

TheatreMobile
Spring 1974

MPAA brings you TheatreMobile

If you would like to receive regular information about TheatreMobile's activities please let us have your name and address to add to the M.P.A.A. mailing list. This will also give you details of other events; music, poetry, exhibitions, theatre, dance, promoted by the M.P.A.A. in this area.

The M.P.A.A. have now opened an information centre in the middle of Blackburn, so if you want information about local or national cultural activities they should be able to help you. Also tickets for many local events are on sale there.

Mid-Pennine Association for the Arts,
28 Back St. James Street,
Burnley.
Tel: 29513 or 21986.

The Arts Shop,
9 King William Street,
Blackburn.
Tel: 663688 or 663418.

For those who enjoy exceptionally good food, individually cooked and efficiently served in an elegant dining room where no one is hustled through their meal.

Restaurant licence, cocktail bar an extensive and unusual wine list at sensible prices. In Rosehill Avenue off Manchester Road, ½-mile from town centre.

Phone Burnley 27116 for reservations.

(Closed Sundays).

ROSEHILL HOUSE HOTEL, BURNLEY

*(Resident proprietor :
M. P. Hinchliffe, M.H.C.I.)*

LUPTON BROS.

BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS

- Parker and Sheaffer Pens
- Drawing Instruments
- Greetings Cards
- Books on every subject
- Maps, O.S. Agents
- Stamp Albums
- Twinlock Specialists

LUPTON BROS.

KEIRBY WALK, BURNLEY

Telephone : 21334

Good Evening

I know we are well into 1974 but may I wish you on behalf of myself and the company, a happy and prosperous New Year.

I am very pleased to say that in the last 6 months our audiences have grown by leaps and bounds. Thank you anyone who came to see us and brought friends along. No matter what form of publicity we use it can never compare with the 'word of mouth'. We would be very grateful to hear from anyone who could display posters or sell tickets. If you feel you could help in any way please contact TheatreMobile's Administrative Assistant, Jane Pritchard, at the MPAA Offices, 28 Back St. James Street.

In September TheatreMobile had a visit from Patrick Gibson, the Chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain. He opened the Mid-Pennine Artshop in Blackburn. The company performed excerpts from 'Clowns' at the opening and in the evening he attended a performance of "The Shadow of a Gunman" at Nelson College of Further Education. After the "Importance of Being Earnest" the company has toured schools in the area with "The Three Little Pigs".

Since we last met we have had our odd moments of chaos. At the time of writing we have had to leave our rehearsal base in Barnoldswick; and are at present 'camping out', but I hope that by the time this reaches you we will have more permanent premises.

In April of this year TheatreMobile is making a film with 100 young people aged 14 – 18 years. The film will show what they feel it is like to live in the area. This means that there is no conventional plot as such. The people involved will decide what should be in it. This project is sponsored by The Arts Council of Great Britain and Lucas as part of The Lucas Festival of Art.

We are always pleased to hear any ideas or comments from you, just drop me a line.

On behalf of myself and the company, thank you for your support and until our next visit.

Goodnight.



THE COMPANY

SARAH CARVER (Costume Designer) studied at Art School before taking up farming for a year. This was followed by a three year acting course at Manchester Polytechnic School of Theatre during which time she was seen in the television programme "Bess of Hardwicke". Sarah's first job with TheatreMobile was creating the costumes for "The Shadow of a Gunman" and has since designed and made the costumes for all productions.

FRANKIE COSGRAVE (Actress) trained at the Drama Centre, London, after giving up a secretarial career. She has worked at the Connaught Theatre, Worthing. Festival Theatre Pitlochry; Watford Palace and was recently seen as Mrs. Higgins at the Gateway, Chester. For TheatreMobile she played Mrs. Grigson in "The Shadow of a Gunman", Gwendoline Fairfax and Henny Penny.

RON FLANAGAN (Actor) emigrated from Dublin to England in 1960. After training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama worked at the Mermaid and Intimate Theatres in London and did a season at Oldham Rep. His T.V. work includes the play "Stephen D". Ron joined TheatreMobile in September, 1972 — his roles include Stanley Castleton in "Big Soft Nellie", Marat in "The Promise", Seamus in "The Shadow of a Gunman" and Wolfie in "The 3 Little Pigs".

SARAH FRYER (A.S.M.) worked as a student stage manager at the Castle Theatre, Farnham before taking a joint degree in Drama and German at Bristol University. She joined TheatreMobile in September, 1973, and apart from stage management work for the company she was the pianist for the musical interludes in "The Importance of Being Earnest" and played the front half of Dobbin in the Christmas Show.

