



Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation Newsletter

925 Botany Rd Rosebery NSW 2018 Phone - 9955 5444 Email – office@sbwfoundation.com

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

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26th April 2016

Chairman's Letter (incorporating Nan's Letter Space)

Dear Friends

30 years ago, in 1986, Dr Rodney Seaborn AO OBE established the Seaborn Broughton & Walford Foundation and became its founding Chairman. Attaining our 30th Anniversary is a significant milestone in the Foundation's history and an immensely gratifying achievement. Our ability to survive and thrive is a great tribute to our founder Dr Seaborn, a testament to the dedicated work of the Board and Staff and also evidence of the continuing loyalty shown by you, our generous Friends, supporters and donors. Details of ways in which we plan to celebrate this anniversary will be included in future Newsletters.

Over the past three decades our Foundation has assisted many talented individuals and hard-working, wonderfully creative performing arts companies.

The Foundation's origins are deeply grounded in the performing arts and clearly reflect Dr Seaborn's philanthropic intentions. In 1986, he generously responded to a plea by actress Penny Cook for a guardian 'angel' to save the Stables Theatre, home of the Griffin Theatre Company, "from the wrecker's ball." It is a fascinating story with many well-known players.

The Stables was formerly known as Nimrod Theatre, home of the Nimrod Theatre Company. The NTC was founded by John Bell and Ken Horler, and was one of the key companies in establishing and promoting the emerging Australian theatre of the early 1970s. When NTC relocated to Belvoir Street, the Nimrod was renamed the Loft. In 1975 it was purchased and renamed the Stables by Anne Brooksbank and the late Bob Ellis and, by 1980, had become the home of Griffin, another theatre company dedicated to local plays. When Bob Ellis put the site up for sale in 1985, the building was threatened by demolition and Penny Cook began her desperate search for an 'angel'. Dr Seaborn stepped forward, bought and saved the Stables Theatre for the continuing use of the Griffin Theatre Company, and set up his Foundation so that other theatre-lovers could join him in his philanthropic crusade to enrich our cultural life. The Foundation made much-needed improvements to the Stables. The roof was raised and braced, eliminating both the centre post in the acting area and the severely limited headroom for patrons. Air conditioning and improved seating were added. The Griffin Theatre Company continues with its unique style of ground breaking productions to this day.

In the 1990's, with the assistance of Council and community, the Foundation then restored the historic Independent Theatre in North Sydney, legendary home to Dame Doris Fitton's theatre company 1939-1977. It is now a sought-after venue for music performance and training, especially for young performers.

Over the decades, we have received significant material to add to Dr Seaborn's collection of theatre books, papers and memorabilia, and we administer playwriting awards for emerging local playwrights.

NIDA, Company B Belvoir, the Ensemble Theatre, the Australian National Playwrights' centre, Performing Lines and Sport For Jove and many other small theatre companies have been among those who have benefited from Dr Seaborn and his Foundation's philanthropy.

With your valued support, we look forward to many more decades of important work assisting the performing arts in Australia.

This year also marks the 400th Anniversary of the close of the Shakespearean era. You may enjoy commemorating the Bard by accepting the invitation extended to all our Foundation Friends by the Sydney Opera House Ladies Committee to attend their 'For the Love of Shakespeare' Lunch on the 28th April at 12 noon at the Union Club.

As you read the rest of this Newsletter, you will see that Carol Martin has selected another fine array of productions for us to attend. Please read through the list and ring Carol Martin on 99555444 to secure best seats while they are still available.

Congratulations to our Friend actress Vola Vandere, who has been a loyal and prominent member of the Actors' Forum group, for her selection as Seniors Ambassador. She has graced many a city billboard and is now one of the vibrant faces of the Seniors Week Festival 2016.

