

## A Royal visit

Patron of The Theatre Royal, The Duchess of Cornwall, attended a reception to launch their refurbishment appeal earlier this month.

On arrival at the Theatre, Her Royal Highness was met by the High Sheriff of Somerset, MediaClash's Greg Ingham, chairman of the Theatre Royal Bath, as well as other civic guests.

After a private reception, she relocated to the auditorium for a performance of Bernard Shaw's *Mrs Warren's Profession*, featuring Felicity Kendal and David Yelland, whom she later met along with the rest of the cast after the show.

It has been nearly 30 years since the last major refurbishment of the Theatre Royal's Main House, which stages performances 52 weeks of the year. The refurbishment programme will involve essential work back-stage and front-of-house, with plans to remodel the foyer, improve disabled access, create a new bar in the stalls and update decoration in the main house.

While the fundraising appeal aims to raise

£1.25 million for the refurbishment project, The Theatre Royal plans to fund 65 per cent of the total budget itself, with estimations that the entire project will cost approximately £3.65 million.

• [www.theatreroyal.org.uk](http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk)



Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall meets Felicity Kendal on stage at the Theatre Royal, Bath.



## Shoebox appeal

**There is still** time to pack a shoebox with gifts for Operation Christmas Child – the world's largest children's Christmas project devoted to spreading love, joy and smiles to children in parts of the world that really need them.

The shoeboxes will be hand-delivered to children in orphanages, hospitals and impoverished communities showing them that they are not forgotten. If you want to help, leaflets and empty shoeboxes are available in Bath Abbey.

• Local drop-off points are open from 1 – 18 November.  
Bath Abbey, Mon-Sat 10am-4:30pm  
Prior Park Garden Centre, Mon-Sat 8:30am-5:30pm; Sun 10:30am-4:30pm

St Stephen's Church Office, Mon-Fri 10am-12noon  
Andrews Estate Agents, Newbridge Road, Mon-Fri 10am-6:30pm; Sat 9am – 5pm  
For further information, contact Pat & David Dawson on 01225 311546.



The Lions in the courtyard of the Roman Baths

## Pride of our city

**A giant pride** of 100 massive life-size lion sculptures will be taking up residence on the streets of Bath from May to September 2010, bringing vibrant contemporary public art to the city.

The 'Big 100' public art event will be sponsored by local business, individuals and communities by a huge team of talented artists who will transform the impressive, lionine canvases into beautiful

works of contemporary art.

The lions will remain on display throughout the summer and will then return to their den in September 2010 to be returned to their former glory in preparation for the 'Lions Roar Goodbye' weekend event, when the lions will gather together in one giant pride for their public farewells before the Lions of Bath 2010 charity auction in October 2010.

• [www.lionsofbath.com](http://www.lionsofbath.com)

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