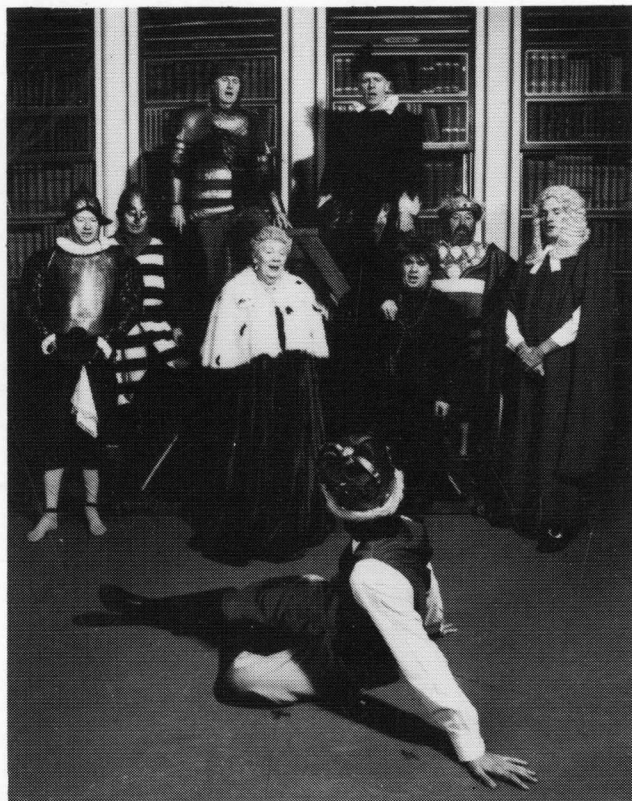


# ME AND MY GIRL







*Napier Operatic Society Inc.*  
*Est.*  
*1887*

by arrangement with Play Bureau (NZ) Ltd

proudly presents

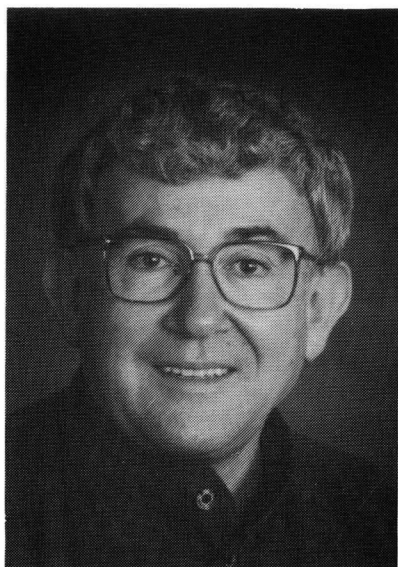


**Book and lyrics by**  
L Arthur Rose and Douglas Furber

**Music composed by**  
Noel Gay

Director : Dick Johnstone, OBE  
Musical Director : Barry Fell  
Choreographer : Briar Horrocks

***NAPIER MUNICIPAL THEATRE***  
*27 July — 10 August, 1991*



## ***Dick Johnstone***

One of New Zealand's foremost theatre and opera directors of the 1960's and 1970's returns after almost 12 years in the field of social work with this production of *Me and My Girl* for Napier Operatic in his home town.

His 19 year professional career covered 200 productions ranging from rock to grand opera and from contemporary plays to Shakespeare. Versatility, vitality, style and innovation were his trademarks.

His first production at the age of 21, while he was choreographer for TVNZ, won Auckland's award for best production. After five years as director of Wellington's Downstage theatre he toured the Soviet Union with his production for the Maori Theatre Trust.

In the next decade he was a regular guest director with the Volksoper in Vienna, the Royal Court Theatre in London, the Festival de Firenze,

the Amikov Theatre in Kiev, the Australian Opera Company, the Mercury and New Independent Theatres in Auckland, the Court Theatre in Christchurch, Southern Players in Dunedin and opera companies throughout New Zealand.

Focusing on Maori work he directed the Waitangi Day Pageant in 1973 and the South Pacific Arts Festival hosted by New Zealand in 1976. His OBE was awarded for services to New Zealand Theatre.

