

14
Queanbeyan
Players

by arrangement with

J. C. WILLIAMSON'S THEATRES LTD.

presents



Book and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

Music by Frederick Loewe

NOVA COMMUNITY THEATRE

April 24 25 26 May 1 2 3 1980

CAST in order of appearance

TOMMY ALBRIGHT, an American . . . PHIL PERMAN. Phil has sung in productions in Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and in Canberra, where he has worked extensively with Canberra Opera, the A.C.T. Lieder Society and Canberra Philharmonic, with whom he appeared as Charlie Cameron in their last production of "Brigadoon". He last appeared with Queanbeyan Players as Ralph Rackstraw in "H.M.S. Pinafore" in 1977.

JEFF DOUGLAS, an American . . . PETER DARK. Peter joined the Players when he arrived in Queanbeyan four years ago, first appearing as Captain Corcoran in "H.M.S. Pinafore", and has since appeared in many of the Players' productions, as well as working with Tempo Theatre, On Stage, REP, and the Canberra Theatre Trust.

ANGUS MACGREGOR . . . RICHARD KRAFT. Richard has previously appeared with the Players as the Bosun in "H.M.S. Pinafore", and the Usher in "Trial by Jury", as well as in the chorus for several Philharmonic Society and Canberra Opera productions.

DONALD RITCHIE . . . GEOFF COOK. Geoff has been a member of the Players since 1978, when he understudied the Foreman of the Jury in "Trial by Jury". He has also appeared as Nigel in "Salad Days", in the chorus of "Ruddigore", and as your own, your very own, Chairman in "Queanbeyansnickers!".

MAGGIE ABERNATHY . . . MARGARET KEYS. Margaret joined the Players in 1979, having previously worked with Leeton Music and Drama Society, Wagga School of Arts, and Wagga Theatre Club. She has choreographed for and appeared in both "Ruddigore" and "Queanbeyansnickers!" since joining us.

STUART CAMERON . . . GEOFF McCUBBIN. Geoff is a foundation member of the Players, having appeared in all our musical productions, with principal roles in "The Gondoliers" (Luiz) and "Salad Days" (Fosdyke), and as a member of the Barbershop Quartet in "Queanbeyansnickers!".

HARRIE RITCHIE, Donald's son . . . RICHARD SCHERER. This is Richard's second show with the Players, after joining us in 1979 to play Inspector Crandall in the mystery farce "The Murder Room".

MEG BROCKIE . . . MARCIA STEPHENSON. Marcia is another foundation member of the Players, and has also worked with Waverley Musical Society, Griffith Musical Society, and Bowral Philharmonic, both in principal roles and as producer. This is her fifth show with the Players.

ANDREW MACKETH . . . BERNIE SAMMS. Bernie joined the Players in 1979, appearing in the chorus of "Ruddigore", and then being promoted to royal rank as Henry VIII in "Queanbeyansnickers!". He is currently rehearsing the part of Samuel in Canberra Philharmonic's production of "Pirates of Penzance".

FIONA MACKETH, his daughter . . . FRAN BOSLY. Fran has been delighting Queanbeyan audiences since she played Mabel in the Players' first production, "Pirates of Penzance", in 1976. Since then she has sung in "The Gondoliers" and played the female lead, Josephine, in "H.M.S. Pinafore", as well as producing "Trial by Jury" and "Salad Days" for the Players. Fran has also worked extensively with Canberra Philharmonic and Canberra Opera Society.

JEAN MACKETH, Andrew's other daughter . . . HELEN ROACH. Helen joined the Players in 1976 when she choreographed our production of "The Gondoliers". Since then she has appeared in all our musical productions.

CHARLIE CAMERON, betrothed to Jean . . . LES COOK. Since signing on with the crew of "H.M.S. Pinafore" in 1977 Les has appeared with the Players as Timothy in "Salad Days", the Defence Counsel in "Trial by Jury", and in the cast of "Queanbeyansnickers!", as well as working with the Canberra Theatre Trust and Canberra Opera Society.

MR. MURDOCH, the schoolmaster . . . FRANK BOWLES. "Brigadoon" is Frank's third appearance with the Players, following "Queanbeyansnickers!" and the role of Adam in "Ruddigore". He also sings with the choir of All Saints Church, Ainslie, Canberra Opera Society, and the A.N.U. Choral Society.

