

Support Theatre Royal



The Theatre Royal in Hyde is a magnificent Grade II listed Edwardian building. It stands on Corporation Street around the corner from Hyde Town Hall.

It opened in 1902 and offered the largest stage in the area, the finest auditorium and a fly gallery offering the means to employ the best scenery and swiftest scene changes available. It was a thriving well-loved theatre putting on live shows to packed audiences. Film arrived and a moveable screen was added.

In the late 60's live theatre was declining in favour of cinema. Live shows ended in 1972. Competition from multi-screen cinema's then saw the decline of film shows and the theatre closed it's doors in 1992.

The theatre was threatened with demolition around

about 2000 to make way for a housing development. Outraged, a group of local people decided to save such a beautiful theatre and Theatre Royal Onward was formed. Such magnificent architecture and heritage should be preserved and the group was successful in getting the building Grade II listed before the bulldozers moved in. In 2001 they formed a Building

Preservation Trust and gained charitable status in 2002.

Royal Onward are delighted that our prime objective has been achieved - that the Theatre Royal building has been saved. The building is currently in private ownership. We are very pleased with the high standard of work carried out on the exterior of the theatre by the owner which means the building is now secure from decay. Unknown to many, the interior and facilities remain largely intact too.

If you would like to know more or get involved in any way, visit our web site at www.hydetheatroyal.co.uk or come along to our friendly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at the Cheshire Ring public house in Hyde, opposite Aldi. Meetings start at 7pm, we would be delighted to see you!

Stuart Green

Interior image courtesy of Gerald England

