

# About Andrew Newton



# Andrew Newton – Illustrated Biography

---

**Andrew Newton received a grammar school education at the Xaverian College in Manchester where he developed a keen interest in music, literature, the classics and history.** He was rubbish at maths, physics and chemistry, refused to learn German (because we won the war) and excelled at the art of remaining invisible.

In his teenage years he spent most of his free time playing in local amateur orchestras and brass bands, not only as a player but on several occasions as conductor of the semi-professional Manchester Concert Orchestra. During the summer holidays, he worked in the music library of the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra (now the BBC Philharmonic) in Manchester, spending most of the day watching them rehearse. Sitting upstairs in the studio gallery, he had a unique opportunity to watch some of the world's greatest conductors and musicians at work. To this day he still has a love and respect for great music, something about which he is passionate. A fan of Gilbert & Sullivan, he is an admirer of W.S. Gilbert's satire and wit. Whenever possible, he attends the annual Gilbert & Sullivan festival in Buxton and Harrogate, UK.

In 1975, Andrew went to study percussion at the **Royal Northern College of Music** in Manchester before going on to play with the **Hallé Orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra**. By a sheer stroke of luck, *mainly by being in the right place at the right time*, he got the percussion job with the **Max Jaffa Orchestra** and still harbours fond memories of those balmy four month-long summer seasons at the Spa Grand Hall in Scarborough, North Yorkshire. The orchestra gave concerts every morning and evening, with a different programme for each concert, and without any rehearsal. *'You were expected to sight-read your way through basically the whole classical repertoire... looking back, I think those four years were probably the happiest of my life... uncomplicated... secure... and working with great musicians.'*

It was during this time that Andrew developed an interest in human psychology and behaviour. By chance, one of the guest singers handed him a seventy year old book on the art of persuasion and the ease with which people's attitudes, opinions and beliefs could be swayed. He consumed books on psychology and eventually came across a book on hypnosis. Starting with impromptu demonstrations of this new found skill, he immediately saw the potential of taking it into the theatres. Within twelve months, he was selling out major UK venues.

**At his own financial risk, he hired the 1,500 seat Royal Court Theatre in Liverpool, performing over 400 shows in Liverpool between 1981 and 1994.** His late-night 'Over The Top' shows were legendary in Liverpool during the 1980's, often courting controversy and equally often appearing in the newspapers! The success was repeated in other towns although the late shows were exclusive to Liverpool. Several times a year Andrew sold out all the country's top theatres including the Manchester Apollo (2,700 seats), Liverpool Empire (2,300 seats), Edinburgh Playhouse (3,000 seats), Sunderland Empire (1,800 seats), Bristol Hippodrome (1,800 seats), as well as the smaller regional theatres. His record of 400 shows in Liverpool was equalled at the World Famous City Varieties Theatre in Leeds where, to date, he has performed his one-man show 332 times. He had no manager or agent, and everything he accomplished was intuitive and by his own hard work.

**Above all things it was a combination of a natural ability and a ready, often acerbic, biting wit which turned stage hypnosis into the phenomena it became.** In the 1980's, he was virtually alone in the business, but his success inspired a host of others.

**In 1987 Andrew became the first stage hypnotist to appear in London since 1948.** After delicate licensing negotiations with City of Westminster Council, he appeared for fourteen weeks at Wyndham's Theatre in the heart of the West End, the first time a hypnotist had appeared in the capital for nearly forty years. It was during this time he met Paul McKenna, then a DJ on a local radio station. He spent many hours teaching Paul the art of hypnosis. Paul would often travel to Manchester for his hypnosis lessons and attended most of Andrew's London shows as well as other performances around the country. To cut an unpleasant story short, in the Royal Courts of Justice in London (1992) Lord Justice Millet described Mr. McKenna as *'Mr. Newton's protégé.'*

**Andrew was the first hypnotist to appear on British television (1992)** and his 22 part series ***The Andrew Newton Hypnotic Experience*** was shown all over the world, from Australia to Zimbabwe.

