolor and those Talkies.
 In 1956 the Hartleys were forced to close the "Hippodrome" and it was leased to the "Todmorden Operatic Society" who along with the "Todmorden Players" staged various productions.
 In 1986 the two societies joined together as the "Todmorden Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society". In 1987 the Hartleys decided to sell the building to the TAODS for £28,000.
 A book chronicling the 100 years of the Theatre was produced by Malcolm and Freda Heywood.
- 8 Oct 1908 QUEEN'S THEATRE Shaftsbury Avenue, London
 The original theatre was opened on the 8 October 1908 and was designed by W.G. R. Sprague to compliment the Globe (1906) in London.
 The Theatre was named with permission of Queen Alexandra.
 In 1940 it was damaged by bombing and stayed closed for the next 19 years.
 In 1959 the theatre was extensively re designed by Brian Westwood and Sir Hugh Casson. It opened with John Gielgud's solo recital "The Ages of Man".
 In 1966 Noel Coward made his last appearance on stage as an actor in his "Suite in Three Keys" (died 26 Mar 1973) (979 Seats)
- 14 Dec 1908 PALACE THEATRE Clarendon Rd, Watford, Herts.
 Edwardian theatre built in 1908 by Mr H.M. Theobald for the Watford Hippodrome Company Ltd. The foundation stone was laid on the 3 June 1908 with Mr Theobald the architect lodging notification to build the theatre five days later. The builders were Barker Brothers of Maidenhead who took six months to build it and the theatre was opened on the 14 December 1908. The original owners were the "Watford Palace of Varieties Co" under the Managing Director Mr T.M. Sylvester.
 In 1984 it had an extension built to house a new bar and administration area.
 The building was refurbished in September 2004 with £8.8 million in Lottery funding and now houses a rehearsal room, wardrobe and scenic workshop, along with a café and bar.
 Grade 2 Listed building (663 Seats).
- 1908 VICTORIA / VICTORIA CINEMA, Wood Street, Middleton.
 In the 1870's a Chapel was opened on the site and in 1908 it was converted into a Theatre.
 In 1910 it was owned by Mr Thomas Whiteley an early Cinema pioneer who also had cinema's and Variety Halls in Bolton, Hindley, Leigh and Pendleton.
 After the First World War the building became known as the "Picture House" and was leased by Bart Phoenix.
 In the 1930's it became known as the "Victory" and became part of the "H.D. Moorhouse's Manchester Cinema" circuit and also heralded in the introduction of Sound.
 It closed in 1960 and was demolished to make way for a bank.

- 1909 EMPIRE, Fleetwood.
Designed by Albert Winstanley. The building has been Demolished.
- 1909 ROYAL, Whitehaven.
Designed by Albert Winstanley. The building has been Demolished.
- 1909 8 Nov HIPPODROME THEATRE The Broadway, Ilford, Essex.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 8 November 1909 with a capacity of 2,500 (plus 500 standing). It was bombed in 1944 and demolished in 1957.
- 1910 NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1QG
Built in 1910 by architects Cecil Masey & Roy Young. Grade 2 Listed building. (1500 Seats)
- 1910 PALACE THEATRE HAMMERSMITH Hammersmith, London.
Date of construction of the theatre not known, but it was reconstructed in 1910 by Frank Matcham. By 1995 it was not in use. Present state of the building not known.
- 1910 THE EMPIRE / THWAITES EMPIRE THEATRE / BLACKBURN EMPIRE
Opened in 1910 as a Cinema. It was known as the Electric Light Theatre, The Barn, The Empire, The Red Brick, The Thwaites Theatre, Thwaites Empire Theatre and finally, the Blackburn Empire before it closed as a cinema.
In the 1970's local enthusiasts decided to form a charity to give Blackburn a theatre for amateur productions and a focal point for the town's entertainment.
In October 2002 the Thwaites Empire Theatre opened its doors and in 2005 a balcony was added to the building. On the 14th November 2005 the New Thwaites Empire Theatre was opened after a refurbishment and with 320 seats.
- 5 Sept 1910 FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE St Thomas's Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 5 September 1910 with a capacity of 2,000. It closed on the 7 May 1960 and was demolished in 1965. The site is now flats.
- 13 Dec 1910 PALACE THEATRE / CIVIC THEATRE
Leeming Street, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.
Formally the PALACE THEATRE built in 1910 as a Cine-Variety Theatre it opened on the 13 December 1910. There were three theatres close by to the Civic "The Grand", "The Victoria" and "The Palace".
The Civic was designed by Mr F P Cook and built by A F Houfton as the "Last word in Electronic Theatres – The Acme of refinement and Novelty" with the building taking 22 weeks to build.
In 1923 the building was transferred to a new company called "Sherwood Palaces Ltd" after the introduction of an Entertainment Tax after the first world war and an attempt by the original owners to purchase the nearby "Victoria Theatre".
In January 1931, Sound was added to the cinema and in June 1944 the Palace closed to have to install a fireproof curtain and the theatre started with a performance by Tom E Bradley (Comedian) on the 3 July 1944.
On the 19 July 1954 the theatre closed after plans to change it back to a cinema by Lessee Barny Lando failed.
In 1956 the local authority purchased the theatre for £11,500 and renamed it the CIVIC HALL in March 1956.
In 1964 the theatre gained a new frontage and in 1971 it became the CIVIC THEATRE.
In September 1994 it was reopened with the addition of a Circle.
In May 1997 the theatre closed for refurbishment with the original stage being removed and replaced and reopened on Monday the 15 December 1997 in time for the pantomime Mother Goose.
Now renamed the PALACE THEATRE (593 Seats)
- 26 Dec 1910 LONDON PALLADIUM Argyle Street, London.
Built on the site of the Corinthian Bazaar (Dating from 1870).
It was first called Hengler's Grand Cirque (1871) (Circus) and was owned by Frederick Charles Hengler, a circus showman. He used the building as the permanent home for his

Grand Cirque. The present-day safety curtain shows what the theatre looked like in those early days.

After 20 years the popularity of the circus performances dwindled and the theatre closed. When it reopened in 1884 it had been re constructed by Charles .J. Phipps and became the NATIONAL SKATING PALACE including a real ice skating rink.

The present theatre was built in 1910 by Frank Matcham with 2,325 Seats, and opened on the 26 December as a Variety Theatre called the PALLADIUM. The opening Music Hall show included Nellie Wallace, Whit Cunliffe, Etta Retford and Ella Shields.

The new building was the star of the first night and subsequent performances. Not only was it designed in a French Rococo style, it also had a palm court at the back of the stalls where a 'ladies' orchestra played between the performances. A special feature was a Box to Box telephone system.

During the 1930's the theatre staged the "Crazy Gang Shows". The Christmas show between 1930 and 1938 was Peter Pan.

1934 the theatre was renamed the LONDON PALLADIUM.

In 1948 during the Royal Variety Show on the 1 November Nellie Wallace collapsed after singing her song and was taken to hospital. She died on the 24 Nov 1948 in a nursing home. With Royal variety shows and Tv presentations like "Sunday Night at the London Palladium" it is still one of the premier theatres in the United Kingdom.

The theatre also staged the musical "Barnham" starring Michael Crawford from the 11 June 1981. (2298 Seats) (See 1871)

- 1911 NEPTUNE THEATRE Hanover Street, Liverpool.
This Second-floor theatre was opened in 1911. (445 Seats)
- 1911 WINTER GARDENS Fort Crescent, Margate, Kent.
Built on the sea front in 1910 (1500 Seats)
- 1911 QUEEN'S THEATRE AND PRINCE'S HALL
Burslem New Town Hall, Wedgwood Place, Burslem, Stoke on Trent, Staffs.
Previously known as the QUEEN'S HALL it was built in 1911. (1280 Seats)
- 1911 THEATRE ROYAL Albion Street, Castleford.
Built in 1911 by Frank Matcham it was demolished in 1964.
- 1911 ROYALTY THEATRE / PEACOCK THEATRE Portugal Street, off Kingsway, London
Built in 1911 as the LONDON OPERA HOUSE by Oscar Hammerstein I it was nicknamed the "Hammerstein Folly" and was allegedly built as a showcase for his mistress. In 1916 he sold it after various failures to Sir Oswald Stoll who made it into a Cinema.
STOLL THEATRE.
During 1939 to 1945 it again became a theatre but closed in 1957.
In 1960 it was opened again and used for many years by Thames Television as a studio theatre.
In 1987 it again became a theatre.
It is now known was the PEACOCK THEATRE
(1000 seats)
GHOST 1)
It is thought to be the ghost of Hammerstein's protégé and has been identified wearing a black lace mantilla, one of her costumes in her many roles at the theatre.
- 1911 13 Feb LEWISHAM HIPPODROME Lewisham, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it opened on the 13 February 1911 with a capacity of 3,500.
It became the EROS CINEMA in 1952 before closing in 1959 and was demolished in 1960.
The Site is now an office block. (see Lewisham theatre 1932)
- 1911 Oct WINTERGARDENS THEATRE Drury Lane, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened in October 1911 with a capacity of 3,000.
In 1965 it was demolished.
The site is now occupied by the NEW LONDON THEATRE. (See Jan 1978)

- 6 Nov 1911 VICTORIA PALACE Victoria Street, London.
 Built to designs by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 6 November 1911 for owner Alfred Butt. The theatre had a capacity of 1,565 seats. Designed as a Variety theatre it has staged this form of entertainment for most of its life. In 1934 it attempted to stage melodrama with the play "Young England" by Walter Reynolds, but as the audience was used to comedies they only came to laugh at the plays and were disappointed. The theatre soon reverted back to Variety performances.
 Kept in its original condition as much as possible the facade has changed little. One item missing today is a Gilded Metal figure of Pavlova the Ballet dancer a Protégé of Alfred Butts. It is said that Pavlova would not look upon the figure as she was superstitious and would draw the car blinds every time she passed the building. The figure was taken down from the theatre's tower during the blitz for safety and unfortunately disappeared, never to be seen again.
 From 1945 till 1962 the Crazy Gang were at the theatre.
 When the Gang show finished they were replaced by George Mitchell's Black and White Minstrels show (1962 - 1970). Grade 2 Listed building (1517 Seats)
- 1911 26 Dec SHAFTESBURY THEATRE Shaftesbury Avenue, London
 It was opened as the PRINCE'S THEATRE on the 26 December 1911 to a design by Bertie Crewe. The opening production was "The Three Musketeers".
 During the 1960's the theatre was sold several times before the theatre was renamed the SHAFTESBURY THEATRE in 1963.
 On the 27 September 1968 the day that Censorship laws in the theatre were relaxed, the theatre staged the production "Hair". It caused outrage in some quarters as it has a Nude scene at the end. The cast included Paul Nicholas who says that he was not one of the actors who removed all their clothes. Paul was joined by Oliver Tobias and Marsha Hunt with a musician called Alex Harvey in the orchestra pit.
 In 1973 the theatres run of "Hair" came to abrupt end then the ceiling fell in after the 1,997th performance some four days before the production was due to close.
 The theatre was saved from demolition and was placed on the Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic interest in 1974 making it a Grade 2 Listed building.
 A story about the ceiling falling in is a bit of a mystery. In the years that Hair was at the theatre a certain member of the public would watch the production from the same seat on a regular basis. He had become so popular at the theatre that the seat was permanently reserved for him in case he turned up. Just a few days before the 1,997th performance he announced to the theatre staff that he was going into hospital for a few days for an operation so someone else could have the seat while he was away, hoping to return before the end of the run of the show. On the night that the ceiling fell in there was a lot of debris around the orchestra stalls and one seat had a large piece of the roof embedded in it, the one the customer had regularly booked. When the theatre reopened the staff awaited the return of its favourite patron, unfortunately, he never came back. Had he died nobody knows as the theatre didn't have a record of his name or home address so they could check on his progress after the operation.
 The theatre was reopened in 1973 with Richard Schulman as Manager.
 In 1983 the Theatre of Comedy Company founded by Ray Cooney and supported by thirty theatre personalities leased the theatre. In 1984 the company scrapped enough money together to buy the property outright. The theatre was used in recent years for BBC outside broadcasts. (1404 seats)
- 1911 THEATRE ROYAL / EMPIRE Cinema, Corporation Street, Middleton.
 Built on the site of a Chapel it was known as the Empire in 1911. The building showed films and had Variety Acts. In 1918 it was called the Empire Theatre Ltd and was managed by Thomas Baker.
 In 1919 the "New Empire and Palace of Varieties (Middleton) Ltd" was formed to run the building.
 By 1924 Harold Ride was the manager of the theatre introducing two changes of programme each week. However the building was soon sold to "Victory Pictures Ltd" and in 1926 Mr Haslet was installed as Manager.
 With the introduction of Sound to cinemas in 1930 the building was kitted out with sound equipment.
 In 1950 a new Panasonic Screen was fitted and in 1960 the building started having Bingo. In

1963 it stopped showing films and converted to a Bingo and Social Club. In the 1980's it was converted into a Discotheque.

- 1912 BRISTOL HIPPODROME St Augustine's Parade, Bristol, Avon.
Built in 1912 by Frank Matcham it was his last Major work. The theatre opened on the 16 December 1912 and is now a Grade 2 Listed Building (1977 Seats)
- 1912 KING'S HALL *The Downs, Herne Bay, Kent.*
Built in 1912 (or 4 Apr 1904) as a multi-purpose hall on the sea front of Herne Bay.
(646 Seats)
- 1912 OPERA HOUSE Quay Street, Manchester.
Opened in 1912 as the NEW THEATRE, it was renamed the NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE in 1915. In 1920 it was again renamed this time as the OPERA HOUSE. In the 1970's the Opera house and the Palace theatre (Also in Manchester) were taken over by Norwest Holst, a construction and civil engineering company. Grade 2 Listed building (2,000 Seats)
- 21 Oct 1912 PALACE THEATRE CENTRE 430 London Rd, Westcliffe on Sea, Essex SS0 9LA.
(Southend)
Named the NEW PALACE this Grade 3 Listed building it was built in 1912 as a Repertory Theatre, producing drama, variety and film. The opening of the PALACE THEATRE on Monday 21 October 1912 by Mr Raymond of the Raymond Picture Palace Company (Who also controlled 14 other cinemas and theatres) brought this modern theatre to the town with the claim "No Matter from what part of the building spectators look up to the stage, there is a clear and uninterrupted view" with 1500 seats (Now reduced to 603)
The theatre didn't have a successful start causing the proprietor to hang himself.
On the 14 November 1912 the theatre changed its name to the PALACE OF VARIETIES and then in December it became the NEW PALACE.
In 1919 Mrs Gertrude Mouillot purchased the theatre for £250,000 hoping to convert it into a Cinema but because the rake of the stage was too steep she found it difficult to project films from the front. She decided to use back projection and constructed a box at the rear of the stage to house the equipment.
During the war it was a touring theatre bringing in the stars of the day including Matheson Long, Ruth Draper, Lillian Braithewaite, John Clements Ivor Novello and Sybil Thorndyke.
Like many theatres after the war it suffered from financial troubles and unfortunately closed only to be sold by Mrs Mouillot in 1942 to the people of Southend.
The opening play was by the Harry Hanson Court Players and included the actress Dora Bryan.
In 1957 The Palace Theatre Club (Trust) was formed to "Encourage interest in all aspects of living theatre and, in particular, the Palace Theatre".
In 1973 the Southend County Borough Council gave generous donations to the Trust allowing them to redecorate the building. Under a new Trust set up by the Council it was decided that the theatre needed a new 'Intimate' studio theatre. The Edwardian building was unsuitable so a new plot of land was needed to build it. In 1980 land next to the theatre was available for the new extension and in 1982 a new Studio Theatre was built called the "Dixon Studio" with space for 100 patrons.
In 1987 the original building was fully restored. (600 Seats)
Since August 2006 the building is operated by HQ Theatres on behalf of the Southend Council. (HQ are part of QDOS one of the largest entertainment groups in the country)
The box office for the theatre is run jointly between the Palace Theatre and Cliffs Pavilion Southend.
www.southendtheatres.org.uk
GHOST 1)
Known as "George" the real identity of the ghost is unknown.
GHOST 2)
In 1975 a female scene painter working late at night was on the way to the toilet when she came across a woman dressed in white. After a moment the figure disappeared before her eyes.
EXTRA 1)

In 1977 assistant stage manager Dave Barlett and the Stage Manager were working after the theatre was closed when they heard a piano being played on stage. Knowing no-one else was in the building they approached the stage. As soon as they actually stepped onto the stage the playing stopped. As the two of them had covered both exits and there was no time for anyone to vacate the stage, which was now empty except for the piano, it must have been someone or something supernatural.

EXTRA 2)

Seats in the theatre have been seen to be depressed as though an invisible person were sitting on them.

EXTRA 3)

The Stage Manager while painting a dressing room on a Sunday morning was touched on the shoulder, a common occurrence of a spooking.

- 1912 18 Mar EMPIRE THEATRE High Street, Chatham.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 18 March 1912 with a capacity of 2,500. In September 19600 it closed. The space is now an office block.
- 1912 2 Sept CHISWICK EMPIRE High Rd, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 2 September 1912 with a capacity of 1,950 seats. The building was demolished in 1959 and the space is now an office block.
- 1912 7 Sept WOOD GREEN EMPIRE High Rd, Wood Green, London.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 7 September 1912 with a capacity of 2,850 seats.
It Closed in January 1955 and was demolished. The site is now a Sainsbury Store (2002).
- 1912 PALACE 35 Station Road, Aldershot, Hampshire.
Designed by John Priestly Briggs (of Frank Matcham and Company)
The building is now a live Music Venue
- 5 June 1913 AMBASSADORS THEATRE West Street, Cambridge Circus, London.
Designed by W.G. R. Sprague in Louis XVI style it was opened in 1913.
Between 1919 and 1930 H.M. Harwood leased the theatre.
Between 1952 and 1974 it staged the play "The Mousetrap" the longest running play in the world (it has since transferred to the St Martin's theatre). (444 seats)
- 1913 HIPPODROME North End Rd, Golders Green, London
Concert hall designed by Bertie Crewe and opened in December 1913.
It was a touring house until 1960.
In 1969 the BBC took over the building and used it as a Tv Studio before becoming a venue for sound productions in 1972. It was then used by the BBC Concert orchestra.
By 2011 it was a Church and Community Theatre.
Grade 2 Listed building. (700 Seats)
- 15 Feb 1913 OLD REPERTORY THEATRE Station Street, Birmingham.**
Built in 1913 it was the first purpose-built repertory theatre in Britain. (378 Seats)
This first Repertory Theatre was opened by Sir Barry Jackson. The first production was Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night".
- 5 June 1913 / 1927 ARTS THEATRE 6-7 Great Newport Street, London
(340 Seats)
- 1913 DE MONTFORD HALL Granville Rd, Leicester.**
Built in 1913 as a concert hall. (2200 Seats)
- 1913 ROBIN HOOD THEATRE Church Lane, Averham, Near Newark
Built in 1913 as a private theatre called the ROBIN HOOD OPERA HOUSE.
In the 1950's it closed, it reopening in 1961 as a Public theatre. (150 Seats)
- 1913 PALACE THEATRE Alcaster Street, Redditch, Worcestershire.

- Built in 1913 (399 Seats)
- 1913 WHITLEY BAY PLAYHOUSE Marine Avenue, Whitley Bay, North Tyneside.
Built in 1913 (746 Seats)
- 1913 PALLADIUM 81 Seaforth Road, Seaforth, Crosby, Liverpool.
Designed by Unknown
The building is now a Gym
- 1913 PARK AND DARE THEATRE Treorchy (Wales).
Built in 1913 by local Miners.
- 1914 ALHAMBRA THEATRE Morley Street, Bradford, West Yorkshire.
Built in 1914 this Grade 2 listed building was refurbished in 1986. (1464 Seats)
- 1914 ALTRINCHAM GARRICK THEATRE (Opened 1914)
Barrington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1HZ
0161-9281677 www.altrinchamgarruck.co.uk (Near Stockport, Cheshire)
- 21 Sept 1914 PENDLE HIPPODROME THEATRE New Market Street, Colne, Lancashire.
Built in 1914 it started life as a Theatre, It then became a Cinema, then a Bingo Hall and in 1978 it again became a Theatre.
Between 1978- 1986 it was refurbished. (500 Seats)
- 1914 THEATRE ROYAL Jewry Street, Winchester .
Georgian facade to this Grade 2 Listed Building hides a Cine-Variety Theatre dating from 1914 which was designed by Frederick G M Chancellor (1914).
In 1985 the Auditorium was renovated and restored. (405 Seats)
- 1914 PALLADIUM 21 Market Street, Lancaster.
Designed by Unknown.
The building is now a Retail Shop.
- 1915 RIVERSIDE THEATRE Quay Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Built in 1915. It had a £250,000 refit in 1985. (288 Seats)
- 26 Nov 1916 ST MARTIN'S THEATRE West Street, London.
Built in 1916 by W.R. Sprague. Grade 2 listed building. Opened on the 26 Nov 1916.
(456 Seats)
- 1916 REX THEATRE Union Place, Worthing, West Sussex.
Built 1916 it was closed in 1935. It is now being used as a rehearsal room for the Connaught Theatre (See 1935).
It was hoped that the theatre would be opened again in 1998. (Seats Unknown)
- 1918 EMPIRE THEATRE Butler Rd, Halstead, Essex.
Built in 1918 as a Music Hall, it was converted in to a Cinema in the 1920's and was in use as a film venue until 1968. It was then closed until 1979 when it reopened as a Cinema and Theatre venue. (290 Seats)
- 1919 No New Theatres
- 1920 PALACE THEATRE Appletongate, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire.
Grade 2 listed building, from 1920 when it was a cine-Variety Theatre designed by Emily Briggs.
It then became a Bingo Hall finally becoming a theatre again in 1974. It was refurbished in 1988. (607 Seats)
- 1921 MADDERMARKET THEATRE
On the site of a Roman Catholic Church built in 1794 it became a baking soda factory in

the 19th Century and later a hall for the Salvation Army.
 In 1921 the Maddermarket Theatre was opened and was a recreation of an Elizabethan theatre style to house the Norwich Players.
 A new foyer and bar were installed in the 1960's.
 (310 Seats) (GRADE 2)

- 1922 **ART CINEMA Haymarket St, Bury, Lancashire. 1,136 Seats**
 (Address also listed as Knowsley Street Bury)
 The Art Cinema was originally built in 1911 by **Albert Winstanley** and was a converted Baptist chapel, which had then become a warehouse.
 The original building which seated 750 had a stage of 6ft deep and a long Winter Garden glazed foyer along its length.
 A survivor of the 1920's Cinema / Variety house boom it is constructed of a brick clad steel frame topped off with a slate and asphalt roof. There is a stage with full Flytower.
 Opened in 1922 after being redesigned by the original architect **Albert Winstanley** the outside is constructed in white faience tiles made up of three stories and nine symmetrical bays.
 There is a central rounded window between the first and second floor with the words 'ART PICTURE' to the left and 'ART CAFÉ' to the right.
 The building has stalls, a pit and a twelve-row circle seating 1217. The Cine Chamber was positioned at the rear of the stalls. The original first floor Café was completed in 1923.
 Since its construction the ground floor level has been altered to allow more space for access and light into the bar area.
 There is a small foyer with a Marble staircase with a gilded metal balustrade. The staircase decoration is in the style of the Roman's and leads to the balcony.
 The single balcony has 12 rows and two bow fronted boxes on either side. The projection box is situated at the back of the stalls.
 The proscenium arch is supported by ionic (of Iona) plaster that also frames the boxes.
 The Barrel vault ceiling has a raised dome over the rear of the balcony. It is encrusted with baroque motifs and includes 3 ventilation roundels.
 The front of the boxes has detailed Edwardian baroque style plasterwork.
 In 1964 films stopped being shown at the 'Art Cinema' and like other buildings it was converted for use as a billiard hall, bingo casino, Chicago Rock Café and by 2006 a pub.
 The building has a first-floor café advertised as the Indian Lounge Café on account of its décor but it was hardly used.
 On the 23 October 2009 the building opened as a J D Wetherspoon Public house and is known as the "Art Picture House"
 The building is Grade 2.
- 1923 **PICTURE HOUSE (Gaumont / ODEON / Winding Wheel) 13 Holywell Street, Chesterfield.**
 Designed by Unknown
 The building is now a banquet Hall / Concert hall
- 1924 **FORTUNE THEATRE Russell Street, Covent Garden, London.**
 Designed by Ernest Schaufelberg it is situated next to a church. Built for Lawrence Cowen (Play writer) it was originally going to be called the "Crown" but ended up as the "Fortune". It opened with the play "The Sinners" by L Cowen.
 Ernest Schaufelberg built a bronze "Nude Girl" situated on the facade.
 In the 1930's the theatre was given over to amateur companies until 1939 when ENSA took over the productions. Shows at the theatre included Joyce Grenfell's "Requests the pleasure" (1954) and Flanders and Swann's "At the Drop of a Hat" (1957) were both recorded at the theatre. "Beyond the Fringe" ran for 1184 performances since it opened in 1961.
 In 1982 it closed for a short time for renovations.
 It reopened in 1983 with "Mr Cinders". (435 seats)
- 1924 **CIVIC THEATRE Waterdale, Doncaster, South Yorkshire.**
 Built in 1924. (511 Seats).
- 1926 **PAVILION THEATRE Marine Parade, Worthing, West Sussex.**
 Built on the land end of the Pier in 1926 it was fully refurbished in 1982. (850 Seats)

- 1927 ASTORIA THEATRE 157 Charing Cross Road, London
Originally built as a Pickle factory it was converted by Edward A Stone into a Cinema in 1927.
In 1956 and 1968 it was modernised being taken over in 1977 and converted into a theatre which opened in 1978. Since 1984 it has now become a pop venue. (1100 Seats)
- 1927 LEAS CLIFF HALL The Leas, Folkstone Kent.
The Multi-purpose Hall was built in 1927 and by 1995 was run by Shepway District Council. In 1976 Charles Vance purchased the LEAS PAVILLION THEATRE as it was now known in Folkstone and it was here that he based his production company until 1985 rehearsing and staging the shows before they went on tour.
- 1927 SPA PAVILION THEATRE Undercliff Rd West, Felixstowe, Suffolk.
Built into the side of a cliff in 1927. (919 Seats)
- 1927 MAJESTIC THEATRE Coronation Street, Retford, Nottinghamshire.
Designed by Alfred J Thraves as a Cinema
The building is now a Live Theatre.
Erected in 1927 with traditional 1920's decor. It was renovated in 1987-88.
By 1995 it had closed.
Reopened as a Live Theatre (550 Seats)
- 1927 WHITE ROCK THEATRE White Rock, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1JX
Opened by the Prince of Wales in 1927 before he became King Edward VIII, and Duke of Windsor. It was constructed on the site of a hospital with a mortuary.
Run by HQ Theatres.
GHOST 1)
In 1985 Bar manager Marion Hartley (Married to Theatre manager David Hartley) left to run a pub in Kent. Before she left she told of the morning she was cleaning out the pipes from the beer barrels at about 8am. She suddenly noticed an elderly man sitting in a chair in the corner of the bar. He was wearing faded raincoat and seemed to be quite tall, and looked like someone Marion knew. She decided it must be one of the cleaners and so she went back to work. She then suddenly realised that it couldn't be the cleaners as she would have to have let them in. When she looked back at the man in the chair to ask who he was he had vanished.
- 27 April 1928 PICCADILLY THEATRE Denman Street, London
Designed by Bertie Crewe and Edward A Stone it was built in 1928, opening on the 27 April that year. Designed as a theatre it was however changed into a cinema some four months after its opening. It started to show the new medium of "Talkie movies" including Al Jolson's "The Singing Fool".
In 1937 Firth Shepherd presented a continuous programme known as "Choose your Time". It included a newsreel, an Orchestra, a Donald Duck Cartoon film, Variety Acts and a short play called "Talk of the Devil" with Yvonne Arnaud (possibly Yvonne Arnold) and John Mills in the cast.
During World War 2 doodle bugs and other bombs damaged the building. The theatre was repaired and back, staging productions as soon as it could.
In 1955 the interior was completely redecorated and the building was reconstructed
In 1960 becoming the first London Theatre to have Air conditioning. (1232 Seats)
- 12 Nov 1928 NEW OXFORD THEATRE, MANCHESTER. (Cinema)
The New Oxford Theatre in Manchester opened. It was the first Picture House to be opened outside of America to show Talking pictures.
- Dec 1928 MAYFLOWER THEATRE Commercial Rd, Southampton.
Built in 1928 as the EMPIRE THEATRE. In 1950 it changed its name to the GAUMONT.
In 1986 it was purchased by Southampton City Council who refurbished and reopened it as the MAYFLOWER THEATRE in 1987. It is now run as an independent venue.
(2289 Seats) (GRADE 2)

- 1929 DOMINION THEATRE 268 Tottenham Court Road, London.
Built in 1929 by William and Thomas Ridley Milburn it became more a Cinema than a theatre
By 2011 became more a theatre.
(2000 seats)
- 1929 DUCHESS THEATRE Catherine Street, Covent Garden, London.
Designed by Ewen Barr it was opened in 1929.
It is said that Ewen Barr forgot to put in the actors dressing rooms in the original plans.
As an afterthought they were put three floors above ground level making it a long walk to get
onto the stage.
In 1974 it produced the most controversial production in London, "Oh Calcutta!" a Nude show
which ran for 3918 performances until 1980. (470 Seats)
- 1929 ACADEMY THEATRE. 211 Stockwell Rd, London
One of 4 Cinemas built by the Astoria cinema Chain as a Theme Cinema. Grade 2 Listed
Building (4272 Seats)
- 19 Mar 1929 PAVILION THEATRE, BOURNEMOUTH Westover Rd, Bournemouth, Dorset.
Built in 1929 it is now part of the Bournemouth International Centre Complex. (1518 Seats)
- 1929 PHOENIX THEATRE 110 Charing Cross Rd, London
Built by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, Bertie Crewe and Cecil Masey in 1929 (or 1930) it has art
decoration by Theodore Komisarjevsky. (1012 seats)
- 1929 WEST CLIFF THEATRE Tower Rd, Clacton-on- Sea, Essex.
Built in 1929, the idea of a theatre started in 1894 when Burt Graham set up a
concert party at the age of 21 in the town but didn't have a permanent theatre until 1929.
(590 Seats)
- 1929 FLORAL PAVILION THEATRE Virginia Rd, New Brighton, Wirral.
Built in 1929 (976 Seats)
www.floralspavilion.com
- 1929 PALACE THEATRE 66 Clifton Road, Lytham St Annes
The Palace Cinema was built in 1929 by the Blackpool Tower Company Ltd. And was
opened on Easter Monday 1930 having been built by Frank Matcham and Co with
Mr F.G. Chancellor being the architect. The Cinema was furnished with a
Western Electric Sound System and had a café.
The building was still open in 1954 but closed sometime in the late 1950's when it
was sold to a developer and demolished. A Branch of Boots and a Tesco Express
occupy the site in the original building.
- 1930 NEW RAINBOW THEATRE 232 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London
Originally it was the Astoria Cinema which was built in 1930 by Edward Stone. It has
Spanish / Moorish decor around the Auditorium / Proscenium. (3000 Seats)
- 1930 DORKING HALLS Reigate Rd, Dorking, Surrey.
Built in 1930 (851 Seats)
- 3 April 1930 PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE Old Crompton Street, London
Designed by Edward A Stone it was opened on the 3 April 1930 and was named the PRINCE
EDWARD THEATRE after the Prince of Wales at the time (Later to become King). It was
the first of four London theatres to be opened that year (Next The Cambridge, Phoenix (see
1929), and Whitehall).
The theatre closed in 1935 due to a lack of patron's dispute appearances by Josephine Baker
in 1933.
In 1936 it reopened as a London Casino taking between £6000 & 37000 a week.
In 1942 it became the QUEENSBURY ALL SERVICES CLUB.
In 1946 it reverted back to a theatre with shows like "Pick up Girl" and lavish Musical

shows.

