

# **NOISES OFF**



**by Michael Frayn**

**Directed by Tom Massey**

**Genesian Theatre**

**10th January - 21st February 2009**

The Production will be Performed at:

I - Grand Theatre, Weston-Super-Mare, Monday January 14

*There will be a 15 minute interval*

II - Theatre Royal, Goole, Wednesday Matinée, February 13

*There will be a 10 minute interval*

III - Municipal Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, Saturday April 6

## **PRODUCTION**

Director: Tom Massey

Assistant Director: Nanette Frew

Set Construction Design & Realisation: Grant Fraser

Conceptual Set Design: Owen Gimblett, Tom Massey

Costume Design: Susan Carveth

Lighting & Sound Design: Michael J. Schell

Set Construction: Grant Fraser, Vaughan Haines, Paul Gilbert, Eric Bicknell, Matt Cook, Timothy M. Carter, and Members of the Company

Set Painting & Detailing: Debbie Smith, Nicola Huber-Smith

Script Whip: Frances Milat

Upholstery: Sandra Bass

Sardine Angling: Nanette Frew

Graphic Design: Tom Massey

Photography: Craig O'Regan, Grant Fraser

Stunt Choreography: Kyle Rowling, The Sydney Stage Combat School

Audition Wrangling: Genevieve Mortiss, Amy Roberts, Melanie Robinson, Debbie Smith, Roger Gimblett

Workshop Clean Up Crew: Chris Smith, Craig O'Regan, Eric Bicknell, Debbie Smith, Roger Gimblett, and Members of the Company

Transportation: Glen Harman

Road Crew: Simone-Maree Dixon, Glen Harman, Garry Bates, Will Jennings, Paul Treacy, the cast and crew of *By Jeeves*, and Members of the Company

Construction Catering: Sandra Truelsen, Alan Hayter

Publicity: Marissa Carey-Brenton, Emmanuel Said, Rosalynd Gooding, Tom Massey

Bookings: Karen Peaston, MCA-TIX

## **CAST**

Dotty Otley / Mrs Clackett: Shane Bates

Lloyd Dallas: Henry Jennings

Garry Lejeune / Roger Tramplemain: Steve Lynch

Brooke Ashton / Vicki: Emily Twemlow

Poppy Norton-Taylor: Elizabeth Campbell

Frederick Fellowes / Phillip Brent: Jordan Watt

Belinda Blair / Flavia Brent: Melanie Robinson

Tim Allgood: Michael Sterbal

Selsdon Mowbray: Joe Brook

## **CREW**

Stage Manager: Marissa Carey-Brenton

Assistant Stage Manager: Michael Sterbal

2nd Assistant Stage Manager: Elizabeth Campbell

Bio-Box Operation: Amy Roberts, Macushla McGown, Sara Campbell, Nicola Griggs, Zuzana Deane



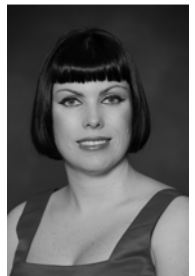
**SHANE BATES** Shane has been involved with non professional theatre for the past 22 years. She has been involved with over 50 productions in varying roles including Stage Manager, Producer, Actor and Director for Phoenix Theatre Co, Chester Street Theatre Co and The Genesian Theatre. Her credits at the Genesians where she has been a member since 1996 include roles in *Merry Wives of Windsor* (Shakespeare), *An Ideal Husband* (Wilde), *Relative Values* (Coward), *Two Weeks with the Queen* (Morris Gleitzman), *The Hollow* and *A Murder is Announced* (Agatha Christie). She has directed two major productions with the Genesian Theatre, *Death Takes a Holiday* and *Mad About Men*, as well as directing for the Short and Sweet Festival, *Negotiating Table* for Bulldog Productions, and Tropfest Short Film Festival.

**HENRY JENNINGS** Henry has appeared in many productions in Sydney including *Richard III* at the New and a season of *Shakespeare by the Sea* and most recently in a production of *Mojo* at Belvoir Street Downstairs. His other credits include *Don's Party*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Taming of the Shrew* and many others. A graduate of Screenwise he has also been seen on TV in *All Saints* and *Two Twisted* and many short films. As an experienced director himself he knows exactly how Lloyd feels sitting out there in the dark with a bag of toffees. This is his first production with the Genesian Theatre and hopes it will lead to many more.



