



## **MP PRESSES FOR ARTEFACTS TO BE SAVED FROM THEATRE BEFORE DEMOLITION**

North Tyneside constituency MP, Mary Glindon, is to meet with North Tyneside Council officers to investigate any last-minute ways in which to save internal fixtures and fittings which may be of historical value or interest from the doomed Borough Theatre in Wallsend. The theatre, in High Street East, Wallsend, which was built in 1909, is to be demolished by the Council and the land used for housing development.

Mary says "North Tyneside Council website states that '2010/11 is Year of the Arts in North Tyneside, I am concerned because I feel The Borough Theatre could've been restored to provide a real asset to Wallsend, particularly as the closure of The Buddle means the nearest performance venue is now either at Whitley Bay or Newcastle City Centre. It is very sad to lose our theatre heritage in this way, however If we cannot save the theatre then we should, at least, try to salvage some of the significant internal fixtures and fittings. I have been told by Mr Slim Palmer from Save The Borough Theatre Group that some of the items inside include a sun burner, which was a lighting arrangement used by the Victorians and there is also a gas plate that Victorians and Edwardians used for stage lighting. There is also decorative plasterwork and columns. We must act quickly to preserve these items as the theatre is due to be demolished imminently'".

Please contact Mary Glindon at her constituency office on 234 2493 for further information.