In 1954 the show "Wish you were Here" required a Swimming pool to be built on stage.

1954 was also the year the building became a Cinema for "This is Cinerama".

In 1974 it again became a theatre and alternated between live shows and films.

In 1978 all this changed with the production of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's "Evita" which ran continuously until 1986, followed by Tim Rice's "Chess".

In 1993 the building was refurbished. (1618 Seats)

4 Sept 1930 CAMBRIDGE THEATRE Earlham Street, Seven Dials, London.
This was one of the original "Stoll Moss" Theatres managed in 1930 by Bertie Meyer. The interior was decorated by Serge Chermayeff. It was one of 3 new theatres opened in London during September 1930. The Cambridge theatre opened on the 4 September 1930 with Beatrice Lillie in "Charlot's Masquerade".
In 1980 the theatre closed. It was refurbished in 1987 -8 and it was reopened in 1988 with 1275 Seats. (1231 Seats in 1995)

1930 APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE Wilton Road, Westminster, London
The building was erected as a Cinema in the 1930's and in 1981 was converted to a theatre to stage musicals with the first being The Sound of Music.
Now owned by the Ambassadors Group
(Seats 2,328)

29 Sept 1930 TRAFALGAR STUDIOS / WHITEHALL THEATRE 14 Whitehall, London
Art deco theatre designed by Edward A Stone in 1930 it opened with the production "The Way to treat a Woman" by Walter Hackett.
In 1942 the Whitehall Follies were launched featuring Phillis Dixey, the first Nude / Stripper in the West End. Her show 1942 show "All's Fair" was so popular that in she took over the lease of the theatre in 1944 until 1947.
The Whitehall Theatre is famous for the Whitehall Farces produced by Brian Rix in the 1950's the first was "Reluctant Heroes" in 1950. Brian ran the Whitehall theatre from 1950 to 1967.
In the 1969 Paul Raymond brought the theatre back to producing Nudity in productions with plays like "Pyjama Tops" from 1969 to 1975 with 2,298 performances. The cast was headed by Fiona Richmond (the 1970's most famous Nude).
In the 1980's Paul Raymond mounted an exhibition of his collection of memorabilia from the two world wars. However, this proved to be against the licensing laws for the theatre and so he had to change it back to a live theatre in 1985 after a brief restoration of the building.
In 2004 the building became the TRAFALGAR STUDIO.
(648 Seats)

1931 WESTMINSTER THEATRE. Palace Street, London.
This is not the Houses of Parliament but a theatre constructed on the site of a Church built in 1766.
In 1924 the chapel was converted into a Cinema called the ST JAMES'S PALACE THEATRE.
In 1931 it went from a Cinema to a theatre using the original crypt as dressing rooms and adding a bar area to the front of house, It opened as the WESTMINSTER THEATRE.
During the 1930's and 1940's it staged many modern plays.
From 1946 until the 1980's it was run by the Westminster Memorial Trust who unfortunately staged less productions than the theatre deserved. The Trust did however expand the theatre in 1966 and 1974. (585 Seats)

1931 PRINCES THEATRE Town Hall, Station Rd, Clackton-on Sea, Essex.
Built in 1931 it is part of the Town Hall complex (820 Seats)

1931 SADLERS WELLS THEATRE West End, Islington, London.
The site started as a music house in pleasure gardens surrounding the medical wells (Drinking water for medical improvement, like the town of Buxton in Derbyshire).
It was rebuilt as a stone theatre in 1765. By the 1840's and 1850's Phelps had become the manager and made its name as a theatre. But it soon fell into decline and was derelict for

some years until 1931 when Lillian Baylis opened it as the SADDLERS WELLS THEATRE to put on productions by the Old Vic Company (See also Old Vic Theatre 1818).

- 1932 MINACK THEATRE Porthcurno, Penzance, Cornwall.**
An open-air theatre built in amphitheatre style between 1932 and 1979 by Rowena Cade. It has an annual Summer Festival. Used by many Amateur theatre companies on a profit basis (If the play makes money then the company gets its share otherwise it is charged for their appearance.) it is fully booked through the season. (Now owned by Penwith District Council.
The venue was first used in 1932 to stage "The Tempest" by the friends of Rowena Cade who built the theatre in her back garden so they could stage productions for the community. Since its opening many of the well-known actors have graced the stage. The BBC Television programme "Coast" did a feature on the theatre in programme 2.
(750 raked Grass tiers with Concrete seats)
- 1932 ALTRINCHAM GARRICK PLAYHOUSE, Barrington Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire.
Built in 1932 by the Altrincham Garrick Society. (473 Seats)
- 1932 CRESCENT THEATRE Cumberland St, Birmingham.
The original 1932, Crescent Theatre was replaced in 1964 by the present building to house an amateur company formed in 1924. The new building was designed by architect Graham Winteringham. (296 / 460 Seats)
- 1932 EMPIRE THEATRE Blackfriars Rd, Wisbeach, Cambs.
Built in 1932 by Ward and Woolnough, Architects. (722 Seats)
- 1932 THE WINDMILL THEATRE London.
The Windmill Theatre opened in 1932 as a theatre. During the war it advertised itself with the phrase "We never Close". It had a mixture of "Nude" tableau performances and comedians, including Peter Sellers & Tony Hancock. This is possibly the place where the term "Blue Movie" started as the Lord Chamberlains office would only grant a licence if the naked women did not move and were in artistic poses. To get around the movement law the theatre used blue light to soften the edges of the figure so the girls can move slightly without the theatre being closed down.
On the 31 October 1964 the Windmill Theatre closed for the last time as a theatre.
Opened for 32 years it only closed for 12 compulsory days in 1939. It is now a lap dancing club (2003).
- 1932 GAUMONT PALACE (Apollo) 45 Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, London.
Designed by Robert Cromie (1932)
The building is now a Live theatre / Concert Hall
- 1932 GAUMONT THEATRE Taunton, Somerset
Built in 1932 by Architect W T Benslyn as a Cinema and was run by the Gaumont British Picture Corporation Ltd. The company later sold the building to the ODEON Group.
Also run as a Theatre it held a regular pantomime including the first and only one the Dr Who actor, William Hartnell appeared in as part of a tour. He also recorded an interview at the theatre with "Points West" which was broadcast on the 17 Jan 1967 when he was on the Pantomime at the theatre "Puss in Boots" which was part of a tour with the show.
In 1981 it was converted into a Bingo Hall by the Top Rank organisation.
There is talk that the BBC want to convert the building back into a theatre for concerts.
WILLIAM HARTNELL "PUSS IN BOOTS" PANTOMIME TOUR
Repertory Company – Malcolm A Ross and Donald Auty.
Puss in Boots starring the Very Famous "Dr Who" William Hartnell.
With Sonny Farrer, Liz Moscrop,
Paddy Glynne, Valerie Vyner
Tommy Osborne and Roy Tierney (Dames)
Meet the Monsters from Outer Space.
Prices 4/- to 8/6d Two performances daily Monday to Friday 2.30pm and 7.15pm

26 Dec 1966 Gaumont Theatre, Ipswich
 2 Jan 1967 Odeon Theatre, Southend
 9 Jan 1967 Odeon Theatre, Cheltenham (Manager E A Gislingham)
 Unkn
 13-17 Jan 1967 Gaumont Theatre, Taunton
 Possible Radio Commercial also made for promoting the production.

1932 LEWISHAN THEATRE (Broadway Theatre)
 Catford Road, Catford, Lewisham, London.
 Designed by Bradshaw, Glass and Hope (1932)
 The building is now a Live Theatre and Cinema.

1932 PLAZA Mersey Square, Stockport.
 Designed by William Thornley (1932)
 Originally built as a Cinema.
 The building is now a Love Theatre.

HISTORY

Built on the former site of some farmers cottages adjoining the Lawrence Street steps which had been constructed in 1929.

The building was designed by Manchester and Wigan Architect William Thomley who had also designed about 15 Cinemas.

The Plaza was based on the nearby Altrincham Regal (destroyed by fire in 1956) which had been designed by Drury and Gomersall, cinema specialists also from Manchester.

The building was carved into a sandstone rock face being secured by 111 bolts into the 42-foot excavation wall.

The PLAZA opened on Friday the 7 October 1932 as a cinema with the films "Jailbirds" (Laurel and Hardy) and "Out of the Blue" (Gene Gerrard and Jessie Matthews)

The films were accompanied by resident organist Cecil Chadwick on the Mighty Compton Organ. Later films were accompanied by the Plaza's own Orchestra and variety acts were also known to perform during the break between films.

Among the variety acts performing on the stage at the Plaza were Rob Wilton and Stockport's own Billy Danvers.

In the first year the cinema made £5,000 profit.

Between 1937 and 1939 the Plaza started to have rivals in the town with 5 cinemas being built in Stockport all of which have by now been knocked down leaving only the Plaza.

Three of the rivals were the Essoldo and the Ritz with the Davenport Cine-Variety Theatre (1937 - Buxton Rd, Stockport, Cheshire). By 1958 there was also the Brinksways Cinema in the town.

Between the war years the Plaza benefited from the fact that it was built into the rock as many Patrons in the town considered it the safest place in town.

In the 1950's the auditorium was refurbished with the 1960's popularity of the Café being used by the youngsters.

In 1960 the management brought in its first pantomime "Babes in the Wood" with the Dallas Boys.

In 1965 the cinema was sold by the Snape Circuit (derived from the names Read, Snape and Ward) to the MECCA group for conversion into the popular Bingo Hall.

This was not a popular move and the Stockport Town Council decided to turn down the Mecca application to convert the building into a Bingo hall. Mecca decided to take the Council to appeal and the Government decided to grant permission for the conversion and so on the 31 December 1966 the building closed as a cinema with the last film being "Three on a Couch" (Jerry Lewis) and "The Texican" (Audie Murphy) with William Star on the Organ.

On the 6 February 1967 the MECCA BINGO HALL opened becoming one of the most successful ones in the area.

By 1969 the stage area had been converted into a bingo area and the MECCA CASINO was refurbished to provide a café facility within the building.

However, with the general decline in Bingo halls the building was forced to shut its doors on the 23 August 1998 with a commemorative show including Michael Holmes on the Compton Organ which was in remarkable shape after all those years.

A group of local supporters of the building formed the "Stockport Plaza Trust" to raise £3million to take over the theatre and opened it in 2000 with 1,317 seats. Between the 10th and 21st of August the theatre replaced its seating with stock from other theatres in the area, keeping the 1930's authentic look of the theatre and its facilities.

Ted Doan (General Manager 2014) who runs the building with a mixture of paid and volunteer staff, has put on a variety of shows and films making it one of the best facilities in the area.

ACTS at the PLAZA

Ronnie Aldrich

Johnny Dankworth and Cleo Lane

Jimmy Jewel and Ben Warris

Jack Warner

(GRADE 2 1,317 seats)

22 Sept 1932 CITY HALL SHEFFIELD
(Grade 2 Theatre / 2,271 seats)

1932 SCARBOROUGH OPEN AIR THEATRE Gardens of Northstead Manor,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

Built in the Gardens of Northstead Manor it opened in 1932.

In 1986 the theatre closed and was reopened again on the 20 May 2010.

(6,500 seats)

1933 GAUMONT PALACE / ODEON

Opened in 1933 as the Gaumont Palace it was converted into an ODEON CINEMA / THEATRE in 1962 when the two companies converged. In 1963 the Beatles played their first Autumn Gig of that year at the venue.

In 1973 the cinema became a multiscreen (2) and then in 1987 it was subdivided again into a 7 screen cinema.

On the 5 November 2006 the theatre closed for the last time due to a new Cineworld Multiplex opening nearby.

1933 PAVILION GARDEN ON THE SANDS Harbour Street, Broadstairs, Kent.
Converted into a theatre in 1933 from an old Boatyard on the beach. (250 Seats)

1933 APOLLO THEATRE George Street, Oxford.
Built in 1933 as the NEW THEATRE (1826 Seats).

1933 PAVILION THEATRE Esplanade, Sandown, Isle of Wight.
Situated on Sandown Pier in 1933 it was refurbished in 1989 after a fire. (980 Seats)

1933 REGENT'S PARK THEATRE Regent's Park, London.
This is probably the most famous Open Air theatre in the UK. It opened in 1933.

1933 MERCURY THEATRE Notting Hill Gate, London.
Opened by Ashley Dukes (1885 - 1959) in 1933 it has always been the home of "Ballet Rambert". The Ballet company was run by Dukes wife Marie Rambert. The theatre originally staged new foreign and British plays.
After the 2nd World War it became the home of "New verse drama" in London.

1934 WEMBLEY ARENA Wembley, Middlesex.
Built in 1934 by Architect Sir Owen Williams it is a Grade 2 listed building. It is a sports and entertainment venue. Not to be confused with Wembley Stadium which was built in 1923 and was used until 1993 (Knocked down) as a football stadium. (12000 seats)

1934 **GLYNDEBOURNE OPERA HOUSE** Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex.
Internationally famed Opera House built in 1934 the original building was demolished in 1992. A new building was opened in May 1994 with designs by architect Michael Hopkins &

- Partners. It is placed in the grounds of a private house on the Sussex Downs. (1200 Seats)
- 1934 SHANKLIN THEATRE Prospect Rd, Shanklin, Isle of Wight.
Built in 1934 (670 Seats)
- 1934 BRANGWYN HALL Swansea
Named after Frank Grangwyn who created some panels for the House of Lords but were never used. They are housed in the theatre in Swansea.
- 26 Feb 1934 NEW THEATRE George Street, Oxford.
(1,800 Seats)
- 1935 CONNAUGHT THEATRE Union Place, Worthing, West Sussex.
In 1914 the building was opened as the PICTUREDROME CINEMA.
In 1935 it was converted into the CONNAUGHT THEATRE and was refurbished after its closure in January 1986 at a cost of £250,000.
It is situated next to the old REX THEATRE of 1916-1935 which is used by the company as a rehearsal room (See 1916) (514 Seats)
GHOST 1)
First seen in 1974 a Grey lady was seen in two of the dressing rooms. An account in the Worthing Gazette in July 1974 said that Angelica Clayton a Middlesex Polytechnic student with a walk on part in a production at the theatre had seen the ghost of an Elizabethan lady walks through a wall at the theatre.
GHOST 2)
This could be the same ghost or another apparition this time dressed in Victorian costume / clothes. In August 1987 15 Year old Joseph Hall a trainee at the theatre was under the stage fetching something for the stage manager when he ran into the ghost on the spiral staircase.
- 1935 JOSEPH ROWNTREE THEATRE Nestle Rowntree, Haxby Rd, York
A Private theatre as part of the Rowntree Mackintosh (Now Nestle Rowntree) complex it was built in 1935. Run by the company it was set up on a similar set up to the Gladstone Theatre in Port Sunlight (See 1891). It is used for conferences and local amateur productions.
(420 Seats)
- 1936 PLAYERS THEATRE Villers Street, Strand, London (See April 1990)
Theatre moved in April 1990 down the Road. The original theatre built in 1936 was closed in 1987. (246 seats)
- 1936 CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE 6 St Edward's Passage, Cambridge CB2 3PJ
The venue was built in 1936 with design's by C Kennedy. (653 Seats)
www.cambridgeartstheatre.com
- 1936 THEATRE ROYAL Theatre Street, Norwich, Norfolk.
Built in 1936 to take over from the earlier THEATRE ROYAL built in 1826 and destroyed by fire in 1934.
The Civic theatre Royal was modernised in 1970 and 1992. (1318 Seats)
- 1936 REGAL THEATRE Ipswich Rd, Stowmarket, Suffolk.
Built in 1936 (234 Seats)
- 1936 BARN THEATRE Darlington Hall, Nr Totnes, Devon.
Built in 1936 to designs by Walter Gropius (250 Seats)
- 1936 THE WINTER GARDENS Pier Street, Ventnor, Isle of Wight.
Built in 1936 (400 Seats)
- 17 Sept 1938 COLISEUM THEATRE, ABERDARE (Wales)
Built in 1937-38 it has been the home of both professional and amateur theatre ever since.

- (Seats 600)
- 1937 PAVILION EXMOUTH The Esplanade, Exmouth, Devon.
Built in 1937 on the Sea Front. (450 Seats)
- 1937 DAVENPORT THEATRE Buxton Rd, Stockport, Cheshire.
Built as the Davenport Cine-Variety Theatre in 1937.
(1702 Seats)
- 1937 UNITY THEATRE CLUB St Pancras, London.
Built as a London Theatre Club it started as a company called the Unity Theatre Club in 1936. In 1937 they made their permanent home in a converted mission hall. It has since staged satirical revues and Pantomimes.
- 1937 REGAL 67 Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire
Designed by Ernest S Roberts (1937)
The building is now a Live Theatre / Cinema.
- 1938 STATE CINEMA c/o Charleston, George Street, Grays, Essex.
Built in 1938 as a "Super" Cinema with stage by F.G.M. Chancellor of Messers Frank Matcham & Co. Art Deco interior converted in 1992 to a night club and entertainemnt venue. (2000 Seats)**
- 17 Oct 1938 ROYAL COURT 1 Roe Street, Liverpool.
This theatre was opened on the 17 October 1938 (1500 Seats)
- 1938 OXFORD PLAYHOUSE Beaumont Street, Oxford.
Founded as the Red Barn at 12 Woodstock Road, North Oxford but was moved to the current site in 1938.
Built in 1938 by Sir Edward Maufe. In 1964 it was reconstructed by Martin Caird. It closed in 1987, reopening in April 1991. (590 Seats)
www.oxfordplayhouse.com
GHOST 1)
A White Lady possibly a Carmelite nun from medieval burial ground nearby. When the theatre was built the builders installing the foundations discovered 15 skulls from this period. In 1978 cleaner Mrs Frieda Dickens was in the basement of the theatre when a woman suddenly walked out of the wall in front of her.
- 1938 CANNON THEATRE Great Yarmouth.
Built in 1938 by 1988 it was converted into a Supermarket.
- 16 May 1938 CIVIC HALL Wolverhampton WV1
Opened on the 16 May 1938.
- 1939 BOW THEATRE Bow house, Business centre, 153- 159 Bow Road, London
Previously known as the "Popular Civic theatre" it is attached to the Bow House Business Centre. In 1968 it was refurbished. (1250 Seats)
- 1939 HULL NEW THEATRE Kingston Square, Hull, North Humberside.
Converted in 1939 into a Theatre. It was refurbished in October 1985. (1200 Seats)
- 1939 LIVERPOOL - PHILHARMONIC HALL Hope Street, Liverpool
Built in 1939 by architect Herbert Rowse with window panels by Hector Whistler. Grade 2 Listed Building. it is managed by the Liverpool Philharmonic Society. It was due to reopen in September 1995 after full restoration and a Major refurbishment. (1700 Seats)**
- 1939 SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Malthouse Lane, Salisbury, Wiltshire.
The original theatre was built on the site in 1939 (THE PLAYHOUSE). It was replaced by

the current building in 1974. (516 Seats)

- 1939 BABBACOMBE THEATRE Babbacombe Downs, Torquay, Devon.
Built in 1939 (600 Seats)
- 1939 ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE Crescent Rd, Tumbidge Wells, Kent.
Built in 1939 (940 Seats)
- 1939 CARLISLE THEATRE 44 West High Street, Carlisle
Built in 1939

1939 to 1945 THE WAR YEARS

1946 BRIDGWATER ARTS CENTRE 11 - 13 Castle Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.
Founded in 1946 it is the oldest Arts Centre in the Country.

1946 MARINE THEATRE Bridge Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset.
Originally built as a Spa bath-house in the early 1800's. In the 1880's it became a drill hall.
In 1929 it was converted into a Cinema which lasted until 1939. During World War 2 it
became a service Canteen with ENSA and American concert parties performing on the
Stage.
In 1946 It was converted into the MARINE THEATRE by Webb & Partners. (180 Seats)

1947 GRANVILLE THEATRE Victoria Parade, Ramsgate, Kent.
Built on a Cliff top in 1947 as part of the Victoria Parade (587 Seats)

1948 LIBRARY THEATRE Central Library, St Peter's Square, Manchester.
The Library was built in 1933 with part of the building being converted into a "Producing"
Theatre in 1948 (308 Seats)

1948 HARBOROUGH THEATRE Church Square, Market Harborough, Leics.
Converted into a theatre in 1948 from the GREEN DRAGON INN that dated back to 1670
(118 Seats).

1949 PLAYHOUSE King Cross Street, Halifax, West Yorkshire.
Built in a converted Methodist Chapel in 1949. (288 Seats)

27 Mar 1949 BLACKFRIERS ARTS CENTRE
Spain Lane, Boston PE21 6HP 01205-363108
www.blackfriersartscentre.co.uk
(Seats 230)

1950 GLENDA JACKSON THEATRE Borough Rd, Birkenhead, Merseyside.
Built in 1950 as a concert hall, in 1982 it was upgraded technically with structural
refurbishment stating in 1985, it is now the home base for the Wigan Youth Theatre.
(494 Seats)

1950 MANOR PAVILION Manor Rd, Sidmouth, Devon.
Built in 1860 as a multi-purpose hall it was converted into a theatre in 1950. (282 Seats)
In 1986 Charles Vance and his wife started a weekly repertory season at the Manor Pavilion
Theatre where in 2006 they celebrated the rep's 20th birthday
The 2010 Charles Vance season included "The Flip Side" with Simon Williams in the play
written by his parents Hugh and Margaret Williams.

1951 SOUTH BANK CENTRE South Bank, London
Built as part of the Royal Festival Hall that also includes the Queen Elizabeth Hall.
Grade 2 Listed building (2895 in Festival Hall)

- 1951 ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL South Bank, London.
Built for the Festival of Britain in 1951 it is owned by the South Bank Board. It shares the building with the PURCELL ROOM and the QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL.
Even the boiler room at the hall has been a part of the entertainment industry becoming a location for "Dr Who".
- 1951 PROGRESS THEATRE The Mount, Off Christchurch Rd, Reading, Berkshire.
Built in 1951. (105 Seats)
- 1951 MERMAID THEATRE Puddle Dock, London.
The original Mermaid theatre was built in the back garden of Bernard Miles in St John's Wood and was opened in September 1951.
In 1953 the theatre was moved to the Royal Exchange for a 13 week season as part of the Coronation celebrations.
The next move was to a converted warehouse in Puddle Dock during 1958.
It was opened in 1959 with a production of "Lock up your Daughters".
Between 1978 and 1981 it was refurbished by Richard Seifert & Partners (Architects) and incorporated into a new office block. The theatre had been enlarged and modernised as part of the contract for the offices to be built on the site.
In 1987 the Royal Shakespeare company moved into the building. (610 seats)
- 1952 THE QUEEN'S THEATRE Boutport Street, Barnstaple, Devon.
Built in 1952 it was originally renovated in 1993 by architects Burrell Foley Fischer. (700 Seats)
- 1952 DERBY PLAYHOUSE Unknown.(See 1975)
Playhouse Theatre of 1952 was replaced in 1975 by the current Playhouse.
- 1952 CENTURY THEATRE (BLUE BOX THEATRE) Lakeside, Keswick, Cumbria.
Former mobile theatre constructed in 1952. It was permanently parked up in 1974 on the Lakeside site. Home to the Century Theatre Company before they moved to the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe and became the English Touring Theatre. (225 Seats)
GHOST?
During a production of "Crippen" Genevieve Walsh who was playing the part of Belle Elmore has a song to sing. During this time there are no lighting cues or changes in lighting effects, however Company Stage manager Michael Branwell saw the shape of a face on the stage created by what looked like pink lights. Thinking it was just a trick of the light and thinking it could only be seen from the position he was standing he was surprised to find that others had experienced the face as well. This effect happened at this same point in the script each night of the run but has never been seen before or since this production. Was it a ghost or just a trick of the light, who knows?
- 1953 TOWER THEATRE Canonbury Place, Islington, London
Opened in 1953, Converted from an Estate Tenants Hall.
- 1953 PIER THEATRE Bournemouth Pier, Bournemouth, Dorset.
Built at the end of the pier in 1953.
(835 Seats)
- 1953 NOTTINGHAM ARTS THEATRE George Street, Nottingham
Formally known as the Co-op Arts Theatre in the Particular Baptist Church building.
(321 Seats)
- 1954 BLOXWICH LIBRARY THEATRE Elmore Row, Bloxwich, Walsall, West Midlands.
Built in 1954 as a small theatre within a library building.
(130 Seats)
- 1955 HAZLITT THEATRE Corn Exchange Complex, Earl Street, Maidstone, Kent.
Built in 1955 it was upgraded in 1980.
(353 Seats)

- 1956 MARKET THEATRE, Ledbury, Herefordshire
Built in 1956.
- 1957 LITTLE THEATRE The Avenue, Middlesbrough.
Built in 1957 it was the first Post War Theatre built and designed by Enrico de Piero.
(486 Seats)
- 1958 BELGRADE THEATRE Belgrade Square, Coventry, West Midlands.
Opened in 1958, the first civic theatre after the War, built by City architects of glass and concrete. In 1985 the Front of House was refurbished, with the auditorium being refurbished in Summer 1987.
(866 Seats)
www.belgrade.co.uk
- 1958 BRITANNIA THEATRE Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
Built in 1958 on the site of an earlier theatre with the same name that burnt to the ground in 1954. It is in the centre of the Pier owned by the First Leisure Corporation. (1438 Seats)
- 1958 PLOWRIGHT THEATRE Laneham Street, Scunthorpe, South Humberside.
Built as the SCUNTHORPE CIVIC THEATRE in 1958 it was renamed the PLOWRIGHT THEATRE in 1993 (Named after the Actress Joan Plowright). (382 Seats)
- 1959 SHAFTESBURY THEATRE Brunswick Place, Dawlish, Devon.
The building was originally a Temperance hall built 1881. Up to 1959 it had various uses, including a furniture store. The Dawlish Repertory Company purchased the building in 1959 and converted it into the theatre. (148 Seats)
- 1959 NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Wellington Circus, Nottingham.
Designed by Peter Moro it was opened in 1959 although some history books open the building in 1963. (685 to 766 Seats)
- 1961 **LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE**
14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, Islington, London
This is the only purpose-built Puppet theatre in England. It is housed in a Converted Temperance chapel. (100 seats)
- 1961 BROADWAY THEATRE Broadway, Barking, London.
(800 Seats)
- 1961 NORTHAMPTON PLAYHOUSE 115 Clare Street, Northampton.
Converted from a factory in 1961 (86 Seats)
- 1961 ATHENAEUM THEATRE Plymouth Athenaeum, Derry's Cross, Plymouth.
Built on the site of a Museum / Lecture Theatre in 1961. (352 Seats)
- 1961 PAVILION COMPLEX / PAVILION THEATRE The Esplanade, Weymouth, Dorset.
Built in 1961 (1000 Seats)
- 1961 CRITERION THEATRE Earlsdon, Coventry
Built in 1961 the theatre stages 7 shows a year.
- 1961 7 January STANLEY CIVIC THEATRE Front Street, Stanley, County Durham.
Opened on the 7 January 1961 (430 Seats)
- 1961 June PRINCESS THEATRE Torbay Rd, Torbay.
Opened in June 1961 overlooking the bay. (1495 Seats)
- 1961 / 5 Nov 1962 ASHCROFT THEATRE Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey
Designed by Robert Aitkinson and Partners it was built in 1961-2. (763 Seats)

