

# PRESS KIT

# My Place

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHILDRENS TELEVISION FOUNDATION

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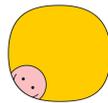
A MATCHBOX PICTURES PRODUCTION  
FOR  
THE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
SCREEN NSW  
AND  
SCREEN TASMANIA

BASED ON THE BOOK BY  
NADIA WHEATLEY AND  
DONNA RAWLINS



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AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S  
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# MY PLACE SERIES SYNOPSIS

**My Place**, based on the Nadia Wheatley & Donna Rawlins children's picture book of the same name, is the story of one spot in South Sydney over 130 years. Starting in 2008, and taking us back to 1888, the series introduces us to 13 kids, all with a talent for some kind of trouble, each hiding up the same ancient fig tree, and each with a story to tell. It's a rare child's eye view of the history of Sydney told through a 13 x half hour series and interactive website.

# MY PLACE EPISODE SYNOPSSES

## **Episode 1**

***Laura 2008***

**Script by Leah Purcell**

**Directed by Shawn Seet**

Laura and her friend Soriya are mucking around a dinghy near the canal. When it floats out into the bay and starts to sink, they bail frantically using a container they find in the dinghy. It's fruitless and they swim to shore leaving the sinking boat. Then Laura discovers that the dinghy belongs to her family's landlord Michaelis and they have just bailed out the ashes of his beloved dead dog. Laura and the now frazzled Soriya are consumed by guilt. Laura feels terrible for Michaelis but can't find a way to own up. It's 2008 and the Prime Minister is trying to do the same thing with her mob.

## **Episode 2**

***Mohammed 1998***

**Script by Brendan Cowell**

**Directed by Shawn Seet**

**Mohammed** is a mad keen bowler – Shane Warne is his hero. Desperate to join the cricket team at his new school, Mohammed turns up for the try-outs. But the team is a closed shop dominated by the captain Brian Hilliard and his father Greg, the coach. Mohammed's new friend Danielle invites him to join her girls' team much to the hilarity of Brian Hillyard and his mates. When the boy's team invites the girl's team to a practice match, Mohammed puts Warnie's famous leg spin technique into play, wiping the smile from Brian Hillyard's face.

## **Episode 3**

***Lily 1988***

**Script by Greg Waters**

**Directed by Shawn Seet**

**Lily** is excited when cousin Phoung arrives with her parents from Vietnam. Her trophy cousin will be a perfect show-and-tell at school and Lily can teach her how to speak Australian. But Phoung turns out to be in no need of help and a real threat to Lily's status at home and at school. Phoung steals her bed, her friends and her favourite teacher. When Phoung brings home Archibald, the school's pet mouse, Lily desperately tries to hide it from her mother who hates the things. In the tussle, Archibald escapes, leading to a hilarious chase, which changes everything.

#### **Episode 4**

**Mike 1978**

**Script by Nicholas Parsons**

**Directed by Michael James Rowland**

**Mike** knows a lot about Australian muscle cars from 1968 to 1978 but the other kids think he's odd. There's a boy, Ben, who likes to talk to him about cars and Mike thinks maybe Ben could be his friend. Ben sends him in to the Tippy's junky yard to get car bits, because Mike is the only kid not frightened of the Tippy. When Ben suggests that Mike steal a snazzy carburettor from the Tippy, Mike finds a friend in an unexpected place.

#### **Episode 5**

**Sofia 1968**

**Script by Nicholas Parsons**

**Directed by Michael James Rowland**

**Sofia** is a spy for the yayas and she's determined to get rid of her brother Michaelis' anglo girlfriend, Janice, before he leaves for Vietnam. She tries everything to derail the budding romance – from mistranslating a conversation between her mother and Janice, to putting lipstick kisses on all Michaelis' collars, to sending Janice an angry letter from Michaelis' non-existent Greek girlfriend. And she succeeds. When the moment of Michaelis' departure for war arrives, Sofia realises there's something far worse than her brother having a girlfriend.

#### **Episode 6**

**Michaelis 1958**

**Script by Tim Pye**

**Directed by Michael James Rowland**

**Michaelis'** family is from Kalymnos. He wants to be Australian not Greek but even more he wants a television so he can watch Robin Hood and be accepted by the McCormack brothers at the milk bar. He watches Robin Hood with binoculars from a tree outside the McCormack's house. When the brothers ask him to tell them what happens in the next episode, he is forced to break into their house to watch because they're away at Boy's Brigade. But he is caught, the McCormacks tell his parents and his father bans him from leaving the house him for the holidays. When Michaelis is later bullied by the McCormacks and tells their parents, the result is not what he expected.

#### **Episode 7**

**Jen 1948**

**Script by Alice Addison**

**Directed by Catriona McKenzie**

**Jen's** dad died in the war. Now her mum has a new friend Wal, who definitely doesn't match up in Jen's eyes to her handsome, war hero dad. Handsome is important. Jen's girlfriends give Wal a rating of 3 out of 10, maybe 4 with his shiny new car. When her mother announces that she is going to marry Wal, Jen is horrified. She tries her best to undermine him but before she can find a way to get this toad out of her house, Wal does something surprisingly heroic. And funny. Funny is important.

#### **Episode 8**

**Colum 1938**

**Script by Greg Waters**

**Directed by Catriona McKenzie**

**Colum's** best mate Thommo and his family are about to be kicked out of their house by the bailiffs which means he and Thommo may not get a chance to ride their billy cart down Brickpits Hill. Worse still, Joe Blake the dole inspector keeps threatening Colum's dad that if they're raising chooks and vegetables, they'll lose their dole money. Colum comes up with an ingenious plan to get money for Thommo's rent. It involves a horse in the Melbourne Cup. But the best race of all occurs when Colum's hen Bessie sets a clutch of eggs in his billy cart and the boys have to escape Joe Blake by riding the cart, with Bessie, down Brickpits Hill.

**Episode 9**

***Bridie 1928***

**Script by Gina Roncoli**

**Directed by Samantha Lang**

**Bridie's** older sister Kath and her best friend Lorna have a secret. Bridie can't bear their secrets. She so much wants to be part of the older girls' team. Then she learns that they're planning to go on a clandestine picnic to the river, leaving Bridie in charge of baby Colum. Using some deft trickery, Bridie worms her way into their expedition but the day turns out to be not what any of them expected. This day will mark Bridie and Kath's relationship forever.

**Episode 10**

***Bertie 1918***

**Script by Nicholas Parsons**

**Directed by Samantha Lang**

**Bertie** is working hard to get enough money to buy a present for his brother Eddie who's coming home from the war. He's got it on lay-by at Mr Watson's. When his brother's ship comes in early, he has to raise the rest of the money fast. He decides to put on a magic show for the soldiers at the hospital and "borrows" the pet rabbit of Edna, Mr Watson's daughter. When Edna discovers, all hell breaks loose and Mr Watson at first refuses to sell him the present. He relents but when Eddie returns, Bertie asks himself if it was worth it.

**Episode 11**

***Evelyn 1908***

**Script by Blake Ayshford**

**Directed by Jessica Hobbs**

**Evelyn** can't wait for cracker night. This year, for the first time, the family has their own box of fireworks – Mr Wong's No.5 Assortment. Evelyn and her brother Eddie show the box to their disbelieving neighbour Freddie. The boys persuade her to light one and what happens next means Evelyn, Eddie and Freddie have to learn resourcefulness, and fast.

