

# WHODUNIT?

## On the case with Agatha Christie murder-mystery!

A CLASSIC Agatha Christie whodunit is set to deliver a web of intrigue for the Old Mill Theatre's first season of the year.

Directed by Joan Scafe, *The Unexpected Guest* follows a stranger lost in fog, who seeks refuge in a nearby house – only to find a man shot dead and his wife standing over him with a smoking gun.

But the woman's dazed confession is anything but convincing so the unexpected guest decides to help.

Police clues point to a man who died two years previously but, as the ghosts of a past wrong begin to emerge, a tangled web of lies reveals family secrets and chilling motives where the real murderer turns out to be the greatest mystery of all.

"Agatha Christie wrote numerous 'whodunit' plays and this is no exception," Joan said.

"It's a play from the 1950s and remains in that era so there's no trying to modernise it.

"It's been some years since I was on stage at the Old Mill Theatre, so my first challenge has been finding my way around.

"I have directed one cast member before while the others I need to work with, getting down to the detail as I see it.

"It's imperative the cast's work away from rehearsals, such as getting their scripts down, gives us plenty of time to polish the show."

Initially performing while at school in the UK, Joan has more than 40 years' theatre experience in WA after she first took to the stage in a Murdoch University production of *The Bacchae* at Dolphin Theatre in 1977.

She appeared in Melville Theatre's inaugural show *Not Now Darling* in 1982 and has appeared in a plethora of plays since – and was nominated for best actress for her role in *Three Tall Women* at the 2009 Finley Awards.

A dual role in the *Queen and I* also earned Joan an award from Playlovers with many people not realising she was playing Princess Margaret as well as a neighbour in slippers and curlers with a cigarette in her mouth.

More recently, she has appeared in *Calendar Girls* at Stirling Theatre and *On Golden Pond* at Harbour Theatre while also directing several shows at Melville Theatre,



Whodunit? Find out in Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest* with Kit Leake, left, Jeremy Smith, Ryan Perrin, Wayne Cant and Praveen Hooda, at back, Jackie Oates, Sian Burgess and Davilia O'Connor, at front, and Charlie Young, sitting.

where she is a life member and past president.

"*The Unexpected Guest* came my way under unusual circumstances," Joan said.

"The Old Mill needed a director at short notice because the play was already programmed, so I said I'd step into the breach!

"I had never read it and had to get auditions done as soon as possible – but with seven roles for men, I was concerned.

"Men are usually in short supply at auditions but we made it and the play was fully cast."

Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest* plays at 7.30pm February 23, 24, March 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 with 2pm matinees February 25 and March 4.

**Tickets are \$25, \$20 concession – book at <http://oldmilltheatre.com.au/tickets> or call 0475 895 701.**



# Membership reminder... chop, chop, get to it!



## OLD MILL THEATRE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2018

PO Box 1390, South Perth WA 6951  
p: 08 9367-8719 e: oldmilltheatre@inet.net.au  
w: www.oldmilltheatre.com.au

Please **PRINT** legibly and clearly.  
Please place an X in the appropriate boxes on this form if required.

**Membership:** New  Renewal  **Newsletter:** Email  Hardcopy

SURNAME: ..... GIVEN NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

SUBURB: ..... POST CODE: .....

PHONE: (HM) ..... (M) .....

EMAIL: .....

**Membership Type:**

- Friends of OMT \$12.00 per year (Newsletter only)
- Single Membership \$20.00 per year
- Double Membership \$30.00 per year (2 people in a family)
- Family Membership \$30.00 per year (up to 4 people in a family)

**Active** membership entitles you to act, direct, vote and be an active member of the theatre.  
**Friends** membership is just to keep you informed about the theatre with our newsletter.

**The areas that I am interested in are:**

- Audience  Performing  Directing
- Choreography  Stage Management  Backstage
- Set Design/Construction  Costume Design/Wardrobe  Lighting/Sound
- Box Office  Front of House  Other .....

**Payment Type:**

**Bank transfer:** Westpac BSB: 036 308 Acc: 300565 Acc Name : The Old Mill Theatre.

**Cheques :** Make payable to **Old Mill Theatre** and sent with this completed form to:  
The Secretary - Old Mill Theatre. PO Box 1390, South Perth WA 6951.

**Credit card:**  Visa  MasterCard

Name on Card: .....

Card Number: ..... Exp: ..... CVV: .....

Signed: ..... Date: .....

