



MAUREEN DOW

Not only does Maureen Dow manage to combine a busy acting career with running a home, a husband and three young daughters, she also gives lessons in speech and drama to school children with an interest in the theatre.

It was at a drama school run by May Marrinan that Maureen developed her own acting talents and where she remained for five years while working as a trainee teacher with mentally handicapped children. During that time she studied for teaching diplomas from the London Guildhall School of Music and London Trinity College. She also made many appearances on the stage of the Group Theatre with the late James Young as a semi-professional actress.

In 1964 Maureen's life took an exciting turn when she answered an advertisement in *The Times* and became English tutor to a South American Diplomat's two young children spending the next two years with them in Florence, Rome and Capri.

She returned home to Northern Ireland to marry her teenage sweetheart and it wasn't long before she was again involved in theatre, with Hibby Wilmot here in the Arts, at the Lyric Theatre and as a guest artist in a new Ulster play, "The Night of the Rouser" in the Peacock Theatre in Dublin. She has been a frequent broadcaster and appeared in the BBC's *Play for Today* "The Squad" by Martin Dillon and has just finished recording another BBC Television play, "Juno and the Paycock" to be shown this spring.

When the Ulster Actors Company was formed in 1976, Maureen appeared in their first production "The Mating Season" by Sam Cree and now returns to play Jeanette in "The Last of the Red Hot Lovers".

Although over the last two years she has had some 'time off' to answer the demands of a young family, Maureen was delighted when Roy Heayberd invited her to play this part and despite the hectic pace of life since rehearsals began, she is enjoying putting her acting disciplines, techniques and talents to their fullest use again in this extremely funny play.