- 1961 / 62 FAIRFIELD HALLS Fairfield, Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey
Concert Hall built in 1961-2 by architects Robert Aitkinson & Partners. (1700 Seats)
- 1962 HAMSTEAD THEATRE Swiss Cottage Centre 98 Avenue Rd, London
Part of the Swiss Cottage Leisure Centre. (174 Seats)
- 1962 THE CLUB THEATRE 17 Oxford Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire.
Converted from a Methodist Church and school in 1962.
- 1962 CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Oaklands Park, Chichester, West Sussex.
With a Hexagonal auditorium the Main House was built in 1962. It was designed by Powell & Moya. In 1988 the adjoining MINERVA THEATRE (See 1988) was constructed. (278 Seats). By 1995 its Artistic Director was the actor Sir David Jacobi. (1374 Seats Main House)
- 1962 NELSON CIVIC THEATRE Stanley Street, Nelson, Lancashire
Converted in 1962 from a Methodist Church. (338 Seats)
- 1962 STEPHEN JOSEPH'S VICTORIA THEATRE Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire.**
Built in 1962 it was the first theatre in the round in Staffordshire. It was closed in the 1980's when it was replaced by the New Victoria Theatre in Ecuria Rd, Newcastle under Lyme Staffordshire which was opened in August 1986. (See 1986)
The Repertory Company in the Victoria theatre included such names as Freddie Jones.
- 1962 CIVIC THEATRE Chelmsford
Charles Vance founded the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford and ran it for the next six years.
- 1962 CHESTER THEATRE CLUB LITTLE THEATRE
Gloucester Street, Newton, Chester CH1 3HR
The Chester Theatre Club was formed in 1944 and purchased the Theatre in 1962 to perform its own plays and become a self-supporting venue.
- 1963 COCHRANE THEATRE Southampton Row, London
Built in 1963 (314 Seats)
- 1963 THEATRE ON THE STEPS Stoneway Steps, Bridgenorth, Shropshire.
Converted from an 18th Century Chapel in 1963, it is perched between High and low Town on Stoneway Steps (120 Seats)
- 1963 NORBURY THEATRE Friar Street, Droitwich, Worcs.
Built in 1963 (176 Seats)
- 1963 CONGRESS THEATRE Compton Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex.
Opened by HRH Princess Margaret in 1963 it was designed by Bryan & Norman Westwood. (1689 Seats) (See 1884 Devonshire Park Theatre)
- 1963 MAYFAIR THEATRE Stratton Street, London.
Converted into a theatre in 1963 from the Candlelight Ballroom in the Mayfair Hotel its first production was "Six Characters in Search of an Author" with Ralph Richardson.
- 1963 PHOENIX THEATRE / SUE TOWNSEND THEATRE Upper Brown Street, Leicester.
Opened in 1963 by Leicester City Council as the Phoenix Theatre it was designed as a Temporary building but was kept going.
In 2009 it was due to be replaced but campaigners and in June 2009 the council asked for bids to run the building with a group from Leicester University winning on the 12 November and reopened in 2010 as the Upper Brown Street Venue.
In 2015 the building was named after the late writer of the Adrian Mole books, Sue Townsend
- 1964 DONMAR WAREHOUSE at Thomas Neal's. Earlham Street, London
Originally the building was a Brewery it was then a colour Film studio and a Banana

Warehouse before the Old Donmar Warehouse was used by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1964 as a rehearsal space. In 1977 they converted it into a Studio theatre. In 1992 it opened as a theatre in its own right. The Name "Donmar "comes from the names Donald Albery and Margot Fonteyn. The Architects of the theatre were Renton Howard Wood Levin. (252 seats)

- 1964 MERSEYSIDE EVERYMAN THEATRE Hope Street, Liverpool.
Producing theatre established in 1964 in a building originally a 19th century chapel.
It was renovated in 1976.
In 2011 the theatre closed for further refurbishment and opening again in March 2014.
(Also known as the EVERYMAN THEATRE) (412 Seats)
- 1964 NUFFIELD THEATRE University Rd, Southampton.
Built in 1964 by architect Sir Basil Spence. (464 Seats)
www.nuffieldtheatre.co.uk
- 1964 CLIFFS PAVILION Station Rd, Westcliff on Sea, Essex SS0 7RA. (Southend)
Work on the original Cliffs Pavilion had been started in the 1930's and was intended to be a 500 seat theatre in the art deco style. But in 1939 with the outbreak of war the project was abandoned and the site was boarded up until 1959. The original site was demolished and the project was moved to one side of the original building and closer to the edge of the cliff. This time the building would house 1100. The building designed by Southend Borough Council Architects was opened for the first time in 1964.
On the 19 July 1991 Paul McCartney performed at the theatre as one of his "Six Secret Shows" during his 1991 Unplugged Summer Tour.
On the 31st July 1991 Des O Connor performed the last show at the theatre before it was closed for 17 months to build a Foyer Bar and to add a balcony area to the auditorium.
Other alterations included the removal of a circular staircase in the main foyer and a redesigned staircase on the Lower ground floor along with disabled access and a lift being installed. The new designs were by Tim Foster Associates.
On the 14 December (1992) Wayne Sleep starred in the opening production "The Pied piper of Hamelin"
On the 31 August 1995, Oasis recorded the DVD / VHS "Live by the Sea" at the theatre.
Since August 2006 the building was operated by HQ Theatres on behalf of the Southend Council. (HQ are part of QDOS one of the largest entertainment groups in the country).
In May 2008 Gloria Gaynor played the venue to celebrate the release of "I Will Survive" 30 years previous. The Drifters supported her on the night.
(1630 Seats)
- 1965 SOUTH PIER THEATRE The Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs.
Built at the Pier Head in 1965. (1204 Seats)
- 1965 YVONNE ARNOLD THEATRE Millbrook, Guildford, Surrey.
Built by the **Yvonne Arnold** Trust in 1965 by Architect John Brownrigg of Scott Brownrigg and Turner after a fire destroyed the previous building in 1963. (590 Seats)
(Yvonne Arnold .b. 20 Dec 1895 in Bordeaux. She was a Light Comedienne & Pianist in the Music Hall circuit. In 1922 she joined the Tom Walls team at the Aldwych Theatre London for 2 Farces. Having made her name, she became a well-respected entertainer. She Died on the 20 Sept 1958 in Surrey.)
- 1965 WINDMILL THEATRE AND CINEMA COMPLEX
The Green Windmill Rd, Littlehampton, West Sussex.
Converted into a theatre from an open-air Bandstand in 1965.
- 1965 CONTACT THEATRE (Educational Theatre) Oxford Rd, Manchester.
Built in 1965 it is used by students and new production companies (285 Seats).
- 1965 ROYALTY THEATRE Royal Esplanade, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.
Built in an 1830's Church hall it was converted into a theatre in 1965. (215 Seats)
- 1965 SWAN THEATRE The Moors, Worcester.

- Built in 1965 by architect H Gorst. (353 Seats)
- 1966 REDGRAVE THEATRE Percival Rd, Clifton, Bristol
Opened by Sir Michael Redgrave in 1966. The Architects were Whicheloe, MacFarlane & Tarling Hill. Owned by Clifton College (327 Seats)
- 1966 CARLTON THEATRE The Den, Seafrost, Teignmouth, Devon.
Converted in 1966 from a multi-purpose hall called THE DEN PAVILION built in 1929. The 1966 conversion was done by Edward Narracott & Partners. (200 Seats)
- 1967 FORUM THEATRE Town Centre, Billingham, Cleveland.
Built in 1967 as part of the Forum Leisure Centre Complex (631 Seats)
- 27 Nov 1967 OCTAGON THEATRE, BOLTON Howell Croft South, Bolton, Lancs.
Built in 1967 as a Producing theatre (420 Seats)
The Building also houses the BILL NAUGHTON THEATRE (60 Seats?).
- 1967 WATERMILL THEATRE Bagnor, Nr Newbury, Berkshire RG20 8AE
Built inside a converted 19th Century Watermill in 1967. (211 Seats)
- 1967 MOWLEM THEATRE Shore Rd, Swanage, Dorset.
Built in 1967 (403 Seats)
- 1967 ADELINE GENE THEATRE East Grinstead.
Opened in 1967 it is now the headquarters of Sabrewatch Security.
- 1967 NORTHCOTT THEATRE Streatham Campus of the University of Exeter
From 1967 to 2010 the building was run by the Northcott Theatre Foundation.
- June 1967 FESTIVAL THEATRE Torbay Rd, Paignton, Devon.
Opened in June 1967 (1470 Seats)
- 1968 BLOOMSBURY THEATRE 15 Gordon Street, London.
Formerly the Collegate Theatre it was built in 1968 by Fillo Atkinson it is now a University students union Theatre (University College London). (560 seats)
- 1968 TOWNGATE THEATRE Towngate Centre, Pagel Mead, Basildon, Essex.
The original theatre was built in 1968 but was replaced in 1988 with the current theatre. (550 Seats)
- 1968 GATEWAY CHESTER Hamilton Place, Chester, Cheshire.
Built in 1968 by Ian Hart (Michael Lyell Associates) to house a new Theatre company.
The company hoped they could move into new studio facilities in 1995.
In 1998 the Gateway Manweb Studio was added.
The last touring production at the theatre was on the 30 October 2007 with "Yippee!!!" by Lea Anderson (MBE's Contemporary Dance Company).
At the end of 2007 the theatre closed for the last time as a professional theatre, hoping that it would be replaced by a larger theatre as part of a redevelopment called the Northgate Development which never happened.
In 2007 the Forum Studio Theatre was used by an Amateur Theatre Company for its production.
In 2007 it was taken over by Tip Top Productions running the studio theatre as "The Forum Studio Theatre" and later expanding into the main theatre to keep the Venue open.
The theatre continued with occasional productions but is now closed. (440 Seats)
- 1968 OAKENGATES THEATRE Limes Walk, Oakengates, Telford, Shropshire.
Opened by Sir Gordon Richards in 1968 this council run theatre was refurbished in 1984 at a cost of £1 million.

- 1991 Manager Nicolas Lloyd.
(650 Seats)
- 1968 WINSFORD CIVIC HALL Dene Drive, Winsford, Cheshire.
Built in 1968 it puts on a yearly pantomime and various one-night shows.
Demolished
(986 Seats)**
- June 1968 ALBAN ARENA Civic Centre, St Albans Herts AL1 3LD 01727-844488
www.alban-arena.co.uk
- 1969 THE PLACE THEATRE 17 Dukes Rd, London
Established in 1969 as part of the Contemporary Dance Trust in converted Army premises.
- 1969 THORNDIKE THEATRE Church Street, Leatherhead, Surrey.
Opened in 1969, designed by Roderick Ham, named after Dame Sybil Thorndike (1882 - 1976)
In 1998 the theatre owners were made bankrupt owing companies and the public money.
(526 Seats)
- 1969 THE STABLES The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes, Bucks.
Built in the grounds of John Dankworth and Cleo Laine's house in 1969. (300 Seats)**
- 1969 MERLIN THEATRE 2 Meadow Bank Rd, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
Built along Organic Lines of architecture indicated by Rudolf Steiner in 1969 it is financed by the YHA. (205 Seats)
- 1969 PLAYHOUSE THEATRE High Street, Weston Super Mare, Avon.
Built in 1969 at the Grove end of the High Street. (658 Seats)
- 1969 ABBEY THEATRE Pool Bank Street, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 5DB
(Seats 248)
www.abbeytheatre.co.uk
- 1970 COCKPIT THEATRE Gateforth Street, Church Street, London NW8
Built in 1970. (240 Seats) (see also 1615)
- 11 Sept 1970 YOUNG VIC 66 The Cut, London
Originally part of the National Theatre it was founded in 1970 in a 484-temporary theatre and opened on the 11 September 1970.
It is still standing in 2004.
- 1970 HULL TRUCK THEATRE Spring Street, Hull, North Humberside.
Opened in 1970 as the SPRING STREET THEATRE. Taken over by the Hull Truck Company it was reopened in April 1994 after alterations.
The home of John Godber's (Playwright) production Company. (300 Seats)
- 1970 GULBENKIAN STUDIO THEATRE King's Walk, Haymarket, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Built in 1970 by designer William Whitfield as part of a larger building incorporating the Newcastle Playhouse. (160 Seats)
- 1970 NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Second theatre with this name, built in 1970 as a Theatre / Concert hall. (500 Seats)
- 1970 THE LACE MARKET THEATRE Halifax Place, Nottingham.
Converted in 1970 from a 1760 building with a Dutch frontage. (118 Seats)
- 1971 BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE Broad Street, Birmingham.
Opened in 1971 with the award-winning Concrete design by Graham Winteringham.
(900 Seats)

- 1971 GUILDHALL THEATRE Market Place, Derby, Derbyshire.
Converted in 1971 into a Theatre it is in a building that was originally built in 1843 as a Gildhall (On the Site of the Guildhalls going back to the 15th Century). Grade 2 Listed building (246 Seats)
- 1971 THE PLAYHOUSE The High, Harlow, Essex.
Built in 1971 by Harlow Theatre Trust Ltd. (430 Seats)
- 1971 WYTHENSHAW FORUM Civic Centre, Leningrad Square, Wythenshawe, Manchester.
Built in 1971 as the Forum Theatre and Library Theatre. (480 Seats)
- 1971 WYVERN THEATRE Theatre Square, Swindon, Wiltshire.
The theatre was designed in 1967 by Casson, Condor and Partner.
Opened on the 7 September 1971 by Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip, it won the RIBA award for Casson, Conder and Partners.
Between 1971 and 1994 the theatre was run by "Wyvern Arts Trust Ltd".
The first performance at the venue was by the Ukrainian Dance Company.
The Wyvern Theatre is named after a Mythical beast similar to a dragon once the emblem of the Kings of Wessex.
1994 to 2001 the building was run by "Apollo Leisure", followed in 200-2 by SFX Venues.
"Clear Channel Entertainment looked after the venue from 2002 until 2005 when they lost the Council tenders.
In 2005 Wyvern Theatre Ltd then a subsidiary of "Hetherington Seelig Theatres Ltd" took on the building on behalf of Swindon Borough Council.
On the 3 September 2006 the building closed when asbestos was discovered in the offices and stayed shut until the 25 September 2007.
In 2007 "Hetherington Seelig Theatres Ltd" and Qdos Entertainment joined together to form HQ Theatres who now operate the venue on behalf of the Council still under the name Wyvern Theatre Ltd (A Subsidiary Company) with Managing Director Derek Aldridge taking over from Andrew Hill on the 1 June 2009.

www.wyverntheatre.org.uk

PANTOMIME LIST

- 1971-2 Dick Whittington
1972-3 Cinderella
1973-4 Dick Whittington
1974-5 Aladdin
1975-6 Mother Goose
1976-7 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
1977-8 Babes in the Wood
1978-9 Cinderella
1979-80 Jack and the Beanstalk
1980-1
1981-2 Aladdin (Bernie Winters)
1982-3
1983-4 Babes in the Wood
1984-5 Cinderella
1985-6
1986-7 Jack and the Beanstalk (Johnny Ball)
1987-8 Babes in the Wood
1988-9 Jack and the Beanstalk
1989-90 Mother Goose (Adam Woodyatt – Ian Beale in Eastenders as Billy)
1990-1 Aladdin (Floella Benjamin as Aladdin and Bobby Gee – Bucks Fizz)
1991-2 Cinderella (Matthew Kelly as Buttons)
1992-3 Jack and the Beanstalk (Trevor Bannister – Are you being served)
1993-4 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Brian Hibbard – Coronation St - as the Henchman)
1994-5 Dick Whittington (Jimmy Cricket)
1995-6 Aladdin (Timmy Mallet as Aladdin)
1996-7 Cinderella (Jess Conrad as Prince Charming and Bernie Clifton as Buttons)
1997-8 Babes in the Wood (Charles Vance Production) (Paul Leyshon as Robin

- Hood and Hugo Myatt as Sheriff of Nottingham with the Roly Polys as the Merry men)
- 1998-9 Jack and the Beanstalk (Charles Vance Productions)
(Colin Baker as Dame Durden with Rod Jane and Freddie)
- 1999-2000 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Charles Vance Productions)
(Jacinta Stapleton – Neighbours – as Snow White)
- 2000-1 Aladdin (Charles Vance Productions)
(Aleetza Wood – Home and Away – as Aladdin with Geoffrey Hinliff – Don Brennan in Coronation St – as Widow Twankey and Juliette Kaplan as Empress of China)
- 2001-2 Cinderella (Emma Willis as Cinderella with Bernie Clifton as Buttons)
- 2002-3 Dick Whittington (Geoffrey Hughes as Simple Simon with Hugo Myatt as King Rat and Colin Baker as Sarah the Cook)
- 2003-4 Goldilocks and the Three Bears (Ross Davidson as Dame Dolly)
- 2004-5 Jack and the Beanstalk (Juliette Kaplan as Fairy)
- 2005-6 Peter Pan (Stephen Pinder as Captain Hook)
- 2006-7
- 2007-8 Cinderella (Britt Ekland as fairy Godmother)
- 2008-9 Aladdin (Sean Williamson as Abanazar)
- 2009-10 Sleeping Beauty (Lorraine Chase as Carabosse)
- 2010-11 Peter Pan (Paul Nicholas as Captain Hook)
- 2011-12 Cinderella (Keith Chegwin as Buttons)
- 2012-13 Aladdin (Keith Chegwin as Wishee Washee)
(617 Seats)
- 1971 SHAW THEATRE Inner London
Opened in 1971 but by 1994 it had closed.
- Nov 1971 CRUCIBLE THEATRE Norfolk Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
Designed by Renton Howard Wood Associates it was opened in November 1971. It is situated next to the Lyceum Theatre. It is the home of Snooker tournaments. (1013 Seats) (See below)
- 1971 STUDIO THEATRE in the Crucible Theatre (See above)
- 6 Apr 1972 BUSH THEATRE Shepherds Bush Green, London
Established in 1972 on the first floor of a Public House (105 seats)
- 1972 NEW VIC Theatre Royal, King Street, Bristol
Built as part of the redevelopment of the Theatre Royal Bristol's auditorium originally opened in 1766 the NEW VIC was designed by Peter Moro and Partners in 1972. (150 Seats)
(See also 1766 Theatre Royal)
- 1972 MERCURY THEATRE Balkerne Gate, Colchester, Essex.
Architect Norman Dowie RIBA designed the Mercury Theatre along design consultant Christopher Morley, opened in 1972. (499 Seats)
- 1972 APOLLO THEATRE Pyle Street, Newport, Isle of White.
Converted into a theatre in 1972 from a Methodist Chapel built in 1804. (132 Seats)
- 1972 Preston GUILD HALL CENTRE Lancaster Rd, Preston, Lancashire.
Multi-purpose building opened in 1972 it is now the home of Snooker in the North of England as well as holding many other events. The Complex also has an 800 Seat "Charter Theatre".
In October 1999 the Preston Guildhall and Charter Theatre re-opened after a £4 refurbishment.
Situated at the heart of Preston's City Centre in 2014 the theatre was taken over by local entrepreneur Simon Rigby.
- 1972 PRINCE'S HALL Princes Way, Aldershot, Hampshire GU112 4RR
01252-329155 www.princeshall.com

- 1973 HEREFORD THEATRE (And Arts Centre) Edgar Street, Hereford.
Built as the Nell Gwynne Theatre in 1979; it closed in 1983, Reopened in 1984 and the NEW HEREFORD THEATRE. In June 1994 it was taken over by Hereford City Council and renamed HEREFORD THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE. (376 Seats)
- 1973 HAYMARKET THEATRE Belgrave Gate, Leicester.
Built in 1973 as part of a shopping development. (750 Seats)
GHOST 1)
The ghost of a Child dressed as an Edwardian sailor. In 1975 he was seen walking through doors by Soozie.
In 1981 during a production of Hamlet, Ophelia played by Mavis Blake saw the ghost as she exited the stage.
During a production of Blithe Spirit after the cast had taken notes the piano started playing on its own.
Lights are switched back on again after the theatre has been locked up.
The site originally backed onto some houses where the story goes a young boy was drowned.
GHOST 2)
In the 1970's Colin Watson the head carpenter at the theatre was repairing glass windows in the roof of the building. As he went up the ladders to the grid some 70 feet above the stage he noticed a lady dressed in shoes, brown lisle stockings and very smart clothes of the outdoor type, with gloves and hat. Not thinking quite straight at the time he continued up towards the lantern before looking back to ask what the lady was doing there. She had vanished, also no one else in the theatre had seen or heard her.
- 1973 *ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC THEATRE. Oxford Rd, Manchester.*
Built in 1973 as part of the educational facility. It has two production areas, the Opera Theatre (620 Seats) and a Concert Hall (475 Seats).
- 1973 BURTON -TAYLOR THEATRE Gloucester Street, Oxford.
Built in 1973 after donations by Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor it is part of the Oxford University. (50 Seats)
- 1973 KEY THEATRE Embankment Rd, Peterborough, Cambs.
Built in 1973 (399 Seats).
- 1973 SOUTHPORT THEATRE The Promenade, Southport, Merseyside.
Opened in 1973 it is part of the complex that also includes the Floral Hall. (1651 Seats)
- 1974 REDGRAVE THEATRE Brightwells, Farnham, Surrey.
Opened in 1974 it is part of a converted Georgian House. (362 Seats)
- 1974 OCTAGON THEATRE Handford, Yeovil, Somerset.
Built in 1974. (625 Seats)
- 1974 BANNER THEATRE Birmingham
- 1974 CHICKENSHED THEATRE Southgate, London
Opened in 1974 to house the Chicken Shed Company (Seats 300)
- 31 Dec 1974 KENNETH MORE THEATRE Oakfield Rd, Ilford, Essex.
(365 Seats)
- 1975 QUEEN'S THEATRE Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex.
The Hornchurch Theatre Trust was formed in 1953 but it was not until 1975 that they built their own theatre. It was designed by Norman Brooks and was called the Queen's Theatre. (506 Seats)
- 1975 CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE 2 Spring Street, Chipping Norton, Oxon.

Built in 1888 as a Salvation Army Citadel. In 1975 it was converted by John and Tamara Malcolm, with the aid of benefactors into a theatre. The interior was designed to look like an old Music Hall. (195 Seats)

- 1975 DERBY PLAYHOUSE Eagle Centre, Derby.
Opened in 1975 to replace the previous Playhouse Theatre of 1952. (535 Seats)
- 1975 SIR JOHN MILLS THEATRE Gatacre Rd, Ipswich.
Converted in 1975 from an old School Room to a Drama Centre. In 1988 it was renamed the SIR JOHN MILLS THEATRE. In 1990 it was further converted. Now the home of the Eastern Angels Theatre Company. (120 Seats)
- 1975 APOLLO THEATRE (ABC / Labatt's) Stockport Road, Ardwick Green, Manchester.
Designed by Peter Cummings, Alex M Irvine and R Gilespie Williams (1930)
The building is now a Concert Venue.
Originally built in 1930 by architects Peter Cummings, Alex M Irvine and R Gilespie Williams the "ABC Cinema".
It has been used as a Theatre since 1975. (2641 Seats)
- 1975 GORDON CRAIG THEATRE Stevenage Leisure Centre, Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts.
Built in 1975 (550 Seats)
- 30 Oct 1975 ROSES THEATRE Sun Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.
Built as a Cinema / Theatre complex in 1975 by architects Preece Payne Partnership.
It was opened as a Theatre in May 1984.
On the **28 May 1984 Eric Morecambe** appeared on stage with his old friend Stan Stennett (Comedian) to talk about his life. After six curtain calls he collapsed in the wings of the stage with a heart attack. He died at 4am in Cheltenham Hospital.
(370 Seats)
- 1975 NEW VICTORIA THEATRE
The Peacocks Arts and Entertainment Centre, Woking, Surrey.
Built in 1975 Architects Renton Howard Wood Levin as part of the Peacocks Development Complex (1338 Seats) **See Below.**
- & 1975 RHODA MCGAW THEATRE
The Peacocks Arts and Entertainment Centre, Woking, Surrey.
Built in 1975 Architects Renton Howard Wood Levin as part of the Peacocks Development Complex along with the New Victoria Theatre, The Rhoda Theatre closed between 1990 and 1992 (Tbc Seats)
- 1975 THE GREENWOOD THEATRE London.
Built in 1975 it is now the London Bridge Studios (1993).
- 1976 to 1977 ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE Upper Ground, South Bank, London SE1
Also known as the COTTESLOE THEATRE / OLIVIER THEATRE
A National theatre was first proposed by London publisher Effingham Wilson. However, it was not until 1904 that the first practical scheme appeared a document called "A National Theatre Scheme and Estimate". Due to funding problems and a lack of suitable site for a theatre the project was shelved. In 1949 under the new "National Theatre Bill" an allocation of one million pounds was donated to the appeal. With Lord Laurence Olivier and Norman Marshall in joint chairmanship of the scheme it started to take shape and in 1962 the National Theatre company moved into temporary accommodation at the OLD VIC (See 1818).
A new theatre was needed and in 1976 three stages were opened for productions in the one building designed by Sir Denys Lasden as the home to the "National Theatre Company".
The first stage to open was the "Lyttleton Theatre" (891 Seats) in March 1976. The next was the "Olivier Theatre" which opened in October 1976 (1169 seats). With the final stage being the "Cottesloe" (400 seats) opening in March 1977. The National theatre has started its own customs and traditions connected with the first night of a new play at the building. Inspired by an idea from Sir Ralph Richardson who suggested it at the opening of the theatre in 1976.

Just before the lights go down for the first performance a first night rocket known as **"Ralph's Rocket" is set off from the roof of the building.**
(Seats 400 / 1,160)

- 1976 ELGIVA THEATRE St Mary's Way / Elgiva Lane, Chesham, Bucks.
Built in 1976 by the Council. (328 Seats)
- 1976 ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE St Ann's Square, Manchester.
Said to be the "Largest theatre in the Round" in the Country it was constructed in 1976 inside the Great Hall of Manchester's former Cotton Exchange (Dating from 1912). It was designed by Levitt Bernstein Associates in collaboration with Richard Negri. It was closed in 1996 on the 15 June when an IRA bomb explodes in the centre of Manchester injuring 200. After extensive renovation it was re-opened. In the interim the Royal Exchange had built a temporary touring theatre, it was brought back to be housed at the BBC in Oxford Rd Manchester for a temporary base for the company. (740 Seats)
- 1976 GRACIE FIELDS THEATRE
Oulder Hill Community School, Hudson's Walk, Rochdale, Lancashire.
Part of the School building it was built in 1976 two miles from the centre of Rochdale the home of Gracie Fields. (670 Seats)
- 1976 STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE IN THE ROUND
Valley Bridge Parade, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
Converted to house Alan Ayckbourn's own company to premier his own plays.
It was converted from a Victorian School in October 1976 (303 Seats)
- 1976 ST GEORGE'S THEATRE London.
Converted into a theatre in 1976, by 1990 it had closed.
- 1976 ***SANDBACH PLAYERS LITTLE THEATRE Hope Street, Sandbach, Cheshire.***
The Sandbach Players were formed in 1945-46 and were known as the Sandbach Amateur Dramatic Society (SADS). Their first play "Without the Prince" was performed at the Town Hall in Sandbach (Opened in 1889), but as rent became more of a problem they needed a more cost effective location. They started building their own theatre in Zan Drive, Wheelock but as faults were found in the building the cost rose to a level that the Players were unable to afford. Another option was moving into a church hall in Hope Street, Sandbach, and to convert this into a theatre. Between 1971 and 1976 negotiations took place to start this theatre. On the 24 April 1976 the Players moved in to the building to start cleaning and then to start construction of the stage and dressing room facilities etc. On the 24- 28 May 1977 they staged their first play "I'll get my Man". During 1991 dry rot was discovered in the walls of the building and they church decided to sell the Church and the hall as they couldn't afford the repairs. It was decided that the 'Sandbach Players' would move and on the 25 April 1992, they left the Little theatre and moved to the Sandbach School (Built about 1850). They staged the appropriate production "Dry Rot" on the 6 -9 May 1992 as their first show in the new venue.
- 1977 BECK THEATRE Grange Rd, Hayes, Middlesex
Built in 1977 by Architects J.P. Barber and V.C. James. (600 Seats)
In 1982 Billy Fury gave his final performance at the theatre.
In 1984 the theatre was threatened with closure after a fund shortage. A local petition saved the theatre and in 1986 Charles Vance joined with Hillingdon Borough Council in London (as it was at the time) in a joint venture where he would become "Commercial Administrator" for their Beck Theatre.
In 1991 the IRA attempted to bomb the "Blues and Royals Band" at the theatre.
The theatre passed to "Hetherington Seelig" followed in 1992 by "Apollo Leisure"
(Later bought out by Clear Channel Entertainment)
In 2006 the theatre went back to "Hetherington Seelig" in partnership with QDOS Entertainment in a venture under the name "HQ Theatres".
- 19 July 1977 CHURCHILL THEATRE High Street, Bromley, Kent

(785 Seats)

- 1977 WAREHOUSE THEATRE 62 Dingwall Rd, Croydon
Converted 19th Century warehouse and stables it became a theatre in 1977. (120 Seats)
- 1977 NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE Birmingham.
Built in 1977 to house various exhibitions and as a Concert Hall of 12,000 seats.
- 1977 BREWHOUSE THEATRE (And ARTS CENTRE) Coal Orchard, Taunton, Somerset.
Built in 1977 as part of an arts complex (352 Seats)
- January 1978 NEW LONDON THEATRE Drury Lane / Parket Street, London
Built within a Complex on the original site of the "Winter Gardens Theatre" (see 1911)
Drury Lane, (1104 Seats)
- 1978 BRIDGE LANE THEATRE Bridge Lane, Battersea, London
A Victorian building it was converted in 1978 by designer Terry Adams. (180 Seats)
- 1978 COURT THEATRE, Tring, Hereford
Built inside a Victorian riding stable building on the edge of Pendley Manor estate in Tring.
- 1978 CORN EXCHANGE Market Place, Wallingford, Oxon.
Converted into a Theatre / Cinema in 1978 from a 19th Century Corn Exchange. (187 Seats)
- 1979 EMPIRE THEATRE Aqueduct Rd, Blackburn, Lancashire.
Former Empire Cinema it was built in 1910. In 1972 the Cinema closed when it became a Bingo Hall from 1976- 1978. In 1979 it was taken over by the Birmingham Theatre Trust who converted the building into the theatre (350 Seats)
- 1979 WOLSEY THEATRE Civic Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk.
Architect Rod Ham completed the theatre in 1979. (410 Seats)
- 1979 GATE THEATRE Above the Prince Albert Pub on Notting Hill Gate, London
(75 Seats)
- 1980 ALMEIDA THEATRE Almeida Street, Islington, London.
Built in 1980 (300 seats)
- 1980 REGAL THEATRE 10 - 16 The Avenue, Minehead, Somerset.
Built in 1934 as the REGAL CINEMA it was converted into a theatre in 1980. (406 Seats)
- 1980 NORWICH PUPPET THEATRE St James, Whitefairs, Norwich.
Opened in 1980 in a Medieval Church as a Puppet Theatre. In 1986 a Studio was added,
built by architect Peter Codling. (196 Seats)
- 1980 THE MILL AT SONNING (THEATRE) LTD Sonning Eye, Reading, Berkshire.
1980 conversion of a Flower Mill built over 100 years before. (212 Seats)
- 1980 QUEEN'S THEATRE Coronation Street, Blackpool.
Built in 1980 it was converted into a dress shop by 1990.
- 1980 BATERSEA ARTS CENTRE London
(640 Seats)
- 1980 MET THEATRE Derby Hall, Market Street, Bury Lancashire BL9 0BW
- Feb 1980 APOLLO THEATRE 17 Wilton Street, Victoria, Westminster, London.
Formally the "New Victoria Cine- Variety Theatre", it was built in 1930 by Architect Ernest Warmsley Lewis and has an Art Deco interior.
It opened as a Theatre the APOLLO VICTORIA in February 1980. (1524 Seats)

The building is now known as the NEW VICTORIA.

