

## Curzon aims to restore cinema roof in 2009

### Heritage Lottery Fund welcomes funding application, but warns of financial restrictions

The plan to restore the Curzon Cinema's weather-damaged roof has continued in recent months, with a fresh approach to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

In 2008, the Curzon Board has undertaken a series of surveys to assess exactly how much investment is needed to preserve the Grade II listed building. This work has been undertaken by Cyril Sweett Ltd, who were appointed as project managers following a competitive tendering process, and funded by a grant from Clevedon Town Council. The Curzon Board is now working with Cyril Sweett, in consultation with North Somerset planning officers, to finalise the project costs.

The Board have also approached the Heritage Lottery Fund with a pre-application for funding, focussing on both the roof and an expansion to the Curzon Collection to enable greater access and more regular opening (the HLF does not fund projects that are solely building works). Part of the HLF's revised application procedures, the pre-application allows the HLF to give an early indication of whether a full application is likely to be favourably received. Hilary Neal, Chair of the Curzon Clevedon Community Centre for the Arts - the registered charity that has owned the Curzon

building since 1996 - said, "The HLF have given us an early indication that our plans meet their funding priorities, but they have less money to distribute than in previous years and competition is fierce. So it seems certain that they will not be able to grant as much of the project costs as we had hoped. We still have some way to go before we know for certain whether and how much HLF might be able to give."

While the Curzon's fundraising to date has built up a substantial sum, it is still a relatively small proportion of the expected costs. Consequently, the Board is looking at other possible sources of support.

Hilary Neal added, "We have a viable ongoing business and a unique building rich in heritage. There is no question that the Curzon is an appropriate cause for funding bodies; the challenge is to attract sufficient support when many are facing a range of pressures on available funding."

The Curzon's new three year strategic plan can be downloaded from [www.curzon.org/company.html](http://www.curzon.org/company.html).

## At a cinema near you: Opera!



The Curzon has announced plans to screen opera and ballet productions from some of the world's top performing companies - beginning in October with the Royal Opera House's production of *The Marriage of Figaro* (pictured). Full details on page 3.

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# Help Raise the Roof!

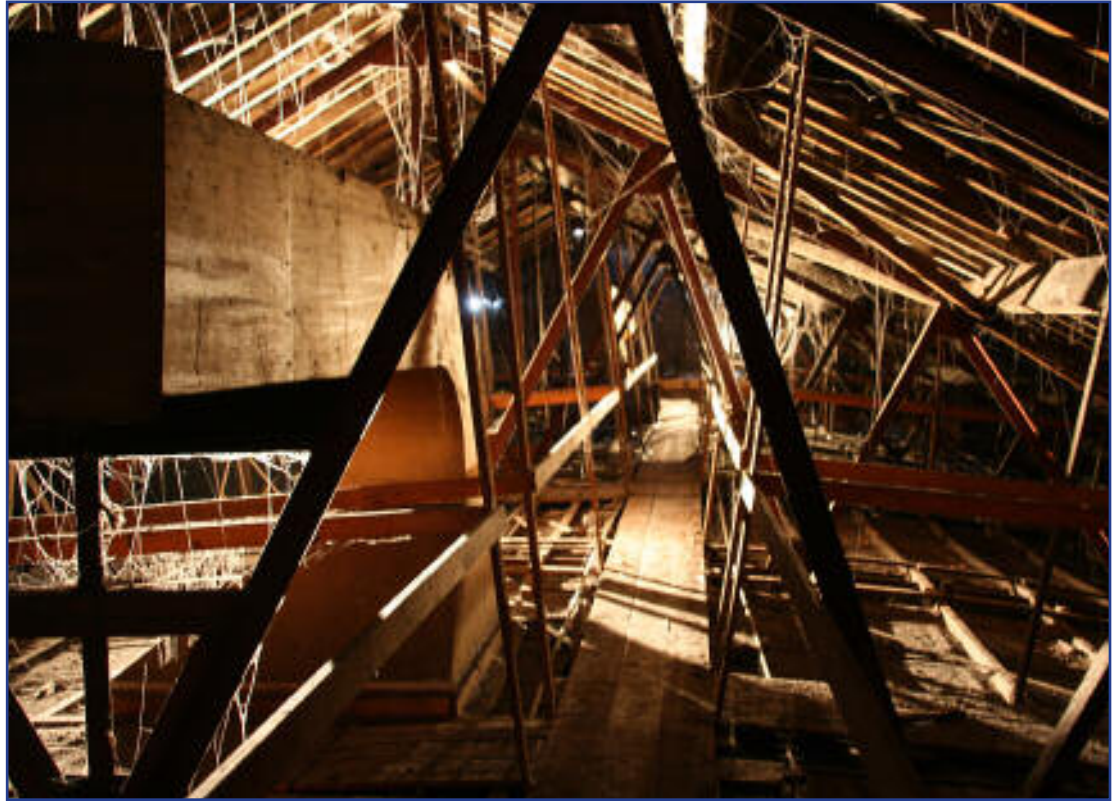
## How you can support the Curzon's ongoing fundraising work

The Curzon is appealing to local people to continue their support of the cinema's efforts to restore the fabric of the historic building.

