

Annual Report 2023

Theatres
Trust



April 2022–March 2023

“We need theatres to remain at the heart of our communities, to tell stories that explain the world and give us a sense of place where we can come together”

Gary Kemp
Theatres Trust Trustee

Theatres Trust

46th Annual Report

Period ended 31 March 2023

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Theatres Trust
The National Advisory Body for Theatres
Protecting theatres for everyone

Incorporating the Annual Report
of The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund
Registered Charity No: 274697

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Chair & Director's report

As the UK's theatre sector emerged from the pandemic, theatres continued to face a difficult environment, including lower audience levels, cost of living pressures and funding challenges which impacted both income and expenditure. Theatres Trust worked with a wide range of stakeholders inside and outside government, and through articles and blogs, to put the case for support to help theatres weather these storms, as well as supporting theatres directly who were facing these issues.

Our advocacy included promoting the vital placemaking role of theatres and we responded to consultations and gave evidence on the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, as well as a number of other policy areas. We also ensured theatres were supported to understand and navigate a range of place-based funding opportunities which saw theatres apply successfully to the Cultural Development Fund, the Community Ownership Fund, the Levelling Up Fund, the Towns Fund and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Alongside our advocacy work, we continued to provide our core advice services and work as a statutory consultee within planning, offering advice to 153 theatres and responding to 352 planning, listed building and local plan consultations. Notwithstanding the many challenges theatres face, we were pleased to announce three theatres being removed from our 2023 Theatres at Risk Register, having had their futures secured: Century Theatre in Coalville, Leicestershire, Swansea Grand, and Walthamstow Granada.

Building on the success of our three-year Theatres at Risk Capacity Building programme, we worked with funding partners, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Swire Charitable Trust and the Pilgrim Trust, to develop a new expanded three-year programme, Resilient Theatres: Resilient Communities. The programme launched in early 2023 and it focuses on empowering and skilling up theatres and community groups to ensure they have the tools to ensure their local theatres not only survive but thrive.

Sustainability continued to be a major strand of work this year. We worked with other sector bodies and stakeholders to continue to promote and develop the Theatre Green Book, publishing new case studies and chairing industry discussion panels. Alongside giving advice and guidance we continued to support theatre

sustainability projects through our Theatre Improvement Scheme, which is generously funded by the Wolfson Foundation.

We were very pleased to continue our partnership with The Linbury Trust, and to attract additional support from the Cameron Mackintosh Foundation and the Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust, to support our Small Grants Programme. In total across all our grants programmes, we supported 36 theatres with grants totalling over £266,000, to improve accessibility, viability and environmental sustainability.

In what continued to be a difficult environment for our sector, we remain extremely grateful to all our dedicated funders, donors, legacies, sponsors, Corporate Supporters, Patrons and Friends, including the many theatre producers and venues who supported our successful summer and Christmas bucket campaigns. Their generosity has enabled us to achieve our ambition to deliver much-needed support to the sector. We would also like to thank our Ambassadors who have been so helpful with fundraising and continue to lend their valuable voices in support of our work.

We are grateful to the Trustees who freely give up their valuable time to offer their expertise in support of the Trust's work. As an Arm's Length Body under the Department for Culture, Media and Sport we initiated an annual Board Effectiveness Review which further strengthened our governance to ensure that Trustees are equipped and empowered to direct and support the work of Theatres Trust. We were also delighted to participate in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities funded Boardroom Apprentice scheme which aims to diversify the board of public bodies, with our first Boardroom Apprentice joining in January 2023.

We would also like to express our thanks and gratitude to the staff team who have worked incredibly hard to deliver a strong programme of activity in support of theatres.

Over the year the Board and team worked on developing a new three-year plan for 2023-2026, Theatres Fit for the Future, focusing our priorities and identifying how we can best support theatres to navigate the post-pandemic challenges they face.

Dave Moutrey OBE
Chair

Jon Morgan
Director

Our purposes and activities

The purposes of The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund are:

'To promote the advancement and improvement of general education in relation to all aspects of the dramatic arts and the development of public appreciation of such arts, particularly by promoting the maintenance, use and better protection of theatres and places of entertainment for the benefit of the nation by all charitable means.'

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund (Registered Charity No: 27469) was established in 1977 to support and deliver the work of the Theatres Trust, which was established in 1976 by Act of Parliament. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport appoints the 15 trustees of the Theatres Trust. They provide the Trust with influence and are recognised as leaders in their fields. Trustees sit on the councils of both the Theatres Trust and The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund and are responsible for governance of both organisations. They meet quarterly and guide the strategic direction of the Trust's work, which is delivered through its staff team.

