




STORYPOINTS



Roll up, roll up!! Join us on an **ADVENTURE** along the Storypoints trail! Welcome one and all.

We have **10** points on our journey and they stretch right across the ground floor of Hall for Cornwall.

Each one has a special  on it by artist Kerry Lemon. These have been carefully set into the floor of our theatre.

The Storypoints (or 'roundels' as we call them, because they're *circular* and round see!) are made of porcelain and a bronze-effect laquer. They're very hard and **very** strong.

Can you help us find all 10 of our Storypoints?

- ✓ All you need is this trusty guide
- ✓ ...and a pencil for drawing and solving clues.
- ✓ ...Oh, and maybe a grown up to help out with all this sleuthing!

You can start at number 1, number 5 or even number 10. It really doesn't matter.



Remember, each point tells a very different story about how our building has been used. Get down on the floor and get up close and personal.

Take a rubbing, give the Storypoints a feel, even walk over them! This isn't a museum so feel free to **TOUCH**.



If you get lost, ask any one of our friendly volunteers and they will be delighted to help you track down a Storypoint or two.



STORYPOINT 1

Origo Mundi



Welcome to Storypoint 1. This is our first point on the trail and is visible as soon as you walk through the main doors to the new Hall for Cornwall building. It's an important historical spot and marks the room in which a lot has happened over the last 175 years. There has been a jail here. There has been a volunteer fire brigade stationed here. There has even been a police station in this VERY SPOT!



5 Facts about the Ordinalia

- 1. THE ORDINALIA IS A SERIES OF THREE MEDIEVAL PLAYS.**
- 2. THE WERE WRITTEN TO BE PERFORMED IN PLEN AN GWARIS (MORE ON THOSE BELOW)**
- 3. THEY ARE THOUGHT TO BE THE OLDEST PLAYS TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN AND PERFORMED IN THIS COUNTRY.**
- 4. IN FACT, THEY WERE WRITTEN OVER 200 YEARS BEFORE ANY OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS!**
- 5. ORIGO MUNDI IS THE FIRST PLAY IN THE SERIES AND TRANSLATES AS THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD**



BUT WHAT ON EARTH IS A PLEN AN GWARI?

A plen an gwari (Playing Place in the Cornish language) was a large, circular, open-air theatre. Visitors would enter from one of two entrances and would gather in the middle. What do you think was the benefit of the audience standing in the middle?

Only two of these plen-an-gwaris still exist – and they're both in Cornwall of course, so worth a visit. The first is in St. Just, and the second is just outside Perranporth.





STORYPOINT 1

Origo Mundi



As you walk around our new theatre, see if you notice any similarities with Plen An Gwaris and Hall for Cornwall. You can even [view our VR tour](#) to take a closer look!



The Ordinalia plays were long! They were performed over 2-3 days and involved dancing, singing, drinking and feasting. These were loud social occasions and the audience stood right in the middle of all the action as actors moved around them. They felt a bit like a modern-day festival.

CLUES

1. Visitors to the theatre can enter from two different sides
2. The activity in the building all takes place in the very centre of the building
3. Hall for Cornwall shows a variety of different types of plays just about every night of the year....although none are quite as long as the 2 – 3 days of the Ordinalia!!

DISCUSSION TIME





STORYPOINT 1

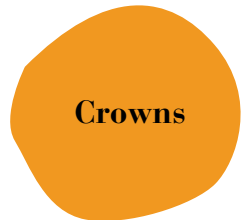
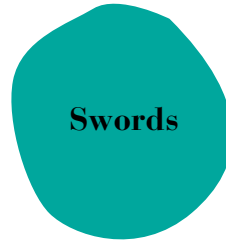
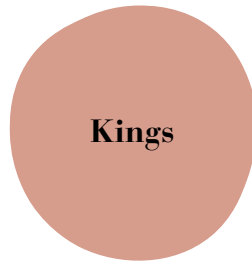
Origo Mundi



CHARACTERS

The Ordinalia and the other medieval mystery plays in the series featured a cast of amazing characters and props. **Brave, fearsome, angry and proud!** The characters were a mix of the imagined and the real as well as referencing events from The Bible and Cornish legends.

Use your own fantastic imagination and draw some of the characters and props below:



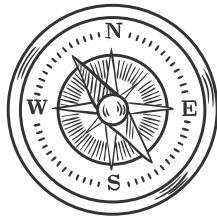


STORYPOINT 1

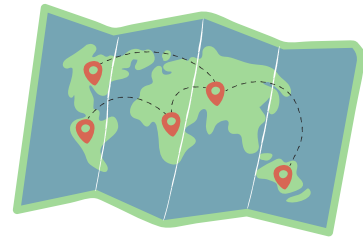
Origo Mundi



The Origo Mundi had very clear instructions detailing the directions of heaven and hell, as well as the play's characters. Have a think about other ways of working out directions. Can you help find the missing words below?



C O M _ A S _
 _ A P
 S _ X T A N T
 R _ D _ R
 S T A R _ H A R T

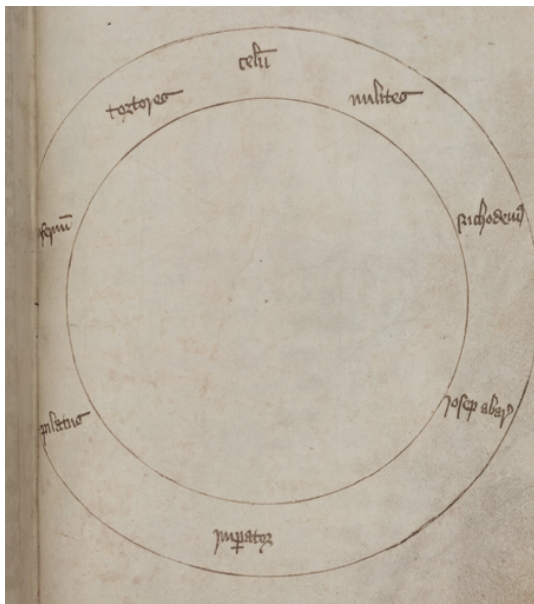


FIND OUT MORE

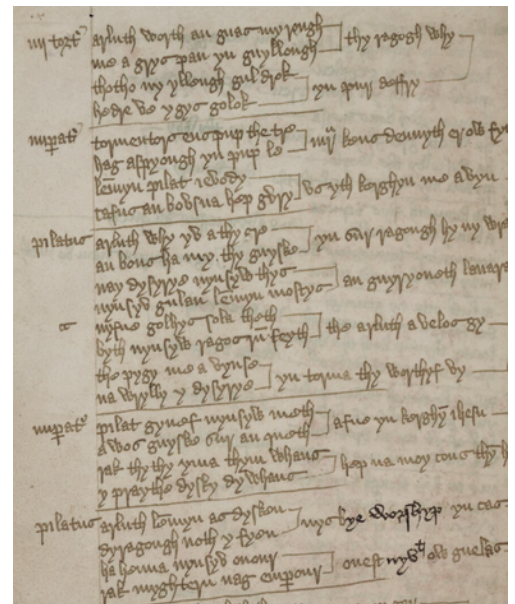
Take a look at the real Origo Mundi play. It's housed in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (although it visited Cornwall in 2021) and a digital version is available to view online.

