



Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

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Date

27th March 2008

Nan's Letter Space

Dear Friend

Much has happened since the last Newsletter namely

1) **The Hon Mr. Justice Lloyd Waddy** one of our original directors and still one of our important directors is out of hospital and recuperating after his horrendous operation, which happened the day after he came to our Christmas party and made his brilliant speech.

He is improving and retains his wonderful wit and sense of humour and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

2) **'Codgers'** the very enchanting play by **Don Reid** which won the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights Award is going from success to success. It is having a return season at the Parramatta Riverside Theatre and then touring NSW. It really is a play that I feel certain you will enjoy, so if you have the opportunity to see it, please do so.

3) It is very gratifying to have to report that **Carolyn Lowry OAM** the secretary of our former 'Friends of the Independent Theatre Committee' who with her husband **Peter Lowry OAM** the chairman of that committee (also one of our directors) gave so much time and organising skill in helping our Foundation to restore the lovely Independent Theatre, has recently obtained her PHD and is now Dr. Carolyn Lowry MA. She obtained her degree of Doctor of Philosophy for her thesis. "**An Independent Woman** : A re-examination of Doris Fitton's contribution to theatre in Sydney in the first half of the twentieth century".

Carolyn has presented me with a copy of her PHD thesis for our archival collection. I have read it from cover to cover and am really staggered with the research she has made and presented in an amazingly interesting manner. It will be a treasured acquisition to our archives and our thanks to her are very sincere.

4) Micki Davis who in the past has contributed so much to us from her collection of her theatre memorabilia has recently contributed more and once again we thank her for giving so much.

Incidentally if any of our readers have any theatre programmes, especially ones of the 1920's 30's 40's or any other interesting theatre memorabilia then we would treasure having them in our archives.

5) A sad event which I have to report of which you may have read in the Sydney Morning Herald of the 17 March is the death of David Nettheim. David was an actor here and in England of much repute, most of his family were also on the stage. He helped us in many ways when our Foundation was restoring the Independent Theatre.

His obituary notes that "The Nettheim's were Foundation members of the Independent Theatre and their five children appeared on the stage there over the years", the obituary also notes that "Throughout the London years Nettheim maintained a radio presence in Australia through his regular reports on British Theatre for John West's ABC programme The Showman". This is of particular interest to our Foundation as John West has donated his collection to us and is one of the most important acquisitions of our archival collection.

By a strange twist of fate on 16 March I received a large box of about 100 programmes and theatre memorabilia in a box marked "from David Nettheim" and on the 17 March I was about to write and thank him for the collection when I read in the SMH of his death and as yet do not know if he or his executors sent the collection.

On May 30 this year I am leaving for a 9 week trip overseas to London, Bangkok, Turkey, Greece and Romania etc, I will be reporting from time to time concerning the theatre I attend in those places.

You will note in the Newsletter that we have a number of interesting events to put in your diaries and Carol wants especially to highlight -

The tour of **Lindesay at Darling Point** Saturday - **12th April 2pm** which will be especially interesting followed by afternoon tea, tickets are only \$15, they are limited so please book early.

Both of the **Actors' Forum** play readings which are always so popular at the Independent Theatre at North Sydney.

The Genesian Theatre Co production of **'Enchanted April'** on Sunday **1st June at 4.30pm** .

I would also like to mention that any show presented by the Griffin Theatre Co at the SBW Stables theatre there is a discount, but you must present your membership card as being a 'Friend' of the Seaborn, Broughton and Walford Foundation.

Best Wishes

Rodney Seaborn



Join the team that brought you
Don Reid's - CODGERS in 2007
In Conversation with Henri Szeps
An Actor's Life

Thursday 10th April 10.30am to 12.30pm
Parramatta Riverside Courtyard

An informal morning of anecdotes and interaction, Henri will share stories and field questions on topics ranging from coming to this country as a child to spending a lifetime performing. Be embraced by Henri's unique ability to warm and cheer and tickle the laughing gear. Complimentary Devonshire tea provided.

