



NATIONAL TRUST

## NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)

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### Hitting the right note: Old Government House to put on an evening of Gilbert and Sullivan favourites

Musical evenings were very popular in the big houses of yesteryear and Parramatta's Old Government House was no exception when it came to hosting intimate musical recitals and soirees. To celebrate that history, the National Trust property has organised an evening of light musical entertainment on Saturday, 15 July 2006 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The concert, an evening of Gilbert & Sullivan favourites, will be held in OGH's elegant drawing room (the only Regency drawing room left in Australia). Entertainment will be provided by The Very Small Opera Company.

"Governor and Mrs. Macquarie enjoyed holding musical evenings in their drawing room. It is an elegant, intimate setting for such events and we'd like to recreate a bit of that history and atmosphere," said OGH Manager, Rosemary Moore.

"The choice of Gilbert and Sullivan is fitting as musical entertainment in the house would often be of a light and pleasant nature. The evening theme will focus on the subject of 'etiquette,'" she added.

"Sometimes a full opera can be a bit much to handle. Even operettas can prove a challenge. This is why The Very Small Opera Company has gathered highlights from the Gilbert & Sullivan operettas to illustrate the foibles, fables and absurdities of 18<sup>th</sup> century English etiquette," said Peta Carlisle, artistic director and soprano

The evening's program is in two parts: a selection of Gilbert and Sullivan highlights to be performed by three artists and a pianist, and a selection of songs given by a solo artist. The songs will come from the most popular musicals such as *Ruddigore*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *The Gondoliers* and *Patience*.

Cost for the evening is \$48 per person. National Trust members and Friends of Old Government House members pay \$45. Bookings are essential and numbers are limited. Cost includes drinks on arrival, the concert, a house candlelight tour and supper.

**Bookings and enquires:** Phone 02 9635 8149, during office hours  
Phone 0415 187 402, after hours  
Web [www.friendsofogh.com](http://www.friendsofogh.com)  
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Old Government House is located in the grounds of Parramatta Park, Parramatta. Enter the park via the Pitt & Macquarie Street gates. Parking is available outside Old Government House.

For more information:

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