Look at the words. Can you make out anything? Does it remind you of any other languages you know? Have a go at saying one of the words out loud!

<https://iiif.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/iiif/viewer/aa366c61-01ed-428b-8675-efcb35fe7103/#?c=0&m=0&s=0&cv=179&r=0&xywh=-1%2C-508%2C4915%2C8534>



Pages from the Origo Mundi, stored at the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Images available under CC)





STORYPOINT 2

Merchant Schooner

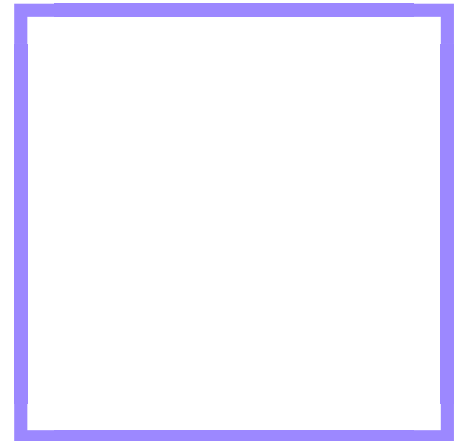
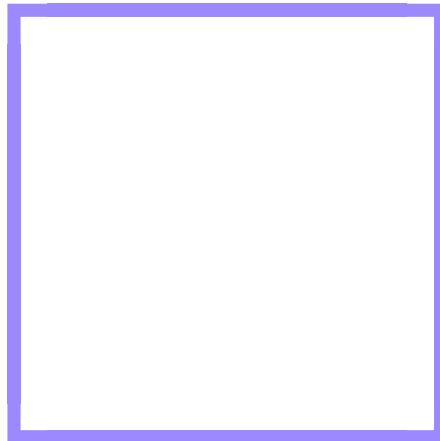
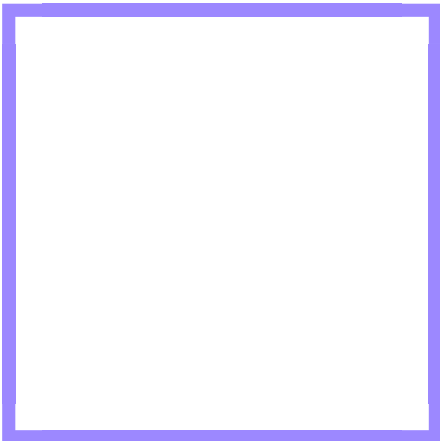


Did you know that there are three rivers running through Truro? This is one of the many reasons why Truro grew where it did and became an important city.

It was easy to transport goods into Truro's port up the River Fal to be bought and sold in the markets of City Hall. Just as important were the goods which were transported out of Cornwall. Tin, copper and fish were transported around the world.



Try drawing the three things you think Cornwall is most well known for today? It can be a kind of technology, a place or even a food (HINT: Jam before cream!)



Can you think of some other types of boats? These can be big, small, **HUGE** or even a boat from a story. Here are some ideas to get you started!

I can carry up to 3,000 passengers and I take people on their holidays

I am yellow, I mostly stay underwater...and I am the title of a famous song by The Beatles!

I can carry trucks, cars and airplanes can take off from my deck.





STORYPOINT 2

Merchant Schooner



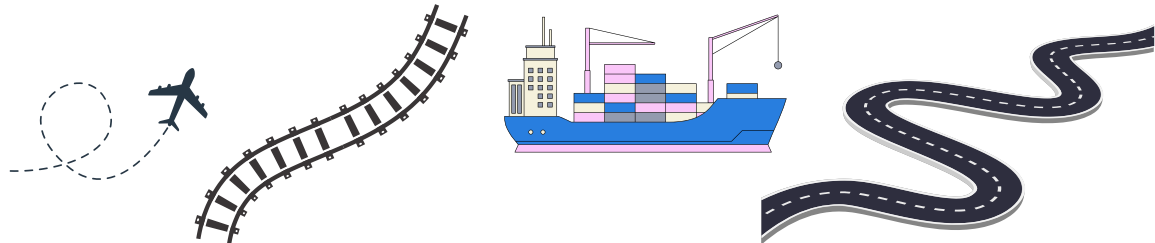
This photo shows a merchant vessel outside City Hall. The river ran right up to the doors of the building and made it perfect as a location for markets.



QUIZ TIME!

How are most goods delivered to and from Cornwall today? See if you can put the letters in order from the most goods delivered to least.

- A: Boat
- B: Rail
- C: Road
- D: Air



In the late 1920s, the river outside City Hall was covered up. Why do you think the river was covered up in 1926? Is it A, B, C or D???

A: THE RIVER WAS SILTING UP, WHICH MEANT THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR SCHOONERS AND OTHER VESSELS TO BRING THEIR GOODS TO MARKET.

B: Rail and Road developments meant more goods were transported that way.

C: The river was rather smelly and put people off the area!

D: There were plans to use the space for in other ways such as for events and car parks.



STORYPOINT 3

Weights & Measures



Look around Storypoint number 3. Can you see anything on the wall that you think might relate to the weights illustration in front of you? That's right! It's the big sign which is set into the wall. It's called the Market Stone and dates from 1615, making it the oldest part of the entire City Hall building.

See if you can read what it says – it's tricky because the letters are very close together and the spellings are different to the ones we use today.

