



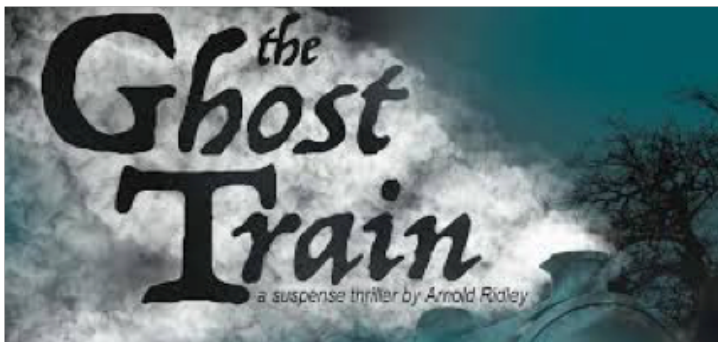
Official Newsletter of
St. Jude's Players inc.
March 2020 - Issue No. 178
Print Post Publication



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Spotlight



The Ghost Train is a theatre comedy suspense thriller, written in 1923 by the English actor and playwright Arnold Ridley.

The story centres upon the social interaction of a group of railway passengers who have been stranded at a remote rural station overnight. They are unable to get a connecting train until the morning but it seems that the stationmaster, Saul Hodgkin, wants them gone for mysterious reasons. He tells them a scary story about a ghost train that passes through every night, hoping he will frighten them enough to send them in search of accommodation

Season – 30th April - 2nd May 7th - 9th May

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF PERFORMANCE TIMES

Evenings at 7.30pm

Saturday 2nd May matinee 2pm and night at 7.30pm

Saturday 9th May – one performance only at 4.30pm

DIRECTOR Patsy Thomas



Patsy has been involved in theatre for over 20 years commencing as a 'green room mother' to help out the local theatre group. As an active member of the Whyalla Players she worked backstage learning many skills including, sound, set design, lighting, properties and eventually moving to stage management and directing.

Moving to Adelaide over 14 years ago, Patsy and her husband Denzel continued their love of theatre by becoming actively involved with several theatre groups mainly as a much 'in demand' stage manager. She has directed musicals and plays, including

Little Shop of Horrors, Grease, Beauty and the Beast, the Wizard of Oz and She Loves Me.

Patsy has cast: Mark Healy, Rose Harvey, Chris Leech, Josh van Padje, Kiara Aimee-Weise, Jenny Allan, Tim Cousins, Leah Lowe, Brian Godfrey, David Rapkin, Denzel Thomas and Eric Offler – some of these are working with us for the first time. This play also presents us with some exciting technical challenges and we are excited to be bringing this classic piece of theatre to our stage. All aboard!!

PLAYWRIGHT Arnold Ridley



Having sustained injuries during World War I, the young Arnold Ridley was forced to give up a budding acting career and turn to writing.

He hit the jackpot with '*The Ghost Train*' which was a great West End success and has been filmed several times. This was followed

by a number of other plays during the 1920s and 1930s. In later life he returned to acting, often as kindly and gentle old man such as his most famous role as Private Godfrey in the BBC comedy series *Dad's Army* from 1968 to 1977. He was awarded an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the Queen's New Year's Honours List of 1982, for services to drama.

PREFERENTIAL POSTAL BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR SUBSCRIBERS (form enclosed).

GENERAL BOOKINGS OPEN 9th APRIL 2020

Telephone: 0436 262 628

On-line: stjudesplayers.asn.au click on book tickets or bookings@stjudesplayers.asn.au

VALE TO LIFE MEMBERS



In addition to losing nonagenarian Life Members Harold Minear and Sybil Woollard.

It is with great sadness that the Players announce the sudden passing of much loved founding and life member, Isabella Norton. Issy has been with the Players for every one of our 70 years. She served on committee in a variety of roles for many of those years and she was our outstanding wardrobe mistress - other groups were envious of us. We were privileged to have this award winning, incredibly skilled actress in our Players family. Issy lived a life worthy of huge celebration and we will farewell our matriarch with sadness but with great joy of her life with us - her theatre family. Vale Issy Norton.

Life Member Max Taylor – Max been involved with the players for many years assisting his wife Rosemary Taylor who was our Membership Officer. He designed the format for management of our Active Members, Actors and Subscriber lists which was of invaluable assistance to the group. Vale Max Taylor

AGM

At the AGM held on the 20th of February chairperson Rosie & secretary Robert Aust stepped down from the committee due to family issues. They received a standing ovation for their long term contribution to the Players.

John Thompson took over the position as chair for the remainder of the current term.

Maria Davis has joined the committee and was appointed to the position of committee secretary. Leigh Wheatley has also joined the existing committee members.

The 2020 Syb Award was presented to Dean Taylor for his dedication to set construction. Dean is pictured here holding his award proudly. With him is set construction coordinator and Life Member Don Oakley

Gavin and Margaret Wood were presented with the St Jude's Players medals for assisting with setting up the chairs for each production for many years. Congratulations to all the winners.

And a special thank you to all our volunteers.



Leigh Wheatley was awarded Life membership for his significant contribution to the Players in the area of sound and lighting.

Guest Speaker, Bronwen James gave an excellent speech topping off an evening of celebrating the wonderful achievements of our 70th anniversary year.

Next Production The **Pig Iron People**

Written by well known political satirist John Doyle and directed by Lesley Reid this will be a South Australian premier of a very funny play.

“Set on a quiet suburban street with not quite enough parking for the residents, The Pig Iron People examines two generations and the way the politics of their time (and the politics of their carparking) have shaped them



Third Production for 2020

GAME PLAN

Directed By **Les Zetlein**

Written By

Sir Alan Ayckbourn CBE FRSA

Teenage Sorrel fights to keep herself and her abandoned mother, once a dot.com businesswoman, financially afloat by setting up as a part-time hooker, advertising for clients on the Internet and persuading her tearful school chum to act as her maid. Just when you wonder what will happen in this terrible situation the play becomes a farce about body disposal, police questioning and media intrusion.

