

THE NEW GARRICK GAZETTE



Garrick Theatre Club Inc. 16 Meadow Street, GUILDFORD WA 6055
PO Box 122, Guildford WA 6935 - www.garricktheatre.asn.au
EDITOR: LYNNE DEVENISH PRINTED BY DOCUPRINT

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OCTOBER

2018

An amateur production by arrangement with Origin™ Theatrical on behalf of Samuel French Inc

The House of Dracula

Comedy Horror

PERFORMANCE DATES
November 29, 30. December 1, 6, 7* (*8pm & Midnight) 8, 12, 13, 14, 15 all @ 8:00pm.
Sunday 2 @ 2:00pm Matinee

Bookings now Open

Directed by
Fred Petersen

Written by
Martin Downing

ADMIT ONE ADULT \$25.00	ADMIT ONE CONCESSION \$22.00	ADMIT ONE MEMBER \$20.00	ADMIT ONE CHILD \$20.00
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GARRICK THEATRE

PROUDLY PRESENTS SEASON FIVE 2018
16 Meadow Street Guildford

BOOKINGS • Ph: 9378 1990 or bookings@garricktheatre.asn.au • www.trybooking.com

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Presidential Ponderings,

Hello all,

Tempus is certainly fugiting and the AGM will be on us before you know it, and furthermore...this is the point where you might start to panic...there are only 9 more weekends to Christmas.

*Rehearsals are well under way for **The House of Dracula** with access to the stage after the close of **Silver Lining**.*

The Dale James directed play about the residents in a retirement home was immensely successful, and the Committee thank all concerned for showing the public how well we do things. I, for one, thoroughly enjoyed it, and we've had some great reviews.

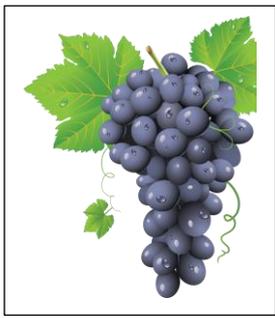
Our Social Media presence has been given a big boost, thanks to the efforts of Rodney.

***THE HOUSE OF DRACULA**...there will be a midnight performance during this season, just like we had for its prequel **The House of Frankenstein**. What a great night that was. Nearly everyone dressed up as spooky characters and turned it into something special. So how about you go and raid the Hallowe'en merchandise that is on the shelves in the stores now, and dress up for whichever performance you come to.*



Take care of each other, Lynne

PRESIDENT/NEWSLETTER/ARCHIVE	LYNNE DEVENISH	0488 906 076	garrickarchives@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT/TAG LIAISON ONE-ACT SEASON CO-ORDINATOR	RODNEY PALMER	0478 410 330	rodpickels@gmail.com
TREASURER	TERRY BROWN	0449 902 500	tbrown@trinity.uwa.edu.au
SECRETARY/BOOKINGS	ELAINE GILBERTHORPE	9378 1990	bookings@garricktheatre.asn.au
MINUTE SECRETARY	BARBARA BROWN	9275 5281	barb.brown@optusnet.com.au
FRONT OF HOUSE & BAR ROSTERS	KERRY GOODE	0439 885 521	kerrygoode@inet.net.au
BAR MANAGER & SUPPLIES	FRED PETERSEN	0438 927 393	fredjean1@bigpond.com
TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR/WEBSITE	EDI BOROSS	0400 599 996	garricktechnical@gmail.com edinaboross@hotmail.com
SOCIAL CONVENOR	YVONNE STARR	0409 112 695	yvones.45@bigpond.com
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR & TEAM MEMBERS	GRAINNE FRIEL COLLEEN BRADFORD	0439 137 109 0414 579 752	grainne.99@hotmail.com colleenbradford@inet.net.au



I heard it on the grapevine

Long time members will know this person. I have it on good authority that Thetis Woods is celebrated her 100th birthday on 17th October. Apparently celebrations started with family down south, and then continued in Perth. Happy Birthday Thetis, many happy memories.

GET WELL

Wishing Gwyne Marshall a speedy recovery from hip surgery.

Ongoing good wishes to Maureen Harvie.

Speedy recovery to Karen Woodcock who is undergoing unexpected surgery. Karen is currently rehearsing House of Dracula.

