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# HE STILL OWES ME FIVE SHILLINGS!

One of the interesting things that happens to a management starting a venture in an area fairly new to them is meeting the local people. How fortunate I was to contact Wimbledon born Mr. Stanley Wilson (born in Ashborn Terrace). Stanley's association with this theatre goes back years. He is now in his mid-sixties and clearly recalls with pride seeing his mother, actress Mildred Stride, on the stage at this theatre when he was but 3 years old.

Mildred Stride appeared in some 8 to 10 spectacular pantomimes here. It is hardly surprising she was so popular — gifted with a superb singing voice, a beautiful talented lady whose hair was so long that it touched

It was coincidence that Mildred advertised for a dancing partner and one of the replies came from a song and dance man. The professional partnership became a marriage partnership and so Stanley made his entrance into a theatrical family and he has been connected with entertainment ever since. He is also a regular patron at this theatre.

In 1913 the famous G.H. Elliot, the chocolate coloured coon, was top of the bill and Bob Wilson (Stanley's dad) was Best Man at G.H. Elliot's wedding. Names from the past come rushing back to Stanley's mind:-Iris Sadler, Ivy Tresmond, Rennee Reel and dozens of other singer/ dancers of those great days long ago.

Catford, London some 65 years ago was the home of "The Invictor Film Studios" - there Stanley's dad filmed with Sidney and the legendary Charles Chaplin. It was from there that he replied to Mildred's advert which changed his whole life.

Mildred has her own place in theatre history - anyone who has seen pantomime where the Good Fairy flys away or Peter Pan who flies in and out of windows will have heard of the famous firm Kirby's Flying Ballet. Mildred was the first girl ever to use this specialised equipment.

(continued next page)

#### HE STILL OWES ME FIVE SHILLINGS! - from previous page.

Stanley Wilson inherited his family's love of the theatre and went into the business himself. His background is far too detailed but just one of the highlights of his career was being 'Tour Manager' to the great Al Jolson. What memories that must conjure up! Stanley's 'pro' friends and colleagues read like a 'Who's Who' in entertainment. This local family continue their line into present day theatre for John Stride, the well known and highly talented artist is the nephew of Stanley's mother.

'Pros' are renowned for their sense of humour and when on his deathbed Stanley's dad whispered to him "If ever you see Charlie Chaplin again — remember he still owes me five bob!"

Sadly; that lovable clown is no longer with us so Stan is still five shillings short, but Charlie Chaplin has left us all with films of his own particular enormous talent that will bring tears of laughter to many generations to come — tears of pathos too. Five shillings is but a small price to pay for such gifts — Stan is indeed content with his memories and the small price he paid to be a tiny part of Chaplin's greatness.

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Presents

# BOB GRANT

# "OH! CALCUTTA!"

Starring

SHULIE BANNISTER
HELEN BEE
MAGGIE BOURGEIN
PETER FLEETWOOD
MICHAEL GARRICK

PAUL MILLS
AGNES STANLEY
FIONA DOUGLAS STEWART
SUZI WILLIS
EMLYN WYNNE

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY ROBERT HOWE MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS BY

MATTHEW FREEMAN

ASSISTANT TO ROBERT HOWE - SUE ROE SETTINGS & COSTUMES BY ALAN MILLER BUNFORD

#### ROBERT HOWE

Bob started his career as a dancer. He appeared in many West End musicals, including WHERE'S CHARLIE (as Principal Dancer), Cole Porter's ALADDIN (as Principal Dancer). MUSIC MAN, SAIL AWAY, SIX OF ONE (as Principal Dancer), and THE GREAT WALTZ (as Principal Dancer). He was also in The New London Theatre production of GREASE. He appeared in the films, HALF A SIXPENCE, OLIVER, WOMEN IN LOVE, YOUNG LADIES OF ROCHFORT and Television programmes include, THIS IS TOM JONES, KRAFT MUSIC HALL and BURT BACHARACH. Bob also appeared in all David Frost late night satirical shows

Cyd Charisse, Liza Minelli and Gene Kelly are amongst the numerous stars with whom he has worked.

