

Stage Whispers

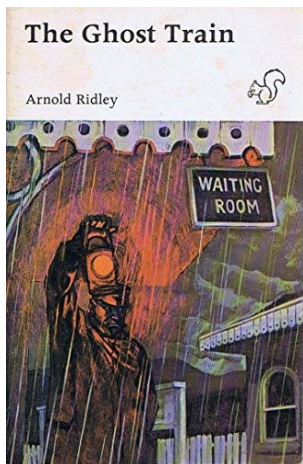
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September 2023

www.whipstheatre.org

PLAY READINGS

- The next Play reading will be at **7.30 on Thurs Sept 14th** at Jack Griffith's House, Single Oak, Guildford Rd, E Horsley KT246AQ tel 01483282106 where we will read *The Ghost Train* by Arnold Ridley .



The Ghost Train is a stage comedy-[thriller](#), written in 1923 by the English actor and playwright [Arnold Ridley](#).

The story centres upon the social interaction of a group of railway passengers who have been stranded at a remote rural station overnight, and are increasingly threatened by a latent external force, with a [denouement](#) ending.

The play ran for over a year in its original sold-out London theatrical run, and is regarded as a modern minor classic. It established the 20th century dramatic genre of "strangers stranded together in a railway scenario in constrained circumstances"



If anyone has a suitable set of plays that could be read for future play-readings, or have a willingness to host such events please contact jackgriffith6@gmail.com
It really would be great to resurrect this popular arm of the Whips especially as, according to NewSPAL, we can look at a catalogue, & order play sets now thro' the post. The Whips will sub the postage costs with perhaps a charge of £1 per play
Any Volunteers to run this with different hosts or venues?.(strangely none at present!)



COMMITTEE NOTES

Meerkat committee notes 11/07/23

- The next production by whips will hopefully be 'The Stranger' by Agatha Christie . Dates 16-18th November
- A producer will be needed for this
- The coach house has had some clearance . The costumes require sorting and tidying. A Fire RA is required
- There was an excellent workshop for the Whippets next production 'Frozen'. 40 children attended. It will be staged 20-24th march 2024
- Playreadings have been restarted . next one will be 14th Sept at Jack Griffiths' house
- A quiz is being organised for February '24 . Details to follow

AUTUMN PRODUCTION

The Stranger by Agatha Christie directed by Fran King
16-18th Nov 2023

Contact Fran on francesking123@btinternet.com if you're interested in taking a part ASAP

The Stranger is the 1932 adaptation of by Agatha Christie of her 1924 short story *Philomel Cottage* however it was not published at the time. In 1936 a different adaptation by Christie and Frank Vosper entitled *Love From A Stranger* was produced for the London stage opening at the New Theatre (now Noel Coward); it was also on Broadway for a short run.

It was reworked twice as a film; in 1937 starring Ann Harding and Basil Rathbone and a remake in 1947 released in the UK as *A Stranger Walked In*. The play has also been televised twice by the BBC, on 23rd November 1938 and 25th May 1947, both as live performances. Most recently it was broadcast as a radio play in 2002 and an adaptation by Louise Page was produced at *The Mill at Sonning* as part of their 2010 season. A 30 minute radio version of the short story *Philomel Cottage* can be listened to on You tube starring Orson Welles.

The play *The Stranger* has a cast of 6, 4f and 2m as follows:

Doris West mid 30's

Mrs Huggins middle aged

Enid Bradshaw mid 30's

Gerald Strange could be mid 40's

Dick Lane could be mid 40's

Mrs Birch mid 30's to middle aged

It does say that Doris West or Mrs Huggins may double with Mrs Birch so ages are a bit flexible.

3 of the women only appear in one act, 2 of them in Act 1 and 1 in Act 2.

It's more a psychological play than a murder story.

We read this at our last play reading and found it to be an intriguing play with many twist & turns.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sept 14th @7.30 @ Jacks house

Nov 16-18th Autumn Production

WHVH

CONTACTS

Chairperson	Fran King	283051	e-mail	francesking123@btinternet.com
Dept Chairman	Tony Thompson	282314	e-mail	tonythompson2314@gmail.com
Secretary	Kate MacDougall		e-mail	kateislamac@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer	Barbara Firth	283262	e-mail	barbarafirth@aol.com
Whippets Manager	Julia McClung	281286	e-mail	juliamcclung@btinternet.com
Whispers Editor	Jack Griffith	282106	e-mail	jackgriffith6@gmail.com



and finally

A CALLER ordering a pizza: Is this Pizza Hut?



GOOGLE: No Sir, it's Google Pizza.

CALLER: I must have dialled a wrong number, sorry.

GOOGLE: No Sir, Google have bought Pizza Hut.

CALLER: OK. I would like to order a pizza.

GOOGLE: Do you want your usual, sir?

CALLER: My usual? You know me?

GOOGLE: According to our Caller ID data sheet, you have called us 9 times in the last 17 weeks.

Every time, you ordered an extra-large pizza with a thick crust, three cheeses, sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms and meatballs.

CALLER: Super! That's what I'll have.

GOOGLE: May I suggest that this time you order a pizza with ricotta, arugula, sun-dried tomatoes and olives on a whole wheat gluten-free thin crust?

CALLER: What? I don't want a vegetarian pizza!

GOOGLE: Your cholesterol is not good, Sir

CALLER: How do you know that?

GOOGLE: Well, we cross-referenced your home phone number with your medical records. We have the result of your blood tests for the last 7 years.

CALLER: Okay, but I do not want your rotten vegetarian pizza! I already take medication for my cholesterol.

GOOGLE: Sorry Sir, but you have not taken it regularly. Our database says, you bought 30 tablets only once at Lloyds Pharmacy, 4 months ago.

CALLER: I bought more from another Pharmacy.

GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your credit card statement.

CALLER: I paid in cash.

GOOGLE: But you did not withdraw enough cash according to your bank statement.

CALLER: I have other sources of cash.

GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your latest tax returns unless you bought them using an undeclared income source, which is against the law!

CALLER: WHAT THE !!!

GOOGLE: I'm sorry Sir, we use such information with the sole intention of helping you.

CALLER: Enough already! I'm sick to death of Google, Facebook, Twitter, and all the others.

I'm going to an island with no net, no TV, no telephones and nobody to spy on me!

GOOGLE: OK Sir, but you'll need to renew your passport and this can take 10 weeks!



This has been a tiny publication as I had so little to put into it! I'm getting fed up with members lethargy!

