

# WORLD PREMIERE

OLD MILL THEATRE, SOUTH PERTH  
OLDMILLTHEATRE.COM.AU

# The Old Man and The She

18-28 JUNE 2026

WRITTEN BY  
DAVID CHRISTNER

DIRECTED BY  
DALE JAMES

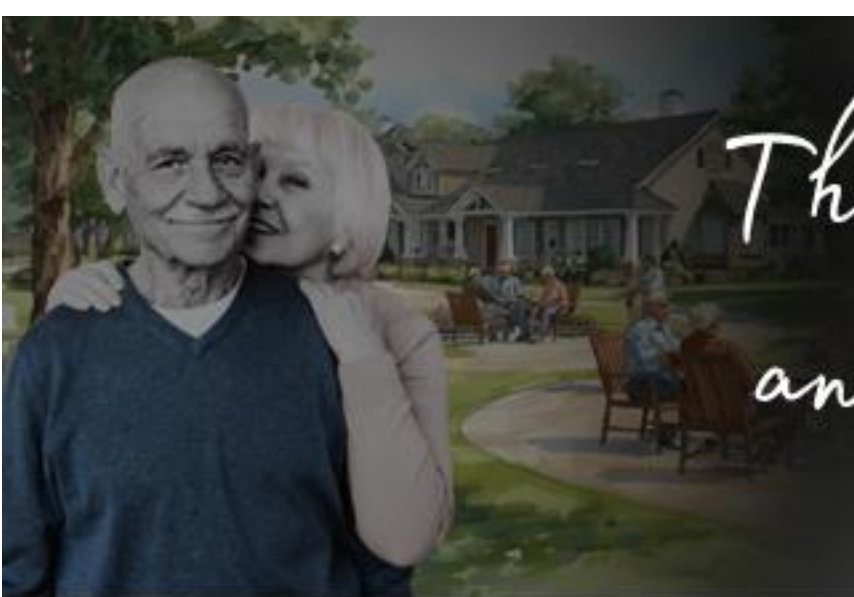
A romantic comedy about two free-wheeling seniors living in a brand new condo complex who meet on line.....

...what could possibly go wrong?



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# The Old Man and The She

## Welcome

to the world premiere of 'The Old Man and The She' in our newly refurbished theatre.



**Director:**  
**Dale James**

Dale joined The Patch Theatre as a junior and attended classes run by Jean Rule and Mary Senior. Due to marriage, children and career, Dale gave away the theatre until 1980 when she joined The Little Theatre in Cottesloe and won Best Actress for her role in Morning Sacrifice, a play she shared the stage with Kerry Goode, the start of a great friendship between them.

Dale has performed at many of the community theatres around Perth, has done back stage, acting, directing, FOH and bar duty over the years, won many awards (throughout the years) in theatre for Acting and Directing.

This is the second David Christener's play Dale has directed, the first was Our Gang at The Garrick Theatre – it was during this play that Dale lost her long-time friend and Stage Manager, Maureen Harvie and David also lost his son Christopher, both due to cancer.

David asked that the royalties from that production be put toward a dedication to Christopher and Maureen and so a bench seat, which sits on the veranda at The Garrick Theatre, there in memoriam to Christopher and Maureen, a great SM and friend.

While writing this play David sadly lost his wife Linda due to a stroke. David has asked that The Old Mill Theatre make a donation to a charity on Linda's behalf rather than be paid royalties for his play. We have agreed to donate the fees to Harry Perkins Medical Research in WA.



# The Old Man and The She

## Cast

Jack Collins : Rex Gray  
Kate Mansfield : Kylie Calwell  
Rocky Calhoun : Chris Kennedy  
Lien Nguyen : Joanne Low  
Rosey : Kezia George

## Production Team

Dale James : Director  
Kezia George : Stage Manager  
*Lighting Design* : ??  
*Lighting operation* : ??  
*Sound operation* : ??  
*Set Design* : ??  
*Graphic Design* : Anne-Marie Farley  
*Front of House* : Keiran Shun,  
Brenda Oliver-Harry and team

## Thank you

David Christner was born and raised in a small farming community situated between the Washita River and the Wichita Mountains in southwestern Oklahoma. He now lives in South County, Rhode Island.

Christner is an award-winning playwright. In addition to the U.S., his plays have been produced in Australia, Japan, Belgium, India and Canada.



**Author:**  
**David Christner**



# The Old Man and The She

## Cast



**Kate Mansfield:  
Kylie Calwell**

Kylie has been tripping across the stage for a while now. Playing in dramas, comedies, pantos and even the Bard, across two countries. She loves characters she can have fun with, her role as Ouiser in 'Steel Magnolias' was one she particularly enjoyed.

Dale James was her first director when she came back to Australia and we are here again - always a pleasure.

Kylie is thrilled to be back on the stage at The Old Mill Theatre and being part of this wonderful cast is an absolute joy.

Having worked with Dale James and most other cast members (either by being directed by them or acting alongside them) - Dale on stage in "Hail Mary" at OMT and directed by her in "The Sunshine Boys" at Harbour Theatre as well as 'Our Gang' at Garrick. With Kylie in 'Our Gang', Chris in 'Not about Nightingales' and "The Club" and Kezia in Maverick Theatre's production of 'Losing Sinatra', Rex was thrilled to be chosen to breathe life into the character of Jack in the world premiere of this wonderful play by David Christner (who also wrote 'Our Gang') and is pleased to meet and work with Joanne as his stage daughter.