**Episode 12**

***Rowley 1898***

**Script by Tim Pye**

**Directed by Jessica Hobbs**

**Rowley** longs for his father to come home. He's been away for four years looking for work. Convinced that good deeds will be rewarded, Rowley will do anything to help his mother and the other boarders in their house. But then he discovers that his father may never come home at all, that he picked up a cough from the brick dust and was then fired. Rowley is devastated by the injustice of it all and decides to help himself to the sports cupboard at the posh boys school.

**Episode 13**

***Victoria 1888***

**Script by Alice Addison**

**Directed by Jessica Hobbs**

**Victoria** and her family have just moved into the terrace house that her father has built. But soon she realises that her father may be going broke. She'll do anything to ensure that they stay there forever — including witchcraft. And Miss Muller next door may be her inspiration. Then she realises that her witchcraft may be working in all the wrong ways.

# MY PLACE WEBSITE

[www.abc.net.au/abc3/myplace](http://www.abc.net.au/abc3/myplace)

The *My Place* website is a rich interactive world for those who want to experience more of *My Place*. The website's Timescape, like the TV series, spans 130 years and is filled with people, places and objects across thirteen decades, each with their own special story - a story that's intrinsically linked to their place in that time. It allows the audience to delve more deeply into the detail of the people, places and history they see in each TV episode, and to explore the changes that occur through the passage of time.

A lot of the website that can be explored using a timeline, on a decade-by-decade basis corresponding to each TV episode. Key features include:

## MEET THE KIDS

The life of the child featuring in the story of each episode is explored in detail. Visitors to this section can discover details of that child, their likes and dislikes, their favourite things, and friends and family. There is also some entertaining historical information about each kid's decade.

## EXPLORE THE PLACES

### **The My Place house**

There are 3-4 locations to visit and explore within each decade that can be explored in detail. You can visit each child's bedroom and the kitchen in the *My Place* house. You can explore in more detail objects within each of these rooms (and there are amusing games within each house) as well as being able to observe how the rooms change over time by navigating between decades using the timeline device.

Many decades also feature another room or location within the house, for example the lounge room, the backyard or the laundry.

### **Other locations**

There's also a location to explore in the surrounding community that features strongly in each episode's story. This may be the corner store, the canal or the local cinema. There you will find objects which will open into games, quizzes and fascinating facts.

## VIEW THE COMMUNITY TREE

Each child has a community tree. There you can explore family and friend relationships and follow some characters through their life, which often spans multiple decades (and episodes).

## THE TV SERIES

This section of the website contains information about the TV series, the child actors and behind-the-scenes production information.

### **On Screen**

- The young actors' video diaries exploring their thoughts about the character they portray in the series and their on-set experiences; and
- Episode synopses and production credits.

### **Behind the Scenes**

- Some of the secrets of the making of the television series explored in videos, text and pictures.

The *My Place* website was produced by Blue Rocket Productions.

[www.blue-rocket.com.au](http://www.blue-rocket.com.au)

# MY PLACE LEAD CHILD CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**Maddie Madden (Laura, 2008)**

Maddie is 12 years old. She was an extra in *Backseat* (dir. Pauline Whyman), played a lead role in the short film *Ralph* (dir. Deborah Mailman), and starred in *The Farm* (dir. Romaine Moreton).

**Narek Armaganian (Mohammed, 1998)**

Narek is an acting veteran at 13 years of age. He has appeared in stage productions of *The War of the Roses* (dir. Benedict Andrews), *The Women of Troy* (dir. Barrie Kosky), *The Serpent's Teeth* (dir. Pamela Rabe & Tim Maddox). His television experience includes *Packed to the Rafters* (Network 7), *The Morning Show* (Network 7), and the upcoming children's series *Dance Academy* (ABC)

**Sheena Pham (Lily, 1988)**

At 14 years of age, Sheena is an emerging, young Vietnamese-Australian actress. She appeared on stage in Khoa Do's play *Mother Fish*, shortly followed by a starring role in the feature film *Missing Water* (written and directed by Khoa Do).

**Will Cottle (Mike, 1978)**

Will is 10 years old. *My Place* is his first acting experience.

**Anastasia Feneri (Sofia, 1968)**

Anastasia is 10 years old. *My Place* is her first television acting experience.

**Jonathan Kollias (Michaelis, 1958).**

At 10 years of age, this is Jonathan's first television acting experience. He has appeared in leading roles in school plays.

**Monique Holmes (Jen, 1948).**

This is Monique's first television role. She has appeared on stage as a dancer/singer in *Billy Elliot, the musical*. She is 13 years old.

**Alfie Carslake (Colum, 1938)**

Alfie is 13 years old and loves acting. He has participated in numerous NIDA courses, and he studies music and acting at school.

**Holly Fraser (Bridie, 1928)**

Holly is 14 years old and already has a swathe of acting experience under her belt. She starred in the television series *Kid Detectives*, as well as appearing on stage in *War of the Roses*. She has appeared in numerous television commercials, and has participated in many acting classes.

**Shardyn Fahey-Leigh (Bertie, 1918)**

Shardyn is 13 years old and has an array of stage acting experience including *Boy from Oz* and *Titanic*, and has appeared on television in various commercials. He won a Helpman Award for Best Young Actor, 2008.

**Lucy Howroyd (Evelyn, 1908).**

*My Place* is Lucy's first acting experience. She has done classes at NIDA and ATYP. She is 11 years old.

**Benson Anthony (Rowley, 1898)**

Benson is 11 years old and has appeared in various television commercials for Toyota, Kellogs and Legend of the Seeker. *My Place* is his first television drama series.

**Eliza Saville (Victoria, 1888)**

At 11 years of age, *My Place* is Eliza's first television acting experience. She has been involved in school-based productions, and is a member of the NSW Primary Schools Drama Ensemble.

# MY PLACE KEY ADULT CAST BIOGRAPHIES

## **Susie Porter (Miss Muller/Miller 1948-1888)**

Susie Porter has built a reputation as one of Australia's most outstanding film actors. Widely recognised for her feature roles in *Bootmen* opposite Adam Garcia and *Better Than Sex* opposite David Wenham, she has also starred in *Mullet*, *Paradise Road*, *Idiot Box*, *Two Hands*, *Feeling Sexy*, *Monkey's Mask*, *Teesh and Trude*, the award-winning *Little Fish* and *The Caterpillar Wish*.

Susie's television credits include guest roles in *Love My Way*, *The Secret Life of Us*, the UK production *Silent Witness*, the BBC series *State of Play*, and the lead role in the six-part SBS production of *RAN (Remote Area Nurse)* shot on location in the Torres Strait Islands. Susie has starred in the series of SBS's *East West 101* alongside Don Hany, William McInnes, and her *RAN* co-star Aaron Fa'Aoso and *East of Everything* for the ABC starring Richard Roxburgh and Gia Carides. Last year, Susie was busy filming back-to-back second series on both these productions and is also working on an upcoming series for television, *The Jesters*.

A NIDA graduate, Susie has also appeared on stage for the Griffin Theatre and Sydney Theatre Company. She was last seen on stage in the STC's production of Andrew Upton's *Riflemind*, directed by Phillip Seymour Hoffman. Susie has been widely acknowledged by her peers and the public with multiple AFI, IF Award and FCCA nominations for her work. She received a Silver Logie for *RAN* in 2007 and in 2006, Susie was awarded two AFI's for Best Supporting Actress in *The Caterpillar Wish* and Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama for *RAN*. She also received the St Tropez Best Actress award for her lead role in *Mullet* and the FCCA Best Supporting Actress award for *Two Hands*.

