

TRUST NEWS

A SEASON OF LAUGHTER AT THE THEATRE ROYAL



Geoffrey Davies & Robin Nedwell
in
DOCTOR IN LOVE

Those madcap medics from the TV 'doctor' series are opening in a new stage comedy at the Theatre Royal on May 10. With Lyndel Rowe in the female lead **DOCTOR IN LOVE** revolves around the country practice of two newly qualified doctors who as they become increasingly inundated with work encounter all manner of diversions

Please note that Members do not have a preferential booking period. The best seats available will be issued on receipt of booking coupon.



George Layton
in
FUNNY PECULIAR

A young grocer overstimulated by the permissive society and irked by mothers meetings and monogamy finds fulfilment in the arms of a sophisticated lady customer. **FUNNY PECULIAR** traces the explosive effects of this adulterous fling. But be warned this new sex comedy will shock as many people as it will delight! **FUNNY PECULIAR** comes to Sydney after a highly successful London season. It stars another TV 'doctor' — 'Dr Paul Collier' of **DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE** and opens on June 18th.

Your Preferential Booking period closes on May 15.



Richard O'Sullivan
in
BOEING BOEING

TV's **MAN ABOUT THE HOUSE** comes to Sydney for a new production of that hilarious comedy of jet age pilots and their hostess girlfriends. As the jets get faster the hosties arrive sooner and that's when the problems begin **BOEING BOEING** opens on July 30th.

Your Preferential Booking period closes on June 18

Trust Member Booking Coupons for all three shows are enclosed.

EDITORIAL

Shows have been coming thick and fast during the past six months and we suspect that a word or two about the Trust Member Preferential Booking system wouldn't go amiss. First of all what does it mean? It means quite simply that before the show is advertised to the public you as a Trust Member have first pick of the seats. This is a considerable advantage and we make every effort to see that you get this advance booking period for all shows. Unfortunately it

isn't always possible. If it's a Trust presented show then it's easy. We know well in advance that the show is coming and can give you plenty of warning. But we are able to offer you concessions for shows presented by a whole range of managements — Michael Edgley, J.C. Williamson, Paul Dainty and so forth. And in these cases we rely on the managements to let us know what shows are coming up. Sometimes they aren't as fast off the mark as we'd like or sometimes the shows are last minute presentations. In any event you don't always

get a preferential booking period. It isn't ideal and for this we're sorry (**DOCTOR IN LOVE** is a case in point — see above). All we can do is make it quite clear whether you have preferential bookings or not and if you don't see that you get the best seats available at the time of booking. **AND REMEMBER** if over counter bookings have opened (see local press) you can always go directly to the theatre, show your membership card and book in person at Trust Member prices. That way you can see just what is available.

If you would like further information about the facilities available to Trust members please ring the membership office on 357 1200
The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, P.O. Box 137, Kings Cross, N.S.W. 2011.

LADIES COMMITTEE NEWS

JUBILEE RECEPTION

To celebrate the Silver Jubilee of our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, a reception will be held at Elizabeth Bay House on Wednesday June 8th at 6.30 p.m. The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust was formed to celebrate the Queen's first visit to Australia and so it is particularly fitting that we should honour her Silver Jubilee Year. Elizabeth Bay House has been selected for the reception to give members an opportunity to see the beautiful restoration work which has just been completed. Attendance is strictly limited and so members are urged to send in their booking coupons early. Admission is \$6.00 per person. Watch the press for details of the guest of honour!

BEHIND THE SCENES

In the first of an occasional series of lectures on the inside workings of the theatre Bill Reid, musical director of the Elizabethan Orchestras, will give a lecture on Wednesday May 25th entitled *THE BIRTH OF AN OPERA*. It will describe the process involved in presenting an opera on stage from the time the opera is selected. The lecture will be held at the Gallery First Nighters Club Room, 34 Grosvenor Street, Sydney at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 which includes champagne and sandwiches to be served from 6 p.m. Your booking coupon is enclosed.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

Three great international shows will be coming to Sydney in July and August this year. They are the Berioska Dance Company of Moscow (July 18-23), a folk dance company which was a huge success when it toured Australia in 1965, the renowned mime artist Marcel Marceau (July 4-16) and the London Festival Ballet (August 8-13). All three shows will be presented at the Regent Theatre. Unfortunately at the time of going to press we do not have any further details. Would those members therefore wishing to book please ring the membership office to leave their name and address and we will send booking coupons along with further details as soon as they are available. Full details will be in the next edition of *TRUST NEWS* coming to you in mid June.