Ray Egan is also recovering post hip surgery and has been seen hobbling around at rehearsals. He finally threw his cane away the other night.

Alan Shaw and Fiona Forster also sporting injuries at rehearsals. Hmmm... The House of Dracula.....there seems to be a theme going on here.

MILESTONE BADGES

Milestone badges will once again be awarded at the AGM. So please get in touch with me no later than Mon 5th November to register your eligibility. We will not be calling from the floor at the meeting.

We have badges for

10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years, but I will need to order the newly introduced 5year badges.

Email me on garrickarchives@hotmail.com or

Phone 0488 906 076

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

FRIDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2018

REGISTER ATTENDANCE FROM 7:00PM

MEETING COMMENCES AT 7:30PM

THE BAR WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS, AND SUPPER WILL BE SERVED AT THE CLOSE OF PROCEDURES.

ALL ARE WELCOME. IF YOU ARE A NEW MEMBER, COME ALONG AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS.

'Silver Lining' reviewed by Gordon the Optom

by Gordon The Optom September 28, 2018

'Silver Lining' is a delightful comedy on aging from the pen of British-Danish playwright and lawyer, Sandi Toksvig. Sandi is known for her stand-up comedy, radio and especially being the new host of TV's 'QI' – receiving only 40% of Stephen Fry's fee. Not surprisingly she is a joint founder of the Women's Equality Party. The play had its world premiere only 18-months ago at Kingston upon Thames.

This play is written in two genres. The first Act was hilarious, whereas the second Act was quite dark – but still with a blend of humour – as we learnt about each resident's past. This very topical subject of an uncaring old folks' home can be seen at the Garrick Theatre, 16 Meadow Street, in Guildford every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening at 8.00 pm until 13th October. There is one Sunday matinée at 2.00 pm on the 30th September, however, sorry but it is already sold out. Be warned, the weekday evening performances are also selling VERY quickly. The dialogue was a little ripe at times, but appropriate to the situation.

The scene: is the Silver Retirement Home in Gravesend, the weather has just turned foul.

Incidentally, only this week, as though on cue from the script, on the shore at Gravesend, a beluga whale 'Benny' was found there, eating and frolicking in the Thames.

The set: is an impressive lounge room. It was designed and solidly constructed by Keith and Heather Abbott. The room has oak panelling on the walls, with display cabinets built into it. The units contained a fine collection of pottery and china (props by Marion West and Joan Scafe). The rear wall has a patio door with a garden trellis outside. A passage at the back of the room led to the bedrooms, and a pair of scarlet velour curtains concealed the cellar stairs.

Edi Boross and Geoff Holt were responsible for the top rate lighting and sound design, with the operation by Edi Boross and Carlise Kearney. The storm's combined lightning and thunder effects were particularly good, one of the best I have seen. The sitting room lighting had a warm, incandescent glow, and a central five-lamp pendant hung from the ceiling centre.

The trellis seen through the windows had a realistic rippling light effect, as the rain ran down the windows and the sun reflected from the waters surrounding the Home. Clever touch.

Stage managers, Morgan Hyde and Marion West would be doing overtime after the show with the 'special' props.

Amending the words of Bulwer-Lytton slightly, 'It was a dark and stormy morning' outside the Silver Retirement Home in Gravesend. In the second-floor lounge, clutching her torch, is Maureen (Anita Bound, who looked very like UK comedienne, Sue Pollard), recalling her long-gone days in the theatre. Her elderly but most lucid friend, chirpy cockney Gloria (Kerry Goode) feels around in the dark for the light switch, just as a massive flash of lightning illuminates the room. Sitting in their favourite chairs, they query where matron and the staff have gone.

The floods continue rising. The highly religious, but dippy widow, June (Veronica Fourie) wants to go for a swim, but thankfully her acerbic lesbian sister, May (Joan Scafe) bluntly tells her of the impending danger. Donned in a massive black bin bag, Hope (Gail Lusted) an inexperienced, temporary local social worker staggers in to save them.

There is a sudden power failure, and when the lights come back on, a strange young man Jed (Morgan Hyde) is searching for things to loot. A fracas takes place. On searching the house, Hope finds an enigmatic resident, St. Michael (Colleen Hopkins) whose brain ranges from genius to rough sex. With two residents in wheelchairs and no official organised rescue plan, their escape seems doomed. The friends unite and discuss their lost loves, regrets and missed opportunities.

