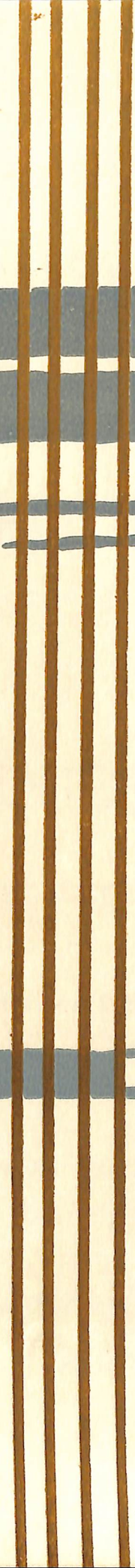


Rob Inglis



1732 1960



Manoel Theatre

CREMONA

THE MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT

COMMITTEE

PRESENT

ROB INGLIS

IN

"THE CANTERBURY TALES"

by GEOFFREY CHAUCER

A DRAMATISATION FROM

NEVILL COGHILL'S

MODERN ENGLISH VERSION

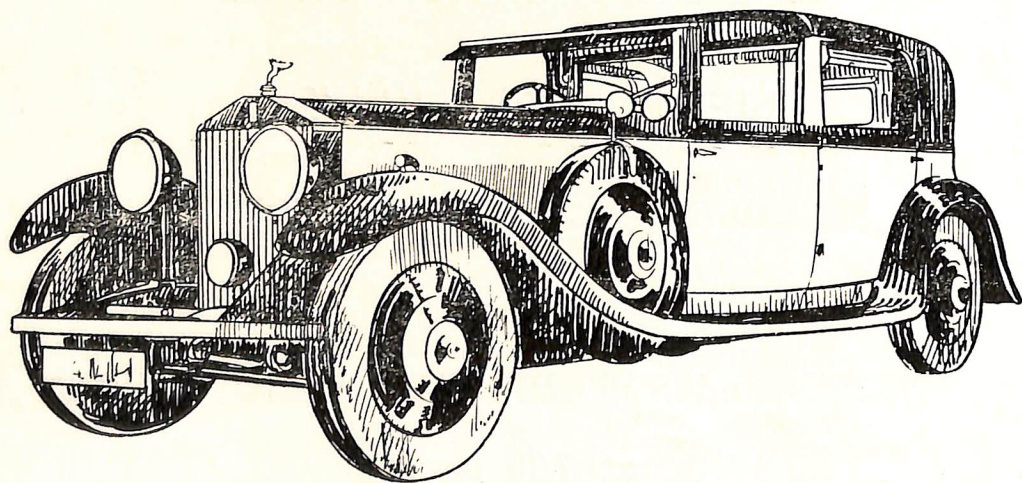
THURSDAY 25th and SATURDAY 27th NOVEMBER, 1965

at 7.30 p.m.



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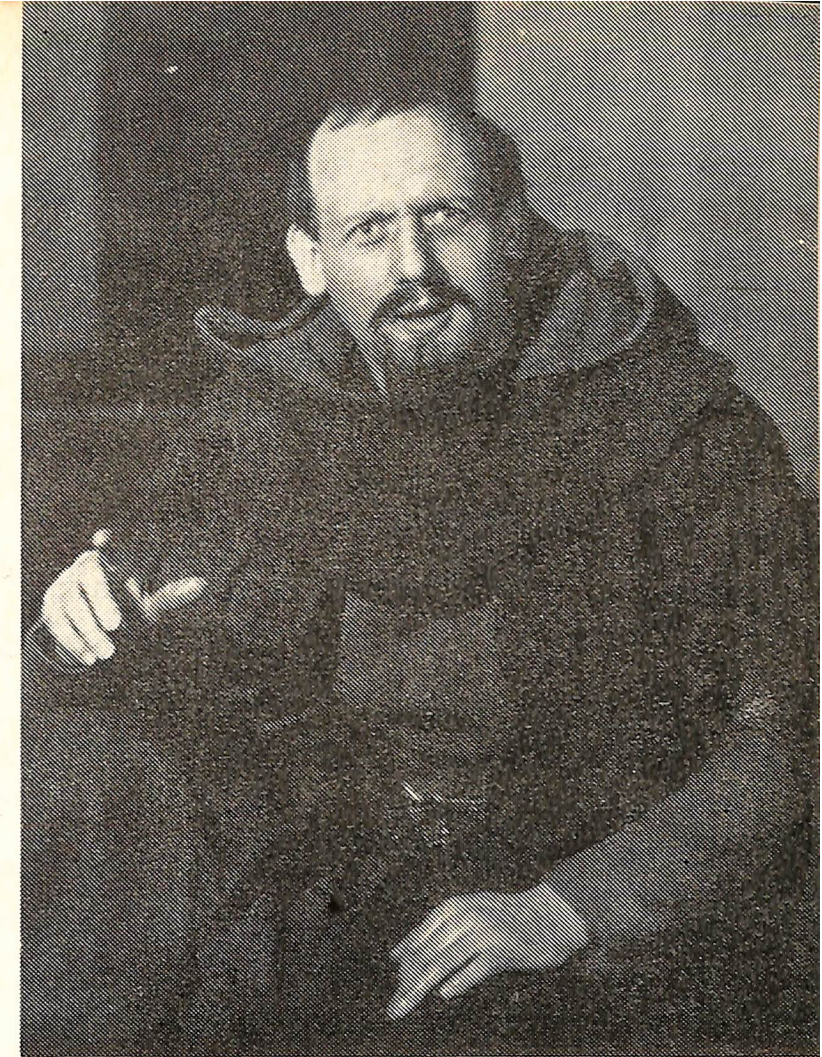


ROB INGLIS

Rob Inglis
Thank you for the chance of
working in your beautiful
theatre

Rob Inglis has learned many of the tales, and having them by heart, is the more able to dramatise them. He is an Australian actor who in England has played for the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, and West End shows including "Oliver", in which he played the Beadle. He has taken such roles as Dr. Faustus, Falstaff, the Ghost in "Hamlet", the King of France in "Henry V". He also wrote a play "The Hands" presented on B.B.C. TV and in Canada, and a historical play "The Voyage of the Endeavour", performed in London for the Commonwealth Festival. He also performs regularly at the Gore Elizabethan Room, Knightsbridge, singing Old English folk songs, and playing the guitar.