Vale former North Sydney Councillor Brian Evesson, a dear Friend of the Independent and a wise, valued counsellor in the difficult dedicated days of the Theatre's restoration and vale Bob Ellis renowned playwright, witty journalist, prize-winning screenwriter political speechwriter, unforgettable commentator and (briefly) theatre owner.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Peter Lowry OAM
Chairman

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

by Anton Chekov
Adapted by David Mamet
New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown

An aristocratic family, on the brink of financial ruin, must come to terms with the sale of their land to an upstart developer and the loss of their beloved cherry orchard, the finest in the district.

For Luby Ranevskya, her brother, her daughters and their servants, losing the property will mean the end of a way of life which no longer holds any joy but to which they still desperately cling.

Playing – 28 April to 28 May 2016
Thurs to Sat – 7.30pm Sun – 5pm
Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



**SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE
LADIES' COMMITTEE**

Invites you to join them for
For the Love of Shakespeare

An anniversary lunch to celebrate 400 years since Shakespeare enjoyed his last quart of ale.

Come and hear
JAMES EVANS

Bell Shakespeare's Associate Director and NIDA graduate with an MA in English and Professional Communication. (University of Sydney).

James is also the director of Bell Shakespeare's Professional Actor Training. Win the competition judged by our guest for the best Shakespearean hat or Tudor item of clothing.

Special Auction Prize a Longines watch with 12 diamonds valued at \$1950.00.

Thursday 28 April 2016
11.30am for 12 noon

at the Union, University & Schools Club
25 Bent Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Cost \$75.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444



Opera & Arts Support Group Inc
invites SBW Friends and Guests
to join them at a

**RECEPTION AND OPERA
RECITAL**

at the residence of the
BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL
25 Gilliver Avenue
Vaucluse

Sunday 29 May 2016

2pm for 2.30pm

Entrée - \$75.00

Includes canapés and drinks on arrival and with the artists following the recital.

Please book early no tickets issued
Guest list at the door.

Please provide all guests full names.
Bookings-Carol Martin
9955 5444



XANADU THE MUSICAL

Book – Douglas Carter Beane
Music & Lyrics Jeff Lynne & John Farras
Hayes Theatre 19 Greenknowe Ave
Potts Point NSW

Cast includes – Jamie Hadwen, Ainsley Westabu, Rob Thomas, Francine Cain, Dion Billios, Catty Hamilton

Xanadu follows the journey of a magical and beautiful Greek Muse, Kira, who descends from the heavens of Mount Olympus to Venice Beach California in 1980 on a quest to inspire a struggling artist, Sonny, to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time- the first Roller Disco- hey it's 1980!

But when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation and chaos abounds.

This hilarious, roller skating, musical adventure about following your dreams, despite the limitations set for you.

Sunday- 5 June 2016 – 3pm
Tickets -\$56.00

Bookings – Carol Martin 9955 5444



FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

by Thomas Hardy Adapted by Mark Healy
Sydney Premiere
Genesian Theatre
420 Kent Street Sydney

Thomas Hardy's 1874 novel

Far from the Madding Crowd was the subject of a popular film last year and the Genesian are thrilled to have obtained the rights to Mark Healy's recent stage adaptation for English Touring Theatre.

The tale of a head-strong, feisty, yet ultimately compassionate woman and her three suitors, this acclaimed adaptation fuses vivid story-telling, live folk-song, and humour. Don't miss it.

Sunday – 5 June 2016 – 4.30pm
Tickets- \$28.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444
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THE HEIDI CHRONICLES

by Wendy Wasserstein

New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown
Cast includes – Sarah Aubrey,
Matt Charleston, Lauren Dillon

A coming-of-age story that charts the evolution of the 'baby boomer' generation who rebelled in the 1960s, became the 'me-generation' of the 1970s and embraced 'greed is good' in the 1980's.

Across the decades of four cities, Heidi and her friends- male and female, gay and straight- search for political, professional and personal fulfillment as youthful idealism sours, careers surge, relationships break down and biological clocks start ticking.

