



MUDS

PRESENTS

BLACK MUD

Goestorth

WRITTEN BY RICHARD CURTIS & BEN ELTON

COMPANY

CAPTAIN EDMUND BLACKADDER
SANDY MACKINNON

PRIVATE S. BALDRICK
COLIN PRICE

LIEUTENANT GEORGE
KIEREN INNES-IRONS

GENERAL MELCHETT
IAN TODD

CAPTAIN KEVIN DARLING
LACHLAN BARRETT

FIELD MARSHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG
PAUL HANRATTY

DRIVER BOBBY PARKHURST
MEGAN KAVANAGH

OBERLEUTNANT VON GERHARDT & SOLDIER
GEOFF PITTS

BARON MANFRED VON RICHTOFEN & SOLDIER
DARYL HUNT

FLYING COMMANDER LORD FLASHEART & SOLDIER
JAYDEN HARPER



A CUNNING PLAN

ACT 1 BEGINS WITH AN ONGOING ARTILLERY ATTACK THAT IS DISTURBING BLACKADDER'S REST, AN ATTACK WHICH BLACKADDER SAYS WILL NOT HELP AS 'JERRY IS SAFE UNDERGROUND'. SHORTLY AFTER IT STOPS, AN AIR RAID BEGINS. BELIEVING IT TO BE A GERMAN RAID, BLACKADDER LEAVES AN ANGRY MESSAGE FOR THE HEAD OF THE ROYAL FLYING CORPS ("MESSAGE READS 'WHERE ARE YOU, YOU BASTARDS?'"). BUT BLACKADDER IS NOT THRILLED TO LEARN THAT IT WAS SIMPLY A DISPLAY BY THE FLYING CORPS. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS THE BRASH AND EGOCENTRIC SQUADRON COMMANDER LORD FLASHHEART CRASH LANDS BY THE DUG-OUT AND PUNCHES BLACKADDER, BELIEVING HIM TO BE A 'BOCHE'. BALDRICK AND GEORGE ARE ENRAPTURED BY FLASHHEART, THOUGH BLACKADDER IS COMPLETELY UNIMPRESSED, VIEWING FLASHHEART AS A "PRAT". AS FLASHHEART LEAVES WITH BOB, FLASHHEART OFFERS GEORGE A PLACE IN THE FLYING CORPS. INITIALLY UNINTERESTED, BLACKADDER IS MORE AGREEABLE WHEN HE LEARNS OF THE "20 MINUTERS" SQUADRON, SO NAMED BECAUSE NEW PILOTS ONLY SPEND 20 MINUTES IN THE AIR.

AT STAFF HQ, BLACKADDER TRIES TO JOIN THE FLYING CORPS. CAPTAIN DARLING TRIES TO STOP HIM, BUT GENERAL MELCHETT ALLOWS THE TRANSFER. AT BASIC TRAINING THE NEXT DAY, BLACKADDER LEARNS THAT THE FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR IS FLASHHEART, AND THAT THE ACTUAL REASON FOR THE NAME 'TWENTY MINUTERS' IS BECAUSE THE 20 MINUTES IS THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF A NEW PILOT. DARLING AT THIS POINT ASSURES BLACKADDER THAT HE'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS HE HAS A GOOD NAVIGATOR. HOWEVER, MUCH TO DARLING'S GLEE, THE NAVIGATOR IS BALDRICK.

SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF, BOTH BLACKADDER AND BALDRICK ARE SHOT DOWN BY A GERMAN PLANE AND CAPTURED BY BARON VON RICHTHOFEN WHO WANTS TO LEARN THE SUBTLETIES OF BRITISH HUMOUR. HE INFORMS THEM OF THEIR FATE, WHICH ENTAILS TEACHING HOME ECONOMICS TO YOUNG GERMAN GIRLS IN A CONVENT OUTSIDE HEIDELBERG, WHICH THE BARON THINKS WILL BE A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH TO A BRITISH SOLDIER; BLACKADDER FEIGNS SORROW, BUT HE IS, OF COURSE, OVERJOYED.

