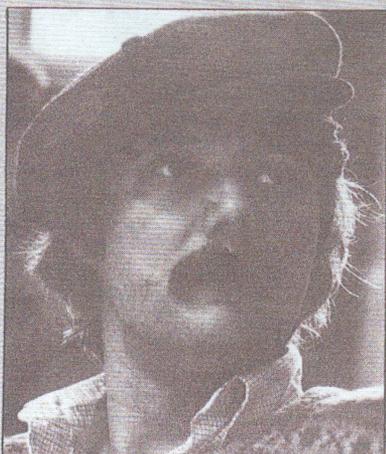
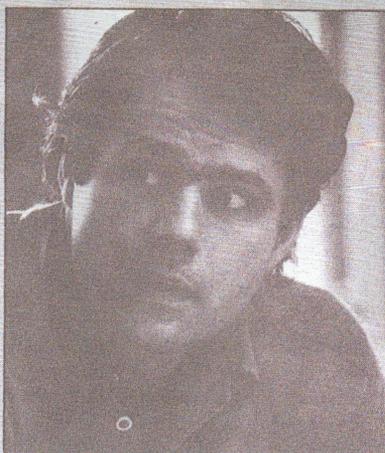


The Story of the Ward 7 Musical Comedy

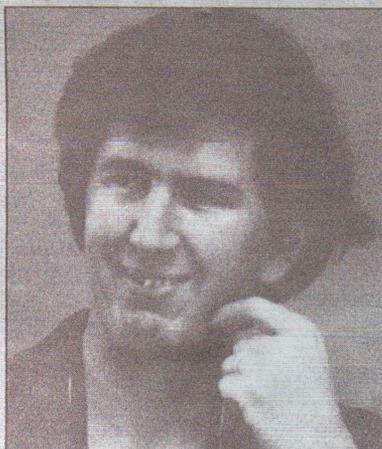
For several years prior to 1979 David Reville, a plumber who lives in Riverdale, and John Piper, a department co-ordinator at the Education Centre, had traded ideas and fantasies about a musical comedy by, for, and about the people of 'Ward 7'. Thus it was that one zestful spring evening in 1979 Reville 'upped the ante' by barging into Piper's house in Donvale with a scene — on paper that is. Well, Piper likes a challenge, and besides, the small orchestra he'd led for a few years was debating its next year's music, and a good original musical score, he said, could give them a focus. To explore this idea further, John with Irene Kyle of the Donvale orchestra invited the Dixon Hall choral group to a meeting, and singer Brian Metcalfe was among those who attended. Brian was very intrigued!



David Reville



John Piper



Brian Metcalfe

Reville and Kyle were now to work further on a story and script, and Piper was to produce a musical score. The beginning of August, 1979 saw most of the music written and the score developing nicely. But the script, unfortunately, was stalled in the August heat. Because of this David Reville took his story to Brian Metcalfe who although he was a practising accountant, was also an ex-university lecturer in English literature. Brian's intrigue, his applied skill, and days of work transformed David's story into the first script. This first script and John's exciting music then became the focus for planning last fall, and organization began in earnest as the production team began to build in January, 1980 under the leadership of Peter Turner. Turner was invited as a neighbour of Reville's and an old friend of Piper's. They claimed it was their Christmas present to him!

Since January over one hundred volunteers have joined some aspect of the show. There's been a lot of fun, and a lot of work done since David Reville created a scene in John Piper's home one year ago.