Hilary Neal, Chair of the Board, said, "We know the value the people of Clevedon place on the Curzon – that was demonstrated in 1996 when Jon Webber began the fundraising campaign to buy the building. Since then, the cinema has proven to be an essential part of the fabric of local life. But while our ticket sales are strong enough to sustain the ongoing business, we still to invest thousands more in the fabric of the building."

To date, around £130,000 has been raised. It is estimated that the building repairs could cost in the region of £300,000, subject to listed building consent.

One of the major ways in which people can support the Cinema is, of course, to keep visiting and buying tickets – not only does this help sustain the business but demonstrates to funding bodies the need to keep the business running. Beyond that, the Curzon welcomes individual donations. If you are able to donate, please make cheques



How it looks just below the Curzon roof

payable to Curzon Clevedon Community Centre for the Arts. Using the Gift Aid form (right) or a copy allows the Curzon to reclaim an additional 27% of your gift direct from the Inland Revenue.

If you are able to make a regular donation, please visit [www.curzon.org.uk/raisetherooft.html](http://www.curzon.org.uk/raisetherooft.html) and download the Tile Covenant form.



Curzon patron Alan Rickman launched the Raise the Roof campaign in 2006

### Gift Aid Declaration

Name of Charity .....

#### Details of donor

Title.....Forename(s)..... Surname.....

Home address.....  
.....  
.....

Post Code.....

#### I want the charity to treat

\*the enclosed donation of £..... as a Gift Aid donation

\*the donation(s) of £..... which I made on...../...../..... as (a) Gift Aid donation(s)

\*all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations

\*all donations I have made for the six tax years prior to the year of this declaration, (but no earlier than 6/4/2000) and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

*\*delete as appropriate*

**You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year. (currently 28p for each £1 you give).**

Date...../...../.....

#### NOTES

1. You can cancel this Declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
2. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
3. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
4. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity. Or, refer to donations by individuals.
5. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.

# Curzon brings world class opera and ballet to Clevedon

This autumn, the Curzon will be screening a series of opera and ballet productions from some of the world's finest companies. Stunning productions from the Royal Opera House and other prestigious venues, filmed in high definition, will be shown on the Curzon's digital projector, with Dolby sound.

This initiative allows cinema audiences to see the performers, the costumes and the sets up close and personal, in their local cinema.

The season begins on Saturday 18 October with the Royal Opera House's acclaimed 2006 production of Mozart's ever-popular comic opera *The Marriage of Figaro*, sung in Italian with English subtitles.

The great Placido Domingo stars in *Tamerlano*, showing on Sunday 16 November. This co-production of Handel's opera by the Royal Opera House and Madrid's Teatro Real, sees Domingo take the role of Bajazet, Sultan of the Turks.

Finally, we cross the Atlantic for

the San Francisco Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* (Saturday 21 December). Tchaikovsky's fairytale ballet is a family favourite every Christmas, and this sparkling production from San Francisco is a real treat. Celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2008, San Francisco Ballet is America's oldest professional ballet company, and performed the first American productions of *Swan Lake* and *Nutcracker*. Under the direction of Helgi Tomasson for more than two decades, the Company has achieved an international reputation as one of the preeminent ballet companies in the world. In 2005, San Francisco Ballet won the prestigious Laurence Olivier Award, its first, for its London tour.

Gareth Negus, Director of the Curzon said, "The advent of Digital cinema allows us to present a range of events that would have been impossible to see in cinemas in the past. Local audi-



On screen this autumn: Domingo

ences can enjoy world class opera and ballet performances, with tickets at a fraction of the cost of the live shows."

Tickets will cost £10 for adults, with discounts for children and those booking all three shows in advance. Tickets will be on sale from mid September.

## New filmmaking competition for 2009



George Inger leads a tutorial session

The Curzon Cinema will be holding a new filmmaking competition in conjunction with North Somerset Arts Week 2009.

Following the competition held during the 2007 Arts Week, budding Spielbergs and Hitchcocks are again being invited to submit their films for consideration. The best entries will be shown at the Curzon during the Arts Week (1 – 10 May 2009).

