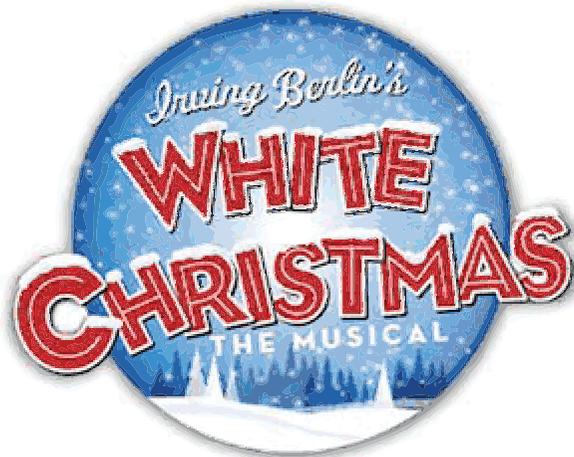


BEHIND THE SCENES

Stage Manager	Anshu Podar
Set Design	Franck Dance, Anne & Robin Ross
Set Construction	Franck Dance, Morris Thorn, Ken Stuart, Robin Ross
Decor	Anne Ross
Lighting Design	David Gemmell
Special Effects	David Gemmell
Costumes	Linda Hammond, Anne Ross and cast
Lighting/Sound	David Gemmell
Lighting	Joanne Sephton
Stage Crew	Gary Suthers, Franck Dance
Photography	Kayleen Gibson
Program	Chris O'Leary
Front of House	Our volunteer staff



Based upon the Paramount Pictures film
written for the screen by Norman Krasna, Norman Panama and Melvin Frank

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY IRVING BERLIN

BOOK BY DAVID IVES AND PAUL BLAKE

Original stage production directed by WALTER BOBBIE

Orchestrations Larry Blank Vocal and Dance Arrangements Bruce Pomahac

by arrangement with Origin Theatrical on behalf of R&H Theatricals

Directed by Carolyn Kinniburgh

16 November to 1 December Box Office opens 20 October

SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP PRESENTS

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DOMINIE PTY LTD

31 AUGUST -
15 SEPTEMBER 2012



Agatha Christie

**THE
MURDER
MISTERY
TRAP**

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The opportunity to direct Agatha Christie's famous play in its 60th Anniversary year is a tremendous thrill. It opened in London in 1952 & has been running continuously ever since. It began life as a short radio play for the BBC called Three Blind Mice on the 30th May 1947 & Agatha Christie based it on the real life death of a young boy in foster care. Apart from its legendary run the play has also made history by having an original cast member survive all the changes made since its opening. The late Deryck Guyler, our President's esteemed father, is still heard via a recording reading the BBC news bulletins nightly & we are very privileged to have obtained this recording to use in our production. Without giving too much away this is an old fashioned "who done it" murder mystery set in a brutal snowstorm in Cornwall. A murder has taken place in London, a woman is dead & the diverse characters trapped in the house by the snow learn that the murderer is one of them, but WHO? Luckily Detective Sergeant Trotter happens to be trapped with them & they feel safe as he begins his investigation or are they?. All that is left is for you to sit back & enjoy my wonderful & talented cast bring Agatha Christie's iconic play to life.

Many thanks to all our unsung heroes, by this I mean all the dedicated, hard working people who work behind the scenes. A special thanks must go to my Assistant Director Franck Dance, Robin Ross, David Gemmell, Chris Guyler & Anshu Podar who have tirelessly given of their time and their many diverse talents to help me bring this amazing play to life. I am sure my cast would join with me in saying, "Well done, we couldn't have done it without you".

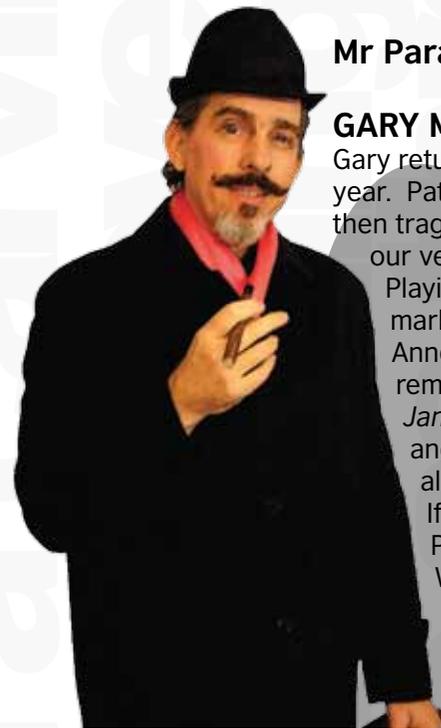
Director - ANNE ROSS



Since appearing on stage at the age of 4, Anne has had many years experience in live theatre initially as a ballet dancer with Ballet Victoria. She then went on to appear in over 35 musicals as well as TV dramas, films & cabaret shows in Melbourne. She has a keen interest in set design & costumes & has won many awards, among them the prestigious 1st. prize for set design at Ballarat's South St Eisteddfod.