GEORGE, IN THE MEANTIME, ATTEMPTS TO RESCUE BLACKADDER BUT IS INFORMED THAT IT WOULD BE POINTLESS. HE IS SHOWN A MAP SHOWING THE LAND THEY HAVE RECAPTURED – 17 SQUARE FEET, IN ACTUAL SIZE. HE IS MORE SUCCESSFUL IN RECRUITING LORD FLASHHEART, WHO SWIFTLY RESCUES BLACKADDER AND BALDRICK. BLACKADDER TRIES TO STALL THEM AND GET HIMSELF RECAPTURED, BUT FLASHHEART IS NOT FOOLED AND FORCES BLACKADDER OUT THE DOOR. UNFORTUNATELY, RICHTHOFEN APPEARS AND CONFRONTS FLASHHEART, COMPARING THE NOBILITY AND MAJESTY OF THEIR CALLING.

ACT 2 DEPICTS THE FINAL HOURS BEFORE A BRITISH OFFENSIVE ON THE WESTERN FRONT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR, AND CAPTAIN BLACKADDER'S ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE HIS FATE BY FEIGNING MADNESS. AFTER HE FAILS TO CONVINCE GENERAL MELCHETT, AND FIELD MARSHAL HAIG'S ADVICE PROVES USELESS, HE RESIGNS HIMSELF TO TAKING PART IN THE PUSH.

THE ALBUM



Kieren Innes-Irons - Lt George



Sandy Mackinnon - Captain Blackadder



Daryl Hunt - Baron von Richthofen & Ian Todd - General Melchett



Colin Price - Pt S Baldrick



Lachlan Barrett - Captain Darling



Alannah Harper - Production Assistant
& Jayden Harper - Lord Flasheart



Paul Hanratty - Field Marshal Haig



Megan Kavanagh - Driver Parkhurst



Geoff Pit - Von Gerhardt



Serena Moring - Pianist

MESSAGES FROM THE FRONT

Sandy Mackinnon has been in love with performing ever since his debut role as a polecat in a production of Noah's Flood when he was 11 years old. A review of his performance of third pirate on the left in an Adelaide performance of The Pirates of Penzance accused him of the most outrageous example of upstaging ever seen on an Australian stage, a fact that does not surprise those who know him well. Since moving to the Mansfield district to teach at Geelong Grammar's Timbertop campus, Sandy has involved himself in various MMuDS productions over the years, playing the role of the MC in 'Cabaret' in fishnet stockings and sequins...which WAS a surprise to his friends and family..., the role of Don Quixote in "The Man of La Mancha" – his favourite role of all time - and directing his own musical Shakespearean comedy, "Much Ado about What You Will." Sandy has long been a fan of Blackadder and comedy of that ilk and is highly relieved that this role does not involve any dancing or dressing up in drag.

Colin Price's MMuDS journey began back in 2014 when he played the butler in the production of The Sound of Music. This was his first taste of theatre, one which was very enjoyable and fulfilling. Having had his performing appetite stimulated, what followed have been roles in Man of La Mancha (Padre), Beauty and The Beast (Cogsworth), and in 2017 Jekyll & Hyde, the Bishop of Basingstoke and Spider - duel role. In 2018, Colin was a part of the lighting team for the production of Mary Poppins. He found this very rewarding by gaining knowledge and experience in theatre production from the 'other side'. New challenges are presented with the staging of Blackadder Goes Forth as it will be his first play, rather than the previous musicals. Colin's attraction to this show and his character Private S. Baldrick comes from the opportunity to deliver a rollicking comedic romp combined with a very powerful underlying message, which he is very much looking forward to.

Kieren Innes-Irons moved from Melbourne two and a half years ago, and was looking for a way to be involved in the local Mansfield community. As a huge fan of British comedy, coupled with a secret desire to tread the boards, the lure of the casting call for Blackadder Goes Forth proved too much. With no acting experience whatsoever, Kieren has thrown himself into the role of George with gusto. "I'm having an absolute ball", Kieren said. "I would encourage anyone with the slightest desire to act to give MMuDS a go". The rehearsals have been so much fun, and the other cast and crew have been so helpful and supportive of a novice like me". With this one under his belt, I doubt we've seen the last of Kieren around MMuDS productions.

Ian Todd joined the chorus of MMuDS' production of Sweet Charity in 2013. One thing lead to another and, like so many before him, he was hooked! Roles followed in Sound of Music (Captain Von Trapp), Beauty and the Beast (Lumiere), Lyfe of Bryan (Naughtius Maximus) and Mary Poppins (George Banks). This year, he decided to try his hand in a non-musical role and jumped at the chance to audition for a part in Blackadder Goes Forth, one of his favourite TV comedy series. Like most of the cast, Ian is both a Rowan Atkinson and Stephen Fry 'tragic', so he's thrilled to be performing the Stephen Fry character, General 'Insanity' Melchett. Ian is looking forward to bringing this psychopathic character to life as part of a cast of the very experienced and fresh faces, all with a common goal - to come up with a cunning plan!

