



Presents

## MURDER BY THE BOOK

Written by

DUNCAN GREENWOOD and ROBERT KING

Directed by

MARGARET OLIVE

### AUDITION INFORMATION

#### READING

There will be a reading of the play at the theatre at 7.00pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024. All are welcome to attend the reading whether you plan to audition or not.

#### AUDITION DETAILS

TIME	7PM
DATES	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
VENUE	Hunters Hill Theatre, Level 2, Club Ryde, 728 Victoria Road Ryde
	<i>Auditionees will be asked to read the prescribed pieces from the script which may be prepared beforehand.</i>
	<i>Audition pieces do not need to be memorised for the audition.</i>
	<i>Please contact the director after 20<sup>th</sup> May for copies of the audition pieces.</i>

## **BEFORE YOUR AUDITION**

Read through all the information in this pack and check the draft rehearsal schedule and performance dates to ensure your availability.

Rehearsals will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings as well as either a Saturday or Sunday, at the discretion of the director and the cast.

Rehearsals will begin on Tuesday July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Please fill out the audition form and email it back to the director, Margaret Olive.

If you have any questions, please email the director on [margaret@attkey.com.au](mailto:margaret@attkey.com.au) or telephone her after May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, on 0417 192 931.

**NOTE:** Signing the audition form indicates your availability for, and commitment to, all activities relating to the production, including rehearsals, bump in, bump out and show dates.

You will be notified of the outcome of your audition and a full cast list will be posted on the HHT website [www.huntershilltheatre.com.au](http://www.huntershilltheatre.com.au)

## PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Venue: Club Ryde, 728 Victoria Road, Ryde  
Season: 30<sup>th</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Friday 7:30pm	Saturday 2pm	Saturday 7:30pm	Sunday 2.00pm
30 August	31 August	31 August	1 September
6 Sept	7 Sept	7 Sept	8 Sept
13 Sept	14 Sept	14 Sept	15 Sept

**IMPORTANT:** *All cast and crew need to ensure that they are available for all performance dates and rehearsal times as indicated on the rehearsal schedule. Cast must be available to assist with bump in and bump-out duties.*

## SYNOPSIS

A thriller writer indulges in vitriolic word duels with his estranged wife until she shoots him. An amateur detective from the next flat attempts to solve the murder before calling the police. More deadly games are in store when the corpse rises and the tables are turned more than once for the victim and the killers.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The ages given are guides only.

British accents are required for John Douglas, Selwyn and Imogen Piper. There is flexibility for Christine and Peter.

At the audition, you are welcome to try any accent, if you are comfortable in so doing. We can work on them over the rehearsal period as necessary.

## Roles Available: 3 Male, 2 Female

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION	STAGE AGE
Selwyn Piper	A successful literary critic and thriller writer. He is well groomed, self-assured with a ready and somewhat sardonic wit. He is divorced from Imogen. He has a British accent.	40 to 60
Christine Scott	Selwyn's secretary. A likeable and efficient female who displays unobtrusive charm. Any accent will work well.	20 to 30
Imogen Piper	The ex-wife. She's an attractive ex-actress displaying theatrical charm and composure. She and Selwyn verbally fence with each other. This is a fun and challenging role. Two British accents, preferably one of which is Scottish.	30 to 50
Peter Fletcher	He appears frivolous and light-hearted in nature. He is quite acute when the time comes. He lives next door to Selwyn. Any accent will work well.	30 to 50
John Douglas	Selwyn's publisher. An immaculately turned-out bachelor with an easy charm which deteriorates into bewilderment under stress. He is intellectually inferior to Imogen and Selwyn. He has a British accent.	40 to 60

## Rehearsal Schedule - Draft

**Venue:** Rehearsals will be held at Club Ryde

Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7pm to 10pm and either a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, at the discretion of the director and cast.

The attached rehearsal schedule is a draft only and subject to change.

DATE	DAY	SCENE/NOTES
18 June	Tues	Auditions night
20 June	Thurs	Auditions night
2 July	Tues	First read through
4 July	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
9 July	Tues	
11 July	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
16 July	Tues	
18 July	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
23 July	Tues	
24 July	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
30 July	Tues	
1 August	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
6 August	Tues	
7 August	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
14 August	Tues	
16 August	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
21 August	Tues	
23 August	Thurs	
	Saturday or Sunday	
27 August	Tues	
28 August	Wednesday	Final Dress Rehearsal
30 August	Opening Night	

## AUDITION FORM - MURDER BY THE BOOK.

*Please complete this form and bring it to the audition.*

<b>NAME</b>	
<b>GENDER</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>	
<b>EMAIL</b>	
<b>MOBILE</b>	
<b>HEIGHT</b>	
<b>ROLE/S INTERESTED IN</b>	
<b>Are you prepared to accept the Director's judgement of the most suitable part for you?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b> (Circle one)
<b>If you are successful in obtaining a place in the production, do you give permission for your contact details to be published on a cast list?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b> (Circle one)
<b>On which date do you intend to audition?</b>	
<b>Are you prepared, and available, for all scheduled rehearsals, performances, and related activities? (If not, which dates?)</b>	<b>YES/NO</b> (Circle one)
<b>Please specify the details of any commitments which may impact upon your participation in the rehearsal process.</b>	
<b>List previous productions and roles played, as well as any relevant training or experience?</b>	
<b>How did you hear about us?</b> HHT Member? Audition Notice from HHT? Another group (name)? Other (please specify)?	

**Please read carefully before signing:**

*I understand that if I accept a role or participate as a member of cast or crew, an annual HHT membership fee of \$25 is payable and that full commitment to the following is expected of me: attending bump in and bump out, all the rehearsals the director nominates, all performance dates, and a willingness to be rostered on FOH for the next play.*

**Signed:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_