

Picturedrome Cinema

[Picturedrome Cinema | Bognor Regis \(bognorregisbeach.co.uk\)](http://Picturedrome%20Cinema%20|%20Bognor%20Regis%20(bognorregisbeach.co.uk))

Located opposite the railway station, Bognor Regis Picturedrome Cinema (Grade II listed) was originally the new assembly rooms, designed by local architect Arthur Smith and opened in May 1886 at the cost of £4,500. It was used for a variety of purposes, including stage shows, dancing, roller-skating, badminton and community functions. There was a main hall and a minor upstairs hall.

The most prominent feature of the cinema is the octagonal lantern tower, which at one time housed a revolving light, operated by a boy pedalling a bicycle-type mechanism that advertised its presence miles around.

Films were first presented in 1887 when David Devant brought his animatograph to Bognor on 14-16 December. Reputedly, such was the impact of the fire brigade call that it had patrons ducking for cover beneath the chairs in front of them for fear that the galloping horses would descend from the screen and crash down amongst them.

Bognor Local History Museum

[Bognor Regis Museum - 01243 865636 - Home \(bognormuseum.org\)](http://Bognor%20Regis%20Museum%20-%2001243%20865636%20-%20Home%20(bognormuseum.org))

Almost every aspect of Bognor's history is represented, from rocks and fossils millions of years old, to before the town was founded through to the present day.

With around 10,000 visitors a year, the Museum is a popular attraction. Exhibits include displays of vintage cameras, fossils, an Edwardian kitchen and the story of Bathing Machine Proprietor Mary Wheatland. The Ron Simpson Wireless Collection is named after a former Curator with a passion for old radios who bequeathed his own extensive collection to the Museum.

Have you found any of the Blue Plaques around the town? Find out about the many famous people that have lived in Bognor.

In addition to the dressing-up box, there are two quizzes to help keep the youngsters busy and a very lazy cat to find. We also have seasonal events for families at Easter, Halloween and Christmas.