**'WHO SEEKS TO FIND ETERNAL
TREASURE,
MUST USE NO GUILLE IN WEIGHT OR
MEASURE.'**



What do you think that means?? Is it:

- A) NO CHEATERS ALLOWED HERE.**
- B) THE TREASURE AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW IS VERY HEAVY.**
- C) THE PATH TO WEALTH IS LITTERED WITH THE CHANCE TO DECEIVE PEOPLE.**
- D) YOU WON'T GO TO HEAVEN IF YOU TRY AND TRICK OTHER PEOPLE. BE FAIR IN HOW YOU TRADE.**
- E) ALL OF THE ABOVE!**



STORYPOINT 3

Weights & Measures

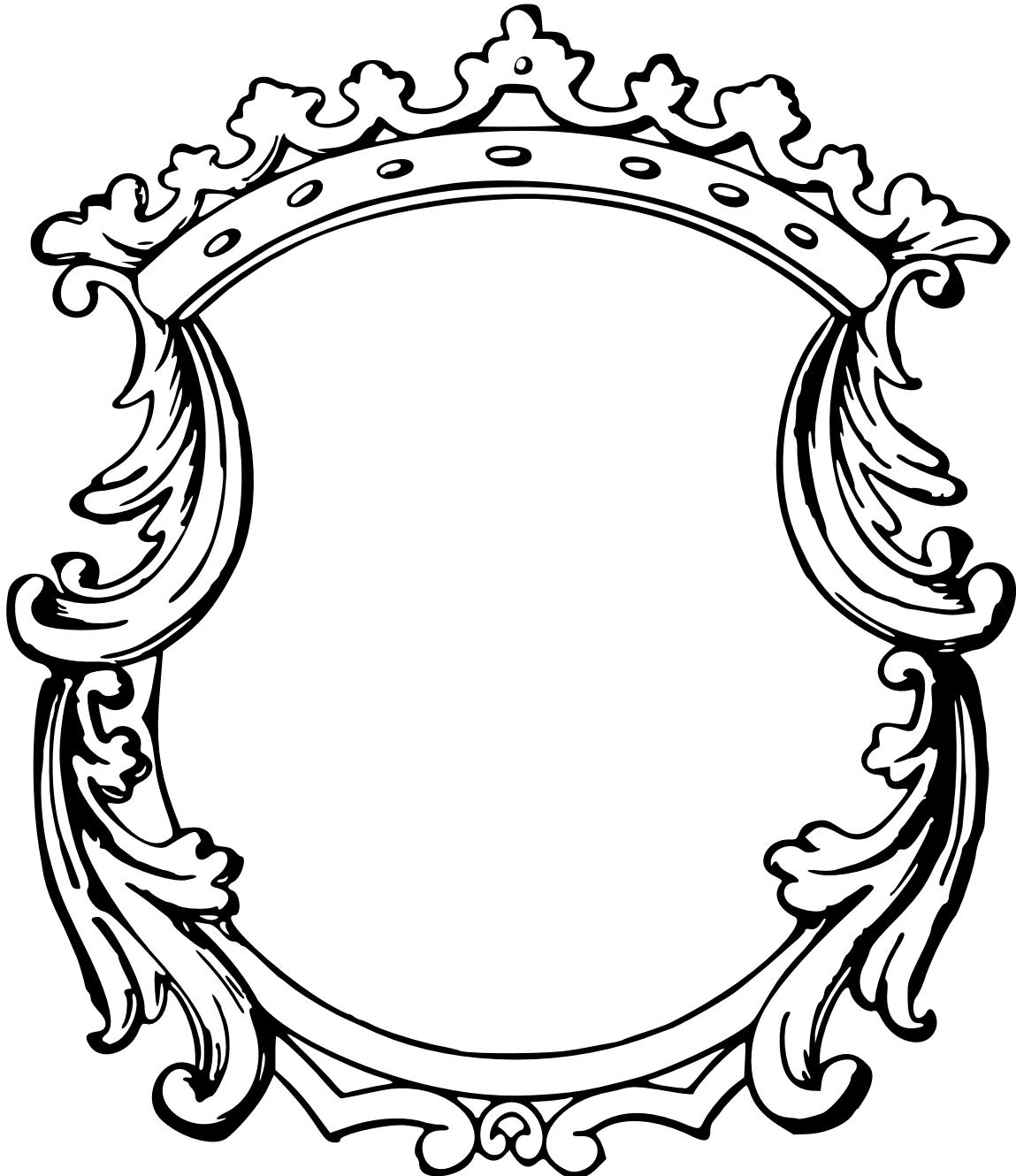


What is your motto? What is important to you. See if you can come up with your own motto in a crest below.

Tip: Think of the three things that matter to you most and then combine them. Extra points for rhyming.



Maybe your family are the most important thing to you. Your friends? Chips? Power Rangers? That new surfboard you've got your eye on? There are no wrong answers here, just write and draw you love.





STORYPOINT 3

Weights & Measures



Take a rubbing from this Storypoint. This drawing shows a real weight which was used in the markets.

Can your rubbing tell you which year this weight was made and who the ruling monarch was at the time?



A special honour granted to Truro was that of a Stannary Town. It was one of four towns in Cornwall that were officially recognised as a Stannary Town. The other three were Helston, Lostwithiel and Launceston (with St Austell added later).

But what is a Stannary Town? Any guesses? We'll give you a clue: It relates to mining, something which Cornwall is famous for around the world.

Stannary Towns were towns in Cornwall that were allowed to weigh, measure and stamp tin brought by miners. The tax that miners paid in these towns was called 'coinage' and the process of checking the tin for quality was known as 'assayage'. Mining and the stannaries were so important that they had their own parliament which could overrule the parliament of England. This was abolished in the 1830s.



STORYPOINT 4

Markets

4

City Hall was used for many different types of markets. From fatstock markets to green markets, wet markets to flea markets this building has seen a lot of buying and selling. Match the market to items it sold inside our building.

