

# Entertainment 1995/96 Edition - on sale until June 30 only!

A book of hundreds of vouchers offering 50% off, and two-for-one deals for fine and casual dining, movies, theatre, opera, sports, tourist attractions and hotel accommodation in Melbourne and some regional and interstate areas. Books are \$40 each (with personal membership card). Postage is extra. \$8 from each sale goes to Arts Access. Worth it for the Opera vouchers alone!

For further information and to order your copy phone EASE on 9699 8497 or pick one up from the Arts Access/EASE office. No orders taken after June 30.

Help EASE by supporting Arts Access in its 21st Anniversary Year.

The Entertainment Access Service (EASE) is not affiliated with Melbourne Entertainment

## Booking with EASE

### Booking Office Hours

Monday to Thursday  
10am - 4pm only

### What's On?

First check your daily papers, free entertainment guides and other sources of information, then check EASE dates in the *EASE Ticket Update* before booking.

### Bookings

Phone Lisa on 699 8497  
or TTY 699 8497

### Access Information

EASE can provide information about access and facilities at venues in and around Melbourne.

### Method of Payment

Pay at the EASE office or by posting a cheque or money order made out to ARTS ACCESS. Payment is never made at the venue. Please note Items 4 and 7 of the Conditions of Sale.

## Conditions of Sale

1. Tickets are sold only to EASE subscribers and are not transferable.
2. Tickets are sold to staff members of an organisation on the understanding that they are attending an event as a support person for the clients of that organisation, and under no other circumstances.
3. There is no exchange or refund of tickets. A booking cannot be cancelled.
4. Tickets must be paid for within 14 days.
5. EASE will purchase tickets, where possible, to suit a subscriber's particular requirements.
6. The EASE quoted price varies from the price printed on tickets because an EASE commission is added to each sale.
7. EASE staff reserve the right to cancel or suspend membership if conditions of sale are breached.

# Ease

## Entertainment Access Service

109-111 Sturt Street  
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205

Bookings & TTY: 9699 8497  
Administration: 9699 7636  
Fax: 9699 8868

### EASE Staff

Dean Michael, EASE Program Manager  
Lisa McKoy, EASE Ticketing Coordinator

### Trainees

Roisin Johnson  
Rochelle Brown

### Volunteers

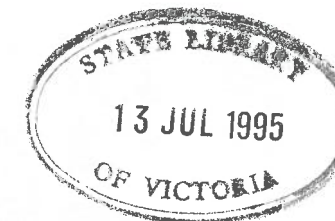
Mary Brogan, NADRASCA volunteers,  
Eve Lawson, John Pidd, Gaye Walsh.

EASE is a project of Arts Access and is funded from a range of sources, particularly the Federal Department of Community Services and Health (Disability Services) and Sport & Recreation Victoria. Income earned through service fees, subscriptions and ticket commissions also support the EASE program.

Arts Access is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; Arts Victoria and Sport & Recreation Victoria, which are divisions of the Department of Arts, Sport & Tourism; and Health & Community Services.



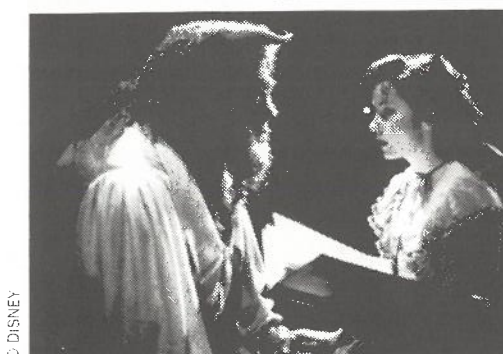
# Ease



# ARTS Access

21st Anniversary  
A key to cultural participation since 1974

Newsletter of the Entertainment Access Service - a project of Arts Access ISSN 1038-2879 Winter 1995



## Disney's *Beast* will be a Beauty for EASE Members.

EASE Members should book early for Melbourne's next big music theatre blockbuster, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*.

The show is predicted to be a major box office attraction having as broad an appeal as *Phantom of the Opera*.

*Phantom* was certainly a popular attraction for EASE Members and proved to be a boon to EASE, through the commissions raised from increased ticket sales.

Regular BASS tickets for *Beauty* have been booked out months ahead and the EASE allocation is expected to be taken up quickly by members.

For details of dates and session times see the current *EASE Ticket Update*.

Photograph above: Terence Mann and Susan Egan, from the Original Broadway Cast, of Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast.'

### Win a 'Great Sites' Tour

One tour will be won by an EASE member each month. See your monthly *EASE Ticket Update* for entry details.

Remember, if you sign up a new member you are automatically entered in the draw for the next three months.