Comedians **Frank Carson, Jim Bowen, Roy Walker** and **Tom O'Connor**, TV presenters **Carol Vorderman** and **Nicky Campbell**, Olympic Gold Medalist **Sharon Davies**, Boxer **Henry Cooper** and footballer **Vinny Jones**, Snooker Ace **John Virgo**, and Zoologist **Johnny Morris** all appeared as guests on the show.

**Worldwide, over three quarters of a million people have seen Andrew perform LIVE, and at least 100 million have seen at least one of his television shows.**

Andrew can legitimately claim the largest audience for a hypnotic show; 30,000 people at York Castle on 5th November 1993.

**To date, he has hypnotised over 60,000 people worldwide, including many famous names in the UK and abroad, and has over 6,100 stage and television performances under his belt.**

Apart from his twice yearly tours of the United Kingdom, Andrew has been a regular and welcome visitor to **New Zealand, Australia** and **South Africa**. In 1987 Andrew presented his show for a sell out three month season at the Riviera Hotel in **Las Vegas**, appearing on the same stage as Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Ginger Rogers, Louis Armstrong, Sammy Davis Jr., Liberace, Barbara Streisand and Elvis Presley! He has also appeared in **Hong Kong** and **Singapore** where he was known locally as 'the magic man'. In 1998, he was invited to perform in **China**. *'When I arrived in China, I was the only hypnotist ever to appear in China... Six weeks later, I was one of two hundred hypnotists appearing in China!'* He has also toured extensively in **India, Sweden and Norway**.

Andrew's tours of **New Zealand** have been particularly successful. He has sold out the 2,500 seat Michael Fowler Centre in the capital, Wellington, 25 times and has had similar successes at the 2,300 seat Town Hall in Christchurch, as well as the Auckland Town Hall, the Founders Theatre in Hamilton, the Bay Court Theatre in Tauranga, New Plymouth Opera House and many more. Over the last 37 years, Andrew has played to over 1 million people in New Zealand and is still a household name there. Andrew was mentioned in the New Zealand Parliament by former Prime Minister David Lange, who asked the House if he would be available to hypnotise the opposition!

Andrew considers New Zealand to be the most beautiful country in the world and loves the country with an unequalled passion. *'New Zealand has a very special place in my heart and*

*it's the place where I am happiest. I love the people, the culture, the politics, and the fact that it's the safest country in the world, earthquakes notwithstanding. I spend as much time there every year as I possibly can.'*

**Andrew is a fully qualified pilot who for many years flew his own aircraft. He used it to commute on a weekly basis from Manchester to Jersey in the Channel Islands and from there, frequently flew the short hop to France for lunch.**

**In 1989 he piloted a light aircraft around New Zealand**, stopping in a different town each night to perform in New Zealand's theatres. Always looking for a challenge, he landed the aircraft on Franz Josef Glacier in the South Island, an experience he describes as 'slippery.' He has also flown extensively in Kenya, exploring the game parks and some areas of the country that would normally be inaccessible to most tourists, including Lake Victoria. On one occasion he flew into Tanzania, Rwanda and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo), describing that experience as 'hair-raising.' And just so he could say he'd done it, he once landed his own plane at London Heathrow Airport, describing that experience as 'expensive.'

**In 1992 he flew his own aeroplane from Manchester to Nairobi**, a wild trip of some 5,000 miles each way. Flying from Manchester Airport over France, Italy, Greece, the Mediterranean to Cairo and following the river Nile south through Egypt, over the Red Sea into Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, then back into Africa via Ethiopia and finally into Nairobi, Kenya.

In 1988 Andrew climbed the 19,500ft. Mount Kilimanjaro, tracked Gorillas in Zaire and flew hot air balloons in Kenya's Masai Mara. He survived a plane crash in Kenya and once, after his car broke down in the Rift Valley, spent the night in a Masai village, an experience he describes as '*a huge eye-opener*'.

**He is in great demand as a speaker, lecturer and teacher, specialising in the nature of suggestion, hypnosis, group behaviour and hypnosis in religion.** He has on several occasions worked with people indoctrinated by religious cults. He does this work free and he is highly successful in this field.