Carpet Bowls at Cocktail Hour
Friday 11th April 3.30pm to 5.30pm

An afternoon of active conviviality around some gentle exercise and a glass of wine as Parramatta Riverside courtyard transforms into a bowling green and first timers are encouraged to pick up a bowling ball and have a go, have a laugh and join in ! Complimentary drink on arrival.

This event will be hosted by *Grant Dodwell*
Ron Haddrick & Jon Lam.

FREE brought to you by NSW Seniors Week,
Parramatta Riverside Theatres, Bowls NSW,
Cellarmasters and CODGERS.

Bookings essential 02 8839 3399 or
www.riversideparramatta.com.au



Discounts are available to SBW Friends for
 Costume Hire at -

THE COSTUME SHOP
1st Floor, 401 - 407 Cleveland St
Surry Hills

Phone - 9318 2511

Website - www.thecostumeshop.com.au



A Tour of Lindesay at Darling
Point
followed by Afternoon Tea
1 Carthona Avenue, Darling Point

Majestic views over the harbour across a foreshore park are a reminder of the days when **Lindesay** was the only house at Darling Point. A two-storied stone house, it has elegant Georgian interiors presented as the home of its first three owners' The Hon C.D. Riddell, Sir Thomas Mitchell, and Dr. Charles Nicholson. With a fine collection of Australian and English furniture plus a rare set of basement servant rooms, demonstrating the original Colonial upstairs/downstairs lifestyle. A guide will take us through the house answering any questions about the home, then stroll through the lovely garden, followed by afternoon tea.

Saturday - 12th April 2008 - 2pm
Tickets - \$15.00

Bookings- Carol Martin 9697 7654



Actors' Forum play reading
COLLECTED STORIES

Independent Theatre 269 Miller St Nth Sydney

Ruth, a successful writer who has enjoyed a colourful life in New York's Bohemian circles agrees to mentor Lisa, an aspiring writer from her university class. The feisty older woman uses her sharp wit as a buffer against closeness but over a period of years the women forge a strong friendship.

When Lisa oversteps her mark in pursuit of her own success Ruth feels her life has been violated and she has been betrayed . The friends become adversaries.

Sunday - May 4th 2008 - 2pm
Tickets - \$20.00 Concessions - \$15.00

Tickets on sale at the box office one hour prior to performance.





Ensemble Theatre Production
DEATH OF A SALESMAN
 by Arthur Miller
 Starring - Sean Taylor & Jacki Weaver
 York Theatre - Seymour Centre
 Cnr City Rd & Cleveland St Chippendale

Willy Loman (*Sean Taylor*), a down-on-his-luck salesman. Is staring into the embers of an American Dream, Linda (*Jacki Weaver*), his devoted wife, is barely holding the family together as her son Biff becomes increasingly disillusioned. In contrast, his brother Happy dreams about women.

The Seymour Centre is delighted to welcome back the Ensemble and this play to the venue - the first production of *'Death of a Salesman'* at the Seymour since the famous Nimrod production in 1982.

Saturday - 24th May 2008- 4pm
Tickets- \$48.00
 Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



ENCHANTED APRIL
 by Matthew Barber
 Genesian Theatre 420 Kent St Sydney

This is the story of four dissimilar women in post-World War 1 England who leave damp rainy London to go on holiday to a secluded coastal villa in Italy (Portofino). Two housewives, who belong to the same church but have never spoken, become acquainted. Each in her own way is suffering through an empty marriage and faces the prospect of a lonely almost isolated middle age. After seeing a newspaper ad for a villa for rent on the Italian Riviera, the women set about finding two other ladies to share expenses. Joined by a beautiful young socialite and an elderly dowager, the four find rejuvenation in the tranquil beauty of their surroundings.