FATSTOCK MARKETS

FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS

GREEN MARKETS

SECOND HAND GOODS, KNICK KNACKS, VINTAGE

WET MARKETS

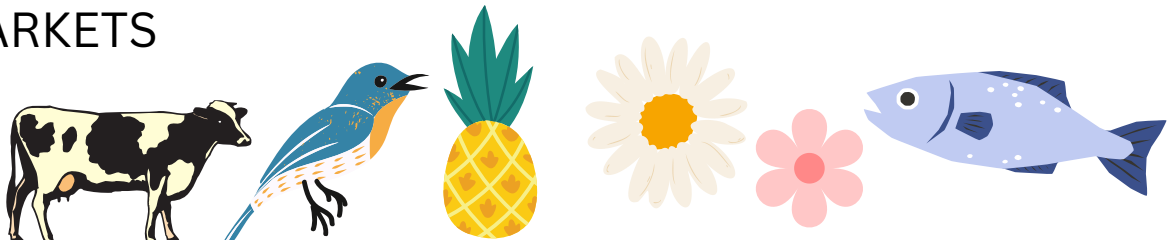
SMALL ANIMALS AND BIRDS

FLEA MARKETS

CATTLE

FUR & FEATHERS
MARKETS

FISH



Every market trader was responsible for selling their goods and normally this was based on the weight of the goods. Truro had its very own set of weights and measures and these were regularly checked to be sure that no one was using weights which had been tampered with (there are records that show that this was attempted fairly often!). One set was for tin, and one was for meats.





STORYPOINT 4

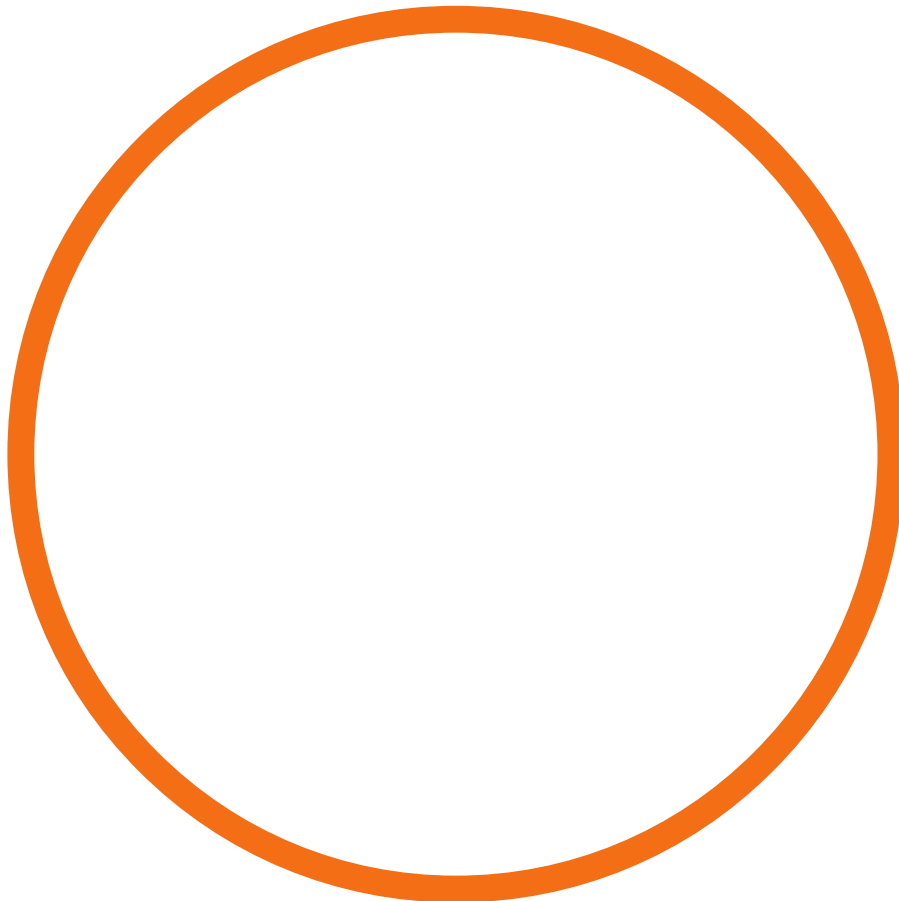
Markets

4

This photo shows some of the weights used in the markets at City Hall. They each have lots of stamps on them. What do you think they mean?

These stamps were applied to the weights when they were checked. It shows that the weight was fit to be used, and the stamp reflects the ruling king or queen of the time.

Have a go at designing your own stamp below with your initials and the year we're in now. What would you stamp? Maybe you'd use it to mark your school bag, clothes or favourite toys!



City Hall markets were BUSY! In the 19th and early 20th century the markets were crammed full of people, animals and narrow stalls. Women recalled brushing up against market stalls and leaving with substances stained on their dresses! Circle the different words which you think describe the experience of being at these markets:

NOISY
SMELLY
BUSY
CALM
EXCITING
SCARY



STORYPOINT 4

Markets



One of our volunteers remembers how it felt to be at a Fatstock Show in the mid-20th Century before they were moved out of the hall for health and safety reasons!

MEMORIES

The fatstock show was the best of the breed. It was very popular - used to get a lot of people in to see these animals. On the side wall of the annexe were these big iron rings - about six inches around - and they fixed them in so that the bullocks that came in were tied to them. They used to get a little bit excited sometimes. The floor was timber, groove and tongue, been there for numerous decades. The boards were worn away to about a quarter of an inch and as time went on the animals would go through the floor!

John MacLoughlin remembers, 2018

Take a look around you. Can you spot any clues of how the building was used in the past?
Hint: Look down at the floor and up at the ceilings.

Answer: You might be able to see some light green patterned floor near Storypoints 3 and 4. This flooring is called Terrazzo and is made up of tiny chips of marble. This terrazzo floor was the original flooring in the Regent Cinema based in City Hall at the beginning of the 20th Century.





STORYPOINT 5

TAODS



Storypoint 4 is our way of saying a **BIG** thank you to Truro Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society (known as TAODS...yes, like the frog). During City Hall's lifetime our building played host to hundreds of performances. From concerts to plays, operas, balls and charity gigs. The space was hired by community groups from all over Cornwall – and TAODS used the space the most. Annual shows and festive Carolares all took place on the main stage and in the Annex of the hall. Each show was accompanied by a poster and programme which we're lucky enough to have copies of.

Here are some examples:



TAODS have been very generous in sharing photos from their archive for our Storypoints trail and much more. It has helped us understand how the building looked, and more importantly, how it felt for the people of Truro.

Take a look at these photos. Can you recognise this stage set up at all? You'd be right in thinking you can't. In actual fact the stage has been turned around completely since its days as City Hall!





