

Entertainment

Calendar

'All in Good Time' great time for all

By Tom Davey

RICHMOND HILL — Bill Noughton's *All in Good Time* is an authentic slice of Lancashire working class life, which is beautifully recreated on the Curtain Club stage, with little to indicate the play had travelled over 3,000 miles.

But good plays, like good wine, can travel well if handled with care and skill.

The plot centres around a newly-wed couple whose marriage remains unconsummated after six weeks. How this couple solves its problems develops into a moving story — hilarious at times — but genuinely moving, as the playwright weaves

when she dreamily recreates the time she was unfaithful nearly three decades earlier. Her accent, demeanour and attitude at all times are the very epitome of a spirited Lancashire housewife.

As this is an entry in the Central Ontario Drama Festival, she is sure to be a contender when the awards are adjudicated.

Clive Ryland is almost perfect as the gas works laborer; a brash cocky ignorant man, whose heart of gold is concealed by his contempt for his son's sensitive values and love of music and books.

Hard to fault this cast anywhere, George Jones and Marjorie Burdon

plenty, but the play really is moving as the groom's mother steers

the family through its crisis. Adroitly she gets the couple in bed while she manipulates the father to finance the couple's first home.

Although the play reaches its inevitable conclusion, we are still surprised and emotionally involved all the way. Director Brian Moore and his producers Beryl Radke and Pera Miller have brought forth a production which must rate well in the Drama Festival.

The set is extremely well done as the play poses some situations which are difficult to stage. The sound effects were great (a steam

engine shunting, a factory steam whistle) and handled with convincing

subtly when the windows opened and shut.

One glaring anachronism was the presence of Guinness bottles bearing the undeniable shape of our standard Canadian bottles. The Curtain Club rarely suffers lapses like this. Indeed, the liquid coffee bottle, although strange to Canadian eyes, is a more usual example of the painstaking thoroughness of the club productions.

As a comedy, this play is highly recommended. It is also an emotional experience for anyone.

The fact this play has travelled so well is a credit to all involved in its production.



Jean Halliwell... superb



Robert Leon... sensitive performance

All in Good Time — Humorous and moving, with the belly-laughs and tears coming in equal doses; run, don't walk to this one. The Curtain Club's more-than-worthy entry in the Central Ontario Drama Festival; to Feb. 12. Call 884-2638.

York Symphony Orchestra — with guest performer, James Spragg, formerly first trumpeter with Quebec Symphony Orchestra, playing Hayden's Trumpet Concerto. Clifford Poole conducts; St. Mary's Anglican Church, Feb. 11. Call 884-9242.

Rotary Club Travelogue — "The Kingdom of Tonga," with Clint Denn; Feb. 3, Bayview Secondary School. Tickets at door, or call 884-2918.

The Innocents - Factory Theatre moving, with the belly-laughs and tears coming in equal doses; run, don't walk to this one. The Curtain Club's more-than-worthy entry in the Central Ontario Drama Festival; to Feb. 12. Call 884-2638.

Keath Barrie - in first major concert tour, Woodbridge Golf and Country Club; to Feb. 11.

Alice in Wonderland - Pepi Puppet Theatre; to Feb. 13. Call 225-9473.

Midsummer Night's Dream - York University, Feb 7-12. Admission free. Call 667-2370.

Teresa Zylis-Gara - Polish soprano, St. Lawrence Centre; Feb. 8. Call 366-7723.

Art Gallery of Ontario - A retrospective of the work of minimalist artist, Peter Kolisnyk of Coburg; Feb. 4 - April 3. Admission free.