Bob then decided to move into the fields of choreography and direction, where his theatre successes include: SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, CALAMITY CALAMITY JANE, CINDY at the Fortune Theatre, London, A CHRISTMAS SHOW at the Thorndike Theatre, Leatherhead, ZORBA in Paris, NICKLEBY AND ME at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, and the enormously successful hit musical SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM staged in London, Toronto, Chicago, Melbourne and Broadway.

In the field of television he has staged and choreographed the following: STAN SENNET COMEDY shows for Harlech TV, TONY'S FRIEND which was a Spectacular for German TV, THE HUMPERDINK OPERA and HANSEL AND GRETEL for BBC2 and which were also shown on American TV, and excerpts for the JOHN CURRY TV Special.

Bob has enjoyed great success in devising, producing and directing musical reviews which have been shown at London clubs including Quaglinos and also at the 'Sporting Club' in Monte Carlo, Monaco. These mini reviews include: MR. WARREN'S PROFESSION (a tribute to Harry Warren), DEJA VU, THREE FOR THE ROAD, STEPPING OUT WITH IRVING BERLIN and THE OSCAR WINNERS.

#### MICHAEL GARRICK

Michael Garrick was born in London, and trained at drama school, he had dance training for three years in London. He has toured extensively in England with Danny La Rue, commencing in 1974 with Queen Daniella at the London Casino, then cabaret in Spain. Pantomimes include ALADDIN in Manchester with Little and Large, BABES IN THE WOOD at Stockport and CINDERELLA with Twiggy again at the London Casino. Michael has appeared in two productions of NO, NO NANETTE in Germanyand Austria and a national tour of PETER PAN. His recent filming includes HEAVEN'S GATE and COME SPY WITH ME and his last stage appearance was in THE BOY FRIEND at the Theatre Royal York. Royal, York.

#### PAUL MILLS

Paul is no newcomer to the theatre. He has appeared in a variety of productions ranging Paul is no newcomer to the theatre. He has appeared in a variety of productions ranging from a tour of CONDUCT UNBECOMING to JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR at the Palace Theatre, London and in numerous pantomimes including Leicester, Canterbury, Swindon and Liverpool. His looks and his singing voice make him a must for musicals but he has found time for several television appearances. Paul is the only male member of the cast who appeared in the London production of OH CALCUTTA at the Duchess Theatre. Theatre.

#### AGNES STANLEY

Agnes was born and raised in New York City. Since then she has been employed in such productions as HAIR (Paris, Amsterdam and Germany), THE ME THAT NOBODY KNOWS and THE BLACK MIKADO. She has also toured with such companies as The San Quentin Drama Workshop and sung with the hot group Heat Wave. She has also appeared with such non-productions as Miz, Caroline Exports and Juberts Hair Salon (your friendly receptionist). Her favourite hobbies include, keeping her bank manager happy while doing what she does best. She has been practising Nichren Shoshu Buddhist for the past five years and finds life bearable every day.

#### FIONA DOUGLAS-STEWART

Fiona, actress, dancer, singer and vegetarian has been 'in' the theatre since before birth—she toured in Mum's turn! She has recently appeared in THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, SEXUAL PERVERSITY IN CHICAGO, ONCE A CATHOLIC and YES WE HAVE NO PYJAMAS in which she took over the lead from Fiona Richmond. Fione has recently completed an eight-week season at Weymouth in A BED FULL OF FOREIGNERS with Terry Scott.

#### SUZI WILLIS

Since leaving school two years ago she has worked for Paul Raymond at THE WINDMILL and THE REVUEBAR. Whilst there she involved herself with the actors workshop and fashion modelling. Appeared in cabaret in Las Vegas. Upon returning she recently completed a role in THE MONSTER CLUB with Vincent Price, which is due to be released shortly. Her interests include playing a fast game of tennis and reading.