Our Vision

We believe that current and future generations should have access to good quality theatres where they can be inspired by and enjoy live performance.

Our Mission

We are the national advisory public body for theatres. We champion the future of live performance by protecting and supporting excellent theatre buildings which meet the needs of their communities.

We do this by providing advice on the design, planning, development and sustainability of theatres. We offer financial assistance through grants, help people discover more about theatres and campaign for theatres at risk.

Review of 2022/23

We are reporting our work in 2022/23 against our three main aims, as follows:

Advice & Planning

We will provide the expert advice needed to enable theatres to be created, retained and adapted for live performance and to meet the changing needs of their communities.

Campaigning

As the nation's most powerful champion for the cause of theatres, we will campaign to secure the future of the UK's theatres and to save theatres that are at risk.

Grant giving

We will provide strategic capital funding to theatres to help them remain sustainable and adapt to future needs.

Achievements and performance

Advice & Planning

We will provide the expert advice needed to enable theatres to be created, retained and adapted for live performance and to meet the changing needs of their communities.

Advice

One-to-one expert advice

Over 2022/23, we provided advice to 153 different theatres. Many of those theatres were provided advice on an ongoing basis throughout the year. This included a broad range of advice from business planning and fundraising advice, through to more technical advice on fibrous plaster ceilings and sustainability. Advice relating to capital projects remained high but a significant emerging trend was from theatres seeking advice in the face of rising costs in particular energy bills. Our advice to theatres also included support to 35 theatres / theatre groups on the Theatres at Risk Register.

Resilient Theatres: Resilient Communities

Thanks to a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund as well as funding from the Pilgrim Trust and Swire Charitable Trust, we have launched a new programme that aims to reduce the threat to at risk theatres and strengthen the theatre sector's resilience following a difficult few years due to the pandemic. The programme includes grants and cohort training for Theatres at Risk groups, a series of webinars for the wider sector and a skills bank of consultant advisers to enhance Theatres Trust's existing advice team. A Programme Manager and Project Coordinator have been appointed to take the work forward over the next three years.

Sustainability and Theatre Green Book

Theatres Trust continues to be a leading partner along with ABTT, Buro Happold, Renew Culture, UK Theatre/SOLT and the UK's three national theatres on the Theatre Green Book initiative. In May 2022, the project launched the Home Survey Tool to help theatre operators prioritise sustainability improvements to their buildings and in March 2023, three case studies were published to support the Sustainable Buildings volume. We are working with partners on a new governance and management structure for the project to ensure its continued relevance as a sector resource, with Theatres Trust taking on the role of secretariat and hosting the newly appointed Theatre Green Book Co-ordinator.

Reading Hexagon

Built in 1977, the Hexagon is a significant theatre of its time and one of only a few new multi-purpose halls built in the UK around this time. Reading Arts and Venues, who operate the Hexagon on behalf of Reading Borough Council, approached Theatres Trust to discuss plans to bring the venue up to date and in line with visitor and audience expectations. The new regeneration plans for the theatre include building a new studio space and greatly increasing the visibility and accessibility of the theatre from the town, as well as improving navigation within the venue itself. We provided feedback on the proposals and gave our support in principle for the project. The project has subsequently successfully applied for Levelling Up funding. Since the funding has been awarded, we have put Reading Arts and Venues in touch with operators of similar theatres that have undertaken or are currently in the process of undertaking capital works projects. This is a valuable way to help the Hexagon learn from the shared experience of others and to help shape its project journey.



Community Ownership Fund

Theatres Trust provided support to two theatres that was instrumental in their successful bids to the government's Community Ownership Fund. We have been supporting local campaign group, the Selsey Pavilion Trust, for many years in its ambition to restore and reopen Selsey Pavilion as a multi-functional cultural hub. This has included providing capital works advice and supporting the group in successful bids to the Architectural Heritage Fund for early-stage viability and project development work. This in turn formed vital supporting documentation for the recent successful bid to the Community Ownership Fund, an application which we also supported.

Since the Groundlings Theatre in Southsea was added to the Theatres at Risk Register in 2020, we have provided advice to its operator Groundlings Theatre Trust including around purchasing the building. Groundlings Theatre Trust was successful in its application to the Community Ownership Fund, a bid supported by Theatres Trust, for a grant to help purchase the building and part-fund some of the urgent repairs. Negotiations with the current private owner are in hand and it is hoped that Groundlings Theatre Trust will take on ownership soon, a major step towards the theatre's future stability.