Since 1989 Anne has appeared in over 25 S.T.G. productions including such favorites as *Stepping Out*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, and *The Reluctant Debutante*. For the last 16 years she has turned her many talents to directing our hugely successful musical comedies as well as Noel Coward's delightful *Blithe Spirit*, the timeless British comedy *When We Are Married*, the classic mystery *Rebecca*, the hilarious *Arsenic & Old Lace* as well as the musical *The Little Shop of Horrors*.

Mr Paravicini



GARY McEWEN

Gary returns to our stage for the second time this year. Patrons will remember him as the comic, then tragic and ultimately redeemed Sam Blaine in our very successful drama *Suddenly At Home*. Playing Mr Paravicini in *The Mousetrap* also marks his return under the directorship of Anne Ross. Long time patrons may remember him as Wild Bill Hickok in *Calamity Jane*, Chief Sitting Bull in *Annie Get Your Gun* and in various (dis)guises in *Call Me Madam*, all directed by Anne.

If asked, we are sure Gary would rank Mr Paravicini among his most favoured roles. What actor wouldn't like to play such a delightfully loopy cad?

Delishoos!!

Sergeant Trotter

MARK SCOTT

A drama graduate from UQ, where he performed in *Spring Awakening*, *The Days of the Commune* and Woody Allen's *God*. Mark first came to STG for *A Man For All Seasons* and stayed for *Catch 22*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *No Sex Please We're British*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Farndale Macbeth*, *Funny Money*, *Silhouette* and *Noises Off*. Other triumphs include *The Boys Next Door*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Sylvia*, *Rope*, *Hay Fever* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

He has twice played three roles in *Comedy of Errors* and *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* and once played seven characters in *Bullshot Crummond*. His favourite roles to date have been the naughty warlock, Nicky, in *Bell, Book and Candle* and Teddy in last year's *Arsenic and Old Lace* at STG. Mark played the Verger in the Australian and New Zealand tours of *Dad's Army*.

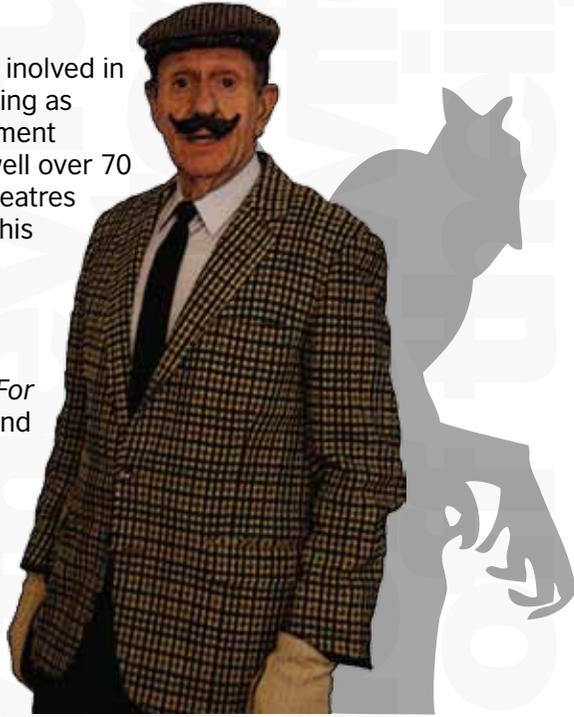


Major Metcalf

CHRIS GUYLER

Chris, originally from the UK, has been involved in theatre from an early age. Not surprising as both his parents were in the entertainment industry! Chris has been involved in well over 70 productions, acting and directing in theatres all over the world. Australia has been his home since 1974 and since arriving in Brisbane over twenty years ago he's played many leading roles. Here at Sunnybank we've seen him in both comedy and drama including *Anyone For Breakfast*, *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* and *Witness for the Prosecution*.

Chris also enjoys directing with a long list of directorial credits to his name including *Desperate Hours*, *Out of Order* and *Trap for a Lonely Man* here at STG. *The Mousetrap* has been a great love of his for many years and Chris is delighted to join this talented cast in the role of Major Metcalf.



Assistant Director - **FRANCK DANCE**



Franck joined STG in May of 2009 and has been actively involved in set construction, back stage on stage and renovation work and maintenance. He is a qualified carpenter and he has brought with him his extensive knowledge in construction to help build and design numerous sets for the theatre. Franck's interest in music started at the age of 14 where he learnt drums and subsequently played with many bands. Playing Jazz through to contemporary rock. This is also where he learnt about setup and operation of lighting desks, sound mixers, microphones and recordings. He is now proud to be assistant director in the iconic play *The Mousetrap*.

