

**BRAINROT :**  
**AN EVENING OF PATHOLOGY AND VIOLENCE AND**  
**LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP**      **BY JACK HIBBERD**

# BRAINROT



**DIRECTED BY DAVID KENDALL : GRAHAM BLUNDELL**  
**ARCHITECTURE THEATRE : 17-28 APRIL!!! MULC**  
**BOOKINGS : ALLANS & UNION : PHONE 34 0484**

# BRAINROT

BY JACK HIBBERD

Directed by: *David Kendall and Graeme Blundell*

Sponsored by: *Melbourne University Literature Club*

## THIS GREAT GAP OF TIME

Mr. A ... .. *Jeff Turnbull*  
Youth ... .. *Martin Vaughan*

## ONE OF NATURE'S GENTLEMEN

— A Melodrama

Mousey ... .. *Graeme Blundell*  
Bull ... .. *Brian Davies*  
Dolly ... .. *Kerry Dwyer*

## JUST BEFORE THE HONEYMOON

Conch ... .. *Jeff Turnbull*  
Coco ... .. *Louise Thorne*

## INTERVAL

## JACK JUAN

— A Musical Drama

Music: *STUART CHALLENGER*

Libretto: *Jack Hibberd*

Don Juan ... .. *Ian Downie*  
Donna Anna ... .. *Janet Laurie*  
Donna Elvira ... .. *Loris Stacey*  
Zerlina ... .. *Beverly Downie*

ORCHESTRA: *Gerald Lester* — Bassoon; *Graham Abbott* — Flute & Piccolo;  
*Kathy Drake* — Violin; *Laurette Chapman* — Viola.

Musical Director: *Gerald Lester*.

## INTERVAL

## NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

Produced by *Brian Davies*

Miss Lock ... .. *Louise Thorne*  
Albert ... .. *Graeme Blundell*

O

Max ... .. *Brian Davies*  
Doris ... .. *Kerry Dwyer*

WHO?

Alex ... .. *Bruce Knappett*  
Paddy ... .. *Graeme Blundell*

## PROGRAMME NOTES:

"Brainrot" is not simply a title—it is Jack Hibberd's sense of a world gone awry. The quick, quirky but substantial vision of these plays is disturbing and challenging. Violence and sex are presented here not as causes but as symptoms of the modern world. The bare dialogue is dramatic in its curtness, sharp in its accusation that words have lost their power of communication. Hibberd shows us that drama can be forged from the conflict of emptiness—that the isolation of the individual turns to violence in a world where words have become meaningless ciphers. There is wit and humour in these plays but there is also a strong sense of torment. The torment of time, of non-sense, of absurdity pervades the scene and Hibberd makes drama of the lost chance, the emptiness of youth. These plays show Hibberd's constant wrangling with the dramatic problem of illusion and reality. His is not a world of understatement but of non-statement—a world where reality does not conceal illusion but creates it. Hibberd discovers beyond the world of speech and love-making and action, the end-point of isolation—the amoral, violent, sad and directionless world of the individual.

What is important about this season is the sense of a playwright gradually mastering his self-appointed tasks. Hibberd's scope is wide and the plays range from deep pathos to farce. The concerns of the author are narrow but central and Hibberd conveys the concerns in and through the drama. The dramatic skills range from violent shock to witty and humorous interchange, but each play is carefully wrought, dramatically pointed and sharp in its impact. The microcosm of these plays explodes into a disturbing and fragmentary atmosphere and points up skill and energy of the author. "Brainrot" is controversial, provocative and stimulating. So too is the apprenticeship of this young playwright.

## THE TEAM

DESIGN ... .. *Peter Burleigh*  
LIGHTS ... .. *Bob Abell*  
STAGE MANAGER ... .. *Richard Brown*  
PRODUCTION MANAGER ... .. *Di Nash*  
ASSISTANT TO DIRECTORS ... .. *Bernice Murphy*  
SOUND ... .. *Steve Dunstan*  
MUSIC ... .. *Jack Hibberd, Graeme Blundell et al.*  
PROPERTY MISTRESS ... .. *Jane Washington*  
COSTUMES ... .. *Kath Nicholson*  
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS ... .. *Graham Sussex*  
*John Sexton*  
PHOTOGRAPHY ... .. *Brian Savron*  
GENERAL ASSISTANTS ... .. *Sue Murray*  
*Margaret Jacobs*  
*Margaret Harrison*

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO: *John Sumner and The Melbourne Theatre Company, Melbourne University Literature Club, Dennis O'Hearn, Betty Burstall & La Mama, Jef Milne, Alvin Mischel (records), The Melbourne University Karate Klub, The Melbourne University Film Society.*

1936

# BRIDAL . . AND BITS



**SIXPENCE**—or more.

# KING'S THEATRE

MAY 6, 7, 8, 9, 1936



The Students of the University of Melbourne

*present their*

FOURTH ANNUAL REVUE

# BRIDAL AND BITS

Under the Patronage of —  
The Chancellor and the Rt. Hon.  
the Lord Mayor of Melbourne.  
For the Union Building Appeal.



