

THE MOUNTBATTEN THEATRE

Patrons are requested to note the following:-

- a) The audience may leave at the end of the performance by all of the exit doors.
- b) All gangways, corridors, staircases and passageways which afford a means of exit shall be kept entirely free from obstruction.
- c) Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways.
- d) The safety curtain shall be lowered and raised at each performance in the presence of the audience.

## ARNOLD RIDLEY

Arnold Ridley was born in Bath in 1896, and has been one of Britain's most prolific, if not best known, playwrights. Indeed it would appear that he was never happy to do things singly; he wrote thirty plays, was married three times and served in both world wars, an achievement which very few men can claim. He also had the rare honour of playing two different parts in B.B.C. Radio's "The Archers". Yes, Arnold Ridley not only played Doughy Hood, Ambridge's village baker, he was also the original Walter Gabriel.

He is, of course, best known as Private Godfrey the mild-mannered, former conscientious objector and Home-Guard volunteer in B.B.C. Television's "Dads Army". It was this role which, no doubt, contributed to him being awarded the O.B.E. in 1981.

"The Ghost Train" was first performed in 1925 and, has been an almost permanent feature of British theatre. There was a brief period when the play was out of production and Ridley, somewhat short of cash, was persuaded to sell the performing rights for a "song", or so we are told. The play enjoyed an immediate revival of popularity which has continued until this day. If true, then Ridley probably lost a small fortune as a result of that rash act.

Ridley played the part of Saul Hodgkin, in "The Ghost Train", at the Garrick Theatre in 1927.

# the Maskers at the Mountbatten

## Arnold Ridley's

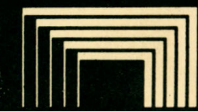


DIRECTED

BY

MOLLIE MANNS

THE  
MASKERS  
THEATRE COMPANY



THE  
MOUNTBATTEN  
THEATRE

## CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Saul Hodgkin, Station  
master at Fal Vale Station - GEOFFREY WHARAM

Richard Winthrop - DAVID PIKE

Elsie, his wife - ANN ARCHER

Charles Murdock, junior  
partner in Murdock & Son - JOHN TURNBULL

Peggy Murdock, his newly  
married wife - ENID CLARK

Miss Bourne - ANN DALGLISH

Teddie Deakin - DOUGLAS TAYLOR

Julia Price - LYNDA EDWARDS

Herbert Price - PETER NEVE

John Sterling - JIM OLIVER

Jackson - DEREK SEALY

Smith - RON TILLYER

Brown - TIM ARCHER

## THE GHOST TRAIN

The play is the three acts with two intervals of approximately fifteen minutes, when refreshments are available in the licensed bar and in the foyer of the theatre.

The action of the play takes place in the small General Waiting Room at Fal Vale, a wayside station on the South Cornwall Joint Railway, during the course of four hours. The year is 1925.

ACT I - 10.00 p.m.  
ACT II - 11.30 p.m.  
ACT III - 12.30 a.m.

## FOR THE MASKERS

Stage Manager - KENNETH SPENCER  
Assisted by - TIM ARCHER

Lighting - TONY LAWTHER  
Assisted by - CLIVE WEEKS

Sound - ANGELA BARKS

Set Design - KENNETH SPENCER

Set Construction - THE MASKERS

Properties - ANN BROOKES

Wardrobe - LILLIAN GUNSTONE

Hair Styling - ROBERT MANNIS

Technical Director - RON TILLYER

Business Management - GRAHAM BUCHANAN  
BETTY RIGGS

Programme Design - BRIAN STANSBRIDGE

The Maskers would like to thank the following, for their assistance in this production:-

- Various friends for the loan of properties, including John Griffin for entrusting us with his lamps.
- Mr. Billet and the staff of the Mountbatten Theatre.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ANNOUNCING THE MASKER'S NEXT PRODUCTION  
AT THE NUFFIELD THEATRE

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THE HIGHLY GALOOBRIOUS

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## the Owl & the Pussycat (WENT TO SEE)

BY SHEILA RUSKIN AND DAVID WOOD

The Maskers open at the Nuffield Theatre on 15th May in this magnificent, mallobrious, musical play for children

Come and meet all the characters of Edward Lear and enjoy the adventures of the Owl and the Pussycat in the land where the Bong trees grow.

Why does the Dong have a luminous nose and will it help him find the Jumblies? Can Quangle Wangle fix it for the Owl and the Pussycat to be married? Can that amazon of the cutlery, The Runcible Spoon, protect them all from that most scroobidoobious villian the Plum Pudding Flea?

Find out at ...  
'THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT WENT TO SEE ...'

! IT'S SPLENDIFEROUS !

STOP PRESS \* STOP PRESS \* STOP PRESS \*

JULY 1984

The Maskers Open Air Production at Moffisfont Abbey, Nr. Romsey will be Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer". Splendid 18th Century comedy, in one of Hampshire's most beautiful open air settings.

Watch local press for booking details!