

Space-Mission: A Brownsword Challenge



After twelve months of negotiation, Next Stage Theatre Company has acquired a long-term lease on the two-storey building at the rear of The Mission Theatre.

This building, known as The Old Bakery, has **great potential as breakout and workshop areas, dressing rooms and rehearsal space** which are currently at a bare minimum in the theatre's main building. However this potential is only a vision of the future. Despite its central Bath location, The Old Bakery has been derelict for many years and in its current state is inhospitable and unsafe.



Space-Mission needs to raise at least £50,000 for resident theatre company Next Stage to perform miracles and transform this dilapidated building into a backstage centre.



Every penny counts. We have been extremely fortunate to secure **matched funding from the Brownsword Charitable Trust** for this project, so every pound we receive for Space-Mission will put us £2 nearer our goal of **£50,000**. **Andrew Brownsword's support** of Next Stage's work at The Mission Theatre has been a major factor in the success of the building's restoration. The last **Brownsword Challenge** here in 2007 provided matched funding to enable us to raise the £20,000 we needed to repair the old and leaking roof.

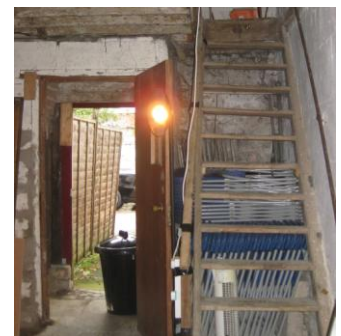
This latest project, Space-Mission, will sympathetically renovate a derelict structure within the curtilage of a Grade II listed building and restore it to its former glory.



Before our vision can become a reality, The Old Bakery desperately needs:



- a structural survey
- a new roof
- new walls
- new flooring
- new windows
- an electricity supply
- a drainage system
- a new staircase



The finished building will not only provide The Mission Theatre with two large and comfortable dressing rooms, but will also **enable the 60-strong Next Stage Youth Company to have much needed rehearsal rooms and break-out space.**



An added bonus of acquiring The Old Bakery is the fact that there will be access from the current Stage Right dressing rooms into the new building, thus enabling actors and performers in the Main Auditorium to exit from one side of the end-on stage and move backstage to the opposite side via the new dressing rooms.



PLEASE GIVE US A BOOST



If anyone can, we can – Next Stage renovated The Mission Theatre in just 6 weeks starting in November 2004 and opening as a fully functioning performing space in January 2005. We did it **without public funding** – the project was made possible by the dedicated hard work of our volunteers and the outstanding generosity of members, friends and supporters, including **Andrew Brownsword**.

Time is of the essence. We are anxious that work should begin on The Old Bakery as soon as possible. **Companies are using the theatre as a performance and rehearsal space every day** and with winter on the way, it is imperative that we start the vital work on the structure and roof before another heavy snowfall causes even more damage.

The sky's the limit. Your support will be invaluable and of inestimable benefit to the hundreds of local actors, musicians, dancers, Festivals and youth companies who rehearse and perform at The Mission.

Any donation, however large or small, will be much appreciated and recognised in the theatre and online on a **Rocket Roll of Honour**.

As the Rocket's fuel tanks fill up, everyone visiting The Mission will be able to see how close we are getting to our target.

How to donate:

- We gratefully accept cheques payable to **Next Stage Projects** and posted to us along with the slip below to The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, Bath BA1 1UF.
- Alternatively drop into the theatre with cash or a cheque and ask us for the latest news on the renovation.
- Donations can be anonymous if preferred.

For more info:

- Check out our fundraising page www.missiontheatre.co.uk/fundraising.html
- Follow the project @mission_theatre on Twitter
- Call The Mission on 01225 428600 or drop us an email at nextstagebath@aol.com

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Space-Mission Donation Form

Please find enclosed £_____ for Space-Mission.

Name: _____

Contact tel/email: _____

**I do/do not wish my name to appear on the
Rocket Roll of Honour.**

**Please make cheques payable to Next Stage Projects and return
to The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, Bath BA1 1UF.**

Signed: _____ Date: _____