Playing 10 June to 9 July 2016
Thurs to Sat 7.30pm Sun- 5pm
Tickets - \$30.00

Bookings – Carol Martin- 9955 5444
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APPOINTMENT WITH DEATH

by Agatha Christie
Genesian Theatre
420 Kent Street Sydney

Next up it is off to Petra to discover how Mrs Boyton really dies in Agatha Christie's *Appointment with Death*, Piece together the clues, test the alibis, and discover 'whodunnit' in this classic thriller!

The Genesian Theatre always are great with Murder Mystery plays.

Sunday – 24 July 2016 – 4.30pm
Tickets-\$28.00

Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444
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VOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS FINAL

Opera & Arts Support Group Inc
Paddington Uniting Church
395 Oxford Street Paddington

A major event in the Sydney Eisteddfod, this is your opportunity to hear and support dedicated young singers and future stars of the operatic stage. Six finalists selected from entrants Australia-wide will compete for \$17,000 in prize money with a first prize of \$10,000.

Adjudicators – Emma Matthews
and Aldo Di Toro

Friday 29 July 2016
7pm for 7.30pm
Entrée - \$45.00

Includes savouries and drinks on arrival and supper with the finalists.
Bookings – Carol Martin – 9955 5444

(The Opera & Arts Support Group kindly donate 10% of all ticket money to the SBW Foundation for bookings made by SBW Friends through our Foundation office)
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ADVANCE NOTICE

GLORIA

by Benedict Andrews
SBW Stables Theatre 10 Nimrod Street
Kings Cross

Gloria is on the brink of making her triumphant return to the stage. A celebrated actor- a star, a celebrity- she's played every iconic role in the canon of theatrical greats. Nina, Hedda, Hamlet, Clytemnestra. She's burnt into our eyes, our heart, our imaginations.

playing the real life survivor of a sadistic crime, Gloria must immerse herself in the horror of her character's reality. As Gloria falls further into the abyss, the unravelling of her mind is reflected by the breakdown of order around her.

Saturday 24 September 2016 -2pm
Tickets- \$40.00

Bookings – Carol Martin 9955 5444



Opera Australia & John Frost present

MY FAIR LADY

Joan Sutherland Theatre
Sydney Opera House
Directed by Julie Andrews

In the show's 60th year, Opera Australia and John Frost join forces to honour the past and bring the beloved story of

Eliza Doolittle and Henry Higgins to a new generation of theatre audiences.

The Cinderella story about a cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle and the appealingly arrogant phonetisist Professor Higgins, is an endearing tale that charms audiences with its warmth and vivid characters.

In a world first, Dame Julie Andrews will direct a glorious production a theatre event not to be missed.

Sunday – 9 October 2016 – 3pm

A Reserve stalls - \$150.00

B Reserve stalls - \$116.00

Bookings – Carol Martin -9955 5444



DREAM LOVER

The Bobby Darin Musical

Starring David Campbell and
Hannah Fredericksen
Directed by Simon Phillips
Lyric Theatre The Star

David Campbell is set to return to the musical stage for the lead role in the World Premiere of Dream Lover the Bobby Darin Musical Exclusive to Sydney.

The show presents great hits from the 50's and 60's including Mack the Knife, Beyond the Sea and the multi-million seller Dream Lover. This musical captures the glamour and passion of the big band era, the Rat pack in Vegas and the Golden Age of Hollywood- a time of trail-blazing stars, knock-out fashions and life-changing events.

Featuring a sensational cast with over 40 on stage including an 18-piece band, Dream Lover- The Bobby Darin Musical is a big show with a big score and a big heart!

The multi-talented David Campbell is the perfect choice to star as Bobby Darin in an intimate and epic story of an all-round entertainer adored by his fans who, together with his movie star wife Sandra Dee, provided the amazing soundtrack to a generation.

Wednesday – 19 October 2016-7.30pm
Stalls - \$94.90

Sunday – 23 October 2016 – 3pm
Stalls – \$104.90

Bookings- Carol Martin
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