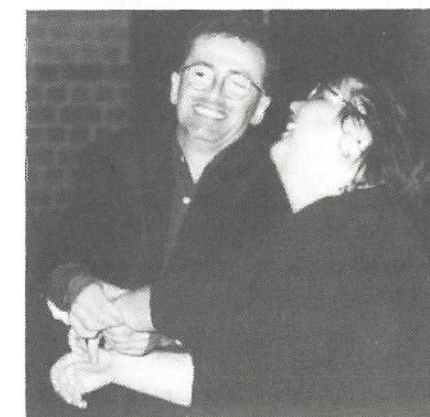
Congratulations to our recent winners: Keith Armstrong and Rob Cervai.



## Andrew Denton signs on as EASE Supporter

Launch report, page 2 ...

Above: The launch attracted over 100 guests to the Beckett Theatre at the CUB Malthouse. Inset: EASE Supporter, Andrew Denton launched the new EASE brochure. Right: Sign language interpreter, Debra Lummis accepts a wrist massage from Andrew, whose blistering verbal pace and surprise use of the word 'xylophone' is a little known occupational hazard for signers.



PHOTOGRAPHY: COLLIN BOGAARS

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## 'Aunt' travels well for people with a vision impairment - but be quick!

In a play featuring 26 characters you need a strong cast when there's only four actors on stage.

Gary Penny, the promoter of the current touring production of Graham Greene's, *Travels With My Aunt*, believes the skills of the cast and their ability to give so many characters life through the voice alone makes the play a good bet for people with a vision impairment.

He says the production has the feel of a radio play, with "vivid vocal presentation" of the characters as we follow their journey through Europe. The all star Australian cast includes Robert Essex, Ron Challiner and Ronald Falk.

EASE members can experience this classic Greene comedy - for a few nights only - at three venues in June. See the 'EASE Ticket Highlights' column inside for details.

EASE Bookings: Phone & TTY 699 8497 10am to 4pm Monday - Thursday

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790.19605 EAT



## EDITORIAL

While the launch of the EASE brochure and Andrew Denton as supporter are important first steps in raising the public profile of EASE, we would also like to ask current EASE members to help us in our efforts to sign up new members.

For individuals, this can be as simple as telling a friend who is eligible for membership about the benefits of joining EASE.

Alternatively, give us a call and we will send an information pack to the prospective member.

Groups can help by publishing details of EASE in their newsletters and publications or by distributing EASE brochures to individual constituents.

Like many non-profit organisations Arts Access works to a tight budget, so the more financial members EASE gains the more we can lower ticket prices and broaden the range of events offered.

And if you do sign up a new member, EASE will automatically enter you or your group in the 'Great Sights' competition for three successive draws.

If you would like us to send you brochures or membership forms to distribute, or you have ideas on how we can increase membership, please give us a call.

*Lisa & Dean*

## EASE Ramps For Hire

EASE now has two ramps for hiring out to venues that need to improve their access for particular events. The ramps are ex-Public Transport Corporation ramps of the very sort used previously on trains.

The ramps are aluminium and measure about 1 metre long. They will be useful for overcoming one or two steps at the most.

Hiring fees:  
\$10 per day; \$7 half day; \$40 per week, with refundable \$20 deposit.

All enquiries to Dean Michael on Telephone 9699 7636



## EASE achievements and role recognised at launch

Arts Access officially launched the new EASE programs, promotional brochure and Andrew Denton as EASE Supporter on March 17.

Around 100 guests attended including representatives from key Victorian arts, entertainment, sporting, recreation, disability support and social service organisations. EASE members were represented through the Consumer Group, and the EASE Advisory Committee.

The event opened with a stunning short performance by Gillian Sullivan, courtesy of the Australian Opera. Guest speakers were Sue Nattrass, General Manager of the Victorian Arts Centre who gave a supportive industry perspective on EASE's work; a personal view from EASE Member, Jan Doran; the Hon. Haddon Storey, Minister for the Arts, who launched the new EASE program structure; and



Top left: EASE Ticketing Co-ordinator, Lisa McKoy, Andrew Denton and EASE Program Manager, Dean Michael. Top right: Minister for the Arts, The Hon. Haddon Storey, with Andrew Denton and Helen Bowman, Executive Director of Arts Access. Lower right: Gillian Sullivan, of the Australian Opera.

Andrew Denton, who launched the new promotional brochure with an hilarious speech that gave an insight into his appreciation of the issues of access to the arts and the need for more services like EASE elsewhere in Australia.

Arts Access thanks Sport & Recreation Victoria; Playbox Theatre Company; CUB Malthouse; Swords' Wines; Jagex piano movers; ACME Food Co; and David Commins.

## Audio Description

EASE members book for Audio Description performances through EASE on 9699 8497 and are advised to book well in advance. Non-EASE patrons should book through the Association for the Blind. Telephone 9822 1111 and ask for Marjorie West.

