

Camperdown Theatre Company
presents

MYSTERY
at
Shady Acres



May 2021



Welcome to Mystery at Shady Acres

This performance is presented in 2 acts, with a 20 minute interval.

If any character from the hotel approaches you, please humour them by responding in any way you know how.

Keep an eye out for everyone's actions in Act 1
and take notes on your Informant Tip Sheet.

You'll have a chance to ask some questions at the end of Act 1.
Discuss with your table and **circle who you think the thief is**
on your Tip Sheet by the end of interval.

Please remain seated during the acts.

The bar will be open before the show, during interval and for a brief period after the show. Contactless payment is available.

♦ Bottled Water: \$1 ♦ Sparkling Water: \$2
♦ Soft Drink: \$3 ♦ Beers: \$5 ♦ Wines: \$6 ♦ Sparkling: \$6

This is a CovidSafe community event. Please observe signage.

MYSTERY AT SHADY ACRES - A Mystery Comedy by Michelle R. Davis
Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado



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Same old story. Boy doesn't meet Girl. Girl doesn't meet Boy. Threatened by terrifying Lads Gang. Threatened by awe-inspiring Girls Gang. Mum and Dad have declared war... against each other. Weird neighbour in the building opposite. Usual ordinary gloominess. Then, one day, it snows. Everything changes.



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Simon Pollard Ph: 0428 931 909 sarahsimonpollard@bigpond.com

President/Producer

A little over a year ago the committee made the very difficult decision to cancel our production of 'Little Shop of Horrors', later in the same week this proved to be right choice as things started to get a little bit crazy.

So, after a very long and quiet year we are excited to be here once again presenting live theatre to our local community and we are incredibly grateful to you all for coming along to support us. Welcome back to the Theatre Royal.

This year we are blessed to have Toby and Jo combining their directorial skills to bring us "Mystery at Shady Acres". This is a fun show, where I hope you will enjoy getting involved to help us to solve the 'mystery'.

Our directors have been working with a talented cast of both new and familiar faces who have spent many hours learning lines and rehearsing to create the show that you see here tonight. Of course, we could not do it without Tony and Harrison, our amazing technical team, and the many skills of Briony and Jenny our costume ladies who help to make the theatre magic happen.

Thanks also go to the wonderful people who give their time to work backstage, front of house and behind the bar, who are working hard to ensure that you all have a great night, this year with the additional task of ensuring that we work within the guidelines of a CovidSafe event.

We are very lucky to have many wonderful local businesses who continue to support us despite the challenges that they faced in 2020. Kim and the teams at Laffs have now been looking after our box office for 10 years, words cannot express how grateful we are to have such never ending support and enthusiasm for all things theatrical xx

Please sit back and enjoy the show, we would love you to help us out by making use of the pens and paper supplied to take some notes and maybe you will be able to work out who the guilty person is.

— Sue Place



Sue
Place



Let the drama begin! !! Congratulations to Camperdown Theatre Co. on creating another wonderful community event that nurtures opportunities for local talent. Best wishes from the Madden Family and Hotel Staff.

Directors



Jo
Van Leerdam

Following her performances in **Spamalot** (2019), **Cafe Murder** (2018) and **Shaz and Nick's** (2016), as well as recently beginning **Little Shop of Horrors** as director, we welcome Jo back to CTC. Jo has extensive experience directing shows at King's College in Warrnambool where she works as a teacher, and is also an established author with several published works.

Notes:

It has been exciting to revive theatre in Camperdown after COVID, and an enormous privilege to do it in the company of so many talented people: actors, set designers and builders, backstage crew, costumers, hair and makeup artists, technical support people and front-of-house team who have all contributed in different ways to the task of bringing this show to life. I am thankful to each of them for their professionalism, dedication and hard work in putting this show on the stage, particularly my co-director Toby McKenzie and our producer, Sue Place.

It has been wonderful to see our actors, some of whom are making their acting debut in this show, taking on their characters and developing their roles. It has been encouraging to see more experienced actors mentoring those who are newer to the stage, and to see the cast as a whole bonding and working as a cohesive team.

I have been enormously encouraged by the commitment and effort of everyone involved in this show, but I extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of our leadership team, cast and crew, and to the audiences who have responded so enthusiastically to the return of theatre in Camperdown.

I trust that you enjoy the show.

— Jo Van Leerdam

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Best wishes to the cast and crew

- Newspapers and Magazines
- Stationery and Office Supplies
- Tatts Lottery and Scratchies
- Greeting cards
- Locally produced milk



Directors

This is Toby's 10th production with Camperdown Theatre Company (plus 2 Carols events), and follows his involvement in shows including **Spamalot** (2019), **South Pacific** (2018), **Café Murder** (2018), **Seussical** (2017), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016) and more. Toby has also been involved in several productions with Holiday Actors and Warnambool Theatre Company as well as Red Door in Colac.



