

VENUE NOTES

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

180 St. Kilda Road
Melbourne 3004
Phone: 618 0222
Melway: Map 2F H8

Admission Fees: Adults \$1.20 ea; children 60cents ea; family groups (i.e. 1 adult and up to 6 children, or 2 adults and up to 5 children) \$2.40 per group. Season tickets: yearly \$10; half yearly \$5. Pensioners and the unemployed can gain free entry to the Gallery on the presentation of either a Social Security card, a T.P.I. badge, a Ministry of Transport Concession card, or a Medical Benefits card.

Opening Times: Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm

Closed Mondays except on public holidays, and also closed Anzac Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Free Guided Tours: From the Visitors Desk in the St. Kilda Road Foyer, Tuesday to Friday 11am, 12, 1, 2, 3pm; Weekends 2pm and 3pm.

Parking

Street Parking close to the Gallery is limited. St. Kilda Road, on the Gallery side, is reserved for buses. Entrance to the car park is from Sturt Street opposite Kavanagh Street, fees apply. For information on parking ring 614 2987. Mini-buses with air-conditioning units or raised tops cannot park in the Car Park. Be prepared for a long walk and steps.

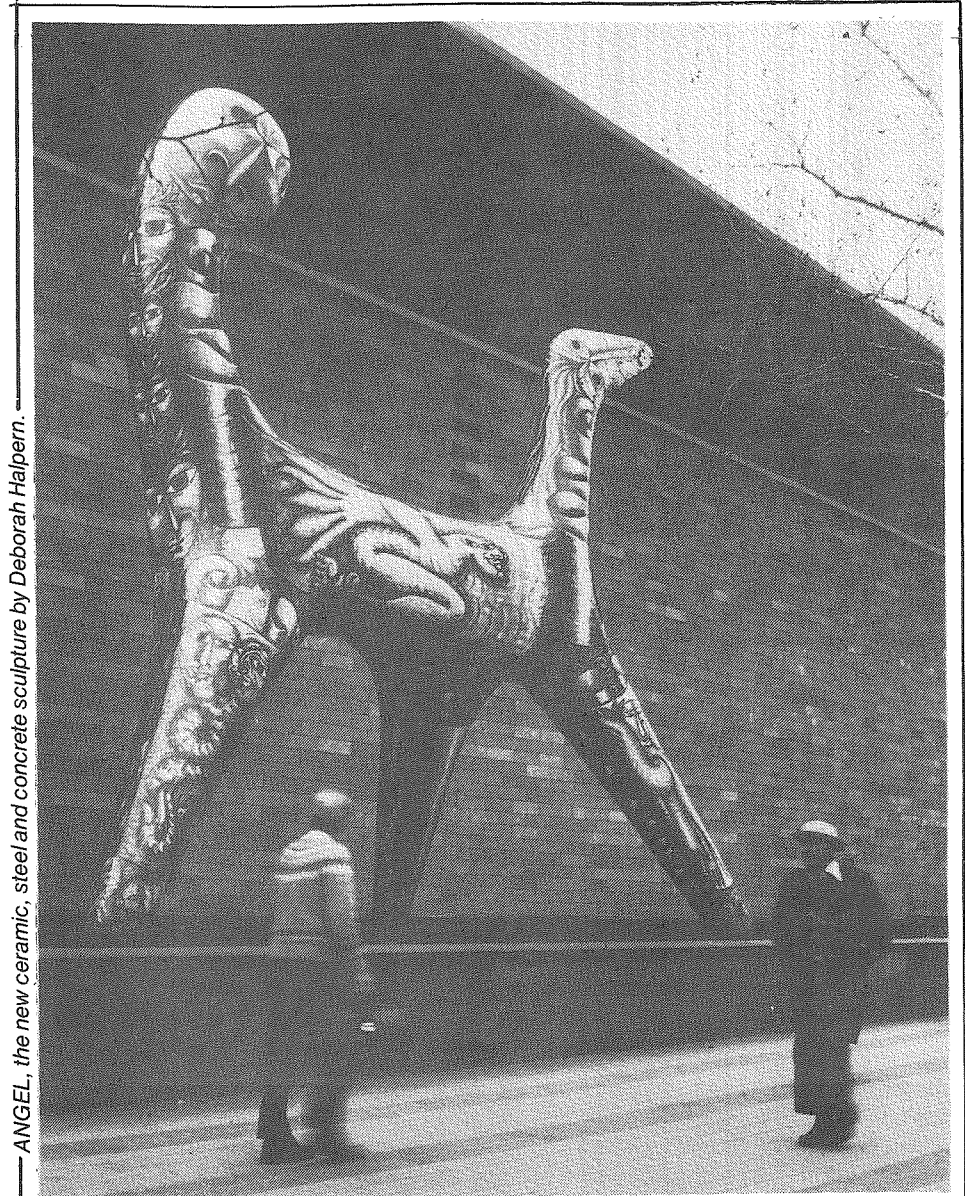
Accessible Parking

1. Two places on the Gallery side St. Kilda Road Service Lane, close to the Arts Centre.
2. With prior arrangement it is possible to park on the Gallery Forecourt ring Neil Kirkwood on 618 0350 to check before leaving home.
3. Several places in the underground car park, entrance off Sturt Street, opposite Kavanagh Street. Use left lane to upper level. Parking fees apply. Ring 614 2987 for information. There is no lift from the car park to the Gallery. Use the Arts Centre Lifts from Smorgon Family Plaza to St. Kilda Road level and enter the Gallery via Murdoch Court Entrance, in the building's north face.

Entrances

1. St. Kilda Road Entrance. Ticket Office is high. Turn left at the glass windows (water down the front). Security

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ANGEL, the new ceramic, steel and concrete sculpture by Deborah Halpern.

The National Gallery of Victoria

The National Gallery of Victoria was founded in 1861 and is Australia's oldest public gallery. The State collection transferred into the present building in 1968.

Movement throughout the building is not broken by steps or split levels. The lack of obstructions and freedom of movement, with features such as the Great Hall ceiling and water cascading down the St. Kilda Road Foyer windows, give the Gallery a sense of light and relaxation.

The Gallery regularly re-arranges or rotates its permanent collections and plays host to a wide range of temporary exhibitions. But beyond visual arts displays the Gallery offers a variety of entertainment, lectures, and education and resource services. Below is a list of just some of the services, entertainment and temporary exhibitions currently on offer:

PROM CONCERT PROGRAMME

Every Sunday at 2.30pm unless otherwise advertised (no concert 15 October). The only cost is the cost into the Gallery. Ring 618 0203 or 618 0356 for confirmation. Sample programmes: 8 October Sarah Grunstein—Piano; 5 November Judy Jacques Trio—Jazz; 12 November 3rd District Military Band.