Daryl Hunt is a veteran MMuDS performer who was attracted to Blackadder Goes Forth by the opportunity to perform with a great close-knit cast and crew and such a wonderful storyline. He has not been disappointed and looks forward to helping bring this clever script to life.

Geoff Pitt haz been wiz ze MMuDS for 3 yearz now. His stage debut waz zat of Stan/Loretta in Lyfe of Bryan. He played Poole during ze Jekyll & Hyde musical in 2017 and now he iz a German officer, Oberlutannt von Gerhard, who is so proud of ze greatest living German, Baron Manfred von Richtoven. He iz loving it all and especially likes ze part where he sayz 'Do not try to escape or you will suffer even vorse'!

Lachlan Barrett devotes much of his to time to MMuDS. Acting is his passion and hopes to eventually make a career out of bringing smiles to an audience. He is greatly enjoying playing the uptight and pedantic Captain Darling.

Paul Hanratty was last on stage in the middle ages when he attended University. He made a brief (very brief from the photos) appearance as Frankenfurter in the Rocky Horror picture show. But being a long time admirer of "Blackadder" and having made his children endure many quotes, puns and the odd cunning plan from the tv series, there was nothing for it but to don the uniform and be part of it all.

Megan Kavanagh is excited to be part of a MMuDS production for the first time having moved to Mansfield only two years ago. During her university years Megan completed actor training with Geelong Screen Actors Studio and Melbourne Acting Studio. She's happy to be on the stage again this time as 'Driver Parkhurst' and as the Stage Manager.

Jayden Harper has also recently moved to Mansfield. He believed an appropriate introduction to his new community would be to flail maniacally on stage in front of the whole town, however he began to question the sanity of that decision as opening night loomed ever closer. His previous acting experience is small, including several high school productions, as well as a YouTube series he made in university, titled 'The Adventures of Perry and Jester', which received high praise from both of his co-stars. Jayden hopes you don't judge him too harshly based on the actions of Squadron Commander the Lord Flasheart. Apart from uncannily similar facial features, the two have little in common.

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR - KAREN PIRIE

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & PRODUCER - CAMILLE MURPHY

PIANIST - SERENA MORING

STAGE MANAGER - MEGAN KAVANAGH

DOCUMENTARY MAKER - KELLI-ANN GOTJE

PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY - JOSH PAYNE

SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION - BARRY MILLS

PROPS - BILL ROMANS, IAN RIBBONS

COSTUME COORDINATOR - KAREN PIRIE

TECHNICAL EFFECTS - SCOTT ERSVAER

STAGE CREW - JOSH JENKINS

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER - SUZIE ROBERTS

FRONT OF HOUSE CREW - ERICA MORGAN, ALICE BURTON,

RUBY ERSVAER-GOTJE, TIM MORGAN, ALYSSA LAMONT, WENDY LINDBOM

JACKIE CESNIK, CATHIE SMITH, KELLI-ANN GOTJE

LIGHTING DESIGNER & SET-UP - ZAYNE BREADMORE

LIGHTING OPERATOR - BERNADETTE GIFFORD, MICHAEL ISBISTER

SOUND SET-UP - MICHAEL ISBISTER, CAITLIN TODD

SOUND & EFFECTS OPERATOR - CAITLIN TODD

RADIO ADVERTISING & INTERVIEWS COORDINATOR - ROGER NOLAN

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS - LAUREL LAWRIE, ALANNAH HARPER

VISUAL & SOUND EFFECTS - IAN MALLYON, MICHAEL ISBISTER

POSTER DESIGN - DANIEL BELLE

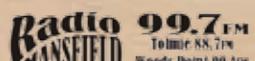
JOURNALIST - ALLISON WALKER

PROGRAM DESIGN - KAREN PIRIE

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MANSFIELD RSL, DAVID WESTPHALEN, JOHN SMITH,

REBECCA DOUGLAS, GRAHAM GODBER, BRYDIE SMITH,

SEV STEINLAUF, RICHARD SMITH



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THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.