**Andrew Newton is a regular speaker at Psychology Conferences in the UK and regularly lectures to Psychology Students on Hypnosis.**

**Andrew is principal lecturer in Hypnosis at the Hypnoseakademiet in Norway, Europe's premier Hypnosis and EFT training school, a position he has held since 2008.**

**In 2014, Andrew was invited by the City of Melbourne to take part in a project to make four short films about changing Melbourne's residents' perception of the city.** All the participants in the experiment had been born and brought up in Melbourne. Filming took a month and the finished films were titled 'The Land of In-Between.' The project was groundbreaking in the techniques employed and in the results of the experiment. Under hypnosis, participants were given a new experience of the Central Business District, specifically, the shops, art galleries, coffee shops, bars, clubs, music venues and restaurants hidden away in between the office buildings and sky-scrapers – hence the title of the films.

**In 2015, Andrew accepted an invitation to lecture in Hypnosis at IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) in Delhi, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda Gujarat, and Bits Pilani University, Goa.** Whilst in India, he also found time to do

shows in those cities. Stage Hypnosis is new to India, and Andrew fast became a nationally recognised figure, attracting audiences of thousands.

Returning to the UK in 2017, Andrew worked in Clinical Hypnotherapy in Harley Street, London, specialising in the treatment of deep trauma and a variety of emotional problems. He is a member of the **Royal Society of Medicine** and through his work in the field of criminal psychology has been a member of the **International Police Association** since 2005.

**In 1997 Andrew moved to Cape Town, South Africa**, where he is now based for much of the year. He also spends a few weeks every year in Conwy, North Wales, a beautiful medieval walled seaside town, complete with castle built by Edward I in 1300.

Please note – ALL images and artwork are copyright and must not be reproduced without my written permission.



*Above:* View from the stage at the Isaac Theatre Royal, Christchurch, New Zealand, 2018.

I have toured all over the world, but New Zealand is without doubt my favourite country. I have visited NZ almost every year from 1982 to the present – that's round the world 38 times... or 44 times if you include my trips to Australia. I've performed in every city numerous times and managed to do at least one show in almost every small town over the years. And after 38 national tours, the shows still sell out!



*Above:* Conwy, North Wales. I have a home here and I try to spend at least three months a year here... a lovely place to live... and safe!

*Below:* Lecturing to students at Bits Pilani University in Goa, India – 2015. Most of these students are doing two degrees and they study from 7 in the morning to late every night. 60 million Indian students are in university education right now... and their appetite for knowledge is insatiable. I really enjoyed my time there!





*Above left & right:* First Hypnotist on TV! This is a shot from my pilot on ITV in 1992. It was followed by a 22 part series 'The Andrew Newton Hypnotic Experience' on SKY TV. The pilot programme was fronted by Carol Vorderman, produced by John Fisher and directed by Paul Kirrage.

Both John Fisher and Paul Kirrage had previously worked on the Parkinson show, Russel Harty, Michael Barrymore and the Ken Dodd TV shows. As the first hypnotist ever to appear on British TV, I have no idea what the crew must have made of it all!

As I was ushered into the studio at 10.00am for the camera rehearsal, John put his arm round my shoulder and gesturing to the set and the cameras, said 'All this is for you...' No pressure then!!!

Following the one hour pilot 'The Andrew Newton Hypnotic Experience' ran for 22 half-hour shows on Sky TV.

*Below left:* My view of the stage as I wait to go on.

*Below right:* Warming up the volunteers at the start of the show



*Below:* You never know who you're going to meet in this business... Meeting Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York at the Artscape Theatre in Cape Town after a fundraising show.



...and some people just go completely over the top!



*Next Page:* Two weeks in Las Vegas got extended to three months... I suggested we do the show for free for the first two weeks anyway – to generate word of mouth. They thought I was mad, but it worked and we sold out every show after that. I performed a one hour show every day for three months, after which, I'd had enough and began to hate every minute of it. Definitely an experience I would be in no hurry to repeat. They offered me a one-year contract with an option for three years, but I would have had no life.