## ***Barry Fell***

Born and educated in Hamilton Barry also studied piano, singing and violin. In his time in Napier he has been much involved with music in secondary schools and taught at Colenso High School as Head of Music and then as Senior Master. He is an adjudicator for various competitions societies throughout the country, is on the panel of accompanists for broadcasting and is a music critic for the Hawke's Bay "Herald Tribune".

His first involvement with operatic productions came in 1964 when he was chorus master for Hamilton operatics 50th Jubilee production of "Belle of New York". He has been musical director for a number of productions for the Hawke's Bay Song and Opera Workshop.

For Napier Operatic Society he was musical director for our Centennial production of "The Sorcerer", for "Oliver" in 1988 and most recently for "Tom Jones", in March of this year.



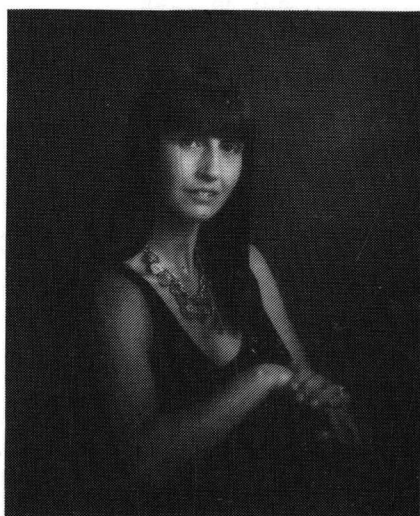
## ***Briar Horrocks***

Briar first started dancing at 8 following on to part-time teaching at 13 and then full-time on leaving school.

She was winner of the first ever choreographic competition held in New Zealand, in 1978, and her work was performed in 1980 by the New Zealand Ballet Company.

She has had her own Dance Theatre Company performing in Hastings and has been involved in many productions as dancer and/or Choreographer.

We are delighted to have Briar as our choreographer following her successes over the last two years with our productions of "Grease" and "Evita". Once again we see the proof of her talents, expertise and versatility.





# ***Me and My Girl***

Do you remember The Lambeth Walk?  
Goodness you must be old! That was 1938!

The dourness of the late Victorian era gave way to Edwardian gaiety and then the frenetic hilarity of the 1920's.

Toward the end of the next decade the joy soured with the preliminary fears leading up to a second world war. The western world was ready for escapist theatre with catchy songs and dances.

Along came "Me and My Girl" with its show-stopping Lambeth Walk and a cockney male Cinderella played by the comic star Lupino Lane.

The composer Noel Gay was credited with three dozen major hits between 1928 and his death in 1954. The author L. Arthur Rose was an actor turned writer with eighty West End productions. The lyricist Douglas Furber contributed to more than seventy West End shows and his hits included "The Bells of St Mary's" and "Limehouse Blues".

This talented trio presented the perennial conflict between the upper class of England — the titled and landed gentry — and the lower class — personified here by the glowing raucous cockneys of London.

What does happen when a loud young cockney lad inherits a title, a mansion and accompanying millions?

Maria, Duchess of Dene and her eccentric family and staff soon find out, with help from young Bill from Lambeth and his cockney sparrow girlfriend Sally.

Yes, "Me and My Girl" was a sellout pre-war success.

Then somewhere in the middle of this century the full scores and scripts of the show were lost. Ten years ago Noel Gay's son Richard Armitage pieced together fragments and, with the help of collaborators with long memories, a revival of "Me and My Girl" burst onto the West End in 1985. It was a hit all over again.

So here it is — Lambeth Walk and all. Enjoy the show, tap your feet and if you want to join in the dancing please sit near the aisle.

Wotcher me old china. Oi oi!







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## ***Robert Hickey as Bill***

Rob was born and bred in Napier and educated at Colenso High School. He attended Palmerston North Teachers College where he performed in and directed a number of shows.

His first show with The Napier Operatic Society was a Music Hall in 1981 and since then he has performed in the Society's productions of "Chicago", "Ginger Bread Man" and "Fantastics". He has also directed two Music Halls for the Society, "Grease" in 1989 and the very successful "Evita" in 1990.

Other Hawke's Bay Society's have had the benefits of Rob's performances and direction but The Napier Operatic Society is his home. His future as a director and performer at the ripe old age of 28 looks very good indeed.