# "OH! CALCUTTA!"

#### ACT ONE

1. OH! CALCUTTA!

2. WELCOME TO OH! CALCUTTA!

3. TRIANGLE (Cardew Robinson)

4. ON THE GOOD SHIP LOLLIPOP

5. LONELY HEARTS

6. THE DYING SWAN (Tschaikowsky) Fiona Douglas-Stewart

7. SINCERE REPLIES

8. YOU'D BE SURPRISED (Irving Berlin)

9. DEAR MARJE (Bob Grant)

10. WAS IT GOOD FOR YOU TOO!

11. THOROUGH TANNING (Bob Grant)

12. THE EMPRESS'S NEW CLOTHES

MR. HENDERSON (Lyrics by Peter Myers and Alec

Grahame. Music by Tony Pritchett) Maggie Bourgein

14. COCKS & TAILS (Bob Grant)

15. THE RIGHT PRESCRIPTION (Bob Grant)

16. ONE ON ONE

The Company

Bob Grant

Peter Fleetwood, Paul Mills

Bob Grant

Maggie Bourgein

Suzi Willis, Paul Mills

Suzi Willis, Peter Fleetwood

Maggie Bourgein, Paul Mills

Bob Grant

Fiona Douglas-Stewart Maggie Bourgein, Suzi Willis Shulie Bannister, Paul Mills

Aggie Stanley, Michael Garrick

Emlyn Wynne

Suzi Willis, Peter Fleetwood

The Company

The Company

Fiona Douglas-Stewart Bob Grant

Shulie Bannister Michael Garrick & Company

Scenery built by: SUFFOLK SCENERY, PIE HATCH FARM, BAUXHALL, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

ACT TWO

1. SIDE BY SIDE BY SEX

2. AFTER THE BALL (Bob Grant) Suzi Willis, Paul Mills

3. THREE JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

4. LONELY HEARTS

5. ORGASM

6. DELICIOUS INDIGNITIES

7. FUNNY BUSINESS (by Richard Huggett)

8. CLEAN FILMS (Ronald Rosswald)

9, MUCH TOO SOON

10. LET'S DO IT

11. ELECTION TIME (Bob Grant)

12. FIND OUT WHAT THEY LIKE

13. VESPERS (Bob Grant with apologies to A.A. Milne)

WISHFUL THINKING (Bob Grant)

15. THE ENSA SONG

16. INDIAN LOVE CALL (Bob Grant)

17. FINALE

ORCHESTRA: Musical Director

Drums & Percussion Bass

The Company

Helen Bee, Bob Grant

Emlyn Wynne

Suzi Willis, Paul Mills

John Philpott

Fiona Douglas-Stewart

Paul Mills

Michael Garrick, Emlyn Wynne Paul Mills, Shulie Bannister

Maggie Bourgein, Bob Grant Peter Fleetwood, John Philpott

Fiona Douglas-Stewart Paul Mills, Michael Garrick

Bob Grant

Maggie Bourgein, Paul Mills

Aggie Stanley, Shulie Bannister Fiona Douglas-Stewart Michael Garrick

Paul Mills

Maggie Bourgein Fiona Douglas-Stewart Suzi Willis, Michael Garrick

Aggie Stanley, Paul Mills Emlyn Wynne

Maggie Bourgein, Bob Grant

The Company

Brian Bennett Robert Pearle Mike Payne

#### BOR GRANT

Bob has starred in many West End productions including BLITZI, SPARRERS CAN'T SING, MRS. WILSON'S DIARY, INSTANT MARRIAGE, TOMMY, PYJAMA TOPS and recently in LINE 'EM at the National Theatre. He is probably best-known for his long-running TV series ON THE BUSES in which he played Jack the Conductor. The series has played in over 40 countries and he has also made three feature films. In 1960 he won the Best Actor Award in the Paris International Theatre Festival and in 1970 won the Variety Club Joint ITV Personality of the Year award. Bob is also a successful writer, having several plays to his credit including INSTANT MARRIAGE, NO ROOM FOR LOVE and NEVER SAY NO as well as many TV and radio scripts. With him on this tour are his beautiful ex-bunny girl wife Kim and their champion Persian Chinchilla cat, Tiberius. Bob's hobbies include sailing and gardening.