## **Hayley McElhinney (Victoria's Mother 1888)**

Hayley's television credits include *Always Greener*, *Love is a Four Letter Word*, *Twenty Four Seven*, *Young Lions* and *All Saints*. Her stage credits include *War of the Roses* (STC), *The Season at Sarsparilla* (STC), *Gallipoli* (STC), *Serpernt's Teeth* (STC), *A Midsummer's Nights Dream* (STC), *The Art of War* (STC), *Bourgeois Gentleman* (STC) and *The Lost Echo* (STC).

## **Dan Wyllie (Father 1888)**

Dan is a highly regarded Australian actor who has worked extensively in theatre, film and television. His breakthrough role in the 1990 film *Spotswood* alongside Anthony Hopkins was followed by notable film performances in the hit comedy *Muriels' Wedding* alongside Toni Collette, *Romper Stomper* with Russell Crowe, Jane Campion's *Holy Smoke*, the Terrence Mallick film *The Thin Red Line*, and PJ Hogan's *Peter Pan*.

Dan's television performances include a leading role in the award winning series *Love My Way*, which garnered him several award nominations and for which he won the TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series in 2006. Some of Dan's other standout television performances include roles in *Underbelly*, *Two Twisted* and the ABC series *Bastard Boys* and *Curtin and the mini series The Shark Net*.

Dan's close association with Sydney's Company B Belvoir Theatre and its artistic director Neil Armfield includes productions of *The Lieutenant Of Inishmore*, *The Alchemist*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Twelfth Night*, and most memorably the international tour of Tim Winton's *Cloudstreet* in which he played Fish Lamb.

## **Dan Spielman (Irishman 1888)**

Dan's numerous stage credits include *The Season at Sarsparilla*, *Art of War*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, *The Lost Echo*, *The Bourgeois Gentleman* and *The Cherry Orchard* (Sydney Theatre Company), *The Journal of The Plague Year*, *The*

*Ham Funeral* (Malthouse), *Half and Half* (Keene Taylor Theatre) and *The Seagull* (Melbourne Theatre Company). His television credits include roles in *Mary Bryant*, *The Secret Life of Us*, *Stingers*, *Farscape*, *Queen Kat*, *Carmel and St Jude*, *Raw FM* and *Wildside*. His feature film credits include *Tom White* and *One Perfect Day*. Dan also had a role in the short film *The Pitch* by Nash Edgerton.

### **Sacha Horler (Elsie 1898)**

Sacha Horler is one of Australia's most highly-respected actresses. She won two AFI awards in the same year - Best Actress for her performance in the controversial *Praise* and Best Supporting Actress for *Soft Fruit*. She again won a Best Supporting Actress AFI for *Travelling Light*. Sacha has also received a further three AFI nominations.

Sacha was born into the theatre. Her parents Ken and Lillian Horler founded the Nimrod Theatre in 1971. Since graduating from NIDA in 1993, Sacha has been seen in the best of Australian film, theatre and television. She regularly performs at the Sydney Theatre Company (*The Removalist*, *The Crucible*, *Pygmalion*, *Three Sisters*, *Far Away*, *Life After George*) and for Company B at Belvoir St (*Peribanez*, *Blue Murder*, *Svetlana in Slingbacks*). Her television credits include *My Place*, *Love my Way*, *Blackjack*, *Crashburn*, *Secret Bridesmaids Business*, *Grass Roots* and she will soon be seen in the Network 10 telemovie *Hawke*. Sacha's films include *Praise*, *Soft Fruit*, *My Mother Frank*, *Walk the Talk*, *Russian Doll*, *Savages Crossing*, *Look Both Ways* and the critically acclaimed *My Year Without Sex*.

### **Fiona Press (Miss Singer 1898)**

Since training at the Q Theatre, Penrith, then graduating from NIDA in 1983, Fiona has played with most of the major theatre companies across the country in a wide variety of roles. Highlights include: *Wild Honey*, *The Recruiting Officer* (STC of SA), *Men Should Weep* (Q Theatre), *Tartuffe* (Nimrod), *The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband* (The Street, Canberra), *Romeo and Juliet* (Bell Shakespeare), *Third World Blues*, *Two Weeks with the Queen*, *Coriolanus*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Shadowlands* (STC), *Social Climbers* (Marian Street), *Wet and Dry* (Griffin), *After the Ball* (Ensemble), *Steaming* (Theatre Royal), and *A Fortunate Life* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (MTC). Her television credits include *Echo Point*, *Home and Away*, *Always Greener*, *All Saints*, *Above the Law*, *A Country Practice*, *CNNNN*, *Backberner*, *Packed to the Rafters* and the two ABC mini-series *Edens Lost* and *Stark*. Her feature film appearances include the recent *Disgrace* (with John Malkovich), *Lillian's Story*, *Oscar and Lucinda*, *No Worries*, *Passion*, *Flirting*, *Children of the Revolution* and *Waiting* for which she received an AFI award for Best Supporting Actress.

### **Paul Ceasar (Russell Gartner 1898)**

Paul's feature film credits include *The Square* and *Cross-Life* and his television credits include *30 Seconds*, *All Saints*, *Home and Away* and *All Saints*.

### **Russell Dykstra (Mr Merry 1908 & 1898)**

Russell has had a successful career in theatre, film and television spanning over 20 years. Theatre credits include *The Unlikely Prospect of Happiness* (Sydney Theatre Company) *Toy Symphony* and *Stuff Happens* for Company B, both performances earning him a Helpmann Award for Best Supporting Actor, *Ray's Tempest*, *The Underpants*, *The Laramie Project*, *Yibiyung* and *The Ham Funeral*.

His one-man show *Children of the Devil* toured nationally and he won a Brisbane Theatre Critics' Matilda Award and a Victorian Green Room Award nomination for Best Actor.

Russell's other theatre credits include *Not Like Beckett* (Malthouse Theatre), *The Gypsy Boy* (Theatre of Image) *Below* (Griffin), *The Imaginary Invalid* (Ensemble) and *Gigi*, *The Winter's Tale*, *And a Nightingale Sang* and *Shimada* (Queensland Theatre Company).

Russell's television credits include *Scorched*, the Channel 10 *BlackJack* series, ABC TV's *Loot*, *All Saints* and *White Collar Blue*.

Russell made his feature film debut in the critically acclaimed *Soft Fruit*, for which he received the 1999 AFI Award for Best Actor and was nominated for a Film Critics' Circle of Australia

Award. He has since appeared in *Romulus My Father*, for which he was nominated for an AFI Award for Best Supporting Actor, *Clubland*, *Lantana*, *Garage Days*, *Ned Kelly*, *View from Greenhaven Drive*, *The Wannabes*, and *Hey Hey it's Esther Blueburger*.

#### **Leon Ford (Evelyn's Father 1908)**

Leon Ford impressed audiences and critics in his portrayal of *Hamlet* in John Bell's 2003 production. His performance earned him a Green Room nomination for Best Male Actor in a Leading Role. Leon has appeared in several other Bell Shakespeare productions including *The Soldier's Tale* (presented with the Australian Chamber Orchestra), *Hippolytus*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Henry V* and *Henry IV Parts I & II*. He has worked with a number of other major theatre companies including the Griffin Theatre Company (*Presence*) and the Melbourne Theatre Company (*Macbeth*).

Leon's recent television credits include HBO's Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks mini-series *The Pacific* and the Golden Globe nominated HBO mini-series *Tsunami: The Aftermath*. He also recently appeared in the SBS drama *East West 101*, the Channel Ten telemovie *Emerald Falls* and played lead roles in the telemovie *Go Big* and the Chapman Pictures series *The Cooks*, also for Channel Ten. He starred in ABC TV's critically acclaimed *Changi* series and has had guest roles in *McLeod's Daughters*, *All Saints*, *Young Lions* and *Water Rats*.

