

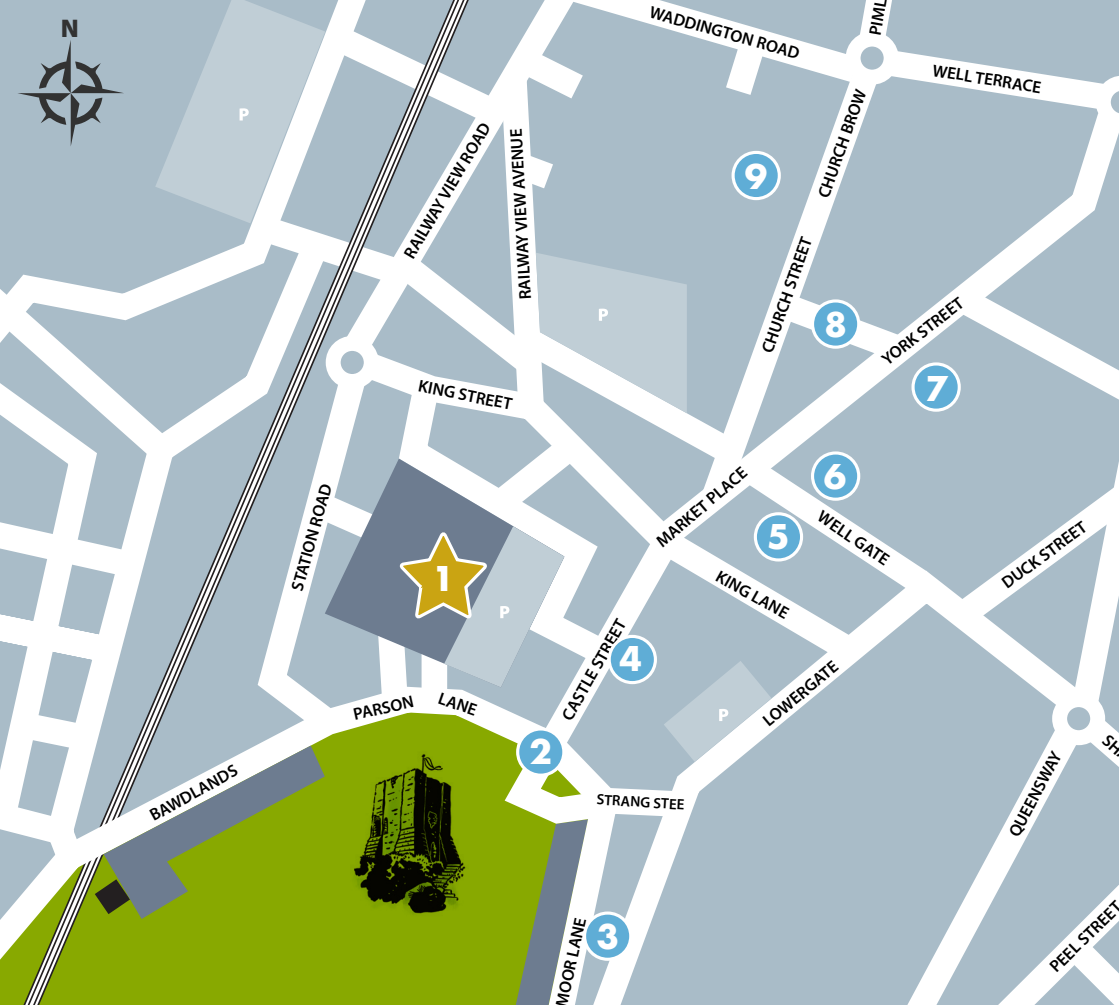
WELCOME TO CLITHEROE, THE PROUD LOCATION OF

# GREATEST DAYS



Your chance to discover the locations in Clitheroe  
where filming for this great movie took place.





## 1. CLITHEROE MARKET

On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Clitheroe Market is a hive of activity, with over 80 stalls selling everything from fruit and vegetables to curtains and fabrics. The market was a riot of sound and colour during one of the film's biggest song and dance numbers and many market traders were extras in the scene. The market features a Hollywood-style gold star commemorating the filming of GREATEST DAYS. And while you are there check out the cake display at the famous Blueberries café, which is the talk of the town and beyond.