## ***Joanne Stevens as Sally***

Joanne's first appearance with the Napier Operatic Society was in "Sound of Music". She appeared in the chorus of "The Great Waltz" and in "Music Hall 1980". She has performed with Hastings Musical Comedy Co, Wellington Operatic Society and Wellington Repertory.

Joanne will be well remembered for her magnificent performance as Eva Peron in Napier Operatic Society's "Evita" in 1990. She is also an accomplished pianist. Married, with two small children, Joanne is blessed with a very understanding husband.

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# Cast

(In Order of Appearance)

Charles Hetherset	Stan Simmonds
Lord Battersby	Norm Compton
Lady Battersby	Anne Compton
The Hon Gerald Bolingbroke	Bill Dalton
Parchester	John Williams
Lady Jacqueline Carstone	Jan Gare
Sir Jasper Tring	Tony Ironside
Maria, Duchess of Dene	June Farmer
Sir John Tremayne	Neville Baker
Bill Snibson	Robert Hickey
Sally Smith	Joanne Stevens
Mrs Worthington Worthington	Sharron Pardoe
Lady Diss	Glen Ward
Lady Brighton	Elizabeth Graney
Bob Barking	Simon Thompson
Mrs Brown	Elizabeth Graney

**Ancesters:** Ian Reid  
Derek Thompson  
Ian Etheridge  
Tony Fullerton-Smith

**Ensemble:** Derryn Beeby  
Fiona Cox  
Joanna Gregory  
Sharron Pardoe  
Janine Reid  
Glen Ward  
Peter Clark  
John Graham  
Alan Holt  
Steve Roberts  
Donald Tweedie

Sid Price  
Roy Clement  
Alex McClelland  
Fred Twyford  
  
Mandy Burtenshaw  
Sian Forlong-Ford  
Karen Hawkins  
Sharon Pook  
Margot Whiting  
Jill Williams  
Martin Donnelly  
Sean Hart  
Peter Kelsen  
Simon Thompson  
Fred Twyford

## Orchestra

**Violins:** Norma Smith, Dallas Knight, Ann Willink, Joanne Hare  
**Cello:** Fiona Dunn  
**Flutes:** Sally Davies, Sarah Delany  
**Clarinet/Saxophone:** Bill Mayo, Beryl Riley, Simon Gulliver  
**Trombone:** Cliff Howell  
**Synthesizer:** Warwick Curtis  
**Keyboards:** Colleen Gahagan, Anne Jago  
**Percussion:** Bryan Rae  
**Rehearsal Pianist:** Colleen Gahagan

**Double Bass:** Leon Speakman

**Horn:** Michael Winter

## Act 1

### OVERTURE

#### SCENE ONE

A Weekend At Hareford  
Thinking Of No-One But Me  
The Family Solicitor  
Me And My Girl

#### SCENE TWO

An English Gentleman

#### SCENE THREE

You Would If You Could  
Hold My Hand

#### SCENE FOUR

Once You Lose Your Heart

#### SCENE FIVE

The Lambeth Walk

### HAREFORD HALL, HAMPSHIRE

Ensemble  
Jacquie and Gerald  
Parchester and Family  
Bill and Sally

### THE KITCHEN

Charles and Staff

### THE DRAWING ROOM

Jacquie and Bill  
Bill and Sally

### THE HAREFORD ARMS

Sally

### THE TERRACE

Bill, Sally and Ensemble

— INTERVAL —

## Act 2

### ENTR'ACTE

#### SCENE ONE

The Sun Has Got His Hat On  
Take It On The Chin

#### SCENE TWO

Once You Lose Your Heart  
Song of Hareford  
Love Makes The World Go Round

#### SCENE THREE

Leaning On A Lampost

#### SCENE FOUR

Reminiscing  
Finale

### THE GARDEN, HAREFORD HALL

Gerald and Ensemble  
Sally

### THE LIBRARY

Sally  
Duchess and Ancestors  
Bill and Sir John

### LAMBETH

Bill and Dancers

### HAREFORD HALL

Duchess and Sir John  
The Company

The action takes place in the late 1930's, in and around Hareford Hall in Hampshire, and Lambeth

**NB:** The use of cameras and recording equipment is not permitted



## ***June Farmer as Maria, Duchess of Dene***



June (nee Berry) was born in Hastings. She began singing at a very early age and was dubbed as another "Deanna Durbin" when only 10 years old. During her training and later, she broadcasted on radio, sang in many shows and was a finalist in both the Nellie Melba Scholarship and the Mobil Song Quest.

