

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

In reviewing the last three months, we have been very lucky in having two distinguished guests at our usual Sunday get-together.

Brian Fitzgerald entertained and informed us on all aspects of producing the many and varied productions of the Ring from 1876 to the present day.

In July, we had another successful Reception for Sir Donald MacIntyre who then gave us information about his participation in the production of *The Flying Dutchman* in Auckland in October this year.

After some months we have eventually returned to our favourite venue, ie, the Goethe Institute in Woollahra. Unfortunately, this was not as well attended as expected and I do sincerely hope you will all make a better effort in attending our joint seminar with the Friends of the Australian Opera in October as this will be our main fund-raising event this year.

Next month's recital for Carol-Anne Petherick will now be held at Clifford Grant's Gallery - 77 Glebe Point Road, Glebe - as there is no piano at the Goethe. Please ring me on 387 6403 for reservations as numbers will have to be limited.

Carol-Anne Petherick is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland. She won the Governor's Recital Prize and the Savoy Club Award for Opera in 1978. She also participated in classes given by Sir Geraint Evans. As a result of her winning the best performer's award, she made her London debut in a recital at the Purcell Rooms and was also chosen to feature in a BBC television documentary about overseas study for students in the arts, filmed in Italy. Later she sang the roles of Tosca, Lady Macbeth, the Mayor's Wife and the Kostelnicka in different productions of *Jenufa*, all with Scottish Opera. Subsequently she was awarded a Scottish Arts Council Scholarship for two years. Since her arrival in Australia she has been working with Michael Dale to develop further the dramatic quality of her voice. She was engaged by the Australian Opera to understudy the role of Kostelnicka in *Jenufa* in 1992. In 1993 she will be singing the role of Gertrude, the mother in *Hansel and Gretel*. She was to have understudied Kundry, in the Australian Opera's *Parsifal*, regrettably now cancelled.

Olive Coonan
President