



Playlovers Inc.  
Hackett Hall, Draper Street, Floreat  
[www.playlovers.org.au](http://www.playlovers.org.au)

# STAGES

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3—April-May 2017

## 2017



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ♦ From our President
- ♦ Audition: *Other Desert Cities*
- ♦ Director Barry Park
- ♦ *Other Desert Cities* - Trivia
- ♦ Meet the Committee - Jan Budden
- ♦ Productions for 2017
- ♦ What's on Where

## From our President



Hi everyone.

I trust that the year is going well for you all. I can't believe that we are now in May!! The committee is continuing to work hard in making sure that we have a theatrical presence in 2017. Our first production "Other Desert Cities" by Jon Robin Baitz is being directed by Barry Park and I would like to thank Barry for taking this season on for us. As you may or may not know, this production is being performed at the Old Mill Theatre (Mends St, South Perth) in August. Auditions for this production take place very soon but we are in need of men. So if you know of anyone who may be interested please direct them to our website for information on how organise an audition.

Stay tuned for information relating to our second season, "The Jungle Book", scheduled for October/November.

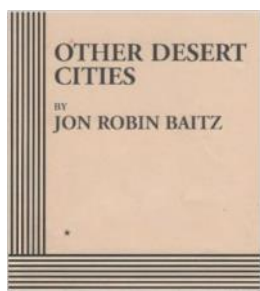
Our negotiations with the City of Nedlands with regards to our lease and the future use of Hackett Hall are coming along slowly. As the saying goes, 'Rome wasn't built in a day!' We certainly didn't expect for there to be a quick fix no matter how much we wanted one. Our plan is to definitely keep the pressure on the council no matter what curve balls they throw at us. They thought that we would just walk away without a fuss. I think that they are finding out that this not going to be the case. I will keep you posted on any developments in regards to Hackett Hall.

Alex McLennan

## OUR COVER

The cover of this issue is symbolic of Playlovers' current position. While we remain optimistic, and we have a short playlist planned for the year (see page 6 for details), we are still very unsure of what the future may hold for us.

We request that you please stand by us, attend our productions, and assist in pressuring the council whenever possible.



## Audition Notice - Other Desert Cities

By Jon Robin Baitz  
Directed by Barry Park

Auditions to be held for this Award Winning play on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017

By appointment from 9am to 2pm

Location: Old Mill Theatre, Mends St, South Perth

Season runs 4-19 August 2017

### A Brief Synopsis:

This 2012 Pulitzer Prize finalist examines the lies we tell to protect each other and the damage they cause. The Wyeth family Christmas holiday erupts when daughter Brooke arrives bearing a soon-to-be-published memoir dredging up a pivotal and tragic event in the family's history. It's a wound they don't want reopened—the suicide of Brooke's brother, Henry, who had been involved with the radical underground subculture.

### Character List:

**Lyman Wyeth:** (late 50's to early 70's) The patriarch of the family.

**Polly Wyeth:** (mid-50's to late 60's). Lyman's wife.

**Brooke Wyeth:** (mid-30's to early 40's). Adult daughter of Lyman and Polly.

**Trip Wyeth:** late 20's to mid-30's). Brooke's brother.

**Silda Grauman:** (late 50's to early 70's). Polly's sister.

More detail on each character can be found on the website:

<http://playlovers.org.au/audition-other-desert-cities/>

### Audition and Performance Details:

Performance dates are Aug 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 with all performances at 8pm except 6 and 13 which are 2pm matinees.

Rehearsals commence Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June: 2pm on Saturdays; 7pm on Mondays and Thursdays. Every evening during opening week

### AUDITIONS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Each audition will be about 15 minutes.

Auditionees are encouraged (but not required) to deliver a short prepared scene, but will certainly be required to read from the script, scanned copies of which are available from the production manager.

Plan to arrive early to fill out an audition form, or ask for a copy and complete it before you arrive. Please attach your CV and a recent headshot. Be sure to write clearly, especially your contact information.

Bring your calendar and a complete list of conflicts for the rehearsal period.

For further information and **to book an audition time** please contact the production manager, Marie Corrigan, at [info@playlovers.org.au](mailto:info@playlovers.org.au)

## Barry Park - Director of Other Desert Cities

Barry Park is a versatile, experienced actor and director who has performed on stage in a wide variety of plays, musicals and pantomimes. He has recorded radio and television commercials and has acted in radio plays, films and a television series. He most recently directed *Design for Living* at the Old Mill Theatre. He directed David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly* (which won the Robert Finley Best Director Award and Best Play Award in 2012), *The Real Thing*, *Broken Glass* and *All My Sons*, (which were all nominated for several Robert Finley awards), and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, (which also was nominated for several Robert Finley awards.)