SWORD DANCERS . . . WENDY NILON and JULIA TREFELI. Wendy and Julia both attend the Anne Holmes' School of Dancing, and have been studying dance for twelve years, covering classical ballet, jazz ballet and tap, as well as Highland dancing.

PIPER . . . REG FOREMAN.

FRANK, a bartender . . . IAN MACDIARMID. Ian returns to the Players after three years overseas. He has previously appeared with us in "Queenbeyansnickers!" and "The Gondoliers", and has also worked with Canberra Philharmonic.

JANE ASHTON, Tommy's fiancée . . . JACKIE McLOUGHLIN. Another of the Players' foundation members, Jackie first appeared with us in "Pirates of Penzance", and has since appeared in all except one of the Players' musical productions, including the female lead as Jane in "Salad Days".

TOWNSFOLK OF BRIGADOON: Diana Antanaitis, Jennifer Brown, Julie Essenberg, Jeanette Field, Kerry Foy, Sarah Gillman, Barbara Greer, Sue Jarvis, Angela LaVella, Maria LaVella, Alison McCubbin, Jackie McLoughlin, Janetta McRae, Norma Roach, Pam Snedden, Mady Swain, Bill Dwyer, Graham Finlayson, Bob MacAuley, Anthony McGlynn, John McGlynn.

BRIGADOON

*"Once in the Highlands, the Highlands of Scotland,
Deep in the night on a murky brae;
There in the Highlands, the Highlands of Scotland,
Two weary hunters lost their way.

And this is what happened,
The strange thing that happened,
To two weary hunters who lost their way".*

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES:

Prologue

Act I:

- Scene 1 A forest in the Scottish Highlands, about five o'clock on a May morning in 1946.
- Scene 2 MacConnachy Square in Brigadoon, nine o'clock the same morning.
- Scene 3 The Brockie bothy, noon the same day.
- Scene 4 The MacKeith house, mid-afternoon the same day.
- Scene 5 Outside the house of Mr Murdoch, mid-afternoon the same day.
- Scene 6 Outside the Kirk, early evening the same day.

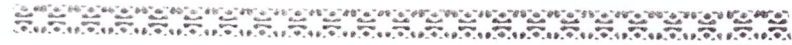
Act II:

- Scene 1 A forest near Brigadoon, later that evening.
- Scene 2 A bar in New York City, four months later.
- Scene 3 The forest, same as Act I Scene 1. Some days later.

MUSIC:

Act I:

Introduction	Instrumental Ensemble
Prologue	Chorus
Brigadoon	Chorus
Vendors' Calls	Chorus
Down in MacConnachy Square	Donald Ritchie, Angus, Stuart, Meg and Chorus



Waitin' For My Dearie	Fiona and Chorus
I'll Go Home With Bonnie Jean	Charlie and Chorus
The Heather on the Hill	Tommy and Fiona
The Love of My Life	Meg
Jeannie's Packin' Up	Chorus
Come To Me, Bend To Me	Charlie
Dance	Jean
Almost Like Being in Love	Tommy and Fiona
Wedding Ceremony	
Sword Dance and Reel	Harry, Sword Dancers and Chorus
Entr'acte Music	Instrumental Ensemble

Act II:

The Chase	Angus, Stuart, Tommy and Chorus
There But For You Go I	Tommy
My Mother's Weddin' Day	Meg and Chorus
Dance	Chorus
The Funeral	Piper
Funeral Dance	Maggie
From This Day On	Fiona and Tommy
Reprises	Fiona, Chorus, Angus, Stuart and Tommy
Finale	Chorus

THE ENSEMBLE:

Conductor — William Hunt
Pianos — Rodney Johnston and Barbara Hall
Violin — Marilyn Moir
Bass — Laurie Buckland



PRODUCER — LOIS ADAMSON

Lois Adamson has been an active member of the Canberra Philharmonic Society since 1959, having been involved with G and S, musical comedy and pantomimes, both on stage and in administrative and technical capacities. She has been involved with two productions of "Brigadoon" while with Philharmonic, one as a cast member, and one assisting with production. Lois produced "South Pacific" in 1977, another Lerner and Loewe musical, "My Fair Lady", last year, and is producing "Oklahoma" later this year for Canberra Philharmonic.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR — WILLIAM HUNT

Bill Hunt, too, is no stranger to "Brigadoon", having conducted both of Canberra Philharmonic's previous productions during his long association with the Society, from the pre-Canberra Theatre days in the Albert Hall to the present time. Indeed, he has been one of the pioneers in the musical life of Canberra, and it was fitting that he was awarded an M.B.E. in 1966 for his role in the city's musical growth. We were very pleased indeed to gain Bill as Musical Director for our 1979 production of "Ruddigore", and welcome him back for this 1980 Queanbeyan Players' production of "Brigadoon".