STAR INTERNATIONAL  
SHOW OF THE YEAR

JEFF KUTASH'S  
\$22.50 2 PM  
\$19.50 11 PM  
\$3 SURCHARGE ON SAT & HOLIDAYS

**Splash** ALL NEW!

SPECIAL GUEST SHIMADA

MURILLO & ULISES  
DICK PALOMBI ORCHESTRA

MAC VALLEY  
GLOBE OF DEATH

# RIVIERA

MARDI GRAS PLAZA  
NORBERT ALEMAN'S  
**CRAZY GIRLS**  
FANTASIE DE PARIS  
STAGED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY VICTOR UPSHAW  
8 + 9:30 & 11 PM  
\$12.50 \$2 SURCHARGE SAT. & HOLIDAYS  
PRODUCED BY NORBERT ALEMAN & DICK FEENEY  
INCL. 2 DRINKS

NORBERT ALEMAN PRESENTS  
LOU PACIOCCO'S AN EVENING AT  
7 + 9 & 11 PM **LA CAGE** STARRING  
FRANK MARINO AS JOAN RIVERS

\$12.50 MALE IMPRESSIONISTS EXTRAORDINAIRE  
INCL. 2 DRINKS \$2 SURCHARGE SAT. & HOLIDAYS

FREE SHOW  
FEATURING COMEDIAN - HYPNOTIST  
**ANDREW NEWTON**  
JANUARY 10 - 22 4 PM DAILY  
VERSAILLES THEATRE

BUDD FRIEDMAN'S AN EVENING AT THE

8:30 + 10:30 & 12 MIDNIGHT  
\$9.50

**IMPROV** JERRY MINER  
RON RICHARDS  
MARK HALLORAN  
JEFF FOXWORTHY  
\$2 SURCHARGE SAT. & HOLIDAYS

**KENTUCKY COUNTRY** AMERICA'S HOTTEST  
APPEARING IN SPLASH FIDDLIN', FOOT + STOMPIN' FAMILY

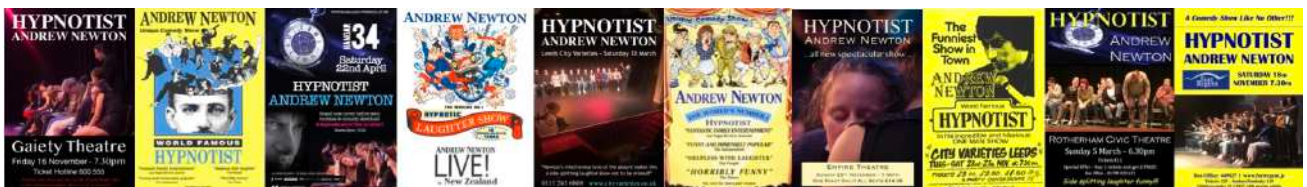
WELCOME  
1989 WINTER

*Below left: By Sydney Opera House, 1984.*

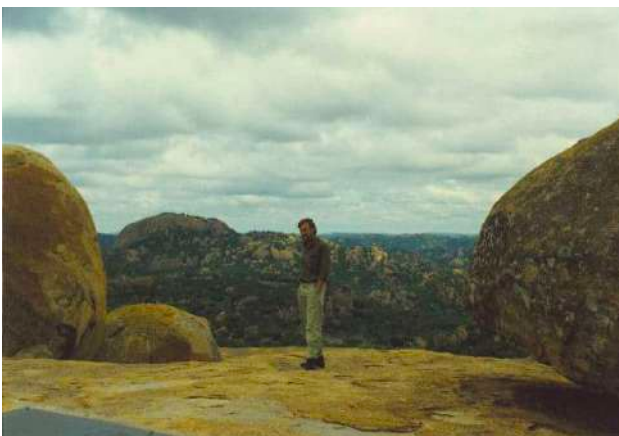
*Below left: Sydney Harbour Bridge, 1984.*



*Below: Queenstown, New Zealand, 2008. No comments about the hat please!*



*Below:* In 1988 I fulfilled a long held ambition and went for 3 months to explore Africa, and what an adventure that turned out to be! I wrecked two cars and crashed one plane!