**STEVE LYNCH** Steve has been waiting years to get to perform in *Noises Off* again. During that time, he has passed the time by appearing in *Grease & Back to the 80s* for Ashfield Musical Society; *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Silly Cow*, *Into the Woods & Little Shop of Horrors* for Actors Anonymous; *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* for Epicentre; multiple Theatresports finals at Belvoir St Theatre & Enmore Theatre; has directed and performed in *SCRABBLE Unscripted* at the Sydney & Melbourne Comedy Festivals, written for Ch 9's *Comedy Inc*; had his own show on FBI radio; and performed half-time entertainment at Sydney Swans games. OK, so he never said he was BORED while he waited.

**EMILY TWEMLOW** As likely to be found on the ski slopes as treading the boards, Emily has had a long and varied career on the stages of Sydney. A classically trained pianist from an early age, she can also sing and dance in a variety of styles. Recent productions include the Sydney Premiere of *By Jeeves* playing Stiffy Byng, *The Medieval Mystery Cycles* as Satan, *Blood Weddings* as the Moon - for which she not only acted but was the Musical Director and Choreographer, *The Tempest* as Ariel, *Forty Years On* (Musical Director), *Relative Values* as Miranda, *School for Scandal* as Lady Teazel, *Something's Afoot* as Hope Langdon, and *Away* as Meg.

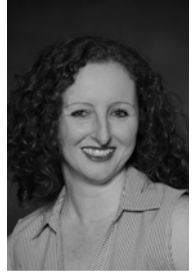


**ELIZABETH CAMPBELL** She's fresh, a fan of canned corn, and utterly desirable. Elizabeth Campbell is an aspiring actress, TV presenter, writer and person. A product of both the Australian Academy of Dramatic Art and the Australian Academy of Screen Performance, she is currently working on comedies with The Soft Edges Theatre Company and ATYP. You can also catch Elizabeth hosting Trop Junior at Tropfest 2009. She plans to marry Leonardo DiCaprio by 2012. He'll have dumped that model by then.



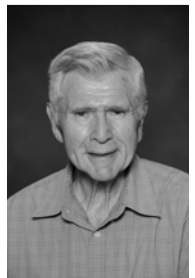
**JORDAN WATT** Jordan studied for 18 months at the Actor's Centre and has performed in numerous plays for a variety of theatre groups, as well as in short films and commercials. Highlights have been *King Lear*, *Speaking in Tongues* and a triple-gendered role in *Sylvia*. For some reason he seems to frequently lose his clothing in theatre productions: well at least that's better than constantly having 'hat hair' on stage. He also writes or translates plays and directs from time to time and is hoping to be incredibly fit by the end of the run of *Noises Off*.

**MELANIE ROBINSON** Melanie has appeared in seven previous productions with the Genesian Theatre, and recently received the "Best Actress in a Supporting Role" 2008 Genesian Award for her portrayal of Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*. She has also been seen in *School for Scandal* (Lady Sneerwell), *Valentine's Day* (Fran), *Worry Warts* (Mrs Shipley), *Cards on the Table* (Rhoda), *Mad About Men* (Barbara Davenport) and *The Hollow* (Henrietta Angkatell). For Epicentre Theatre Company Melanie has appeared in *Daylight Saving* (Felicity) and *Harbour* (Jo), and during WYD08 she played Theresa Keogh in the premiere of *A Twist of Faith* at the Parade Theatre, NIDA. Melanie has also appeared in *It's My Party (And I'll Die If I Want To)* (Debbie Patterson) with Chester Street Theatre and will return to the Chester Street stage in April/May 09 as Dawn Snow in *Competitive Tenderness*.



