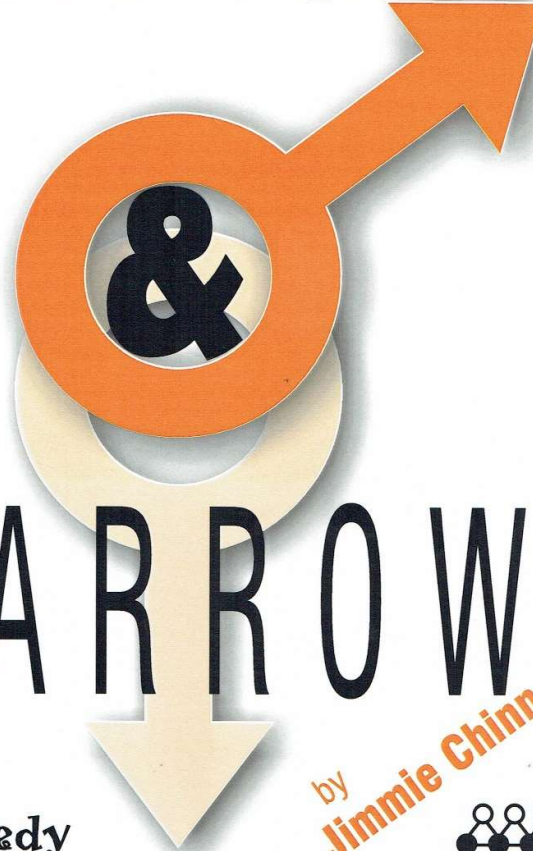


STRAIGHT



NARROW

by
Jimmie Chinn

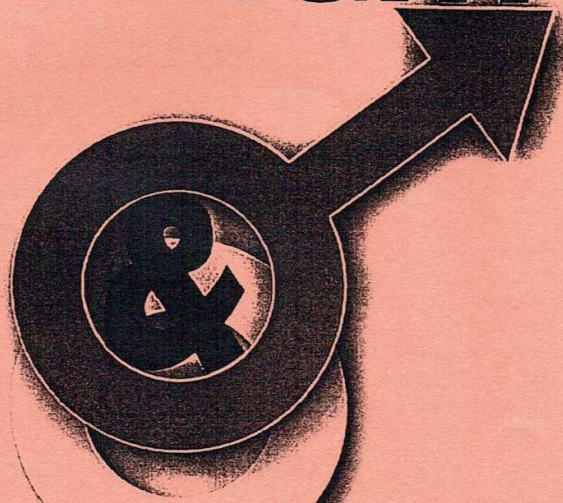
*a comedy
about relationships
directed by John Barton*



30th October to 13th November 1999 at 8 pm
(Matinee 7th November at 2 pm) - Rose Centre Belmont

\$15 (\$12 conc.) - Bookings: call 445 9900 or 445 6447

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 **STRAIGHT
& NARROW**
by Jimmie Chinn

CAST (in order of appearance)

Bob.....KARL BUCKLEY
Jeff.....RICHARD PARMEE
Nona, Bob's sister.....CLAIRE BUCKLEY
Lois, Bob's sister.....TRACEY MCGUIRE
Vera, Bob's mother.....SHERRY EDE
Bill, Lois' husband.....MARTYN SCOTT
Arthur, Nona's husband.....NIAL GREENSTOCK

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTORS.....Kathy Gent
.....John Burton
PRODUCTION MANAGER.....Doug Bourke
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT.....Sue Gross
STAGE MANAGERSAlistair Fletcher & Doug Annan
COSTUMES by..... Anne Rimmer
SET DESIGN.....Angie Holmes
SET DRESSING.....Glyn Amor
LIGHTING DESIGN.....David Powell
SET CONSTRUCTION.....Doug Bourke, Angie Holmes
Assistance by.....James Rimmer, Glyn Amor, Richard Parmee,
Anthony Whitehouse, Kathy Gent, Doug Annan, Alistair Fletcher, Sue Collins.
REHEARSAL PROMPT.....Sue Donnell
SOUND OPERATOR.....Sue Collins
LIGHTING OPERATOR.....Chris Gill
PUBLICITY.....SherryEde/Kathy Gent
PROGRAMME.....Sherry Ede
POSTER DESIGN.....Chris Meierhof
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER.....Doug Bourke
BAR MANAGER.....Tony Sandy
BOX OFFICE.....Anthony Whitehouse

THE SCENE

The play takes place in the home of Bob and Jeff, just outside Manchester. The time is Saturday afternoon, in 1987. The action is continuous from Act 1 to Act 11.



THE INTERVAL

Interval will be 20 minutes during which refreshments are available in the foyer.