- 1981 THE ALBANY THEATRE Douglas Way, London
Opened in 1981 Architects Howell, Killick, Partridge and Amis. (350 Table Seating)
- 1981 THE GATEHOUSE Eastgate Street, Stafford, Staffordshire.
Converted in 1981 from "The Borough Hall" dating from the 20 June 1877, when the original building was opened. It was designed by Henry Ward and was extended in 1914. The Original Building before its conversion into a theatre was the home of the Staffordshire Borough Council, the town's Library and the Wragge Museum (On the Ground Floor) with the First floor housing an assembly hall with a stage. In 1981-2 the building was converted into a theatre when the Council moved to a new Civic Centre.
Not used on a regular basis it has a variety of professional productions coming to the venue along with its own Amateur groups the Stafford Player and the Stafford Operatic Society performing on the stage.
The Theatre building was re-opened in 2007 by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. (570 Seats)
- 1982 THE BARBICAN CENTRE Silk Street, Barbican, London
Opened in 1982 as a concert hall it has 2 theatres, 3 Cinemas and 2 art galleries. It is now the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company, The London Symphony Orchestra, and the Guildhall school of Music and Drama. The name Barbican refers to the Outer Defence of a city or castle and is connected to the old Roman and Medieval walls of the city of London that are close to the site. (2026 Seats)
- 1982 THE ORCHARD THEATRE Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ED.
Opened in 1982.
Run by HQ Theatres.
(950 Seats)
- 5 May 1982 THEATRE ROYAL Royal Parade, Plymouth, Devon.
Opened on the 5 May 1982 - architects Peter Moro and Partners, consultants Carr and Angier. (1296 Seats)
- 1983 EPSOM PLAYHOUSE Ashley Ave, Epsom, Surrey.
Built in 1983 by Renton Howard Wood Levin Builders
(406 Seats)
- 1983 SECOMBE THEATRE 42 Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SS
Opened by Sir Harry Secombe in 1983. It was in a converted Christian Science Church dating from 1937.
Unfortunately, in August 2016 the theatre went into administration
- 1984 MARLOWE THEATRE The Friars, Canterbury, Kent.
Converted from the old ODEON CINEMA that was built in 1933 the theatre came into existence in 1984.
The theatre reopened in 2011.
www.marlowetheatre.com
(1,200 Seats)
- October 1984 DANESIDE THEATRE, Congleton. Park Rd, Congleton, Cheshire.**
Built to house local Amateur Dramatic and Operatic societies it was built over the site of an open-air swimming pool. (300 Seats)
- 1984 THE TOM THUMB THEATRE Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville, Margate, Kent
Originally built in 1896 as a Coach House it was converted into a theatre in 1984 by Leslie and Sarah Parr-Byrne. It is one of Britain's smallest public theatre's (60 seats)
(See Theatre of Small Convenience)

- 1984 **HARLEQUIN THEATRE** *Queen Street, Northwich.*
Opened in 1984 it was built in an old Warehouse. Used by Amateur companies in North East Cheshire. (96 Seats)
- 1985 LIBRARY THEATRE c/o libraries, Arts, Marketing, Central Library,
 Chamberlain Square, Birmingham.
 Built in 1985 it was originally called the JOSIAH MASON HALL. (254 Seats)
- 1985 June STAG THEATRE London Rd, Stevenoakes, Kent.
 Converted into a theatre in June 1985 from a Cinema built in 1936. (700 Seats)
- 1986 THE HEN AND CHICKENS THEATRE 109 St Paul's Rd, Highbury Corner, London.
 Theatre use from 1986 formerly known as the Corner Theatre. (Seats Unkn)
- 1986 SWAN THEATRE Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire.
 Built inside the shell of the original MEMORIAL THEATRE in 1986 (See RS Theatre 1879). It was designed to look like a Jacobean style playhouse. (432 Seats)
- 1986 WOKINGHAM THEATRE Twyford Rd, Wokingham, Berkshire.
 Opened in 1986 (125 Seats)
- 1986 PALLADIUM THEATRE Blackpool Pleasure Beach Complex.
 Opened in 1986 by 1992 it had been converted into a visitor's Centre.
- 1986 March G- MEX (*Greater Manchester Exhibition Centre*) City Centre, Manchester.
 (9376 Seats)
- 1986 Aug **NEW VICTORIA THEATRE** Eturia Rd, Newcastle under Lyme Staffordshire.
Opened in August 1986 it was built by Architect John Sambrook of Hollis Jones Oldacre & Partners, Newcastle under Lyme. Theatre director Peter Cheeseman, General Manager Maggie Saxon (1995) (605 Seats) The building replaced the Stephen Joseph's Victoria Theatre built in 1962. The Repertory Company included such names as Freddie Jones.
- 1986 December HARLEQUIN Warwick Quadrant, Redhill, Surrey.
 Opened in December 1986, Architect J Wyckham Associates (494 Seats)
- 1987 THE STUDIO THEATRE within the **Theatre Museum in Covent Garden**, London.
 Opened in 1987 along with the Museum. (81 Fixed Seating).
- 1987 THE KINGS THEATRE Kingsbarton Street, Gloucester.
 Converted in 1987 from a Salvation Army Citadel. (144 Seats)
- 1988 LILIAN BAYLIS THEATRE Rosebery Ave, London
 (221 Seats)
- 1988 COLLYER HALL THEATRE
 Kings College School, Southside, Wimbledon Common, London.
 (220 Seats)
- 1988 MILLFIELD THEATRE (Was, The MILLFIELD ARTS CENTRE)
 Silver Street, Edmonton, London N18 1PJ 020-88076680 www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk
 Opened in 1988 it was designed by the London Borough of Enfield Architect's Department.
 (366 Seats)
- 1988 MINERVA THEATRE (See 1962) Oaklands Park, Chichester, West Sussex.
 In 1988 the MINERVA THEATRE was constructed. (278 Seats). It is part of the CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE built in 1962.
- Sept 1988 PAUL ROBESON THEATRE Centrespace, 24 Treaty Centre, Hounslow, Middx

- Opened in September 1988 it was designed by Peter McKay (Borough Architect) (280 Seats)
- 1990 COURTYARD THEATRE The Courtyard, 10 York Way, King's Cross, London
Converted in 1990 from a Victorian Coach-house and Stables owned by the Great Northern Carriage Company before becoming a workshop for Bravingtons the jewellers. (100 seats)
- 1990 WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE Quarry Hill Mount, Leeds. Yorkshire.
Built in 1990 by architects The Appleton Partnership (Edinburgh) (756 Seats)
- 1990 NORTHWICK THEATRE Ombersley Rd, Worcester.
Converted into a Theatre in 1990 the building has been a place of entertainment for a much longer time.
In 1938 it was opened as the NORTHWICK CINEMA, designed by C Edmund Wilford, with interior Art Deco designs by John Alexander of Newcastle upon Tyne.
In 1966 it ceased to be a cinema and was used as a Bingo hall until 1982.
Between 1982 and 1990 the building was closed. It opened as the NORTHWICK THEATRE in 1990. The interior is Grade 2 Listed. (710 Seats)
- April 1990 PLAYERS THEATRE The Arces, Villiers Street, Strand, London
This new theatre was designed by David Binns and opened in April 1990 a few yards from the Original theatre which closed in 1987 (See 1936) (246 Seats)
- 1991 BARON'S COURT THEATRE
Baron's Ale House, 28 Comeragh House, Baron's Court, London.
Situated in the basement of Baron's Ale House. This pub Theatre started in 1991.
(Seats 57)
- 1991 CANON'S MARSH AMPHITHEATRE Canon's Way, Bristol**
Dating from 1991 this outdoor venue is set in the docklands of Bristol.
Possibly the last Amphitheatre built in the Uk.
- 1991 THE IPSWICH REGENT THEATRE 3 St Helen's Street, Ipswich, Suffolk.
Built in 1929 as the GAUMONT CINEMA it was converted in 1991 into a Theatre.
(1783 Seats)
- 1991 THE OTHER PLACE Southern Lane, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire.
A Studio theatre designed by Michael Reardon Associates it was opened in 1991 to replace a tin shed construction dating back to 1974. Situated 500 yards from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre it is mainly used by the RSC as a small venue. (280 Seats)
- Dec 1991 CONQUEST THEATRE Tenbury Rd, Bromyard, Hereford.
An earlier theatre was built in 1979 on the site of the new Conquest Theatre. It was opened in December 1991. (150 Seats)
- Feb 1992 BRICK LANE MUSIC HALL 152 Brick Lane, London.
Converted in February 1992 from the Truman's Brewery it became a Music hall and Grade 2 listed building. (125 Seats + Tables)
- June 1992 NEW VICTORIA THEATRE The Ambassadors, Peacocks Centre,
Woking GU21 6GQ
(1,300 Seats)
- 1992 THE OLD LAUNDRY THEATRE Crag Brow, Bowness on Windermere, Cumbria.
Built in 1992 as a replica of the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough in what was an old Laundry premises it is part of the Beatrix Potter Experience. The theatre is the home of the Alan Ayckbourn Theatre Company in the Summer Months. (300 Stacking Seats)
- Nov 1992 WYCOMBE SWAN THEATRE AND TOWN HALL
St Mary Street, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2XE.
Designed by County Architects it was built in 1992.

The building is operated by HQ Theatres on behalf of the Council. (HQ are part of QDOS one of the largest entertainment groups in the country)
(1076 Seats)

- 1992 ARENA THEATRE University of Wolverhampton
- 1992 BROCKLEY JACK THEATRE Off the West End, Crofton Park, Lewisham.
Situated alongside the Brockley Jack Pub in Lewisham it has seats for 50 people.
- Apr 1994 THE ANVIL THEATRE Churchill Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire
01256-844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk
(Seats 1,400)
- 1994 KOMEDIA 14- 17 Manchester St, Brighton
Originally a billiards hall this Regency building was converted into a Theatre in 1994, Grade 2 Listed Building (90 Seats)
- 1994 THE DANCEHOUSE THEATRE 10 Oxford Rd, Manchester.
Designed with an Art Deco interior it was built by Pendelton and Dickson in 1930 as a meeting hall.
It opened in 1930 as THE REGAL TWINS, a two-cinema building.
In 1985 it became a Cannon Cinema but closed in 1986.
In 1992 it was purchased by the Northern Ballet School who converted one of the cinema's into The Dancehouse Theatre while the other screen room was converted into five dance studios. It was opened in 1994 with a new design by Philip Radcliffe. (430 Seats)
- 1994 ? THEATRE 2000 Westborough, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
Attached to the Stephen Joseph Theatre Company it is a former ODEON CINEMA built in 1936 by Cecil Clavering, with art deco interior. The Cinema closed in 1988. It is being converted to replace the Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (See 1976) (165 Seats)
- 1995 Jan SPITALFIELDS MARKET OPERA 4- 5 Lamb Street, Spitalfields London.
Designed by Prof. Theo Crosby. (540 Seats)
- 1995 NORWICH PLAYHOUSE Gun Wharf, 42-58 St George Street, Norwich.
Due to open in 1995 it was built in a converted 18th Century Maltigns (Malt House) on the banks of the River Wensum by Lambert, Scott, Innes of Norwich (320 Seats)
- 1995 THE CASTLE THEATRE Castle Way, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 1XA
www.thecastle.org.uk
(Seats 503)
- 1996 21 Aug THE GLOBE THEATRE (Rebuilt)
In 1996 the International Shakespeare Globe Centre was built to show what the Globe theatre would look like when it was re constructed a little further down the Thames than the original. Primarily a museum to celebrate the work of the "Bard" William Shakespeare. It was opened on the 21 August (1996) (1500 Seats in three tiers.)
- 30 Apr 1996 STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE / ODEON Westborough, Scarborough
Designed by Robert Bullivant, J Cecil Clavering and Harry Weedon in 1936 as a Cinema.
The building is now a Live Theatre run by Alan Ayckborne and is a Theatre in the Round.
(404 Seats)
- 1997 No New Theatres
- 1998 COURTYARD THEATRE Edgar Street, Hereford HR4 9JR
www.courtyard.org.uk
(Seats 520)

- 21 Sept 1999 REGENT THEATRE Hanley, Stoke on Trent, Staffs.**
 Now the Regent theatre the building was originally opened in 1929 as a cinema.
 One of the PCT Houses this new 2,000 seat showed the film "The Last Command" along with a variety show that included the Regent Girls (Dancers) and Felton Rapley at the Wurlitzer Organ.
 In 1933 the cinema had 17 ushers and two-page boys for the film "Soldiers of the King".
 In the 1960's the organists at the Regent were Felton Rapley and Trevor Tidsley.
 It eventually became the ODEON Cinema closing with a charity showing of the Disney Classic "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".
 In 1999 it became the REGENT THEATRE when it was taken over by the Ambassador Theatre group who turned it into a large Theatre venue. The first show was on the 21- 25 Sept 1999 when ANNIE starring Leslie Joseph as Miss Hannigan took to the stage.
 H.M. The Queen officially opened the theatre on the 28 October 1999.
- Nov 1999 THE THEATRE OF SMALL CONVENIENCE Edith Walk Malvern, Worcestershire
 Built in a Victorian Gentleman's public convenience this became the Guinness Book of Records "**Smallest Theatre in the world**" in 2002 beating the Piccolo Theatre in Hamburg Germany.
 The theatre holds up to 12 people and was opened in November 1999 by puppeteer Dennis Neale who retired on the 25 February 2017 ending the first chapter of the theatre.
 The theatre staged puppet shows and small performances until it closed in 2017.
 Warwickshire College Group currently own the theatre and hope to stage productions (2018).
- 12 Oct 2000 LOWRY THEATRE Pier 8, Salford Quays, Salford, Lancashire.
 Proposed in 1988 by Salford City Council to bring tourism and culture to Salford the commissioned James Stirling and Michael Wilford to design the building.
 James Stirling died suddenly in June 1992 leaving Michael Wilford to continue the work.
 With Lottery funding work started on the 19 June 1997 for the ground breaking with work starting on the building in April 1997 and the building was opened in 2000 costing £106 million and was built by Engineer Buro Happold.
 The building was officially opened on the 12 Oct 2000 by HM Queen Elizabeth II.
 The theatre has the biggest stage outside London.
 The building houses Two Theatres built as part of a complex dedicated to the arts including the housing of the pictures of L.S. Lowry.
 Quickly becoming the best theatre in the North West its pinnacle was in 2011 when it staged the Royal Variety Show with Princess Anne in attendance.
 (Main Theatre 1600 Seats) (Small Theatre 400 Seats)
- Sept 2000 ARCOLA THEATRE Hackney London
 (Seats unkn)
- Nov 2001 CHELSEA THEATRE Kings Road, Chelsea, London
 Opened in November 2001 it has 110 seats.
- 2002 no new theatres
- 2003 no new theatres
- 2004 SINDEN THEATRE Harwood School, Tenterden, Kent
 Named after and opened by Sir Donald Sinden (Actor) who opened it in 2004.
- Sept 2004 THE BRINDLEY ARTS CENTRE High Street, Runcorn WA7 1BG
 Named after James Brindley the canal builder the theatre and arts centre was opened in September 2004. Designed by John Miller and Partners and is owned and operated by Halton Borough Council.
- 23 Oct 2004 ARTSDEPOT North Finchley, London Borough of Barnet
 (Seats 158 to 395)

- 10 Nov 2004 MENIER CHOCOLATE FACTORY Southwark Street, London.
 Between 1865 and 1874 the Menier Chocolate company from France built a warehouse and factory on Southwark Street, London.
 In the 1980's the building became vacant.
 In 2005 it opened with the play Murder by Anthony Shaffer (10 Nov 2004 to 22 Jan 2005) and now stages fringe West End productions.
 (180 Seats)
- 2005 ARTRIX Theatre School Drive, Bromsgrove
 (Seats 300)
- 2006 COURTYARD THEATRE (Royal Shakespeare Company)
 (Seats 1,048)
- 2007 no new theatres
- 11 Nov 2008 CURVE THEATRE Belgrave Gate, Leicester LE1 3YQ
www.curveonline.co.uk
 Opened on the 11 November 2008 as the Leicester Performing Arts Centre it is adjacent to the Leicester Athena Conference and Banqueting Centre.
 (Seats 920)
- 2009 no new theatres
- 2010 no new theatres
- Apr 2011 BLUE ORANGE THEATRE Birmingham
 Founded by local producer Mark Webster it opened in April 2011 in the Jewellery Quarter of Birmingham.
- 2012 BROOKSIDE THEATRE Romford War Memorial, 21a Eastern Road,
 Romford, Essex RM1 3NH www.brooksidetheatre.com
- 2 Sept 2013 CAST THEATRE Sir Nigel Grestey Square, Waterdale, Doncaster DN1 3BU
www.castindoncaster.com
 (Seats 620)
- 2014 no new theatres
- 2015 NORTHWICH MEMORIAL COURT Chester Way, Northwich CW9 5QJ
 Originally the Memorial Hall it was demolished to make way for a new building on the same site and thus the Memorial Court was constructed.
- 2016 no new theatres
- 2017 no new theatres
- May 2017 STORYHOUSE Hunter Street, Chester CH1 2AR 0844-8157202
www.storyhouse.com
 At a cost of £37 million the Storyhouse is part of an entertainment complex with a Cinema, Library and Theatre all inside the old ODEON Cinema built in 1936 to the design by Robert Bullivant and Harry Weeson (advertised as being in Northgate Street). The new building was designed by Simon Erridge of Bennetts Associates.
- 2018 BARN THEATRE Cirencester
 (Seats 203)
- 2019 no new theatres
- 2020 no new theatres

#####

#02. Unknown DATES English theatres.

#####

- Unknown ADC THEATRE Park Street, Cambridge CB5 8AS
www.adctheatre.com
- Unknown ALEXANDRA Hull.
By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
- Unknown ALHAMBRA MUSIC HALL Isle of Dogs
Opened pre 1872 as a Music Hall.
- Unknown ALHAMBRA Morecambe
By 1953, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
- Unknown APEX THEATRE Bury St Edmunds
- Unknown THE ARTS CENTRE Colchester
- Unknown ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE Tunbridge Wells
- Unknown BERNIE GRANT ARTS CENTRE Town Hall Approach Road, Tottenham, London N15 4RX
www.berniegrantcentre.co.uk
- Unknown BREWERY ARTS CENTRE Kendal
- Unknown The BROADWAY Catford Broadway, Catford, London SE6 4RU
www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk
- Unknown BROADWAY THEATRE Peterborough 01733-822225
www.kenwright.com
- Unknown BURNLEY EMPIRE Burnley, Lancashire.
Derelict by 2014
- Unknown CAMBERLEY THEATRE Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3SY
01276-707600 www.camberleytheatre.biz
- Unknown CARNEGIE THEATRE Finkle Street, Workington
www.carnegietheatre.co.uk
- Unknown CARRIAGEWORKS 3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
www.carriageworkstheatre.org.uk
- Unknown CENTRAL PIER THEATRE Morecambe
A variety venue in the coastal town in Lancashire.
- Unknown CENTRAL THEATRE NORTHWICH (Cheshire) Opened Pre 1885.
Alfred Darbyshire designer.
- Unknown COMEDY THEATRE MANCHESTER Opened Pre 1895.
- Unknown CONCORDIA THEATRE Stockwell Head, Hinkley, Leicestershire LE10 1RE

Unknown	THE CORBY CUBE	Corby
Unknown	THE CORN EXCHANGE	Exeter.
Unknown	THE CORN EXCHANGE	Kings Lynn
Unknown	CORONATION HALL	Ulverston 01229-587140
Unknown	THE CRESSET THEATRE	Peterborough 01733-265705
Unknown	DALSTON THEATRE	London Shows by Mr Fred J Little & Mr Fred Darcy's Company started from this theatre in the early 1900s'
Unknown	DERBY HIPPODROME	Derby, Derbyshire Demolished by 2014
Unknown	DUDLEY HIPPODROME	(Dudley, Midlands)
Unknown	EASTGATE THEATRE	Peebles 01721-725777
Unknown	THE ELCTRIC PALACE	Bridport
Unknown	THE FORUM	Barrow in Furness
Unknown	G LIVE	Guildford Built for the Guildford Borough Council by designer Austin-Smith, it was built by Willmott Dixon Construction. Run by HQ Theatres (Surrey) The theatre has 1031 seats.
Unknown	GAIETY THEATRE	Chatham Built before 1901 it was a Music Hall.
Unknown	GALA THEATRE AND CINEMA	Millennium Place, Durham, County Durham DH1 1WA www.galadurham.co.uk
Unknown	GRAND PAVILION	Porthcawl 01656-815995 (Or Grand Theatre?)

Unknown GRAND, STALYBRIDGE (Pre 1892 – 1893)

The Stalybridge Grand was situated on Corporation Street, Stalybridge.
The theatre was known for the first performance of the song "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" by local singer Jack Judge (from Oldbury, Birmingham) who wrote it in a Newmarket Tavern after being challenged to write a song in just one night and performed it at the theatre on the 31 January 1912.
Jack Judge and his brother Ted Withey (Edward) had been performing in a Music Hall production at the theatre and on a visit to the Newmarket Tavern was teased about the song he had sung called "How are Yer?" and as mentioned above persuade to write a song in an evening. (Later re worked with assistance of Harry Williams)
On the 31 January 1953 Jack Hylton unveiled a Memorial Tablet on the Newmarket Tavern and outside the old Victorian Market Hall a statue was erected many years later depicting the song.

Unknown GRAND THEATRE Porthcawl

Unknown HAWTHORNE THEATRE The Campus, Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire AL8 6AE www.hawthornetheatre.co.uk

Unknown	HIPPODROME Earlestown. The son of the Music hall star George Formby Snr, George Formby Jnr began at the Hippodrome, Earlestown on the 21 April 1921 as George Hoy (His mothers maiden name)
Unknown	HIPPODROME Leigh (Pre 22 Feb 1914) / Leigh Grand Theatre Possibly owned by William Woolstencroft Esq who arranged a concert at the venue for the Foden's Motor Works Band from Sandbach to perform there on the 22 Feb 1914.
Unknown	The HIPPODROME Stoke on Trent, Staffs. It started as a theatre before it was converted into a cinema. It has been demolished.
Unknown	HIPPODROME Chesterfield. By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
Unknown	HIPPODROME Accrington, By 1953, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
Unknown	H M THEATRE Barrow in Furness By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
Unknown	HULME HIPPODROME Hulme Derelict by 2014
Unknown	HULME PLAYHOUSE Hulme Derelict by 2014
Unknown	LANE THEATRE Newquay, Cornwall TR8 4PX www.lanetheatre.co.uk
Unknown	LICHFIELD GARRICK THEATRE Castle Dyke, Lichfield WS13 6HR www.lichfieldgarrick.com
Unknown	LICHFIELD GUILDHALL Staffordshire
Unknown	THE LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE, Kettering. Pre 2010 – Held the All England Brass Band Championships (2010 – Date)
Unknown	THE LITTLE THEATRE Dover Street, Leicester LE1 6PW www.thelittletheatre.net
Unknown	THE MALLINGS Farnham, Kent
Unknown	THE MALLINGS Berwick-upon-Tweed
Unknown	THE MECHANICS Burnley, Lancashire.
Unknown	MEMORIAL THEATRE Hilderstone, St Peters Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2JW 01843-863701 www.sarahthorne-theatrecompany.co.uk
Unknown	MONTGOMERY THEATRE Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 2LG 0114-3030376 www.themontgomery.org.uk
Pre 1820	NEW THEATRE Bedford Street, Exeter.

The Theatre was destroyed by a fire in 1820.

Unknown	THE OPEN	Norwich
Pre 1914	PALACE THEATRE	Blackburn, Lancashire.
Unknown	PARR HALL	Warrington
Unknown	PEMBROKE THEATRE	Croydon. This was a theatre in the round. By 1966 it was defunct.
Unknown	PENGE EMPIRE	London.
Unknown	PHOENIX THEATRE BLYTH	Beaconsfield Street, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 2DS www.thephoenixtheatre.org.uk
Unknown	PINTER THEATRE	London ?
Unknown	THE PLAYHOUSE	Alnwick
Unknown	PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE	LIVERPOOL Pre 1885
Pre 1914	PRINCE'S THEATRE	Bradford One of the Music hall's Gormless comics Jack Pleasants died on the 2 January 1924 of Appendicitis during the run of a Pantomime at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Bradford he was known for the songs "I'm 21 Today" and "Watching the Trains come in".
Unknown	PRINCE'S THEATRE	MANCHESTER Pre 1882
Unknown	PRINCESS THEATRE	Torquay 08448-713023
Unknown	QUEEN'S PARK THEATRE	Manchester. By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
Unknown	ROSEMARY BRANCH THEATRE	2 Shepperton Road, London N1 3DT www.rosemarybranch.co.uk
Unknown	ROYAL	Croydon. (Pre 1873)
Unknown	ROYAL ALEXANDRA THEATRE	Lime St Manchester Pre 1885
15 June 1972	ROYAL SPA CENTRE	Leamington Spa Designed by Sir Frederick Gibberd it was opened by Anthony Eden (Ex-Prime Minister) on the 15 June 1972.
Unknown	THE SAGE (Two Halls)	Gateshead
Unknown	SANDS CENTRE	Carlisle 01228-633766
Unknown	SHAKESPEARE THEATRE	LIVERPOOL Pre 1895
Unknown	ST JAMES'S HALL	LIVERPOOL Pre 1885
Unknown	THEATRE ROYAL	Bilston (Pre 1892)
Unknown	THEATRE ROYAL	Oldham GHOST 1)

The actor Danny Ross (Alfie Hall in "The Clitheroe Kid" BBC Radio) was in a production of "Dracula". On entering the theatre, he saw what looked like his fellow actor Wally Thomas in stage costume and make up. However when Danny was getting dressed for the show in walked Wally without costume or make up..... Strange?

- Unknown THEATRE ROYAL RUNCORN Pre 1885
- Unknown THEATRE ROYAL Worcester.
By 1938, the building was owned by Terence Byron Ltd and was run by his wife Patricia.
- Unknown TIVOLI THEATRE Wimborne
- Unknown WATERMEET THEATRE High Street, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 1EH
www.watersmeet.co.uk
- Unknown WATERSIDE THEATRE Aylesbury
- Unknown WATFORD COLOSSEUM Rickmansworth Road, Watford WD17 3JN
Run by HQ Theatres.
- Unknown WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE - QUARRY / BARBER STUDIO THEATRE
West Yorkshire Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP
- Unknown WITHAM PUBLIC HALL Witham, Essex CM8 2DY
www.thesxgroup.co.uk

EXTRA INFORMATION

DOVECOT ARTS CENTRE Dovecot Street, Stockton on Tees, Cleveland.
Built in the 19th Century it was the first purpose-built YMCA. It was converted into an arts centre in 1971

PROBLEM DATES ---

1976 RIVERSIDE STUDIO Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London
Formally the BBC Film Studios in West London. Since 1973 it has been used as an arts centre. In 1994 it was refurbished.

#####

#03. CHANNEL ISLAND THEATRE'S IN DATE ORDER

#####

Original
Theatre Date
1900 OPERA HOUSE THEATRE Gloucester Street, St Helier, Jersey.
Built in 1900 it was reconstructed in 1921. (700 Seats)

#####

#04. ISLE OF MAN THEATRE'S IN DATE ORDER

#####

Original
Theatre Date
1888 GRAND THEATRE Douglas Isle of Man
Built as a theatre by Frank Matcham it became a Cinema.

Re Opened as a Theatre 1990's -2000's ?

- 1893 GAIETY THEATRE Harris Promenade, Douglas, Isle of Man.
The original theatre on this site was the old PAVILLION THEATRE, built in 1893.
On the 16 July 1900 the present theatre was opened and is one of the best examples
of a Frank Matcham theatre.
Grade 2 Listed building it has the original Victorian stage equipment.
During 1994 the original design for the stained-glass cupola in the auditorium
ceiling has been recreated and reinstated along with the Sunburner (Originally gas
fired it now runs on Electric) in the centre of the cupola.
Paintings to the left and right of the orchestra pit, along with the paintings under the
boxes have been removed, restored, cleaned and replaced. The theatre canopy and
facade have now been fully restored to the original Frank Matcham colour scheme
and specification. Ongoing restoration of the Victorian stage machinery is being
undertaken by Dr David Wilmore (1995). (896 Seats)
(The building contains a Sun-burner ventilation system)
- Unknown CENTENARY CENTRE Peel, Isle of Man
01624-842396

#05. THEATRES IN SCOTLAND
IN DATE ORDER

Original
Theatre Date

- 29 Sept 1792 THEATRE ROYAL 66 - 68 Shakespeare Street, Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway.
Built in 1792 and opened on the 29 September 1792.
It was reconstructed by Charles. J. Phipps (C.J. Phipps) in 1876.
Between 1909 and 1959 it was used as a Cinema.
In 1959 it was reconstructed and re-opened as a Theatre.
(500-600 Seats)
- 1843 ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND MUSIC HALL St George Street, Edinburgh.
The Assembly Rooms were built in 1787 by John Henderson. The Music Hall was built in
1843 by William Byrne and David Bryce. Listed Grade A (700 Loose Seats).
- 1857 BRITANNIA (Panopticon / Tron) 109 Trongate, Glasgow.
The building was originally a Music hall designed in 1857 by Gildard and MacFarlane.
It was converted into a Cinema in 1910 and was designed by Boswell and MacIntyre.
The building is now Unused.
- 1862 PALACE THEATRE 9 Green Street, Kilmarnock.
With a Victorian classical exterior, it was opened in 1862. It was fully refurbished and
reopened in 1985 by Architect, Steel. (503 Seats)
- 1863 REPERTORY THEATRE Tay Square, Dundee.
The original theatre was built in 1863. It was replaced in 1982 when Nicoll Russell designed
a modern purpose-built theatre and called the DUNDEE REPERTORY THEATRE.
(450 Seats)
- 1867 THEATRE ROYAL 282 Hope Street, Glasgow.
Built in 1867 as the BAYLISS COLISEUM it was renamed the THEATRE ROYAL in 1869.
In 1879 it was destroyed by fire and after a rebuild was again burnt down in 1895.
The theatre was rebuilt in 1880 and again in 1895 by Charles. J. Phipps following the two
fires.
Between 1956 and 1974 it was used as a Television Studio by Scottish Tv.