**MICHAEL STERBAL** Michael started off performing stand up comedy at The Basement, moving through open mic nights at other comedy clubs. Michael went on to study Theatre Performance and Practices, majoring in Performance Technology, and then went on to study Cinematography, Editing and Sound Recording for a year, landing him a job with Roaring Fish Productions as a sound recordist and as a production assistant for several other film companies throughout NSW. Michael joined the Genesian Theatre as a bio-box operator but soon found himself on stage and more recently stage management roles. Michael's acting debut at the Genesian Theatre was *Cards On The Table* and from there led onto *Shadowlands*, *The Hollow*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and a most rewarding part in *The Real Inspector Hound* as Magnus.

**JOE BROOK** *Noises Off* marks Joe's return to Kent Street after an absence of many years - more than he cares to remember. His thespian credits include principal roles in musical comedies staged by Willoughby, Mosman, and Chatswood Musical Societies - drama, comedy, farce and pantomime, mainly with Pymble Players Inc. but also with Hunters Hill Theatre, Phoenix Theatre, and T.H.E. He has also appeared in television commercials, TV documentary reconstructions and TV final year student short films. His role of Selsdon, the dipsomaniac has-been is (he claims) NOT type casting.



## Behind The Dressing Room Doors

**DOTTY OTLEY** makes a welcome return to the stage to create the role of Mrs. Clackett after playing Mrs. Hackett, Britain's most famous lollipop lady ('ooh I can't 'ardly 'old me lolly up!') in over 320 episodes of TV's ON THE ZEBRAS. She was born in Malta, the only daughter of Lt. Cdr. Clive Otley, R.N., D.S.M., and trained at the Estelle Birkwood School of Drama and Allied Arts, winning the Bronze Medal, and going on to the Embassy Theatre, Swiss Cottage, where she gained invaluable experience as ASM in successful productions like AS YOU DESIRE and STARCHED APRONS. Understudying Bee Duffell in HADDOCK'S EYES at the New Lindsey Theatre, Notting Hill Gate, and Margaret Lockwood in PETER PAN at the Scala, was followed by the King's Theatre, Peebles for a season, and then the Duke's Players at Lyme Regis for the better part of two seasons, and this in turn led to a prolonged stay in Australia, where she enjoyed some of the biggest successes of her career. When she gets the time she intends writing her memoirs, she says.

**BELINDA BLAIR** (Flavia Brent) has been on the stage since the age of four when she made her debut in SINBAD THE SAILOR at the old Croydon Hippodrome as one of Miss Toni Tanner's Ten Tappng Tots. She subsequently danced her way round this country, Southern Africa, and the Far East in shows like ZIPPEDY-DOO-DA! and HERE COMES LES GIRLS! A damaged tendon led to her first straight parts in GOOD TIME GIRL, LADIES OF THE NIGHT, and RING TWICE FOR RITA. More recently she has been seen in such comedy hits as DON'T MR. DUDDLE!, WHO'S BEEN SLEEPING IN MY BED?, and TWICE TWO IS SEX. She is married to scriptwriter Terry Wough, who has contributed lead-in material to most of TV's chat shows. They have two sons and three retrievers.

**GARY LEJEUNE** (Roger Tramplemain) was twice winner of the Rose Bruford Medal for Effort. His many successful tours have brought him to Weston-Super-Mare only once before, when he was starring in THE ADVENTURES OF A WINDOW DRESSER. He has made innumerable television appearances, but is perhaps best-known as 'Cornetto', the ice-cream salesman who stirs the hearts of all the lollipop ladies in ON THE ZEBRAS. Recently made his 'big screen' debut in UP THE VIRGIN SOLDIERS, for which he was nominated as Best Male Newcomer under Forty in any British Low-Budget Comedy Film by readers of the SUN newspaper.

