

PAGE LANG

AUSTRALIAN VARIETY THEATRE ARCHIVE: RESEARCH NOTES

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Society entertainer, ventriloquist, magician, comedian, elocutionist.

Little is known about Melbourne-based all-round entertainer Page Lang. He appears to have started his career in the early 1900s playing community and social events, smoke nights and concerts etc. By the end of the first decade he had also carved out a reputation in regional Victoria and southern New South Wales. His movements 1909 and 1911 and in 1913 are currently unknown, while his last recorded engagements were in 1914 (with the Page Lang Entertainers and as a solo magician).

► See also: [Page Lang Entertainers](#)

1906

Metropolitan Beeftwisters v. Greensborough Thistleringers.

COME on you jolly Rutchers, the motor waits
for you;

The sun is at its highest, amid a sky of blue,
For Elliot waits you coming, and he'll give
you welcome room,

Where the wattle and the briar exhale their
sweet perfume.

As I surveyed the 24 cheerful occupants of that car, I could not help thinking what a contrast it was to a picture I had just previously seen down at the Sir Robert Peel. It was painted by Gus. Pearce, and represented an old woe-begone singer with a roll of music tucked under his arm, standing in front of a piano. Below that was written, "Where are the friends of my youth?" and beneath that was printed "Gone to Blazes." But the friends of my youth

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After the match the visitors were treated to a substantial dinner interspersed with reciprocative speeches and many congratulations to Harry Elliott for his pluck and perseverance, after so many reverses, in at last getting a team that fairly beat their former conquerors.

It was rather hard that the Beeftwisters had to leave just as the evening's amusement was to begin, and just miss one of the best concerts and balls ever held in Greensborough. They had just time to allow Billy McLeish to sing "Sweet Adeline," and then had to leave whilst the audience longed for more. After this Mr Ralph sang "Good Company" in such a convincing manner, that the listeners became quite assimilated with the words and sentiments of this good old-fashioned song. One of the

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was appreciated. The audience were thoroughly mystified and amused at the

high-class illustration of ungodly magical tricks executed by Mr. Page Lang, and his clever ventriloquial exhibition fairly captivated all present, who quickly realised in him a brilliant exponent of these unique diversions.

*North Melbourne Courier and
West Melbourne Advertiser*

17 Aug. 1906, 3.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/108829562>

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Attention is specially drawn to the advertisement appearing in this issue relative to the arrangements made in connection with St. Patrick's Day celebrations. A fine day of sport is to take place on the Wagga Racecourse, and the committee are sparing no trouble in order that every detail which will augur for the public enjoyment may be attended to. The usual concert will take place in the Oddfellows' Hall in the evening. The programme is really first-class. Amongst the leading artists engaged are Mr. J. C. Bedford, Miss Bride O'Dwyer, the Oberon Quartette Party, Mr. Page Lang, and the people's favourite, Mr. W. A. Walsh. Such brilliant talent as is represented by the names mentioned has only been secured at great expense and with the object of giving all the sharers in the festival a splendid concert. The privileges in connection with the sports are to be sold this day week, Saturday, March 2.

Wagga Wagga Express 23 Feb. 1907, 2.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/142110391>

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations.—Sunday next will be St. Patrick's Day, and the festival will be celebrated here by a concert and picnic promoted by Rev. Father Dwyer, Administrator of St. Patrick's Church. The concert will be held at the Mechanics' Hall on Tuesday night, when the ladies and gentlemen of the famous Oberon Quartette, Melbourne, will provide a high-class musical entertainment, including a number of Irish national numbers. Father Dwyer has also engaged Mr. Page Lang, a well-known Melbourne ventriloquist, magician, and society entertainer, who will contribute several items to the programme. On

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Albury Banner and Wodonga Express (NSW) 15 Mar. 1907, 26.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/99830636/10817036>

TUMBARUMBA SHOW.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Slight showers of rain fell during the first day of the annual show—in spite of which, however, the attendance was fair. The attendance for the second day was a record one—so much so that the gate takings for this year's show gave an increase of £12 over that of last year—about £51 being the actual amount of admission fees taken. Fortunately the weather during the whole of the second day remained

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hourne. The vocalists were ably supported and assisted in their entertainment by Mr. Page Lang, whose sleight of hand performances and comicalities repeatedly brought down the house. Dances were held each evening after the concerts. The net

Albury Banner and Wodonga Express (NSW) 22 Mar 1907, 46.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/99842380>

**VICTORIA MISSIONS TO
SEAMEN.**

MONDAY NIGHT'S CONCERT.

On Monday evening last the concert at the Missions to Seamen Institute was given by Miss Gladys Kingsley. A very appreciative audience of sailors received each item with great applause.

