

**Theatre Royal Variety Performance**

*In Association With*  
**Flaggylane Productions**

*Presents*



*Music,*



*Madness*



*Mayhem*

**November 8th – 10th 2007**

Theatre Royal,  
The Mall,  
Waterford.

051-874402

## Theatre Royal Variety Performance 2007

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and a warm welcome once again to the Theatre Royal Variety Performance. There are times when we all wonder why we do things especially when the years come around so quickly, but on nights like this we get our answer. We have once again gathered a hotch potch of local people and requested that they become artists and entertainers here tonight. For some this is a natural way of life for others they had to get time off work to facilitate our need.

### The Theatre Royal Variety Performance has a few objectives and here are some of them.

1. To keep variety as an art form (sometimes highly controversial) alive and well.
2. To include people of all theatrical backgrounds who wish to contribute in any small way.
3. To be a non profit organisation where all monies after cost are distributed to a charity or organisation in need of help.
4. To keep alive what was a tremendous spirit in Waterford for live theatre and local heroes.
5. To be an outlet for comedians and comedy writers who can use the stage to comment on life as we in Waterford see it.
6. To give opportunity also to those who wish to have a part time involvement in Theatre.
7. To also give those people an opportunity to work and perform with some very talented and admired local artists.
8. To form a local Variety Club with proper membership and expand the yearly show to other areas such as "variety club lunch" with renowned guest speakers.

For all this to happen we need a lot of goodwill and a little extra help in organising ourselves to meet the above objectives. So if you feel you could give a little time and would like to become involved please let us know.

Last years the Theatre Royal Variety Performance donated all monies after costs, which in fact was 6000 euro to the Bowler Hat Musical Drama Productions. This was to help them defray costs on previous productions so that they could get back to what they do best, put on first rate productions. This year we will do likewise for Flaggy Lane Group, who have made us all so proud by winning in terrific style the Waterford International Festival of Light Opera . Remember a huge amount of people get a lot from these groups either by involvement, employment (theatres, musicians etc) or the sheer pleasure of attending their shows.

So tonight we say a huge thank you to all the performers who are here contributing their time, enjoying themselves and spreading a little goodwill. The modern Ireland is a wonderful place but we have got to protect its spirit and not allow it lose its heart. We may not be equipped to that on a grand scale but we believe every little thing helps.

*Michael Grant*



# Comedy

This is an area that often is the hardest to fill in any show. But tonight we are in fine fettle with a comedy team of proven ability. Whether you will still think that at the end of the show is another matter.

But we are delighted to be offering 6 original pieces of comedy with 3 or 4 rehashed ones.

Tony Corcoran whose Dad is rather well known in Waterfords variety world has penned two new sketches and we wait with baited breath for the onslaught. The multi talented Conor Halpin arrives with a contemporary sketch on Irish life, a new Deise song (apologies to all in Kilkenny) and a rather strange view of married life.

David Hennessy has directed and choreographed a sensual piece of male madness that is not insurable as a risk.

Add to all that the delivery and stage presence of Davy Sutton and you start to feel the pressure. Along with Davy we have Scol Grant another young veteran of the comedy world with the one and only Michael Q Quinlan to throw the whole affair into utter confusion.

For some reason this year we have allowed Brian Juckey Collins back into the comedy fold (though he claims he never left it in real life). Tonight could reveal a lot.

Oh we also have Michelle Glendon, John Thompson, Jason Shore, a few guest Irish Dancers of sorts and maybe a hurler or two. Hope you enjoy it, and that we are not totally delusional about what is funny.

*Michael Grant*



# Flaggy Lane

Since its inception in 2002, Flaggy Lane Productions has undoubtedly become one of the south east's most successful theatre companies to date. Having won the much coveted title of Best Show at the Waterford International Festival of Light Opera for two consecutive years (2005/06) with their much acclaimed productions of *Singin' in the Rain* and *Guys and Dolls*, the award-winning society are delighted to be associated with the Theatre Royal Variety Show. It is especially important to us this year as we remember one of Waterford's greatest theatre stalwarts Dermot Graham, whose daughter Vicki's not alone just a core member of our society, but also one of the leading female performers in the city and we are delighted she will be leading out special tribute to her father.

Putting on hit shows is undeniably what Flaggy Lane Productions does best. In fact, not alone did the hard-working group win Best Overall Show in the Festival for *Singin' in the Rain*, they also bagged eight other gongs and went on to be nominated for six Amateur Irish Musical Society (AIMS) awards, the highest number of nominations ever made and in turn they went on to win two of the much sought after accolades.

It was a similar story the following year for the hit Broadway show *Guys and Dolls* and while the society made history the year before being the only Waterford company to ever win the festival in its 47 year tenure, they secured their title in the history books by beating stiff competition and winning eight awards in total.

Primarily the goal behind Flaggy Lane Productions is to bring great theatre to the people of Waterford and the South East and with so much talent in the region, honouring that promise has been a dream come true for the committee.

