

The Hong Kong Stage Club
presents

**A Day in
the Death of
Joe Egg**

by Peter Nichols

**Shouson Theatre
Hong Kong Arts Centre**

**May 4th to 8th
8.30 p.m.**



Committee Members

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
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| Treasurer | Tom McDonough |
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| Workshop Manager | June Hanna |
| Wardrobe Manager | Elizabeth Low |
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The Hong Kong Stage Club was founded in 1946, successor to the Hong Kong Amateur Dramatic Club established in 1844. Its object is to further interest in drama in Hong Kong, particularly by the presentation of plays.

Club Nights and other events are held on a regular basis and participation of the club in the presentation of radio drama has recently been revived.

For further information, telephone the Members' Secretary, Richard Rees (Home 5-259712 or Office 5-283296) or write to him, addressed to P.O. Box 20290, Hennessy Rd., Hong Kong.

New members are always welcome.



Rosemary Hoare

PRODUCER'S NOTES

"A Day in the Death of Joe Egg" was first produced in Glasgow in 1967 and transferred to the West End later in the same year. It was Peter Nichols' first stage play, although he had previously written extensively for T.V: since then of course he has become one of Britain's best-known playwrights, and two of his plays – *"Forget-me-not-Lane"* and *"The National Health"* have been performed in Hong Kong.

The theme of the play is an unlikely one – the personal tragedy of having a completely disabled child, and the effect her existence has on the relationship between her parents. Peter Nichols was motivated to write it because he and his wife had such a child, and he felt that nothing he had read on the subject accurately described how they had felt and reacted to the situation. In a passage that could easily be one of Bri's monologues in the play he wrote:

"You see I had read practically everything anyone wrote on the subject and it happened I was reading a novel on the same subject, *"The Last of the Pleasure Gardens"* by Francis King. Now what struck me was that it, like everything else I had read, was very solemn about it all; you know, sort of hushed in the face of private grief. And that was not how I had experienced it at all. Nothing in my life has ever been really dignified, I always trap my finger in the door just when I'm making a dramatic exit, and even the most serious moments of life always turn into grotesque comedy. That's why all my T.V. plays are somehow or the other comedies; I have used T.V. as a sort of public diary into which I poured my observations as they occurred to me, and they always come up comic. The same here except that no-one but no-one would countenance this subject in terms of a comedy."

No it isn't a comedy, and it isn't meant to be one. But parts of the play are very funny and this has led some critics to accuse the author of handling a serious subject in a light-hearted way. To me this style of writing is clearly a reflection of Nichols' own experiences and I believe that he has written a play that is genuinely moving without being sentimental or in bad taste.

All of us who have been connected with the play have very much enjoyed working on it. I hope you will enjoy watching it.

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Stephan Spurr

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The Hong Kong Academy Ballet Company



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NEW BALLETS IN JUNE

(Guest Choreographer: Jack Carter)

SUMMER DAY

Choreographer: Jack Carter

Music: Debussy (L'après-midi d'un Faune)

ALSO:

NAPOLI

PAS DE QUATRE

DIARY:

June 12th (Sat)

June 15, 16, 17th
(Tue, Wed, Thur)

June 19th (Sat)

THREE DANCES TO JAPANESE MUSIC

Choreographer: Jack Carter

Music: Japanese traditional

Design: Norman McDowell

Three dances using devices of Kabuki, Noh and Bunraku, as seen through Western eyes.

Tsuen Wan Town Hall

7:30 p.m.

City Hall Concert Hall

8:00 p.m.

Lut Sau Hall, Yuen Long

7:30 p.m.



COLIN PAGE

This is not the first time that Colin has appeared in 'Joe Egg', having already played the same part of Bri in 1980 with the Profile Theatre Company in Britain. He has a long list of previous productions to his name but this is his first in Hong Kong since his arrival here six months ago to teach English at Beacon Hill School. Colin's favourite role is as Wazir in "*The Teeth of Baghdad*" by Colin Page.

YVONNE HALLIDAY

Before arriving in Hong Kong in 1973, Yvonne had acted mainly with Edinburgh Peoples Theatre where she progressed from walk-ons to major roles. Involvement in prose and poetry readings in pubs and clubs around the city led to regular radio work. She first appeared in Hong Kong in 1974 in Pinter's "*The Lover*". Since then Yvonne has appeared in many plays for Stage Club, Garrison Players and also with Theatrest in "*The Killing of Sister George*". She was last seen as Mme Chandebise in "*A Flea in Her Ear*".