**Office Use Only:**

Date received ..... Amount ..... Cheque / Credit card  
Category ..... Membership register updated (Yes / No)



Remember to check us out on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!



# Milly Awards: winners



**Best Production:** *Design For Living*  
**Best Director:** Barry Park, *Design For Living*  
**Best Stage Manager:** Glynis Best  
**Best Set:** *Design For Living*  
**Best Costumes:** *Design For Living*  
**Best Actress:** Nyree Hughes, *Design For Living*  
**Best Actor:** Oliver Kaiser, *Cloudstreet*  
**Best Supporting Actress:** Madelaine Jones, *Cloudstreet*  
**Best Supporting Actor:** Steven Hounsome, *Fat Pig*  
**Adjudicators' Achievement Award (Memorable Milly):** Briana Dunn (for a fearless and sensitive performance)  
**Silly Milly Award:** Sarah Christiner (for the night the lights betrayed her on *Cloudstreet* - despite the fact she was doing sound?)  
**Member of the Year:** Sheila Wileman  
**Old Mill Theatre Life Member:** Madelaine Rennie

**OLD MIL THEATRE BOARD CERTIFICATES**  
**Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre** - Set Construction: Greg Aylmore  
**Outstanding Support to External Productions** - Lighting: John Woolrych  
**Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre** - Milly Awards: Vanessa Jensen  
**ADJUDICATORS' CERTIFICATES**  
**Outstanding Ensemble Work:** The Phone Girls (*Cloudstreet*)  
**Outstanding Comedy Performance:** Julie Holmshaw (*Design For Living*)  
**Simple but Beautiful Atmospheric Staging:** *Cloudstreet*  
**Achievement in Design:** Nelson Clemente (*Fat Pig*)  
**Suffering for One's Art:** Phil Barnett (*Cloudstreet*)  
**Outstanding Achievement in Direction:** Brendan Ellis (*Cloudstreet*)  
**Adjudicators:** Jarrod Buttery, Meredith Hunter and Vanessa Jensen  
**Photos:** Paul Cook

## WHAT'S ON ELSEWHERE?

**4x4x4**  
 The Actors' Hub, East Perth



Four men performing four shows across four weeks. 7pm Thurs-Sun until Feb 25  
[www.fringeworld.com.au](http://www.fringeworld.com.au)

**VENUS IN FUR**  
 Melville Theatre



Lines are blurred between fantasy and reality at an audition. 8pm Feb 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, March 1, 2 & 3; 2pm Feb 25  
[www.meltheco.org.au](http://www.meltheco.org.au)

**MARBLE**  
 Marloo Theatre, Greenmount



While you were dreaming of him, he was dreaming of you... 8pm Feb 23, 24, 28, Mar 2, 3, 7, 9 & 10; 2pm Feb 25 & Mar 4  
[www.marloothatre.com.au](http://www.marloothatre.com.au)

**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**  
 Limelight Theatre, Wanneroo



Considered to be one of the 20th century's greatest plays. 8pm March 8, 9, 10, 14, 15 & 16; 2pm March 11  
[www.limelighttheatre.com.au](http://www.limelighttheatre.com.au)

**ROBIN HOOD: THE TRUTH BEHIND THE GREEN TIGHTS**  
 Roleystone Theatre



A foolishly funny twist on the classic tale. 8pm March 9 & 16; 2pm March 10 & 17  
[www.roleystonetheatre.com.au](http://www.roleystonetheatre.com.au)

# Coming soon: **CAMELOT**



LERNER and Loewe's majestic squire who becomes King after extracting *Camelot* brings the legend of the sword Excalibur from its legendary King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table to life at the Old Mill this autumn.

It was adapted into a film starring Richard Harris as King Arthur and Vanessa Redgrave as Guenevere.

The musical, directed by Neroli Sweetman, has an extraordinary score and a story that poignantly dramatises the human conflict at the heart of this classic tale.

Based on TH White's novel *The Once and Future King*, *Camelot* - winner of four Tony Awards - runs from April 27 to May 12. Visit [www.oldmilltheatre.com.au](http://www.oldmilltheatre.com.au) for updates.

The Old Mill Times  
PO Box 1390  
South Perth WA 6951

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## 7.30pm!



PLEASE note: weeknight and Saturday night performances of all official Old Mill Theatre productions now start at \*\*\*7.30pm\*\*\*. The matinee start time remains at 2pm. Outside companies hiring the theatre may have different start times so please ensure you check with them before coming to the theatre.

## Old Mill Theatre Board of Management



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