When this play premiered it received poor reviews, for having little humour and poor pace. I expected the worst, but with director Dale James' decades of theatre experience, backed by a group of Perth best – dare I say? – senior female actors, whose ages according (to the Bible) are approaching an expiry of three score years and ten, yet this play just rocked. The wild and mad character of Hope, the social worker, was an ingenious way of lifting the pace and excitement – well done Gail.

There were a couple of laughs a minute in the first Act. There were the odd minor fluffs, but as I can personally confirm, most senior citizens have trouble learning a single person's name; so to learn huge chunks of comic script must have been a **major** challenge for the whole cast. There were dozens of one-liners and raunchy double-entendres, which were perfectly delivered by the pan-faced actors, but being perhaps too subtle, many slipped the audience; one such phrase was 'thank goodness I didn't get a full English breakfast' which calls for a knowledge of such a meal's contents, before being placed in context.

The personalities of the very different characters were captured perfectly, with expressions and mannerisms that will bring a broad grin. Superb team work. Sadly 'Gravesend' is the ideal place for this 'end of life' play.

SEASONS FOR 2019

SEASON 1

SALONIKA

by LOUISE PAGE

Director RAY OMODEI

FEB 28 MAR 1,2,3*, 7,8,9,10*,13,14,15,16. 16

Salonika: Elderly mother and daughter on a beach, and in a nearby war cemetery is the grave of the husband and father, a soldier with the British Expeditionary Force who died in 1918. Will this visit to Salonika help them to lay his ghost at last; or will the dead past hold its grip? And what of the future offered by others on the beach?

SEASON 2

STAR QUALITY by NOEL COWARD

Director LYNNE DEVENISH

MAY 2,3,4,5*,9,10,11,12*,15,16,17,18.

In Coward's last wickedly funny play he takes us behind the scenes of a new West End production. Conjuring up an authentic backstage world of talent and treachery, Coward creates a gallery of unforgettable characters: temperamental leading lady, ruthless director, jaded old troupers and, caught somewhere between them all, an innocent young playwright. From tentative first rehearsal to triumphant opening night, the clash of egos becomes increasingly and hilariously bloody. But what emerges from the mayhem is a startling evocation of that most elusive gift of all – star quality.

SEASON 3

POPCORN

by BEN ELTON

Director SIOBHAN VINCENT

JULY 4,5,6,7*,11,12,13,14*,17,18,19, 20.

Slick and fast, this dark comedy poses a question that is ever topical for a contemporary society desperately trying to chart its path through the minefield of technology - the internet, television, online gaming and film, where violence and sexual themes are commonplace ; What is the effect these actually have on young or vulnerable minds? What happens when the Director of these films comes face to face with the product – and how does he deal with the devil he has created.

In an era of CGI, superheroes, uncensored violence and “Me Too”, *Popcorn* is a satirical comedy thriller with the firepower of a hit squad.

AUGUST

SHORT TAG SEASON TO BE CONFIRMED

SEASON 4

THE CLUB

by DAVID WILLIAMSON Director ANDREW WATSON

Sept 26,27,28,29*, Oct 3,4,5,6*,9,10,11,12.

Williamson's famous play about the uses and abuses of managerial power, which in 1976 foreshadowed the great changes that Australian football has since endured, proves even more prescient since the rise and fall of Super League. This is a play set behind the scenes, a head-on tackle of brawn versus bureaucracy.

SEASON 5

ON OUR SELECTION

based on Steele Rudd's tales of Dad & Dave

Director SIOBHAN VINCENT Choreographer KERRY GOODE

Nov 28,29,30, Dec 1*,5,6,7,8*,11,12,13,14.

A play with music, *On Our Selection* follows the trials of Dad Rudd in his fight to beat drought, fire and flood alongside the perpetual struggle against the greedy but influential John Carey. One of Australia's most loved folk plays, the classic story of the bush battler and his foray into politics will continue to live on, in the hearts of Australians, long into the future.

Asterix * denote 2pm matinees.

