

# MOSTLY GHOSTLY INVESTIGATIONS



## JOIN OUR HAUNTED THEATRE TOUR



Mostly Ghostly's **Kathleen Cronie** brings news of the Dumfries paranormal investigation group's latest spine-chilling venture, where you can join in

Since the launch of our Dumfries Ghost Walk last year, we've had lots of requests from the public wanting to spend time in a haunted building.

Many people feel the need to get a bit closer to the action and to experience something paranormal for themselves, gaining that all-important sense of atmosphere and hopefully a little more...

Of course, we've had our fair share of weird and wonderful happenings on the Ghost Walk, but to be given access to the hidden recesses of Scotland's oldest working theatre is another thing entirely. How many people visiting the Theatre Royal in Dumfries have wondered what it would be like to stand on the stage or descend into the famously haunted basement? Well now you can do just that!

Saturday October 29 sees the launch of our new **Haunted Theatre Tour** where we will take a group of brave and curious participants around some of the theatre's most active and atmospheric places. We'll share a selection of ghostly tales from the theatre's rich history – and some of our own eerie encounters there.

The theatre has long been associated with stories of ghosts and spirits including a Green Lady who is said to haunt the basement. Her legendary presence is rumoured to be the result of a bizarre double tragedy where she and a fellow theatre-goer were killed. Other manifestations include dark, shadowy figures, poltergeist disturbances and numerous reports of phantom footsteps treading the boards long after the curtain has come down.

For many of our summer season walks, Alan Henry, Master of the Guild, kindly volunteered his time to open up for us. This gave participants the chance to hear our ghost stories in the foyer before they were taken on a whistle-stop tour of the auditorium. People enjoyed this addition to our walks and when we began to put out the feelers for a Haunted Theatre Tour, the feedback was extremely positive. We have conducted three investigations and a paranormal event at the theatre and spent many nights talking over our ideas for a partnership. We could see so much potential and wanted to offer something completely different to promote both ourselves and the theatre, perhaps encouraging new visitors through its doors and sparking fresh interest. As you can imagine, we were thrilled when the Guild agreed to host our new tour in this magnificent building.

As well as the rich and varied tales of paranormal activity, we plan to make the experience an interactive one by adding a couple of short experiments. That way, participants can get more involved and share their experiences with the team. We will, of course, be noting any unusual activity for our records and perhaps a few of these accounts will find their way into a future tour...

■ *Mostly Ghostly Investigations' Haunted Theatre Tour at The Theatre Royal, Shakespeare Street, Dumfries, is on Saturday, October 29 at 7pm. Tickets £8/concession £6, available from Mostly Ghostly on 07751 722008 or 07791 047835. For more information see [www.mostlyghostly.org](http://www.mostlyghostly.org). The tour will last about 90 minutes and more dates will be scheduled for 2012.*