ANTHONY GOOD (A.S.M.) a business studies drop-out has had a go at everything from selling encyclopaedias to felt burling but he eventually decided to go into theatre full time. Before joining TheatreMobile in November, 1973, Anthony had worked with "Symposium" and "Raymond Platt's Theatre Tails" as well as on the production crew for the film "Little Malcolm and his Struggle Against the Eunuchs".

THOMAS KAROL (Actor) born in London of Polish parents he worked with the National Youth Theatre before training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Before joining TheatreMobile in July, 1973, he worked on the Colditz Story and spent a season with the studio company at Derby Playhouse. With TheatreMobile he has most recently been seen as John Worthing in "The Importance of Being Earnest" and Bertram Pig.

Photograph: From left to right, Back row: Sarah Carver, Peter Lorenzelli, George Owczarski, Anthony Good, Middle Row: Gloria Parkinson, Jane Pritchard, Thomas Karol, Sarah Fryer, Pauline Siddle, Virginia Roncoroni, Front row: Tony Mulvihill, John Oddie, Frankie Cosgrave, Ron Flanagan.

PETER LORENZELLI (Actor) trained at Manchester Polytechnic School of Theatre and whilst there performed at the Edinburgh Festival, Leeds Art Festival and took part in a children's show in London directed by a computer. After a year with a children's theatre company he joined TheatreMobile in September, 1972. His roles with TheatreMobile include Jerry in "Zoo Story", Grimaldi in "Clowns" and Donal in "The Shadow of a Gunman". He is married to Sarah Carver.

TONY MULVIHILL (A.S.M.) studied technical theatre at L.A.M.D.A. having given up a teacher training course. Before joining the technical crew of TheatreMobile Tony worked at Chester Gateway Theatre. Tony has also been seen on stage as Mr. Maguire in "The Shadow of a Gunman" and the rear end of Dobbin! Tony is an avid Everton supporter.

JOHN ODDIE (musician/Composer) moved to Burnley from Birmingham nine years ago and established himself as the leader of the local band "Tobias Wolfe" which played many of John's compositions. John, who plays 10 instruments, all self-taught, created the Rock Musical "Release" which has been performed locally. For TheatreMobile, which he joined in March, 1973, he has composed and played the music for "Clowns" and "The Three Little Pigs... John was also seen as the violinist in "The Importance of Being Earnest".

GEORGE T. OWCZARSKI (Technical Director) gained his basic knowledge of stage management and technical theatre at the Library Theatre, Manchester, before taking over stage management and later the position of chief electrician at the Stables Theatre, again in Manchester. After this George spent a season with "Orbit" and worked as a tutor/technician at E.15 Acting School. As well as working with TheatreMobile George does freelance lighting designs and is the sound recordist for "Orange" films, a private film company based in Manchester.

GLORIA PARKINSON (artistic director) has worked in most aspects of theatre, acting, stage management and lighting design before eventually taking up directing. In 1970 she was awarded a directors bursary by the Arts Council of Great Britain which she spent as assistant director at the Library Theatre Manchester. She then accepted an assistant directorship at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln. Gloria took over as artistic director of TheatreMobile in July 1972 and has directed all the companies productions since then. In the past Gloria has written and directed theatre documentaries using large casts of teenagers. She continues to create original productions for TheatreMobile, including its Christmas shows and the highly acclaimed production, "Clowns".

JANE PRITCHARD (Administrative Assistant) took a degree in history at the University of Warwick where she spent much of her time working with the Drama Society and "Radio Warwick" the radio station at the University. This was followed by a diploma in drama at the University of Manchester where she specialised in theatre administration. Much of the course was taken up by

practical experience in theatres in Manchester and the North West. Whenever there is time Jane likes to get out of England and has travelled extensively in Europe, Australia and America.

VIRGINIA RONCORONI (Actress) took a degree in drama at the University of Manchester before working in design and wardrobe with repertory companies at Coventry, Leicester, Bristol, Oxford and Guildford. She then decided to take up acting and her job with TheatreMobile follows a course at E.15 Acting School. For TheatreMobile she has played Mrs. Henderson in "The Shadow of a Gunman" and Lady Bracknell. She also designed both "The Importance of Being Earnest" and "Stop the World – I Want to Get Off".

PAULINE SIDDLE (Actress) studied at the Newcastle College of Art and Industrial design before working for two years as an A.S.M. in Cleveland, Ohio. On returning to England she took a three year acting course at E.15. Pauline worked at the Cockpit Theatre and Joan Littlewoods Theatre Workshop before joining TheatreMobile in March 1973, to play Lika in "The Promise". Since then she has been seen as Minnie Powell, Cecily Cardew and Augusta Pig.



GLORIA PARKINSON,
*Artistic Director of
TheatreMobile*

*Photograph by
courtesy of the
Evening Star.*

Autumn/Winter



Peter Lorenzelli in "Clowns"

Of the opening of the Artshop the Evening Telegraph said, "the highlight of the evening was the performance of "Clowns" by Theatre Mobile. To the sound of brash, noisy organ music, clowns tumbled all over the Shop and certainly added a touch of gaiety to the occasion".