NICOLA BINSTEAD

Born in Hong Kong in 1969, Nicola was introduced to Speech and Drama at Glenealy Junior School. She has achieved success in several Schools' Speech Festivals and is now studying privately for Grade 5 Guildhall Speech and Drama examinations in May. Nicola readily admits she prefers riding horses to wheelchairs.

MARY GARLICK

A Londoner by birth, Mary came to Hong Kong in 1969. Her last appearance was in The Hong Kong Stage Club's "*Enter a Free Man*" in 1981. Previously (for Garrison Players) Mary appeared in "*Antigone*", "*Wizard of Oz*" and "*Forget-me-not-Lane*" and has a professional appearance to her credit in "*Bed before Yesterday*" at the Hilton Playhouse in 1978. Her other interests are bridge and being an Oxfam Helper.



GARETH MULLOY

Gary's first appearance in Hong Kong was in Noel Coward's "*Present Laughter*" in 1969. More recently he appeared as the buffoon villain in last year's pantomime "*Babes in the Wood*". Until now he has tended to play comic roles in such plays as "*How the Other Half Loves*" and "*Habeas Corpus*" but is pleased to play the more serious role of Freddie. Gary has tried his hand as Business Manager, Assistant Stage Manager, Set Constructor and Stage Hand but invariably returns to acting.



GEORGINA WALKEY

Another fairly recent arrival in Hong Kong, Georgina has been involved with amateur theatre for over 15 years, including playing principal girl for the last three years prior to leaving Britain. Her last appearance in Britain before coming here was as Eliza in "*Pygmalion*" in August 1981. Losing no time, Georgina's first appearance in Hong Kong was in October 1981 in Garrison Players' "*A Flea in Her Ear*". She says she has a personal fondness for Ayckbourn plays.



THE HONG KONG

p
A DAY IN THE

Pete

CAST

BRI
SHEILA
JOE
PAM
FREDDIE
GRACE

COLIN PAGE
YVONNE HALLIDAY
NICOLA BINSTED
GEORGINA WALKEY
GARETH MULLOY
MARY GARLICK

The action takes place in the living-room of
Bri's and Sheila's home

ACT I

An evening in winter

ACT II

Later the same night

Time — the present

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

G STAGE CLUB

TH OF JOE EGG

chols

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER
STAGE MANAGER
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
SET DESIGNER
SET CONSTRUCTION MANAGER
SOUND
LIGHTING DESIGN
COSTUMES
PROPERTIES MISTRESS
Assisted by
SET DRESSING MANAGER
Assisted by

PROMPT
MAKE-UP
Assisted by

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JOHN HODGKISS
JACQUELINE BARDEN
EION MITCHELL
RICHARD REES
NICHOLAS CLEMENT-JONES
DAVID BOOTTEN
ANDREW RITCHIE
ELIZABETH LOW
SANDY ALLEN
JENNY GILL
PAM DUNCAN
HEATHER BENIANS
ANNABEL BROXHAM
RACHEL HUNT
ELIZABETH LOW
MAUREEN DEVEREUX
ESMA WRIGHT
HEATHER BENIANS

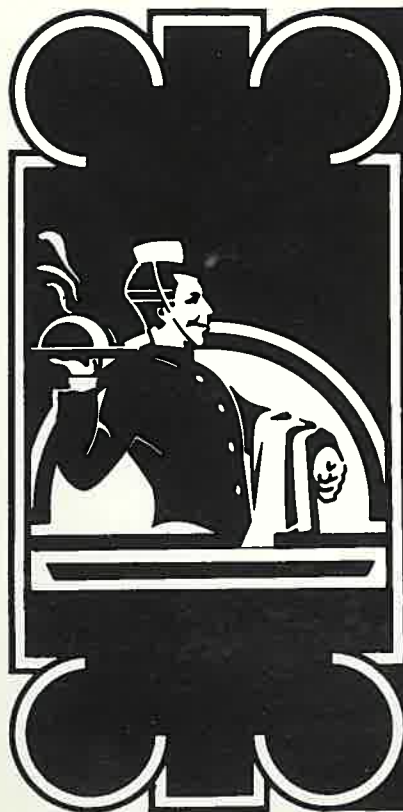
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ANDREW BONES