PRODUCTION NOTE:

My thanks to the Queanbeyan Players for the unique opportunity to produce their first show in the Nova! We have adapted "Brigadoon" to suit the facilities presently available at the Nova for live theatre, and I congratulate the cast and the Players for their determination to use the Theatre so generously provided. I hope that this is the beginning of regular use of the Nova, and of improvements to its facilities (mainly backstage) to take advantage of the obvious talents available in Queanbeyan for live theatre. I thank the cast and the "back-stage-boys" for their patience and help, also Bill Hunt for his co-operation in bringing you the lovely music of "Brigadoon".

—Lois Adamson



THE STORY . . .

Deep in the mists of the Scottish Highlands lies the village of Brigadoon, which appears for only one day in every hundred years. Into this magical town one May morning stumble two weary American travellers, Tommy Albright and Jeff Douglas, and find themselves in an atmosphere of celebration as it is market day, and the day of Jean MacKeith's wedding to Charlie Cameron.

The secret of Brigadoon's strange existence and the manner in which, for each night that the townspeople sleep, one hundred years pass for the outside world, is soon explained. Two hundred years ago (in 1746) Mr Forsythe prayed for a miracle to protect Brigadoon from the heathen influence of the witches who were then spreading their evil tenets throughout Scotland — and the miracle was granted, for to those who believe, all things are possible.

But what is Tommy to do now he has met and fallen in love with Jean's sister, Fiona? Should he woo her and wed her and spend the rest of his days in Brigadoon? And what of Harry Ritchie, bitter and resentful, who seeks to leave Brigadoon? For should any of the townsfolk leave Brigadoon, it will disappear for ever.

And Jeff has a special problem. Meg Brockie is determined to get herself a husband — by hook or by crook — and she finds Jeff "a braw handsome lad."

How does it all end? To tell would be to spoil the story.

"BRIGADOON" — STAGE HISTORY:

BRIGADOON was Lerner and Loewe's third collaboration, and their first success — coming after the revue WHAT'S UP in 1943 and the musical THE DAY BEFORE SPRING in 1945, both now forgotten, and with MY FAIR LADY, PAINT YOUR WAGON and CAMELOT still to come. It opened at New York's Ziegfeld Theatre on March 13, 1947, where it was to run for 581 performances, and would run even longer at London's His Majesty's Theatre where it opened on April 14, 1949, going through 685 performances.

In the year it opened, the New York Drama Critics' Circle acclaimed it as the best play of the season, the first time a musical had been so honoured. The citation read, "To BRIGADOON by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe. Because it is altogether an original and inventive blending of words, music and dance; because its taste, discretion and thoughtful beauty mark a high note in any season; and because it finds lyric theatre at its best."

In the early fifties J. C. Williamson's toured a very successful Australian production, along with Cole Porter's KISS ME KATE, and Rodgers and Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC — riches indeed! In 1954 a film version was made with Gene Kelly, Cyd Charisse and Van Johnson.

Lerner and Loewe's fairy story of an enchanted Scottish village and the power of true love is theatrical magic. In the words of David Ewen, writing in THE COMPLETE BOOK OF LIGHT OPERA, "BRIGADOON is one of the most delightful fantasies the American musical stage has known — fresh and inventive in its characterisations, dialogue and lyrics; utterly enchanting in its melodies."

THE NOVA COMMUNITY THEATRE:

Big news as the Capitol Cinema has bowed out under the demolishers' hammers is that Queanbeyan's Nova Cinema (originally the Star Cinema, and as such several years the Capitol's elder) is likely to find a new lease of life as the Nova Community Theatre, under J. B. YOUNG'S very generous sponsorship.