In 1975 it was renovated to a high visual and technical standard. It is now the home of Scottish Opera (since 1974-5). Listed Grade B (1547 Seats)

GHOST 1)

This is the ghost of a former managers Dog.

GHOST 2)

Norah the name of a Female Ghost. The true identity is unknown but she could be an ex-cleaner of the theatre or a woman jilted by her boyfriend. She is supposed to have committed suicide by jumping off the balcony. Her ghost has been seen in the second circle and in Dressing room S4.

GHOST 3)

A Fireman who drowned in the sub-basement below the stage in the 1960's.

- 9 Dec 1769 THEATRE ROYAL Princess Street, Edinburgh
Opened on the 9 Dec 1769 for actor manager David Ross.
The Theatre Royal was rebuilt in 1830 by Thomas Hosmer.
In 1859 the theatre was demolished to make way for a General Post Office and a new theatre in Broughton Street was renamed the Theatre Royal. It had previously been the "Adelphi Theatre" and the "Queen's Theatre and Opera House".
In 1865 it was burnt down and rebuilt. Rebuilt again in 1875 and 1884 but in 1946 it was destroyed by fire but was never rebuilt due to a shortage of materials due to shortages after the Second World War.
- 1897 HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE / TIVOLI THEATRE
Tivoli Theatre Company Ltd. 34-48 Guild Street, Aberdeen AB11 6NB 01224-592755
In 1872 the Theatre opened as Her Majesty's Opera House and was designed by James Matthews and C.J. Phipps.
In 1897 and 1909 the building was improved and redeveloped by Frank Matcham.
In 1910 it re-opened as the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties and had performers like Charlie Chaplin, Stan Laurel and W C Fields on its stage.
In 1966 the theatre was turned into a Bingo Hall until its closure in 1997.
In 1997 the theatre closed and lay derelict until 2009 when the Tivoli Theatre Company took over the building and restored it back to its former glory.
(GRADE 1 / GRADE A)
- 11 Sept 1878 CITIZENS' THEATRE 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow.
The Victorian theatre was built in 1878 and was known as HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. It then became the ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE. In 1989 it was redecorated, along with a new Foyer and counterweight flying system. In 1992 two studio theatres were opened.
(605 Seats)
- 1879 ROYALTY THEATRE Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.
Built in 1879 by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 24 October. In 1959 it was demolished (F Matcham's second theatre, and first in Scotland) The space is now an office block.
- 1880 GAIETY THEATRE Wellington Street, Glasgow.
Date of its construction not known but in 1880 Frank Matcham renovated the building.
- 10 Sept 1883 ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE Grindlay Street, Edinburgh.
Built by architect Charles. J. Phipps it was opened on the 10 September 1883.
In September 1991 it was reopened after extensive renovations. Listed Grade A (773 Seats)
- 1885 HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE Wellington Street, Glasgow.
Built by Frank Matcham it opened on the 9 November 1885.
- 1892 EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE 13- 29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh.
The original theatre built on this site was designed by Frank Matcham as the EMPIRE and was opened on the 7 November 1892, with a capacity of 2,000. Destroyed by fire 1911 after which it was rebuilt 1912 by Frank Matcham. It was however demolished in 1928 and was rebuilt again 1928 by W & T.R. Milburn as the EMPIRE THEATRE.
In June 1994 it was renamed the Edinburgh Festival Theatre. (1915 Seats)

- 1892 OLD ATHENAEUM THEATRE 179 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.
Built in 1892 by J.J. Burnet, Grade A Listed building it was the home of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama until 1987 (345 Seats).
- 1897 QUEEN'S HALL 5 Queen Street, Lothian, Edinburgh.
Designed by unknown
The building is now a Live Performance Restaurant.
- 5 Apr 1897 EMPIRE THEATRE Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.
Opened 5 April 1897 with designs by Frank Matcham. It had a Capacity 2,500.
Closed March 1963. It has been Demolished. (2500 Seats)
- 1901 PERTH THEATRE 185 High Street, Perth.
Traditional Victorian Playhouse built in 1901 to designs by William Alexander.
In 1990 it was renovated and extended. Listed Grade B. (490 Seats)
- 1902 GAIETY THEATRE Carrick Street, Ayr.
Built in 1902 it is Grade B Listed. It is linked to the Civic Theatre
Forced to close in 2009 it reopened in 2012 as the Ayr Gaiety (See 1951) (570 Seats)
- 29 Feb 1904 PAVILION THEATRE 121 Renfield Street, Glasgow.
Opened on the 29 February 1904 it was designed by Bertie Crewe.
Listed Grade B (1449 Seats)
- 12 Sept 1904 KING'S THEATRE Bath Street, Glasgow.
Built with Red Stone it was opened on the 12 September 1904, it was designed by Frank Matcham with a capacity of 1,800. Grade B listed building. (1785 Seats)
- 1905 THE COLISEUM Eglinton Street, Glasgow.
Built by Frank Matcham in 1905 with a capacity of 2,690 seats. It is now a Cinema.
- 1906 KING'S THEATRE 2 Leven Street, Edinburgh.
Grade B listed building opened in 1906. (1336 Seats)
- 1906 3 Dec HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE Rosemont Viaduct, Aberdeen.
Built in 1906 by Frank Matcham it is the first theatre to have been built of Granite.
It was opened on the 3 December 1906 with 1,800 Seats.
In 1980 the theatre was extensively renovated, reopening in 1982. The old Hemp flying system was also replaced at this time by a concrete and wire pulley system. Listed Grade B. (1456 Seats)
GHOST 1)
In 1942 a stage hand was accidentally killed at the theatre. Known as John "Jake" Murray, he was killed during a Circus show at the theatre, when a stage hoist was overloaded and over-ran the brake.
Adi Swan, technical director of the theatre tells of putting down items that would be moved when his back was turned. In 1980-2 during renovations a night watchman's dog behaved strangely in one particular spot in what is nicknamed the "Lambeth Walk", he would sit on his hind legs and the hair on the back of his neck would stand up.
GHOST 2)
The ghost of a woman who walks across the foyer. She is assumed to be connected to the previous building on the site rather than the theatre.
- 1909 KINGS THEATRE AND HIPPODROME (Gaumont / ODEON)
27 Cowgate, Dundee, Tayside.
Designed by Frank Thomson.
The building is now Nightclub
- 1910 VICTORIA HALL (Playhouse / Granada) 157 Quarry Street, Hamilton, South Lanarkshire.
Designed by unknown

The building is now Unused.

- 1911 PAVILION BALLROOM Esplanade, Ayr.
Built in 1911 Listed Grade B. (1000 Seats)
- 16 Mar 1914 USHER HALL Lothian Road, Edinburgh
Opened on the 16 March 1914 it holds 2,200 people.
- 1922 ALHAMBRA 32 Canmore Street, Dunfirmline, Fife.
Designed by John Fraser
The building is now a Live Theatre.
- 1928 WHITEHALL THEATRE Bellifield Street, Dundee.
Built in 1928 as the ALAMBRA CINEMA with a stage for acts between the films.
The Stage was extended in 1984. (750 Seats)
- 1929 PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 18- 22 Greenside Place, Edinburgh.
Built in 1929 by John Fairweather as the PLAYHOUSE. The building was originally a
cinema / variety theatre. It closed in 1973 and was threatened with demolition, however it
was reopened in 1983 by Apollo Leisure (Uk) Ltd.
(3075 Seats. The Largest seated theatre venue in the UK)
- 1929 BARRFIELDS PAVILION 40 Greenock Rd, Largs.
Originally built as a Theatre in 1929 it is now a Civic Centre. (749 Seats).
- 1932 PLAYHOUSE 60 West High Street, Peebles, Peeblesshire.
Designed by Alistair G MacDonald (1932)
The building is now Retail in Foyer and the auditorium is Unused.
- 1937 *CARNEGIE HALL East Port, Dunfermline, Fife.
Opened on the 6 October 1937 as a Chamber Concert Hall. Built of stone from Darnley
quarries in Northumberland. (590 Seats)*
- 1942 GARRISON THEATRE Market Street, Lerwick, Shetland Islands.
Built in 1904 as a Drill hall and Gymnasium it was converted into a theatre by ENSA in
1942. In 1989 -90 it went through major refurbishment. (285 Seats)
- 1951 CIVIC THEATRE Craigie Rd, Ayr.
Converted from a Church in 1951 it is linked to the Gaiety Theatre, Carrick Street, Ayr. (See
1902) (345 Seats)
- 1951 FESTIVAL THEATRE Port-na- Craig, Pitlochry, Perthshire.
The original theatre was built in 1951. In 1981 the current building was opened. (544 Seats)
- 1962 CRAWFORD THEATRE
Jordanhill Campus, University of Strathclyde. 76 Southbrae Drive, Glasgow. Opened in 1962
(392 Seats)
- 1965 CHURCH HILL THEATRE 33 Morningside Rd, Edinburgh NH10 4RR
Converted from a Sandstone church converted in 1965. (360 Seat)
- 1966 MULL LITTLE THEATRE Dervaig, Isle of Mull, Argyll.
Converted in 1966 from a Stone-built coach house. (43 Seats)
- 1969 CUMBERNAULD THEATRE Braehead Rd, Kildrum, Cumbernauld.
Converted into the COTTAGE THEATRE in 1969 from a series of 17th Century farm
cottages. In 1979 it became the Cumbernauld theatre after extensive extentions. (350 Seats)
- 1969 TRAVERSE THEATRE Cambridge Street, Edinburgh.
The original building (Traverse Theatre) was erected in 1969 in the Grassmarket district of

Edinburgh. It was founded in 1963 by John Calder, Jim Haynes and Richard Demarco hoping to extend the Edinburgh festival spirit for the whole year. However, it closed in 1990. Its replacement was opened in July 1992 in Cambridge Street. The new theatre was designed by Architects Nick Groves Raines. (300 Seats)

- 1969 MOTHERWELL THEATRE AND CONCERT HALL
PO Box 14, Civic Centre, Motherwell, Lanarkshire.
Built of brick in 1969. (1008 Seats)
- 1970 WEBSTER THEATRE 64 High Street, Arbroath, Angus.
Built in 1867 as the Webster Hall, a Municipal Hall, it was converted into the Webster Memorial Theatre and Arts Centre in 1970. (606 Seats)
- 1970 The BRUNTON / BRUNTON HALL / BRUNTON THEATRE
Ladywell Way, Musselburgh, East Lothian EH21 6AA 0131-6652240
www.bruntontheatre.co.uk
Designed by Rowland Anderson, Kininmonth and Paul it was opened in 1970.
(312 Seats)
- 1970 BYRE THEATRE Abbey Street, St Andrews, Fife.
In 1933 a group of amateurs led by writer A.B. Paterson MBE took out a lease on the disused "Old Byre" of the Abbey Street Dairy Farm originally owned by the Council. During the war the company lost most of its male members. During the war Charles Marford former stage director of the Old Vic arrived at the theatre putting on Shakespeare. with the end of the war he retired to Devon where he died a few years later.
In 1970 a new theatre was built about 40 yards from the original site. (174 Seats)
GHOST 1)
It is supposed to be Charles Marford who was in charge of the theatre during the war years. He has been identified by his footsteps walking around the original theatre and the new one built down the road. One mystery happened in the new theatre when during rehearsals they heard the tape machine playing a piece of music that was a favourite of Mr Marford's. When they checked the tape machine it only had the Plays soundtrack and not the music they had just listened to.
- 1972 EASTWOOD THEATRE Eastwood Park, Rouker Glen Rd, Giffnock.
Built in 1972 as part of the Eastwood Recreation Centre. (300 Seats)
- 1973 ADAM SMITH THEATRE Bennoch Rd, Kirkcaldy, Fife.
A modern Theatre and Cinema complex it was opened in 1973 in a converted Adam Smith Hall erected in 1899. (475 Seats)
- 1974 GARDYNE THEATRE Gardyne Rd, Dundee.
Built within an educational establishment in 1974. (367 Seats)
- 1976 EDEN COURT THEATRE Bishop's Rd, Inverness.
The theatre was built in 1976 and was designed by Law and Dunbar Naismith.
Situated on the banks of the River Ness. It was built on the site of a former Bishop's Palace.
(791 Seats)
www.eden-court.co.uk
GHOST 1)
The Green Lady who is supposed to be the wife of Bishop Eden who hanged herself in the Palace chapel (opened in 1878 as a golden wedding gift from the Diocese, donated by the Bishop and his wife) on the site of what is now the theatre. The place where she died is now the Green room of the building.
In 1985 a Green light or Mist was seen by stagehand Martin MacPhee in the upper landing of the staircase in the Bishop's Palace hallway.
In 1986 Stage hand Graham Fraser and Sound technician James Farquhar saw a dark figure in the circle while they were watching "Amadeus". The area was closed to the public at the time.

GHOST 2)

A Child who has been spotted in the lower levels of the theatre. The story is that it is a child who was buried in the gardens of the building but no evidence supports this. In June 1911 Bishop Robert Eden wrote to another Bishop in London about ghostly haunting's at Eden Court. In the letter he tells of a story he had been told about a little Girl who "Walked" through the garden, apparently fading in and out of existence, terrifying those in the garden at the time.

EXTRA

In 1986 Pantomime horses were let out their makeshift stable after everyone else had gone home. The donkeys had seemingly got out of a padlocked door without removing the lock or walls of the stable. Let out by the ghost, who knows?

- 1980 MITCHELL THEATRE Granville Street, Glasgow.
Opened in 1980 on the site of the famous St Andrew's Hall it retains the frontage from this building. (418 Seats)
- 1982 TRON THEATRE 63 Trongate, Glasgow.
Converted in 1982 from a Late 18th Century Adam designed Church. (272 Seats)
- 1987 HIGHLAND THEATRE Highland Discovery Centre Ltd, George Street, Oban, Argyil.
Originally built as a Cinema in 1971 to replace a cinema built in the 1930's . It was converted into a Theatre and exhibitions centre in Mid 1987 (277 Seats)
- 1988 THE ROBIN ANDERSON THEATRE
c/o Scottish Ballet Ltd. 261 West Princes Street, Glasgow.
Opened in 1988 (182 Seats)
- 1989 THE CLYDE THEATRE Clydebank
Opened in 1989 by 1993 it had closed.
- 1990 ARCHES THEATRE Midland Street, Glasgow.
Established in 1990 it was built inside a Railway Arch under Central Station. (112 Seats)

#####

#05b. Unknown Scottish Theatres (Date unknown of construction)

#####

Unknown ATRE GAIETY Carrick Street, Ayr KA7 1NU
www.thegaiety.co.uk

Unknown BORDERLINE THEATRE North Harbour Street, Ayr.
Converted from a 19th Century Church, St Giles, the original frontage is Grade C listed.
The interior was modernised in 1994. (182 Seats)

Unknown BUCKHAVEN THEATRE Lawrence Street, Buckhaven, Fife.
Converted from a church that had been designed by Gilbert Scott. The interior was completely redesigned between 1983 and 1987. (102 Seats)

Unknown IRONWORKS Inverness

Unknown MAGNUM THEATRE Irvine

Unknown PERTH CONCERT HALL Mill Street, Perth PH1 5HZ
01738-621031 www.horsecross.co.uk

Unknown The WASH HOUSE 3 Adelphi Grove, Edinburgh EH15 1AP

#####

#06. THEATRES IN WALES IN DATE ORDER

#####

Original

Theatre Date

90 AD CAERLEON (In Wales, See also Wales)

This brick-built Amphitheatre was uncovered by Sir Mortimer Wheeler in 1926-7 and was built in AD90 at the same time as the Colosseum in Rome.

1888 PALACE THEATRE High Street, Swansea
Wedged Shaped building.

1889 STRAND HALL Strand Street, Builth Wells, Powys.
Built in 1889 as a private theatre, the Strand Theatre never opened due to acoustic difficulties. It was used as a storage area until 1918 when it became a factory until 1947 when the building was donated to the community.
In 1950 it was refurbished and then used as a dance hall / theatre and offices. (400 Seats)

1891 ADELINA PATTI THEATRE Craig y Nos Castle, Near Abercrave, Powys.
Built in 1891 as an addition to Craig y Nos Castle, owned by Madam Adelina Patti, the singer and her husband Nicolini. Used for private concerts until 1988 it was one of the few private theatres in the United Kingdom. (Grade 2 Listed building)

1895 THEATRE COLWYN Abergele Rd, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd.
Built in 1895 as the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE changing its name in May 1991 to the Theatre Colwyn. (443 Seats)

1896 EMPIRE THEATRE Queen Street, Cardiff.
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 4 May 1896 with a capacity of 2,000. It was destroyed by fire in October 1899. It was rebuilt and reopened in September 1900. Closed in 1961 and has been demolished.

1897 GRAND THEATRE Singleton Street, Swansea.
Built in 1897 by William Hope. Grade 2 Listed Building.
The opening ceremony in July 1897 was conducted by Dame Adelina Patti the celebrated soprano. The theatre was one of the first to use Electricity to light the stage.
The sadist story is that of a young actress called Jenny (Last name unknown) who made her final performance on the Grand theatre stage before boarding the Titanic on its maiden, and her last journey.
In 1997 Ian Dickens an actor approached Swansea Grand Theatre's Manager Gary Iles to see if he could reintroduce a repertory season at the theatre which had been a bid part of the 1980's when John Chilvers was in charge.
(1019 Seats)

GHOST 1)

The "White Lady" is identified by the scent of Violets. Some say it is the ghost of Jenny who was on the Titanic (See above). Others say it could be Adelina Patti who opened the theatre, or an ex wardrobe mistress who drowned on her way to Ireland. It was roughly from this date that the stories of the ghost started at the theatre. The ghost is seen in the Dress Circle, round the bar area and on stage crying (During an all night visual by local newspaper reporters?).

1900 ARCADIA THEATRE The promenade, Llandudno, Gwynedd.
Built in 1900 it closed in 1993 to be replaced by the NORTH WALES THEATRE (See June 1994).

10 Dec 1906 NEW THEATRE Park Place, Cardiff. South Glamorgan.
Built in 1906 on orders by Robert Ratford who had rented the Theatre Royal in Cardiff

for the last nine years. Constructed by architects Ernest Rutz and Ford it opened on the 10 December 1906.

The exterior stonework was renovated in 1986;

re- opened in April 1988 after a £4 million re-modelling of the auditorium by architects Renton Howard Wood Levin.

www.newtheatreCardiff.co.uk

(1159 Seats)

- 1908 GAIETY THEATRE Rhyl
Built in 1908 it is now a Theme Park and Sea Life Centre (by 1991).
- 1913 PARC AND DARE THEATRE Station Rd, Treorchy, Mid Glamorgan.
Built in 1913 as the PARC AND DARE HALL in 1892. (800 Seats)
- 1921 COLISEUM THEATRE West Promenade, Rhyl, Clwyd.
Originally an Open-Air theatre built in 1921 it was altered in 1960 to take account of the poor weather. It still retained its circular style (630 Seats)
- 1958 HARLEQUIN PUPPET THEATRE The Promenade, Rhos -on-Sea, Colyn Bay, Gwynedd.
Built from local stone in 1958 with a glass facade. It is the only purpose-built puppet theatre in Wales. (118 Seats)
- 1962 THEATR FACH Pencraig, Llangefni, Anglesey, Gwynedd.
Converted in 1962 from a stone Barn. (110 Seats)
- 1963 RHYL LITTLE THEATRE Vale Rd, Rhyl, Clwyd.
Built by architects F.H. Arthur & Sons in 1963 (196 Seats)
- 1972 CONGRESS THEATRE 50 Gwent Square, Cwmbran, Gwent.
Opened in 1972 (319 Seats)
- 1972 THEATR ARDUDWY Coleg Harlech, Harlech, Gwynedd.
Opened in 1972 (266 Seats)
- 1973 SHERMAN THEATRE Cathays district of Cardiff.
Opened as the Sherman Theatre with a twin auditorium it changed its name to the "Sherman Cymru" and then in 2016 reverted back to the "Sherman Theatre".
- 1976 THEATR ELLI Llanelli Entertainment Centre, Station Rd, Llanelli, Dyfed.
Built in 1938 as the ODEON CINEMA in 1971 the Classic company turned it into a three screen cinema. In 1976 it was taken over by the Council who turned it into a three stage building. (Theatr Ellis 487 Seats / Theatre 2 , - 330 Seats / Theatre 3,- 122 Seats)
- 1976 THEATRE CLWYD Mold, Clwyd.
Built in 1976 (576 Seats)
- 1977 TORCH THEATRE St Peter's Rd, Milford Haven, Dyfed.
Built in 1977 at a cliffside location overlooking the Marina. (297 Seats)
- 1979 DYLAN THOMAS THEATRE Maritime Quarter, Swansea, West Glamorgan.
Built in a former Garage in 1979 (200 Seats)
- 1982 GUILDHALL THEATRE The Guildhall, Brecon, Powys.
Built in an Old Market Hall and assize court - refurbished in 1898 it was converted into a theatre in 1982. (241 Seats)
- 1982 VENUE CYMRU / NORTH WALES THEATRE
The Promenade, Penrhyn Crescent, Llandudno LL30 1BB
Formally the Aberconwy Centre and North Wales Theatre and Conference Centre

- 1982 THEATR HAFREN Llandidloes Rd, Newtown, Powys
Opened in 1982 (568 Seats)
- 30 Aug 1982 *ST DAVID'S HALL The Hayes, Cardiff.*
Opened to the public in September 1982. Built by architects J Seymour Harris and Partners.
(1994 Seats)
- 1986 LYRIC THEATRE King Street, Carmarthen, Dyfed.
Converted from an old LYRIC CINEMA, built in 1934 it laid derelict from 1980 to 1986. It then opened as the Lyric theatre. In 1992 it was extended and refurbished. (740 Seats)
- 1987 THE PRINCESS ROYAL THEATRE Civic Centre, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan.
Opened in 1987 as the CIVIC THEATRE. (850 Seats)
- 1993 *CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL ARENA Mary Ann Street, Churchill way, Cardiff.*
Built in 1993 (5000 Seats)
- 1994 NORTH WALES THEATRE & CONFERENCE CENTRE.
The promenade, Llandudno, Gwynedd.
Opened in June 1994 to replace the Grade 2 Listed Theatre (1900 - 1994). The new theatre was designed by architects EllisWilliams Partnership, consultants Carr & Angier.
(1500 Seats)
It is built opposite the ARCADIA THEATRE (Closed at the time of this list -1995)
- 2000 CARDIFF BAY OPERA HOUSE Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, South Glamorgan.
New Opera House designed by Zaha Hadid it was due to open on the 1 March 2000.
(1900 Seats)
- 23 Oct 2004 RIVERFRONT THEATRE Newport, South Wales
Designed by architect Austin-Smith Lord
- 26 Nov 2004 WALES MELENIUM CENTRE Cardiff
Phase one opened on the 26 November 2004 with Phase 2 on the 22 Jan 2009.

#####

**#07. NORTHERN IRELAND THEATRE'S
IN DATE ORDER**

#####

Original
Theatre Date

- 1862 GROUP THEATRE Bedford Street, Belfast, Co Antrim.
The theatre was built in 1862 and was remodelled in 1978 (240 Seats)
- 1886 ST COLUMB'S THEATRE Orchard Street, Derry, Co Londonderry.
Built in 1886 in Italianate style by Architects Croom & Toye. (870 Seats)
- 23 Dec 1895 GRAND OPERA HOUSE 2 Great Victoria Street, Belfast, Co Antrim.
Designed by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 23 December 1895.
This Grade II Listed Theatre with a Capacity 1,050 when it opened.
The building was refurbished in 1980 and reopened. (1001 Seats)
- 1897 13 Dec *THEATRE ROYAL Hawkins Street, Dublin, Southern Ireland.*
Built by Frank Matcham it was opened on the 13 December 1897 with a capacity of 2,000.
It has been demolished to make way for an office block.
- 1904 ABBEY THEATRE Dublin

Built in 1904 for Miss A Horniman (leaseholder).
 Augusta, Lady Gregory (Died 22 May 1932) Irish Playwright was a co-founder of the Abbey Theatre.
 On the 17 July 1951 the Abbey Theatre in Dublin burned down. The play that evening included the song "Keep the Home Fires Burning".

- 1907 ROYAL HIPPODROME THEATRE Belfast
 Converted into a theatre in 1907 it is now a Bingo hall (by 1988)
- 1935 STRAND VARIETY THEATRE Belfast
 Built in 1935 it was converted into a 4 Screen Cinema complex by 1988.
- 1944 BELFAST CIVIC ARTS THEATRE 41 Botanic Ave, Belfast, Co Antrim.
 Founded as the MASK THEATRE in 1944 and renamed the ARTS THEATRE in 1947.
 The present building was opened in 1961 and is situated above a row of shops. (551 Seats)
- 1968 LYRIC PLAYERS THEATRE 55 Ridgeway Street, Belfast, Co Antrim.
 Built in 1968 (304 Seats)
- 1972 HARBERTON THEATRE Belfast
 Built in 1972 it was demolished in 1990/1991.
- 1976 March RIVERSIDE THEATRE
 University of Ulster, Cromore Road, Coleraine Co Londonderry.
 Opened in March 1976 to designs by Peter Moro and partners. (358 Seats)
- 1983 RIALTO ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE Market Street, Derry, Co Londonderry.
 It was in operation in 1918 as a Cinema when it was known as the RIALTO CINEMA.
 In 1960 it changed its name to the ABC CINEMA becoming a theatre and entertainment centre in 1983. (988 Seats)
- 1986 ARDHOWEN - THE THEATRE BY THE LAKES Dublin Rd, Enniskillen. Co Fermanagh.
 Opened in March 1986 it adjoins an Edwardian House.
 Architects McCormick-Treacy and Mullarkey of Derry.
 The building won the United Kingdom 1988 Architectural Award, the 1988 Northern Ireland Architectural Award and the 1988 Royal Institute of British Architects Award. (300 Seats)

#####

#08. THEATRE STATISTICS

#####

OLDEST KNOWN THEATRE IN THE WORLD

- 5th Century BC A Greek Amphitheatre in honour of the god Dionysus.
- 4th Century BC The Theatre of EPIDAUROS in Greece, built by Polycleitos is the oldest still standing. (Amphitheatre)
- 55BC The first Roman theatre had accommodation for 40,000.
- 9th Century AD Public playhouses established in Chinese Towns.

THE OLDEST INDOOR THEATRE IN THE WORLD

- 1583 The oldest indoor theatre in the world is the TEATRO OLIMICO in Vilenza, Italy. It was designed by Andrea Di Pietro (Alias Palladio) .b. 1508 .d. 1580. The building was opened in 1583 and was completed by Vincenzo Scamozzi a pupil of Palladio's.

THE OLDEST INDOOR THEATRE IN LONDON

- 1576 THE THEATRE Built in 1576 by James Burbage, Near Finsbury Fields, London.

THE OLDEST INDOOR THEATRE IN GREAT BRITAIN (STILL IN USE)

1766 THE ROYAL BRISTOL theatre had its foundation stone laid on the 30 November 1764 and was opened on 30 May 1766. Built in King Street, Bristol it was designed by the Architect Thomas Paty (645 Seats)

1762 THE CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL in Leeds, also claims to be the oldest theatre having put on a "Concert of Musick and a specimen of Rhetorick" but as it was then a singing room it does not qualify as the oldest theatre. (See 1865)

THE OLDEST AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Formed in 1841 "THE OLD STAGERS" in Canterbury have put on a production each year since its formation with the exception of the War years 1914 to 1918 and 1939 to 1945.

THE LARGEST THEATRE IN THE WORLD

The largest building used as a theatre is the NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS BUILDING (Ren min da hui tang) on the west side of Tiananmen square, Peking, China. It was completed in 1959 and covers an area of 5.2 ha (12.0 Acres). The theatre seats 10,000.

The largest purpose-built theatre is the PERTH ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE Western Australia, completed in November 1976 with 8003 seats.

THE LARGEST NUMBER OF SEATS IN A THEATRE IN LONDON

This is actually a Cinema the ODEON HAMMERSMITH, London with 3483 Seats, and is used for awards ceremonies and film Premiers.

MOST SEATS IN A THEATRE IN THE UK ?

1929 PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 18- 22 Greenside Place, Edinburgh.

Built in 1929 by John Fairweather as the PLAYHOUSE. The building was originally a cinema / variety theatre. It closed in 1973 and was threatened with demolition, however it was reopened in 1983 by Apollo Leisure (Uk) Ltd. it has 3075 Seats.

THE LARGEST THEATRE STAGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The largest theatre stage in the UK is the OPERA HOUSE in Blackpool. It was rebuilt in July 1939 with 2,975 Seats with a stage area of 33m (110 ft) high, 18 m (60 ft) deep & 30m (100ft) wide.

The SHORTEST PLAY ?

Writer Samuel Beckett wrote "Breathe" that lasted just 30 seconds.

=====

#09. THEATRE'S ROUND THE WORLD

SEE ALSO STATISTICS

=====

RUSSIA

1824 MALEY THEATRE Moscow.

This is the oldest theatre in Moscow. The name means Small. It was the home of the oldest company in Moscow which was founded in 1806.