Conference 22 Theatres Fit for the Future

Our conference in October 2022 at Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith took a wide-ranging look at the state of the UK's theatres and asked how they can come back stronger from the pandemic. It focused on four broad and overlapping themes that dominate the sector – business resilience, inclusion, placemaking and sustainability. The conference included a mixture of presentations and panel discussions with more opportunity for audience reflection and participation. Thanks to the generous support of Avison Young, Delfont Mackintosh Theatres and Trafalgar Theatres, we were able to offer a record number of free places to freelancers, students and representatives of small theatres, widening the range of voices in the room.

Planning

As a statutory consultee, the Theatres Trust's planning advice aims to safeguard theatre use and to ensure theatre buildings are fit for purpose.

We responded to 166 planning applications, 85 listed building consultations and 26 pre-applications in 2022/23 across the UK. These included substantial extensions to enhance facilities at the Octagon in Yeovil and the Old Vic in London and major refurbishment schemes at Cambridge Arts Theatre, all of which engaged with us from an early stage of their pre-application process, enabling us to provide feedback to inform the final submissions. There was also a major refurbishment project at Petersfield Festival Hall where our advice was sought following objections on heritage grounds by council officers. There were also

proposals for new venues in Maryport within a former cinema and in St Mary's in the Isles of Scilly where the former Town Hall is to be converted to a small auditorium with gallery space.

We have supported local authorities who have used government funding such as the Levelling Up Fund and Towns Fund to invest in and develop their theatres and cultural offers. Examples included a Scandinavian-inspired 'Culture House' model for the Embassy in Skegness which will extend and refurbish front-of-house areas to provide access to other council functions as well as improving arts facilities; integration of a neighbouring former pub to provide much-needed front-of-house space at Pendle Hippodrome in Colne and expansion of The Brindley in Runcorn to co-locate the town's library and upgrade its all-day cafe/bar.

We objected to a number of applications relating to theatres on our Theatres at Risk list, including replacement and change of use of parts of the Discovery Centre in Dover which included loss of the Roundhouse Theatre, leaving Dover without theatre provision. Applications for planning permission and listed building consent at Brighton Hippodrome were objected to on a number of grounds, including the viability of the proposed plans and their impact on the long-term survival of the theatre.

We also objected to a number of neighbouring developments affecting theatres' viability. These included proposed residential use below the Attic Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, which resulted in the planning application being withdrawn. We urged redesign of proposed residential schemes to address access and noise issues which would otherwise undermine the East Riding Theatre in Beverley and London's Peacock Theatre.

Of the 277 planning, pre planning and listed building applications, 240 were from England, 21 from Scotland, 15 from Wales and 1 from Northern Ireland, and we achieved a 100% record of responses submitted within the agreed timeframes.

Local Plans and Planning Policy

Theatres Trust received 383 local planning policy consultations between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 and responded to 75 of these to encourage local authorities to include the protection and enhancement of cultural facilities in their planning policies. These included local plans, development management policies, area action plans, neighbourhood plans, supplementary planning documents, and community infrastructure levy consultations.

Alexandra Theatre, Newton Abbot

During this year we engaged with Teignbridge District Council and local groups following plans to integrate the Grade II listed Alexandra Theatre in Newton Abbot into the town's market with a new multiplex cinema on the neighbouring site. This would lose theatre provision, which is held for around three weeks per year as part of an agreement with the cinema operator. We provided advice and also met with the council, making the case for an alternative approach which would be more sensitive in heritage terms and provide greater theatre provision for local people. The council reversed its plans to lose the Alexandra, and a planning application and listed building consent were submitted offering an indicative scheme that would expand theatre provision and use the Alexandra more flexibly for greater community use.

Retaining theatrical heritage

In July 2022 we objected to complete demolition of the former Odeon/New Victoria in Preston. Built in 1928, it was hit by two large fires which destroyed its auditorium. Its attractive foyer block positively contributes to local character and townscape and there was no need or justification for total loss. Following our comments, the applicant returned with revised plans retaining the foyer block, conserving this important piece of local heritage.

In the previous year we objected to harmful interventions within the former Empire Theatre in Cleethorpes which would have resulted in lost historic character and features with insufficient justification. The applicant returned this year with improved plans which addressed our comments and expanded public access to parts of the building that have been out of use for some time.

Achievements and performance

Campaigning

As the nation's most powerful champion for the cause of theatres, we will campaign to secure the future of the UK's theatres and to save theatres that are at risk.