As well as providing a valuable community facility for Queanbeyan as a whole, this would mean that the Queanbeyan Players had at last found a home — and one with a great deal of promise! As the theatre now stands, it has main street frontage, full front of house facilities, and an auditorium with tiered seating for approximately 350, good sightlines, and excellent acoustics.

Of course a cinema can't be translated into a theatre simply by changing its name, and the provision of stage lighting, adequate acting areas and back stage facilities would mean a lot of hard, but satisfying, work ahead for us, with initial lighting installation and basic thrust extensions to the stage area already completed for this production of "Brigadoon."

—Continued

Whatever the difficulties, Queanbeyan Players believe that the re-establishment of the Nova Cinema as the Nova Community Theatre would mark a most important step in Queanbeyan's cultural and community development, offering as it would facilities for theatre, public meetings, displays, cinema, dance and conferences, facilities specifically dedicated for and available to the people of Queanbeyan. Certainly we are most grateful to J. B. Young's for a very generous initiative, and to Mr Stan Wilkes personally for the very real assistance he has given to Queanbeyan Players.

WHO ARE THE QUEANBEYAN PLAYERS?

The Queanbeyan Players was formed in 1974 under the auspices of the Queanbeyan Branch of the Arts Council of N.S.W. The group has presented "The Pirates of Penzance", "The Gondoliers", "H.M.S. Pinafore", "Trials and Tribulations", "Salad Days", "Ruddigore", "Queanbeyansnickers!" and the farces "See How They Run" and "The Murder Room", as well as items for the City Festival, Local Government Conference, and musical evenings. If you are interested in musical and/or drama productions and are prepared to assist in any way, with make-up, costumes, set construction, front of house, singing, dancing, or acting, we would like to hear from you. People wishing to join the Players are asked to contact Dr Trevor Roach or Mrs Norma Roach on 97 1108.

CREDITS:

Business Manager — Bobbie Robinson.
Choreography — Margaret Keys, assisted by Jenny Tonzing.
Chorus Mistress — Lyn Fuller.
Foyer Decoration — Display Staff, J. B. Young's.
Front of House — Reg Halliburton.
Lighting — Greg Toone, assisted by Henry Field, Lou Gifford, Keith Goggin, Peter McIntyre, Ian Roach.
Make-up Consultant — Nik Dorning.
Poster and Programme Design — Moya Ewin.
Programme — Peter Dark.
Prompt — Chris Hall.
Properties — Moya Ewin, assisted by Moraig Godfrey, Martine Lovett.
Publicity — Peter Dark, assisted by Jackie McLoughlin.
Rehearsal Pianist — Rodney Johnston.
Set Construction — Greg Robinson, assisted by Heather Clobe, Dan Eaton, Brian Foy, Trevor Roach, Bobbie Robinson, Cees Schoenmakers, Mick Swain, Tony Vaile, Bob Wallace.
Stage Crew — Brian Foy, June Foy, Richard Kent, Trevor Roach.
Stage Manager — Tony Vaile, assisted by Barbie Robinson.
Wardrobe Mistress — Joan Atha, assisted by Norma Roach, Janetta McRae, Diana Antanaitis.
Our thanks also the ladies and gentlemen of the front of house staff.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Queanbeyan Players would like to thank all the many individuals and organisations who gave their assistance and co-operation in the staging of this first live theatre production in the Nova Community Theatre, and in particular:

Brambles Transport; Canberra Philharmonic Society; The National Library; Display staff of J. B. Young's; Mr Len Fisher; Ford's Total Store; George Brown and Co.; Mr and Mrs J. Gowan; Isabella Street School; J. B. Young's; Kangaroo R.L.F.C. Ltd.; Lee and Thomas; Mr George Milevich; Montone Paints; Mr Jim Munro; "The Queanbeyan Age"; The Queanbeyan R.S.L. Club; Rapid Metal Development; Mr Jim Riordan; Mr Don Telford; The Uniting Church in Queanbeyan; Mr Terry Vaughan; Mr Stan Wilkes.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the limited nature of the backstage area at present available in the Theatre, friends of the cast are asked not to go backstage, or onto the stage, and instead are invited to meet in the foyer after the show. Queanbeyan Players also apologises for the fact that not all the tartans used are those of the correct Clan, but we feel certain that anyone perceptive enough to have noticed this will also be generous enough to forgive us this lapse!