

A NEW WORK FOR AN OLD PLACE

Fannie Bay Gaol remains a powerful and evocative reminder of Darwin's past. Established in 1883, in its time the gaol housed political prisoners, itinerants, children, illegal aliens, psychiatric patients and men and women from many cultural backgrounds, particularly Chinese and Aboriginal.

This July the gaol will provide a haunting and powerful location for a stunning theatrical premiere 'Filling in Time'. A collaboration between Darwin Theatre Company and Business un Usual, the production will bring together a cast of Chinese, Aboriginal and Anglo-Australian performers, directed by Tania Lieman and Nicky Fearn.

Filling in Time brings to life the history of the gaol, a history that is extraordinarily rich and dramatic and at times painful. It is based on stories from gaol records and oral histories provided by the Museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory. The Gaoler's daughter as a girl in 1913,

recalls waking one night to the sounds of crying and wailing and being quickly sent away. In the afternoon, when she returned, she remembers the gaol being 'totally and unusually silent'. An execution had taken place. A retired guard tells of prisoners being made to 'mow' the lawn by plucking the grass with their fingers. One Fannie Bay resident remembers townsfolk bringing roast dinners for the political prisoners arrested during the union riots of 1919 whilst the brass band played outside the walls. Like many non-English speaking prisoners, one 96 year old Chinese man was incarcerated without every knowing why.

Other stranger stories include the practice of allowing 'trusted' prisoners to go to the cinema in town. If they didn't get back by curfew they were locked out and had to sleep outside the gates.

The prison had a famous visitor in 1930. Prisoners built the airstrip next to the gaol where Amy Johnson, the famous aviatrix landed. She was welcomed at the gaol

before continuing into town.

In 1942 the Japanese bombed the gaol, and the prisoners were released to make way for the military. The gaol was finally closed in 1979 but not before Cyclone Tracy blew away the walls of the watchtower. All that remained was a solitary toilet perched at the top.

Filling in Time provides an allegorical representation of this rich history. The production combines physical theatre, live music, dance, masks and puppetry to create a stunning and original piece of contemporary theatre.

Filling in Time will be performed 'under the stars' at Fannie Bay Gaol from 3 – 14 July at 7.30pm. Tickets are on sale at Darwin Entertainment Centre Box Office Tel: 8980 3333. Tickets: \$20, \$18 Law Society members, \$15 preview and concessions. To get the discount members must quote their number when booking over the phone and show their card when collecting tickets at the box office.

COMMONWEALTH BANK SUCCESSOR IN LAW OF STATE BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES LTD

On 13 June 2000 Commonwealth Bank of Australia ("Bank") acquired all the shares in Colonial Limited ("Colonial") pursuant to schemes of arrangement approved by the Victorian Supreme Court. One of the subsidiaries of Colonial was the State Bank of New South Wales Limited ("SBNSW") which has been trading as Colonial State Bank. As part of the reorganisation of the group structure, it has been decided to integrate the business of SBNSW into that of the Bank.

On 4 June 2001, the integration was achieved by the Bank becoming the successor in law of SBNSW pursuant to section 22 of the Financial Sector (Transfers of Business) Act 1999 of the Commonwealth ("FS(TB) Act"). As there has been a universal succession of the Bank to SBNSW, all the assets and liabilities of SBNSW have become assets and liabilities of the merged entity and although SBNSW has ceased to have a separate existence, its legal personality

continues in the merged entity. Under the FS(TB) Act, any reference to SBNSW in any document will be read as a reference to the Bank and the Bank is permitted to act in relation to any asset or liability in either the Bank's name or in the name of SBNSW.

Requests for Release of Colonial State Bank Loans and Securities

All requests for release of Colonial State Bank loans are currently being directed to Colonial State Bank, Loan Repayment Services, Level 15 George Street, Parramatta New South Wales 2150. However, commencing 4 June 2001 with the merger and transfer of Colonial State Bank business into the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, requests for release of former Colonial State Bank loans and securities are to be directed to the customer's Commonwealth Bank of Australia branch or point of representation where their account is conducted.

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia will require adequate notice (ie preferably

at least 10 days) to arrange preparation of any Discharge, as the customer's loan file will first have to be obtained from the Colonial storage facility.

To enable the customer's discharge request to be handled promptly, the following information should be submitted with any security discharge request:

- Full names of the clients/ borrowers;
- Client's account numbers (either the old Colonial number or replacement Commonwealth account number);
- Details of the security to be released (ie titles particulars, property address);
- Advice on whether the customer requires full or partial repayment of all loans;
- If the subject security is sold, the date the contract was exchanged
- Anticipated or approximate date of proposed settlement;
- Whether the release of security is connected with the settlement of a new loan from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.