Synopsis of Scene

The Great Hall at Monkswell Manor - 1952

ACT 1

Scene 1 - Late afternoon

Scene 2 - the following day after lunch

ACT 2

Ten minutes later

Please note that smoking takes place in the play. Where possible we are using electronic cigarettes that emit harmless water vapour, however herbal tobacco is also in use.

Herbal tobacco is non-carcinogenic and harmless but does have a slight scent

Please be assured that we have our patrons best interests in mind at all times.

Miss Casewell

WENDY JOHN

As a child Wendy was impressed with both Scooby Doo's sleuthing and Magnum PI's ability to solve a murder in under an hour. Although Wendy's TV viewing never really advanced past that standard she ups the ante by taking on Agatha Christie's role of Miss Casewell with much delight. Nominated for Best Supporting Actress in Gold Coast Theatre Awards 2001 playing Stella in *Streetcar Named Desire*, Wendy has, in the past, taken to the stage for P&O Cruise Lines, Its a Knock Out Events UK and in Brisbane productions including *Stepping Out* (Logan City Theatre Co), *Me and My Girl* (St Luke's Theatre Society) and *Anyone for Breakfast* (Centenary Theatre).

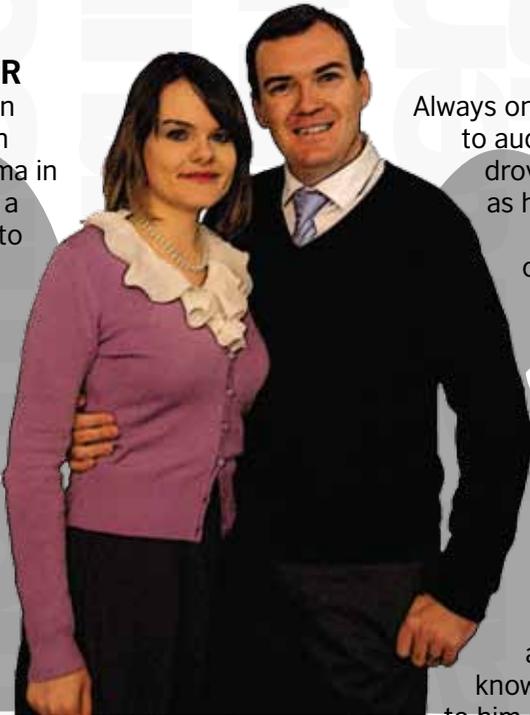


Mollie Ralston

BIANCA BUTLER

After placing first in Queensland in high school Senior Drama in 2006, Bianca took a break from acting to pursue a creative writing degree. Realising she didn't really want to be a novelist after all, she turned her attention to playwriting winning Queensland Theatre Company's Young Playwrights Program in 2010 and being shortlisted in PlayWriting Australia's 2012 National Play Festival.

The acting bug bit back however and earlier this year Bianca braved an open audition at Sunnybank Theatre. She was cast as the au-pair, Ruth, in *Suddenly At Home* and is honoured to be tramping the boards at Sunnybank once again in this production of *The Mousetrap*. Bianca recognises a great deal of herself in Mollie Ralston, but has no immediate plans to open a guest house.



Giles Ralston

SCOTT WARD

Always on Scott's bucket list to audition for a play, he drove past the theatre as he grew up wishing he had the confidence to have a go. After seeing the notice for *The Mousetrap* and discussing it with his supportive wife, he finally was prepared to make a fool of himself, cross it off the list and never speak of it again. Little did he know that it would lead to him scoring the part of Giles Ralston, gaining another wife and running a guest house in 1952. Scott is thrilled to be a part of such an amazing production alongside an incredible cast. He wishes to thank Anne for teaching him to use his 'inside voice' in the theatre and his Year 5 students at JPC for their endless encouragement.



Voice of the BBC
DERYCK GUYLER

Christopher Wren

JOHN ARNOLD

John Arnold's first role was Puck in *A Midsummer's Night Dream*: he was ten and helping his older sister prepare for her role in a La Boite production. Memorably, his first onstage role was as Cecily in an all-male version of *The Importance of Being Ernest*. Regrettably, there is extant photographic evidence of this production. He recently played Mr Memory and Professor Bartlett in a St Luke's production of *The Thirty-Nine Steps*. He works as an editor and has recently published his first short story in the UK. John is married and has a son.



Mrs Boyle

DOREEN OMIROS

As a student Doreen attended the Conservatorium of NSW studying music and singing. She won the prestigious Joan Bonamy Scholarship Award and studied contemporary ballet and folk dancing. She has performed both professionally and non-professionally appearing in countless musicals and operettas. Doreen's first appearance at STG was as Aunt Martha in *Arsenic and Old Lace* (2011) and she is pleased to be back on stage in this iconic Christie thriller.