He has performed "The Canterbury Tales" in many places throughout the British Isles, in theatres, schools, colleges, varying the programme to suit his audience. He wears a fourteenth-century costume modelled on Chaucer's own, and for scenery uses nothing more than a table and four chairs. These serve for a fowl perch, a bedroom, horses, an arena, and most important, for the pub in Southwark where the Pilgrims, "some nine and twenty in a company", on their way to the shrine of Thomas Becket at Canterbury, rested for a while to eat, drink and chatter, and where their Host announced his idea to keep them happy as they rode along: a storytelling competition.



PROGRAMME

THE STORY TELLER ROB INGLIS

PROLOGUE —

The Tabard Inn, Southwark,
on a day in April in the 14th Century

THE PILGRIMS, KNIGHT, SQUIRE, NUN, MONK,
SKIPPER, MERCHANT, OXFORD CLERIC,
FRANKLIN, WIFE OF BATH, SUMMONER,
PARDONER, HOST.

THE KNIGHT'S TALE —

Ancient Thebes and Athens

ARCITE and Palamon, two Theban Princes,
suitors to EMILY, an Athenian Princess
THESEUS, Duke of Athens

THE NUN'S PRIEST'S TALE —

A fowlyard and a wood

CHANTICLEER, a cock
PERTELOTE, his wife
SIR RUSSELL FOX

INTERVAL — 15 minutes

THE PARDONER'S TALE —

A tavern and a grove in a plague — stricken area

THREE RIOTERS, A BOY, AN OLD MAN

WIFE OF BATH'S PROLOGUE, AND HER TALE —

The world, in good King Arthur's day

THE QUEEN, A KNIGHT, AN OLD CRONE

FOR THE MANOEL THEATRE

ELECTRICIAN and STAGE MANAGER JOHN LAUS

ASSISTANTS E. DALLI, F. MIFSUD

GEOFFREY CHAUCER — 1340 - 1400

.... "Take the grain,
And let the chaff be still".

So wrote Chaucer, and so he lived. As a page, courtier, diplomat, he travelled widely in England and abroad. In France and Italy, he studied literary masterpieces, borrowing from them freely, thereby enriching English poetry. He was aware of most scientific and philosophical works written in Europe up to his day.

Chaucer has been called "the father of English poetry". French had been widely used in Court circles, and his works including "The House of Fame", "The Parliament of Fowls", "Troilus and Criseyde", helped to make English the language of the whole nation.

"THE CANTERBURY TALES" — A One Man Show

There are all sorts of characters who come to life in this show: the Wife of Bath, who has had five husbands, and is ready to

"Welcome the sixth whenever he appears...."

or the Knight, who has followed "Truth, honour, generousness and courtesy".

The stories these contrasting types tell are naturally varied, too. The Wife of Bath's tale is about an ugly wife who becomes suddenly beautiful; the Pardoner's Tale tells how three toughs set out deliberately to find death; the Nun's Priest's Tale is about a fox and a cock who fool one another by flattery; the Miller's Tale describes the crazy scheme a young student hatches in order to make love to the glamorous young wife of a doddering old carpenter.

As an alternative to the Miller's Tale, there is the Knight's Tale, with its lofty theme of a lifelong, chivalrous love, and a great tournament fought for a lady's hand.

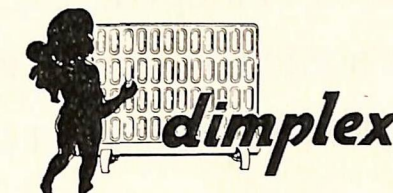
NEVILL COGHILL

Professor Coghill, Merton Professor of English Literature, Oxford, since 1957, has had a long and distinguished academic and literary career.

He has broadcast on Chaucer, Langland; publications include "Pardon of Piers Plowman", "Visions of Piers Plowman", "The Poet Chaucer", "The Canterbury Tales" (in modern English), "Geoffrey Chaucer". A governor of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Professor Coghill has also produced "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Haymarket Theatre, in 1945, and 'Pilgrim's Progress' at Covent Garden, 1951.

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IF you wish to encourage local talent in the pursuit of
all theatrical arts.

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THE MANOEL THEATRE CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SAMY MOLCHO — Mime — 2nd, 3rd and 4th December 1965.

OPERA by Mro. S. Pace — "Caterina Desguanez" — Sunday, 5th December.

MALETH — A play in Maltese — 11th and 12th December 1965.

M.A.D.C. — A play in English — 15th to 19th December 1965.

THE MALTA WELFARE SOCIETY FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED — Dancing
display: "The Sleeping Beauty" by pupils of Mrs. Lilian Attard, 26th and 27th Dec. 1965.

Late comers will not be admitted to the Auditorium.

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium, in Boxes, or in the Gallery.

The Management reserve the right to vary or omit any part of the programme without previous notice.

Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs during the performance is not allowed.

Children even when accompanied by their parents, will be required to occupy individual seats.