Advocating for support and investment in theatres

Theatres continued to face a challenging environment as we emerged from the pandemic, including lower audience levels and cost of living pressures impacting both income and expenditure. In particular, rising energy costs threatened the viability of many theatres and escalating construction costs risked jeopardising much-needed theatre capital improvement projects. Theatres Trust worked with a wide range of stakeholders, and through articles and blogs, to put the case for support to help theatres weather these storms, as well as supporting theatres directly who were facing these issues. We were also active in promoting and supporting theatres to access a range of government place-based ownership and capital funding schemes which saw theatres apply successfully to the Cultural Development Fund, the Community Ownership Fund, the Levelling Up Fund, the Towns Fund and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Theatres at Risk

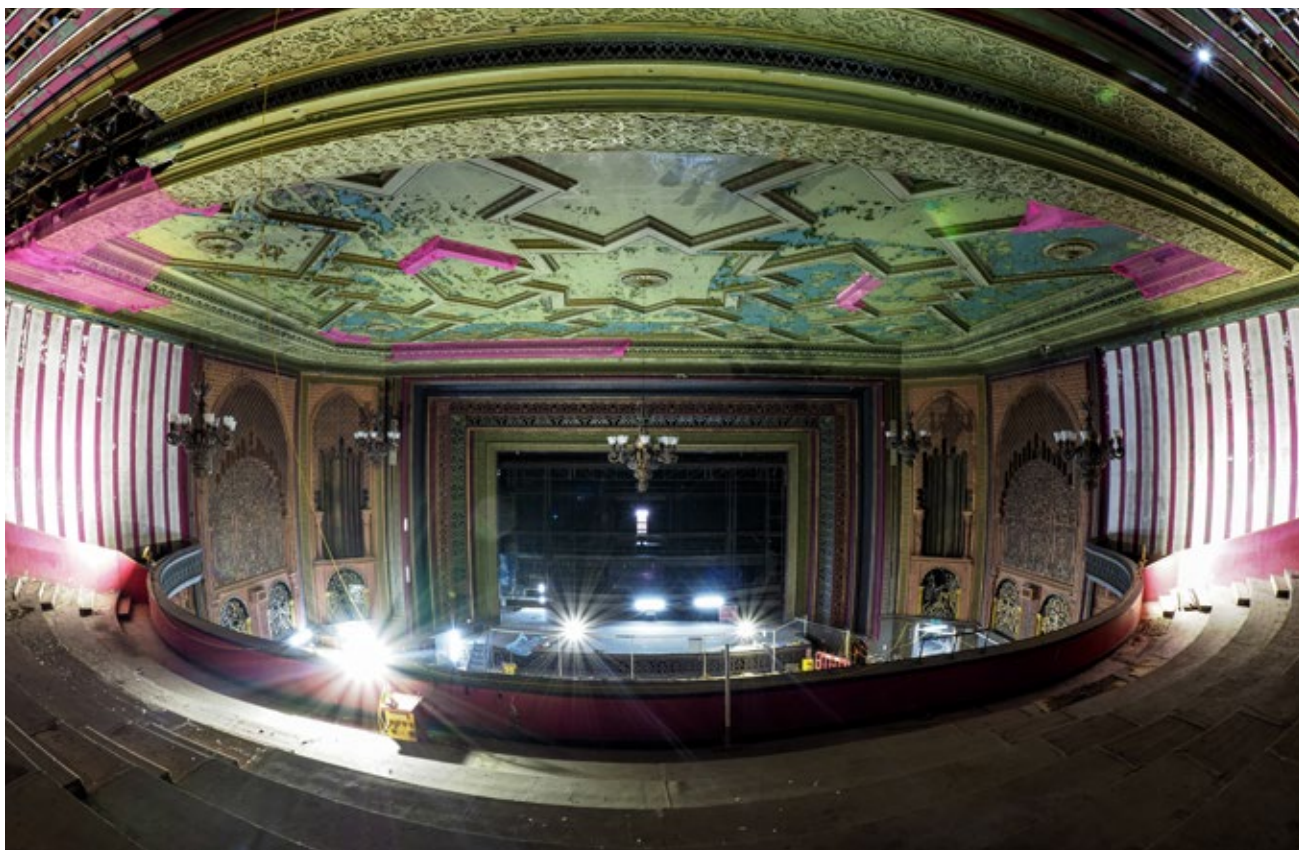
The Theatres at Risk Register lists theatre buildings across England, Scotland and Wales that are most at risk of being lost, but which the Theatres Trust believes have real potential for a sustainable future as working performance spaces.