GARRICK THEATRE CLUB INC

Nominations for management Committee received as of 19th October 2018

PRESIDENT

LYNNE DEVENISH

VICE PRESIDENT

RODNEY STICKELS-PALMER

SECRETARY

ELAINE GILBERTHORPE

TREASURER

TERRY BROWN

COMMITTEE

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GRAINNE FRIEL
ELAINE GILBERTHORPE
KERRY GOODE
GEOFF HOLT
YVONNE STAR
RODNEY STICKELS-PALMER**

You need three things in the theatre -- the play, the actors and the audience, and each must give something.... *Kenneth Haigh*

The difference between a theatre with and without an audience is enormous. There is a palpable, critical energy created by the presence of the audience.... *Andy Goldsworthy*

AUDITION NOTICE

CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

SEASON 2 – 2019. **“STAR QUALITY” by NOEL COWARD, ADAPTED BY CHRISTOPHER LUSCOMBE.**

DIRECTOR LYNNE DEVENISH

Set in London, Kent and Manchester during the summer of 1951.

In Coward’s last wickedly funny play he takes us behind the scenes of a new West End production. Conjuring up an authentic backstage world of talent and treachery, Coward creates a gallery of unforgettable characters: temperamental leading lady, ruthless director, jaded old troupers and, caught somewhere between them all, an innocent young playwright.

From tentative first rehearsal to triumphant opening night, the clash of egos becomes increasingly and hilariously bloody. But what emerges from the mayhem is a startling evocation of that most elusive gift of all – star quality.

PERFORMANCE DATES

MAY 2,3,4,5,9,10,11,12,15,16,17,18

CAST REQUIRED

BRYAN SNOW	<i>Author of Dark Heritage. Late 20’s plus</i>
RAY MALCOLM	<i>Director of Dark Heritage. Late 30’s plus</i>
NORA MITCHELL	<i>Lorraine Barrie’s maid-cum-dresser. Laconic woman of a certain age.</i>
LORRAINE BARRIE	<i>Eleanor in Dark Heritage. Attractive woman in late 50’s, unmistakably a star.</i>
ERIC LARCH	<i>Aubrey in Dark Heritage. Good looking late 20’s.</i>
MARION BLAKE	<i>Stella in Dark Heritage. 50’s. Over does the makeup.</i>
GERALD WENTWORTH	<i>Mortimer in Dark Heritage. 50’s Distinguished leading man.</i>
TONY ORFORD	<i>Ray Malcolm’s personal assistant. Younger than Ray, sharp eye, even sharper tongue.</i>
*HARRY THORNTON	<i>Stage Manager. (Non-speaking)</i>
*BERYL FLETCHER	<i>Assistant Stage Manager. (Non-speaking)</i>
*BOB DEACON	<i>Assistant Stage Manager. (Non-speaking)</i>
*LAURA WITBY	<i>Elise in Dark Heritage. (Non-speaking)</i>

* These roles are non-speaking and involve moving of props and furniture and can be played by the real stage management crew. So, if you want to work backstage and get the feel of being on stage at the same time this is your opportunity.

PLEASE CONTACT DIRECTOR LYNNE DEVENISH FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST. Auditions to be held towards the latter end of November.

Email with Star Quality in the subject line to garrickarchives@hotmail.com

or phone 0488 906 076

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Garrick Gazette**

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AUSTRALIA**

THE HOUSE OF DRACULA

NOV 29th 30th DEC 1st 6th 7th (*two performances 8pm & 12midnight)

8th 12th 13th 14th 15th all at 8pm

Dec 2nd Matinee @ 2pm

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN on-line through www.trybooking.com

Or for the personal touch PHONE ELAINE on 9378 1990

or email bookings@garricktheatre.asn.au

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018 FRI 9th NOVEMBER

SEASON 5 THE HOUSE OF DRACULA – Written by Martin Downing & Directed by Fred Petersen
November 29,30. December 1,6,7>(*8pm & Midnight),8,12,13,14,15 all @ 8:00pm.
Sun 2 @ 2:00pm Matinee, Sat 7* @ Midnight

2019

GARRICK ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT - SATURDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2019

SEASON 1 “SALONIKA” Written by Louise Page & Directed by Ray Omodei
February 28th to Mar 16th

SEASON 2 “STAR QUALITY” – written by Noel Coward & Directed by Lynne Devenish
May 2nd to 18th