The last competition had the theme of song and dance, but this time there is no restriction as to subject matter. Gareth Negus, Curzon Director, said, "We want to encourage as wide a range of entries as possible, be they comedy, drama or documentary."

The competition is divided into three age groups: under 14, 14-19 and 19+. Entries should last no more than

ten minutes and be supplied on DVD. The closing date is Friday 17 April.

The Curzon's aim to help build the filmmaking community in North Somerset has also been seen in the recent Filmmaking Tutorials course. Organised by George Inger, a former BBC producer and director, and Nailsea schoolteacher Brian Crewe of

the Curzon's Education Committee, the course attracted eager participants of all ages. Sessions were led by guest tutors who boasted a wealth of experience, including specialists who have worked on natural history films such as *The World About Us*, *Life on Earth*, *The Living Planet* and *The Trials of Life*, as well as dramas such as *Casualty*.

### What they said about the Curzon's film tutorials...

*"I found it very inspiring to have film veterans giving us their expertise and knowledge..."*

*"Fantastic structure and fantastic speakers and fantastic value. I would definitely do it again and recommend it..." "I think you should be congratulated on running a cracking course - informative and inspirational..." "Fantastic value for money, my thanks to everyone involved."*

More information on North Somerset Arts Week can be found at [www.northsomersetarts.org.uk/](http://www.northsomersetarts.org.uk/)

# In brief... In brief... In brief... In brief...

## Stairclimber allows greater access to building



The full Curzon Collection, together with balcony and the Oak Room, is now be accessible to more people than ever before, thanks to the Curzon's new Stairclimber (pictured above), which allows visitors unable to manage the stairs to be carried up them. The Stairclimber was purchased thanks to a donation to the Curzon by Bristol-based Health Insurer BCWA, part of the Simply-health Group.

Gareth Negus, Curzon director, said "While our main auditorium is accessible to all visitors through the rear entrance, reaching other parts of the Curzon – in common with many historic buildings – can be more of a challenge. Thanks to BCWA's generosity, more members of the community will be able to enjoy the full Curzon Experience."

## Curzon gains cinema Monopoly

The Curzon Cinema will be featured on a special North Somerset edition of the classic board game Monopoly, due out this autumn from Winning Moves (www.winningmoves.co.uk).

## Website revamped

Visitors to [www.curzon.org.uk](http://www.curzon.org.uk) will have noticed the website had a major redesign recently, thanks to webmaster Andy Darvill. The site had grown considerably over the years, and much of the information was either out of date or difficult to find. The new design should prove to be more user friendly.

Web users might also like to visit the Facebook group 'I love the Curzon Community Cinema'.

## Cinema stars on radio



North Somerset radio station Star 107.7 FM named the Curzon as their charity of the month in August. You can find out more about the station (and listen live) on [www.star1077.co.uk](http://www.star1077.co.uk).

## Craft Fair planned for November

Following last year's very popular event, a Craft Fair is scheduled to be held in the Oak Room over the weekend of 29 and 30 November. Perfect for Christmas shopping!

## Historic projection room reopened for Curzon Collection

The Curzon Collection – the Curzon Cinema's exhibition of historic cinema equipment – has grown into one of the most important collection of cinema and film heritage artefacts to be found anywhere in a working cinema.

Now part of the exhibition is the Stanley Newton Projection Room. Used as the Curzon's projection room until



August saw unprecedented queues at the Curzon for the Abba musical *Mamma Mia*. Audiences' desire to see the musical several times led to a string of sold out shows, with hundreds unable to get in. The film will return in October.

the early 1970s, the room has been refitted in the manner of a typical projection room to be found in cinemas from the 1930s to the 1950s. There is much of interest to be found here for patrons who remember going to the cinema in that era and to witness how films used to be shown.

This room is dedicated to Stanley Newton, who was a projectionist at the Curzon for a remarkable 55 years prior to his retirement in 1965.

2008's remaining Collection Open Days will be on 19 October and 23 November.

## Tyntesfield stars in new film at Curzon

Partly filmed at the Tyntesfield Estate in North Somerset, the drama *Angel* (15) will be shown at the Curzon from Friday 19 September. The film,

which had its UK premiere at the London Film Festival, stars Romola Garai (*Atonement*) as a romantic writer. The film's production designer, Katia Wyszokop said of the house, which doubles as Angel's home Paradise House, "Its postgothic style was immediately inspiring. It was built in 1898 by new money, so it's own history reflects that of Angel, mirroring her exuberant personality and her common roots."



# Curzon

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Programme information: **01275 871000**  
**[www.curzon.org.uk/whats-on.html](http://www.curzon.org.uk/whats-on.html)**

The Curzon Clevedon Community Centre for the Arts is a Registered Charity, no. 1058389.