1898 MOSCOW ART THEATRE Moscow.

The Moscow Arts Theatre was founded by Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko in Russia, it is its most famous theatre.

USA

1927 MANN'S CHINESE THEATRE (Hollywood) 6925 Hollywood Boulevard.

Built in 1927 by Sid Grauman as the GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE it opened with the premier of "The King of Kings" by Cecil B DeMille.

It is said that the ghost of Victor Killian has haunted the forecourt, looking for his murderer, since 1982.

=====

#10. GHOST extra information.

CREWE CIRCLE

In the early 1920's a group of spirit photographers were set up in Crewe, Cheshire with Chairman William Hope a spirit photographer who is said to have captured more than 2,500 "Extras" (Spirit faces as they are usually called). The group called themselves the "Crewe Circle". They allowed their equipment and film to be inspected at any time they even allowed sceptic visitors to bring their own film to show they were not frauds.

Their sittings started with prayers and hymns before they started taking photographs.

In Harry Houdini's 1924 book he debunked the group saying that the sitter who supplied the photographic plates they would be provided days in advance so that the Crewe Group could magnetise them so that the film could be doctored at a later time.

One sceptic brought plates on the day of the photograph and saw the group trying to switch them before the photograph was taken. On another occasion a sitter marked his plates, when they were returned to him later the mark was not there.

During the sitting William Hope sometimes didn't bother with a camera preferring to place the sealed plate on his forehead, making the picture appear.

MAGICIAN GHOSTS

During Greek and Roman times temple doors opened by themselves by a mechanism explained in a manuscript called the "Hero of Alexandria". The heat from a fire on the altar not only was a focal point but also heated up a bladder hidden under the table. The bag inflated with the hot air pulling a rope over a pulley which in turn moved concealed columns connected to the door and thus the doors opened as if by magic or the odd ghost.

In the Dark ages these magic tricks were interpreted as a sign of Witchcraft and many magicians were burned at the stake because of this.

By the 18th and 19th century Magicians were celebrated as entertainers and regularly appeared on the theatrical stage.

The first scientific magician was a Belgian man called Etienne-Gaspard Robert known on the stage as "Robertson" who debuted his "Fantasmagorie" in 1784. This used smoke as a screen to project images onto the stage to make it look like a ghost. In about 1794 he presented this act at a Paris Theatre for a six year run. so popular was this illusion that in 1803 Paul de Philipsthal presented his own version in an act called "Phantasmagoria". Paul stood in a Magic Circle in the middle of the stage waving his wand to conjure up the ghosts of the dead. This show ran for many years at the LYCEUM THEATRE on the Strand in London.

In 1847 Henri Robin produced his "Living Phantasmagoria".

In 1860 Dr John Henry Pepper created the most famous stage ghost, "**Pepper's Ghost**". This illusion was created by the use of mirrors. A presenter would stand in front or behind a glass wall angled so that a person standing in the wings or in the pit (below the line of sight of the audience) could be reflected onto the stage making it look as though there is a ghost. If the person moves in the wings it looks as though the ghost is walking, done properly the ghost can walk through the presenter on stage thus the ghost walks through solid objects.

French magician Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin (.b.1805 .d. 1871), known as the father of modern Magic, used "Peppers Ghost" in his stage 1868 production called "La Czarine" at the Ambigu Theatre, in Paris. Dr Pepper went on to design a new illusion called the "Metemphychosis" where his "Ghost" could change into other objects by the use of lighting effects. As one set of lights on a person standing behind the glass on the stage another set of lights would bring up the ghostly figure making it look as if a real person could change into another. It was used in a playlet called "The Blue Room" by American illusionist Harry Kellar (.b. 1849 .d. 1922).

Harry Houdini (.b. 1874 .d. 1926) (Stage name a copy of Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin (.b.1805 .d. 1871), was possibly the most famous magician. He was also one of the leading crusaders against the spirit world. He spent a lot of time trying to expose mediums, he even produced a book called "A Magician among the Spirits" to show how these Illusions were created. A friend of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Houdini attended a séance at which Doyle's wife was the medium. Houdini called it a fraud as when a message was received from Mrs Doyle's mother it was in English a language that she never learnt in her life as she was Hungarian.

ACTORS HAVING SEEN GHOSTS

or are Ghosts (Not in the above text)

JAMES CAGNEY Is said to have heard his dead fathers voice warning him about a car crash he was to have. Listening to the voice he managed to avoid the crash and survived to act another day.

JEAN HARLOW Her late husband Paul Bern committed suicide in their Beverly hills home, when Jean Harlow died of Uremic poisoning she is said to haunt the family home in 9820 Easton Drive, Benedict Canyon, Beverly Hills trying to find her husband.

GEORGE REEVES (The original Superman) It is said that he committed suicide in 1959 at his home in 1579 Benedict Canyon USA. subsequent owners claim to have seen his ghost.

TELLY SAVALAS He met a ghost of a man who had been dead for 5 years along with the man's ghostly car. Telly was driving in Long Island when he ran out of gas. Pulling to the side of the road he got out to walk to the gas station to get a can of gas for his car when he was offered a lift from a man in a black Cadillac. When he got the can of gas he found he had forgotten his wallet. The man offered to pay and Telly took his name so that he could pay him back. Before he could thank the man for his generosity he had disappeared. The following day telly rang the phone number he had been given and the person at the end of the phone said that her husband had been dead for 5 years and couldn't have met the Kojak star nor could he have lent him some money.

ELKIE SOMMER In 1964 after Elkie had married Joe Hyams. Soon after their wedding they moved into their Beverly Hills home. One night there was a loud banging on the bedroom door, when Elkie and her husband opened the door they found no one outside, they did however find black smoke and managed to get out of the house to safety. This was not the first time they had heard the ghost and it was not the last but it did save their lives.

JOHN WAYNE A sea going ghost is John Wayne according to the owners of the "Wilde Goose" Yacht that John Wayne once owned. The "Duke" can be seen at the heard on occasions or walking the decks.

CLIFTON WEBB Clifton (b. 1891 .d. 1966) sees the ghost of an old friend Grace Moore (an Metropolitan Opera Star and film actress) who once owned the house Mr Webb lived in. Since his death it is thought that he also haunts the house as now two ghosts have been seen in the house.

MANN'S CHINESE THEATRE (Hollywood) 6925 Hollywood Boulevard.
Built in 1927 by Sid Grauman as the GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE it opened with the premier of "The King of Kings" by Cecil B DeMille.
It is said that the ghost of Victor Killian has haunted the forecourt, looking for his murderer, since 1982.

#11. THEATRE MUSEUM
#####

THEATRE MUSEUM 1E Tavistock Street, Covent Garden SE1 9EB
Entrance in Russell Street.



Gabrielle Enthoven in 1904.

HISTORY OF THE THEATRE MUSEUM

The Theatre Museum situated in Covent Garden was previously the National Museum of the Performing Arts a branch of the National Museum of Applied Arts at the Victoria and Albert Museum. In 1911 Gabrelle Enthoven began a campaign for the creation of a museum to celebrate theatre.

In 1924 the Victoria and Albert Museum took custody of the collection she had made and subsequent acquisitions until Gabrielle Enthoven's death in 1950.

In 1957 a separate BRITISH THEATRE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION was formed to collect theatrical items.

In 1971 Harry R Beard donated his collection of programmes, prints and other theatrical and operatic memorabilia to the V and A.

In 1974 the "British Theatre Museum Association" and the "Friends of the Museum of Performing Arts" (who owned the Ballets Russes Collection) combined with the collection at the V and A to create the THEATRE MUSEUM.

In 1987 the museum collection was installed in premises in Covent Garden.

In the 1990's it looked for more contemporary memorabilia for future collectors to enjoy.

In 1993 the "National Video Archive of Stage Performance started filming performances the first of which was "Richard III" starring Ian McKellan. By 2008 over 200 productions had been filmed.

On the 26 September 2006 a lack of funds caused the owners to announce that the museum would close in January 2007. A group called "The Guardians of the Theatre Museum" was formed in Autumn 2006 to try and save the collection.

In December 2006 the Victoria and Albert Museum and Blackpool Council were in discussions to move the collection to a new National Museum of Performing Arts in Blackpool. Blackpool also had the NATIONAL THEATRE OF VARIETY.

On the 7 January 2007 the Museum closed and some of the displays were moved to a new gallery at the V and A site in South Kensington.

The collection is now known as the VICTORIA AND ALBERT THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE DEPARTMENT and now supplies objects on loan worldwide for exhibitions. The collection also hosts the "THEATRE VOICE website which records interviews with people in the entertainment world who recount information about the performances they were part of.

CONTENTS

The Museum tells the story of theatre from the 16th Century to date. It has the largest collection of documents and artifacts on the subject.

MAIN COLLECTIONS

Arts Council (Design Collection)

British Council

D'Oyly Carte Opera Company (Gilbert and Sullivan- Archive)

Royal Court Theatre (Archive)

SMALLER COLLECTIONS

Anthony Hippisley Coxe Circus Collection

British Model Theatre and Puppet Guild Collection.

#####

#12. Current THEATRE LIST and 2014 PANTOMIMES.

#####

TOWN	THEATRE	PANTO 2014
ABERDARE	COLISEUM Mount Pleasant Street, Trecynon, Aberdare CF44 8NG	
ABERDEEN	GLOBE	
ABERDEEN	HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen AB25 1GL 01224-641122 www.hmtaberdeen.com	QDOS PANTOMIME Beauty and the Beast
ABERDEEN	MUSIC HALL 01244-641122	
ABERDEEN	TIVOLI THEATRE Tivoli Theatre Company Ltd	

	34-48 Guild Street Aberdeen AB116NB 01224-592755 (Opened 2009)	
ALDERSHOT (Hampshire)	PRINCE'S HALL Princes Way, Aldershot, Hampshire GU112 4RR 01252-329155 www.princeshall.com	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
ALNWICK	THE PLAYHOUSE Alnwick 01665-510785	
ALSAGER	CIVIC HALL	
ALTRINCHAM	ALTRINCHAM GARRICK THEATRE (Opened 1914) Barrington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1HZ 0161-9281677 www.altrinchamgarruck.co.uk (Near Stockport)	
AMPTHILL (Bedfordshire)	PARKSIDE HALL Woburn Street, Amphill, Bedfordshire	
ANDOVER	THE LIGHTS 01264-368368	
ANGLESEY		
ANNAN	VICTORIA HALLS	
ARBROATH (Scotland)	WEBSTER THEATRE 64 High Street, Arbroath DD11 1AW www.webstertheatre.co.uk	
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCHE	CONKERS AMPHITHEATRE	
ASHFORD (Kent)	CHRIST CHURCH HALL Christ Church, Beaver Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 7SR	Cinderella
ASHTON UNDER LYNE	TAMESIDE THEATRE Oldham Road, Ashton Under Lyne	
AYLESBURY	CIVIC CENTRE	
AYLESBURY	WATERSIDE THEATRE Exchange Street, Aylesbury HP20 1UG 0844-8717627	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
AYLESFORD (Kent)	AYLESFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE 25 Forstal Road, Aylesford ME20 7AU	
AYRE (Scotland)	AYRE GAIETY Carrick Street, Ayr KA7 1NU www.thegaiety.co.uk	Beauty and the Beast (Katrina Bryan - CBeebies)
BACUP	HUB	
BACUP	ROYAL COURT THEATRE Rochdale Road, Bacup, Lancashire OL13 9NR	
BALLATER	VICTORIA HALL	
BANBURY	MILL ARTS CENTRE 01295-279002	
BARKING	THE BROADWAY	
BARNET	BULL THEATRE 68 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SJ	

	www.thebulltheatre.com	
BARNSELEY	THE ACADEMY THEATRE 311 Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Barnsley S70 5TU www.theacademytheatre.co.uk	Dick Whittington and his Cat
BARNSELEY (South Yorkshire)	HORIZON THEATRE Dodworth Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 6PD www.horizoncc.co.uk	
BARNSTAPLE (North Devon)	QUEEN'S THEATRE Boutport Street, Barnstaple EX31 1SY 01271-324242	
BARNWOOD (Gloucester)	WALLS CLUB Hammond Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 3HG	
BARROW IN FURNESS	CLOUD 9	
BARROW IN FURNESS	THE FORUM 01229820000	
BASILDON	TOWNGATE THEATRE St Martins Square, Basildon SS14 1DW www.towngatetheatre.co.uk	
BASINGSTOKE	The ANVIL Churchill Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire 01256-844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk	
BASINGSTOKE	HAYMARKET	
BATH	GUILDHALL	
BATH	OLD THEATRE	
BATH	PAVILION	
BATH	THEATRE ROYAL Sawclose, Bath BA1 1ET 01225-448844 www.theatreroyal.org.uk (2006)	Cinderella (Dani Harmer – Tracy Beaker / Melanie Walters – gavin and Stacey / Jon Monie – Local Comedian)
BATH	THEATRE ROYAL EGG	
BATH	THEATRE ROYAL USTINOV STUDIO	
BEACONSFIELD	BEACON THEATRE AND LEISURE CENTRE	
BEACONSFIELD	THE CURZON CENTRE Maxwell Road, Beaconsfield Bucks HP9 1RG	
BEDFORD	BEDFORD THEATRE	
BEDFORD	CORN EXCHANGE St Pauls Square, Bedford MK40 1SL	
BEDWORTH (Warwickshire)	BEDWORTH CIVIC HALL High Street, Bedworth CV12 8NF 02476376707 www.civichallinbedworth.co.uk	Aladdin
BELFAST	GRAND OPERA HOUSE Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7HR 028-90241919	QDOS PANTOMIME Aladdin

	www.goh.co.uk	
BELFAST	GROUP THEATRE	
BELFAST	ODYSSEY ARENA 028-90739074	
BELFAST	QUEEN'S	
BELFAST	QUEEN'S DRAMA STUDIO	
BELFAST	WATERFRONT HALL 2 Lanyon Place, Belfast BT1 3WH 028-90334455 www.waterfront.co.uk	
BEXTON-ON-SEA	DE LA WARR PAVILION	
BIDEFORD	ARTS CENTRE	
BIGGAR	PUPPET THEATRE	
BILLINGHAM	FORUM THEATRE Queensway, Stockton on Tees, Billingham TS23 2LJ 01642-552663	
BIRMINGHAM	ALEXANDRA THEATRE (New Alexandra Theatre) 0844-8713011	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
BIRMINGHAM	BANNER THEATRE Birmingham	
BIRMINGHAM	BARCLAYCARD ARENA	
BIRMINGHAM	BLUE ORANGE THEATRE 0121-2122643	
BIRMINGHAM	CRESCENT THEATRE 0121-6435858	
BIRMINGHAM	DOVEHOUSE THEATRE 0121-7067139	
BIRMINGHAM	The DRUM 0121-3332444	
BIRMINGHAM (Black Country)	DUDLEY CONCERT HALL 01384-812812	
BIRMINGHAM (Black Country)	DUDLEY LITTLE THEATRE	
BIRMINGHAM (Black Country)	DUDLEY TOWN HALL 01384-812812	
BIRMINGHAM	HALL GREEN LITTLE THEATRE 0121-7071874	
BIRMINGHAM	HIPPODROME Hurst Street, Birmingham B5 4TB 0844-3385000 www.birminghamhippodrome.com	QDOS PANTOMIME Jack and the Beanstalk (Duncan James / Gary Wilmot as Dame Trott / Chris Gascoyne / Jane McDonald)
BIRMINGHAM	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE (ICC)	
BIRMINGHAM	JONGLEURS	
BIRMINGHAM	LG ARENA 0844-3388000	
BIRMINGHAM	MAC 0121-4463232	
BIRMINGHAM	MAILBOX (BBC)	
BIRMINGHAM	MIXING BOWL THEATRE 0121-2247545	
BIRMINGHAM	NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE (NEC)	
BIRMINGHAM	NATIONAL INDOOR ARENA (NIA) King Edwards Road, Birmingham B1 2AA	

	0844-3380338	
BIRMINGHAM	OLD JOINT STOCK THEATRE 4 Temple Row West, Birmingham 0121-2000946	
BIRMINGHAM	OLD REP 0121-2454455	
BIRMINGHAM	REPERTORY THEATRE (Old Rep) 0121-2364455	
BIRMINGHAM	SOLIHULL ARTS COMPLEX / SOLIHULL ARTS CENTRE 0121-7046962	
BIRMINGHAM	SYMPHONY HALL 0121-3450603	
BIRMINGHAM	TOWN HALL 0121-3450600	
BISHOP AUCKLAND	STANHOPE TOWN HALL	
BLACKBURN	KING GEORGE'S HALL Northgate, Blackburn BB2 1AA www.kinggeorghall.com	Snow White
BLACKBURN	THWAITES EMPIRE THEATRE Aqueduct Road, Blackburn www.thwaitesempiretheatre.co.uk NOW Blackburn Empire Theatre	Dick Whittington
BLACKPOOL	ALABAMA	
BLACKPOOL	CENTRAL PIER	
BLACKPOOL	GRAND THEATRE 01253-290190 www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk	
BLACKPOOL	NORTH PIER	
BLACKPOOL	OPERA HOUSE	
BLACKPOOL	PAVILION	
BLACKPOOL	PLEASURE BEACH ARENA	
BLACKPOOL	PLEASURE BEACH GLOBE	
BLACKPOOL	THORNTON LITTLE THEATRE c/o Marine Hall, Blackpool. www.t-l-t.co.uk	
BLACKPOOL	TOWER (Circus)	
BLACKBURN	WINDSOR HALL 0844-8471664	
BLACKPOOL	WINTER GARDENS AND OPERA HOUSE	
BLACKWELL	PLAYHOUSE	
BLYTH	PHOENIX THEATRE BLYTH Beaconsfield Street, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 2DS www.thephoenixtheatre.org.uk	Sleeping Beauty
BODMIN	STUDIO THEATRE	
BOGNOR REGIS	ALEXANDRA THEATRE	
BOGNOR REGIS	BUTLINS Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1JJ	
BOGNOR REGIS	REGIS CENTRE	
BOLLINGTON	ARTS CENTRE	
BOLSOVER	ASSEMBLY ROOMS	
BOLTON	ALBERT HALLS	
BOLTON	MACRON STADIUM	
BOLTON	OCTAGON Howell Croft South, Bolton BL1 1SB www.octagonbolton.co.uk	Alice in Wonderland
BOLTON	VICTORIA HALL	

	Bolton	
BORDON (Hampshire)	PHOENIX THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE Barbados House, Station Road, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 0LR www.phoenixarts.co.uk	The Frog Princess
BOSTON	BLACKFRIERS ARTS CENTRE Spain Lane, Boston PE21 6HP 01205-363108 www.blackfriersartscentre.co.uk	<i>POLKA DOT PANTOMIME.</i>
BOSWORTH	STUDIO – BOSWORTH COLLEGE	
BOURNEMOUTH	BIC	
BOURNEMOUTH	CENTRE STAGE	
BOURNEMOUTH	INTERNATIONAL CENTRE	
BOURNEMOUTH	JONGLEURS	
BOURNEMOUTH	OPERA HOUSE	
BOURNEMOUTH	PAVILION THEATRE Westover Road, Bournemouth BH1 2BU 08445-763000 www.bic.co.uk	Peter Pan (Barney Harwood – Blue Peter as Peter Pan / Mark Benton as Captain Hook)
BRACKNELL (Berkshire)	WILDE THEATRE South Hill Park, Ringmead, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7PA www.southhillpark.org.uk	Aladdin
BRADFORD	ALHAMBRA THEATRE Morley Street, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD7 1AJ 01274-432000 www.bradford-theatres.co.uk	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
BRADFORD	ALHAMBRA STUDIO	
BRADFORD	BRADFORD THEATRE	
BRADFORD	PLAYHOUSE THEATRE	
BRADFORD	ST GEORGE’S HALL	
BRADFORD	THEATRE IN THE MILL (University of Bradford)	
BRADFORD	VICTORIA THEATRE Fountain Street, Halifax HX1 1BP www.victoriatheatre.co.uk	
BRAINTREE (Essex)	BRAINTREE ARTS THEATRE Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1WY	
BRECON (Wales)	THEATR BRYCHEINIOG Canal Wharf, Brecon, Powys LD3 7EW www.brycheiniog.co.uk	
BRENTWOOD	BRENTWOOD THEATRE 15 Shenfield Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AG www.brentwood-theatre.org	
BRIDGNORTH	THEATRE ON THE STEPS	
BRIDGWATER	ARTS CENTRE	
BRIDGWATER	BRIDGEWATER HALL	
BRIDGWATER	PALACE	
BRIDGWATER	TOWN HALL	
BRIDLINGTON	THE BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND ROYAL HALL South Marine Drive, Bridlington YO15 3JH	Sleeping Beauty (Rustie Lee – TV Cook / Jack Lyons – A Touch of Frost / Simon Grant -CBBC)

	01262-678258 www.thespabridlington.com	
BRIDPORT	ARTS CENTRE	
BRIDPORT	ELECTRIC PALACE 01308-424901	
BRIDPORT	LYRIC	
BRIGHTON	DELPHIC THEATRE	
BRIGHTON	DOME	
BRIGHTON	EMPORIUM 88 London Road, Brighton BN1 4JF www.emporiumbrighton.com	Sleeping Beauty
BRIGHTON	GLOBE	
BRIGHTON	THEATRE ROYAL (ATG Theatre) lease the theatre. 08448-717650	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
BRISTOL	AMPHITHEATRE AT BOILING WELLS	
BRISTOL	COLSTON HALL 01179-223686	
BRISTOL	HIPPODROME St Augustine's Parade, Bristol, Avon, BS1 4UZ 0844-8713012 www.atgtickets.com/bristol	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT. Dick Whittington (Ashley and Pudsey – Britain's Got Talent as Alice / Ben Faulks – Cbeebies as Dick)
BRISTOL	JONGLERS	
BRISTOL	OLD VIC King Street, Bristol BS1 4ED www.bristololdvic.org.uk	
BRISTOL	OLD VIC STUDIO	
BRISTOL	THEATRE ROYAL	
BRIXHAM	BRIXHAM THEATRE	
BROADSTAIRS (Kent)	MEMORIAL THEATRE Hilderstone, St Peters Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2JW 01843-863701 www.sarahthorne-theatrecompany.co.uk	Mother Goose
BROMLEY (Kent)	AMPHITHEATRE	
BROMLEY (Kent)	CHURCHILL THEATRE High Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1HA 0844-8717627 0844-8717620	
BROMLEY (Kent)	CHURCHILL STUDIO (ATG Theatre) 10 Year contract from 2000. Five year contract from April 2011.	
BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire)	ARTRIX ARTS CENTRE School Drive, Bromsgrove 01527-577330	
BROXWICH THEATRE (Staffordshire)		
BURSLEM (Staffordshire)	QUEEN'S	
BURY	THE MET THEATRE Market Street, Bury, Lancashire BL9 0BW www.themet.biz	Hansel and Gretel
BURY	THEATRE ROYAL	

BURY ST EDMUNDS	THE APEX 01284-758000	
BURY ST EDMUNDS	GUILDHALL	
BURY ST EDMUNDS	MELLENNIUM CENTRE	
BURY ST EDMUNDS	THEATRE ROYAL Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1QR www.theatroyal.org	Cinderella
BUXTON	OPERA HOUSE Water Street, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6XN 0845-1272190 www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk (Steve Nallon – Spitting Image / Joseph Elliott – Cbeebies Swashbuckle)
BUXTON	PAVILLION ARTS CENTRE	
CAISTOR	CAISTOR TOWN HALL High Street, Caistor LN7 6TX	
CAMBERLEY (Surrey)	CAMBERLEY THEATRE Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3SY 01276-707600 www.camberleytheatre.biz	
CAMBRIDGE	ADC THEATRE Park Street, Cambridge CB5 8AS www.adctheatre.com	The Emperor's New Clothes
CAMBRIDGE	CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE 6 St Edward's Passage, Cambridge CB2 3PJ www.cambridgeartstheatre.com	Aladdin
CAMBRIDGE	CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE Wheeler Street, Cambridge.	
CAMBRIDGE	DRAMA CENTRE	
CANNOCK (Staffordshire)	PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 01543-578762	
CANTERBURY	MARLOW THEATRE The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS www.marlowtheatre.com	
CARDIFF	JONGLERS	
CARDIFF	MELLENNIUM CENTRE	
CARDIFF	MOTORPOINT ARENA 029-20234509	
CARDIFF	NEW THEATRE Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3LN 029-20878787 www.newtheatreCardiff.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Cinderella (Linda Lucardi / Lee Mead / Sam Kane / Andy Jones / Gareth Thomas)
CARDIFF	SHERMAN THEATRE Cathays district of Cardiff.	
CARDIFF	ST DAVID'S HALL The Hayes, Cardiff. 02920-878444	
CARDIGAN	THEATR MWLDAN	
CARLISLE	SANDS CENTRE Carlisle 01228-633766	
CARMARTHEN	LYRIC THEATRE 8 King Street, Carmarthen SA31 1BD www.carmarthenshiretheatres.co.uk	Cinderella
CARSHALTON (Surrey)	CHARLES CRYER STUDIO THEATRE 39 High Street,	POLKA DOT PANTOMIME.

	Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3BB 020-87706990	
CHATHAM MARITIME (Kent)	BRITANNIA THEATRE Dickens World, Leviathan Way, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4LL www.thebritanniakent.com	Sleeping Beauty The Frozen Fairytale (Jamie Johnson – The Voice finalist / Jade - Nick Jr Go Go Go)
CHATHAM	CENTRAL THEATRE 170 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4AS 01634-338338 www.medwayticketslive.co.uk	Aladdin
CHELMSFORD	CHELMSFORD CIVIC HALL / CIVIC THEATRE Fairfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1JG 01245-606505 www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres	Peter Pan
CHELTENHAM	EVERYMAN STUDIO	
CHELTENHAM	EVERYMAN THEATRE Regent Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1HQ 01242-572573 www.everymantheatre.org.uk	Sleeping Beauty
CHELTENHAM	PLAYHOUSE	
CHESHAM (Buckinghamshire)	ELGIVA THEATRE St Mary's Way, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1HR www.elgiva.com	
CHESTER	AMPHITHEATRE	
CHESTER	GATEWAY / FORUM STUDIO THEATRE Hamilton Place, Chester CH1 2BH	
CHESTER	GATEWAY MANWEB STUDIO	
CHESTER	STORYHOUSE Hunter Street, Chester CH1 2AR 0844-8157202 www.storyhouse.com	
CHESTERFIELD	POMEGRANATE THEATRE Corporation Street, Chesterfield S41 7TX www.pomegranatetheatre.co.uk	
CHESTERFIELD	THE WINDING WHEEL Chesterfield 01246-345222	
CHICHESTER	FESTIVAL THEATRE	
CHICHESTER	THEATRE IN THE PARK	
CHICHESTER	THEATRE ON THE FLY	
CHIPPING NORTON	CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE / THE THEATRE	
CHRISTCHURCH	REGENT CENTRE 01202-499199	
CIRENCESTER	BARN THEATRE Cirencester	
CLACKTON-ON-SEA	JONGLEURS	
CLACKTON-ON-SEA	PRINCES THEATRE Town Hall, Station Road, Clackton-on- Sea, Essex	POLKA DOT PANTOMIMES Jack and the Beanstalk

CLACKTON-ON-SEA	WESTCLIFF THEATRE 01255-474000 01255-433344	
CLASHMORE	CARNEGIE HALL	
CLEETHORPES	CLEETHORPES MEMORIAL HALL Grimsby Road, Cleethorpes, South Humberside DN35 8AH	Cinderella
CLEVEDON	PRINCES THEATRE	
CLITHEROE	GRAND THEATRE	
CLITHEROE (Lancashire)	ST MARY'S CENTRE Church Street, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 2DG	Aladdin
COLCHESTER	MERCURY THEATRE Balkerne Gate, Colchester CO1 1PT 01206-573948 www.mercurytheatre.co.uk	Cinderella
COLNE (Lancashire)	THE MUNI THEATRE COLNE	
COLWYN BAY	THEATR COLWYN Aberaele Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 7RU www.theatrecolwyn.co.uk	
CONGLETON	CLONTER OPERA	
CONGLETON	DANESIDE	
CONGLETON	ELECTRIC PICTURE HOUSE	
CONGLETON	TOWN HALL	
CONSETT (Co Durham)	EMPIRE THEATRE Front Street, Consett, Co Durham DH8 5AB	
CORBY	THE CORBY CUBE 01536470470	
COVENTRY (Warwickshire)	BELGRADE THEATRE Belgrade Square, Coventry CV1 1GS 024-76553055 www.belgrade.co.uk	IMAGINE PANTO
COVENTRY	WARWICK ARTS CENTRE (Coventry) 02476-524524	
COWES (Isle of White)	TRINITY THEATRE The Grove, Cowes PO31 7QR www.caods.org.uk	Scrooge – A Christmas Carol
CRAWLEY (West Sussex)	HAWTH THEATRE Hawth Avenue, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 6YZ 01293-553636 www.hawth.co.uk	
CREDITON	ARTS CENTRE	
CREWE	LYCEUM Heath Street, Crewe CW1 2DA 01270-368242 www.lyceumtheatre.net	QDOS PANTOMIME 13 Dec – 4 Jan 2015 Jack and the Beanstalk (Lisa Riley – Emmerdale / Brendon Sheerin - Road trip)
CROMER	PIER PAVILION THEATRE 01263-512495	
CROYDON	FAIRFIELD HALLS, ASHCROFT THEATRE 020-86889291	Snow White (Gareth Gates)
CUMBERNAULD	CUMBERNAULD THEATRE	
CWMBRAN (Wales)	CONGRESS THEATRE 50 Gwent Square, Cwmbran, Wales 01633-868239	