His overseas productions of *Death of a Salesman*, *The Golden Masque of Agamemnon* and *The Life and Death of Almost Everybody* won several National Theatre awards.

Other shows he has directed include: *Agnes of God*, *Songs from the Shows*, *Snoopy! The Musical*, *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon Marigolds*, *Blythe Spirit*, *On Monday Next*, *The Fantastiks*, and *Lord of the Flies*.

## Other Desert Cities - Trivia

First performance: 13 January 2011 (Off-Broadway)

Transferred to Broadway 12 October 2011, where it received excellent reviews and all cast members were highly praised. The season ran until 17 June 2017. This production received 5 nominations for the 2012 Tony Awards, including one for Best Play.

Australian Rachel Griffiths played Brooke Wyeth in the Broadway production. Other cast members were Stockard Channing (Polly Wyeth), Stacey Keach (Lyman Wyeth), Judith Light (Silda Grauman) and Thomas Sadoski (Trip Wyeth).

The play was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

The name of the play is taken from road signage at the exit to Palm Springs on the Interstate 10 highway (Eastbound) in California, which says "Indio, Other Desert Cities" The play is set in Palm Springs

Playwright Jon Robin Baitz created the television series *Brothers and Sisters* which also featured Rachel Griffiths in the cast. It too explored themes of families divided and keeping secrets, but Baitz and the ABC network had major differences in their vision for the direction the show should take, which eventually resulted in the removal of Baitz from day-to-day duties. Despite his bitterness about this experience, Baitz did not abandon TV and wrote the teleplay for the American adaptation of the Australian TV series *The Slap* which aired on NBC in 2015.

Webpage <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/art/other-desert-cities/> has the transcript of an interview with Baitz, mainly discussing *Other Desert Cities*. However, if you dislike spoilers, read it **after** seeing the show.

## Meet the Committee - Jan Budden

<b>Name</b>	Jan Budden
<b>Committee Portfolio</b>	General member
<b>Place of Birth</b>	Bournemouth, UK
<b>Occupation</b>	Sports Events Co-ordinator, & Dermal Therapist
<b>Favourite Musical</b>	<i>Wicked</i>
<b>Favourite Play</b>	<i>A Man of No Importance</i> directed by Andrew Baker
<b>Favourite Production</b>	Agatha Christie <i>Mousetrap</i>
<b>Favourite Music</b>	Alternative music, Anberlin, Story of The Year, Matt Nathanson, Calum Scott
<b>Favourite Book</b>	Anything written by Jodi Picoult
<b>Favourite Food</b>	At the moment mushroom risotto, or zucchini noodles
<b>Favourite Country</b>	Switzerland (memories from childhood)
<b>Bucket List Item</b>	Walk across the Red Square; Drink mulled wine or hot chocolate at the top of a Swiss mountain in front of a log fire
<b>Dislikes</b>	Animal Cruelty



### ***How I came to be involved with Playlovers...***

My good friend Alida Chaney whom I met 18 years ago through a mutual friend has been involved with Playlovers and other Theatre groups for many years. I've been to many of her productions and thought it would be very rewarding to be involved in a production from behind the scenes.

### ***How I came to be involved in theatre...***

I grew up with music from the age of 4 when I started playing the piano. In Primary and High School I played in the orchestra; I also acted in several productions. Of course that was some years ago.

### ***What my role is on the committee...***

General committee member

### ***What would I like to achieve for/contribute to Playlovers...***

Not aiming for anything in particular. Just to be involved. Maybe Stage Manager one day perhaps :)

## Productions for 2017

We can now confirm that Playlovers will be presenting two seasons in 2017.

Firstly, *Other Desert Cities* by Jon Robin Baitz and directed by Barry Park will run at Old Mill Theatre in South Perth starting 4th August and finishing 19th August. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Old Mill Theatre group in making this venue available to us.

Our second production is *The Jungle Book*, adapted by Monica Flory and based on the stories of Rudyard Kipling about a boy raised by animals. Monica Flory's script is faithful to Kipling and yet original in its approach. While Kipling's story is basically a grand adventure, this version takes its subtext — a boy's quest for identity — and makes it the heart of the piece, increasing the emotional resonance. Directed by Sara Christiner, this show will run from 20th October to 4th November in Camelot Theatre in Mosman Park.

We are looking forward to presenting these quality plays and hope for your continued support in these difficult circumstances.

### UNIVERSITY BRANCH 2017

# Book Sale

FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN



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A huge number of quality donated books in popular and specialist categories; plus CDs, DVDs, LPs and sheet music all at bargain prices.