Leon made his feature film debut in the cult horror *Lost Things*, from respected Australian writer Stephen Sewell and first time director Martin Murphy.

#### **Paul Blackwell (Mr Watson 1918)**

Paul is a 1981 NIDA Graduate. His film work includes roles in *Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger*, *Dr Plonk*, *Candy*, *December Boys*, *Like Minds*, *The 13<sup>th</sup> House*, *I Own The Racecourse*, *The Quiet Room*, *Cut* and *The Honourable Wally Norman*. Paul's television work includes roles in *All Saints*, *Keepers of the Ark*, *The Conquest of Carmen Miranda*, *A Country Practice* and *Wrath*. Paul's extensive theatre work includes State Theatre Company of S.A. productions of *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *The Hypochondriac*, *The Clockwork Forest*, *This Uncharted Hour* (Brink Productions), *The Cripple of Innishmann*, *The Government Inspector*, *Moliere's Scapin*, *Night Letters* and *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Don Juan*, *The Lady from the Sea*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Paul has also had roles in productions of *Antigone*, *The Underpants*, *The Popular Mechanicals 1 & 2*, *Frogs*, and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Belvoir St Theatre).

#### **Ewen Leslie (Mr Bracie 1918)**

In 2008 Ewen was a member of the STC's Actors Company and performed in *The War of the Roses*, *Gallipoli* and *The Serpents Teeth*. His other theatre credits include *Paul* (Company B), *Riflewind* (STC), *Dead Caesar* (STC – Push Production), *Shakespearealism* (The Naked Theatre Co.), *Cross Sections* (Tamarama Rock Surfers Co.) *This Blasted Earth* (Old Fitzroy Theatre). Ewen's Film credits include *Three Blind Mice* (Dirtyrat Films) *Katoomba* (R.B Films), *Kokoda* (GFN Productions), *Jewboy* (Porchlight Films). Television credits include *Lockie Leonard*, *Love My Way – series 2*, *The Junction Boys*, *All Saints*, *The Road From Coorain*, *Wild Cat*, *Bush Patrol*, *The Gift and Ship To Shore – series 1 & 2*.

Ewen received an AFI nomination for his performance in *Jewboy* in 2005.

#### **Maeve Dermody (Evelyn 1918)**

Maeve made her feature film debut in the 1993 as a young child in *BREATHING UNDER WATER* directed by Susan Murphy, and has continued to shine on both stage and screen.

In 2007 she played a leading role in the Australian thriller *BLACK WATER* directed by Andrew Traucki. Her performance earned her numerous Best Supporting Actress nominations for the Australian Film Institute, Inside Film, and the Film Critics Circle Awards. Maeve's next feature film role was in the critically acclaimed and local box office success *BEAUTIFUL KATE*, directed by Rachel Ward.

Maeve's theatre credits include the Griffin Theatre Company's *THE PEACH SEASON*. In 2008 she performed the lead role in the Belvoir's Company B production of *KILLER JOE*

which garnered rave reviews. Maeve has also been the recipient of a Yen Young Woman of the Year Nomination for Film, Television and Theatre in 2008.

**Leon Burchill (Sid 1938-1918)**

Leon is a graduate of the National Institute of Dramatic Art, where he performed in *Capricornia*, *The Seagull*, *Dead Heart* and *Cosi*. Leon's first feature film is the recently released *Stone Bros*, in which he plays a lead. He has also appeared in the short films *Out at Sea*, *Koori's in the Mist* and *Nia's Melancholy*. Leon is an accomplished traditional dancer and musician, and is also a visual artist.

**Kieran Darcy-Smith (Grandfather 1948; Pa 1938 & 1928)**

Kieran's feature film credits include *Animal Kingdom*, *The Square*, *September*, *The Cave* and *Two Hands*. His television credits include *All Saints*, *Infamous Victory*, *Ben Chifley's Battle for Coal*, *Dangerous*, *Mcleod's Daughters*, *All Saints*, *White Collar Blue* and *Always Greener*

**Steve Rodgers (Wal 1948)**

Steve trained as an actor at Theatre Nepean in Sydney's west. Steve spent 2004 developing his first full-length play, *Ray's Tempest* which was workshopped at the Australian National Playwrights' Conference, short listed for the Patrick White Playwrights' Award and presented as part of Company B's Winter Play Reading Series at Belvoir St Theatre. *Ray's Tempest* received two mainstream productions, one at Belvoir St in 2005 and one at the MTC in 2006.

Steve's stage credits include *Last Cab to Darwin* for Porkchop Productions; *Three Sisters*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*, *Democracy* and *The Miser* and *Rifle Mind* for the Sydney Theatre Company; *The Boys Next Door*, *All My Sons*, *Lobby Hero*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Diving for Pearls* and *Humble Boy* for the Ensemble Theatre; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Macbeth* for the Bell Shakespeare Company; and *Twelfth Night*, *Night on Bald Mountain*, *The Blind Giant is Dancing* and the international tour of *Cloudstreet* for Company B.

Steve has worked with some of Australia's best screen directors, having appeared in films such as *You Can't Stop the Murders*, *The Bank*, *La Spagnola*, *Oscar and Lucinda*, *Dead Heart* and *Children of the Revolution*.

His television credits include *Go Big*, *The Postcard Bandit*, *Heroes' Mountain*, *Always Greener*, *Headstart*, *All Saints*, *Water Rats*, *Big Sky*, *GP* and *Headland*. Most recently, Steve has worked on *Sea Princess*, an animated children's series, and the telemovie *Valentines Day* for Peter Duncan.

**Paul Gleeson (Mr Thompson 1938 and 1928)**

Paul's television credits include roles in *The Starter Wife*, *Nightmares and Dreamscapes*, *Love My Way*, *Blackjack*, *Balmain Boys* and *Virtual Nightmare*. His film credits include *Men's Group*, *September*, *The Bet*, *Solo*, *Somersault*, *Komodo (US)*, *The Thin Red Line* and *Idiot Box*. He was also in the stage production *All My Sons* with the Ensemble Theatre.

**Chris Haywood (Mr O'Sullivan 1948 and 1938)**

Chris has amassed an impressive 72 film credits in his 30 year career. They include the Australian classics *The Removalists*, *Breaker Morant*, *Heatwave*, *The Man from Snowy River*, *Razorback*, *Shine*, *Muriel's Wedding*, *Blackrock*, *Oscar and Lucinda* and *Kiss or Kill*. Chris also appeared in the first features of critically acclaimed directors such as Peter Weir (*The Cars that Ate Paris*), Phillip Noyce (*Newsfront*) and Scott Hicks (*Freedom*). His work in film and television has been rewarded with an impressive three Logies (for *Essington*, *Good Thing Going* and *Janus*) and three AFI Awards (for *A Street to Die*, *Emerald City* and *Stingers*). Most recently Chris played the lead in Movie Extra's Project Greenlight winning feature film *The View from Greenhaven Drive*; his other recent film credits include *Salvation*, *Hotel Vladivostok*, *The Bridge*, *The Water Diary*, *Solo*, and the award winning *Jindabyne* and *Jew Boy*. Most recently Chris has completed filming on *Beneath Hill 60*, Directed by Jeremy Sims.

**Emma Lung (Bridie 1948 and 1938)**

Emma Lung graduated from Sydney's Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and furthered her training at Manhattan's Professional Performing Arts School.