The 2023 Register consists of 38 theatres with three theatres being removed from the list as their futures now look more secure: Century Theatre in Coalville, Leicestershire, Swansea Grand and Walthamstow Granada, London. We held an online event, sponsored by Tysons Insurance, for key stakeholders

to support the announcement of the new list, which was attended by around 180 people including MPs, councillors, funders, arts and heritage bodies, as well as Theatres Trust Friends and Corporate Supporters. Arts and Heritage Minister Lord Parkinson gave an introduction to the event with the keynote speech by Shadow Arts and Civil Society Minister Barbara Keeley MP. There were also two panel discussions with people working with Theatres at Risk, focusing on funding opportunities and case studies of the theatres being removed. The press release focused on the three theatres being removed but with a note of caution about the issues faced by the theatres remaining on the list and the wider theatre sector. The announcement achieved more than 270 pieces of media coverage, including BBC News Wales, ITV News Wales, The Independent, Evening Standard and Herald Scotland and several local BBC radio stations. It was supported on social media by Theatres Trust Ambassadors, helping the campaign reach a wider audience.

Beyond the launch event, we supported Theatres at Risk throughout the year with advice and by raising the profile of their individual causes. This has included support to campaign groups in applications to the Community Ownership Fund to help acquire their theatres, capital works advice, advising groups in the initial stages of formation, and working with local authorities and public funders to support these important community buildings.

Significant progress was made over the year by a number of Theatres at Risk, with several benefitting from government funding schemes this year. This includes Spilsby Theatre securing funding for its capital work through the Levelling Up Fund, continued fundraising success for Morecambe Winter Gardens including support through the Cultural Development Fund and Shared Prosperity Fund, Theatre Royal Margate receiving Towns Fund money and a new project manager being appointed and Groundlings Theatre's successful application to the Community Ownership Fund.



Walthamstow Granada

Built as a cine-variety theatre, the Grade II* Granada later became a music venue then a cinema. When the cinema closed in 2003, the building was bought by Universal Church of the Kingdom of God who planned to turn it into a church, which Theatres Trust strongly objected to on grounds of loss of community access to the building. It was added to our Theatres at Risk list in 2015, since which time Theatres Trust has worked closely with Waltham Forest Council and the appointed operator, Soho Theatre Company, to help fulfil their joint ambition to restore the theatre as part of the revitalisation of Walthamstow. As well as a Theatres at Risk Capacity Building grant in 2020, we have continued to support the project through planning proposals and listed building consents, ensuring that the balance between restoration of the historic character and viability of the theatre facility is maintained. With the venue scheduled to reopen later in 2023, we were delighted to be able to remove the Granada from our Theatres at Risk Register in February 2023.

Theatres Database

Led by Theatres Trust, the aim of this project is to create a user-friendly and comprehensive database that is useful to theatre operators, producers, local authority planning and culture departments, heritage researchers, and cultural policy makers. It will ensure Theatres Trust has high-quality up-to-date information on the health of the UK's theatres which will both guide our strategic priorities and support our advocacy. We completed work on scoping and costing the database and developing the business model. We also initiated discussions with potential funders which are ongoing. We anticipate commissioning the new database in 2023/24.

Consultations

As part of our campaigning work on behalf of theatres we responded to national and regional consultations on issues impacting theatres. These included Built Environment Forum Scotland's Our Place in Time Strategy, DCMS Select Committee Levelling Up and Cultural Placemaking oral evidence session, national policy consultation on noise impacts in development in Wales and on revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework and planning reforms in England.

Contribution to industry events

We worked with our partners to support theatres and contributed to the wider debate on theatres, culture, sustainability and placemaking:

Delivering Town and City Regeneration

National Planning Adviser Tom Clarke spoke at the RTPi North East conference on the benefits of theatre and culture for town centres.

High Point podcast

Director Jon Morgan and Architecture Adviser Claire Appleby were interviewed for the Atelier Crescendo podcast on Theatres Trust's role, the importance of theatres in placemaking, Theatres at Risk and sustainability.

Tales from the Theatre Green Book

Jon Morgan chaired a session at the PLASA show about the sustainability initiative.

Theatres at Risk

Claire Appleby and Janina McBride gave talks about

the 2022 list for Society for Theatre Research and the Wimbledon Society

Arts Council England Theatre Team Meeting

Jon Morgan briefed the team on current priorities for theatres including resilience, capital needs, sustainability improvements and Theatre Green Book.

Supporter and stakeholder engagement events

Our many funders, donors, Corporate Supporters, Friends and Patrons of Theatres Trust are extremely important to our work, giving their time and valuable support. We held a number of events to engage them and key stakeholders across the year including a behind the scenes look at Cabaret at The Playhouse, a 40th anniversary celebration of Curtains!!! or A New Life For Old Theatres at Trafalgar Theatre, an online talk on Modern Playhouses by Dr Alistair Fair and Gary Kemp In Conversation with Richard E Grant at The Ivy Club.



Achievements and performance

Grant giving

We will provide strategic capital funding to theatres to help them remain sustainable and adapt to future needs.