**SELSDON MOWBRAY** (Burglar) first 'trod the boards' in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM with the Ben Greet Players, with whom he toured for three years, playing, among other roles, Moth, Mustardseed, and Nerissa (!) After war service in the Artists' Rifles, outstanding seasons with various repertory companies across the length and breadth of Great Britain led to his first West End play, KELLY'S EYE. Then 'alfresco' in Regent's Park for several seasons, playing leads. To Stratford thence for Mercutio, King John and the Porter in MACBETH. To Hollywood for some very good supporting roles, including Stand-In to Robert Newton. Back home he played King Lear in Portsmouth, and joined the BBC Rep for two months in 1938. Great War No. Two saw him back in Khaki. Invalided out in 1940 he continued to serve by joining Ensa, and performing all over the world in many different 'Theatres of War'. To Dublin in 1944, where he set up his own touring company playing the Classics, and rivalling the great Agnew Macmaster. Returned to England in 1952 and set up his own tour - a revival of MR. CINDERS. Since then, apart from an occasional excursion to 'tread the green', he has been busy writing his autobiography, which he is thinking of titling HANGING ON THE WALL.

**BROOKE ASHTON** (Vicki) is probably best known as the girl wearing nothing but 'good honest, natural froth' in the Hauptbahnhofbrau lager commercial. But she has enjoyed a flourishing stage career, extending from a widely acclaimed Dandini in Hull to six months in the Lebanon with PIXIE PEARLS. Her television appearances range from Girl at Infants' School in ON THE ZEBRAS to Girl in Strip Joint in ON PROBATION. Cinemagoers saw her in THE GIRL IN ROOM 14 where she played the Girl in Room 312.

**FREDERICK FELLOWES** (Philip Brent) comes from a theatrical family - his parents were a popular specialty dance act of the thirties and forties, 'The Funny Fellowes'. He taught at a prep school near Hayward's Heath before bowing to family tradition and joining the Osmosis Players. There followed successful seasons in Nairobi, Ventnor, and Southwold, and he was most recently seen in the controversial all-male version of THE TROJAN WOMEN. He is happily married, and lives near Crawley, where his wife breeds pedigree dogs. 'If she ever leaves me,' he says, 'it will probably be for an Irish wolfhound!'

**ROBIN HOUSEMONGER** (Author) was born in Worcester Park, Surrey, into a family 'unremarkable in every way except for an aunt with red hair who used to sing all the high twiddly bits from THE MERRY WIDOW over the tea-table.' He claims to have been the world's most unsuccessful gents hosiery wholesaler, and began writing 'to fill the long hours between one hosiery order and the next.' He turned this experience into his very first play, SOCKS BEFORE MARRIAGE, which ran in the West End for nine years. Several subsequent plays have been produced, and at least one of them broke box office records in Perth, Western Australia. NOTHING ON is his seventeenth play.

**LLOYD DALLAS** (Director) 'read English at Cambridge, and stagecraft at the Salisbury.' A Commonwealth Scholarship took him to Princeton, where he spent his time 'commuting to New York to see Miller and musicals on Broadway, and Lee Strasberg and Tallulah Bankhead at a party on East 10th St.' Since then Lloyd has directed plays 'in most parts of Britain', winning the South of Scotland Critics' Circle Special Award in 1968. In 1972 he directed a highly successful season for the National Theatre of Sri Lanka. In recent years Lloyd has probably become best-known for his brilliant series of 'Shakespeare in Summer' productions in the parks of the inner London boroughs.

**TIM ALLGOOD** (Company Stage Manager) trained for a career in Market Research and became interested in the theatre only through a chance holiday visit to a local production of THERE'S A GIRL IN MY SOUP. He had got himself taken on by the company as Assistant Stage Manager before he realized that the girl in question was not only in the soup, but also married, with two growing children! During a production of HAMLET at the Lyceum, Portsmouth, he took over the part of Polonius at short notice, but subsequently found himself more in demand on the technical side. His most recent job was with BETROTHED, a thriller by Sam Brennicke, both on the tour prior to its West End opening in December 1980, and again on the tour which followed the conclusion of its successful West End run in January 1981.

**POPPY NORTON-TAYLOR** (Assistant Stage manager) is from a family found more often on the Boards of leading companies than on the boards with touring companies. Her father is chairman of European Breweries, but has been 'terribly sweet about it all - so far!' After schools in Cheltenham and Montreux she found life far too full to leave time for work. So this is her first job and she is enjoying the challenge enormously. Her hobbies include riding, skiing, tennis, reading good books, and loving anything small and furry.

Coming next to the Genesis Theatre

Ring Round the  
Moon