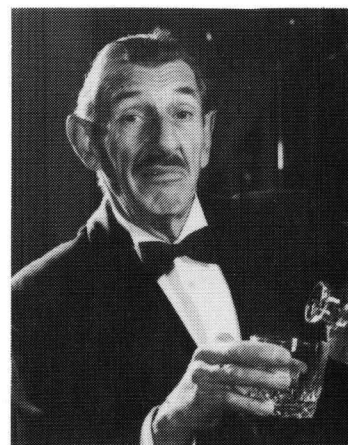
During her career she has sung with the Hastings Musical Comedy Co, the Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin Operatic Societies, the Wellington and Dunedin Repertories and the New Zealand Opera Company.

June retired a few years ago but was co-erced to audition for "Me and My Girl", for which the Napier Operatic Society is truly grateful.

## ***Neville Baker as Sir John Tremayne***

Neville has been heavily involved with the Napier Repertory Theatre for more than 30 years. He has had lead roles in many of their productions, spent many years as president and is now their patron.

He appeared in Napier Operatic Society's production of "The Fantastiks" in 1990. His last appearance on stage at the Municipal Theatre was in "Romeo and Juliet" in the 1960's, directed by Dick Johnstone. Neville is delighted to be working with Dick once again.

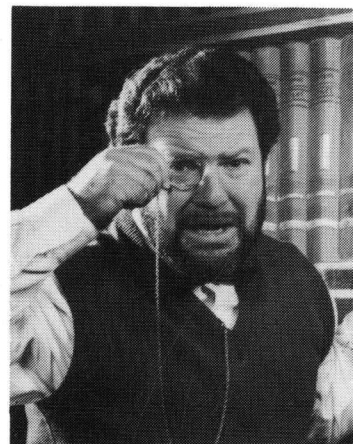


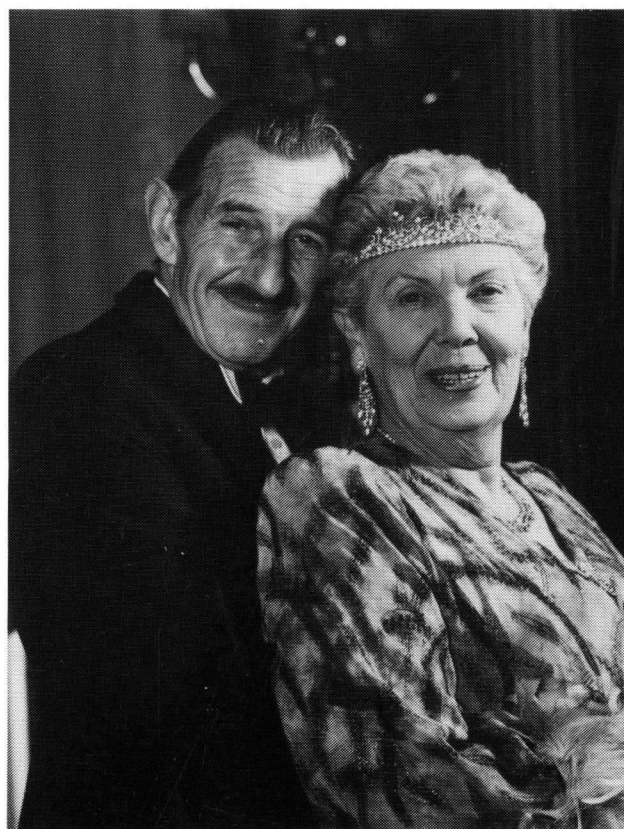
## ***Jan Gare as Jacqui***

Jan appeared in Napier Operatic Society's "Mack & Mabel" and "Gershwin". This is the first time she has appeared in a lead role and is relishing the task. She sang in London in her earlier days and now her children are growing older, Hawke's Bay audiences will no doubt see a lot more of this talented young lady.