70% of funds raised will go to programs here in WA in areas like Armadale, Gosnells, Kununurra and the Dampier Peninsula. The remaining funds are distributed across other programs run by Save the Children in Australia and across the World.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

For more information please email  
[booksalevolunteers381@gmail.com](mailto:booksalevolunteers381@gmail.com)

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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AUSTRALIA



### **Friday**

18<sup>th</sup> August 3pm – 9pm

### **Saturday**

19<sup>th</sup> August 8am - 5pm

### **Sunday**

20<sup>th</sup> August 8am - 5pm

### **Monday**

21<sup>st</sup> August 9am - 6pm

### **Tuesday** Half price day

22<sup>nd</sup> August 9am - 7pm

### **Wednesday** Fill a box for \$15

23<sup>rd</sup> August 9am - 3pm

#### **Location**

University of Western Australia  
Stirling Highway, Crawley  
Under the Clock Tower



Save the Children

# What's on Where

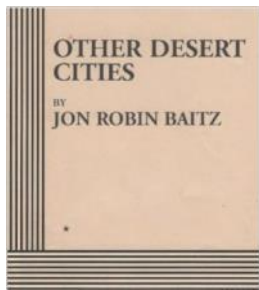
What's on	Where	When	Bookings
Noel Coward's Design for Living	Old Mill Theatre Cnr Mends St & Mill Point Rd, South Perth	21 Apr-6 May 2017	9367 8719
Love Me Slender	KADS Theatre Town Square, Barber St Kalamunda	28 Apr-13 May 2017	9257 2668
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?	Darlington Theatre Players Marloo Theatre, Marloo Road, Greenmount	28 Apr-13 May 2017	<a href="http://www.marlootheatre.com.au">www.marlootheatre.com.au</a>
Oklahoma	Roleystone Theatre Brookton Hwy, Roleystone	5-20 May 2017	<a href="http://roleystonetheatre.com.au">roleystonetheatre.com.au</a>
Love on the Beach	Endeavour Theatre Co. at Hamersley Community Recreation Centre, Belvedere Rd, Hamersley	12-21 May 2017	9341 7926
Sex Cells	Harbour Theatre at Camelot Theatre, 16 Lochee St Mosman Park	12-21 May 2017	<a href="http://www.TAZTix.com.au">www.TAZTix.com.au</a>
Annie Get Your Gun	Murray Music & Drama Club Murray Shire Council 1915 Pinjarra Rd	12-27 May 2017	<a href="https://www.outix.co/tickets/event/annie-get-your-gun">https://www.outix.co/tickets/event/annie-get-your-gun</a>
Roald Dahl's The Witches	Koorliny Arts Centre Kwinana Town Centre	12-27 May 2017	<a href="http://www.koorliny.com.au/Book-Tickets.html">www.koorliny.com.au/Book-Tickets.html</a>
Life After George	Garrick Theatre 16 Meadow St, Guildford	25 May-10 Jun 2017	<a href="http://garricktheatre.asn.au/">garricktheatre.asn.au/</a>
Mulan	Stirling Theatre Morris Place, Innaloo	26 May-10 Jun 2017	9440 1040 (Morris News)
Greenwicks	Limelight Theatre Civic Drive, Wanneroo	7-17 Jun 2017	<a href="http://www.limelighttheatre.com">www.limelighttheatre.com</a>
Stiff	Rockingham Theatre 8 Attwood Way, Rockingham	9-24 June 2017	<a href="http://www.rockinghamtheatre.com">www.rockinghamtheatre.com</a>

**If undelivered, please return to -  
PLAYLOVERS INC  
PO BOX 164  
WEMBLEY 6913**

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MAIL**

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**PP602669-00364**



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Directed by Barry Park**

**Auditions to be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**By appointment only from 9am to 2pm**

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**Season runs 4-19 August 2017**



**PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE: [www.playlovers.org.au](http://www.playlovers.org.au)**



**PLAYLOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL: [info@playlovers.org.au](mailto:info@playlovers.org.au)**



**[www.facebook.com/PlayloversWA](https://www.facebook.com/PlayloversWA)**

### **COMMITTEE 2017**

<b>President</b>	Alex McLennan	0438 937 078
<b>Vice-President</b>	Bronwyn Hammond	9447 0945
<b>Secretary</b>	Janelle Hammond	0423 847 383
<b>Treasurer</b>	Marie Corrigan	0414 529 736
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Jan Budden	0403 820 770
	Alide Chaney	0403 367 047
	Chelsea Defontaine	0423 989 873
	Gaye Harvey	9446 9834
	Ewen Malcolm	9284 9785
	Daniel Toomath	0455 923 650
	David Young	9444 2395