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THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA *continued*

personnel man the doors. Once inside the gallery the cloak room is to the left.

2. Murdoch Court Entrance. Path sloped down to doorway. Ticket office high. Hinged door beside rotating door. Wheelchair users may require assistance. But, as with the St. Kilda Road entrance, security personnel will be there to assist.

Exhibition Areas

All exhibition spaces on all floors are level without steps. The building, however, is large and there is a lot to see. Be prepared for a long walk. Floor coverings change from area to area. Carpets are heavy duty, not piled, and the hard surfaces are tiled. Most artwork is at approximately eye level for people standing. Exhibits in glass cases tend to be a little high for wheelchair users. Labels are not large, but are clearly printed, black on white and those labels in glass cases, especially the Herbert Wade Kent Gallery (Chinese Art) are often lying flat and therefore wheelchair users may find them difficult to read. Seats throughout the Exhibition Areas are low, but comfortable. People who have difficulty rising from low seats, and who require rests at intervals, may be advised to plan a visit to the Cafeteria. Another option is the portable stools. See Helpful Hints.

Stairs

All stairs are in dark stone, without markings for the visually impaired. They are dimly lit. Stairs in the northern side of the St. Kilda Road Foyer form a spiral about the lift well.

Escalators

Escalators operate from the St. Kilda Road Foyer. They are narrow, with only enough room for one and they are fast moving.

Lifts

1. One small public lift in the northern end of the St. Kilda Road Foyer. This lift only holds one wheelchair at a time with possibly two or three friends, quite a squeeze! Buttons are high and require a little pressure so it is recommended that people using wheelchairs back in.

2. A goods lift, close to the Gallery Shop off the Murdoch Court Entrance, is available for groups who cannot negotiate the St. Kilda Foyer lift, steps or escalators. This lift is not for public use and assistance must be arranged from one of the desks in the two foyers. Advise the gallery when planning your trip.

FACILITIES

Cafeteria

Opening Times: 10.30am–4.00pm
The door into the cafeteria is heavy, with a high, round disk shaped handle. Food displays are high for people using wheelchairs but the counter height is not too bad.

What to do at the Gallery

ARTIE MOUSE

A programme for young people (five to ten year olds) and their parents. Activity-based tours conducted once a month on Sundays, each session lasts approximately forty-five minutes. Families will be greeted by Artie Mouse in the St. Kilda Road foyer at 11 am, 1.30pm or 2.30pm. An adult must accompany your children during the session. Bookings are essential. Phone: 618 0356 in the first week of the month.

"THE GALLERY VISITS YOU"

Speakers with informal and slide-illustrated talks on a wide range of Gallery topics visit community organisations that may be unable to visit the Gallery personally. This service is free of charge. Contact Mrs. Maggie Richards on 836 6048.