#### SHULIE BANNISTER

After leaving stage school, Shulie joined the Italian Operetta on tour and then lived in Monaco for a year where she worked as a dancer at the Loews Hotel and then at the Sporting Club D'ete. On returning to England she joined the National Theatre for the production of TALES FROM THE VIENNA WOODS, JULIUS CAESAR, THE MADRAS HOUSE and THE CARMILLA RINGBINDER SHOW. Other productions include CABARET, Helen in SUDDENLY AT HOME and THE LARRY GRAYSON NEW YEAR SPECIAL for London Weekend Television. Most recently she played Bianco in ANATOL on tour with the Cambridge Theatre Company.

#### HELEN BEE

Helen trained in classical ballet, tap and acrobatics at the Kathleen Hughes School of Dancing in North London for ten years. In 1977 Helen left England to study mime technique and circus skills at a theatre school in Amstredam and there joined Friends Roadshow, a travelling theatre company, performing with them at the Shaffy Theatre in Amsterdam and then throughout Europe. In 1978 she returned to England to study modern ballet and jazz dance and take singing lessons and has since performed with several fringe theatre companies as a dancer and with all female rock band as a mime/dancer, backing vocalist and fire eater.

#### MAGGIE BOURGEIN

Maggie studied at Nottingham University and subsequently obtained a BA in music. This was followed by seasons at leading theatres in Southend, Oxford and Edinburgh. She appeared in the original cast of OH CALCUTTA and is the only female in this cast to have done so. Maggie toured for two years with the famous D'Oyly Carte Theatre Company. Last year she played the role of Mrs. Court Bending in the highly successful tour of WHO GOES BARE, which starred Robin Askwith. Her many pantomimes include BABES IN THE WOOD, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK and MOTHER GOOSE. Most recently Maggie Maggie appeared in repertory season at Deal in Kent.

#### PETER FLEETWOOD

At 21, this is Peter's first major tour. He is on the threshold of a career which he hopes will see him working as a performer, writer and director in a wide range of theatre. His work to date includes television, pantomime, the classics and revue. Immediately prior to OHI CALCUTTAI he was on the Isle of Wight writing a one-man show about John Keats. Both his hobbies of travel and flying will be well served by this tour—his only reservation, 'I hope, given our rather special circumstances, the winter won't be too severe.'

#### **EMLYN WYNNE**

After training in drama at London City Library Institute, Emlyn joined the National tour of Ivor Novello's KINGS RHAPSODY in 1972. Since then he has spent several years with the Black and White Minstrel Show, appearing in numerous stage and television productions of this popular success. His other credits include appearances in THE GHOST TRAIN at the Forum, Billingham, various summer seasons and pantomime. Most recently he was seen in the Plymouth Theatre Company's production of JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.

#### JOHN PHILPOTT

A great deal of John's work has been done in America. He recently completed seventeen TV shows there as a singer/musician and the series called Bugaloos was shown from coast to coast on NBC. The success of this series led to concerts and live appearances all over America and more appearances on TV and Radio. He followed this by forming his own group and sung all over Scandinavia and has a record currently on release.

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The Managements reserve the right to make any alterations in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable causes. The taking of photographs in this theatre is strictly forbidden.

JOHN NEWMAN for

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Cover design by RUSSEL BRYDON Art work by JOHN LOCKYER

Printed by KINGSLAND GRAPHICS, 14 Andre Street, London E8. Tel. 01-249 6096



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