## ***Bill Dalton as Gerald***

Bill's involvement in theatre is not extensive. He appeared in the chorus of Colenso High School's "Chu Chin Chow" in 1968 and Napier Operatic Society's Oliver in 1988. He did not audition for a part in this show initially and reluctantly accepted the role of Gerald after a little gentle persuasion. His natural ability brings to the role real authenticity.

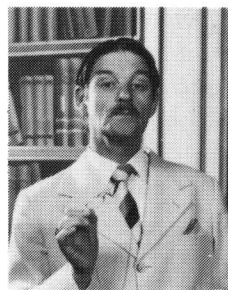








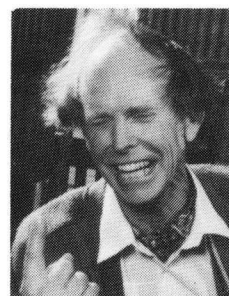
**STAN SIMMONDS**  
*"The Butler"*



**JOHN WILLIAMS**  
*"Parchester"*



**ANNE COMPTON**  
*"Lady Battersby"*



**TONY IRONSIDE**  
*"Sir Jasper Tring"*



**NORM COMPTON**  
*"Lord Battersby"*



**ELIZABETH GRANEY**  
*"Mrs Brown"*

## ***Acknowledgements***

Frederick Swain  
P.W. Bartle  
Tony Reid Service Station  
Tiffany Motels  
John Liley Motors  
Tamatea High School  
Bay City Power  
DIY Workshops  
Sport Soft Drinks

Wool and Handcraft Centre, Hastings  
Pandora Autos  
N.D. Wakely  
Oliver Christofferson  
Stortford Lodge Hotel  
S.W. Jones & Co.  
Port Ahuriri School  
Noel Gordon  
Raphael Furnishing Studios

Napier Operatic Society wishes to thank the following generous sponsors of our  
Tabard Theatre redevelopment:

N.Z. Lotteries Grants board, C.D. Cox Ltd, McLoughlin & Associates, Prebbles Menswear, Jenkins Jewellers,  
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Rothmans of Pall Mall (NZ) Ltd, Watters & Jackson Ltd, Gloucester Fashions and Bay City Bakery.

The Sets and Costumes supplied by Wellington Operatic Society (Inc.)

# ***Production Personnel***

<b>Director:</b>	Dick Johnstone
<b>Musical Director:</b>	Barry Fell
<b>Choreographer:</b>	Briar Horrocks
<b>Chorus Mistress:</b>	Beverly Blake
<b>Stage Manager:</b>	Donald Hurley
<b>Wardrobe Mistress:</b>	Sue Page
<b>Lighting Design:</b>	Denis Newport, Gwyn Ace
<b>Properties Mistress:</b>	Sonya Aifai
<b>Make-Up:</b>	Trish Green
<b>Hair Styling:</b>	Yvonne Ironside
<b>Deputy Stage Manager:</b>	Leigh Jones
<b>Assistant Stage Manager:</b>	Bill Perry
<b>Assistant Stage Manager Lighting &amp; Sound:</b>	Robert Lockyer
<b>Head Mechanist:</b>	Alan Jones
<b>Head Flyman:</b>	Clive Buttery
<b>House Truck Mechanist:</b>	Bill Shirras
<b>Lighting Control:</b>	Peter Eade
<b>Sound Engineers:</b>	David White, Kent Luttrell
<b>Prompt:</b>	Elsa Kersey