## THE BOOK

“BRIDAL” by Terence Crisp, Keith Macartney, Ronald Taylor, Keith Waller, Chester Wilmot and others.

“BITS” compiled by Terence Crisp and Keith Waller.





*If you want  
PRETTY LEGS... wear*

**HOLEPROOF  
S-H-E-E-R-S**

## PROGRAMME

### PART I.

#### Scene 1.—*Bridal*: "THE PAVILION OF POSIES"

A Little Man .. .. . JOHN McMILLAN  
Miss Parkinson .. .. . JEAN LOW  
Miss Hills .. .. . KATH. HYLAND

Bridesmaids: — NANCY CUTHBERTSON, MARION GAULD, MONICA GILMORE, CATHERINE GORDON, JEAN INCE, BETTY MARSHALL, JEAN MORTON, ELISABETH NEATE, ROMA RAINFORD, and PEGGY TAIT.

Groomsmen: — JACK DOYLE, LLOYD EDWARDS, KEN EVANS, BOYD FERGUSON, LES HARRIS, BOB MOSS, RUSSELL PATTERSON, JACK SMITH, BERT TREGGAR, and HAROLD WILKS.

Proprietor .. .. . ELDON DE STEIGER  
Mrs. Higgs .. .. . JOAN BURKE  
Gwladys .. .. . MAIDIE FLINT

"Roses" sung by:—Marion Gauld, Roma Rainford, and Maidie Flint.

#### Scene 2.—TWO MINDS WITHOUT A SINGLE THOUGHT

(Douglas Furber)

Penelope } Lady Barbers .. .. . JESSIE BROOKES  
Adelaide } .. .. . JUNE PHILLIPSON  
A Customer .. .. . JIM BUCHANAN  
Another Customer .. .. . ALEC JANOVER

Scene:—The Barber's Shop.

#### Scene 3.—TREES

JOSEPHINE AMBLER and KEITH MACARTNEY.

#### Scene 4.—"THE YOUNG LADIES"

#### Scene 5.—*Bridal*: "MANY COSTLY PRESENTS"

Mrs. Higgs and Gwladys .. .. . JESSIE BROOKES  
Esmeralda .. .. . MARY LINDSAY SMITH  
Mrs. Colquhoun .. .. .

Wedding Presents by G. J. Coles Ltd.

#### Scene 6.—WHEN WE'VE COMPANY AT OUR HOUSE

JOSEPHINE AMBLER.

#### Scene 7.—THE BOUNCING BABES

WILBUR CURTIS, FRANK HYETT, ALAN MAY.

Scene 8.—GRUACH WALKS: or

A MIDSUMMER NIGHTMARE (Terence Crisp)

*Dramatis Personae:*

A Doctor of Physic .. .. .	JOHN McMILLAN
A Waiting Gentlewoman .. .. .	JOSEPHINE AMBLER
Lady Macbeth .. .. .	JOAN BURKE

Scene:—A Room in the Castle at Dunsinane.

Compère .. .. .	TERENCE CRISP
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Scene 9.—

EUGENIE LA GERCHE

Scene 10.—DO SOMETHING

KATH. HYLAND

Scene 11.—*Bridal*: "INTRODUCING THE BRIDEGROOM"

Mrs. Higgs and Gwladys

Plain-clothes Policemen { .. .. .	REX BAXTER
	DICK DOWNING

Watkins .. .. .	PEGGY BROADHEAD
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Press Reporters { .. .. .	JOAN BLACK
	GAVIN FLANAGAN

Press Photographer .. .. .	BOB LAZARUS
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Miss Sinclair .. .. .	LOIS WILLIAMS
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and

HUMPHREY MONTAGUE-BASSENTHWAITE,

GEORGE LINDON

Scene 12.—MOTHER

KEITH MACARTNEY

Scene 13.—TREPAK

GERALD McERLEAN

Scene 14.—YOURS TO HAND

(Ronald Jeans)