**Toby
McKenzie**

Notes:

Welcome everyone to our 2021 production of *Mystery at Shady Acres*!

We have worked very hard for many months to create a show that shares the talents of our wonderful Company.

It has been quite the rollercoaster for us all recently, and I am very excited and grateful that we are able to stage a show again in our beautiful theatre.

I would like to thank my co-director Jo for her commitment to the show and for being a great sounding board for ideas throughout the process.

Thank you also to Sue, who has ably led all departments towards our goal.

Our wonderful cast have embraced this experience so well and I thank them all for their enthusiasm in bringing this show to life. It has been a great journey working with such a great team and many new friendships have been made.

To the dedicated teams behind the scenes in sets, costumes, lighting, sound, backstage, makeup, front of house and committee. Thank you one and all, the show looks fantastic. Such dedication and commitment has really been the backbone of the show and it has once again a pleasure to work with everyone.

To our wonderful audience, thank you for supporting our show. It has been a thrill to see that everyone has been so keen for theatre to return.

Thank you to my beautiful wife Nikki and the rest of my family for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Enjoy the show!

– Toby McKenzie



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***Congratulations
to the
Cast and Crew***

Cast



Warren Easley as *Edward Fairfax*

We welcome Warren back to his first role on-stage with CTC, following his performances in the orchestras of **Spamalot** (2019) and **Seussical** (2017). Warren has also been in shows with Holiday Actors and Warrnambool Theatre Company, including **Les Miserables** (2019) as well as Port Fairy Theatre Group, including **My Inlaws are Outlaws** (2019) and **The Vicar of Dibley** (2017) and many more.

Warren has enjoyed the opportunity to share an experience with a fresh set of faces. He would like to thank CTC for sharing the love.



Rachel Hall as *Blanche Fairfax*

Mystery at Shady Acres is the latest of many shows Rachel has been involved in, having performed in **Spamalot** (2019) as The Lady of the Lake, **South Pacific** (2018) as Bloody Mary, **Cafe Murder** (2018) as Melanie, **Seussical** (2017) as Sour Kangaroo and **Hairspray** (2013) as Velma Von Tussle. Rachel has enjoyed working with new people during rehearsals, and being a snobby rich person is fun too!

Rachel would like to thank Toby and Jo for this great opportunity and her Mum and Dad for babysitting her 4 beautiful children.



Jeremy Lee as *Henry Clifford*

This is Jeremy's debut with CTC, and follows his on-stage experience with Warrnambool Theatre Company including **A Toast to Melba** (2018) and **Cabaret at the Convent** (2018). He was also involved in **Voices from the Fields** (2018) with Dogs Dinner Productions.

Jeremy has enjoyed parading around and being objectionable.

He would like to thank the Camperdown Theatre Company for allowing him to indulge his dodgy acting. He works as a breakfast radio presenter for ABC Warrnambool.



Pauline Van Dijk as *Nigella*

We welcome Pauline back to the CTC stage as our newest Life Member. She has recently been involved in **Spamalot** (2019), **Seussical** (2017), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016) and many other productions with us since 1993. She has also been in Colac Players and Timboon Theatre Group productions.

Pauline has enjoyed playing with lines, props, costumes and timing and would like to thank her faithful supporter - her delightful husband, Corrie, for encouraging her theatrical efforts.

Cast



Robyn Vale as *Chief Deborah Wickfield*

Robyn returns to the CTC stage for the 5th time, following her performances in **Cafe Murder** (2018), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016), **The Addams Family** (2015) and **Joseph** (2014). Robyn has also performed in many shows with the Timboon Theatre Group and The Fabulous Wannabees. She has enjoyed the discipline of learning lines again and being in a room with lots of people. Robyn would like to thank Toby, Jo, Sue, Tony and all the other mad people with energy to make this show happen and gift everyone the delight of being on-stage again.



Michael Saunders as *Sergeant Farley O'Doyle*

We welcome Michael back to the stage following several performances with us, including as King Arthur in **Spamalot** (2019), Gomez Addams in **The Addams Family** (2015), Reuben in **Joseph** (2014) and many more with CTC and Wycheproof Theatre Co. Mick has enjoyed channelling Monty Python for his Yorkshire accent (and if you try and tell the young people of today that, they won't believe you!). He would like to thank his family and friends who are such great supporters of the CTC over many years. Michael works as a Prep teacher at St Patrick's in Camperdown.