STORYPOINT 5

TAODS



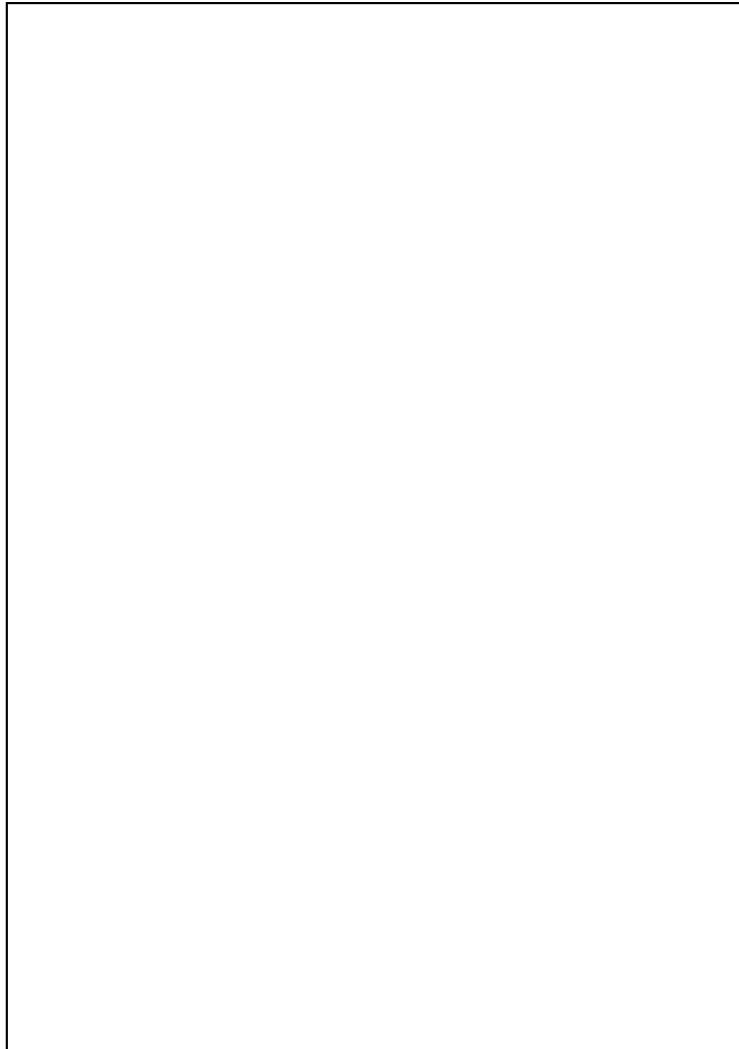
Now take a look at these photos from TAODS archive. Do you think these photos were taken backstage (behind the scenes and where all the props, scenes and actors are) or front of house where the audience and the lighting booth is?



Backstage in the old projection room and backstage ahead of a production of Finians Rainbow.



Draw your own show poster. What is the show called, how much are tickets and who is playing the main parts? It could be a ballet, dance, rock concert. Let your imagination run wild!





STORYPOINT 6

SKATING AT CITY HALL



Strapping on your skates. Jitterbugging the night away. Catching a show. Fun and frolics have always sat at the beating heart of City Hall.

We chose an ice skate to illustrate our sixth Storypoint, but it could easily have been a bingo ball, roller skate or even a rifle. The hall has had so many very different uses!

See if you can work out which events took place at the hall, and which we've made up. Circle the ones you think we've got carried away with as a work of fiction worthy of our own stage!

BINGO NIGHTS

BALLS

WHALE WATCHING EXPEDITIONS

POST OFFICE FOR THE AMERICAN NAVY

AUTOMOBILE SHOWS

HORSE JUMPING COMPETITIONS

FASHION SHOWS

BEER FESTIVALS

BABY BATHING COMPETITIONS

5 A SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS

WEDDINGS

FLOWER SHOWS – JUDGED BY ROYALTY!



Now take a look around you. The long corridor which you're standing in is very important. **Why?** Because it links both sides of our building, and it allows our visitors to the theatre move around to get to their seats. It's called The Opeway. An opeway is a very special word used only in Cornwall to describe a cut-through or narrow passageway. Opeas exist all over Truro and other Cornish towns. See if you can find more on a map later (bonus knowledge --> a Northern way of saying Opeway is 'Snicket'!)

Make up a word and write it below. It can be a combination of two words (like Brunch – breakfast and lunch) or maybe it's a word that sounds like what it is describing (like whoosh or clap):