DARLINGTON	ARTS CENTRE	
DARLINGTON	CIVIC THEATRE Parkgate, Darlington DL1 1RR 01325-486555	QDOS PANTOMIME To 2014? UNKNOWN The Chuckles of Oz (Chuckle Brothers)
DARTFORD	MICK JAGGER CENTRE Shepherds Lane, Dartford DA 1 2JZ www.themickjaggercentre.com	Dick Whittington
DARTFORD (Kent)	THE ORCHARD THEATRE Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ED 01322-220000 www.orchardtheatre.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Peter Pan (Craig Revel Horwood as Captain Hook)
DARTMOUTH (Devon)	THE FLAVEL Flavel Place, Dartmouth TQ6 9ND www.theflavel.org.uk	Sinbad
DARWEN (Lancashire)	DARWEN LIBRARY THEATRE Knotts Street, Darwen BB3 3BU www.darwenlibrarytheatre.com	Beauty and the Beast
DERBY	ASSEMBLY ROOMS Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH 01332-255800	
DERBY	DERBY ARENA Royal Way, Pride Park, Derby DE24 8JB www.derbylive.co.uk	
DERBY	DERBY THEATRE	
DERBY	GUILDHALL THEATRE Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH	
DERBY	PLAYHOUSE	
DERBY	ROBERT LUDLUM THEATRE	
DERRY / LONDONDERRY	PLAYHOUSE	
DEVONPORT	PLAYHOUSE	
DEWSBURY	LITTLE THEATRE	
DIDCOT	CORNERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE 01235-515144	
DOLGELLAU	THEATR FACH	
DONCASTER	CAST THEATRE Sir Nigel Grestey Square, Waterdale, Doncaster DN1 3BU www.castindoncaster.com	
DONCASTER	CIVIC	
DONCASTER	DOMES 01302-303959 www.the-dome.co.uk	
DONCASTER	THE THEATRE PAVILION Doncaster Racecourse, Doncaster	Peter Pan
DOUGLAS – ISLE OF MAN	GAIETY / VILLA GAIETY	
DOUGLAS – ISLE OF MAN	VILLA MARINA	
DOVER	LOUIS ARMSTRONG ?	
DRIFFIELD (East Yorks)	DRIFFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE Mill Street, Driffield, East Yorkshire YO25 6TR	
DROITWICH	NORBURY THEATRE	

(Worcestershire)	01905-770154	
DUDLEY	CONCERT HALL	
DUNFERMLINE (Scotland)	ALHAMBRA THEATRE 33 Canmore Street, Dunfermline KY12 7NX 01383-740384	Sleeping Beauty
DUNFERMLINE (Scotland)	CARNEGIE HALL East Port, Dunfermline KY12 7JA	Snow White
DUMFRIES	THEATRE ROYAL	
DUNDEE	CAIRD HALL 01382-434940	
DUNDEE	GARDYNE THEATRE	
DUNDEE	REPERTORY THEATRE Tay Square, Dundee DD1 1PB www.dundeereptheatre.co.uk	
DUNMOW (Essex)	FOAKES HALL 47 Stortford Road, Dunmow, Essex CM6 1DG	
DUNSTABLE (Bedford)	GROVE THEATRE Grove Park, Court Drive, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 4GP 01582-602080 www.grovetheatre.co.uk	Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood (Alan Fletcher – Neighbours / Steve Hewlett / Andy Abraham / Lolly)
DURHAM (County Durham)	GALA THEATRE AND CINEMA Millennium Place, Durham, County Durham DH1 1WA www.galadurham.co.uk	
DURSLEY	LISTER HALL Long Street, Dursley GL11 4JB	
EAST GRINSTEAD	CHEQUERED MEAD THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE 01342-302000	
EAST HORSLEY (Surrey)	NOMAD THEATRE Bishopsmead Parade, East Horsley, Surrey KT24 6RT www.normadtheatre.com	
EASTBOURNE	CONGRESS THEATRE 01323-4120000	
EASTBOURNE	DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE Compton Street, Eastbourne BN21 4BP	
EASTBOURNE	ROYAL HIPPODROME	
EASTBOURNE	WINTER GARDEN	
EDENBRIDGE	FESTIVAL THEATRE AT HEVER CASTLE	
EDINBURGH	CHURCH HILL THEATRE 33 Morningside Road, Edinburgh EH10 4RR www.ept.org.uk	Dick Whittington
EDINBURGH	COWGATE CENTRAL THEATRE (Various venues)	
EDINBURGH	FESTIVAL THEATRE	
EDINBURGH	HILL STREET THEATRE	
EDINBURGH	JONGLERS	
EDINBURGH	KINGS THEATRE 2 Leven Street, Edinburgh EH3 9LQ www.edtheatres.com/kings	QDOS PANTOMIME Aladdin (Allan Stewart / Andy Gray and Grant Stott – Panto Legends)
EDINBURGH	ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE	

	Grindlay Street, Edinburgh.	
EDINBURGH	SCOTLAND'S THEATRE GATEWAY	
EDINBURGH	TRAVERSE THEATRE Cambridge Street, Edinburgh.	
EDINBURGH	USHER HALL Lothian Road, Edinburgh 0131-2281155	
EDINBURGH	The WASH HOUSE 3 Adelphi Grove, Edinburgh EH15 1AP	Sinbad
ELY	ELY COMMUNITY COLLEGE THEATRE Downharn Road, Ely CB6 2SH	
ELY	THE MALTINGS The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely CB7 4BB www.kdtheatre.co.uk	Cinderella (Ben Hanson – Tracy Beaker)
ENNISKILLEN (Northern Ireland)	ARDHOWEN THEATRE Dublin Road, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh BT74 6HN www.ardhowentheatre.com	Mother Goose
EPSOM	PLAYHOUSE Ashley Avenue, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5AL 01372-742555	Jack and the Beanstalk
EXETER	EXETER CORN EXCHANGE Market Street, Exeter EX1 1BW 01392-665938	
EXETER	NORTHCOTT THEATRE Streatham Campus of the University of Exeter 01392-493493	
EXMOUTH	PAVILLION THEATRE The Esplanade, Exmouth, Devon EX8 2AZ www.exmouthpavilion.co.uk	Snow White (Melissa Suffield – Eastenders Lucy Beale / Lucinds Rhodes – CBBC)
FALKIRK	FTH 01324-506850	
FALMOUTH	PRINCESS PAVILION Melville Road, Falmouth TR11 www.miracletheatre.co.uk	
FARNEHAM	FARNEHAM HALL Osborn Road, Farneham, Hampshire PO 16 7DB 01329-231942 www.farnehamhall.co.uk	
FELIXSTOWE	SPA PAVILION	
FERNDOWN	BARRINGTON THEATRE	
FISHGUARD	THEATR GWAUN	
FLEET (Hampshire)	THE HARLINGTON 236 Fleet Road, Fleet, Hampshire GU51 4BY www.theharlington.co.uk	Cinderella (Chris Johnson – CBBC / Nadim Naaman / Siobhan Diffin / Victoria Quincey)
FLEETWOOD	MARINE HALL	
FOLKSTONE	AMPHITHEATRE	
FOLKSTONE	LEAS CLIFF HALL The Leas, Folkstone, Kent CT20 2DZ www.leascliffhall.org.uk	Sleeping Beauty (Natalie Hubbard / Paul Ketley / Rob Hancox)
FOLKSTONE	TOWER THEATRE	Jack and the Beanstalk

	North Road, Folkstone, Kent CT20 3HL www.towertheatrefolkstone.co.uk	
FROME	MEMORIAL THEATRE 01373-462795	
FORTROSE	COMMUNITY THEATRE	
FRAMLINGHAM	FRAM THEATRE	
GALWAY – IRELAND	BANK OF IRELAND ARTS CENTRE	
GATESHEAD	The SAGE 0191-4434661	
GLASGOW	BRITANNIA PANOPTICON MUSIC HALL	
GLASGOW	CLYDE AUDITORIUM SECC, Exhibition Way, Glasgow G3 8YW 0844-3954000 www.secc.co.uk	<i>QDOS PANTOMIME</i>
GLASGOW	EASTWOOD PARK THEATRE Eastwood Toll, Giffnock, Glasgow	
GLASGOW	KING'S THEATRE 297 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JN www.theambassadors.com/kings	Peter Pan
GLASGOW	The HYDRO Exhibition Way, Glasgow G3 8YW www.secc.co.uk	
GLASGOW	PAVILION THEATRE 121 Renfield Street, Glasgow G2 3AX www.paviliontheatre.co.uk	Treasure Island (Keith Allen – Film and TV Star)
GLASGOW	ROYAL CONCERT HALL 0141-3538000	
GLASGOW	ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE OF SCOTLAND (Ballet) 100 Renfrew Street Glasgow G2 3DB	
GLASGOW	SCOTTISH YOUTH THEATRE	
GLASGOW	The STUDIO 19 Westbourne Gardens, Glasgow G12 9UL	
GLASGOW	THEATRE ROYAL 0844-8717673	
GLENROTHES	ROTHES HALL 01592-611101	
GLOUCESTER	GL 1 LEISURE CENTRE Bruton Way, Gloucester GL1 1DT	
GOOLE	GATE GOOLE ARTS THEATRE	
GORDONSTOUN	OGSTOUN THEATRE	
GORSTON	PAVILLION	
GRANCHESTER	ORCHARD THEATRE	
GRANTHAM (Lincolnshire)	GUILDHALL ARTS CENTRE St Peter's Hill, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6PZ	
GRAVESEND	THE WOODVILLE / WOODVILLE HALL THEATRE Gravesend 01474- 337774	<i>IMAGINE PANTO</i>
GRAYS (Essex)	TAMESIDE THEATRE Orsett Road, Grays, Essex RM17 5DX 0845-3005264	
GREAT YARMOUTH	HIPPODROME	

GREAT YARMOUTH	ST GEORGE'S THEATRE King's Street, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 2PG www.stgeorgestheatre.com	
GREENOCK (Scotland)	THE BEACON ARTS CENTRE Custom House Quay, Greenock PA15 1HJ www.beaconartscentre.co.uk	
GRIMSBY	GRIMSBY AUDITORIUM Grimsly	IMAGINE PANTO
GUILDFORD	YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Millbrook, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3UX www.yvonne-arnaud.co.uk	
GUERNSEY	ST JAMES 01481-711360	
HALIFAX	PLAYHOUSE	
HALIFAX	VICTORIA THEATRE Halifax 01422-351158 www.victoriatheatre.co.uk	IMAGINE PANTO Jack and the Beanstalk
HALSTEAD	EMPIRE	
HAMPTON HILL	PLAYHOUSE	
HARLECH	THEATR ARDUDWY CYF	
HARLECH	THEATR HARLECH	
HARLOW	HARLOW PLAYHOUSE Playhouse Square, Harlow, Essex CM20 1LS 01279-431945	
HARPENDEN	ERIC MORECAMBE THEATRE / HARPENDEN PUBLIC HALLS Southdown Road, Harpenden AL5 1PD www.harpendenpublichalls.co.uk	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Steve Leeds – Go Go Go – Nick Jr / Ernie Almond - BBC 3 Counties radio / Tony Howes – Emmerdale / Jill Priest / Sophie Massie)
HARROGATE	HARROGATE THEATRE Oxford Street, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1QF www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk	Cinderella
HARROGATE	ROYAL HALL Ripon Rd, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.	
HARROW	HARROW ARTS CENTRE Uxbridge Road, Harrow HA5 4EA	
HARTFORD (Cheshire)	THE GRANGE THEATRE Bradburns Lane, Hartford, Cheshire CW8 1LU www.thegrangetheatre.com	Cinderella
HARWICH	ELECTRIC PALACE	
HASTINGS	PHOENIX ARTS CENTRE	
HASTINGS	WHITE ROCK THEATRE White Rock, Hastings TN34 1JX 01424-462288 www.whiterocktheatre.org.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Aladdin
HAVERHILL	HAVERHILL ARTS CENTRE High Street, Haverhill CB9 8AR www.haverhillartscentre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk (Amy Forrest (Emmerdale and Corrie / Howie Watkins)
HAYES	BECK THEATRE Grange Road, Haynes	QDOS PANTOMIME Snow White (Linda Robson)

	UB3 2UE 02085-618371 www.becktheatre.org.uk	
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD	THE BOXMOOR PLAYHOUSE 72 St John's Road, Boxmore, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1NP www.boxmoorplayhouse.co.uk	
HEREFORD	THE COURTYARD THEATRE Edgar Street, Hereford HR4 9JR www.courtyard.org.uk	
HERNE BAY	KING'S HALL	
HERTFORD	HERTFORD THEATRE (Formally Castle Hall) The Wash, Hertford SG14 1PS www.hertfordtheatre.com	
HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks)	WYCOMBE SWAN THEATRE St Mary Street, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2XE 01494-512000 www.wycombeswan.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Dick Whittington (Shane Richie)
HINKLEY (Leicestershire)	CONCORDIA THEATRE Stockwell Head, Hinkley, Leicestershire LE10 1RE	Humpty Dumpty
HINKLEY (Leicestershire)	HOLY TRINITY CENTRE Merchant Road, Hinkley, Leicestershire LE10 0LQ	
HODDESDON (Herts)	BROXBOURNE CIVIC HALL High Street, Hoddesdon, Herts EN11 8BE 01992-441946 www.broxbourne.gov.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk / and / Sleeping Beauty
HORNCHURCH	QUEEN'S THEATRE Billet Lane, Hornchurch RM11 1QT 01708-443333 www.queens-theatre.co.uk	Sleeping Beauty
HORSHAM	CAPITOL THEATRE Horsham 01403-750220	
HULL	HULL NEW THEATRE Kingston Square, Hull HU1 3HF 01482-300300 www.hullcc.gov.uk/hullnewtheatre	QDOS PANTOMIME Aladdin (Sherrie Hewson / Keith Harris and Orville)
HUNSTANTON	PRINCESS THEATRE 01485-532252 www.princesshunstanton.co.uk	
ICKENHAM (London)	COMPASS THEATRE Glebe Avenue, Ickenham UB10 8PD www.compass theatre.co.uk	Sleeping Beauty
ILFORD (Essex)	KENNETH MORE THEATRE Oakfield Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1BT www.kmtheatre.co.uk	
ILKLEY	PLAYHOUSE	
ILKLEY	QUEEN'S HALL	
INVERNESS (Scotland)	EDEN COURT THEATRE Bishops Road, Inverness IV3 5SA www.eden-court.co.uk	IMAGINE PANTO
INVERNESS (Scotland)	IRONWORKS 0871-7894173	

IPSWICH	REGENT THEATRE 3 St Helen's Street, Ipswich, Suffolk 01473-433100	
IRVINE	MAGNUM THEATRE 01294-278381	
ISLE OF MULL	MULL THEATRE	
ISLE OF WHITE	RYDE THEATRE aka THE VENUE	
ISLEWORTH	SOUTH STREET THEATRE / PUBLIC HALL	
JERSEY	OPERA HOUSE Gloucester Street, St Helier, Jersey JE2 3QR 01534-511115 www.jerseyoperahouse.co.uk	
KEIGHLEIGH	EXCHANGE ARTS CENTRE	
KEIGHLEY	PLAYHOUSE	
KEIGHLEY	VICTORIA HALL	
KELSALL	COMMUNITY CENTRE	
KENDALL	BREWERY ARTS CENTRE Highgate, Kendal LA9 4HE www.breweryarts.co.uk	
KESWICK	THEATRE BY THE LAKE	
KESWICK	THEATRE BY THE LAKE STUDIO	
KETTERING	THE LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE Thurston, Drive, Kettering NN15 6PB 01536-414141 www.lighthouse theatre.co.uk	Aladdin (Mark Wingett – The Bill / Andy Moss – Hollyoakes)
KIDDERMINSTER	THE ROSE THEATRE	
KILMARNOCK	PALACE Kilmarnock	
KINGS LYNN	CORN EXCHANGE 01553-764864	
KIRBY-IN ASHFIELD	FESTIVAL HALL	
KIRKCALDY (Scotland)	ADAM SMITH THEATRE Bennoch Road, Kirkcaldy KY1 1ET	Jack and the Beanstalk
LAMPETER (Wales)	THEATR FELINFACH	
LANCASTER	GRAND THEATRE	
LANNER	CARN MARTH AMPHITHEATRE	
LEAMINGTON (Leamington Spa)	ROYAL SPA THEATRE / ROYAL SPA CENTRE 01926-334418	IMAGINE PANTO
LEATHERHEAD	LEATHERHEAD THEATRE 7 Church Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8DN www.theleatherheadtheatre.org	Snow White (Drew Cameron – Britain's Got Talent)
LEDBURY	LEDBURY THEATRE	
LEDBURY	MARKET THEATRE	
LEEDS	ADELPHI	
LEEDS	LEEDS ARENA	
LEEDS	BURY THEATRE	
LEEDS	CARRIAGEWORKS 3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD www.carriageworkstheatre.org.uk	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs / and / Robinson Crusoe and the Pirates
LEEDS	CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL Swan Street, Leeds LS1 6LW 0113-2430808 www.cityvarieties.co.uk	Dick Whittington and his Cat – The Rock 'n' Roll Pantomime

LEEDS	GALLERY AND STUDIO THEATRE	
LEEDS	GATEWAY THEATRE SCHOOL	
LEEDS	GRAND AND OPERA HOUSE	
LEEDS	JONGLEURS	
LEEDS	STANLEY AND AUDREY BURTON THEATRE, NORTHERN BALLET	
LEEDS	The WARDROBE Leeds LS9	
LEEDS	WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE – COURTYARD	
LEEDS (NEW ISH)	WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE - QUARRY / BARBER STUDIO THEATRE West Yorkshire Playhouse , Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP	White Christmas (YPT) / and / Raymond Briggs' Father Christmas (BST)
LEICESTER	THE CURVE Belgrave Gate, Leicester LE1 3YQ www.curveonline.co.uk	
LEICESTER	DE MONTFORD HALL Leicester 01162-333111	
LEICESTER	HAYMARKET	
LEICESTER	HAYMARKET STUDIO	
LEICESTER	JONGLEURS	
LEICESTER	THE LITTLE THEATRE Dover Street, Leicester LE1 6PW www.thelittletheatre.net	Puss in Boots
LEICESTER	PEEPUL CENTRE Orchardson Avenue, Leicester LE4 6DP	
LEICESTER	ROBERT HALL MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH Narborough Road, Leicester LE3 0PD	
LEICESTER	SUE TOWNSEND THEATRE Upper Brown Street, Leicester.	
LEIGHTON BUZZARD	LEIGHTON BUZZARD THEATRE	
LICHFIELD (Staffordshire)	GARRICK Castle Dyke, Lichfield WS13 6HR 01543-412121 www.lichfieldgarrick.com	
LICHFIELD (Staffordshire)	LICHFIELD GUILDHALL 01543-262223	
LINCOLN	BISHOP GREAVES THEATRE	
LINCOLN	LINCOLN DRILL HALL Free School Lane, Lincoln LN2 1EY www.lincolndrillhall.com	Aladdin
LINCOLN	PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE 01522-837600	
LINCOLN (Clasketgate)	THEATRE ROYAL Clasketgate, Lincoln LN2 1JJ 01522-519999 www.lincolntheatroyal.com	Jack and the Beanstalk (Canon and Ball / Peter Amory – Emmerdale)
LITTLEHAMPTON	WINDMILL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE	
LIVERPOOL	ECHO ARENA / Now THE AUDITORIUM M AND S BANK ARENA, Liverpool.	
LIVERPOOL	EMPIRE (Liverpool Empire)	FIRST FAMILY

	Lime Street, Liverpool L1 1JE 0151-7027320 www.liverpoolempire.org.uk	ENTERTAINMENT.
LIVERPOOL	EPSTEIN THEATRE (Formally NEPTUNE THEATRE) Hanover House, 85 Hanover Street, Liverpool L1 3DZ www.epsteinliverpool.co.uk	
LIVERPOOL	EVERYMAN	
LIVERPOOL	LIVERPOOL ACTORS STUDIO THEATRE 36 Seel Street, Liverpool L1 4BE	
LIVERPOOL	OLYMPIA	
LIVERPOOL	PHILHARMONIC HALL 0151-7093789	
LIVERPOOL	PLAYHOUSE	
LIVERPOOL	ROYAL COURT THEATRE 1 Roe Street, Liverpool.	
LLANDRINDOD WELLS	THEATR POWYS	
LLANDUDNO	VENUE CYMRU / NORTH WALES THEATRE The Promenade, Penrhyn Crescent, Llandudno LL30 1BB 01492-872000 www.venuecymru.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Cinderella (Jimmy Osmond)
LLANELLI	THEATR ELLI	
LLANGEFNI	THEATR FACH	
LONDON	ADELPHI 0844- 5790094	
LONDON	ALDWYCH 0844-8472379	
LONDON	ALEXANDRA	
LONDON	ALEXANDRA PALACE	
LONDON	AMBASSADORS	
LONDON	APOLLO HAMMERSMITH (Hammersmith Apollo)	
LONDON	APOLLO SHAFTSBURY AVENUE	
LONDON	APOLLO VICTORIA Wilton Road, Westminster, London 0844-8713001	
LONDON	ARCOLA THEARE Hackney London	
LONDON	ARTSDEPOT North Finchley, London Borough of Barnet	
LONDON	ARTS THEATRE 6-7 Great Newport Street, London WC2 www.artstheatrewestend.co.uk	
LONDON	BARTONS COURT THEATRE Curtain's Up Pub, London W14 9HR	
LONDON	BATERSEA ARTS CENTRE London	
LONDON	BERNIE GRANT ARTS CENTRE Town Hall Approach Road, Tottenham, London N15 4RX www.berniegrantcentre.co.uk	Beauty and the Beast
LONDON	BLOOMSBURY THEATRE	Peter Pan

	15 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0AH 020-31081000	
LONDON	The BROADWAY Broadway, Barking IG11 7LS www.thebroadwaybarking.com	
LONDON (Catford)	The BROADWAY Catford Broadway, Catford, London SE6 4RU www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Richard Blackwood – Comedian)
LONDON	BRIXTON EMPIRE	
LONDON	CAMBRIDGE THEATRE 0844-4124652	
LONDON	CHARING CROSS THEATRE 08444-930650	
LONDON	CHELSEA THEATRE Kings Road, Chelsea, London	
LONDON	CHICKENSHED THEATRE Southgate, London	
LONDON	COLISEUM 020-78459300	
LONDON	CRITERION THEATRE 218- 223 Piccadilly Circus, London. 0844-8472483 www.criterion-theatre.co.uk	
LONDON	DOMINION THEATRE Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 7AQ 0844-8471775 www.dominiontheatre.co.uk	Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Aled Jones / Wendi Peter – Coronation Street / Tom Chambers / Graham Cole)
LONDON	DRURY LANE 0844-8588877	
LONDON	DUCHESS THEATRE Catherine Street, London WC2B 5LA 0844- 4124659 www.duchestheatre.co.uk	
LONDON	DUKE OF YORK THEATRE 0844-8713051	
LONDON	FINSBURY PARK THEATRE Clifton Terrace, Finsbury Park, London N4 3JP www.parktheatre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk
LONDON	GARRICK THEATRE 2 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HH 0844-4124662	
LONDON	GIELGUD THEATRE 0844-4825130	
LONDON	GLOBE THEATRE	
LONDON	GREENWICH THEATRE Crooms Hill, London SE10 8ES www.greenwichtheatre.org.uk	
LONDON	HACKNEY EMPIRE 291 Mare Street, London E8 1EJ www.hackneyempire.co.uk	Mother Goose
LONDON	HAMPSTEAD THEATRE	
LONDON	HAROLD PINTER THEATRE 0844-8717622	
LONDON	HER MAJESTY'S 0844-4122707	

LONDON	HIPPODROME	
LONDON	INDIGO 02	
LONDON	LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE 6 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX www.leicestersquaretheatre.com	
LONDON	LONDON PALLADIUM 0844-4124655 / 0844-8110058	
LONDON	LONDON THEATRE, NEW CROSS	
LONDON	LYCEUM 21 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7RQ 0844-8713000	
LONDON	LYRIC HAMMERSMITH Lyric Square, King Street, London W6 0QL www.lyric.co.uk	Dick Whittington and His Cat
LONDON	LYRIC THEATRE Shaftsbury Avenue, London W1D 7ES (0844-4124661?) www.ninaxtheatres.com/lyric-theatre	Room on the Broom
LONDON (CHANGED NAME)	MILLFIELD THEATRE (Was MILLFIELD ARTS CENTRE) Silver Street, Edmonton, London N18 1PJ 020-88076680 www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk	The Smurphs and the Magic Lamp
LONDON	NATIONAL THEATRE (also known as the Royal National Theatre) Upper Ground, South Bank, London SE1 www.nationaltheatre.org.uk 020-74523000	
LONDON	NEW LONDON 020-74523000	
LONDON	NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1QG 08448-717646	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT. Cinderella (Linda Gray / Tim Vine / Matthew Kelly / Wayne Sleep)
LONDON	NOEL COWARD 0844- 4825141	
LONDON	NOVELLO (Was the Strand) 0844-4825115	
LONDON	O2 ARENA 0844-8560202	
LONDON	OLD VIC 0844-8717628	
LONDON	PALACE THEATRE 0844-8740790	
LONDON	PAUL ROBESON THEATRE 24 Treaty Centre, High Street, Hounslow TW3 1ES www.bouncetheatre.com	Aladdin
LONDON	PEACOCK THEATRE Sadler's Wells in London Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HT 0844-4124322	The Snowman

	www.peacocktheatre.com	
LONDON	PHOENIX 0844-8717629	
LONDON	PICCADILLY THEATRE 0844-8717630	
LONDON	PLAYHOUSE	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
LONDON	PRINCE EDWARD 0844-4825152	
LONDON	PRINCE OF WALES 0844-4825110	
LONDON	QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL London SE1 0844-8479911	
LONDON	QUEEN'S 0844-4825160	
LONDON	ROSEMARY BRANCH THEATRE 2 Shepperton Road, London N1 3DT www.rosemarybranch.co.uk	Billy the Kid (Adult / Children's performances – Wild West Panto)
LONDON	ROYAL ALBERT HALL	
LONDON	ROYAL COURT	
LONDON	ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL South Bank, London. (See also South Bank Centre)	
LONDON	ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 020-73044000	
LONDON	SADLER'S WELLS 0844-4124300	
LONDON	SAVOY THEATRE	
LONDON	SHAFTESBURY THEATRE 020-73795399	
LONDON	SHAW THEATRE 100-110 Euston Road, London NW1 2AJ www.shaw-theatre.com	
LONDON	SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE	
LONDON	SOHO THEATRE London W1 020-74780100	
LONDON	SOUTHBANK CENTRE 0844-8479910 (See also Royal Festival Hall)	
LONDON	SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE 77-85 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BD www.southwarkplayhouse.co.uk	
LONDON	ST JAMES THEATRE 12 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JA www.stjamestheatre.co.uk	The Snow Dragon (Billy's parents tell him about a legendary dragon)
LONDON	ST MARTIN'S THEATRE West End. 0844-4991515	
LONDON	THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE	
LONDON	THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET 0845-4811870	
LONDON	THEATRE ROYAL STRATFORD EAST Gerry Raffles Square, Stretford, London E15 1BN	Beauty and the Beast

	020-85340310 www.stretfordeast.com	
LONDON	TRAFALGAR STUDIOS / WHITEHALL THEATRE 14 Whitehall, London	
LONDON	VAUDEVILLE 404 Strand, London WC2R 0NH 0844-4124663 www.ninaxtheatres.com/vaudeville-theatre	The Wind in the Willows
LONDON	VICTORIA PALACE 0844-2485000	
LONDON	VORTEX 020-72544097	
LONDON	WEMBLEY ARENA Arena Square, Wembley, London HA9 0AA 0844-8150815 www.wemblyarena.co.uk	
LONDON	WHITECHAPEL THEATRE	
LONDON	WILTON'S MUSIC HALL	
LONDON	WYNDHAMS THEATRE 0844-4825120	
LONDON	YOUNG VIC	
LOUGHBOROUGH	OPERA HOUSE	
LOUGHBOROUGH	TOWN HALL LOUGHBOROUGH	
LOWERSTOFT (Suffolk)	MARINA THEATRE The Marina, Lowerstoft, Suffolk NR32 1HH 01502-533200 www.marinatheatre.co.uk	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Denise Nolan / John Moses and Philip Green)
LUDLOW (Shropshire)	ASSEMBLY ROOMS 01584-878141	
LYTHAM ST ANNES (Lancashire)	LOWTHER PAVILLION THEATRE West Beach, Lytham St Annes FY8 5QQ	
MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire)	MACCLESFIELD TOWN HALL Market Place, Macclesfield SK10 1DX	Aladdin
MAIDENHEAD	MAIDENHEAD TOWN HALL – DESBOROUGH SUITE St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1RF www.maidenhead-drama.co.uk	Rapunzel
MAIDENHEAD	NORDEN FARM CENTRE FOR THE ARTS Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL4 6PF www.nordenfarm.org	
MAIDSTONE (Kent)	HAZLITT ARTS CENTRE 01622-758611	
MALVERN	FESTIVAL THEATRE	
MALVERN	FORUM	
MALVERN - WORCESTER (Worcestershire)	MALVERN THEATRE 01684-892277 www.themalvern-theatres.co.uk	
MALVERN - WORCESTER (Worcestershire)	THE THEATRE OF SMALL CONVENIENCE Edith Walk Malvern, Worcestershire	
MANCHESTER	APOLLO	
MANCHESTER	BATH HOUSE THEATRE	Aladdin

