

CAMPAIGNING TO SAVE YOUR HISTORIC CINEMAS

By Tim Hatcher

Grade II*

It was revealed in April that the **Electric Palace** in Harwich had been awarded £653,000 of National Lottery funding towards the cinema's repair and refurbishment. It was scheduled to close in May for a nine month period of rehabilitation. See p26 last Bulletin. {2597}

Historic England is engaging pro-actively in proposals for the future of the **Palace** in Southall; an assessor has inspected the property and agreed that its exterior requires essential maintenance. Another official of the body is to visit in order to ascertain if it merits inclusion on its Heritage at Risk Register. Concurrently a Design and Heritage Statement has been commissioned by the owner. See p5 last Bulletin.

Grade II

It has been disclosed that the **Grand** at Westbourne may become a hostelry in the JD Wetherspoon chain of such establishments. If this transpires it is to be hoped that the building is treated with the sympathetic approach accorded many of the company's earlier cinema conversions, which regrettably has been markedly lacking in certain of its recent projects. See p6 Bulletin 51/5. {22430}



The interior of the Hyde Park Picture House Leeds in June 2010

Concern arises apropos the latest set of design drawings relating to the proposed upgrade work to the Hyde Park Picture House in Leeds. A further site visit has been offered at which a further attempt to ameliorate the perceived injurious impact to the building will be made.

The drawings accompanying the planning and listed building consent applications regarding adaptation of the Dominion in Acton cause little disquiet as the intended new internal structures appear to be free-standing and thus reversible when this becomes necessary, with no impairment to the cinema's fabric. {13831}



The Savoy in Burnt Oak in September 2006

The Savoy in Burnt Oak is to be assessed for inclusion on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register. {13831}



The Curzon Mayfair in April 2009

Projected alterations to the Curzon in London's Mayfair envisage refurbishment of Screen ② and of the lavatorial facilities. The sole alteration advanced for Screen ① is the insertion of tables between individual seats; refreshingly, the screen tabs therein will continue to be utilised. {7507}

Unlisted

Everyman Media Group has published renderings of its proposals for the **Rialto** in Upper Norwood. The related planning application covers only the façade, alterations to which require Conservation Area Consent; the building is not listed and thus internal realignment is not subject to planning strictures. A fundamental aspiration is that the proscenium and ante-proscenium area escape modification; information has been requested from the company's chief designer. See p21 Bulletin 52/2. {28989}

The CTA has objected forcefully to the Crown Estate's application for a Certificate of Immunity from Listing pertaining to the **Carlton** in London's Haymarket. Discussions with that body are ongoing. See p32 last Bulletin. {1838}

Somewhat inevitably, the development company whose planning applications for the **Regent** and **Westover** in Bournemouth were rejected has appealed against this outcome. Objections to reversal of the original decision have been lodged by the local Civic Society and the Association.



The Regal/Odeon Rotherham in February 2005

Following cessation of bingo, the **Regal** in Rotherham is to be marketed at auction, with a guide price of £895,000. This is a distinguished building, both externally and internally, designed by Blackmore and Sykes and opened in 1934. {18509}