**Dead White Males - The Playhouse**  
Saturday, June 17, 4pm  
Thursday, June 22, 8pm

**Summer of the Seventeenth Doll**  
George Jenkins Theatre, Frankston  
Saturday, August 12, 4pm

**Lady Windemere's Fan**  
The Playhouse  
Wednesday August 23, 4pm  
Thursday August 31, 8pm

**Disney's Beauty & the Beast**  
Princess Theatre  
Wednesday, October 18 and 25, 1pm  
Wednesday, November 1 and 8, 1pm

PHOTOGRAPHY: COLLIN BOGAARS

## Venue Profile

### Sports & Entertainment Centre (The Glasshouse)

This centre is one of the major sporting venues of the Olympic Park complex on Swan Street and was an Olympic size swimming Centre before being converted. During the basketball season, the venue is known as The Glasshouse.

Protection by the National Trust restricts major structural changes, even to improve access. Lyn Hunter, the event manager, has been exploring ways of improving access at the Centre despite these limitations.

Access has recently been improved with an audio loop in the stalls and one upstairs on south side rows D to I, seats 71 to 89. The foyer telephone has been lowered and patrons using wheelchairs can sit in front of the tiered seating on floor level for some events. Wheelies can also sit in a specially designed area on the east side, accessible by ramps. Arrangements for wheelchairs are flexible depending on the particular event.

Ten reserved parking bays are set behind the Centre, off Batman Avenue, near the stage door. This leads directly to a ramp that leads to the wheelchair area. You need to ring to book the accessible bays on 9429 6288 before arriving. On the way in there is an accessible toilet converted from a dressing. The door is marked with the access symbol and is labelled 'Star Change 1'. Accessible cubicles are also in the men's and women's toilets in the main foyer, which also has a baby change area.

EASE sells tickets to a wide range of events at the Centre, including concerts, *The Great Moscow Circus on Ice* and home games for the North Melbourne Giants Basketball Team.

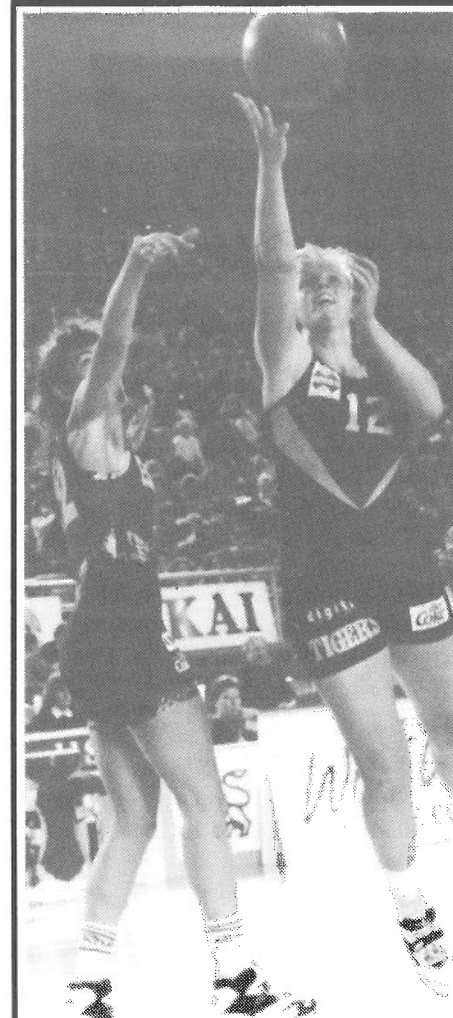
### Arts Access Studio Exhibition Calendar

**June 5-16**  
Richard Enzins

Bookings available now for 1995

The Arts Access Studio is situated at 109-111 Sturt St, South Melbourne and is available for hire at low cost for a wide range of uses. For information contact Samantha Marsh on 9699 8299.

## EASE Ticket Highlights



Above: Shooting for goal is Joanne Metcalfe, a forward with Melbourne Tigers Women's Basketball Team. A great leap for one who took up basketball because she didn't like athletics. To see Jo and the Tigers in action check the EASE Ticket Update for details.

### DANCE

STATE THEATRE  
\* *The Competition*  
The Australian Ballet  
June 17, 19, 24, 26, 27. \$29

### MUSIC - FOLK

MELBOURNE CONCERT HALL  
\* *The Furys*  
July 13, \$25

### COMEDY

CUB MALTHOUSE  
\* *Steady Eddy*  
June 18. \$17

### THEATRE

\* *Travels with My Aunt*  
by Graham Greene

CUB MALTHOUSE,  
June 5 and 7. \$29

ALEXANDER THEATRE, MONASH  
June 22 to 27, \$21

GEORGE JENKINS THEATRE,  
FRANKSTON  
June 19 to 21, \$21

### THE PLAYHOUSE

\* *Lady Windermere's Fan*  
by Oscar Wilde  
Melbourne Theatre Company.  
Previews from August 5. Opens  
August 9. \$17 to \$22.50

### MUSICALS

PRINCESS THEATRE  
\* *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*  
Opens July 8. Tickets now available.

