

North Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells,
Kent, TN2 3DR with an extra 40p per
book for postage and packing.

For new husbands to live
in Holywell near Whitley
Bay.

trout prescription. But
it's always best to consult
your GP.

Golden performances in Sheridan's money-maker

**The Rivals — at The People's
Theatre, Newcastle, until
Saturday.**

SHERIDAN apparently
knocked together his much-
loved and enduring comedy
inside six weeks in order to
raise £600.

Being skint can certainly
fine-tune the mind. His
urgent endeavours must
have earned a good few
nicker since the play was
first performed in 1775 at
Covent Garden, and the big
first-night audience at The
People's did not disprove
the theory.

In a play like this, which
turns in ever-decreasing
circles upon a web of
intrigue and mistaken
identity, the plot inevitably
takes a little while to be
spun — during which time

THEATRE

Gordon Russell's pro-
duction, which begins with
the director himself deliver-
ing the prologue, is just a
little slow into its stride, but
the pace gathers quickly.

The admirable Eric Saint
lights blue touch paper as an
extremely deft Sir Anthony
Absolute, whose machi-
nations on behalf of his son
are the essence of the play.
In comic timing and deliv-
ery, it is an irresistible
performance from which the
cast seems to draw strength.

Carol Greenwood's Mrs

Malaprop is just as one
would have her — an over-
painted and over-decorated
pillar of misinformed
haughtiness.

Kevin Joyce's Bob Acres,
Michael Short's Sir Lucius
and Christopher Goulding's
Fag fan the mirth, as does
Paul Carding's dashing and
devious Captain Absolute
and Stephen Noone's aptly
lugubrious Faulkland.

For me Lucy Cullen's
Lydia Languish appears a
little too much the Holly-
wood starlet to fit comfort-
ably into the setting of
Restoration Bath.

DAVID WHETSTONE

**The biggest area, the
largest circulation, the**

most properties that's The