Regards,

*Nicola Nolan.*

Chairperson,  
Flaggy Lane Productions.

## Act One

1. Susicial - Opening sequence from David Hennessy School
2. Are you nervous Seamus !.....Scol Grant and Davy Sutton
3. Annie- from the kids at Gary Powers Summer school.
4. Welcome to the wonderful Sweeney Toddlers with Cian O Carroll  
Greg Scanlon and guests.
5. Up For The Match.....with Tony Corcoran, Davy Sutton, Scol Grant  
Michael Quinlan, John Thompson, Brian Collins & Guests.
6. My own Lovely Deise.....it's Conor Halpin!!!
7. Gypsy Dance...From Gary Powers Senior Summer School
8. With me medals on me chest...Tony, Scol and Davy
9. Hairspray,(a look at this new musical).from the Richie Hayes School
10. Excuse me do you speak English....
11. Welcome to Bryan Flynn!!!!
12. Hey Paddy where is Old Ireland!....Conor, Davy and Brian.
13. Welcome to Flaggy Lane.....Featuring Katelyn, Katie and Vicki.

## Act Two

1. The Musical Rent ..an excerpt by Flaggy Lane...Directed  
by David Hennessy
2. A Tale of Wedded Bliss...by Conor Halpin
3. Broadway babes...featuring Vicki, Megan , and Gabrielle.
4. The one and only Richie Hayes,(Saturday Night Only)
5. St Malachy,s Nativity ...God help us! With Tony, Davy, Scol, Q, Brian,  
Michelle, Conor , David , John. and Jason.
6. Send In The Clowns...Featuring Jamie Beamish (as we pay tribute to  
Dermot Graham over the next two items)
7. Mac and Mabel....Featuring Des Manahan, Vicki Graham and Katie  
Honan and the pupils of Gary Powers Senior Summer School.
8. A Glimpse of Joseph with Vicki, Des, David Flynn and The Brothers.
9. Danger Zone with The Full Monty.....featuring David Hennessy, Tony,  
Scol, Brian and Jason.
10. One Voice with the entire company.



# Dermot Graham

## Des Manahan joins in Tribute to The great Dermot Graham

Tonight the Theatre Royal Variety Performance will welcome on the stage the one and only Des Manahan. It's a great pleasure to have him back and it is very fitting that he does so in honour of the memory of Dermot. Many years ago they soldiered together in the "Banks" Tops shows and left us with some great moments to cherish. In tonight's show Des will sing "I won't send Roses" from Mac and Mabel and he will also perform as Jacob in a short excerpt from Joseph. Des will be joined by Jamie Beamish who will sing that timeless classic "Send in The Clowns". This song was used by Dermot Graham in the 70's when he opened a crystal show with great innovation and craft. The curtain was raised to what we thought was the back stage crew caught in the act of putting up the set. It took a while to realise that this was intentional and then relax and sigh at the sheer risk of what he had just pulled off. From this the creative Mr. Graham gave us yet another top notch hour of great entertainment.

Another of his favourites was Mac and Mabel which we will feature shortly, the silent movie opening once again had the entire town talking and applying the now yearly plaudits to this wonderful producer. But it was in 1975 that Dermot caused the first "Saipan" of modern Ireland. How! Why! You may ask! It is the year he Produced and Directed "Joseph" for Waterford Crystals entry into John Player Tops. There was controversy up and down the country on whether this show was a variety show or not. The word Variety was bisected and dissected so often that we weren't sure what it meant anymore. Half thought it was variety the others said no way. But what every one agreed upon is that it was a brilliant show.

In the words of CVK writing in the Waterford News and Star, March 21st 1975, "in my experience I have yet to see a production of an all amateur local group which could even remotely compare with the sheer scintillating expertise in presentation of this show" He added that "it was a theatrical triumph" by the phenomenal Dermot Graham. Rumour had it that the impresario Noel Pearson cancelled his professional productions visit to Waterford for fear of not matching Dermot's production.

Tonight his daughter Vicki will perform in this short visit to those days when her

Dad produced such fine shows. She will be joined by David Flynn as Joseph and the one and only Des Manahan paying respect to an old colleague. In that show in 1975 Dermot left the orchestra pit and sat upon the top step of the old stairs that linked the pit to the stage. There he sang those Canaan days in a perfect French accent. And as Mick Browne wrote in the Munster Express that year...not only did he produce and direct this great show but he then gave one of the most impressive solo performances in it. He said Sean Cotter (the adjudicator) could not find enough superlatives to describe it. So when you hear Des deliver this song tonight remember all those absent friends not with us today . Experience a magic moment in Joseph all those years ago, in the hay day of Tops.