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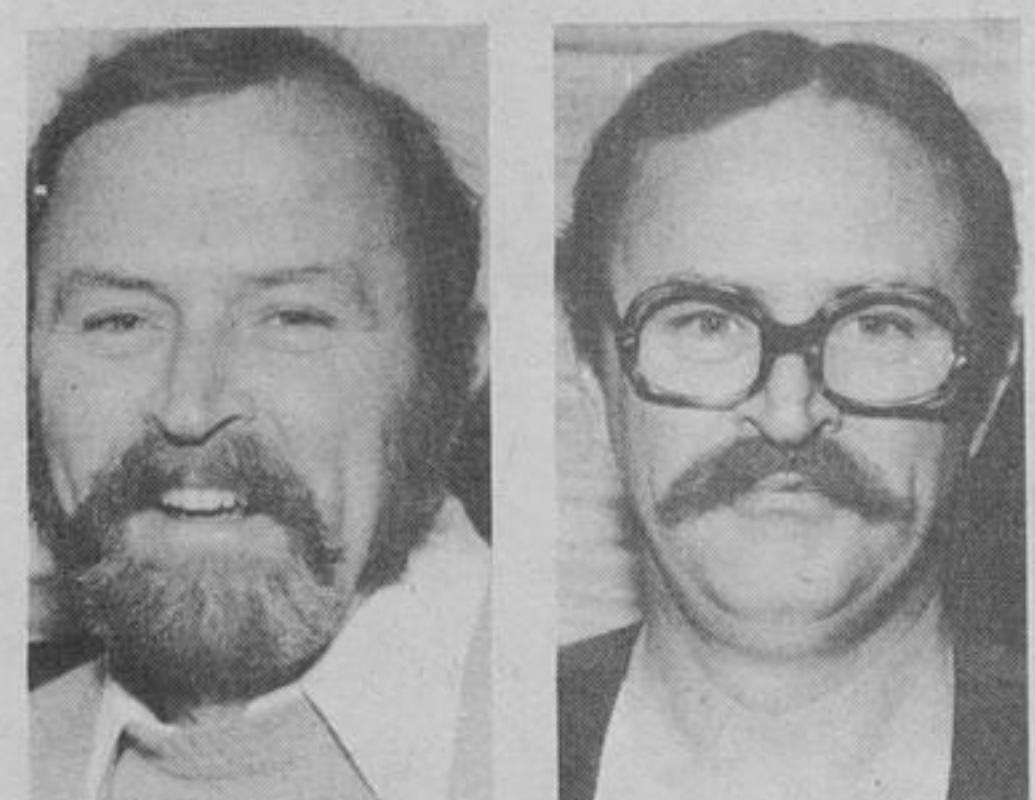
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Before - after

The transition was startling for most playgoers when they saw veteran Curtain Club performer Clive Ryland without both his beard and savoire-faire as the stern father in *All in Good Time*. However, that didn't deter from his performance, which reviewer Tom Davey, called "almost perfect."

through the intricate web of working-class values and attitudes.

While Bob Leon and Martha Buell play the young couple with engaging sensitivity, the acting plaudits must go to Clive Ryland and Jean Halliwell who play the parents of the unhappy bridegroom.

Superb mother Jean Halliwell is superb as the mother, especially

were convincing as the girl's parents, and Trevor Newton was particularly funny as the smarmy Joe Thompson who snidely offers his services to the virgin bride.

There is an uproarious scene when his wife (beautifully played by June Abbott) learns of the offer and tears into him verbally and physically.

Laughs there are

Circle comedy opens Feb. 3

TORONTO — The Primary English Class, a comedy about six immigrants to North America who don't speak English but who register for a government-sponsored "immersion" class in the subject, will be presented by the Open Circle Theatre, starting Feb. 3.

The theatre is located at 736 Bathurst St., south of Bloor.

Ray Whelan, co-director of the theatre,

will direct the play in its Canadian premiere. For tickets call 967-6584.

Arts grants still open

TORONTO — Applications are still being accepted from Canadian performing arts companies wishing to apply for financial support during the 1977-78 season. It was announced by the du Maurier Council for the Performing Arts.

The second week in February has been set as the deadline for receipt of applications from organizations which have been in operation for more than two years.

For more information, Call Fay Olson, 364-4222.

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