ANGRY PENGUINS

Admission: \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 children and concessions (this is on top of the gallery admission costs)

Closes 5 November 1989

Works from the 1940's drawn from public and private collections throughout Australia.

Deli

Opening Times: 12.00pm–3.00pm

Art Reference Library

Open Times:

Friends of the Gallery 1.30pm–4.30pm

Tuesday to Thursday

General Public 1.30–4.30pm

Wednesday and Thursday, it is advisable to make a time with the library before leaving for the gallery. Ring 618 0266.

Toilets

Toilets are located near the southern steps on the Ground, First and Second Floors. There are also toilets on the Ground Floor near the Gallery Shop and "Deli," as well as in the Antiquities display area near the goods lift.

Accessible Toilets

Located at the northern end of the Main Foyer in the passage leading into Special Exhibitions. These toilets have several features to keep in mind:

1. The outer door opens inwards. A rope pulley system has been attached to assist people when leaving. This might get people into a knot.

2. The inner door opens both ways and leads directly into the toilet cubicle.

There is no latch and no indication of occupancy.

3. When both doors are open, as in the case of someone exiting, it is possible for a passer-by to see directly into the toilet cubicle.

4. The toilet cubicle is a large room with two toilet bowls, there is no partition between them and one is slightly higher than the other.

5. There are side rails but no back rails.

6. If you require assistance into the toilet, ask for one of the Gallery's first aid attendants.

Telephones

There is one accessible telephone next to the cloak room in the Main Foyer.

Wheelchair Hire

Four wheelchairs are available for use within the Gallery at no cost.

Helpful Hints

1. The Gallery is an exciting place and there is much to see, so allow several hours at least.

2. Keep in mind that the chairs within the Gallery are low. If you need to rest but find it difficult to rise from a low chair ask an attendant for assistance.

3. Portable collapsable stools can be borrowed, at no cost, from the cloakroom in the Main Foyer—St. Kilda Street Entrance.

4. For evening concerts in the Great Hall the rest of the Gallery may be closed. For these concerts enter through the St. Kilda Road entrance. Security staff will direct people to the accessible toilets. These toilets are a fair distance from the Hall.

ENTERTAINMENT ACCESS SERVICE

EASE aims to assist people with special needs to attend Melbourne's mainstream entertainment by providing information, social support and incentives.

EASE also aims to encourage promoters and venue management to ensure physical access is feasible at all events within the Melbourne metropolitan region.

INFORMATION HOTLINE: 699 8497

Advice about venue accessibility, what's on and booking procedures.

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Information, articles, letters and announcements of tickets available through EASE. EASE newsletter annual

subscription: \$15.00

TICKET SCHEME

Low cost tickets to a variety of entertainment events.

EASE FUNDING

EASE is now earning, through its service fees, newsletter subscriptions and ticket commissions enough to supplement support from The Federal Department of Disability Services, Victorian Department of Sport and Recreation, The Ministry for the Arts and a generous grant from the Coles/Myer Community Trust.

For information on the EASE service fee and other charges please ring Chris on 699 7636.

How to Book with EASE

To book tickets with EASE, ring 699 8497, discuss with Barbara or Chris what you would like to see and where you would like to sit. Make out a cheque to Arts Access for the appropriate amount and post it to Arts Access, 109-111 Sturt Street South Melbourne 3205. We will either hold the tickets for you, post them or arrange for them to be at the box office—whichever you prefer. It does help us if you can provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Tickets

699 8497

LES MISERABLES

Dates: 1 pm Wednesdays from November 1989
Venue: Princess Theatre
Cost: 1989—\$27; 1990—\$29.
Limited seats are available for performances this year, most 1989 matinees are booked out. EASE only has choice about seating on the Wednesday Matinees. Monday to Thursday evenings no accessible seats are available.

THE MELBOURNE MUSICIANS

Date: 8.15pm 6th December 1989
Venue: Great Hall, National Gallery
Cost: \$9.00
Fine music by some of the world's greatest and best loved composers—C.P.E. Bach, Mozart and Haydn.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Dates: 8pm Tuesday 10 October, 5pm Sunday 29 October.
Venue: Melbourne Concert Hall
Cost: \$13.00
The first concert includes works of Handel, Sculthorpe and Mendelssohn. It concludes with Vivaldi's The Four Seasons. Members of the famous Drottningholm Baroque Ensemble join the orchestra. During the second concert, John Williams on guitar will present the premier performance of Sculthorpe's Concerto for Guitar No 2. Other works include Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez and Beethovens' Symphony No 8 in F.

