



SEABORN, BROUGHTON &
WALFORD FOUNDATION
Supporting the Performing Arts

Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

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For bookings please call Carol Martin -on 9955 5444 Monday to Friday - 10am - 4pm

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Nan's Letter Space

Dear Friend

Happy New Year to you all. I am delighted to share with you some details of recent successful functions and to invite you to more exciting events in the coming months.

The Christmas Party at our new premises in Rosebery was well-attended and the Friends were most interested to see archival material so beautifully displayed. We were most fortunate that Dr. Seaborn selected Dr Peter Orlovich to manage our collection.

The high point of the function was the announcement of the winner of the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award, Reg Cribb for *Boundary Street*.

Last weekend the SBW Foundation successfully partnered with Sydney Philharmonia's 2010 U.K.Tour Fundraising Committee for two delightful events: a theatre party (to Ensemble's latest production, *Absurd Person Singular*) and a visit to see the beautiful State Coach 'Britannia' in the former School of Artillery, North Head where we met the Coach's designer and creator, Jim Frecklington.

Those who attended the Ensemble were treated to a hilarious theatrical experience in the welcoming atmosphere of that special little theatre at Milson's Point.

Jim Frecklington's talk detailing the brilliant craftsmanship involved in building the Coach provided a unique experience. A number of my fellow choristers from Sydney Philharmonia (performing as 'Sweet Harmony') expressed our appreciation by singing 'Rule Britannia' and 'Jerusalem' and Robert Green performed 'They're Changing Guards at Buckingham Palace'. Everyone joined in the singing and Jim was most appreciative. In fact, he felt the 'workshop would never be the same again'!

Chorister Jacqui Wilkins spoke for all of us when she emailed: 'We were all fascinated, awed and privileged to get the chance to see this amazing work of Art (and see its creator) first hand.'

Carol Martin attended the annual Critics' Awards last Monday night and witnessed the Sydney Theatre Company taking a number of major awards (best mainstage production, best direction, best actor (Ewen Leslie) in a leading role) for *War of the Roses*.

Cate Blanchett received the award for best actress in a leading role for *Streetcar Named Desire*. We now await the Glugs Awards, to be presented in early February, with great anticipation.

Many of you will know of actor-director-playwright Don Reid who trained at the Independent and helped found the Ensemble under the leadership of Hayes Gordon. Don's recent play, *Codgers* won the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award in 2006 and the Taffy Davies Memorial Award for Best New Play in 2006. As part of a national tour *Codgers* returns to the Seymour Centre in Sydney and we have booked some excellent seats for the 2pm matinee on Saturday May 1st. Ring Carol Martin immediately on 9955 5444 to secure your tickets.

Producer Fiona press is still looking for patrons to help sponsor the *Codgers* tour and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to make a donation. Ring Carol for details and see Google for a 6 minute presentation of scenes from the play.

For those of you who love opera and music, note that Carol also has excellent seats for matinees of two of Opera Australia's favourite productions. Book early for the bewitching *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (directed by Baz Luhrman and conducted by Andrew Briger) on Saturday March 6th at 1pm. Book early for the beguiling *A Little Night Music* (starring the popular Sigrid Thornton, who sings 'Send in the Clowns', and the legendary Nancye Hayes as Madame Armfeldt, directed by Stuart Maunder) on Saturday 10th July at 1pm.

STOP PRESS: Carol has just received discounted tickets for a beautiful Australian musical by Amy McGrath, featuring young performers between the ages of 15 – 25 and directed by Peter Cousens. **1212** deals with a special children's crusade to Jerusalem to bring peace between Christians and Muslims. Suitable for the whole family, it will be performed at the Independent Theatre at 4pm on Sunday 31st January. Ring Carol now on 9955 5444 (between 10am -4pm Monday to Friday).

The Board, the staff and volunteers of the Seaborn, Broughton and Walford Foundation join me in wishing you a happy healthy 2010 and much enjoyment at the theatre!

Every best wish

Carolyn Lowry