### *Michael Grant*

Dermot was a man of many talents, and this was reflected in his varied career. Throughout, he had an abiding passion for music, theatre and working with people. These three passions were given full rein in the 'Tops of the Town'. This competition is legendary in Waterford, which is not surprising given the number of people who were involved with the shows and the bigger numbers who attended and enjoyed the sometimes astonishing levels of talent and entertainment offered. Dermot worked with 'the Glass' for a long time, but also with the Banks and Finance, and the Post Office. His approach was always to give it one hundred percent and to demand that everybody else gave it the same. He was interested in innovation, originality and pushing the boundaries, sometimes even with the rules. This often led to controversy, and on one famous (or infamous) occasion he was 'read off the altar' in one church because of the alleged immodesty of the girls' costumes. Rather than being put off by such incidents, Dermot enjoyed the hullabaloo, and he was often suspected, correctly, of spreading outrageous rumours about the expense Waterford Glass had incurred to put sumptuous productions on stage. This fed the competitive spirit which gave the 'Tops' an added enjoyment and edge, while at the same time it has to be acknowledged that the opposing participants had an abiding respect for each other which was evident in their co-operation in other events, especially those concerned with charities and shows such as tonight's. While Dermot derived enormous pleasure from the shows, he was aware that for many of the participants, it helped develop self-confidence and fostered talent. His aim, in producing a show was, he always asserted, to make those on stage look good. It is fitting that he is remembered for this, and the pleasure and fun that he helped give so many people.

By his loving wife,

*Theresa Graham*



# Production Team

**Produced by**  
**Lighting**  
**Stage Management**  
**Musical Director**  
**Sound**  
**Production Co-Ordinator**  
**PR**  
**Costumes**  
**Sets**  
**Video Work**  
**Theatre Royal**

Michael Grant  
Aiden McGrath  
Brian Collins  
Richard Coady  
Star Systems  
Nicola Nolan  
Lynda Murphy!!  
Avril Musgrave  
Pdraig O Griofa  
Martin Kennedy  
Andy Cummins and  
Cathy McGuigan

## **Content Contributions:**

**Susical / Full Monty/ Rent**  
**Annie/Mac and Mabel**  
**Rent/Mary Poppins/One Voice**  
**HairSpray**

David Hennessy  
Gary Power  
Flaggy Lane  
Richie Hayes School

## **Comedy by**

Tony Corcoran, Conor Halpin,  
Davy Sutton, Scol Grant, David  
Hennessy and Michael Quinlan



## Cast List Theatre Royal Variety Performance

David Hennessy Stage School  
Gary Power Summer Stage School  
Richie Hayes Stage School

### Flaggy Lane Cast:

Mark Griffin, Niall Griffin, Michelle Glendon, Sean (Gezzer) , Mark Rellis, Glen Murphy, Shane Mooney, Ian McCarthy, Niamh Bolger, Laura Nolan, Katie McAuliffe, Fiona Heffernan, Daryl Daniels, Kateyln Cassidy, Katie Honan, Eve Grant, Pam Flynn, Emma Ryan, Lianne Roche, Eimear Wade, Jenny Cullen, Emily Hallissey, Rachel Bradley, Aisling Griffin, Nicole Whelan, Laura Browne, Sinead Lyons, Rachel Coady, Kate O'Brien, Shane Norris, Rob,

### Comedy Team

Tony Corcoran  
Davy Sutton  
Scol Grant  
Conor Halpin  
Brian Collins  
David Hennessy  
Michelle Glendon  
Jason Shore  
Michael Quinlan  
John Thompson

### Guests

Des Manahan  
David Flynn  
Bryan Flynn  
Megan Cassidy  
Gabrielle Cummins  
Vicki Graham  
Jamie Beamish  
Richie Hayes  
Michael O'Brien  
Liza Caulfiel  
Rocky Mills

# Thank You

Ollie Breslin at WYD and Imagine Festival

Padraig O Griofa

Liam Murphy, Michael Dower , John O Connor...Munster Express

Eddie Hearne , Peter Doyle, Lynda at Waterford News and Star.

Jackie Power Waterford To-Day

Bausch & Lomb

WLR FM

St Saviours GAA Club

Richie Hayes

Theatre Royal Staff.

David Hennessy

Liza Caulfield

Gay Kirwan

Richard Coady

The Woodlands Hotel

Waterford Crystal Sports and

Social Centre

Vicki Graham

Delores Collins

Pauline Browne

Corrinna Dower

Margaret Dower

Niall Griffin

Karen Hennessy

Mark White

Michelle Glendon

Lynda Murphy

Brian Collins

Helen Sheridan

Brenda Giles

Valerie Casey

Ger O'Byrne

Darragh Quinlan

Sean Power

Angela Murphy

Terri Quinlan

Orla Quinlan

**Sully's Snooker Hall,  
Arundel Square,  
Waterford**

**Would like to wish  
all the cast and  
crew of the Theatre  
Royal Variety  
Show the very best  
of luck with their  
superb show.**



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