

The Shambles (undated),
Ground floor plan of the
Grand Theatre (undated),
Commercial Street bread
Arch (1895),
Leeds and the River Aire in
the Seventeenth Century,
Crown Point Printing Works
(1892)



Research Guides

Prints and Playbills

Our Research Guides list some of the most useful, interesting and unique items in **Local and Family History** at **Leeds Central Library**. Many others are listed in our online and card catalogues.

Contact us for more information:

Visit: www.leeds.gov.uk/localandfamilyhistory

Email: localandfamilyhistory@leeds.gov.uk

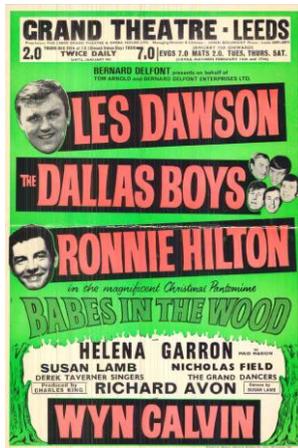
Tel. (0113) 378 6982

Playbills

Our playbills collection of theatre and circus bills ranges from 1781 to the 1990's. These cover theatres such as the City Varieties, The Grand Theatre, The Empire, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Theatre Royal and The Princess' Theatre as well as miscellaneous performances in other venues. Circus bills include performances by Pablo Fanque's Equestrian artists, Manders' Royal Menagerie and Sanger's Zoological Hippodrome and Mammoth Circus.

Many household names appear on the more recent playbills such as Bruce Forsyth, Ken Dodd, Barbara Windsor and Tommy Steele. Earlier artistes include Lily Langtry and Ellen Terry.

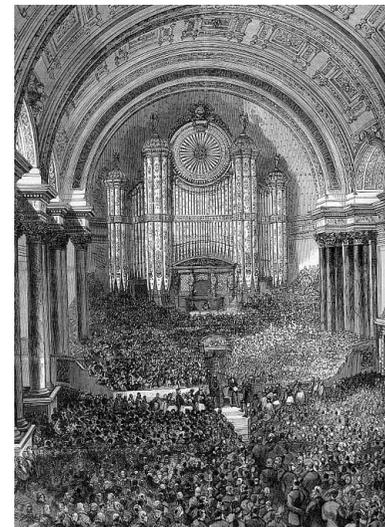
Over 5,000 of these playbills can be viewed online at www.leodis.net/playbills and can be searched by act, keyword, date or theatre name. A selection can also be purchased – please view the online gallery for current prices.



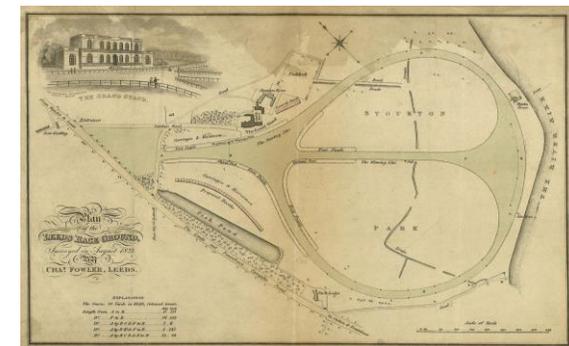
L-R Manders' Royal Menagerie (1860), Grand Theatre – Babes in the Wood (1970), City Varieties – Sooty's Christmas Show (1957)

Prints

Our collection of prints covers a wide variety of subjects from execution posters to floorplans. Posters of local events and exhibitions, cinema bills, postcards, political cartoons, portraits, etchings, drawings and paintings of local buildings are well represented as well as oddities such as the calendar of the 1895 bread arch. Some of our print collection can be viewed online at www.leodis.net/discovery and some on our photographic archive website www.leodis.net, however much of it is still indexed on our card catalogue within the Local and Family History Library.



Leeds Election Cartoon (1874), Execution poster (1864), Gladstone's visit to Leeds (1881), Leeds Race Ground (1823)



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