We awarded 36 grants totalling £266,802 across two schemes. Our grants funded projects that improve accessibility, viability and environmental sustainability of theatres.

Dundee Rep Theatre and Scottish Dance Theatre

Category A listed Dundee Rep Theatre, which is home to Scottish Dance Theatre, received a £5,000 grant through our Small Grants Programme to fund the installation of variable speed fans in Scottish Dance Theatre's studio. By installing these fans, the venue will guarantee stable temperature conditions for its dancers while reducing costs and using less energy. It has been estimated that this will save around £2,000 per year and approximately 3.8 tonnes of CO2.

Small Grants Programme supported by The Linbury Trust

The Small Grants Programme was launched thanks to the generous support of The Linbury Trust. In autumn 2022, the Mackintosh Foundation committed funding over five years to the scheme. Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust also kindly made a further donation to the scheme in 2022. Over two rounds, we awarded grants totalling £142,784 to 29 theatres:

Beccles Public Hall and Theatre; Brewhouse Theatre, Taunton; The Chipping Norton Theatre; Dundee Repertory Theatre; Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles; Eden Court Theatre, Inverness; Exeter Phoenix; Georgian Theatre Royal, Richmond, Yorkshire; Lemon Tree, Aberdeen; Malvern Cube Community and Arts Centre; Marine Theatre, Lyme Regis; Northern Stage, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Oxford Playhouse; Questors Theatre, London; The Playhouse, Derry, Londonderry; Rich Mix, London; Romsey Plaza Theatre; Royal Court Theatre, Bacup; Shanklin Theatre, Isle of Wight; Sheringham Little Theatre; Soho Theatre, London; South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell; The Space, London; Thame Players Theatre; Wakefield Theatre Royal and Opera House; Wardrobe Theatre, Bristol; Workshop Theatre, London; The Y Theatre, Leicester; York Theatre Royal.





York Theatre Royal

Following increased digital engagement during the pandemic closure period, Grade II* listed York Theatre Royal wanted to expand its offering by capturing immersive recordings of live performances and delivering them using virtual reality (VR) technology to small groups in the community who would otherwise not attend the theatre. A £4,753 award from the Small Grants Programme funded the purchase of a specialist camera, computers, and VR headsets, as recommended following a trial in association with York University. This is a cutting-edge digital project that has made shows more accessible to those facing barriers to attending the theatre in person.

The Playhouse, Derry / Londonderry

Originally a convent and a school, The Playhouse's Grade B1 listed buildings were restored to create a vibrant arts centre in 1992, becoming a thriving hub for arts, education and peacebuilding. The existing bathroom facilities were in urgent need of refurbishment to bring them up to modern standards for accessibility, hygiene and sustainability. A £5,000 grant from the Small Grants Programme funded a series of works to upgrade facilities front and back of house, including installing sensor-operated soap dispensers, low-noise hand dryers, and a full repaint of all toilet facilities using eco-friendly non-toxic paint. This is a vital project to ensure that the needs of all staff and visitors are addressed, making The Playhouse a safe, comfortable and accessible place to be.

Theatre Improvement Scheme with the Wolfson Foundation

The Wolfson Foundation continued its generous support for the Theatre Improvement Scheme, funding theatres to improve their environmental sustainability. In 2022/23, we awarded seven grants totalling £124,018:

An Lanntair, Stornoway; Cast, Doncaster; The Garage, Norwich; Leeds Grand Theatre & Opera House; New Diorama Theatre, London; Old Fire Station, Oxford; Tyne Theatre & Opera House, Newcastle upon Tyne.



New Diorama Theatre, London

Since opening in 2010, New Diorama has become a critical part of the UK's artist development ecology as a world-leading home for independent ensemble and devised theatre-making practice. A £7,175 grant from the Theatre Improvement Scheme, along with match funding from Arts Council England, has funded a small but significant project that reflects New Diorama's ethos as a collaborative space supporting artists and companies at the start of their career. New LED stage lighting will not only reduce the theatre's energy usage but will also offer designers the opportunity to develop their skills with state-of-the-art equipment. This has been coupled with a scheme to convert unused space into new storage and shared workshop spaces for early-career designers and production teams, embedding best practice in material sharing and reuse across a new generation of theatre makers. These facilities have been built using 90% re-homed wood and fittings, including from New Diorama's temporary space at NDT Broadgate.

Financial review

Income for the year across both The Theatres Trust and The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund (Registered charity No. 274697) was £157,196 higher for the year ended 31 March 2023 than in the previous year. This was due to higher Theatre Rent & Proprietary Seats income of £92,703, higher Conference & Events income of £19,903, higher Grants & Donations income of £81,902, but lower Advertising & Publications income of £4,650 and lower investment income of £2,404. Other income is £30,258

lower than in the previous year as we had received an insurance pay out of £34,912 in 2021-2022 for loss of Proprietary Seat income during the lockdown.