Toby McKenzie as *Sergeant Farley O'Doyle (alt)*

This is Toby's 10th production with CTC, following his involvement in shows including **Spamalot** (2019), **South Pacific** (2018), **Café Murder** (2018), **Seussical** (2017), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016), **The Addams Family** (2015), **Joseph** (2014) and more. Toby has also been involved with Holiday Actors, HA/WTC and Red Door productions over the years, including as Jean Valjean in **Les Miserables** (2019) with HA/WTC. He has enjoyed working with a fantastic team and would like to thank his wife Nikki for her support and everyone in the cast, crew and audience for supporting local theatre.



Peter Gstrein as *Detective Philip Thornton*

Peter returns to the Camperdown Theatre Company after several performances with us, including **Spamalot** (2019) **Cafe Murder** (2018), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016), **Jack and His Amazing Multi-Coloured Beanstalk** (2013), **Dimboola** (2012) and several other shows including **Godspell** (2011), **Barney's Fair** (2003) and **Annie** (1999). Peter has enjoyed being part of this interesting 'whodunnit' with some unexpected twists. He would like to thank his family for their patience, Toby and Jo for their passion and the cast for putting up with him!

Cast



Laura McKenzie as Audrey Rochester

Camperdown Theatre Company welcomes Laura back to the stage for her second show with us, following her performance in **Spamalot** (2019). During rehearsals, Laura has enjoyed letting out her inner diva and hanging out with people putting on a show after the craziness of last year. She would like to thank everyone in the audience for coming along to support local theatre.

Laura works as a primary teacher in Warrnambool. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Laurie Hickey as Mr X and Chef Heimlich

Laurie returns to the Company following several performances with us over many years, including **Spamalot** (2019), **South Pacific** (2018), **Shaz and Nick's** (2016), **Dimboola** (2012), **Annie** (1999), **50 Years at the Footlights** (1998) and **And the Big Men Fly** (1998).

Laurie has enjoyed being a part of this show, with meeting new people during rehearsals a highlight.

He would like to thank everyone involved for making this show happen and the audience for coming along to support it.



Alex Baker as Stanley Larson

Alex returns to CTC for the fourth time, following his performances in **Spamalot** (2019), **South Pacific** (2018) and **Seussical** (2017).

Alex has also been involved in **Mamma Mia!** (2020) with Holiday Actors, as well as many shows at school both on-stage and off.

He has enjoyed getting back on-stage and back into the theatre in general.

Alex would like to thank his parents for driving him back and forth from rehearsals.

He is in Year 11 at Mercy Regional College.



Michael McKenzie as Albert Brightham

We welcome Michael back to the stage following several years behind the scenes including as producer of **Spamalot** (2019) and **Seussical** (2017) with CTC and backstage for **Mamma Mia** (2020) with Holiday Actors and **Les Miserables** (2019) (HA/WTC). He has also been on-stage in **The Addams Family** (2015), **Joseph** (2014), **Hairspray** (2013) and **Dimboola** (2012). Michael has enjoyed working with Madidi and Toby, and following the progress of fellow thespians (also gathering more gear for his sheds!). He would like to thank the committee for ensuring shows continue in Camperdown.

Cast



Louise Rothman as *Ingrid Brightham*

Louise returns to CTC for the third time, following her performances in **South Pacific** (2018) and **Shaz and Nick's** (2016). Louise has had stage experience with other companies including Williamstown Little Theatre and the Geelong Repertory Theatre Company playing Eliza in **Blood of the Lamb** (2009). She has also been a vocalist at community events including Camperdown and Cobden Carols, and has been involved on-screen as part of several productions including **The Dressmaker** (2015) and **Wentworth** (2020). Louise would like to thank you for being part of our audience!



Anna Whiting as *Greta Whyte*

Mystery at Shady Acres is Anna's second time on-stage with CTC, following her recent performance in **Spamalot** (2019).

Anna has enjoyed learning new techniques and working on a new role during rehearsals.

Being back together with people again is also a highlight of the experience.

When she is not rehearsing or performing, she works as an accountant at Sinnotts Accountants and is also a member of the CTC committee.

She hopes you enjoy the show!



Stacey James as *Beth Morgan*

Following her recent performances in **Spamalot** (2019), **South Pacific** (2018) and **Seussical** (2017), Stacey returns to the stage with us. Stacey has also been involved in several Camperdown College productions including **Grease** (2019) and **The Wizard of Oz** (2018).

Stacey's has enjoyed the entertainment, mystery and laughter from rehearsals, working together to create a great show.

Stacey would like to thank everybody for creating a great show, and her work for rearranging shifts.



Madidi McKenzie as *Lavinia Crawford*

We welcome Madidi for the third time, following her performance in the Junior Ensemble of **Spamalot** (2019) and Ngana in **South Pacific** (2018).

Madidi has also been involved in other productions, including the ensemble of **Mamma Mia!** (2020) with Holiday Actors and Young Cosette in **Les Miserables** (2019) with HA/WTC. Madidi is in Year 10 at Mercy Regional College. She would like to thank the audience and her family for their support.