Ron Flanagan, Tony Mulvihill and Peter Lorenzelli in "The Shadow of a Gunman" by Sean O'Casey. This production toured to the Lake District, Northumberland and Fylde as well as being seen in the Mid-Pennine region. "The company acted well as a team with a superb sense of timing. The production was effective and powerful so that the audience felt at times that they were not just spectators but actually sitting in the room while the frequent rows between the characters were taking place". *Barrow News*.

Season 1973-4



Frankie Cosgrave and Thomas Karol in "The Importance of Being Earnest".
"TheatreMobile's skill in production was a tribute to the eloquence of Mr. Wilde . . . an evening of sparkling acting which passed all too quickly". *Accrington Observer.*



Pauline Siddle, Virginia Roncoroni and Thomas Karol in "The 3 Little Pigs".
"It was a really excellent children's show. It was professionally done and the audience loved it." *Burnley Express.*

PRESENTING THIS WEEK

. . . . AND EVERY WEEK
THE COMPLETE LOCAL SCENE



BURNLEY EXPRESS AND NEWS

NELSON LEADER

COLNE TIMES

BARNOLDSWICK AND EARBY

TIMES

*BLACKBURN'S LEADING BOOKSELLERS
SINCE 1907*

SEED & GABBUTT LTD.

4-6 Preston New Road,
BLACKBURN,
Tel: 58226

40-42 Darwen Street,
BLACKBURN,
Tel: 59855

NEWS PAGE

1. Penelope Cherns has just joined the Northcott Theatre, Exeter, as an assistant to the director.
2. Malcolm Edwards is in Ayr directing a university production of "The Duchess of Malfi".
3. Sheila Kelley is with the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.
4. Kevin Lloyd has joined the "Library Theatre", Manchester, and at the time of going to press was playing several characters in an adaptation of "Kidnapped" by R. L. Stevenson.
5. Taylor McAuley is with The Playhouse, Leeds.
6. Paul Prescott is at present in a stage version of the famous television series "Captain Pugwash". He also has television engagements lined up for the future.
7. Brenda Somers is in a lunchtime play at The Half Moon, a small experimental theatre in London.
8. Charles Sturridge is on a director's training scheme at Granada Television, Manchester.
9. John Tindale is working as chief electrician at the Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, London.

* * *

TheatreMobile would like to thank Fred Brown for all the time he has spent working with the company training them in acrobatics. Also Mr. Carver who has specially made a monocycle for TheatreMobile.

Photographs in this Brochure are by George Scarborough.

LOOK BACK TO THE 50's

2nd April, 1974, TheatreMobile's production of "Look Back in Anger" by John Osborne, opens at Rhyddings School, Oswaldtwistle. This play was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre, London, on 8th May, 1956. Tony Richardson directed and Alan Tagg designed the first production, the cast of which included Kenneth Haigh (Jimmy Porter), Mary Ure (Alison), Alan Bates (Cliff). The following notes give a background to the time when the play was created.

The 50's were a decade of Conservative government, in the general election of May, 1955 (after Churchill's retirement as Prime Minister) the Conservatives increased their majority at Labour's expense. The new Prime Minister was Anthony Eden and Harold MacMillan took over the Foreign Office. The late 50's was the era Mr. MacMillan referred to when he announced that Britain "Had never had it so good".

1956 brought about two major upheavals. In July, the Suez Crisis, ("The last stand of Imperialism") was precipitated by Britain and the U.S.A. refusing to finance the Aswan Dam project – needed to fertilize vast areas of desert and bring prosperity to Egypt. Nasser therefore, seized the previously neutral Canal zone diverting shipping fees into the national exchequer. October/November saw the Hungarian Uprising against the Soviet Union's tightening control over Eastern Europe.

The 50's were the era of the arms race. In a Commons Debate on the Government's White Paper on Defence (March 1955) Churchill stressed that possession of the H-bomb by Great Britain could induce the Soviet Union to negotiate with the west and abandon the policies of the Cold War. Most M.P.s., regardless of party, adopted this attitude. The late 50's saw the rise of the C.N.D. movement protesting at the ownership of nuclear weapons by Britain.

In February, 1954, Billy Graham made his first evangelising mission to Britain, J. B. Priestly attributed its tremendous success to the missions streamline organisation and spectacular show rather than a hunger for religion.

The 50's are often remembered as the era of the Teddy Boy. Young people had more money to spend on themselves than before – this was often spent on new styles of clothes and motorcycles. Much of their spare time was spent in coffee bars. By 1956 Rock and Roll had hit Europe, Elvis had become the idol of thousands of teenagers. The sale of discs soared throughout the decade. Jazz was becoming acceptable to a wider audience particularly students, but could not rival the popularity of skiffle or rock.