The award-winning actress who now bases herself in LA had her breakthrough performance in the debut leading role in director Craig Monahan's *Peaches* opposite Hugo Weaving and Jacqueline McKenzie. She most recently shot the blockbuster *The Triangle* with Melissa George at Australia's Warner Bros Studios on the Gold Coast and her other film credits include the critically acclaimed independent feature *The Jammed*, based on a true story of human trafficking in Melbourne, *Garage Days*, Joel Silver's big-budget horror film *House of Wax* and *Superfire*, Khoa Do's *Footy Legends* opposite Claudia Karvan, *Katoomba* which won a 2007 Dendy Award and the coming-of-age comedy *48 Shades* based on the award-winning novel by Nick Earls and adapted/directed by Daniel Lapaine.

Emma starred opposite Emily Browning in the black comedy *Stranded*, a short feature directed by Stuart McDonald which earned her a number of accolades including a 2007 Logie - Graham Kennedy Award for Most Outstanding New Talent, 2006 Australian Film Institute Award for Outstanding Achievement in Short Film Screen Craft and a Best Actress Award at the Shanghai TV Festival Magnolia.

Emma's television credits include HBO's cult series *Entourage*, *Temptation*, *The Cooks*, *White Collar Blue*, *Marx and Venus* and *All Saints* and she has twice worked with director Benedict Andrews at Sydney Theatre Company, appearing in productions of *Life is a Dream* and *Attempts on Her Life*.

**Justin Smith (Joe Blake 1938)**

Justin's numerous stage credits include *Billy Elliot – The Musical* (Stephen Daldrey dir.) *Ruby Moon*, *Rent – The Musical* and *Cherry Orchard* (Sydney Theatre Company), *The Servant of Two Masters* and *Shakespeare's R and J* (Bell Shakespeare Company) and *The Threepenny Opera* and *Sventlana in Slingbacks* (Company B). His television credits include roles in *Bastard Boys*, *White Collar Blue* and *Stingers*. His film credits include *South Pacific* and *Angst*.

**Laurence Bruels (Jack 1938)**

Laurence has been working steadily in theatre, film and TV since his lead role in *Blackrock* alongside some of Australia's finest actors. Laurence's film credits include *The Marine*, *Ghostrider* and *Suburban Mayhem* starring alongside Emily Barclay and Michael Dorman. Laurence has appeared in some of Australia's top drama series including *Water Rats*, *All Saints*, *White Collar Blue* and most recently *City Homicide*. In 2008 Laurence completed filming on the big budget US miniseries *The Pacific*, produced by Stephen Spielberg which is due to air in 2010.

**Kate Box (Kath 1948 and 1938)**

Kate graduated from NIDA in 2003 and most recently appeared in the Production of *Knives in Hens* at the Malt House Theatre. Her theatre credits include Sydney Theatre Company's *The Wonderful World of Dissocia*. STC's production of *Doubt*, Bell Shakespeare's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Brink's *4:48 Psychosis* for the Adelaide Fringe, B Sharp's productions of *Tender* and *7 Blowjobs*, *I've Got the Shakes* for Smug and *Triple Threat* for the State Theatre Company of South Australia. Kate's television credits include *All Saints*, *Tripping Over* and *Small Claims* for Network Ten. She also appeared in the feature film *Black Balloon*, which won a Crystal Bear at 58<sup>th</sup> Berlin International Film Festival and three Film Critics Circle of Australia (FCCA) Awards in 2008.

**Alex Blias (Baba 1968 & 1958)**

Alex' television credits include *Home and Away*, *Acting out*, *All Saints* and *Life Support*.

**Arky Michael (Kyrios Josephides 1958)**

Arky is a 1982 NIDA Graduate. His television work includes roles in *Sweet and Sour*, *City West*, *Countdown* (co-host), *Rafferty's Rules*, *A Country Practice*, *Mother and Son*, *Johnson and Friends*, *E-Street*, *GP*, *Hey Dad*, *Water Rats*, *Wildside* and *All Saints*. Arky's extensive theatre work includes *Two Weeks With the Queen* (Sydney Festival), *Small Poppies*, *The Underpants*, *Ubu*, *Baghdad Wedding* and *The Night Before Christmas* (Company B), *The Tempest* and *The Alchemist* (Belvoir Street), *Mill Jack and the Dancing Cat*, *Workshop of Rot Guts*, and *Pearlie in the Park* (Monkey Baa Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Bell Shakespeare Company), *Sydney Stories 2*, *As You Like It*, *Playgrounds* and *The Man With Five Children* (Sydney Theatre Company).

**Victoria Haralabidou (Yaya 1978; Mama 1968 & 1958)**

Victoria was born in St Petersburg; she studied at the Russian Institute of Cinematography in Moscow and at the Greek Drama School in Athens.

Victoria recently appeared in the feature *Blessed* for director Ana Kokkinos in Melbourne and also returned to Greece this year to shoot *Soul So Deep* for Pantelis Voulgaris, who directed her in her debut film role as the lead in the Martin Scorsese production *Brides*. For this role, Victoria won the Best Actress Award at the Thessaloniki Film Festival in 2004. Her other films are *A Shiny Bright Sun* and *Enepolis*. In television, Victoria has appeared in the telemovie *The Informant*, and in the television series *East West 101*, *All Saints* and *The Strip*. Victoria will soon also be seen on *Home and Away*. She also enjoyed huge success on Greek television with the series *Suddenly* for Mega Channel.

Victoria made her debut appearance on the Australian stage in David Hare's highly successful *Stuff Happens* at Belvoir St Theatre. Victoria also worked in many acclaimed theatre productions in Greece, including *Curse of the Starving Class* by Sam Shepard and *Dear Elena* at the Theatre-At-Colonus. Victoria has translated numerous plays and novels, having majored in Foreign Language Translation at the Linguistic Institute in Moscow.

**Ben Winspear (Michaelis 1978 & 1968)**

Ben's stage credits include *Baghdad Wedding* (Belvoir), *Frankenstein* (STC), *Sean Love Lies Bleeding* (STC) and *Now that communism is dead my life feels empty* (Playbox Malthouse).

**Amanda Bishop (Janice 1978 & 1968)**

Amanda's recent television credits include the series' *Double Take*, *My New Best Friend*, *Blue Heelers*, *Backburner*, *The Upside Down Show* - with the Umbilical Brothers (2007 Logie Award) and *Review with Myles Barlow* for ABC1 (2008 Logie nomination Best Comedy).

Her recent theatre credits include: Julia Gillard in Sydney Theatre Company's *Wharf Revue* (Glug Award nominee 2008), *The Pillowman* for Company B Belvoir (5 nominations 2008 Sydney Theatre Awards, including Best Mainstage Production), multiple roles for Bell Shakespeare (teacher workshops, Actors At Work- national tours), *Losing Louis* and *Dags* for Ensemble Theatre and *Angry Penguins* for the Sydney Opera House.

Amanda produced *Lessons In Flight* (with a grant from the Australia Council for the Arts) helping to found a NSW Indigenous theatre company, *Moogahlin*, currently based at the Redfern Community Centre. Amanda's feature film appearances are *Callous* (in post production) and *The Venus*. Short films include: *Amorality Tale* (dir/wr Mike Bullen), *Tea For Two* (Metroscreen award), *Survival of the Fittest* and *The Big Check-out* (which she wrote and directed).