*Above:* 1) Soaking wet from the mist and spray thrown up by the Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 1988 – a truly thunderous experience!

2) Tracking gorillas in Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of Congo, in 1992. I am behind the camera. One of the greatest experiences of my life. After 5 days in the rain forest, I smelled like one too – beats swimming with a large fish.

3) Flying into Keekorok Lodge in Kenya's Masai Mara.

4) At the Summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania – 1987. Three days up, two days down and it nearly killed me. But what an adventure! On the way up I was overtaken by a group of six British Army officers who were doing the whole climb – up and down – in 24 hours! Bloody show-offs.

5) Cecil Rhodes grave at the World's View in the Matopos Hills, Zimbabwe, 1988.

6) Crossed the border illegally to the Serengeti National Park, Tanzania.



*Above left:* By 1987, I had my pilot's licence and was already flying big twin engine aircraft. So when I was given an opportunity to fly a Tiger Moth, I leapt at the opportunity. So here I am in Rotorua, New Zealand with Instructor pilot Warwick Bleakey in the back seat ready to loop the loop and indulge in some dangerous flying.

*Above right:* The Rock of Gibraltar, 2014, with my new best friend. Not my proudest moment it has to be said!

*Below:* Before my reincarnation as a hypnotist, I had trained as a classical musician. From 1977 to 1980 I played percussion in the famous Max Jaffa Orchestra. That's me at the back, surrounded by timpani, drums, xylophone and tubular bells during a rehearsal. I had to play xylophone solos every Saturday night in front of audiences of up to 2,000. Looking back, those days were some of the happiest of my life.

Now, I play with the local amateur orchestra – during lockdown, we rehearsed online I soundproofed the garden room and turned it into a studio!

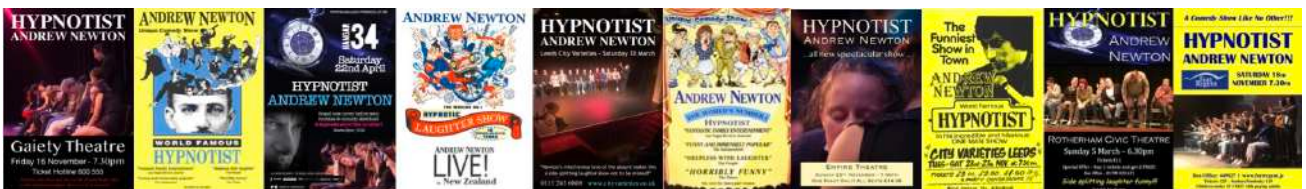


*Below:* This adult male cheetah was happy to let me play with him, but he still demands respect.



*Below left:* Outside the National Theatre In Oslo, Norway...

*Below right:* Lunch break in Bergen Norway.





*Above left:* Selfie with large fish and a stop for coffee in Gore, South Island, NZ, 2017.