Loed Carbon .. .. .	JOHN DYASON
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Hon. Corona Carbon (his daughter) ..	DOROTHEA DIXON
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Lady Carbon .. .. .	PEGGY MACKAY
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Underwood (a footman) .. .. .	BOB LAZARUS
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Roneo Shorthand .. .. .	GARRY ARMSTRONG
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Compère .. .. .	F. F. THONEMANN
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Scene 15.—UNDER THE ROWAN TREE

JOSEPHINE AMBLER and KEITH MACARTNEY



Come and meet the cast of "Bridal and Bits" on Friday  
Night at the

# VARSITY BALL



Wattle Path, St. Kilda

Boat Race Finals Eve - - FRIDAY, 8th MAY

9-0 - 2-30

FOR THE UNION BUILDING APPEAL

Tickets 6/- Combined Ticket, Revue and Ball 9/-

If you have not bought combined tickets, take your  
Friday Revue ticket stubs to the Ball and pay 2 - if  
you hold 7/- Revue tickets, or 4 - if you hold 5/-  
Revue tickets

Secretaries—

Mavis Swan L 2561  
Mary Lindsay Smith U 8561  
A. W. Stewart U 3532

Tables must be booked.  
Supper will not be served until  
after the Revue.

## Scene 16.—COMMUNITY SINGING IN THE HOME (Ronald Jeans)

The Maidservant .. .. .	LOIS WILLIAMS
The Old Lady .. .. .	MOLLIE SHACKLETON
The Boarding House Proprietress .. .. .	KATH. HYLAND
The Major .. .. .	WILBUR CURTIS
The Tired Business Man .. .. .	ERIC WHITEHOUSE
The Schoolmistress .. .. .	JESSIE BROOKES
The Elderly Vamp .. .. .	MOLLIE WHITELAW
The City Clerk .. .. .	LEO YOUNG
The Wife of the Clerk .. .. .	HELEN BEGG
The Child of the Clerk .. .. .	JEAN INCE
The Typiste .. .. .	MAIDIE FLINT

Scene:—A Boarding House Dining Room.

## INTERVAL

PART II.

### Scene 17.—THE BULL PUPS' ACTION SONG

JACK DOYLE, KEITH MACARTNEY, BILL ROBERTS,  
LEO YOUNG

### Scene 18.—*Bridal*: "CROWDS OF UNINVITED GUESTS"

The Little Man and the Bull Pups	PEGGY MACKAY
First Woman .. .. .	JUNE PHILLIPSON
Second Woman .. .. .	JIM BUCHANAN
Communist .. .. .	JEAN INCE
His Friend .. .. .	FRANK McNAMARA
Policemen } .. .. .	BLUE STEWARD
Flappers } .. .. .	DOROTHEA DIXON
	MARION GAULD
Parish Workers .. } .. .. .	JESSIE BROOKES, CATHERINE GORDON,
	KATH. HYLAND, MOLLIE WHITELAW
Radio Commentator .. .. .	DICK DOWNING
Members of the Public	

### Scene 19.—

JOSEPHINE AMBLER

### Scene 20.—VIENNESE WALTZ BALLET

### Scene 21.—THE NEW EDUCATION:

A Prophecy in Two Scenes (Ronald Jeans)

Scene A:—The Parlour of a Country Vicarage.

The Reverend Carotid Artery .. .. .	JOHN McMILLAN
His Wife .. .. .	CYNTHIA SUTTON
Maisie (their daughter) .. .. .	JUNE WILKINSON
Boy Summercamp .. .. .	LEO YOUNG

Scene B:—Outside a Public House.

The Musician .. .. .	MOLLIE WHITELAW
Compère .. .. .	F. F. THONEMANN

Scene 22.—EIGHT LITTLE GIRLS

KEITH MACARTNEY and "THE YOUNG LADIES"

Scene 23.—TWO PIANOS AND FOUR HANDS

IAN BRAID and GLENN MARKS

Scene 24.—A FEW WORDS

GARRY ARMSTRONG

Scene 25.—

JUNE PHILLIPSON

Scene 26.—WEATHERWISE: A Comedy in Two Scenes (Noel Coward)

Lady Warple	.. .. .	NAN O'CONNOR
Reggie Whistler	.. .. .	KEITH MACARTNEY
Cynthia	} Her daughters	.. .. . DOROTHEA DIXON
Violet		.. .. . ESMÉ BROADHURST
Monica	} Her daughters	.. .. . CYNTHIA SUTTON
The Reverend Harold Basset (Monica's husband)		.. .. . FIELD RICKARDS
Dr. Twickenham (a psycho-analyst)	.. .. .	FINLAY PATRICK
Maid	.. .. .	MARGARET McCUTCHEON

The Action takes place at Warple Manor in the County of Leicestershire.