THE MARIONETTE THEATRE OF AUSTRALIA

The Marionette Theatre of Australia was formed in 1965 to provide Australia with a full-time professional puppet company following the great success of Peter Scriven's productions of *THE TINTOOKIES*, *LITTLE FELLA BINDI* and *THE MAGIC PUDDING*. The company was established as a national touring company based in Sydney and has already made three tours of South-East Asia. Its first productions were revivals of *THE TINTOOKIES* and *LITTLE FELLA BINDI* followed by a new Peter Scriven production *THE EXPLORERS*.

The style of these shows is that for which Peter Scriven and the Marionette Theatre of Australia is best known. The puppeteers stand above the puppet stage on a concealed 'bridge' and the puppets are worked by long strings from wooden 'controls'. The scale of the puppets and puppet-stage made it possible for the shows to play successfully to large

audiences. It was a combination of this particular style of production and its role as a touring company which made the Marionette Theatre unique in the western world.

A similar style was used for *THE WATER BABIES*, directed by English puppet-master Jan Bussell, *TALES FROM NOONAMEENA* and Peter Scriven's revised production of *THE TINTOOKIES* in 1975. However, the company has at times used different kinds of puppets. *TINTOOKIES 2000* used rod-puppets and a black theatre technique was used for *PETER AND THE WOLF*. More recently *THE WACKY WORLD OF WORDS* used an open stage technique with a variety of puppet styles and spoken instead of recorded sound.

During the past year the Marionette Theatre has moved in a new direction under the guidance of artistic director

Welby, the Parma Wallaby and Uncle Al from ROOS



Richard Bradshaw who is well known both here and overseas as a shadow puppeteer.

In the company's current shows Richard Bradshaw used two different techniques. *ROOS* uses a style influenced by the Bunraku of Japan and *HANDS* uses curtain-of-light black theatre.

The new artistic director is interested in exploring a variety of puppet forms and developing the idea of actor-puppeteers. He also wishes to explore the possibilities in mixing puppetry with other art forms such as drama, mime and dance.

While the company will continue performing for children it aims to increase its adult following to the point where it can present shows especially for adult audiences.

ALL AUSTRALIAN PROGRAMME IN DANCE COMPANY'S NEW SEASON

One of the two programmes being presented in the Dance Company (N.S.W.)'s second 1977 Opera House season will have all Australian choreography, music and design. It represents the fulfilment of a plan conceived by Artistic Director Graeme Murphy when he took over as Director late in 1976 and has brought together the most talented Australians available. The programme consists of three world premieres: Christine Koltai's REACH, a new work by Ian Spink and a new work by Graeme Murphy to a specially commissioned score by Carl Vine.

The second programme playing on alternate nights with the first offers a long awaited revival of John Butler's modern masterpiece CARMINA BURANA as well as Jaap Fliers HI-KYO, Graeme Murphy's 3RD CONVERSATION and MEDIEVAL MALICS a new work by acclaimed young dancer/choreographer Graeme Watson.

Trust Members have a \$1.00 concession on the A Reserve Price. Your booking coupon is enclosed with details of prices and dates on the back. Trust Members do not have a preferential booking period so booking coupons should be returned as soon as possible.



Graeme Watson will appear as Guest Artist to recreate his original role in CARMINA BURANA.

Graeme Mathieson with Romeo from HANDS



James Condon, Richard Meikle, John Waters and Robyn Nevin in Caesar and Cleopatra currently playing at the Drama Theatre. Photographs: Robert McFarlane.

OLD TOTE THEATRE COMPANY MOVES INTO SEYMOUR CENTRE

The Old Tote Theatre Company recently announced details of its programme for Season Two and with it the news that in June it will be mounting a four month season at the York Theatre, Seymour Centre.

Designed to cater to a more popular taste the Seymour season will feature Alan Ayckbourn's THE NORMAN CONQUESTS. Alan Ayckbourn is one of England's most successful modern playwrights and THE NORMAN CONQUESTS is a delightfully humorous trilogy of plays exploring a disastrous family weekend. Each play is complete in itself but the three dovetail together to complement and expand each other.

At the Parade Theatre the Old Tote will be presenting three new Australasian plays and at the Drama Theatre continuing its presentation of classical plays.

Good news for subscribers is that now you have the option of compiling your own subscription series choosing to see any six, eight or ten of the plays offered.

Members who are not already subscribers can obtain a new subscribers form by ringing the Old Tote on 663-6122. Please note that Trust Members do not receive a concession on subscription prices but do receive a concession of \$1.00 on individual tickets purchased (one concession ticket per member).



SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION 1977

The Competition which is the first of its kind ever to be held in the Asian and Pacific region will take place in Sydney between July 16 and August 3 at the Opera House and the Conservatorium of Music.

Forty young musicians with ages ranging from 19 to 31 and representing the cream of world talent will compete before a distinguished jury drawn from Europe, Asia, Australia and America. The pianists will play through four stages: solo piano recitals of both the traditional and contemporary repertoire; lieder accompaniment to the distinguished Australian mezzo soprano Helen Mc Kinnon; piano quintet (with the Sydney String Quartet); a Mozart concerto; and one of the great Romantic works of Chopin, Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninov or Tchaikovsky.