Cast



D'Arne Paton as *Cathy*

We welcome D'Arne back to the stage after her recent performances in the orchestra of **Spamalot** (2019) and on-stage for **South Pacific** (2018). D'Arne has also played in various other musical orchestras, including **Annie** (2007) and **Sweet Charity** (2017) with Holiday Actors in Warrnambool.

D'Arne's is enjoying the confidence she is getting from being on-stage. She would like to thank her husband for being so supportive and she hopes you enjoy the show.



Sophia MacRae as *Lois Banks*

This is Sophia's first time on-stage, having been in the orchestras of CTC's **Spamalot** (2019) and **South Pacific** (2018).

Sophia has extensive musical experience both locally and overseas, having been involved in professional theatre productions, the Cruise industry, and more locally in **The Boy From Oz** (2019) with Holiday Actors.

Sophia works as a town planner in Warrnambool.

She is loving the return of theatre and would like to thank all the crew essential to make the magic happen.



Lyn McLean as *Frederica Frumpet*

Lyn returns to the stage following many performances with CTC since 1988, including recently **Cafe Murder** (2018) as Rosemary, **The Addams Family** (2015) as Grandma Addams, **Dimboola** (2012) as Agatha and **Last Tango in Little Grimley** (2008) as Joyce. She has also been behind the scenes for many other shows, in a variety of roles from backstage to production manager.

Lyn would like to thank Toby, Jo and Sue, as well as the whole cast for making the show happen. She has enjoyed being involved in a small role, with not many lines to learn!



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Crew

Directors

Toby McKenzie
Jo Van Leerdam

Producer

Sue Place

Technical Director

Tony Dupleix

Costumes

Briony Howells
Jenny O'Neil
Pauline Van Dijk

Lighting Design

Tony Dupleix
Harrison Smith
Toby McKenzie

Sound Effects

Harrison Smith

Set Design

Toby McKenzie

Set Construction

Tony Dupleix
Neil Schroder
Caitlyn Schroder
Peter Baker
Alex Baker
Peter Place
Sue Place
Briony Howells

Hair/Makeup

Kathy Hall
Pure Academy Students
Hair Supreme

Front of House Manager

Caitlyn Schroder

Front of House Crew

Kevin Lam
Mustafa Alkazali
Jo Saunders
Merry Rothman

Maddi Lucas
Jenny O'Neil
Fred Van Leerdam

Backstage Crew

Nikki McKenzie
Matéa McKenzie

Bar Staff

Briony Howells
Amanda Manifold
Peter Place
Lois Dupleix

Publicity

Toby McKenzie
Sue Place
Kim McKenzie
Madidi McKenzie

Box Office

Kim McKenzie (Laffs)

Artwork / Design

Toby McKenzie

Program

Toby McKenzie

Properties

Michael McKenzie
Cast Members

Photography

Jo Van Leerdam
Fred Van Leerdam

2020-2021 Committee

Sue Place (Pres)
Toby McKenzie (Sec)
Anna Whiting (Treas)
Briony Howells
Graeme Bennett
Jenny O'Neil
Louise Rothman
Lyn McLean
Tony Dupleix

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We also thank everyone who assisted with our production whose names have been unintentionally omitted or were not available at the time of the program going to print.

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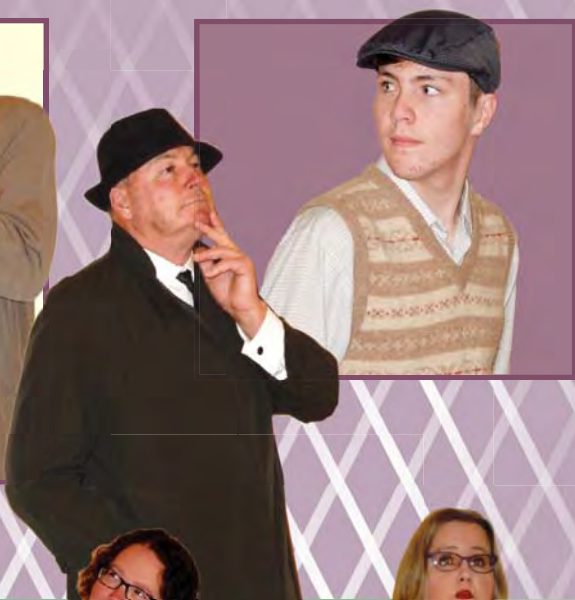
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The Committee, Cast and Crew of this
Camperdown Theatre Company
production would like to extend their warmest
thanks to you for your attendance.

Your ongoing support is what allows us to
continue sharing the talents of this Company
with our community.

We trust you enjoyed our production and we
hope to see you again.