### OPERA

Victorian State Opera Season:  
\* *Don Quixote*  
Australian premier production.  
July 15 to August 11

### \* Tosca

July 26 - August 26

\* *The Pearl Fishers*  
August 5 - 26

For details of the Australian Opera Season check the current *Ticket Update*:

### ROYAL SHOW TICKETS

**Yes the Melbourne Royal show is still three months away.**

But given the big response we've had in previous years to show tickets, we suggest you register your interest with us now, to be confirmed at a later date.

Based on previous years, prices should range from around \$4.50 for children through to \$8 for adults.

So, don't miss out this year. Call Lisa or Rochelle on 9699 8497, to register your interest now. When we know exactly what the EASE prices are we will get back to you to confirm your booking.

**For more shows and details check the EASE Ticket Update**

The LARGE PRINT edition of the *EASE Ticket Update*

is now available from Lisa on Phone or TTY 9699 8497



Celebrating 20 years of Participation, Innovation and Excellence, 1974-1994

June 1995

***EASE 1995 Appeal***  
***EASE needs donors & 'EASE Supporters'***

Dear Friend,

Like many organisations, Arts Access - of which EASE is a major program - is working to a very tight budget in 1995. The need for Arts Access programs and services increases each year, with more people with disabilities and more people disadvantaged by social conditions being reached through Arts Access combined programs.

**This year EASE - the Entertainment Access Service is itself working toward more ambitious goals and we are asking our valued members and supporters to help us even more.**

This is an exciting time for EASE, with an increased public profile, the launch in March of our new Industry Development Program and Venue Access Program, and the continued growth of the EASE Ticket Service, now distributing well over 15,000 tickets annually.

There are two ways EASE members and supporters can play an even greater role in improving cultural access in Victoria.

\* One way is to make a direct personal donation. **All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.** We are aware that many of our members are not in a position to financially support us. However, if you can, EASE would appreciate your donation before 30 June 1995.

\* Another way to assist EASE is to join Andrew Denton in becoming an **EASE Supporter**. For a minimum tax deductible donation of \$30 EASE will keep you in touch with program developments and special events. EASE Supporters do not have access to tickets through the EASE Ticket Service unless they qualify as members.

Your cheque or money order should be made out to Arts Access. Please fill in the form on the back of this letter and return it with your donation.

Your current support, either as a member, industry promoter, or advocate is already highly valued.

Please help EASE to do more to make the arts, entertainment, sport and recreation truly accessible to the most disadvantaged people in our community.

Yours sincerely,

HELEN BOWMAN  
Executive Director, Arts Access

DEAN MICHAEL  
EASE Program Manager

109-111 Sturt Street  
South Melbourne  
VIC 3205 Australia  
Phone (03) 699 8299  
Fax (03) 699 8868  
TTY (03) 699 8497

Patron:  
Mrs Lesley McGarvie

**MAKING THE ARTS  
WORK FOR  
EVERYONE**

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Exempt from Victorian Probate and Federal Estate Duty. Arts Access Society is Incorporated in Victoria under the Incorporations Act of 1981.

Arts Access is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; Arts Victoria, a division of the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism; and Health & Community Services.

# EASE Appeal 1995

Yes, I would like to support EASE:

\* by making a **tax deductible donation** ☐

\* by becoming an **EASE Supporter** ☐ (**minumum tax deductible donation of \$30**)

Please find enclosed my cheque for : ☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$.....

Name:  
.....

Address:  
.....

..... Post code; .....

Tel: (daytime) .....

I am / am not willing to have my donation acknowledged publicly.  
(Please strike out the inappropriate words).

Please return this form with your cheque or money order made out to “Arts Access” to:

EASE  
Arts Access  
109 - 111 Sturt Street  
South Melbourne Vic 3205,

A receipt will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Thank you.





# ACCESS RAMPS FOR HIRE

## ***ARE ONE OR TWO STEPS KEEPING PEOPLE OUT OF YOUR VENUE?***

Made of lightweight aluminium for maximum portability, these ramps are designed specifically for buildings with one or two steps at an entrance.

Suitable for wheelchair users and people who have difficulty scaling steps, portable ramps may be the perfect short term solution to your venue's accessibility problems.

### **HIRE FEES**

**\$7.00 - HALF DAY**

**\$10.00 - FULL DAY**

**\$40.00 - WEEKLY**

**(A refundable deposit of \$20 is required for all bookings)**

*For bookings or information on access issues  
please call Dean Michael on 9699 7636*

### **EASE - The Entertainment Access Service**

109-111 Sturt St  
SOUTH MELBOURNE 3205

Ph: 9699 8497      Fax: 9699 8868