## 2. CLITHEROE CASTLE

Clitheroe Castle has dominated the Ribble Valley skyline since the 12th Century and provided the backdrop for some of GREATEST DAYS' most pivotal scenes, including the film's incredible finale. The castle features one of the smallest Norman keeps in the country, an award-winning museum complex, Lancashire's first public labyrinth and 16 acres of parkland. Its museum hosts permanent exhibitions on Clitheroe, the area's geology and local myths and legends, as well as a packed schedule of family-friendly events. The five school friends dance and sing out of the castle's main gates in Castlegate, which is replicated later in the film by their adult counterparts.



## 3. THE IRONING MAIDS

The Ironing Maids has been run by Neil and Pip Dunn and their chirpy chief ironer Noy Pollard for 15 years. Tucked away in Lowergate, the much-loved shop offers a full range of ironing services and in the film is run by the family of Claire, the 'sporty one' of the five school friends. Claire continues to work in the Ironing Maids into adulthood and its quirky colourful façade can be spotted in several key scenes in the film.



## 4. BANANA NEWS

It is difficult to miss Banana News in the middle of Castle Street – not only is it brightly painted banana-yellow, but it stocks an astounding range of magazines stacked and racked inside and out, with titles as diverse as 'Philosophy Now' to 'Rolls Royce and Bentley Driver'. Proprietors David and Mary Brass have run the shop for 50 years and were delighted to host the film's 1990s photobooth – you can spot David serving a customer in the background as the five school friends celebrate their friendship with a customary strip of photos.

## 5. BRIOCHE

This modern Wellgate bistro was turned into a vibrant wellington boot and umbrella shop featuring one of the most colourful window displays you will ever see. Here is the backdrop for the five school friends, as they sit in the Colborne House Café across the road plotting a life-changing trip to see their much-loved boy band. As well as hosting the location crew for impromptu meetings, Brioche's popular porridge with cream and honey proved a favourite with cast and crew and its famous afternoon teas attract visitors from far and wide.

## 6. COLBORNE HOUSE CAFE

Colborne House Café, known locally as Swales's, has been in the ownership of the Swales family since 1975. Mum Ruth still works in the café, which is now run by son Anthony, wife Gill, who bakes fresh cakes every morning, and sister Julie. In the film, the café is run by the mum of Zoe, the 'brainy one' of the five school friends, and was the location for several scenes in the film. Swales's is a favourite among townspeople and visitors alike for its cheery vibe, original fixtures and fittings and famous 'pie, peas and gravy'.



## 7. THE GRAND

Housed in a former Victorian cinema, the Grand was transformed into a ground-breaking performing arts venue in 2008 and now welcomes artists from all over the world. As well as hosting the GREATEST DAYS wardrobe department, the Grand's façade was the scene of the life-changing concert that the five school friends attend. Here is where they leave the concert and board a bus home featuring one of the film's most memorable song and dance numbers. The Grand inspires young artists through its partnership with Burnley College's degree in music and music production and an academy of arts run by former Britain's Got Talent star Ella Shaw.

## 8. PARADISE LANE

Paradise Lane is an ancient cobbled steep alleyway that leads from York Street opposite the Grand up to St Mary Magdalene's Church, which according to local folklore explains its name. The picturesque alleyway skirts the Clitheroe Parish Church Hall, where filming took place for one of the film's most hilarious motifs. But more poignantly here you can see the young Rachel, played by Lara McDonnell, undergo an experience that will change her life, and that of her friends, forever.

## 9. ST MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH

You will find St Mary Magdalene's Church, also known as Clitheroe Parish Church situated on a limestone outcrop in Church Brow. The church's peaceful gardens enjoy panoramic views across the valley and Trough of Bowland and are much-loved by office workers enjoying a quiet lunchtime break. A peal of eight bells and an unusual east window depicting 1,000 years of local history are a reminder of the church's long connection with the community. And for music enthusiasts, Sunday services are supported by a full choir and a particularly fine organ. The church was the location of some of the film's most moving scenes that will have you reaching for you hankie.



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