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Beacon Hill School
Beacon Hill School Drama Club for carol singing
Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association
Police Civilian Staff Club
Shoestring
Youth With A Mission for loan of chaise longue
Radio Television Hong Kong
Commercial Radio
Television and Entertainment Times
South China Morning Post
Hong Kong Standard
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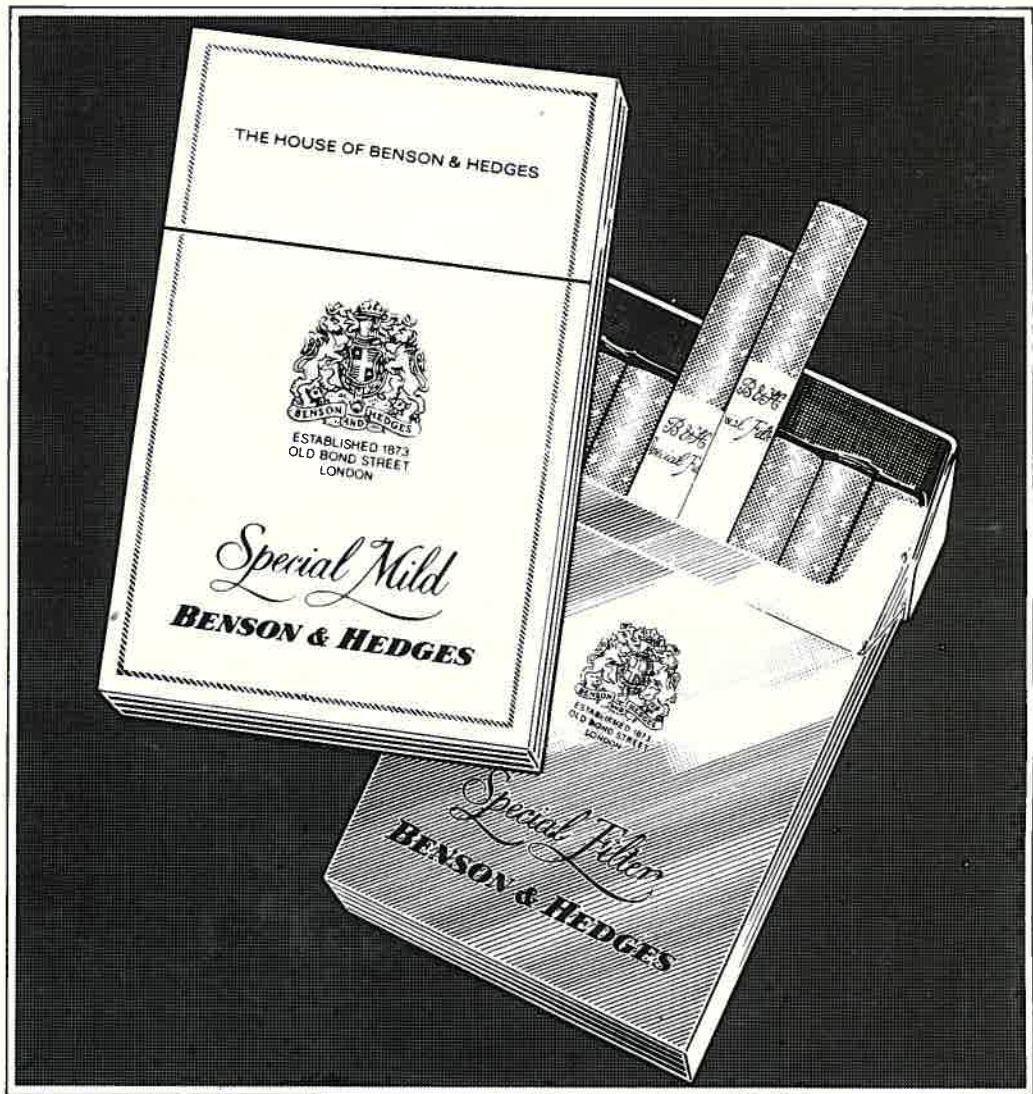
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 1ST JUNE

7:30 p.m.

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Please mark the club activities which interest you:

- Producing Lighting Set Construction Prompting
- Stage Management Sound Acting Costumes
- Set Painting Properties Designing (Posters/Sets/Costumes)

Would you be prepared to serve on the committee should the opportunity arise?