STORYPOINT 6

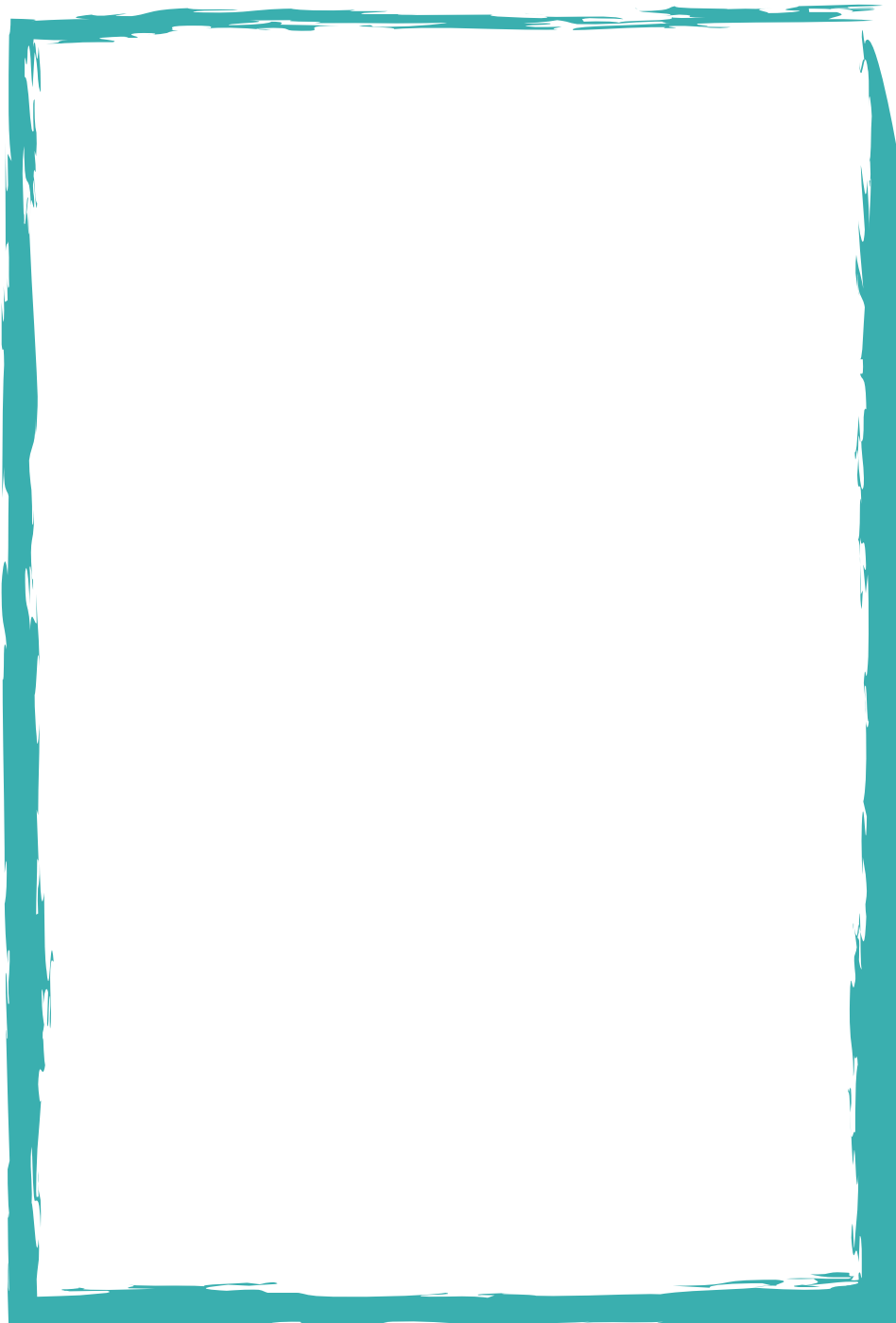
SKATING AT CITY HALL



Sit in an auditorium seat next to Storypoint 6.
Draw what you can see on stage. Is it dark? Are people on stage?
Is the Iron (the big screen) down?
Maybe you're surround by people coming in to watch a show.



DRAW WHAT YOU SEE





STORYPOINT 7

ASSOCIATE

ARTISTS



The stage light on this storypoint reflects Hall for Cornwall's commitment to supporting as many people as possible to enjoy and participate in the creation of theatre and performance art. When people bring us a love of theatre, whether as an audience member, performer or backstage crew, we want to help them to shine.

What do you think is the purpose of stage lighting in a theatre? Tick the boxes below:

- TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE PERSON SPEAKING OR IMPORTANT ACTIVITY
- TO SET THE MOOD OF THE PLAY
- TO CREATE SUSPENSE
- TO COMPLEMENT THE MUSIC
- TO SIGNAL THE BEGINNING AND END OF SCENES

Did you know that above our stage, we have **34 METAL BARS FOR SCENERY AND LIGHTING** to hang on? Or that the stage lighting in a theatre is usually referred to as the **LUMINAIRE**.

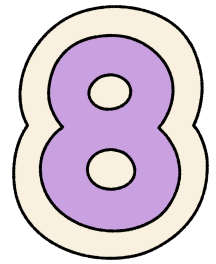
Hall for Cornwall works with up to **600** different performing artists every year. It includes people working on stage and behind the scenes. It could be mentoring for actors, musicians, directors, lighting designers, choreographers or musical directors.

If you could choose one career which takes places in a theatre, what would it be? You can write or draw you answer in the box below.



STORYPOINT 8

LEG IRONS



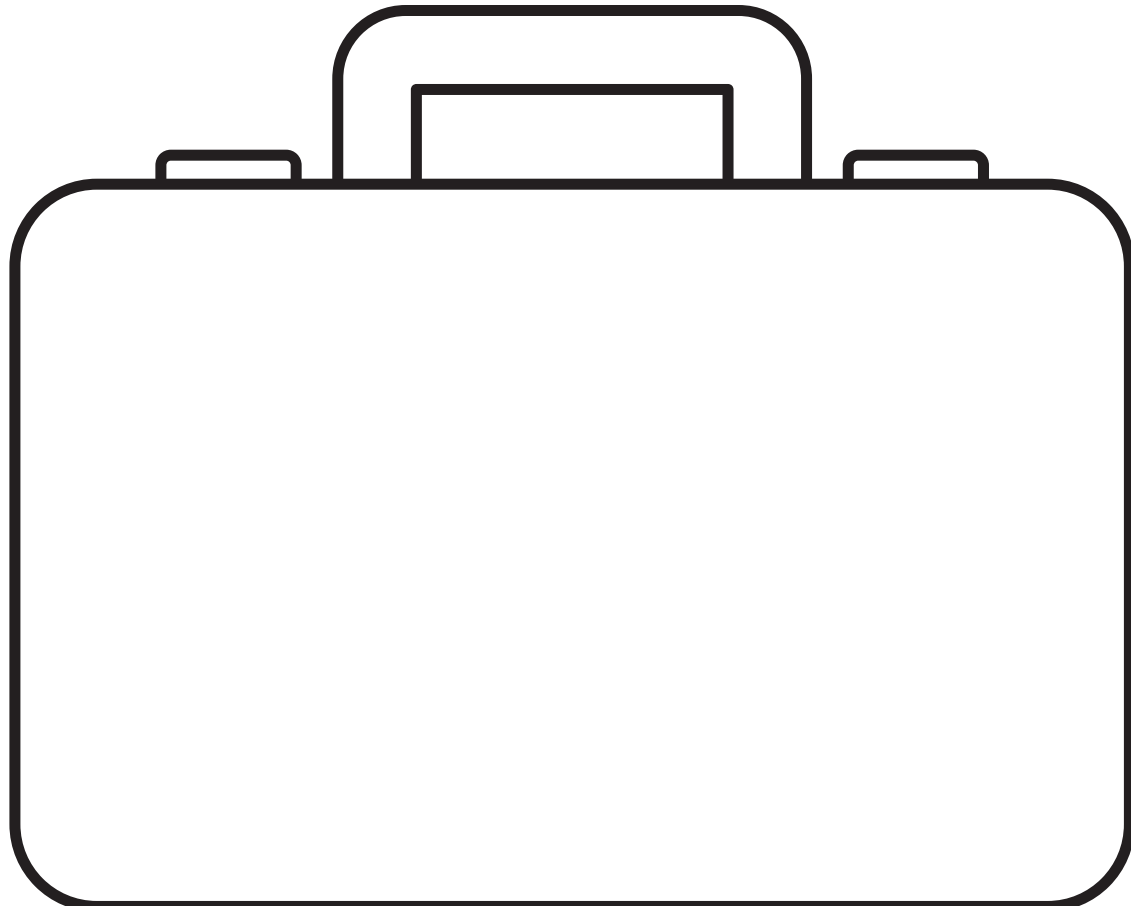
"I'll 'ave you under the clock" was a phrase the local police force once used, referencing the fact that for a period in the 1800s the courts, police station and town jail were all found in City Hall, beneath the imposing clocktower.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 19th Century, the threat used to dissuade Truro's residents from petty crimes, was that of permanent emigration to Australia!

