

ABTT NorthNet present "A Grand Day Out in Lincoln" Thursday 16th August 2012

In an effort to redress the balance in favour of our Members and Associates in the East and South of our Region, we offer the chance, at long last, to visit these three very different venues in the beautiful old city of Lincoln. Why not stay over and make it a mini-break?

Venue 1: Lincoln Performing Arts Centre, University of Lincoln, Brayford Pool, **Lincoln**, LN6 7TS

Time: We begin at 11:15am

Tel: 01522 837 600

Situated close to the Railway Station and main routes for car travellers, this 446 seat multi-purpose venue, just to the South of the city Centre, was opened in 2008 on the main campus, adjacent to Brayford Pool. Designed to offer students the chance of working in an operational theatre this two tier auditorium has already made its mark. With a wide range of programming, under Artistic Director Craig Morrow, the intention is to complement rather than compete with other sites in the city. Under Technical Manager Myk Hoyle, this state of the art new build offers a diverse experience of formal and informal presentations serving the community as well as students studying there. Parking is available nearby and the Zing Cafe / Bar offers light meals and snacks.

Venue 2: The Drill Hall, Free School Lane, Lincoln, LN2 1EY
Time: We arrive at 13:00pm
Tel: 01522 873 894

About a 10 minute walk North into the city Centre, with easily accessible car parking at Broadgate multi-storey or NCP surface park, convenient for both our two remaining venues, The Drill Hall was erected in the 1890's by major local engineering/excavator manufacturers Rustons. This enlightened Victorian employer provided it for the employees' social needs, though it also served as a Military and Police Training Centre in the earlier part of the last century. By the 60's, 70's and 80's it had hosted everything from the Rolling Stones to Wrestling! It eventually closed in 1999, but reopened after a £2.6 million refurbishment in 2004.

Now run by Lincoln Arts Trust, the main auditorium accommodates up to 370 theatre style, or up to 550 including standing for alternative performances. The whole Centre is a vibrant addition to Lincoln's art scene, hosting everything from music and drama to films, exhibitions and many innovative schemes for young people. Under General manager Simon Hollingworth with Operations manager Gary Malam, and Technician Ed Purle expect to see a broad cross-section of what's on offer. A Cafe / Bar offers a wide range of food and drinks.

Venue 3: Lincoln Theatre Royal, Clasketgate, Lincoln, LN2 1JJ Time: We move on for 14:45pm Tel: 01522 545 490

Only a 3 or 4 minute walk towards the older, and more hilly part of the city lies our final destination. Described by Ted Bottle in The Theatres Trust Guide to British Theatres as "this delightful and intimate 482 seater" was built in 1893 by Bertie Crewe and W.G.R. Sprague, as a replacement for an earlier theatre. Two slightly curved balconies with short slips and superimposed boxes flank the proscenium. The dull 1945 exterior belies the ornate Rococo plasterwork interior. Like many similar sized theatres, mixed fortunes were an almost inevitable part of its history, but now under the able Artistic Direction of Ian Dickens, it is firmly in the ascendant, with a wide and varied programme, including some in-house productions. We will be in the hands of the production team for the visit.

Travel Notes:

Lincoln is served by trains from Northern Rail amongst others, as well as having good road links.

Of necessity with a 3 centre visit day, there will be some areas where walking is the most suitable option, and attendees are asked to try to adhere to the scheduled times in fairness to our hosts, and other visitors. Please be aware that some parts of Lincoln, adjacent to our tours are from a medieval age, with steep, narrow, cobbled roads.

You should contact the venue Box Offices direct for details of current performances.

Registration of Interest:

Please complete (by Monday 13th August) the registration slip below and either email or post to:

(With the subject heading "A Grand Day Out in Lincoln")

Email: office@abtt.org.uk

Post: ABTT, Fourth floor, 55 Farringdon Road, London, EC1M 3JB

Name:	
ABTT Membership Number:	
Phone Number:	
Email:	
Number of attendees:	