



The Garrick Gazette

Issue 627
March 2025

Garrick Theatre Club Inc.
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WE HAVE A SHOW!

MIDNIGHT MURDER
AT HAMLINGTON
HALL OPENS 27
MARCH. GET YOUR
TICKETS NOW!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Vice President's
Message

Midnight Murder
Behind the Scenes

Garrick History

Sweeney Todd
Cast Announcement

Memberships

IN CAHOOTS WITH
THE MIDDLING COVE PLAYERS
PRESENTS

Midnight Murder

at Hamlington Hall

DIRECTED BY
Kirstie Francis & Sarah House

2025 PERFORMANCES
March - 27, 28, 29 at 7.30pm / March - 30 matinee at 2pm
April - 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 at 7.30pm / April - 5, 6 matinees at 2pm

THE GARRICK THEATRE CLUB INC.
16 MEADOW STREET, GUILDFORD WA 6055
MIDNIGHT MURDER AT HAMLINGTON HALL
BY MARK KILMURRY AND JAMIE OXENBOULD
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH DAVID SPICER PRODUCTIONS.
COMMISSIONED AND FIRST STAGED BY THE ENSEMBLE THEATRE.

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acting *president's* MESSAGE

WITH ALI LOUISE



Hello Fellow Readers,

Well, it's been an eventful month at the Garrick, between rehearsals for two different shows, meetings with the City of Swan and some changes on the Garrick Committee... it's a wonder I can keep my head on straight.

We have recently said goodbye to three committee members who have stepped back due to personal reasons. Amanda Neal, who only had a short time with us on the committee but who is always a cherished member on stage. Roxi Moore, who may be reasonably new to the world of theatre, but who has shown flexibility in roles, whether it be stage managing, directing or sewing a thousand metres of red curtain. Also, Lynne Devenish who has worn many hats in the theatre, including, but not limited to, actor, director and most recently our President. I sincerely wish all three the very best and hope we get to see their friendly faces again soon.

As Vice President, it is my honour to step into this role as Acting President until our Special General Meeting on Monday, 14 April, 6:30pm - 7:30pm at the Garrick Theatre.

Moving on from the sad news, here's some great news.

The set for our next show is up and painted and from the small amount I've seen from the show, it looks like it's going to be a hilarious production, so please grab your tickets now so you don't miss out on the farce that is *Midnight Murder at Hamlington Hall*. You can see everyone involved has put a lot of effort into the show and I believe it's going to turn out amazing!

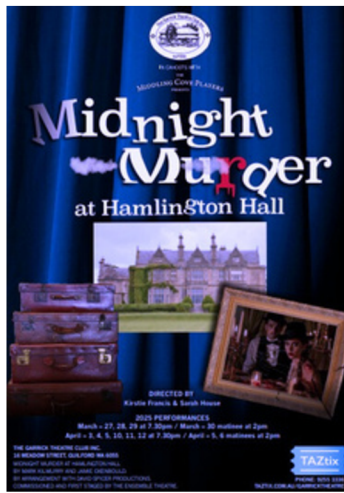
Sweeney Todd rehearsals are underway and from what little I've heard, this is a very strong cast, with amazing vocal talent. It's going to be such a joy to see and hear this, so keep an eye out on tickets, they go live on Thursday 27th March at 7pm!

Wishing everyone a joyful rest of the month.

Ali Louise

Acknowledgement of Country

Garrick Theatre would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land on which we meet, the Whadjuk people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing contribution to the culture and life of this region and recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Noongar people of this land.



Behind the SCENES



Midnight Murder at Hamlington Hall OPENS THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 2025

A WA Premiere Performance
A comedy by Mark Kilmurray and Jamie Oxenbould
Directed by Kirstie Francis and Sarah House

The Garrick stage is ready to be in the spotlight again, for our current production, *Midnight Murder at Hamlington Hall*. If these behind-the-scenes photos are anything to go by, then theatregoers are in for a treat this March-April. We've had two matinee shows sell out already, so we urge you to get in quick and snap up the remaining tickets before it's too late. Chookas to the cast and crew!

About the play: It's the opening night of a new murder mystery. Seven of the cast are down with the dreaded lurgy. So, the Middling Cove Players' director, two of the remaining actors (and whoever else the director can co-opt), pitch in to continue the long tradition of 'the show must go on'. Juggling nerves, props, and absurd miscasting, will they manage to pull it off? Or will everything go horribly and terribly wrong? This new comedy looks behind the scenes at the world of amateur theatre, where luck, determination and unbridled confidence rule the day. A very funny take on bad timing, incompetence and sweet optimism.