Resources expended in the year were £122,974 higher than in 2021-2022. This was largely due to higher Staff & Support costs of £136,608. Theatre Protection Grants given during the year were £10,676 lower than in the previous year.

The Theatres Trust

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Income		
Theatre Rents Receivable	457	417
Sale of Proprietary seats	127	75
Conferences and events	64	44
Bank interest	-	-
Other income	4	35
Total income	652	571
Less Expenditure		
Administrative expenses	135	116
Conferences and events	59	48
Other expenditure	18	5
Total expenditure	212	169
Surplus of income over expenditure	440	402
Less covenanted payment to The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund	(440)	(402)
Less Taxation	-	-
Net movement in funds	-	-
Funds brought forward	217	217
Total Funds	217	217
Funds		
Accumulated fund	67	67
Capital Provision fund	150	150
Total Funds	217	217

The value of The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund's investment portfolio decreased during the year such that the market value of the portfolio on 31 March 2023 was £996,271. The portfolio performance reflects the challenging investment market conditions seen in the past year. The Trustees regularly review portfolio performance in accordance with the guidance provided by the Charities Commission.

In 2022-2023 the Trustees have reviewed the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes, or otherwise committed. Based on anticipated increased turnover for the next three-year

plan period and taking account of the level of General Funds held by the Theatres Trust, the Trustees consider that, given the nature of the Charitable Fund's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately £356,129 equivalent to six months' annual expenditure on unrestricted funds, including provisions for staff redundancy and similar costs. Funds totalling £682,641 have been designated, or set aside, by the Trustees to fund additional theatre protection measures such as viability studies for Theatres at Risk and for further organisational capacity and resource building, including further database and web development.

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Income		
Covenanted payment from The Theatres Trust	440	402
Administration charge paid by The Theatres Trust	135	116
Historic England Grant	15	30
Other grants and donations received	514	417
Other income	72	79
Total income	1,176	1,044
Less expenditure		
Direct Charitable Expenditure	1,012	928
Costs of generating funds	98	84
Total expenditure	1,110	1,012
Surplus of income over expenditure	66	32
Net gains/(losses) from investments	(147)	53
Net movement in funds	(81)	85
Funds brought forward	1,187	1,102
Total Funds	1,106	1,187
Funds		
General Fund	356	220
Theatres Protection Fund	2	-
Other Restricted Funds	65	98
Organisational Development & Transition Fund	177	142
Match Funding Fund	406	98
Capital Provision Fund	100	629
Total Funds	1,106	1,187

Our Ambassadors

Theatres Trust is grateful to our Ambassadors for their support throughout 2022/23. Our Ambassadors are:

Samira Ahmed

Journalist, broadcaster and documentary maker

Gemma Arterton

Actress

Alan Ayckbourn

Playwright and theatre director

Michael Ball

Musical theatre star, recording artist and radio and TV presenter

Pippa Bennett-Warner

Actress

Matthew Bourne

Choreographer and director

Jo Brand

Comedian

Dara Ó Briain

Comedian and television presenter

Alexandra Burke

Singer, songwriter and actress

Simon Callow

Actor, author and director

Jack Dee

Comedian, actor and writer

Mel Giedroyc

Television presenter and actress

David Hare

Playwright and film-maker

Miranda Hart

Comedy writer and actress

Lenny Henry

Comedian, actor and writer

Cassidy Janson

Actress and singer

Beverley Knight

Actress and singer

Kwame Kwei-Armah

Actor, playwright, director and broadcaster

Jude Law

Actor

Cameron Mackintosh

Producer and theatre owner

David Morrissey

Actor and director

Bill Nighy

Actor

Elaine Paige

Actress, singer, producer and radio presenter

Siobhan Redmond

Actress

Tim Rice

Author and lyricist

John Simm

Actor, director and musician

Meera Syal

Actress and writer

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Composer, producer and theatre owner

Our supporters

The Trust would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have given their support during 2022/23.

