

**CHILDREN'S: The Curse of The
Cobra Crown — Old St Paul's
Church and Hall, Jeffrey Street**

IF THIS is history then give me more — the Big Peach company's presentation of the ancient culture and mythology of Egypt is something else.

With immense enthusiasm and humour they bring to life tales of ambition, deceit, justice and retribution as they chart a power struggle through three generations of gods battling for the crown of Egypt. The presentation, language and hilarious antics are expertly pitched to suit the audience of six to 11-year-olds, immediately involving them in this irristible romp through the private lives of this ambitious rulers.

Tanya Sprong and Michael Weedon, who wrote the script, coped brilliantly with the audience participation, razor sharp ad libs flying with a confidence that surely comes from the sheer enjoyment of entertaining. Even "the violence," an integral part of the true story, is handled with a comic exuberance — whoever heard of a royal family slugging it out with fluffy rabbits, ducks and crocodiles? This show uses the oral tradition of story telling to its fullest potential combining education with good fun — it should be in every classroom

■ Until September 4 NOT Sunday 29,
£3.50 (£2.50) big reductions for block
bookings, 557 6696.

Rating: *****

Pam MacDiarmid