Dates: March 27, 28, 29, April 3, 4, 5,
10, 11, 12 at 7.30pm
April 5 at 2pm
March 30 and April 6 (SOLD OUT)

Adult \$28, Concession \$23,
Members \$22

Phone TAZ Tix on 9255 3336 or go to:
TAZtix.com.au/garricktheatre/

EXCLUSIVE GARRICK MEMBER OFFER



**10% off any food* at the
STIRLING ARMS for Garrick
members / ticket holders to the
Midnight Murder at Hamlington
Hall show.**

**full price food items and not in
conjunction with other specials*

The Commissariat Store

How a Convict Building Became a Modern Theatre



FROM CONVICTS TO CURTAIN CALLS, GARRICK ARCHIVIST **TOM GOODE** DISCUSSES OUR HUMBLE BEGINNING ON MEADOW STREET, GUILDFORD.

In 1827, when Stirling's exploration of the Swan River reached what is now known as Success Hill, the party stopped for fresh water, and Stirling was reported as being impressed by the land on the opposite side of the river.

When Stirling returned two years later as Lieutenant-Governor of the new Swan River Colony, he selected the site as a market town for the agricultural area being developed in the Swan Valley and chose the land immediately adjacent to the town for his personal estate.

In the imperial manner of the time, he named his estate Woodside after his wife's home in England and Guildford after his father-in-law's electorate in Surrey, England.

Guildford is situated on relatively high ground on a bend in the Swan River at the point where safe navigation ended. The Swan River formed the north and west boundaries, a tributary, the Helena River, formed the south boundary, while Stirling's estate, Woodbridge, enclosed the east.



[PICTURE] THIS MAP WAS CITED AS AN EXAMPLE OF EARLY TOWN PLANNING IN LEONARD GIBBON'S BOOK, 'GUILDFORD 1829-1929'. THIS MAP IS BETTER DESCRIBED AS A PLAN SINCE THE ONLY ORIGINAL PARTS FROM 1829 WOULD BE THE RIVERS, AND THE PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT WAS PROBABLY TO ENTICE NEW SETTLERS.

The Swan River Colony had been established in 1829 as a colony of free settlers, but only 21 years later, in 1850, it petitioned the British government to become an official penal settlement. The first convicts arrived in June 1850 and were put to work building the infrastructure to support the system. The construction of Fremantle Prison absorbed much of the labour, but hiring depots were established throughout the colony, including one at Guildford.

The hiring depot at Guildford was planned to run along the east side of Meadow Street between Swan Street and Helena Street. A fragment of a map at the State Records Office shows Governor Fitzgerald approved the plan in 1853. The same reference has a sketch of the depot elements, starting with a courthouse and gaol at the northern end, followed by a hospital, convict barracks, sapper barracks, commissariat store, and district officer's residence.

Lieutenant Du Cane of the Royal Engineers supervised the construction, while convicts provided the labour. The convict depot closed in 1873, and the buildings were handed over to the Police Department

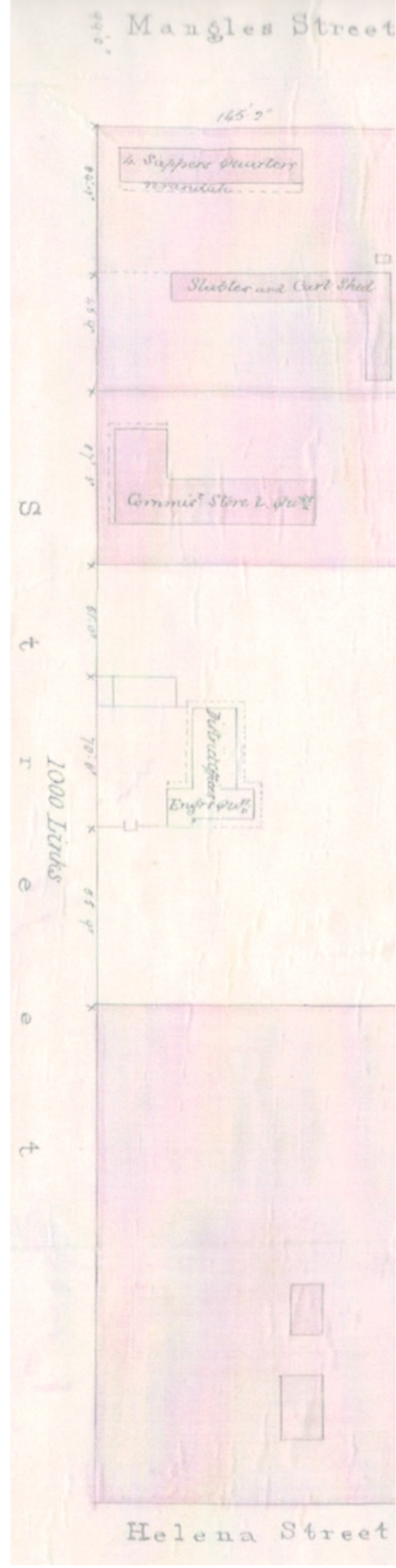
In 1894, the Town of Guildford asked the Premier to allocate the land at the corner of Meadow Street and James Street as a site for a Town Hall. The transfer of land took place in 1894. The corner site was deemed most suitable for the location of the Town Hall, but a more modest meeting place was built first, opening in 1901. Possibly with the idea of a bigger Town Hall later taking the prominent corner, the more modest building was constructed on the site currently occupied by the local library.