While emigration was advertised as a chance for a new way of life (if you were relatively young, healthy or with a young family), it was also an opportunity to exploit the specialised mining skills that young Cornishmen possessed for mining in Australia. To this day there is a Cornish diaspora in Australia, some of whom willingly emigrated, and some who wanted to escape jail.

How do you think you'd feel if you knew you were about to move to the other side of the world? Do you think you'd feel excited, scared, happy? Write or draw a list of what you'd want to bring in your suitcase:



EMIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Her Majesty's Colonization Commissioners having determined to dispatch in the course of a few weeks a large number of Emigrants, all eligible persons may obtain, by making an IMMEDIATE application, a

FREE PASSAGE!

The classes of persons now in requisition are
**Agricultural Laborers,
SHEPHERDS, CARPENTERS
BLACKSMITHS**

AND
STONE MASONS
And all Persons connected with Building.

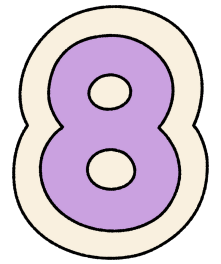
Application to be made to
Mr. L. LATIMER,
Rosewin-row, TRURO.

A. BEARD, PRINTER AND BOOKBINDER, BURLING STREET, TRURO.



STORYPOINT 8

LEG IRONS



TRURO'S REBEL MAIDS



Mary Ann and Elizabeth Thomas of Redruth were regular visitors to the Truro jail. By 1856 this wayward pair had been put in jail 25 times and spent eight years in prison for charges including begging, breaking windows and disorderly conduct.

Take a look at the photos below. Each is an item from City Hall and is part of our [digital heritage collection](#).

Try and work out what they are and what they might have been used for. Were they used for justice?

- Wooden pegs
- Weights
- Mayoral Ruff
- Mayoral Hat
- Freedom of the City coin





STORYPOINT 9

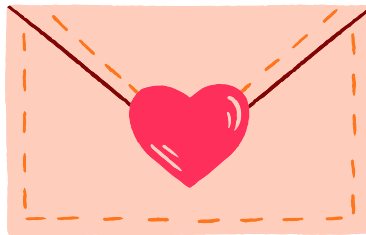
US ARMY

AT CITY HALL

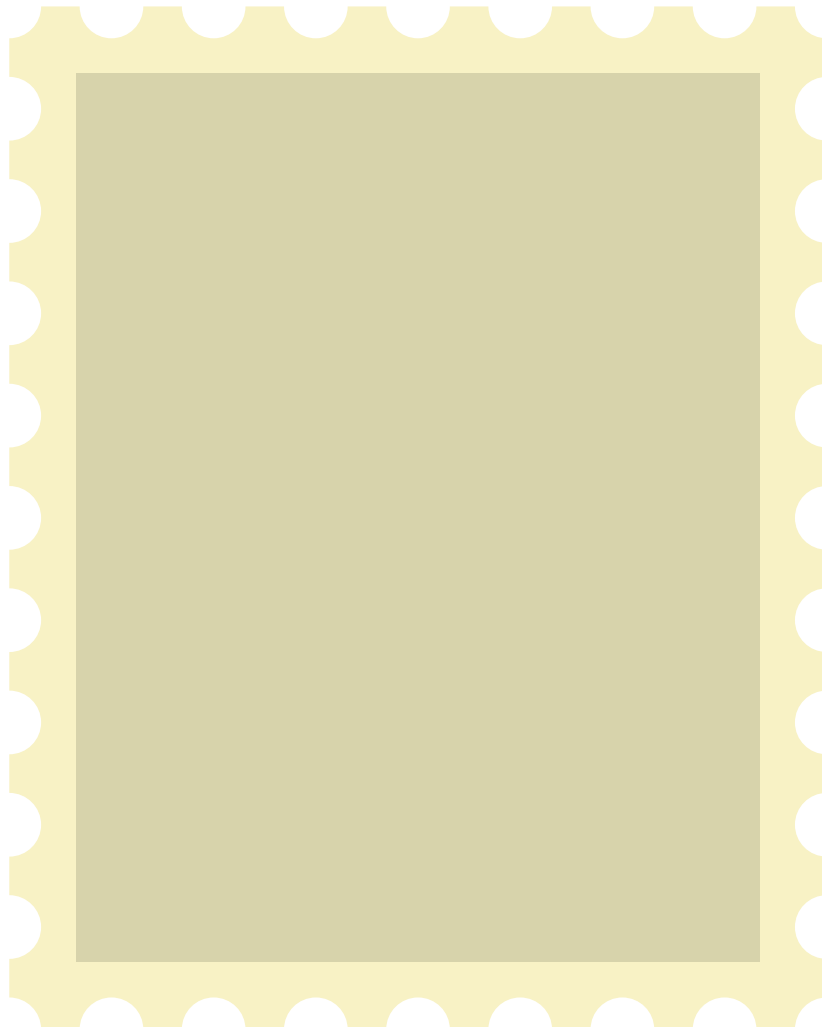
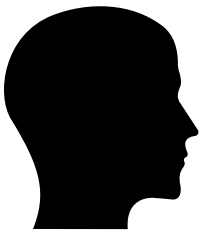


During WW2, City Hall acted as the post exchange (PX) for thousands of American troops who were sent to Truro to prepare for the D-Day landings as part of Operation Bolero.

If you had to send a letter to a loved one who was far away, what would you say and who would you send it to?