I enclose a cheque/cash for

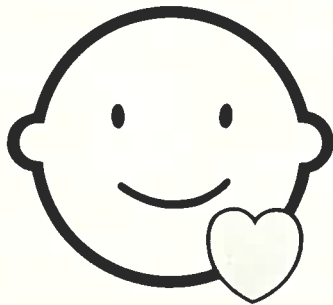
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Date



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THE HONG KONG STAGE CLUB

Major Production

1946/47

Take it Easy
Androcles and the Lion
While the Sun Shines
Outward Bound
Heartbreak House
Rope
Present Laughter
Youth at the Helm

1947/48

Hay Fever
An Inspector Calls
Everyman
The Man who came to Dinner
Dangerous Corner
Things that Go Bump in the Night

1948/49

Blithe Spirit
Grand National Night
Treasure Island
The Guinea Pig
Twelfth Night
Quiet Week-end

1949/50

The Importance of Being Earnest
Duet for Two Hands
Tonight at 8:30
The Chiltern Hundreds
Gaslight

1950/51

Libel
Granite
The Wind and the Rain
Thunder Rock

1951/52

French Without Tears
The School For Scandal
Castle in the Air
The Paragon
The Happiest Days of Your Life

1952/53

Young Wives' Tale
The Holly and the Ivy
She Stoops to Conquer
Ladies in Retirement
Present Laughter

1953/54

Miranda
The Late Edwina Black
The Lady's not for Burning
Tartuffe

1954/55

The Flashing Stream
Dear Charles
Time and the Conways
The Rivals

1955/56

Dial M for Murder
The Miser
Othello

1956/57

Book of the Month
Arms and the Man
Winslow Boy

* With Garrison Players

1957/58

A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Magistrate
Antigone & A Phoenix
Too Frequent
Bell, Book and Candle

1958/59

The Devil's Disciple
Tobias and the Angel
Crime Passionnel
Romanoff and Juliet

1959/60

Ring Round the Moon
The Strong are Lonely
The Prodigious Snob

1960/61

The Taming of the Shrew
The Fifth Formers' Dream
Breath of Spring

1961/62

Simon and Laura
Five Finger Exercise
It's a School Cert.
The House by the Lake
The Love of Four Colonels

1962/63

The Rape of the Belt
Epitaph for George Dillon
Hans, The Witch and the Goblin
A Man for all Seasons

1963/64

Murder Mistaken
The Sleeping Prince
The Snow Queen
Twelfth Night*
Sailor Beware

1964/65

The Importance of Being Earnest
The Private Ear and Public Eye
A Sleep of Prisoners
Antigone & The Dock Brief

1965/66

The Brides of March
Aladdin*
Thieves Carnival
Luther

1966/67

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll
Cinderella*
The Little Foxes
Out of the Crocodile

1967/68

Here We Come Gathering
Jack and The Beanstalk*
The Queen and The Rebels

1968/69

Dirty Work at the Crossroads
She Stoops to Conquer
Wait Until Dark

1969/70

Boeing Boeing
Present Laughter
Old Mother Hubbard*
Pygmalion
Say Who You Are

1970/71

Next Time I'll Sing to You
Sleeping Beauty*
The School for Scandal
Signpost to Murder

1971/72

The Killing of Sister George
When We Are Married
Dick Whittington*
Tartuffe
The Caretaker

1972/73

Arms and the Man*
Aladdin*
Lion in Winter

1973/74

Hay Fever
Winter's Tale*
Cinderella*
The Devil's Disciple

1974/75

Conduct Unbecoming
Sindbad the Sailor*
The Philanthropist
Mill Hill

1975/76

Private Lives.
Plotters of Cabbage Patch Corner*
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

1976/77

An Enemy of The People
Puss in Boots*
How The Other Half Loves

1977/78

The Importance of Being Earnest
Bequest to the Nation*
Robin de Hood
Blithe Spirit

1978/79

The Taming of the Shrew
The Wizard of Oz*
Words and all that Jazz
Equus

1979/80

Vivat! Vivat Reginal
A Turn for the Verse
R.U.R. (radio)
The National Health

1980/81

Deathtrap
Habeas Corpus
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Enter a Free Man

1981/82

Table Manners
Babes in the Wood
Colored Girls



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