The discovery of a reliable supply of water meant a reticulated water supply for the town, which in turn was followed by a voluntary fire brigade in 1906. The brigade found the commissariat store ideal in size and location.

Twenty-five or so years later, the town received a grant to construct a new fire station further down Meadow Street, and by 1933, the store was empty again. The infant Garrick Club had outgrown its initial home and was uncomfortably sharing the Mechanics Institute building. At a committee meeting on 13 November 1934, the club offered to rent the store from the Town Council. This was accepted, and the club celebrated with a house-warming Christmas function on 3 December 1934. Garrick had a home, but it was still a long way from today's theatre.



Photo Credit:
The 1853 Map
of Guildford,
and the more
recent photo
of the Garrick
were
retrieved
from the
State Records
Office of
Western
Australia.



SWEENEY TODD

THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET

CAST ANNOUNCEMENT

SWEENEY TODD - COLAN LEACH
MRS LOVETT - KATIE NOWLAND
ANTHONY HOPE - JEREMY BEERKENS
JOHANNA - LILY WAKELING
TOBIAS RAGG - CORBAN FEATON
JUDGE TURPIN - MARK THOMPSON
BEADLE BAMFORD - BEN ANDERSON
BEGGAR WOMAN/LUCY BARKER - GRACE EDWARDS
ADOLFO FIRELLI - NERA CAMPONOVO
JONAS FOGG - RUSSELL FELLOWS

ENSEMBLE:

INDYA LANGE
THOMAS LA CAVA
BREANNA COOKE
CARLY RANGER
GENEVIEVE DEL CASALE
LOUISE TUCKER
AARON WILKES
ANDREA ZENCICH
NIKITA NANKIVILLE
TIM SADLEIR
BRANDON MASTERS
KIERAN SMITH

OPENING JUNE 2025



Committee Members

AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
CONTACT LIST

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MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

All members are reminded that your 2025 Garrick membership fees are now due. You should pay these no later than 31st March to avoid becoming unfinancial.

Our members are the lifeblood of the Club, and we would love to see you all return this year. If you want to get involved beyond being an audience member, you can contact any Committee member and they will assist you.

Membership subscriptions are the same as last year:

Single - \$25
Double - \$40
Junior - \$10
Student - \$10
Production - \$10

The preferred method for paying your fees is via Trybooking. Simply go to Trybooking and enter Garrick in the 'Search' field and the 'Garrick Membership Subscriptions 2025' page can be selected. You can also pay by direct transfer to our bank account as follows:
Bank - Commonwealth
BSB - 066-109
Account No. - 1001 1188
(please put your name in the reference field)

If you have any difficulty with this you can contact our Membership Registrar, Terry Brown, at treasurer@garricktheatre.com.au
Of course you can still pay by cheque, cash or by EFTPOS at the theatre when you attend a production.

The Garrick Gazette

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SWEENEY TODD

TICKETS GO ON SALE: THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 2025 - FROM 7 PM.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING - MONDAY, 14 APRIL 2025 - 6:30 PM.

**AUDITION - THE CANTERBURY TALES - SATURDAY, 3 MAY 2025,
11 AM - 3 PM. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**