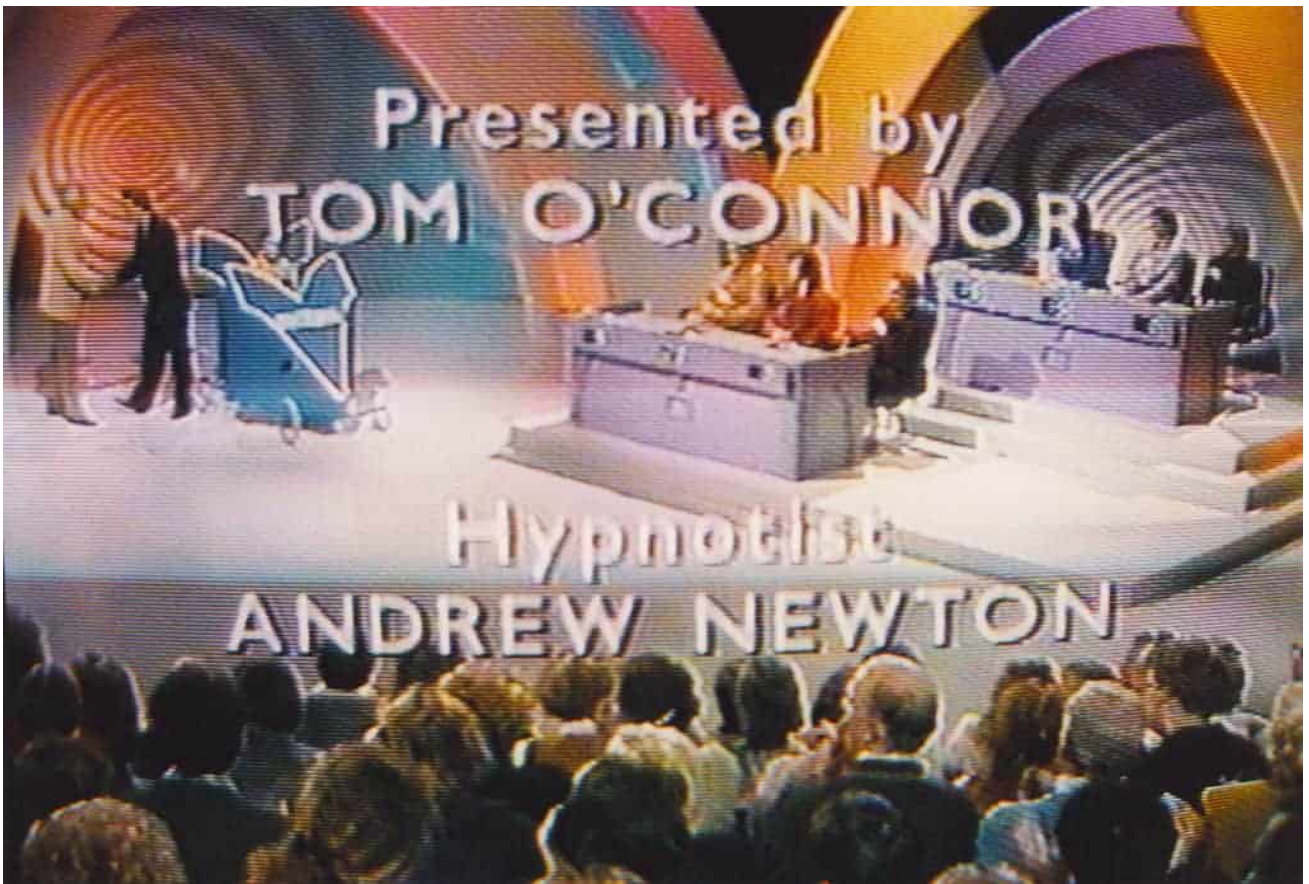
Touring is hard work! But I'm used to early mornings and long drives. Sometimes we do 9 hour drives to the next town and the next gig. We have to check in to the next hotel/motel, set up in the theatre, do the show, and then hope there will be something open afterwards so we don't go to bed starving. We eat a lot of Burger King, KFC and Pizza on the road. Anyone who thinks it's exciting and glamorous should be *made* to do it! After six weeks of this, I'm generally knackered by the end. But then on the other hand, it's a good life.

*Above right:* 'I am not a number – I am a free man!' In the village at Portmerion, the location for Patrick MacGoohan's 60's cult TV series *The Prisoner*. Ironically, after spending a very pleasant afternoon there, driving away from Portmerion, and not knowing the area, I ended up back in the Village. This happened three times.



*Left:* With Ronny Hansen, the director of Hypnoseakademiet, Europe's premier hypnotherapy training school. I lecture there twice a year and students come from all over Europe, as far as Romania, France, Germany, even the UK.

It's the best training of its kind and there's often a waiting list to get in. Courses are conducted [mainly] in English. Students include doctors, psychologists, midwives, nurses etc.