About The Play

"Jimmie Chinn has written a play revolving around a gay couple which manages to address itself to the pitfalls common to most, if not every, aspect of family life. It is a play shot through with bounteous comic invention and with moments intensely moving. His territory lies somewhere between the Alans Bennet and Ayckbourn. It is a domestic comedy fleshed out with such skill that you laugh until it hurts and when it does you find the hurt is real.....I laughed so much and came away with food for serious thought." Daily Mail Review.

Director's Comments

Many, many plays explore the theme of relationships but few comment on the issues faced by homosexuals within society and their own families. The concerns that Bob and Jeff have about their long term relationship are very real. I hope the audience will enjoy the humour, feel the emotions, suffer the sadness and pain within this thought provoking play.

Kathy Gent (Director)

Kathy has been a member of Company Theatre since arriving in New Zealand from the U.K. in 1995; she directed 3 one act plays (*Three of A Funny Kind*) in 1996, *Blithe Spirit* in 1997 and *See How They Run* in 1999. She appeared in *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime* and *The Real Inspector Hound*. She has directed many plays, revues, pantomimes and musical (cabaret) since university days & includes as her all-time favourites, *Stepping Out*, *Rebecca*, *When we are Married*, *A Chorus of Disapproval*, *Bedroom Farce* and *Cabaret*.

John Burton (Director)

John's enthusiasm for this production was the reason it was selected for performance. His support, in the early stages, was appreciated by the cast. John was last seen on Company's stage as Reverend Humphrey in *See How They Run*.

- We acknowledge with grateful thanks the contribution made by Devonport Garden Centre and Jack Willetts Dip F.S. Jack is a well-known North Shore Portraitist. He is always available to accept commissions for portraits. Prices on request. Phone 486.2612

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37 Lake Rd, Devonport, Fax: 445 9350
OPEN 7 DAYS 8.30 - 5.00

* **October 30 - November 13** *

Introducing the Cast

Karl Buckley (Bob)

Karl has been involved in all aspects of theatre from technical to design to acting and directing. In 1995, he was awarded a Best Actor Award for his portrayal of Reuben (*Roses are Red*) in the New Zealand Theatre Federation Competition. This is Karl's first performance for Company Theatre but he is no stranger to the Rose Centre, where he has acted and directed shows for Mairangi Players. He enjoys the challenge of "accents" - particularly the Mancurian in this production.

Richard Parmee (Jeff)

Richard is President of Company Theatre. Participation in this production makes two performing roles in a row, something he says he will never do again. (what about *three* in a row, Richard?) but the part of *Jeff* was too good to miss. In previous years Richard has appeared for Company in *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*, *The Odd Couple*, *A Kind of Alaska* and *Money and Friends* and before that he was associated with Torbay Dramatic Society.

Claire Buckley (Nona)

Claire says she has been acting all her life but only joined the stage at the age of 14. As the youngest member of this cast, and only into her early twenties, she has many more opportunities to act in the years ahead! This is her first time with Company Theatre, but previously enjoyed roles with Mairangi Players including "Miss Archie" (*Waiting in the Wings*) and "Hook" (*Peter Pan*). She says that the part of *Nona*, is her most challenging so far.

Tracey McGuire (Lois)

Tracey is a professional actor. This is her first performance for Company Theatre but her second appearance at the Rose Centre, previously playing *Irene* (*Irene*) in '98, for an independent theatre group. Other recent performances include : Alison (*Ladies Night 2*); Crone (*Carmen*) and during rehearsals for this production has been filming *Colours of a Suitcase* for an independent film group. The part of *Lois* has allowed her naturally mischeivoious nature to shine through.

Sherry Ede (Vera)

Sherry has been involved with Company Theatre for several years. She first appeared in Roger Hall's *Middle Age Spread* ('91) at St Margaret's Hall, the year before Company moved to the Rose Centre. Since then highlights include: Mary (*Map of the Heart* '94), Best Director Award (*New Zealand Theatre Federation One Act Play Competition* '95); Sylvie (*The Odd Couple* '97); Directing of *Money and Friends* in '98, and festival involvement with the independent theatrical group *Arthrob*.

Martyn Scott (Bill)

Martyn hails from our playwrights very own roots, emigrating from "Coronation St" country (Manchester) four years ago. Martyn has been involved with Torbay Dramatic Society (*Round and Round The Garden* '98) but this is his first excursion onto the Company stage and he hopes there are many more.

Nial Greenstock (Arthur)

This is Nial's first performance with Company Theatre and makes a return to the stage after an eight year absence. His return may only be short lived however, as his second child is expected early next year and he says it will be "home duties" - for a while! Nial's previous experience has included work with Howick Theatre. (The other cast members of *Straight and Narrow* continually congratulate Nial on the early perfection of his words for Act 1!)



1999 STRAIGHT & NARROW



1999 STRAIGHT & NARROW