Popular records in 1956 included "The Dambusters March", "Memories are Made of This", "Hound Dog", "Rock Around the Clock".

In 1956 James Dean, star of "Rebel Without a Cause" was killed in a car crash in America. Other popular filmstars in the 50's included Bridget Bardot, Marilyn Monroe and Marlon Brando.

The Goon Show was popular on the radio (particularly with the young). Beginning in 1951 it ran for 7 years!

Commercial Television began in September, 1955. The Newsreels were the most popular viewing on this new channel and young interviewers in these newsreels included Ludovic Kennedy, Christopher Chataway and Robin Day.

1954 saw the publication of "Lucky Jim" by Kingsley Amis, 1957 of "Room at the Top" by John Braine. These books, together with John Osbornes plays of the 50's, were regarded as work by what the journalists called "Angry young men". This movement was described by J. B. Priestly, - "The young, less addicted to self deception (the great English vice) than their elders, began to feel dissatisfied and restless, the best of them clearly uneasy in the consumer role allotted to them, unable to find ecstasy among toothpaste, chocs and after shave lotion. The rebels arrived, and among them were almost all the young men gifted with any talent, insight and wit".

Studio 'M' Photographers

64 BLACKBURN ROAD

ACCRINGTON

Telephone : Accrington 32598

WEDDINGS, PORTRAITS, INDUSTRIAL

and COMMERCIAL

Photography in Colour

**HOLDEN & HARTLEY
(Burnley) LIMITED**

For Self-Drive Hire



Vauxhall Vivas, Victors,

Mini's Allegro's Renault's Avenger's

Bedford 10 and 18 cwt. Vans

Bedford Mini-Bus



Accrington Road, Burnley

Telephone Burnley 27321

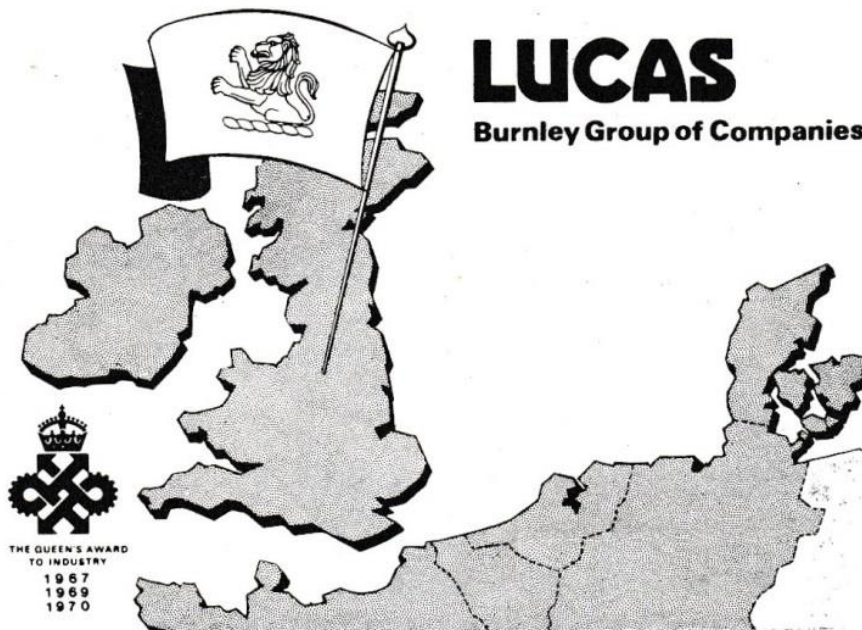
The Lucas Burnley Group has been flying high in Europe for many years.

For the Lucas Group in Burnley, Britain's entry into the E.E.C. sets an official seal on the Company's well-established European activities, whilst adding new impetus to its involvement in European affairs.

Lucas Aerospace, already involved in every European co-operative aircraft project, has joint and wholly-owned manufacturing operations in France, Germany and Italy.

And, in the automotive field, equally strong links have been forged between Burnley and the Continent, through the supply of Lucas switchgear to European car marques and through substantial Lucas holdings in European electrical equipment manufacturing and distributing companies.

Common Market? For the Lucas Burnley Group, Europe is already a way of life.



Make a wise move.

Most people cannot really afford to make investing into a game.

Wise people know that their money is safe and secure in The Burnley – for over 100 years a leading national building society. With our roots in Lancashire and the north-west, we at The Burnley traditionally keep *strength in reserve, liquidity in depth and expansion under careful control.*

This is the way we look after money at The Burnley.

Put your money into a name you can trust.



The Burnley

BUILDING SOCIETY

Established 1850: Head Office, Burnley, Lancs.