Above: **Mesmerised**, 1992 – a game show with a difference where the contestants were hypnotised to ‘muck it up’ for the amusement of the audience. 25 years later, the format re-emerged as *You’re Back in the Room*, but by then, the idea was stale. Still, I did it first...



*Below:* Every year, I lecture at several student psychology conferences in the UK. These events draw huge audiences and I get to meet some great people.

*From left to right:* 1) Dr. Philip Zimbardo, of Stanford Prison Experiment fame, at the London psychology conference, 2015.

2) Professor Elizabeth Loftus, the world's leading authority on memory and false memory at a conference in London in 2016. I highly recommend her book, *The Myth of Repressed Memory*. I believe it is a must-read for anyone practising hypnotherapy – a riveting book, impossible to put down.

3) On the train to Edinburgh with author of over 100 books on psychology, Cara Flanagan, and Professor Phil Banyard.

4) With Dr. David Wilson, the UK's leading expert on the psychology of murder.

5) With Professor Richard Wiseman, psychologist, best-selling author and magician!



*Below left:* Jersey, Summer Season 1988, with my old Rolls Royce. I loved that car – it was the best tour bus ever. We travelled together for 7 years, up and down motorways, to every major theatre in the north of England, even up to Edinburgh a few times and in all weathers. I think I clocked up 84,000 miles in it and it always got me there!

*Below left:* It's always fun when you're on safari and a cheetah jumps onto your vehicle and uses it as a lookout... and then jumps off again...







*Above left: By the Albert Memorial, Hyde Park, London, summer 2018.*

*Above right: With large bear (deceased) in Oslo, Norway – 2009.*

*Below left: At home with my pet Dalek.*

*Below right: My home for four weeks in Melbourne while I was making four short TV films.*





*Above: Outside the Beehive – otherwise known as the New Zealand Parliament.*

*Below: Leaning on large cannon at the Fort in Jodhpur, India.*



*Below left:* With Dr. Abhas Mitra, world renowned astrophysicist in Gujrat, India, where I was guest lecturer at the University of Baroda – February 2014. Dr. Mitra is internationally respected and his views on the universe are as important and make more sense than Stephen Hawking's. I was very honoured to have lunch with him and an opportunity to talk with him.

*Below right:* Talking with some of the psychology students after one of my lectures.



*Below:* Meanwhile, back in South Africa, a rare treat in the eastern Cape...  
Crocodile wrestling anyone?



*Below left:* Flying aeroplanes – the most expensive hobby ever! Very useful for flying to Jersey and back 10 times every summer between 1982 and 1993, but otherwise, a huge drain on resources. I flew it from Manchester to Kenya in 1992 and two years later, wrote it off, crash-landing at night in a tea plantation in Western Kenya, mistaking it for the airfield. A month after getting back to England, I got myself a bigger one – a twin-engined Aztec, a real beast, but I never did such a long trip again. I think the Kenya trip cured that addiction.

*Below right:* Flying into Cairo, crossing the river Nile – January 1992.



*Above left:* Flying over Egypt following the River Nile on the above mentioned trip The whole trip made me realise how big the planet is.

*Above right:* Refuelling the Grumman in Cairo, part of the insane flight from Manchester to Nairobi – January 1992.



*Left:* Thailand 1987. Another place I look forward to not going back to.

*Below:* Somewhere in Middle Earth, possibly Wellington, New Zealand.



*Below:* Norway in the summer, from the window of the train from the airport into Oslo.



*Below left:* Early days at the World Famous Leeds City Varieties, circa 1983. I wish I was still that slim! As of 2023 I've done 338 shows there, more than any other artist at that theatre, which was famous for the long-running BBC show *The Good Old Days*. The theatre has since undergone a £9million refurbishment and is as popular with audiences as it always was. To find out more about my favourite theatre, please go to

<https://www.newtonhypnosis.com/my-favourite-theatre/>



*Below left:* The long defunct *British Council of Professional Hypnotists* – a Mickey Mouse organisation if ever there was one. Its purpose was to regulate, or at least moderate, the behaviour of stage hypnotists – an ambition which failed miserably. There were some very weird people in that organisation! Middle front row are myself and Paul McKenna, the man who became the world's baldest hypnotist. The great Ken Webster is back row, second from right, exercising his finely honed sense of humour – 1987.