<b>Stage Crew:</b>	Andrew Browne, Barrie Browne, Brett Collier, Paul Collier, Michelle de Boer, Peter Hunt, Brian Jeffries, Philippa Jones, Darryl Mitchell, Clark Pedersen, Craig van de Zwet, George Ward, Karen White, Nigel Whiting, Aaron Wheadon, Martin Hunter, Brian Robertson, Wade Sawyer, Russell Collins.
<b>Fly Floor:</b>	Patteson Aifai, Bill Grindrod, Allan Howes, Harley Jones, Malcolm Kenah, Craig Kenah, Eoin McKinnon, Steve Pardoe, Perry van de Zwet.
<b>Wardrobe:</b>	Marion Fell, Jean Allen, Guiseppa Bartle, Michelle de Boer, Kay Collins, Rachel Collins, Janet Freeman, Gail Jones, Joan MacLaurin, Erin O'Kane, Bev O'Neill, Saima Pritchard, Lois Reefman, Chris Shields, Robyn Woodley and Friends of the Society.
<b>Properties:</b>	Tracey Coldicutt, Glenda Clark, Joy Garland, Geoff Harvey, June Kelsen, Rob McLean, Irene McKinnon, Des O'Neill, Donna O'Shaughnessy, Callum Pattie, Maria Paterson, Lynda Shirras, Lesley Standring, Alistair Whyte.
<b>Lighting:</b>	Lee Lockyer, Jim Banks, Kendall Browne.
<b>Sound:</b>	Neill Page, Paul Jennings.
<b>Hair Stylists:</b>	Brigitte Bartle, Victoria Turk.
<b>Make-Up:</b>	Friends of the Society.
<b>Call Steward:</b>	Sarah Reid.
<b>Suppers:</b>	Shirley Johnson and helpers.

## ***Management***

<b>Production Manager:</b>	Peter Shepherd
<b>Production Secretary:</b>	Ian Reid
<b>Programme:</b>	Peter Shepherd and Ian Collins
<b>Publicity:</b>	Society Publicity Profile Committee
<b>Front of House:</b>	Peter Shepherd, John Briggs, Lesley Reid, Tony Reid, Syd Jago, Ian Collins, Ian Graney, David Reefman, Kevin Woodley and Friends of the Society.



# ***Napier Operatic Society Inc.***

(A Foundation Member of the New Zealand Federation of Operatic Societies)

**Patron** : Bob Wright

**President** : Peter Shepherd

**Vice-President** : John Briggs

**Immediate Past President** : Fred Twyford

## ***Executive Committee***

**Chairman** : Robert Lockyer

Ian Collins, Bill Dalton, Alan Holt, Alan Jones, Brian Nathan, Neill Page, Steve Roberts,  
Ros Van de Ven, Glen Ward, John Williams.

**Secretary:** Ian Reid

**Hon. Auditor:** Les Robertson

**Treasurer:** Lyndsay Browne

**Hon. Solicitor:** John Matthews

**Hon. Photographer:** James White

## ***Life Members***

Hazel Collier, Bob Wright, Dawn Unsworth, Bob Houston, Alan Jones, John Collier, Donald Hurley,  
Fred Twyford, Barrie Browne.

## ***Membership***

**Subscribing Members:** If you are not already a member of our Society and would like to become one, 1991 subscriptions of \$20 per household are now being received at Box 756, Napier.

This will entitle you to preferential bookings and to be on our mailing list.

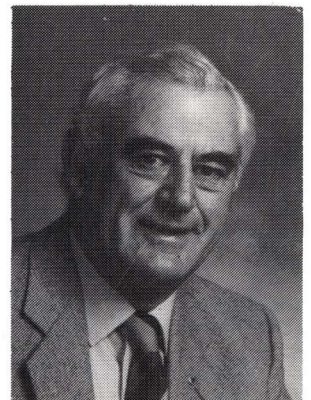
**Active Members:** We always need active members, both on-stage and back-stage. Phone 835-8775 if you are interested in joining us in some capacity.

## ***Presidents Message***

The long awaited "Me and My Girl" is finally here. The skills of Dick Johnstone bring out the best of a very talented cast, and together with a very experienced backstage and technical crew. We give you a show which I hope you will well remember.

Colourful, musical, humorous, lively and bouncy — sit back and enjoy it.

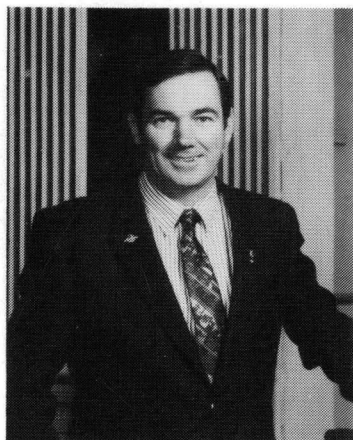
PETER SHEPHERD  
**President**



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## Donald Hurley

Donald is undoubtedly Napier Operatic Society's most experienced Stage Manager. His involvement goes back almost 30 years and he is still to find a show that is beyond his capabilities.