BAD BOY JOHNNY AND THE PROPHETS OF DOOM

Dates: 8.30pm Mondays and Tuesdays. 5.45pm Fridays.
Venue: Comedy Theatre
Cost: \$18.20
"Bad Boy Johnny" is a rock musical created by and starring Daniel Abineri. It tells of the rise to legendary musical heights of an altar boy who becomes the World's first rock 'n' roll Pope! The show combines elements of contemporary pop, savage satire and black comedy.

This is only a selection. During October there are many shows and events for which we may get tickets on short notice. Please keep ringing us, we want to know what your interests are and what we can do for you.

Be Part of a TV Audience

EASE has received numerous enquiries about free entertainment in Melbourne, especially entertainment in daylight hours. One exciting option, which is rarely considered, is participation in audiences for locally produced television shows. Although some programmes are recorded during the evening a few take place during the day. They are often concerned with current topical issues or

are devoted to light and comic entertainment. They provide an opportunity to see inside a television studio.

The information below has been gathered by phone and has not been checked in person. This is especially important of course for wheelchair users. Seating will vary from show to show. Our thanks to Lee Halliday

CHANNEL 2

Phone: 528 4444
8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick

BIG GIG

Watch the show on Tuesday night and wait for the announcement about audience participation. They will give a phone number and you must ring the following morning. Tickets go very fast.

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BIG GIG

Access: Limited access for wheelchair users.

PETER COUCHMAN

Ring: 524 2773 two to three days beforehand.

Booking Procedure: name on door list

Admission: free

Times: 7pm arrival for 7.30pm recording, Wednesdays.

Access: According to our sources there are no steps and no access problems for wheelchair users (please note we have not checked this in person). Maximum number of five wheelchairs at any one recording.

COUNTDOWN

Ring: 524 2423

Booking Procedure: Place your name on a door list

Admission: free

Times: Friday evenings 6-9pm

COUNTDOWN REVOLUTION

Place: Melbourne Metro Nightclub, 20-30 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Booking Procedure: arrive at door, no pre-booking.

Admission: \$6.00

Times: Thursdays 6-9pm

Access: Recording takes place downstairs, according to the ABC there are about four steps.

CHANNEL 7

119 Wells Street

South Melbourne

Channel 7 wished to express their encouragement for people to attend their studio productions.

BERT NEWTON SHOW

Ring: 697 7778

Booking Procedure: Ring the above

number with a clear idea of how many tickets you would like. If there is a large group it is advisable to ring at least a week ahead of time.

Admission: Free

Times: Show recorded Mondays to Fridays 12noon to 1.30pm. It is necessary to arrive at 11.15am.

Access: There are no spaces for wheelchair users who remain in their chairs. Studio staff are more than willing, however, to transfer audience members into tiered seating (so that wheelchairs can be moved out of the way). Under these circumstances they prefer a maximum of four wheelchairs at any one recording and request that prior notice is given. A single wheelchair user, transferring, need not contact them beforehand.

CHANNEL 9

22 Bendigo Street

Richmond

Parking: Bendigo Street.

Access: Ramps provided.

HEY HEY IT'S SATURDAY

(Age Restriction: over 16)

Ring: 429 2244

Booking Procedures: Discuss ticket requirements with Heidi, DAS Entertainment's Ticket Secretary.

Times: Fridays 1-3pm. Arrive 12.30pm and usually leave at about 3.30pm.

Note, however that the programme is booked out for the rest of the year. They recommend that people write in January 1990. There is a maximum of six tickets per request.

Access: Limit of one wheelchair per show.

SALE OF THE CENTURY

Ring: 427 9811

Booking Procedures: Discuss

requirements with GTV-9 Ticket Secretary on the above number. Tickets will be posted.

Times: The following times are general and subject to change. Recording Wednesdays 9.30am - 1pm or 1-4pm.

Access: Limited wheelchair access with one or two places at the back (top) of the tiered seating. View may be hampered by the other audience members.

Alternatively, for people who can transfer, security guards will help people into seats.

NEW FACES

Ring: 427 9811

Booking Procedures: As for SALE OF THE CENTURY

Times: The following times are general and subject to change. Monday nights 7-9pm.

Access: As for SALE OF THE CENTURY.

CHANNEL 10

Hawthorn Road

Nunawading.

Parking: Ample off the road parking

Access: Wheelchair access to Channel 10 Studios is very difficult but can be arranged if security has been informed earlier. Entrance for wheelchairs is NOT through the front door. There are two flights of stairs inside. The studios can take a maximum of two wheelchairs.

PERFECT MATCH

(Age Restriction: must be over 16)

Ring: 388 1230

Booking Procedure: Discuss details with the Channel 10 Ticket Secretary. You will need to book about two weeks ahead.

Admission: Free

Times: Recorded Fridays 6pm and 7.45pm

Our thanks to Graham Berry and Dick Wynveen of Typographical Services

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