



INFORMATION PACK: The Mysterious Amateur Tramp

By Jenny Davis with collaboration by Melanie DeCull

Director: Carol Wimmer

ABOUT RICHMOND PLAYERS

Richmond Players is one of Australia's oldest, continuously operating dramatic societies performing for over 70 years in the Hawkesbury! Some of the productions over the last few years have included *The Mikado*, *Death by Chocolate* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Our current show is *Milo's Wake*. Next year (which is why you are here) we are presenting, *The Mysterious Amateur Tramp* in May 2024. This a rehearsed play reading and different to our usual performances.

THE PLAY

This one-act play is the re-imagining of the extraordinary walk of journalist and mystery crime writer Aidan de Brune – the first person to walk solo around the perimeter of Australia and survive! 20th September 1921 to 4th March 1924: 10,600 miles, 29 months and countless boots! The play is based on his travel diary, the people who signed it and articles he sent to newspapers.

Originally written for radio, this play has recently been played on the stage in Perth. Our production will be a combination of both! A stage play with sound effects made as they were made in early radio plays.

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Aidan tells about the places he visits and meets various people along the way. At times his "conscience" adds comments or hypothetical questions or admonitions.

PERFORMANCE DATES

Please double-check these dates in your calendar before committing to the show.

- Saturday March 1 - 2pm
- Saturday March 1 - 7.30pm

If you are unable to attend all shows, perhaps put your hand up to support behind the scenes.

AUDITION INFORMATION

The audition will be held on **Tuesday December 10** at the **Richmond School of Arts**. Please arrive from 7.30pm and come to the Green Room. (There will be signs.) During this time, you can meet us and any others who have come along. You can also complete the audition form (if you don't bring one with you). The audition will start at 8.00pm.

Address for the **"Richmond School of Arts"**: Corner of Market and West Streets, Richmond.

Map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/A7V3ipbbNJXyh9o8>

Even though this will be an 'open' audition, please register with the Director, whose contact details are included in this pack.

AUDITION PROCESS

Even though this will be an 'open' audition please register with the Director, whose contact details are at the bottom of this page.

No experience is necessary. Come along and "have a go"!

Rehearsals will be limited in number and organised in consultation with the cast once it is announced. Possibly on a Sunday evening.

Auditions will be open. All you need to do is recite or read a minute of an Australian poem or an Australian story.

The most important thing will be to do your best and have fun. Auditions don't have to be nerve-racking ordeals and they are great learning experiences.

PRIOR TO THE AUDITION

- Read through this information pack.
- Complete the audition form and email it to Carol (or bring it to the audition). Additional copies will be available on the night.

If you would like a pdf copy of the play, or have any questions about the characters, the play or to register for the audition, please contact Carol at carol@wimmer.com.au. or 0412 386 943.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

AIDAN DE BRUNE (aka Herbert Cull)

An English printer and piano who aspired to be a writer and left his family, changed his name and travelled on foot around Australia.

HERBERT

His conscience.

FEMALE

Eleven characters played by one or two actors.

MALE

Ten characters played by one or more actors.

FOLEY ARTIST/S (Sound Effects)

One or two actors making the soundscapes of the farms and towns along the way.

EXPECTATIONS

Performers and crew members are to conduct themselves professionally, and with dedication. This ensures a smooth-running show, and that fun is had by all. If you are sick and cannot attend a rehearsal, please phone the Director as soon as possible.

As we use a hired, shared space, we need to set-up and pack down. This will be at varying degrees during rehearsals and more substantially during the run. We ask the cast and crew to help support whenever and however possible.

MEMBERSHIP

All cast and crew will need to be members of Richmond Players (2025).

Membership covers insurance and production costs. Membership is currently \$30 per person and likely to be same/similar in 2025. This also entitles you to one discounted ticket to each of the Richmond Players' productions during 2025 and this can be gifted to a friend or family member. Our membership fee is the only fee you need to pay and covers associated production costs unless otherwise advised and should be paid at the start of rehearsals.