Although Rex has worked previously in most community theatres in Perth and surrounds and overseas at the Galway Fringe Festival in Ireland in Noel O'Neill's 'Under Any old Gum Tree', he's excited to be back at the Old Mill Theatre which he considers to be 'home'.



**Jack Collins:  
Rex Gray**



# The Old Man and The She



**Rocky Calhoun:**  
**Chris Kennedy**

Chris began acting in 2017 after taking weekend classes and quickly discovered a love of theatre. He has appeared in many shows since then, some of his favourites being: 'Allo 'Allo (Stirling Players, 2017), Not About Nightingales (Life on Hold, 2020), and 'Twas the Night Before Christmas (Harbour Theatre, 2020), but is now returning from a several years break, and has been looking forward to treading the boards again and working with such a wonderful cast and director.

Chris enjoys playing the guitar and gardening, can cook 30 minute brownies in 20 minutes, and has been heard saying: "They don't call me the pie master for nothing." Although nobody has ever called him that to our knowledge.

As a newcomer to acting, I'm very fortunate to have fallen into theatre, with this being my second stage show, after having played Fran in Mandy at Roxy Lane Theatre last year, and doing street theatre in Toodyay for the last two Moondyne Joe Festival shows. I have also begun to do some film work, as well as being currently engaged in studying the craft further through Actors Lab, and look forward to more acting in both stage and film productions in coming years - particularly in other upcoming comedy projects, as this is my favourite genre.



**Lien Nguyen:**  
**Joanne Low**



**Kezia George:**  
**Rosey**

Kezia George has been acting from a young age, performing in school plays and extracurricular activities. As an adult she studied at WAAPA and NIDA plus the ABC where she completed a Cadetship. Kezia took a break from performing to raise her family but has enjoyed returning to the stage recently. Kezia has previously worked at Harbour Theatre, Stirling Players, Limelight Theatre and Roxy Theatre. She is delighted to tread the boards at Old Mill.

## OMT Renovations through the years

Original entrance from the street through what is now Hywel's Bar. The bio box can just be seen on 'stilts' at the rear of auditorium.



2009

Tiered seating was installed to provide clear audience viewing and an improved bio box for technicians.



2026

Thanks to our volunteers the seats were dismantled in one morning - a huge task! Some floor works required!



June 2026

And here we are after 'Renos2026'. Improved seat comfort, better and safer access.



Greater access for people with limited mobility.

# History of The Old Mill Theatre

The Mechanics' Institute Hall, built in 1899, is now known as the 'Old Mill Theatre'.

Sir John Forrest officially opened the hall on 7 August 1899. A report in the West Australian newspaper described the opening ceremony:

*"A high class concert was then given, an amateur orchestra rendering a number of choice selections including a performance from famed local artist May Gibbs".*

- The building has also been used as a home for various small schools (1901 – c1940), and a theatre group.
- Not only was the hall used for concerts, but it also held a library and a Billiards Parlour as well as, prior to construction of the Old Council Offices in 1904, providing a home for the Road Board.
- The building has also been used as a home for various small schools (1901 – c1940), and a theatre group.
- Since 1948 the Council has leased the hall to the Old Mill Theatre Inc. Led by Mrs Constance Ord for over forty years, the theatre has played an important role in the cultural life of South Perth.
- At the end of 1963, the Hall was converted into a full-time theatre and the Old Mill Theatre was adopted as the new name.
- In 1973 further extensions were carried out by the Council, providing much needed dressing room and storage facilities. The well-planned additions blended completely with the old building.
- Further renovations were needed after a fire in 1984 caused extensive damage to parts of the theatre.
- In the 1990s the venue was used for performances of Tom Hungerford's 'Stories from Suburban Road' and as the set for episodes of the TV series, 'Ship to Shore'.
- In 2002, the building underwent further substantial restoration work, including work to its exterior to remove the painted finish from the outer walls and bring it back, as closely as possible, to its former appearance with the red brick façade that we see today.
- More recently a tunnel was installed under the stage to allow for improved access for actors to enter from each side of the stage.
- 2024 saw the introduction of Fringe acts to the venue and an extended season was delivered in 2025 which led to the Old Mill Theatre being awarded 'Best Independent Fringe Venue'.
- Recent internal improvements include an impressive new lighting rig, up to date seating and enhanced accessibility for people with limited mobility.
- The 2026 renovations help confirm The Old Mill Theatre as one of WA's favourite small theatres.

# 2026

AT



**J**un **The Old Man and The She**  
(presented by Old Mill Theatre) (18-28 Jun 2026)

**J**ul **Sister Act (Jnr Edition)**  
(presented by Bel Canto Performing Arts) (10-18 Jul 2026)

**J**ul/**A**ug **The Master and Margarita**  
(presented by GRADS) (24 July -8 Aug 2026)

**A**ug **Pygmalion**  
(presented by Irish Theatre Players) (14-29 Aug 2026)

**S**ept **Table Manners**  
(presented by Old Mill Theatre) (11-26 Sept 2026)

**O**ct **Matrimonio senza dote**  
(presented by Italian Theatre - *in Italian*) (14-25 Oct 2026)

**n**ov **Pick Your Poison**  
(presented by Old Mill Theatre) (13-28 Nov 2026)

**D**ec **WATCH THIS SPACE**  
It's Panto time!

Thank you



We thank our OMT Volunteers and members, without their support there is no theatre!

We thank the City of South Perth for its continued support of our delivery of community theatre.

We thank our Australian Veterans who fought in all wars, for our country's freedom. Thank you for your service and sacrifice.

We acknowledge the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation for their continuing contribution to the land on which we work and share stories.