*Below left & right:* In the bar in the upper deck of the EMIRATES A380 on the way to and from Melbourne, Australia, having decided to take over!



I now spend quite a bit of time in Oslo and Bergen teaching tomorrow's hypnotherapists at Hypnoseakademiet, Europe's premier Hypnotherapy and EFT training school.



*Following page:* When I'm in the UK, Australia, New Zealand or South Africa, I try to squeeze in a few shows – usually around 20 to 25 a year. I only do large venues, and I always fill them.









*Below:* New York, New York... been there, done that. Wouldn't bother going again.

Caught in the rain in Times Square – It wouldn't be the same if you didn't get your picture taken with a couple of NYPD cops – and the Empire State Building at night.

Visiting Ground Zero, the site of the former World Trade Centre.



*Below left:* Marbella, 2018 – Where's my boat? It was here a moment ago!

*Below right:* TV interview for Norwegian TV.

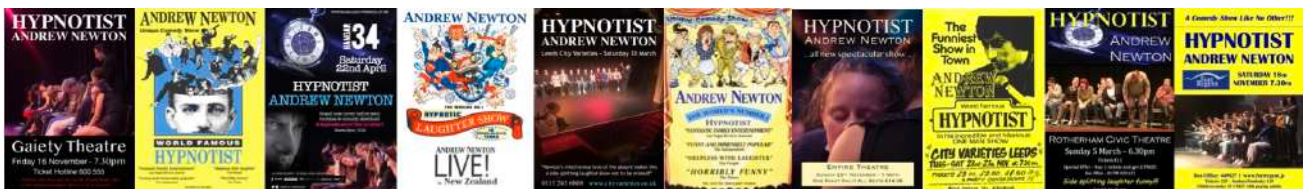




*Above right:* at the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall – on this occasion, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra playing Mahler’s great 5th Symphony.

*Above left:* Lunchtime interview at BBC Radio Leeds. I have to be honest... doing these things is a pain in the bum.

Below: Now that was a really nice theatre – only 300 seats, but a little gem...



Touring with the show – this ISUZU is the best tour bus ever – even better than the Rolls – and so easy to drive! Economical too!



*Below left:* Just landed at Bergen. Is this really Bergen?

*Below right:* A day off, so going sailing in Whangaparoa, NZ.



*Below left:* Royal Palace, Oslo. That naughty guard... trying to make me laugh!

*Below right:* Normalmstorg, Stockholm, Sweden – This was a the bank where robbers took staff and customers hostage for a week. Fortunately no one was harmed, but at the trial, the hostages spoke up for the robbers because they had formed a bond with them during their captivity. Hence the psychological term, the ‘Stockholm syndrome’.



*Below: Aker Brygge, Oslo*



*Above: The very next day... Oh, oh... somehow I don't think I'm going to be home in time to watch *Star Trek*!*

*Below: All the best spots in stunningly beautiful New Zealand... from the Kaikoura coast, to Mount Taranaki, to Rotorua, Mount Ruapehu...and a giant sheep.*



*Below: Fort Regent Jersey, November 2017*





*Above:* During lockdown, my local amateur orchestra rehearsed online every week – hence the headphones – sight-reading our way through the classical repertoire. Hopefully... we'll soon be doing concerts again!

*Below:* starting the show with a quick suggestibility test...







*Above left:* The street they named after me in London...

*Above right:* Conwy in winter – still a beautiful place to be, even when it's snowing!

*Below:* Anyone's guess – you'll have to see the show to get it!





*Above: My beloved cheetah, Rani, now gone forever... so beautiful.*

*Below: My home in Cape Town, South Africa.*





*Above:* Andrew plays percussion in his local orchestra  
*Below:* ...and also get the opportunity to conduct some of the concerts!





Above: ...and I still do occasional shows in my favourite theatres!