

GRAFTERS QUARTETTE

Formed in 1913 as a specialty turn inserted into the American Burlesque Company's Sydney production of *The Grafters*, the Grafters Quartette was largely associated with Paul Stanhope's revusical troupe, both in Australia and the USA through until 1919, albeit with a changing line-up. The longest serving performers were original members Teddy Long and George McCall.



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The Grafters Quartette was formed as a specialty turn inserted into the American Burlesque Company's Sydney production of *The Grafters*. The company at that time had been taken over by William Anderson who as producer introduced several new (Australian) faces to the line-up – notably Gus Franks and Harry Ross. The original Grafters Quartette comprised Ross, Teddy Long, Arthur Renshaw and George McCall. In late 1914 Paul Stanhope (one of the American Burlesque Company's lead comedians) invited the four singers to join his new revusical troupe, which subsequently toured Australia for the Fullers (and featured the Grafters).

After spending more than a year or more in the USA Stanhope returned to Australia and in early to mid-1918 put together a new company. It included a new Grafters line-up – comprising original members Teddy Long and George McCall along with newcomers Gerald Cahman and Cliff Toon.

Although Stanhope continued to feature the Grafters in his 1919 shows (typically billed as "The Famous Grafters Quartette") this line-up was entirely new – comprising Harry Hart, Fred Webber, Bert Morrison and Cliff O'Keefe.

SEE ALSO

- [American Burlesque Co](#)
- [Harry Ross \(1\)](#)

HISTORICAL NOTES AND CORRECTIONS

1. George McCall died on 27 January 1919.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.
LESSEE DUNCAN NEVEN.
Direction William Anderson.

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TO-MORROW (Saturday), JULY 25,
WIN usher in a Season of
SUCH CONTINUOUS LAUGHTER
Hitherto but faintly echoed by previous
hilarious productions.
WILLIAM ANDERSON
Has pleasure in announcing the first
appearance in the West of his famous
AMERICAN MUSICAL BURLESQUE
CO.

In their irresistible Musical Travesties,
"THE GRAFTERS."
An entirely new travesty in original
American hilarity, affording ample
scope for the 50 Singers, Dancers, and
Comedians of the Company, which is
anything, BUT A "ONE-STAR"
SHOW. The Hebrew and Dutch
American Comedians, the diversely
amusing Constable, the quaint origin-
ality of the Lady Golf Caddie, the
catchy Songs, the American Ragtime
movements in picturesque Ballets, the
Bright Action, Choruses, the Cross-
counter Gags and Patter, the absurdly
Grotesque Situations, and the topsy-
turvy Finales combine in ONE MAM-
MOTH MOMUS INSPIRING EN-
SEMBLE to make things hum from
the moment the first fiddle speaks in
the Orchestra until the final Curtain
drops.

20 RAGTIME GIRLS 20
And
"THE GRAFTERS" QUARTETTE.
A SCORE OF MUSICAL HITS.
They All Sing! They All Dance!
They All Amuse!
Produced Stage Direction W. R.
Hughes.

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