

The Melbourne Venue Guide - 2nd Edition

How to obtain your copies

Copies of both editions of the Venue Guide are available from Arts Access.

Details are as follows:

EDITION 1 - Melbourne Venue Guide...\$5.00 members of ACROD & EASE

...\$9.95 non-members

EDITION 2 - Melbourne Venue Guide...\$5.00 members of ACROD & EASE

...\$9.95 non-members

EDITION 1 & 2 - Melbourne Venue Guide...\$12.00 per set

Make out a Cheque or Money Order to Arts Access and send to
Arts Access 109-111 Sturt Street South Melbourne 3205.

Would you like to join a choir?

To provide more opportunities for those who would like to sing in groups, The Melbourne Chorale, in 1992, is introducing day-time activities.

The aim is to provide for those with young children, and for those whose work or study pattern, age, or state of health makes it difficult to attend regular evening rehearsals.

If you are excited by the prospect of belonging to a day-time singing group, please write to:

The Melbourne Chorale PO Box 1148 Carlton 3053

and include your name, age, address and telephone number.

You could also include something about your musical background and interests.

EASE STAFF

Julie-Ann Willems - Senior Project Officer

Lisa McKoy - Project Assistant

Tasneem Allie - Book-keeper

VOLUNTEERS

John Pidd

Barbara Kitchen

EASE FUNDING

EASE is a project of ARTS ACCESS and is funded from a range of funding sources including the Federal Department of Community Services and Health (Disability Services) and the Victorian Department of Sport and Recreation. In addition, income earned through service fees, subscriptions and ticket commissions help support the project.



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ARTS ACCESS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Arts Access Society Inc.
109-111 Sturt Street, South Melbourne, 3205. Australia.

Ease

EASE Newsletter - Arts Access Society Inc.

April/May 1992



Launch of the Second Edition of the Melbourne Venue Guide



EASE member Peter Hengstberger and Kay Setches, Minister for Community Services Victoria at the launch of the second edition of the Melbourne Venue Guide.

EASE - Entertainment Access Service, and the Access and Mobility Committee of the Victorian Division of ACROD were proud to launch the second edition of the Melbourne Venue Guide recently.

The Guide was launched at the Victorian Arts Centre - George Fairfax Studio foyer on Thursday 20th February 1992 by the Minister for Community Services - Kay Setches.

The aim of the Guide is to assist people with disabilities to attend any entertainment event of their choice, forearmed with information on access and facilities, thereby enabling them to enjoy the experience with dignity and the minimum of fuss.

The first edition of the Melbourne Venue Guide was launched in June 1990 and

received overwhelming support from people with disabilities, their friends, families and support workers who found it provided essential information to ensure that they were well aware of what to expect at their entertainment destinations in Melbourne.

The demand for more information grew and the second edition of the Guide was placed on the drawing board in mid 1991.

This new Guide provides information on access and facilities at 16 venues not included in the first edition. Two regional venues have been included as well as some of the major cinemas in Melbourne. There is also updated information on some of the venues included in the first edition as well as expanded information on booking procedures and services.

Information on bookings, telephone numbers for assistance, seating plans, notes on parking, arrangements that need to be made with the venue prior to attending has all been included along with specific information relating to each venue.

The launch was well attended by consumers, service providers, the entertainment industry and interested individuals and was deemed a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended on the day for your support and encouragement. It was great to finally meet so many people face to face after all this time talking on the phone.

AF 790-19605
EA7

Dear EASE members

As many of you are aware, EASE is managed and run by Arts Access as a part of its commitment to creating opportunities in the arts with people with disabilities or who are disadvantaged.

The demand for accessible entertainment by people with disabilities/disadvantage is enormous. In the four years EASE has been operating, it has grown from its original distribution of 3,000 tickets to more than 12,000 in 1991. Ticket distribution in 1992 will go even higher.

As EASE has had no increase in funding or in staff, this increase in tickets has meant a huge increase in work for all the EASE staff and volunteers.

Over the last few months, some of you who use EASE have remarked on a change in the level of service, saying that staff have not been able to spend as much time on the phone with you discussing your entertainment requirements, or that your tickets have taken a few days longer to reach you.

These changes are the result of a huge increase in people using the service. EASE is committed to continuing to provide accessible, affordable entertainment opportunities for as many people as possible. Your help and understanding when using EASE, will ensure that the level of service remains as high as possible.

The more information you have prior to ringing EASE (such as the name or type of show you would like to see, when you would like to see it etc), the more easily the EASE staff can deal with your request.

Included in this Newsletter is a flier that explains the many ways you can find out what's on.

I hope you all continue to be a part of Melbourne's entertainment audiences and encourage you to write to us if you have any particularly good (or bad!) experiences.

Regards



Judith Isherwood
Executive Director, Arts Access

Ease-Entertainment Access Service



PH: 699 8497



Phone: 699 8497 or 699 7636
TTY: 699 8497
Address: 109-111 Sturt Street South
Melbourne 3205

Office Hours: EASE is open
Monday-Friday - 10.00am-4.00pm

Ticketing Information: To find out
what's on and how to book call Lisa.

Access Information: We also provide
information about access and facilities at
venues in and around Melbourne - over
the phone, in the Newsletter and via the
Melbourne Venue Guide - Editions 1
and 2.

How to book with EASE: To book
tickets with EASE, phone 699 8497 and
discuss with Lisa what's on, what you
would like to see and any special
requirements.

Free or Cheap Tickets: EASE keeps a
list of people who are interested in free or
cheap tickets which are usually available
at short notice. If you can avail yourself
of this service please call Lisa and join
our list.