Amongst those who took part in the programme were Messrs. A. and N. Lester, who sang a couple of duetts. Miss Gladys Kingsley's items were "Mignon" and "Poor wandering one," which were very nicely sung. Songs were also contributed by Messrs. J. Riddell, Norman Lester, Arthur Lester and Miss Ethel Hems. A very taking duett was sung by Miss G. Kingsley and Mr. A. Lester, and a humorous item was given by Mr. Page Lang. This gentleman also introduced some laughable ventriloquial specialities. A very amusing number was also contributed by Mr. A. Silvester, entitled, "The boarding house." The accompanistes were Mrs. and Miss Kingsley.

Standard (Port Melbourne) 4 May 1907, 2.
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/164440958>

ROYAL PRINCE'S THEATRE

PERRIE'S PICTURES.

To-night the theatre will be opened for a season of three nights by an exhibition of Perrie's bio-tableau pictures, supported by a strong combination of vocalists and comedians. All the pictures will be new to Bendigo, and, in addition to a fine collection of serious films, many in lighter vein will be shown. That inimitable comedian, Mr. H. N. Gregory, will appear in two new character sketches—"Sculling Match, Flannigan v. Quin," "A Yorkshire Cheese" and in conjunction with Mr. Page Lang, "Two Old Chums." Miss Doris Carter and Mr. Geo. Jennings are the vocalists, and in addition to rendering favorite illustrated songs, will be associated in a duet. There will be a change of programme each night, and Mr. Page Lang will appear for to-night only. Mr. Ad. Croe will make his appearance to-morrow night only, and Mr. Geo. Morgan on Wednesday night. With such an excellent array of talent the management anticipate brisk business. Popular prices are being charged, viz., 2/, 1/, and 6d. Reserved seats can be booked at Flight's without extra charge.

Bendigo Advertiser (Vic) 24 June 1907, 5.
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/9229048>

A concert, in aid of the Prebyterian Church will be held in the hall on Tuesday next. Mr. Page Lange, of Melbourne, will be the principal performer.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/6393091>

Scottish Thistle Society.

MONTHLY CONCERT AND SOCIAL

On Wednesday night the usual monthly concert took place at the Mechanics' Institute, and notwithstanding all the Fleet festivities there was a good attendance, with a few of the American bluejackets in the audience. The programme was of a high class, and reflected credit on B o J. Dott, musical director.

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"The Cows are in the Corn." Prof. Page Lang kept the audience happy with a humorous sketch and a topical song, followed by a clever "stuttering" recitation in the second part. Miss

Williamstown Chronicle (Melbourne) 5 Sept. 1908, 3.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/6444355>

1912

Melbourne

DON'T MISS CHELTENHAM'S
YEARLY TREAT.
THE MORDIALLOC TENT I.O.B.
ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
to be held in the
MECHANICS' INSTITUTE,
CHELTENHAM,
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th, 1912.
Absolutely the finest combination of Artists
ever seen in the district.
Educational. Elevating.
Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.
ADMISSION - ADULTS, 1s ; Children, 6d.
Mr. Page Lang, Musical Director.
Miss Beatrice Roberts, Pianist.

Brighton Southern Cross (Melbourne) 24 Aug. 1912, 7.

1914

SEA LAKE HALL.
St. Patrick's Night
Mr Page Lang,
Humorous Ventriloquist,
Magician Raconteur,
And Entertainer.
Under engagement by the St. Patrick's
Day Sport's Committee.
Will Present a Varied Budget
From His Repertorie.
ROLL UP! DON'T MISS THIS!

Sea Lake Times and Berriwillock Advertiser (Vic)
7 Mar. 1914, 5.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/17872456>

HI! HI! HI!
DON'T FORGET
THE GREAT BAZAAR
IVANHOE HALL,
FRIDAY EVENING, 15th MAY.
Bargains of Every Description
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock,
THE CHILDREN'S DAY.
By special request, PAGE LANG and his
assistant will entertain adults and children.
Don't miss the greatest ventriloquist
in Melbourne.
SATURDAY NIGHT (in the Supper Room)
Palais de Danse. Equal to St. Kilda.
Music both evenings supplied by Australian
Violin Orchestral College.
**NOTHING LIKE IT BEFORE IN
THE DISTRICT.**
I guess you will enjoy yourself if you
come along. **DINNA FORGET.**
ADMISSION ONLY SIXPENCE

Heidelberg News and Greensborough and Diamond Creek
Chronicle (Vic) 16 May 1914, 3.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/8576051>

Australian Variety Theatre Archive: Research Notes

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