**Christopher Baker (Tippy 1978)**

Christopher Baker has appeared in many successful Australian and international films, most notably *Kokoda*, *Nim's Island*, *The Condemned*, *The Great Raid*, *Ned Kelly* and *Kangaroo Jack*. Christopher's small screen credits include the critically acclaimed *Love My Way*, *Hell Has Harbour Views*, *All Saints*, *Changi* and *The Road From Coorain*. He has also established

his own theatre company, Urban Tales Theatre Company, where he produced and directed productions including *Bangers and Mash* and *With A Bullet*. His theatre performance credits include *Wilde Tales* at Darlinghurst Theatre, *Mademoiselle Fifi* and *Don't Stare Too Much* with White Rhino Theatre Company and *The Fire Raisers* for Tamarama Rock Surfers.

**Sam Parsonson (Jeff 1978)**

Sam Parsonson made his television debut at the age of 17 on the Channel Seven Australian Drama *Headland*. Sam went on to appear in the critically acclaimed Australian Drama Series *Love My Way* for 2 seasons, along side some of Australia's finest actors including Claudia Karvan, Asher Keddie, Dan Wyllie and Brendan Cowell. His performance in the role Dylan, earned him a nomination for the Graham Kennedy Logie Award for Most Outstanding Young Talent in 2007. His other television credits include *All Saints* and *Double Trouble*. Sam has also accrued a list of theatre credits from a young age, including *Summer Rain*, *Shakespeare Unleashed* and *Duologue from Titus and Andronicus* for the Shakespeare Festival. In 2008 Sam completed filming on the big budget US miniseries *The Pacific*, produced by Stephen Spielberg, due to air in 2010.

**Nicholas Papademetriou (Michaelis 2008 – 1988)**

Nicholas is a 1984 WAPPA Graduate. His extensive film work includes roles in *All Saints*, *The Surgeon*, *Headland*, *Jessica*, *Grass Roots 1 & 2*, *Water Rats*, *Heartbreak High*, *Heartland*, *Home and Away*, *Stringer*, *GP* and *Stark*. His film experience includes roles in *The Night We Called It A Day*, and *Bad News Bachelors*. Nicholas' impressive theatre work includes B Sharp productions of *2000 Feet Away*, *Anna in the Tropics*, and *Silence*. Other theatre productions include *Frozen*, *Emma*, *Greek Tragedy*, *A Little Like Drowning*, *Homebody/Kabul* (Belvoir St Theatre), *The Heartbreak Kid* (Griffin Theatre Company) and *Six Characters In Search Of An Author* (Sydney Theatre Company).

**Kris McQuade (Carmel 2008 & Grandma 1998)**

Kris is one of Australia's most loved actors. Her feature film credits include *Subdivision*, *December Boys*, *Ned Kelly* and *Mullet*. Her television credits include *The Circuit*, *All Saints* and *Supernova*. Her most recent stage credits are *When the Rain Stops Falling* (Brink Productions) and *The Adventures of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie* and *Little Ragged Blossom* (Belvoir).

**Tim Richards (Greg Hilliard 1998)**

Tim graduated from NIDA in 1999 and has worked continually within the industry since then. Tim has amassed an impressive list of theatre credits including, *A Mid Summer Nights Dream*, *Blackrock*, *Waiting for Godot*, *The Crucible*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Lion King*, *The Servant of Two Masters*.

In 2008 he was seen on stage with Bell Shakespeare in *Hamlet* playing the role of Rosencrantz and *Just Macbeth!* in the role of Danny. Most recently Tim was seen the STC's hit production *A Street Car Named Desire*. Directed by Liv Ullmann, Tim starred as the loveable Mitch alongside Cate Blanchett, Joel Edgerton and Robin McLeavy. The production premiere in Sydney in September 2009 will be shortly followed by a tour to Washington DC and New York. Tim's television credits include *All Saints*, *Backburner* and *Blue Water High*.

**Anita Hegh (Emma 1998)**

Anita is a 1994 NIDA graduate. She has performed in numerous theatre productions, most notably *The City*, *As You Like It*, *Pygmalion* and *Tragedy Workshop* (Sydney Theatre Company), *Killer Joe* (Belvoir St Theatre), *Don's Party* and *The Duchess of Malfi* (Melbourne Theatre Company), and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Bell Shakespeare Company.) Anita was nominated for a Fringe/Independent Green Room Award for *Yellow Wallpaper*, a Store Room Theatre production. Her television credits include *Darwin's Brave New World*, *Rogue Nation*, *False Witness*, *Water Rats*, *Stingers*, *Wildside* and *McLeod's Daughters* for which she received an AFI Award for Best Supporting Actress. Her film credits include *The Last Ride*, *The Forest* and *Paradise Road*.

**Wadih Dona (Omar 1998)**

Wadih is a 1994 WAPPA graduate. His theatre credits include *Othello* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bell Shakespeare Co.), *Through The Wire* (Griffin Theatre Co.), *Twelfth Night* and *Arm's and the Man* (Railway St. Theatre), *Pentecost* and *Playgrounds* (Sydney Theatre Co.) and *Country Love* (Sidetrack at Belvoir Street Theatre). His numerous television credits include *Underbelly 2*, *Comedy Inc*, *Stingers*, *All Saints*, *Blue Heelers*, *Grass Roots*, *Farscape*, *Home and Away*, *Wildside*, *GP*, *Fallen Angels*, *Water Rats* and *Police Rescue*.

**Leah Purcell (Ellen 2008)**

Leah Purcell is one of Australia's leading actors, with award-winning roles in theatre, film and television. She is well known for such critically acclaimed films, plays and television dramas as *Love My Way*, *Jindabyne*, *Lantana*, *The Proposition*, *Police Rescue*, *Fallen Angels*, *Box the Pony*, *The Story of the Miracles at Cookie's Table*, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Beasty Girl: The Secret Life of Errol Flynn*. As an accomplished writer, director and singer Purcell co-wrote the international hit stage-play *Box the Pony* and penned the best selling book *Black Chicks Talking*.

**Billy McPherson (Lenny 2008)**

*My Place* is Billy's first appearance as a main cast member in a television series.

**Bronwyn Penrith (Auntie Bev 2008)**

Bronwyn was involved in street theatre as a young woman, and continues to be involved in Sydney's inner city community in order to illustrate messages of strength and identity to Aboriginal women. In addition to her current role in *My Place*, Bronwyn appeared as an Aunt in the feature film *Jindabyne*, choosing only to play roles that portray Aboriginal women in a realistic and positive light. Bronwyn is a Wiradjuri Woman who has fought all her life for recognition of Aboriginal people and their rights. She has been a part of a number of campaigns since the 1970's including the Tent Embassy in Canberra and has lived and worked in the Redfern community for over 30 years. Her leadership initiatives and commitment has led her into the role of Chairperson of Mudgin-Gal Aboriginal Women's Corporation. Bronwyn is a founding member of the Redfern/Waterloo Aboriginal Justice Group based in the Redfern Community. She has served as Chairperson of the Inner-city Aboriginal Women's Consultative Group and on the Ministerial Advisory Committee as community representative for the Redfern/Waterloo Authority Committee for Employment and Enterprise.

**Rebecca Massey (Mrs Benson 2008 – 1958)**

One of Australia's most versatile and accomplished actors, Rebecca Massey has a string of film credits, including *Accidents Happen*, *The Black Balloon* and *Mask II*. Rebecca has enjoyed a successful television career, with roles in *Chandon (Series 1&2)*, *City Homicide*, *Small Claims*, *Backberner* and *All Saints*. Well renowned for her theatre performances, Rebecca has an extensive list of theatre credits and most recently she appeared in Sydney Theatre Company's production of *Travesties*. Previously Rebecca has performed in the Sydney Theatre Company Production of *Dead Caesar*. She has also regularly been seen in Belvoir Street Theatre productions: *Exit The King*, *It Just Stopped*, *Stuff Happens*, *Cloudstreet*, *The Seagull*, *Wasp*, *The Alchemist* and *Macbeth*. Griffin Theatre Productions include *Borderlines* and *Ship Of Fools*.