Sunday- 1st June - 2008 - 4.30pm
Tickets- \$20.00
 Bookings - Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Actors' Forum play reading
BETRAYAL
 by Harold Pinter
 Independent Theatre 269 Miller St North Sydney

Harold Pinter's 21 screen plays and 29 plays including *The Caretaker* and *The Birthday Party* have earned a swag of writing awards. This play, an innovative take on the eternal triangle, starts at the end of Emma's love affair with Jerry, her husband's best friend and, in a tantalising series of flashbacks, traces the story to its beginning. We are taken into the world of three people whose professional and personal lives are entwined that it is difficult to extricate the truth in there relationships.

Sunday - July 13th 2008 - 2pm
Tickets - \$20.00
Concessions- \$15.00
 Tickets on sale at box office one hour prior to performance



THE NOËL COWARD LETTERS
 Devised by Barry Day from his best selling book
 Starring - Barrie Ingham with Katrina Retallick,
 Peter Cousens and at the Keyboard Luke Byrne
 Everest Theatre Seymour Centre
 Cnr City Rd/Cleveland St Chippendale

Don't miss this rare chance to see one of England's most versatile actors as he takes us through the 'private lives' of Noël Coward and his contemporaries. With a career spanning 5 decades Barrie Ingham has played leading roles with such companies as London's Old Vic Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, and the National Theatre . Inspired by Barry Day's newly published book, The Letters of Noël Coward, and full of the wit and charm of Coward's songs, drama and musings, this special evening will take you on an enticing journey through a remarkable life.

Monday - 25th August 2008 - 7.30pm
Tickets - \$57.00
 Bookings- Carol Martin-9697 7654





ADVANCE NOTICE

TELL ME ON A SUNDAY

Music by Andrew Lloyd-Webber

Lyrics by Don Black

By arrangement with The Really Useful Group

Starring - Jolene Anderson

Everest Theatre / Seymour Centre

City Rd/Cleveland St Chippendale

Tell Me on a Sunday charts the course of a newly single girl arriving in New York. Brimming with optimism of 'starting over', she sets out to seek success, companionship and, of course, love. But as she weaves her way through the maze of the city and her own anxieties, frustrations and heartaches she begins to wonder whether - in fact - she's been looking for love in all the wrong places.

With some of Webber's very best songs, 'Come Back with the Same Look in Your Eyes' 'Unexpected Song' and 'Nothing Like You've Ever Known'.

Saturday - 30th August 2008 - 2pm

Tickets - \$73.00

Bookings- Carol Martin

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Some 'Friends' in the past have questioned the discrepancy of the price shown on the tickets for some functions to the price we actually charge. The reason for this is that our Foundation must make a profit on functions to build up our assets to continue benefiting the Performing Arts, but the price we charge 'Friends' is always cheaper than the normal price to the General Public. As well as paying for tickets months ahead the Foundation has to pay handling fees and in many cases 4% credit card fees. We aim to make 10% for the Foundation on each function but we seldom do, and at the same time SBW 'Friends' get the best seats at a reduced price



LITTLE WOMEN

The Broadway Musical

Book by Allan Knee - Music by Jason Howland

Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein

Featuring - *Judi Connelli, Hayden Tee, and Trisha Noble*

York Theatre / Seymour Centre

City Rd/Cleveland St Chippendale

Little Women, based on Louisa May Alcott's own family experiences (and classic novel) follows the adventures of the four remarkable March sisters who come of age during the Civil War era. This timeless tale about the power of family, friendship and romance will capture the hearts of a new generation and captivate audiences of all ages.

Little Women embodies the complete theatrical experience; a night filled with laughter, tears, and a lifting of the spirit. The powerful and exhilarating score soars with the sounds of personal discovery, heartache and hope.

Sunday - 16th November 2008 - 3pm

Tickets - \$73.00

Bookings - Carol Martin

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BILLY ELLIOT

The musical

Capitol Theatre Sydney

If you missed out on seeing 'Billy Elliot' at one of our three special performances we can still obtain tickets for you. They would be Premium stalls or dress circle seats on a date of your choice. Just ring us and we will get the absolute best seats available.

Tickets - \$135.00

Phone- Carol Martin - 9697 7654



Sorry all tickets for both performances of 'MY FAIR LADY' are now sold out.