Major donations & funders

Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust
Dominic Lowe
Historic England
Funds raised from The Ivy Members Club
The Linbury Trust
The Mackintosh Foundation
National Lottery Heritage Fund
NTP Transatlantic – anonymous donor
Pilgrim Trust
Simon Ruddick
The Steel Charitable Trust
Swire Charitable Trust
Theatre Royal Haymarket
The Tolkien Trust
Wolfson Foundation

Legacies

Estate of Celia Jane Leatt
Estate of Gerald Smith

Summer and Christmas bucket campaigns

We would like to thank the producers, cast, crew and all of the staff at:

Arts Theatre – Bonnie and Clyde
Barbican – Anything Goes
Criterion Theatre – 2.22
Dominion – Elf
Duke of York's – Mother Goose
Duchess Theatre – Play That Goes Wrong
Eventim Apollo – Sister Act
Lyceum Theatre – The Lion King
Phoenix Theatre – Come From Away
Piccadilly Theatre – Moulin Rouge
Playhouse Theatre – Cabaret

Savoy Theatre – Pretty Woman
Shaftesbury Theatre – & Juliet
Theatre Royal Drury Lane – Frozen
Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre – Newsies
Vaudeville Theatre – Six
Liverpool Empire Theatre – White Christmas
Wyndham's Theatre – Life of Pi

Patrons

Lord Archer
Fatma Charlwood
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Pamela Whitton

Colin Winslow
Alex Wood
Steve Woolley
David Wright
Richard York

**We remember those Friends
who have sadly passed away:**

James Bettley
Edward Brian Coates
Elain Harwood
Anthony Walker

Trustees

Dave Moutrey OBE

Chair
Director and Chief Executive of HOME and Director of Culture for Manchester City Council

Katie Town

Vice Chair
Theatre management professional, currently Executive Director of Theatre Royal Wakefield

Paul Cartwright

Chartered accountant and private equity professional

James Dacre

Artistic Director of Royal & Derngate Theatres in Northampton

Suba Das

Creative Director Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatres

Manpreet Gill (from January 2023)

Boardroom Apprentice

Stephanie Hall

Barrister specialising in town and country planning at Kings Chambers

Annie Hampson

Former Chief Planning Officer at the City of London

Richard Johnston

Theatre management professional, former Chief Executive of Delfont Mackintosh Theatres

Gary Kemp

Musician and actor

Lucy Osborne

Set and costume designer and co-founder of studio three sixty

Jane Spiers

Theatre management professional, former Chief Executive of Aberdeen Performing Arts

Truda Spruyt

Managing Director Culture at communications agency, Four Culture



Staff

Jon Morgan Director

Claire Appleby Architecture Adviser

Kate Bierman Development Director

Kate Carmichael Communications Coordinator

Tom Clarke National Planning Adviser

Siân Eagar Theatres at Risk Adviser
(maternity cover from March 2023)

Justine Harvey Marketing & Communications
Manager

Devina Kumar Resilient Theatres: Resilient
Communities Project Coordinator (from November
2022)

Janina McBride Theatres at Risk Adviser (until
March 2023)

Lucy Mason Theatres Adviser (from January 2023)

Rebecca Morland Interim Theatres Adviser
(from October 2022 to February 2023)

Sofia Oliva Administrator

Ashish Shah Finance Manager

Tom Stickland Theatres Adviser
(until October 2022)

Laura Wootten General Manager

Consultants

Mark Price Heritage Consultant

Nicky Rowland Sponsorship and Advertising
Consultant

Volunteers

Ian Grundy

Image credits

Cover: Heritage tour of the Georgian Theatre Royal
Richmond, courtesy of the theatre

Page 4: Aerial image of Selsey Pavilion, credit: Fred
Howarth

Page 7: Auditorium of Walthamstow Granada, credit:
Ian Grundy

Page 8: The team at Rich Mix with Theatres Trust
Director Jon Morgan and Small Grants
Programme funders Stuart Hobley, Director,
The Linbury Trust and Charles Holloway,
credit Sharron Wallace

Page 9: Exterior of Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance,
credit: Tommy Ga-Ken Wan

Page 10: Class at Garage, Norwich, credit: Teele
Photography

Page 11: Exterior of Oxford Playhouse, credit Geraint
Lewis; Sam Nixon performing on stage at
Wakefield Theatre Royal credit Ant Robling;

Page 18: Trustee Gary Kemp with actor Richard E
Grant at an event at the Ivy Club

Page 20: Audience at Leeds Grand Theatre viewed
from upper circle, courtesy of the theatre;
foyer of the MAC Belfast, credit Melissa
Gordon; young people in the doorway
of National Youth Theatre, credit Jim
Stephenson; exterior of the Century Theatre,
credit Ian Grundy

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



In 2022/23

Advice

153

We provided specialist, tailored advice to 153 theatre organisations



Planning

352

We commented on 277 planning and listed building applications and 75 local planning documents

Grants

£266k

Our Theatres Protection Fund has awarded more than £266,000 to 36 theatres across the UK



Advocacy

450

We were a strong public voice for theatres with over 450 press and media mentions