Design your own stamp to go on to your letter to a loved one. Make sure you include the silhouette of the new King, King Charles III.





STORYPOINT 9

US ARMY

AT CITY HALL



As well as sending and receiving vital communications from home, the PX also served snacks and drinks and hosted an indoor market and cinema. The US soldiers left in a hurry, leaving behind personal belongings including photographs, magazines, candy and more. The sweets they did use were distributed to local children during Christmas concerts at the hall for families.

Along the banks of the River Fal, and hidden under the trees of the riverbanks, ships and concrete barges assembled preparing to head to France at the end of WWII.

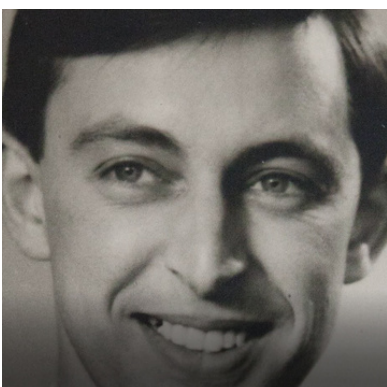


Members of the US Army dance with local women at informal dances at City Hall

MEMORIES

Roger Heayn grew up in Truro. His biggest memory of the war was the German air raid which took place in Truro on 6 August 1942.

FIND OUT MORE



Watch Roger Heayn's [animated oral history](#). Events described include work, attacks and preparations for the Normandy Landings at the very end of WWII.

'We saw the German plane go across. I can see it as if it was yesterday with the black cross on it. It was a surprise attack so no one saw it coming.' The planes shot at Truro railway station with machine guns and dropped two bombs on the old Royal Infirmary Hospital.



STORYPOINT 10

CORNISH GORSE

10

We're showcasing the Cornish landscape at the new Hall for Cornwall with colours and materials chosen to reflect our industrial heritage, and our natural surroundings. For that reason we've chosen the Cornish gorse flower to celebrate all that we are. **Did you know that Gorse is the official flower of Cornwall?**

Colour the gorse using
the colours of our theatre



From producers to performers to audience members, we're here to ignite a love of theatre and live performance. Over the next five year's we're looking forward to welcoming **300,000** people a year through our doors. That's a **LOT** of people.

Who would you most like to see on stage Hall for Cornwall? _____

What would you most like to take part in at our theatre? There's so much going on. From internships and work placements to youth dance, musical theatre and theatre groups. Make a list below!



STORYPOINT 10

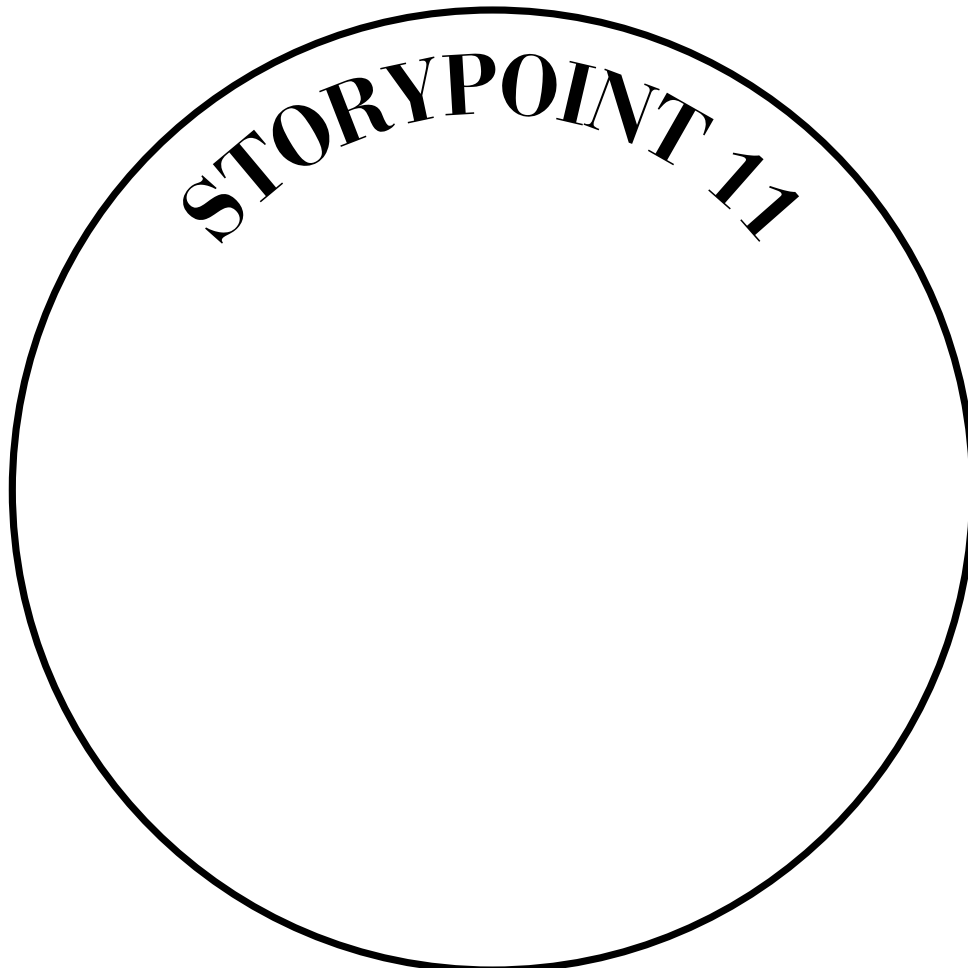
CORNISH GORSE

10

Count how many different materials you can see as you move around the building and tick the boxes below if you can spot them:

- Steel
- Porcelain
- Wood
- Glass
- Brick
- Granite
- Fabric (our seat fabric is a very tough fabric called 'moquette'. This is the same kind of fabric that is used on the Underground in London. Tough indeed!)

And now we have a challenge for you- and that is to draw your own Storypoint! Draw a picture of the theatre as it looks today. You could illustrate the outside of the building, your view right now or even your memory of this historic building. It can be a tiny detail, or even a bird's eye view of the building. Good luck!



RUBBINGS



We've left a big space here for you to take some rubbings of the wonderful textures of the Storypoints and building. Collect them on the next pages as you move around the building.



RUBBINGS



RUBBINGS



RUBBINGS



RUBBINGS