All stages of the competition are open to the general public on either a single ticket or subscription basis. Details can be obtained from The Secretariat on 273805. Trust Members receive a concession on single ticket purchases.

CONCESSION LOWDOWN

The **ELIZABETHAN CHAMBER GROUP** will be presenting its second 1977 concert at Chalwin Castle on June 12. At the time of going to press programme details were not available. Please ring the orchestras on 357-1200 for full details and booking arrangements. All bookings must be made in advance — there are no door sales.

ABORIGINAL PLAYWRIGHT Robert Merritt's **THE CAKEMAN** is currently playing at the Bondi Pavilion Theatre. Written in Bathurst Jail during the time of the riots **THE CAKEMAN** is a political play set on the Cowra Mission.

Bookings for **A CHORUS LINE** are extremely heavy and Members would do well to check with us before booking. We can advise how far ahead you will need to book to ensure good seats.

A CHORUS LINE OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Our apologies to those who couldn't be included in the party. We did not anticipate the great demand for tickets and had underbooked. We won't make the same mistake again!

SHOWGUIDE

** Indicates concessions which may be applied to two tickets any performance (unless otherwise stated). Please present your membership card when purchasing tickets.

SYDNEY

BONDI PAVILION THEATRE (30 7211)
(Tues - Sun)
The Cakeman (Merritt)
Until 4th June
** 70c

ELIZABETHAN SYDNEY CHAMBER GROUP
Chalwin Castle
June 12
** (For Trust members & friends only)

GENESIAN THEATRE (827 3023)
(Fri., Sat. & Sun)
The Brass Butterfly (Golding)
Continuing
** \$1.00

HER MAJESTYS THEATRE (212 3411)
A Chorus Line (Bennett)
Commences 21 May
Previews: Until 20 May
** \$1.00 (except Sat. evenings)

INDEPENDENT THEATRE (929 7377)
Our Town (Wilder)
11 May - 4 June
Hamlet (Shakespeare)
Commences 8 June

You're a Good Man Charlie Brown (Swartz)
Saturday Matinees only
** 50c

MARIAN STREET THEATRE (498 3166)
Double Edge (Darbon & Whelan)
Until May 21

The Happy Hunter (Feydeau)
Commences May 25
** 50c

MUSIC HALL THEATRE RESTAURANT (909 8222)
Lust for Power (Perils at Parramatta) (Boddy)
Continuing
** 50c (Mon & Tues only)

NEW THEATRE (519 3403)
(Fri. Sat & Sun)
The Merry Wives of Windsor (Shakespeare)
Until June 4

Enter a Free Man (Stoppard)
Commences June 18
** \$1.00

NIMROD DOWNSTAIRS (695 003)
(Tues - Sun)
(Bananas (Bradshaw)
(The Coroner's Report (Summons)
(The Flaw (Perrin)
Commences May 6
Previews: May 5, 7, 8, 11
** \$1.00 (\$2.00 previews)

NIMROD UPSTAIRS (695 003)
(Tues - Sun)
Twelfth Night (Shakespeare)
Until 11 June

Much Ado About Nothing (Shakespeare)
Commences 17 June
Previews: June 17, 18, 19 (5 p.m.) 21, 22
** \$1.00 (\$2.00 previews)

OLD TOTE THEATRE CO. (663 6122)
(Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House)
Caesar and Cleopatra (Shaw)
Until June 7
** \$1.00 (one ticket only)

OLD TOTE THEATRE CO. (663 6122)
(Parade Theatre)
The Alchemist (Jonson)
Continuing
** \$1.00 (one ticket only)

Q THEATRE (047 21 5735)
What the Butler Saw (Orton)

Penrith (Railway Institute)
May 11 - 22
June 8 - 12
Bankstown (Civic Centre)
May 25 - 29

Parramatta (Old Kings School)
June 1 - 5

ST. JAMES PLAYHOUSE (232 8570)
(Mon. Tues & Fri)
The Couch (Drake)
Until May 13

Brylcreem & Pie (Golding)
Commences May 16
** 50c

SYDNEY PHILHARMONIA SOCIETY (357 1200)
Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
Israel in Egypt (Handel)
May 28
** \$1.00

THEATRE ROYAL (231 6111)
Lauder (Logan)
Until May 7
** \$1.00

Doctor in Love (Gordon)
May 10 - June 11
** 50c

Funny Peculiar (Stott)
Commences June 18
** \$1.00

CANBERRA

CANBERRA REPERTORY THEATRE (47 4222)
Theatre 3
The Three Sisters (Chekov)
Until June 4

How Does Your Garden Grow (McNeil)
Commences June 23
** \$1.00