# MY PLACE KEY PRODUCTION PERSONNEL BIOGRAPHIES

## PRODUCER

**Penny Chapman** is an independent film and television producer based in Sydney. Her recent productions include the documentaries *Darwin's Lost Paradise* for SBS and *Rampant, How A City Stopped A Plague* for the ABC. Other productions include the multi-award winning mini-series *RAN* (for SBS), the telemovie *The Road From Coorain* (for the ABC and WGBH Boston) and the television series *The Cooks* (for Network Ten). Penny also produced the 6-part documentary series *The Track* (for the ABC). Penny was Head of TV Drama, then Head of Television at the ABC during the 1990s. Dramas she executive produced there include multi awards winning dramas *Brides of Christ* (which she devised), *The Leaving of Liverpool* and *Blue Murder*. Penny is currently producing the documentary *Leaky Boat* for the ABC.

## CO-PRODUCER

**Helen Panckhurst**, along with Tony Ayres, Helen Bowden, Penny Chapman and Michael McMahon, is one of the principals of Matchbox Pictures. Helen produced Alex Holmes' *Ali & the Ball*, winner of the 2008 Dendy Award for Best Short Fiction and selected for Berlinale 2009. *RAN: Remote Area Nurse*, the Chapman Pictures six-part SBS drama miniseries that Helen co-produced, won Best Miniseries, Best Television Screenplay and Best Lead Actress in Television at the 2006 AFI Awards and Most Outstanding Actress at the 2007 Logie Awards. Helen recently produced the landmark documentary series *First Australians* with Indigenous filmmakers Rachel Perkins and Darren Dale, and one hour documentary *The Matilda Candidate* with Curtis Levy. She is currently producing Bob Connolly's documentary *Making Music* and Dennis O'Rourke's documentary feature *I Love A Sunburnt Country*.

## DIRECTORS

**Jessica Hobbs** (Episodes 11, 12 & 13) is recognised as one of Australia's top drama directors. In 2004 she was the lead director for the critically acclaimed television series *Love My Way* (for Foxtel and Southern Star). The series won five AFI Awards in 2005 including Best Television Drama and Best Direction and the LOGIE for Most Outstanding Drama program. She won her second AFI in 2006 for the mini series *Answered By Fire* (for ABC Australia and CBC Canada). Jessica's other work includes the SBS telefeature *So Close to Home* (Dendy Award - Sydney Film Festival, Golden Gate Award- San Francisco Film Festival) and *Curtin* for the ABC. She has also directed many hours of series television including *Heartbreak High*, *Young Lions*, *All Saints* and *Fireflies*. Jessica's most recent work is the drama *Tangle*. She is currently filming the new drama series *Spirited*, starring Claudia Karvan.

**Samantha Lang** (Episodes 9 & 10) graduated from the University of Technology, Sydney in 1990 with a Bachelor of Design (Hons) in Visual Communication. Her short films include *Out*, *God's Bones*, *Malady* and *Audacious* (which won the Dendy Award for Short Fiction in 1995). Sam's feature film *The Well* was chosen for competition at Cannes, 1997 and also received 11 AFI nominations. Samantha directed the adaptation of Dorothy Porter's novel *The Monkey's Mask* which won the Audience prize at the St Tropez Film Festival and screened at many international festivals. Her television credits include *Third Party* (an episode of the *Twisted Tales* series) and *All Saints*. Sam continues to develop feature films including *The Jungle*, written by Alice Addison.

**Catriona McKenzie** (Episodes 7 & 8) graduated with Honours in Directing at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School in 2000. For TV Catriona has directed *Dance Academy*, *Satisfaction*, *The Circuit*, *RAN*, *The Alice*, *Fireflies* and *Grange*; Short Films include *Box*, *The Third Note*, *Road* and *Redfern Beach*. Catriona wrote and directed the multi award documentary *Mr Patterns* and she is currently working on her first feature film *Satellite Boy*.

**Michael James Roland** (Episodes 4, 5 & 6) originally trained in graphic design and worked as Art Director for the Adelaide Festival of Arts (1987-94) a job that put him in contact with some of the best performing artists in the world. In 1992 he won the coveted AADC's Master's Chair. In 1994 Michael left graphic design and commenced study at AFTRS. He graduated in 1997 with a BA and two AFI nominations, one each for the short films: *The Existentialist* *Cowboy's Last Stand* (1995) and *Flying Over Mother* (1997). In 2006 he wrote and directed the film *Lucky Miles*. His television credits include *The Last Confession of Alexander Pearce* (2008) and *Bloodsports* (2001).

**Shawn Seet** (Episodes 1, 2 & 3) has over sixteen years experience working in the film and television Industry as both an Editor and a Director. As an editor his television work includes series such as *Medivac*, *Do or Die* (for which he was awarded an AFI), *The Day of the Roses* and *RAN*. Feature film editing includes *Better than Sex* and *Ihaka: Blunt Instrument*. More recently Shawn has worked as a director for television on *MDA: Medical Defence Australia*, *All Saints*, *The Secret Life of Us*, *Fireflies*, *Loot*, *The Alice*, *Dangerous* and *Rainshadow*. In 2009 Shawn has worked on the second and third series of *Underbelly* and *30 Seconds*. Shawn's first feature film *Two Fists One Heart* was met with critical acclaim on its March release in 2009. Shawn was awarded the peer judged Australian Director's Guild Award for direction in the TV Drama Series category for *Underbelly*.

## SCRIPT PRODUCER

**Simon Hopkinson's** professional writing career spans over three decades. As a playwright he has written for numerous companies including the Melbourne Theatre Company, Nimrod, New England Theatre Company and Australian Theatre for Young People. His television credits include *The Flying Doctors* as well as developing sitcom series for Channel Ten, Crawfords Australia and Beyond International. In recent years he has concentrated on writing for children's television, working on series such as *Chuck Finn*, *Driven Crazy*, *Fast Tracks*, *Petals*, *Gloria's House* and *Don't Blame Me*. He was a co-creator of the series *Bananas in Pyjamas* and over a 10-year period wrote nearly a hundred episodes for B1 and B2, as well as four half-hour specials, 16 books, a stage show and numerous songs (with Chris Harriott). *Bananas in Pyjamas* also took him into the world of interactive multimedia. He has written three CD-ROMs, two of which have won AIMIA's Best of the Best Award. In 2000 Simon was nominated for the AFI award for Best Screenplay adapted from another source for his work on the feature film *The Magic Pudding*. Simon is currently Development and Commissioning Editor for ABC3.

## WRITERS

**Leah Purcell** (Episode 1) conceived and co-wrote *Box the Pony*, which played to sell-out seasons at Belvoir Street Theatre, the Sydney Opera House, the 1999 Edinburgh Festival and the Barbican Theatre in London. The published text of the play also won the 1999 NSW Premier's Literary Award and the 2000 Queensland Premier's Literary Award for Best Play.