	Rochdale Road, Manchester M9 4AF	
MANCHESTER	BRIDGEWATER HALL 0844-9079000	
MANCHESTER	G MEX CENTRE	
MANCHESTER	JONGLEURS	
MANCHESTER	LIBRARY THEATRE	
MANCHESTER	MANCHESTER ARENA Victoria Station, Hunts Bank, Manchester M3 1AR www.man-arena.com	
MANCHESTER	OPERA HOUSE Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HP www.manchesteroperahouse.org.uk	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Priscilla Presley / Warwick Davis)
MANCHESTER	PALACE THEATRE Oxford Road, Manchester. 0844-8713017	None FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
MANCHESTER	The RITZ Manchester M1 0844-2485117	
MANCHESTER	ROYAL EXCHANGE St Ann's Square, Manchester.	
MANCHESTER	RNCM Oxford Road, Manchester.	
MANSFIELD	PALACE THEATRE Leeming Street, Mansfield NG18 1NG 01623-633133 www.mansfield.gov.uk/palacetheatre	
MARCH (Cambridgeshire)	MARCH YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE Station Road, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8LE	
MARGATE	BRITANNIA	
MARGATE	THEATRE ROYAL Addington Street, Margate, Kent CT9 1PW www.theatreroyal margate.com	POLKA DOT PANTOMIMES Beauty and the Beast (Robert Rawles as Dame)
MARGATE	WINTER GARDENS 01843- 292795	
MARKET HARBOROUGH	HARBOROUGH THEATRE	
MARLBROUGH	ST JOHN'S THEATRE ON THE HILL	
MATLOCK	WHITWORTH CENTRE	
MELTON MOWBRAY	MELTON THEATRE	
MERTHYR TYDFIL	THEATR MYFANWY	
MERTHYR TYDFIL	THEATR SOAR	
MIDDLESBROUGH	MIDDLESBROUGH THEATRE	
MILFORD HAVEN	TORCH THEATRE Milford Haven. 01646-695267	
MILTON KEYNES	M K THEATRE / MILTON KEYNES THEATRE 500 Marlborough Gate, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3NZ 08448-717652 www.theambassadors.com/ miltonkeynes	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.
MILTON KEYNES	THE STABLES	

	01908-280800	
MILTON KEYNES	STANTONBURY CAMPUS THEATRE Stantonbury, Milton Keynes MK14 6BN	Rapunzel
MINEHEAD (Somerset)	BUTLINS MINEHEAD Somerset, TA24 5SH	
MOLD (Wales)	CLWYD THEATR CYMRU	
MOLD (Wales)	CLWYD THEATR CYMRU ANTHONY HOPKINS	
MOLD (Wales)	CLWYD THEATR CYMRU EMLYN WILLIAMS	
MONMOUTH (Wales)	BLAKE THEATRE Almshouse Street, Monmouth NP25 3XP	
MORECAMBE	WINTER GARDENS	
MOTHERWELL	CONCERT HALL AND THEATRE	
MUCH WENLOCK (Shropshire)	THE EDGE 01952-728911	
MUSSELBURGH (Scotland) (NEW NAME)	The BRUNTON / BRUNTON HALL Ladywell Way, Musselburgh EH21 6AA 0131-6652240 www.bruntontheatre.co.uk	The Singing Kettle
NEWBURY	WATERMILL THEATRE Bagnor, Nr Newbury, Berkshire RG20 8AE	
NEWARK	PALACE THEATRE Appletongate, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire 01636-655755	
NEWBURY (Berkshire)	CORN EXCHANGE Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5BD 0845-5218218 www.cornexchangenew.com	Aladdin
NEWBURY (Berkshire)	WINDMILL THEATRE Bagnor, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 8AE	
NEW BRIGHTON (Wirral)	FLORAL PAVILION THEATRE Virginia Road, New Brighton, Wirral CH45 2LH 01516-660000	Cinderella
NEWHAMPTON (Black Country)	NEWHAMPTON ARTS CENTRE 01902-572090	
NEWCASTLE-UNDER- LYME (Staffordshire)	NEW VIC (See Stoke on Trent)	
NEWCASTLE-UPON- TYNE	CITY HALL	
NEWCASTLE-UPON- TYNE	METRO RADIO ARENA Arena Way, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE4 7NA	
NEWCASTLE-UPON- TYNE	MILL VOLVO TYNE THEATRE Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 4AG www.millvolvotyne theatre.co.uk (Also known as New Volvo Tyne)	Cinderella
NEWCASTLE-UPON-	NORTHERN STAGE	

TYNE		
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	OPERA HOUSE	
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	The PANTODROME Time Square, Newcastle	
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	THEATRE ROYAL Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6BR www.theatreroyal.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	TYNE THEATRE	
NEWPORT	CAERLEON ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE	
NEWPORT (Isle of White)	MEDINA THEATRE Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of White PO30 2DX www.medinatheatre.co.uk	Cinderella (Phil Blackmore – Britain’s Got Talent)
NEWPORT (South Wales)	RIVERFRONT THEATRE Newport, South Wales 01633-656767	
NEWQUAY (Cornwall)	LANE THEATRE Newquay, Cornwall TR8 4PX www.lanetheatre.co.uk	
NEWTOWN (Wales)	THEATR HAFREN / HAFREN THEATRE 01686-614555	
NEWTOWNABBEY	THEATRE AT THE MILL	
NORTHAMPTON	The DECO Abington Square, Northampton NN1 4AE www.thedeco.co.uk	
NORTHAMPTON	ROYAL AND DERNGATE Guildhall Road, Northampton NN1 1DP 01604-624811 www.royalandderngate.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME
NORTHAMPTON	SPINNING HILL THEATRE –ROYAL AND DERNGATE ‘ON THE ROAD’	
NORTHAMPTON	THEATRE GUILD	
NORTHWICH (Cheshire)	THE GRANGE THEATRE	
NORTHWICH (Cheshire)	NORTHWICH MEMORIAL COURT (New building opened 2015) Chester Way, Northwich CW9 5QJ	
NORWICH	MADDERMARKET THEATRE	
NORWICH	PLAYHOUSE	
NORWICH	PUPPET THEATRE	
NORWICH	THEATRE ROYAL NORWICH Theatre Street, Norwich, Norfolk 01603-630000	
NOTTINGHAM	NOTTINGHAM ARTS THEATRE George Street, Nottingham	
NOTTINGHAM	CAPITAL FM ARENA Bolero Square, The Lace Market, Nottingham NG1 1LA www.capitalfmarena.com	
NOTTINGHAM	OLD VIC	
NOTTINGHAM	NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Wellington Circus, Nottingham NG1	

	5AF www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk	
NOTTINGHAM	ROYAL CONCERT HALL	
NOTTINGHAM	THEATRE ROYAL Theatre Square, Nottingham NG1 5ND www.trch.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Lesley Joseph / Sam Attwater)
NUNEATON	ABBEY THEATRE	
OAKHAM	UPPINGHAM THEATRE	
OLDBURY (Black Country)	OLDBURY REPERTORY 0121-5522761	
OLDHAM	COLISEUM Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW www.coliseum.org.uk	Aladdin
OLDHAM	COLISEUM STUDIO	
OLDHAM	GRANGE ARTS CENTRE Rochdale Road, Oldham OL9 8EA	
OLDHAM	OLDHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP	
OLDHAM	PLAYHOUSE 2	
OLDHAM	QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL	
OLDHAM	ROYTON ASSEMBLY HALL	
OXFORD	KEBLE O'REILLY THEATRE	
OXFORD	NEW THEATRE George Street, Oxford.	
OXFORD	PLAYHOUSE 11-12 Beaumont Street, Oxford OX1 2LW 01865-305305 www.oxfordplayhouse.com	
OXFORD	THEATRE AT HEADINGTON	
PATELY BRIDGE	PLAYHOUSE	
PEACEHAVEN (East Sussex)	MERIDIAN CENTRE Peacehaven, East Sussex BN10 8BB	
PEEBLES	EASTGATE THEATRE Peebles 01721-725777	
PEEL (Isle of Man)	CENTENARY CENTRE Peel, Isle of Man 01624-842396	
PENRITH	PLAYHOUSE	
PERTH	PERTH CONCERT HALL / HORSECROSS THEATRE Mill Street, Perth PH1 5HZ 01738-621031 www.horsecross.co.uk	The Singing Kettle
PERTH	PERTH THEATRE 185 High Street, Perth, Scotland PH1 5UW	
PETERBOROUGH	BROADWAY THEATRE Peterborough 01733-822225 www.kenwright.com	
PETERBOROUGH	NEW THEATRE	
PETERBOROUGH	THE CRESSET THEATRE Peterborough 01733-265705	
PETERHEAD	COMMUNITY THEATRE	
PLYMOUTH	DAVENPORT PLAYHOUSE	
PLYMOUTH	PAVILIONS	

PLYMOUTH	THEATRE ROYAL Royal Parade, Plymouth PL1 2TR 01752-267222 www.theatroyal.com	QDOS PANTOMIME Jack and the Beanstalk (Jeffrey Holland / Bobby Davro / John Challis / Chico – X Factor)
PONTEFRACT	TOWN HALL Bridge Street, Pontefract WF8 1PG	
POOLE	LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE Kingland Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1UG www.lighthousepoole.co.uk	
POOLE	POOLE ARTS CENTRE 01202-685222	
PORHCRAWL	GRAND PAVILION Porthcawl 01656-815995 (Or Grand Theatre?)	
PORHCRAWL	GRAND THEATRE Porthcawl	
PORTSMOUTH	GUILDHALL	
PORTSMOUTH	JONGLEURS	
PORTSMOUTH	KINGS THEATRE Albert Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants PO5 2QJ 02392-828282 www.kings-southsea.com	Aladdin
PORTSMOUTH	NEW THEATRE ROYAL Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2DD www.newtheatroyal.com	
PORT SEA	GROUNDLINGS THEATRE 42 Kent Street, Port Sea, Hampshire PO1 3BT www.groundlings.co.uk	Cinderella
PORTLAND	THEATRE AT PORTLAND SPA	
POTTERS BAR (Herts)	WYLLYOTTS THEATRE / WYLLYOTTS CENTRE Wyllyotts Place, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 2HN 01707-645005 www.wyllyottscentre.co.uk	JORDAN PRODUCTIONS Beauty and the Beast
PRESTON	ADELPHI	
PRESTON	CHARTER THEATRE	DUGGIE CHAPMAN ASSOCIATES 2014-15 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Jimmy Cricket as Muddles / Jim Whelan as the Henchman / Kristina Castellina as Snow White / Adam Trembath as Prince Charming / Pete Lindup as Sarah the Cook / Yvonne Patterson as Queen Cruella)
PRESTON	GUILDHALL (see also Charter Theatre)	
PRESTON	PALACE	

PRESTON	PLAYHOUSE	
RADCLIFFE (nr Manchester)	RADCLIFFE CIVIC SUITE Thomas Street, Radcliffe M26 2UH	The Snow Queen
RADLETT (Hertfordshire)	THE RADLETT CENTRE 1 Aldenham Avenue, Radlett, Hertfordshire WD7 8HL	
RAMSGATE (Kent)	GRANVILLE THEATRE Victoria Parade, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 8DG www.granvilletheatre.com	Sleeping Beauty
RAYLEIGH (Essex)	THE MILL ARTS AND EVENTS CENTRE Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, Essex	
READING	THE HEXAGON Queen's Walk, Reading RG1 7UA www.readingarts.com/thehexagon	IMAGINE PANTO
REDDITCH	PALACE THEATRE Civic Square, Alcester Square, Redditch B98 8AE 01527-65203 ? www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk	Cinderella (Anne Charleston – Neighbours / Scott Cripps and Rebecca Tyson)
REDHILL (Surrey)	THE HARLEQUIN Warwick Quadrant, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1NN www.harlequintheatre.co.uk	
REDRUTH	REGAL THEATRE <i>(Re-opened in 2013)</i> Fore Street, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AZ	
RETFORD (Nottinghamshire)	MAJESTIC THEATRE Coronation Street, Retford, Nottinghamshire 01777-706866 www.majestictheatre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk
RHYL (Wales)	PAVILION THEATRE 01745-330000	UK PRODUCTIONS
RICHMOND (North Yorkshire)	GEORGIAN THEATRE ROYAL	
RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES	RICHMOND THEATRE The Green, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1QJ 08448-717651 www.richmondtheatre.net	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Jerry Hall / Chris Jarvis – C Beebies)
RICKMANSWORTH (Hertfordshire)	WATERSMEET THEATRE High Street, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 1EH www.watersmeet.co.uk	PAUL HOLMAN ASSOCIATES Aladdin (Nigel Pivaro)
ROCHDALE (Lancashire)	GRACIE FIELDS THEATRE Oulder Hill Community School, Hudsons Walk, Rochdale OL11 5EF 01706-7166899 www.graciefieldstheatre.com	Cinderella (Chris Maloney – X Factor / Denzil Reece Douglas – Waterloo Road / Stephen Hall – X Factor Finalist / Nicola McAllister)
ROMFORD (Essex)	BROOKSIDE THEATRE Romford War Memorial, 21a Eastern Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3NH www.brooksidetheatre.com	Cinderella (Elena Beth Carter – Billy Elliot / Lydia Lucy / Luke White / Peter Dean – Eastenders)
ROTHERHAM	ROTHERHAM CIVIC THEATRE Catherine Street, Rotherham S65 1EB www.rotherhamtheatres.co.uk	Aladdin (Mark Labbett – The Chase / Ricky K – Comedian)

RUGBY	RUGBY THEATRE	
RUGELEY (Staffordshire)	RIDWARE THEATRE	
RUISLIP (Middlesex)	WINSTON CHURCHILL HALL THEATRE Pinn Way, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 7QL	
RUNCORN	THE BRINDLEY ARTS CENTRE High Street, Runcorn WA7 1BG 0151-9078360 (Opened 2004)	
RUTHIN	THEATR JOHN AMBROSE	
SALE (nr Manchester)	WATERSIDE ARTS CENTRE Waterside Piazza, Sale M33 7ZF www.watersideartscentre.co.uk	James and the Giant Peach
SALFORD (nr Manchester)	ARTS CENTRE Kernsing Walk, Off Liverpool Street, Salford M5 4BS	
SALFORD (nr Manchester)	LOWRY / LYRIC THEATRE Pier 8 Salford Quays, Salford M50 3AZ 0843-2086000 www.thelowry.com	Peter Pan Goes Wrong
SALFORD (nr Manchester)	LOWRY / QUAYS THEATRE	
SALFORD (nr Manchester)	ROBERT POWELL THEATRE	
SALFORD (nr Manchester)	ROBERT POWELL THEATRE 2	
SALISBURY	PLAYHOUSE Malthouse Lane, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 7RA 01722-434434 www.salisburyplayhouse.com	
SCARBOROUGH	SCARBOROUGH OPEN AIR THEATRE Gardens of Northstead Manor, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.	
SCARBOROUGH	STEPHEN JOSEPH	
SCUNTHORPE	BATHS HALL 0844-8542776	
SCUNTHORPE	PLOWRIGHT THEATRE (Joan Plowright) Laneham Street, Scunthorpe, South Humberside.	
SEATON DELAVAL (Northumberland)	SEATON DELAVAL ARTS CENTRE Avenue Road, Seaton Delaval, Northumberland NE25 0DY www.seatondelavalartscentre.com	Robinson Crusoe
SEVENOAKES	PLAYHOUSE STUDIO	
SEVENOAKES	THE STAG	
SHANKLIN (Isle of White)	SHANLIN THEATRE	
SHEERNESS (Isle of Sheppy Kent)	SHEPPEY LITTLE THEATRE 32-36 Meyrick Road, Sheerness Isle of Sheppy, Kent ME12 2NX	
SHEFFIELD	CITY HALL 0114-2789789	
SHEFFIELD	LYCEUM 0114-2496000 0114-2496000	
SHEFFIELD	MONTGOMERY THEATRE	Jack and the Beanstalk

	Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 2LG 0114-3030376 www.themontgomery.org.uk	
SHEFFIELD	MOTORPOINT ARENA 0114- 2565656	
SHEFFIELD	STUDIO THEATRE in the Crucible Theatre	
SHOREHAM	ROPETACKLE ARTS CENTRE	
SHREWSBURY	BUTTERMARKET	
SHREWSBURY	THEATRE SEVERN 01743-281281	
SHREWSBURY	THE HIVE 01743-234970	
SITTINGBOURNE	SWALLOW LEISURE CENTRE	
SKEGNESS (Lincolnshire)	BUTLINS SKEGNESS Lincolnshire PE25 1NJ	
SKEGNESS (Lincolnshire)	THE EMBASSY THEATRE Grand Parade, Skegness PE25 2UG 08456-740505 www.embassytheatre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk
SLEAFORD	PLAYHOUSE	
SLOUGH	WEST WING ARTS CENTRE Stoke Road, Slough SL2 5AY	
SOLIHULL	THE CORE THEATRE	
SOUTHBOROUGH	ROYAL VICTORIA	
SOUTHAMPTON	JONGLEURS	
SOUTHAMPTON	MAYFLOWER THEATRE Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1GE 02380-711811 www.mayflower.org.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Cinderella (Brian Conley as Buttons / Gok Wan / Katheryn Rooney as Cinderella)
SOUTHAMPTON	NUFFIELD THEATRE University Rd, Southampton. www.nuffieldtheatre.co.uk	
SOUTHBOROUGH	ROYAL VICTORIA	
SOUTHEND ON SEA	CLIFFS PAVILION Station Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7RA 01702-351135	QDOS PANTOMIME Peter Pan (David Hasselhoff – see also Westcliffe on Sea)
SOUTHEND ON SEA	NEW EMPIRE	
SOUTHEND ON SEA	PALACE THEATRE 01702-351135	
SOUTHPORT	The ATKINSON Lord Street, Southport PR8 1DB 01704-533333 www.theatkinson.co.uk	Snow White
SOUTHPORT	FLORAL HALL	
SOUTHPORT	SOUTHPORT THEATRE	
SOUTHSEA (Portsmouth)	GAIETY	
SOUTHSEA (Portsmouth)	KINGS THEATRE	
SOUTH SHIELDS	AMPHITHEATRE	
SOUTH SHIELDS	CUSTOMS HOUSE	
SOUTHWOLD	SOUTHWALD THEATRE	
SPALDING (Lincolnshire)	THE SOUTH HOLLAND CENTRE 23 Market Place, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1SS	

SPILSBY	SPILSBY THEATRE	
ST ALBANS	ALBAN ARENA Civic Centre, St Albans Herts AL1 3LD 01727-844488 www.alban-arena.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk (Steve McFadden – Eastenders / Rebecca Keatley – Cbeebies / Bob Golding – Morecambe play / Jemma Carlisle)
ST ALBANS	ROMAN THEATRE OF VERULAMIUM (Amphitheatre?)	
ST AUSTELL	CORNWALL COLISEUM	
ST HELENS	THEATRE ROYAL Corporation Street, St Helen's, Merseyside WA10 1LQ 01744-756000 www.sthelenstheatreroyal.com	
ST IVES	ST IVES THEATRE Lower Stennack, St Ives, Cornwall TR26 1QG	
STAFFORD (Staffordshire)	GATEHOUSE 01785-254653	
STAMFORD	STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE 27 St Mary's Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 2DL 01780-763203 www.stamfordartscentre.com	
STANLEY	CIVIC HALL AND ALUM ARMSTRONG THEATRE	
STEVENAGE	GORDON CRAIG THEATRE Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre, Lytton Way, Stevenage SG1 1LZ 01438-363200 www.gordon-craig.co.uk	
STOCKPORT	DAVENPORT THEATRE Buxton Road, Stockport	Opened 1937 as a Theatre and Cinema.
STOCKPORT	THE FORUM THEATRE The Precinct, Romiley, Stockport SK6 4EA 0797-788760 www.nkta.co.uk	Dick Whittington
STOCKPORT	THE PLAZA THEATRE Mersey Square, Stockport 0161-4777779 www.stockportplaza.co.uk	EXTRAVAGANZA Productions 5 Dec – 4 Jan 2015 Cinderella (Ted Robbins - Comedian / The Slammer, Cissy Rock, Gary Daner)
STOKE ON TRENT – BASFORD (Newcastle under Lyme)	NEW VIC THEATRE 01782-717962	
STOKE ON TRENT - HANLEY	REGENT Piccadilly, Hanley, Stoke on Trent ST1 1AP 0844-8717649	FIRST FAMILY PANTO. Dick Whittington (Jonathan Wilkes as Dick / Christian Patterson as Sarah the Cook / Louise Dearman as Alice)
STOKE ON TRENT – STOKE	REPERTORY THEATRE Leek Road, Stoke on Trent ST4 2TR 01782-209784 www.decaversmilltheatre.co.uk	Aladdin
STOKE ON TRENT –	RUDELEY ROSE THEATRE	Aladdin

RUGELEY	Taylor's Lane, Rugeley, Staffordshire WS15 2AA 01889-584036 www.theatre.rugeleytowncouncil.gov.uk	
STOKE ON TRENT - HANLEY	THEATRE ROYAL	CLOSED
STOKE ON TRENT – HANLEY	VICTORIA HALL 0844-8717962	
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON	ATTIC THEATRE The Lazy Cow, Stratford upon Avon CV37 6YY www.treadtheboardstheatre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON	ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE 0844-8001110	
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON	SWAN THEATRE ?	
SUNDERLAND	EMPIRE 0844-8713022 www.atgtickets.com/sunderland	Snow White (Sue Pollard / Matt Lapinskas / Andrew Agnew – Balamory PC Plumb)
SUTTON (Greater London)	SECOMBE THEATRE 42 Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SS 020-87706990	
SUTTON COLDFIELD (West Midlands Nr Birmingham)	SUTTON COLDFIELD TOWN HALL Upper Clifton Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B73 6AB	Peter Pan / and / Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
SWANSEA	BRANGWYN HALL Swansea	
SWANSEA	DYLAN THOMAS THEATRE	
SWANSEA	GRAND THEATRE Singleton Street, Swansea SA1 3QJ 01792-475715 www.swanseagrand.co.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (John Partridge – Eastenders)
SWANSEA	PALACE THEATRE High Street, Swansea	
SWANSEA	PENYRHEOL THEATRE Pontardulais Road, Gorseinon, Swansea SA4 4FG www.swansea.gov.uk/penyrheoltheatre	Aladdin (Amy Leigh Hickman – CBBC Dumping Ground / Leona Vaughan – CBBC Wolfblood)
SWINDON (Wiltshire)	SWINDON ARTS CENTRE	
SWINDON (Wiltshire)	WYVERN THEATRE Theatre Square, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1QN 01793-524481 www.wyverntheatre.org.uk	QDOS PANTOMIME Dick Whittington (Nigel Havers)
TAUNTON	TACCHI-MORRIS ARTS CENTRE	
TELFORD	THE PLACE, OAKENGATES THEATRE Lines Walk, Oakengates, Telford TF2 6EP 01952-382382 www.theplacetelford.com	
TENBURYWELLS	REGAL THEATRE 67 Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire 01584-811442	
TENTERDEN (Kent)	SINDEN THEATRE Harwood School, Tenterden, Kent	

TEWKESBURY	ROSES THEATRE (1975) Sun Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. 01684-295074	
TONBRIDGE	E M FORSTER THEATRE	
TONBRIDGE	OAST THEATRE AND ARTS CLUB	
TORQUAY	PRINCESS THEATRE Torquay 08448-713023	
TREORCHY	PARK AND DARE THEATRE (see also Coliseum Theatre, Aberdare)	
TRING (Hereford)	COURT THEATRE, Tring, Hereford	
TRURO (Cornwall)	HALL FOR CORNWALL Back Quay, Truro TR1 2LL 01872-262466 www.hallforcornwall.co.uk	Robin Hood
TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent)	ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2LU 01892-530613 www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk	Peter Pan
TWICKENHAM	EXCHANGE THEATRE, TWICKENHAM	
ULVERSTON	CORONATION HALL Ulverston 01229-587140	
WAKEFIELD	THEATRE ROYAL 12 Drury Lane, Wakefield WF1 2TE www.theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk	Beauty and the Beast
WALTON-ON-THAMES	PLAYHOUSE	
WALSALL (Black Country)	FOREST ARTS CENTRE 01922-654555	
WARRINGTON	PARR HALL Warrington 01925-442345	
WARWICK (Warwickshire)	ARTS CENTRE	
WARWICK (Warwickshire)	BRIDGE HOUSE THEATRE 01332-258328 / 01926-776438	
WATERFORD	THEATRE ROYAL	
WATFORD	COLOSSEUM Rickmansworth Road, Watford WD17 3JN 08450-753993 www.watfordcolosseum.co.uk	
WATFORD	JONGLEURS	
WATFORD	PUMP HOUSE THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE Local Board Road, Lower Watford High Street, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 2JP www.pumphouse.info	
WATFORD	WATFORD PALACE THEATRE Clarendon Road, Watford WD17 1JZ www.watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk	
WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants)	THE CASTLE THEATRE Castle Way, Wellingborough, Northants	

	NN8 1XA www.thecastle.org.uk	
WELLINGTON (Shropshire)	THE BELFREY 01952-222277	
WELSHPOOL	THEATR CLERA	
WEM (Shropshire)	TOWN HALL 01939-232299	
WELWYN GARDEN CITY	HAWTHORNE THEATRE The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6AE www.hawthornetheatre.co.uk	Sleeping Beauty
WESTACRE	WESTACRE THEATRE	
WEST BROMWICH (Black Country)	The PUBLIC 0121-5337161	
WESTCLIFF ON SEA	CLIFFS PAVILION / PALACE THEATRE Station Road, Westcliffe-on-Sea Essex SS0 7RA www.southendtheatres.org.uk	Peter Pan (David Hasselhoff – see also Southend on Sea)
WESTON-SUPER- MARE	BLAKEHAY THEATRE	
WESTON-SUPER- MARE	PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 01934-645544	
WESTON-SUPER- MARE	WINTER GARDENS	
WEXFORD	OPERA HOUSE	
WEXFORD	THEATRE ROYAL	
WEXFORD	WEXFORD ARTS CENTRE	
WEYMOUTH	PAVILION THEATRE 01305-783225	
WHITLEY BAY	PLAYHOUSE Marine Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 1LZ 08442-481488 www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk	
WHITSABLE (Kent)	PLAYHOUSE	
WIMBORNE	TIVOLI THEATRE 01202-885566	
WINCHESTER	THEATRE ROYAL	
WINDERMERE (Cumbria)	THE LAKES SCHOOL Troutbeck Bridge, Windermere, Cumbria LA23 1HW	
WINDSOR	THEATRE ROYAL 32 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1PS	Beauty and the Beast
WINSFORD	CIVIC HALL (Closed)	
WINSFORD	LIFESTYLE CENTRE Winsford, Cheshire CW7 1AD	MAKE BELIEVE ENTERTAINMENT Dick Whittington (9 th Show at Winsford)
WITHAM	WITHAM PUBLIC HALL Witham, Essex CM8 2DY www.thesxgroup.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk
WOKING	NEW VICTORIA THEATRE The Ambassadors, Peacocks Centre, Woking GU21 6GQ 08448-717645	FIRST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT.

WOKINGHAM	WOKINGHAM THEATRE	
WOLVERHAMPTON	ARENA THEATRE University of Wolverhampton 01902-321321	
WOLVERHAMPTON	CIVIC HALL Wolverhampton WV1 01902-552122	
WOLVERHAMPTON	GRAND THEATRE Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1DE 01902-429212 www.grandtheatre.info	QDOS PANTOMIME Cinderella (Julian Clary)
WOLVERHAMPTON	WULFUN HALL	
WOODCHURCH (Kent)	WOODCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL The Green, Front Road, Woodchurch, Kent, TN26 3QB	
WOODFORD	THE WOODFORD CENTRE Chester Road, Woodford, Cheshire SK7 1PS	Robin Hood (Cheshire Youth Pantomime Society)
WORCESTER	HUNTINGDON HALL 01905-611427	
WORCESTER	ROSE THEATRE	
WORCESTER	SWAN THEATRE 01905-611427	
WORKINGTON (Cumbria)	CARNEGIE THEATRE Finkle Street, Workington www.carnegietheatre.co.uk	
WORTHING	CONNAULT THEATRE Union Place, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1LG www.worthingtheatres.co.uk	Aladdin
WORTHING	PAVILION THEATRE 01903-206206	
WREXHAM	THEATRE STIWT	
WREXHAM	WREXHAM STUDIO THEATRE	
YEOVIL	OCTAGON THEATRE Henford, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1UX 01935-422884 www.octagon-theatre.co.uk	Jack and the Beanstalk /and / Aladdin
YORK	BARBICAN Paragon Street, York YO10 4NT 0844-8542757 www.yorkbarbican.co.uk	
YORK	DUCHESS	
YORK	GRAND OPERA HOUSE Cumberland Street, York YO1 9SW 0844-8713024 www.york-operahouse.co.uk	
YORK	JOSEPH ROWNTREE THEATRE Haxby Road, York YO31 8TA www.rountreeplayers.co.uk	
YORK	THEATRE ROYAL St Leonard's Place, York YO1 7HD www.theatre-royal-york.co.uk	Old Mother Goose (Suzy Cooper / Barwick Kaler in his 36 th Panto Dame at York as Mother Goose)
YORK	THEATRE ROYAL STUDIO	
YORK	THEATRE ROYAL YOUTH	

#####	#####	#####
-------	-------	-------

#####

INDEX and Reference sources.

#####

PLACES OF INTERST

MIDLAND HOTEL Morecambe.
 Designed in 1930 by Oliver Hill it was opened in 1933.
 Between 1939 and 1945 it was a hospital.
 1950 Lewis Hodgeson took over. In 1979 a Suncover was added.
 During 1989 it was used as a location for ITV's Poirot.
 In 2000 it closed for the last time.

=====

INFORMATION TAKEN FROM -

- British Performing Arts Yearbook 1995 (8th Edition) Pub Rhinegold Publishing
 Editor Sheena Barbour.
- the Complete Idiot's Guide to Ghosts and Hauntings by Tom Ogden ISBN 0028636597
- a Guide to the Roman Remains in Britain 4th Edition by Roger J.A. Wilson ISBN 1841193186
- The Guinness Book of Records 1989 Edition.
- London Theatres and Convert Halls by Debra Shipley and Mary Peplow
 (Shire 203 Album) ISBN0852639007
- The Frank Matcham family web site © Peter Doyle at
[http:// www.matchaminfo.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/franktheatres](http://www.matchaminfo.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/franktheatres)
- The Pan Book of Dates compiled by Gerald Masters ISBN 033030898X (1990)
- The Penguin Dictionary of the Theatre by John Taylor Pub 1966
- Theatre Ghosts by Roy Harley Lewis ISBN 0715391631

#####

GHOST = Theatre Ghosts book
 GHOST ~ = Idiots Guide to Ghosts and Hauntings
 GHOST + = Own Theatre Web Site
 Some of the stories are added to each other to give a fuller picture.

#####