## Sue Page

Sue brings her experiences as Wardrobe Mistress of "Music Hall", "Chicago", "Oliver" and "An Evening with Gershwin" to this demanding position. The multitude of costumes and fittings required for this show have required the talent, expertise and organisational skills that Sue has in multitude.



Left to Right: Rear: Alan Jones, Ian Reid, Peter Eade, Clive Buttery.  
Front: Bill Shirras, Leigh Jones, Sonya Aifai, Bev Blake, Colleen Gahagan, Gwyn Ace, Bill Perry.  
Inset: Robert Lockyer, Denis Newport.

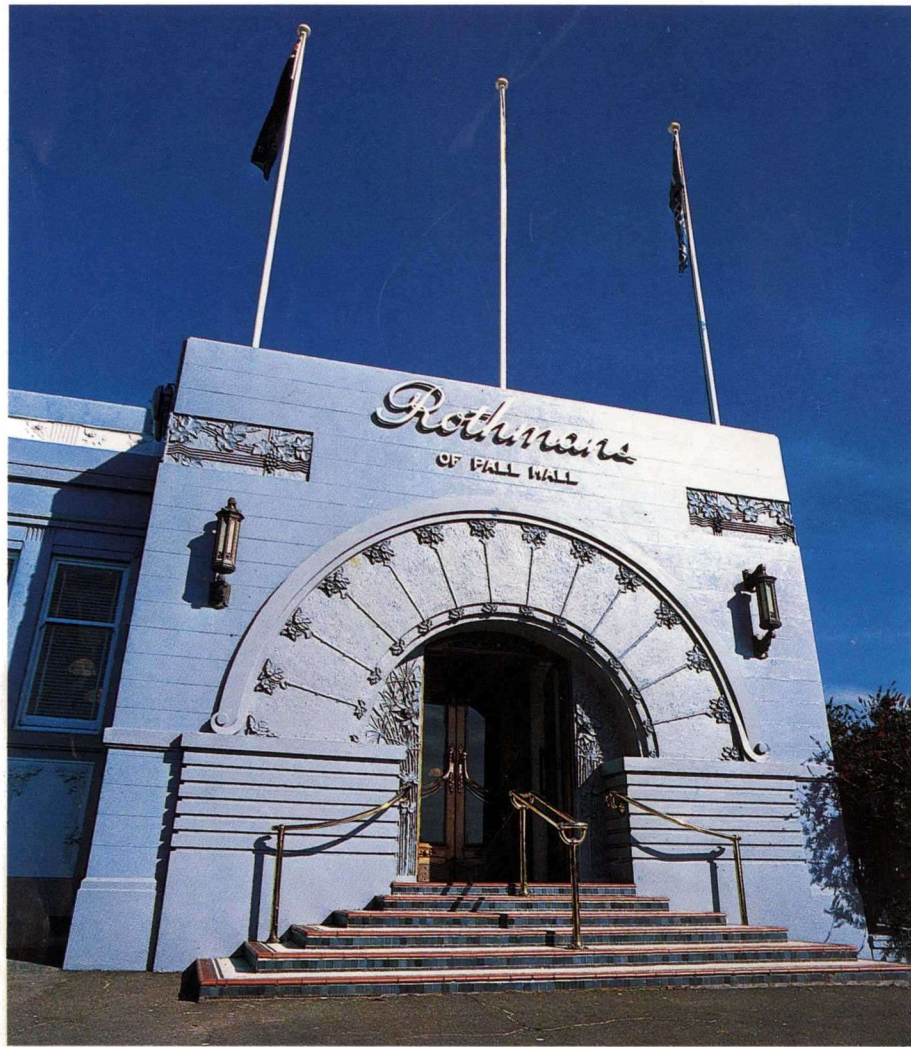
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## *Next Production*

**MUSIC HALL** — directed by **Gavin Etheridge** — will run at the  
Tabard Theatre Restaurant Complex from 15 November to 7 December, 1991

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