One week elapses between Scenes 1 and 2.

Scene 27.—AT THE PICTURES:

A Study in Emotional Receptivity

(With Apologies to London "Punch.")

The Girl	.. .. .	DOROTHEA DIXON
The Young Man	.. .. .	ELDON DE STEIGER
The Somewhat Older Man	.. .. .	JOHN McMILLAN
Compère	.. .. .	F. F. THONEMANN

Scene 28.—SCHNITZLEBAUM: or,

THE VICISSITUDES OF KARTOFFLE (Wilbur Curtis)

A Comic Opera by Silbert and Gullivan.

Characters in Order of Appearance:—

Mangelwurzel (a maid of nineteen)	.. .. .	HELEN BEGG
Kartoffle (a widower of seventy-one, enamoured of Mangelwurzel)	.. .. .	WILBUR CURTIS
Schnitzlebaum (son of Kartoffle, also enamoured of Mangelwurzel)	.. .. .	BOB MILES
Sauerkraut (a widow, childhood sweetheart of Kartoffle, and mother of Mangelwurzel)	.. .. .	JEAN LOW

Scene 29.—"THE KNOT IS TIED"

BRIDESMAIDS and GROOMSMEN



Scene 30.—FINALE:

*Bridal: "AND NOW FOR A DROP OF BUBBLY!"*

Mrs. Higgs, Gwladys, Humphrey Montague-Bassenthwaite,  
Esmeralda, Mrs. Colquhoun

George .. .. .	RANDAL DEASEY
Lettice .. .. .	JUNE WILKINSON
Best Man .. .. .	JACK DOYLE
Miss Felicity Perkin .. .. .	CYNTHIA SUTTON
Butler .. .. .	BOB LAZARUS
The Empress of China .. .. .	KEITH MACARTNEY

Bridesmaids, Groomsmen, and Guests

Musical Direction by IAN BRAID

Dances and Ensembles by GERALD McERLEAN

The Entire Revue Produced under the Direction of

**TERENCE CRISP**

For the Students' Representative Council.

Organising Secretaries .. .. .	A. McD. RICHARDSON and J. K. WALLER
Business and Publicity Manager .. .. .	L. OXLEY JONES
Assistant Business and Publicity Manager .. .. .	R. R. BAXTER
Stage Manager .. .. .	DESMOND CONNOR
Assistant Stage Manager .. .. .	E. M. CROOK
Technician .. .. .	AUSTIN JOLLY
Properties .. .. .	J. BALFOUR, C. G. PARRIS, L. T. GARRIOCH, R. SEARLS, G. STRANAGHAN

The following numbers are from "SONGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB," and were composed by Dennis Arundell, Patrick Hadley, and Edward Harman:—"ROSES," "MOTHER," "UNDER THE ROWAN TREE," "BULL PUPS' ACTION SONG," "EIGHT LITTLE GIRLS," and "DAFFODIL TIME."

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.**

Our best thanks are due to Mrs. Curtis Crawford, Miss Dorothea Dixon, the Misses Kimpton, Miss Eugénie La Gerche, Miss Ruby Rundle, and Miss June Wilkinson, for advice and help with the wardrobe; to Miss Leila Pirani, for the loan of the Empress of China's costume; to Mr. Ronald Esler, for taking photographs of the cast; Ford & Son Press Pty. Ltd. and the Ramsay Publishing Pty. Ltd., for printing; to Sid Syne, for advertising space; and to Wilson's Car Service, for the loan of cars; to Mr. Max. Broderick and Mr. Lane Sear, for supplying a public address car and for supplying and installing amplifying equipment in the theatre; to the staff of J. C. Williamson Ltd.; to Mr. H. Polites, of the Garrick Theatre; to members of the Orchestra from the University—Miss L. Rofe, Miss M. Rudd, and Mr. M. Favalaro—to Miss Frances Dillon (Josephine Ambler) and Miss Nan O'Connor; to Mr. Ian Braid, Mr. Gerald McErlean, Mr. Keith Macartney, Mr. Austin Jolly, Mr. Desmond Connor; and especially to the producer, Mr. Terence Crisp.

We also wish to thank the following for supplying properties:—Miss Cameron, of the University Union; G. J. Coles Pty. Ltd.; the Melbourne City Council; Herbert Small Pty. Ltd.; Seppelt and Sons; Stokes and Sons; Woolcott and Mackie; and to the following for donating flowers—Claire, Ronald's, Kaye's, Miss Wilson, and Hedley's.

The brown velour curtains used in the revue are the property of Mr. Terence Crisp, and are available for hiring.