Ticket Requests: EASE will negotiate
for tickets to any event at your request.
Your name will be placed on a waiting list
and EASE will contact you should we be
successful. Sometimes we do not receive
an allocation until a few days before the
event so if you really want tickets for a
particular concert and can afford to pay
full price, it is best to book with BASS.
EASE will assist with full price tickets
only if you have special seating
requirements.

Exchange and Refund Policy: There
is NO exchange or refund on tickets
booked with EASE so please be certain
of your requirements and the number of
tickets before you make a booking. Both
BASS and VISA have a **NO REFUND,
NO EXCHANGE** policy.

Method of Payment: Payment can be
made at the EASE office or by posting a
cheque or money order made out to
ARTS ACCESS. Payment is never made
at the venue as EASE pays for all tickets
at the time of booking. Prompt payment
for tickets is essential. Tickets must be
paid for within two weeks of receiving
your tickets and invoice. Please enclose
complete invoice or details with your
payment otherwise it is difficult to match
up cheques with bookings.

Please remember that a booking is a
financial commitment and that EASE
must pay for all tickets at the time of
booking in order to get you the best seats
or the seats you need. If your payment is
delayed it means that we cannot continue
to make bookings and it puts the service
in jeopardy for everyone.

The EASE Service - An Update

EASE negotiates with promoters for
discounted tickets and the right to make
individual bookings to suit individual
requirements. Most promoters give us
access to any seats in the theatre.
However sometimes we only get a limited
allocation of tickets and by the time
EASE bookings open the shows are often
heavily sold. Promoters are under no
obligation to discount tickets and their
support for the EASE scheme makes it
possible for many people to attend shows
who could not previously do so.

If you have a visual impairment, mobility
difficulties or need a wheelchair space for
an event, EASE can often assist with
booking appropriate seats for events that
EASE does not have discount tickets for.
In this case you would have to pay full
price plus a small booking fee.
For some events seats are now being held
for such purposes and these seats may
not be able to be accessed through
BASS.

If you can afford to pay full price it is wise
to take note from the newspapers or radio
when tickets go on sale and to contact
EASE in advance or to buy your tickets
through BASS or the venue the day the
show goes on sale.
If you have any queries please call EASE
on 699 8497.

1992 Geelong Theatre Season

**Some of the best theatre in the world
comes to Geelong in the inaugural
Geelong Theatre Season 1992.**

This exciting initiative combines 9
outstanding professional theatre
productions into one subscription
season, all at the Geelong Performing
Arts Centre. Ruth Cracknell, Lorraine
Bayly, Andrew McFarlane, Amanda
Muggleton; in shows from Playbox,
Melbourne Theatre Company, Sydney
Theatre Company and more.

**For subscription details or bookings
phone (052) 21 7006.**

**EASE has discount tickets available
to the following performances:**

* "Dear Liar" - Starring Lorraine Bayly
& Lewis Fiander.

George Bernard Shaw was a world
renowned playwright, wag, nosey
parker and philosopher.

Mrs Patrick Campbell was the first lady
of British Theatre, modernist,
prankster and Shaw's first Eliza
Doolittle.
Together they shared the most unusual
love affair of the century.

Venue: Ford Theatre - Geelong
Performing Arts Centre

Date: Wednesday 13th May

Time: 8.00pm

Cost: \$18.00 (EASE price)

* "Gullivers Travels"

Venue: Ford Theatre - Geelong
Performing Arts Centre

Dates: Thursday 23rd July - Saturday
25th July

Times: Thursday & Friday @ 8.00pm,
Saturday @ 4.00pm & 8.30pm

Cost: \$18.00 (EASE price)

* "Lost in Yonkers" by Neil Simon
Starring Ruth Cracknell, Pamela Rabe
and Robert Grubb.
The new 'toast of Broadway' from the
author of The Odd Couple and They're
Playing Our Song. Neil Simon's
touching, tender and hilarious
exploration of family won the 1991
Pulitzer Prize.

Venue: Ford Theatre - Geelong
Performing Arts Centre

Dates: Wed 30th September - Friday 2nd
October

Times: Wed & Friday 8.00pm, Thursday
1.00pm

Cost: \$18.00 (EASE price)

**For EASE bookings phone
(03) 699 8497**



Lewis Fiander



Lorraine Bayly



Andrew McFarlane



Ruth Cracknell



Pamela Rabe

Sandybeach Concerts '92

At the Sandybeach Centre - Cnr Beach Rd and Sims Rd Sandringham

Sunday 12th April-Sunday 6th September - 2.30pm

Sunday 10th May - Nehama Patkin &
Friends Play Mozart
& Friends
A very special
Mothers Day
Concert

Dressed in period costume, Nehama
and her friends who range from 4 to 17
years will celebrate the music of the 18th
Century by performing works by Mozart,
Haydn, Bach and Handel. You will hear a
string orchestra and several soloists on a
variety of instruments including grand
piano. You will receive a white flower and
devonshire tea/coffee will be served at
interval.

Sunday 17th May - Babirra Players
present "Patience" in concert. An
exciting and colourful afternoon with
Gilbert & Sullivan!

Free Concert

Painters & Dockers with the Salvation Army Brass Band

Tuesday 12th May

A bizarre double act take to the stage
when well known independent rock act
The Painters & Dockers team up with
The Salvation Army Brass Band in what

should be a memorable lunchtime
concert. Expect anything when these
two 'chalk and cheese' acts hit the
floorboards.

NOT FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED!



1.10PM MELBOURNE CONCERT HALL