**Brendan Cowell** (Episode 2) is an Australian actor, screenwriter and director. He has enjoyed major success both within Australia and abroad since his first play, *Men*, was a sell-out hit at the Old Fitzroy Hotel in 2000. Brendan has been the recipient of a number of writing awards, including the Patrick White Playwright's Award for *Bed*, the Phillip Parsons Playwright's Award and the Griffin Award for *Rabbit*. Brendan also received an Australia Council grant. Brendan's most recent play *Ruben Guthrie* sold out the B Sharp season in 2008 and transferred to the Company B main stage in 2009. His plays have been produced in Berlin, London, Edinburgh and New York. Brendan's television script credits include *Love My*

Way. He wrote the script for the inaugural film experiment *POV* and his short film *Europe* screened at international festivals. Brendan co-wrote the feature film *Ten Empty* which was released in 2008. He has several feature film and television projects in development and is writing his first novel.

**Greg Waters** (Episodes 3 & 8) has written a number of episodes for various television programs including *Surgery*, *The Alice* and *Fireflies*. He also wrote a number of short films including *The Mormon Conquest* and *Clutch* (screened at the Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane Film Festivals in 2003). Greg was also Media and Policy advisor to Dr Andrew Refshauge, the Deputy Premier, Minister for Health and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs between 1995-1998.

**Nick Parsons** (Episodes 4, 5 & 10) is a writer and director in film, television and theatre. Nick has written a feature film (*Dead Heart*), episodes of television series including *Two Twisted*, *Pacific Drive*, *Heartland* and the documentary series *Tipping Point* for the Weather Channel (nominated for an ASTRA Award for Most Outstanding Short Form Program). He has written several stage plays including the Belvoir Street Theatre productions of *Hollow Ground* (nominated for a 2001 AWGIE Award in the stage play category) and *Dead Heart* (stage version, which received the NSW State Literary Award, Human Rights Award for Drama and AWGIE Award for best stageplay). Nick's other playwright credits include *The White Room* and *The Visitor* (Griffin Theatre Company) and *Pest House* (NIDA Company). Nick has also written serials and several radio plays, including *Payback*, *Lithium Cake* and *The White Room* (ABC Radio). Nick has worked as a mentor for the Tropfest writers' programme and as Chairman of Currency Press, the performing-arts publisher.

**Tim Pye** (Episodes 6 & 12) is a writer, producer and executive producer who has worked in television drama and comedy for over twenty years. He has written some of Australia's most popular and critically acclaimed television series, mini series and movies. These include *Scorched*, *K9*, *The Strip*, *Stupid*, *Stupid Man*, *My Place*, *Emerald Falls*, *Black Jack*, *Lockie Leonard – Series 1 & 2*, *White Collar Blue*, *SeaChange*, *Wildside*, *Water Rats*, *Medivac*, *Fallen Angels* and *G.P.* His producing / executive producing credits include: *Emerald Falls*, *Changi*, *Grass Roots*, *Love Is A Four Letter Word*, *The Road From Coorain* and *The Farm*. Tim has won several awards for his script writing: 2007 Australian Writers Guild Award for most outstanding narrative comedy screenplay - *Stupid, Stupid Man*; 1998 AFI Award for best television drama screenplay – *Wildside*; 1997 Henry Lawson Award for best television drama series - *Fallen Angels*; 1996 Australian Writers Guild Award for most outstanding television series screenplay – *G.P.* Tim is currently President of the Australian Writers Guild.

**Alice Addison's** (Episodes 7 & 13) television writing credits include co-writer of the ABC mini-series *The Silence*, which was nominated for an AFI for Best Telefeature or Mini Series, nominated for a 2006 AWGIE Award and shortlisted for Best Television Script at the 2005 Queensland Premier's Literary Awards. Alice also wrote episodes for Channel Ten's *The Cooks* and SBS's *RAN (Remote Area Nurse)* which was nominated for a 2005 AWGIE Award for Best Television Mini Series Script. Alice has written an impressive number of scripts for short films, including *Bias*, directed by Catriona McKenzie (director of Episodes 1938 and 1948 of *My Place*), *Grace* (Finalist for 2000 Independent Filmmaker Awards), *Left Lane Ends*, *On The Level*, and *The Big Picture* (Highly Commended at the 1999 QLD New Filmmakers Awards).

**Gina Roncoli** (Episode 9) is an award winning writer/producer who has been working in documentary and drama since graduating from the Australian Film Television and Radio School in 1989. Gina was nominated for an AWGIE for children's television (P) classification for her episode *Taste* in the second series of RAGGS for Channel 7. She previously won an AWGIE in the same category in 2003 for her episode *The Sad Sunflower* in the first series of *BAMBALOO* for Channel Seven. Other awards she has won include the 1991 AFI Award for Best Documentary for *CANTO A LA VIDA*, a one hour ABC documentary she co-wrote and produced in 1990. It was twice nominated for Australian Human Rights Awards, and also won the Special Jury Prize at the San Francisco International Film Festival and Finalists Award at the Houston International Film Festival.

**Blake Ayshford** (Episode 11) has written episodes for many major television programs including *Love My Way*, *McLeod's Daughters*, *The Cooks* (for which he won a QLD Premier's Award for Scriptwriting), *Home and Away*, *Crash Palace*, *Breakers* and *The Alice*.

# MY PLACE HISTORY

*My Place*, written by Nadia Wheatley and illustrated by Donna Rawlins, was Children's Book Council Book of the Year for Younger Readers, 1988, and also won the YABBA children's choice award. Constantly in print for 21 years, this ground-breaking blend of history and imaginative fiction has been read in schools and homes around the country, and is now delighting a second generation of readers.

**The Sydney Morning Herald** - *My Place* "is a masterpiece."

**The Courier Mail** - *My Place* "makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of Australia and its history" and "is totally inventive and absorbing. The scope of urban history is wonderfully revealed."

**Nadia Wheatley** began writing full-time in 1976, after completing postgraduate work in Australian history. Her published work includes fiction, history, biography and picture books. She writes for adults as well as for children and young adults. Since the beginning of her career, Nadia Wheatley's books have reflected her commitment to social justice. Her first book, *Five Times Dizzy*, was hailed as the first multicultural children's book in this country, and was subsequently produced as a television mini-series. Seven of Nadia's other books have been CBCA Honour books, and she has twice received the New South Wales Premier's Children's Book Prize. Nadia is currently writing *The Making of My Place*, that takes a look behind the scenes of the television series.

**Donna Rawlins** was born and grew up in Melbourne but now lives in Sydney. She loved drawing as a child and now works as an illustrator, author, designer and editor. Her illustrations feature multicultural, non-stereotypical characters often with rich background detail. These include *The Firefighters*, *What Will You Be?*, *Seven More Sleeps*, *My Dearest Dinosaur* and *Ten Little Known Facts About Hippopotamuses*. Among the many books she has illustrated, *My Place* is probably the best known and was a multi award winner in 1988.

# MY PLACE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS BY PENNY CHAPMAN

The book *My Place* by Nadia Wheatley and Donna Rawlins is an imagined account of one spot in South Sydney told through the eyes of the children who live in that place over 200 years. It goes backwards in time, opening in 1988 with an Aboriginal girl Laura (whose family has moved back here from the country after several generations away), and ending in 1788 with another Aboriginal girl Barrangaroo whose family is preparing for a whale feast.

It's a children's book but adults love it. You uncover surprises as you read it. On about the 3rd read, I realised that the 1848 child Johanna is the unacknowledged daughter of the arrogant man in the big house. Her mother was probably (at best) seduced by him when she was working as a servant there. There's a poignancy – even a gentle threnody - that underpins the lives of the children of this place. Wheatley and Rawlins have crafted an extraordinary portrait of a place and a tribute to the optimistic children whose experiences helped shape this country.

I'd wanted to adapt the book as a kid's drama and interactive platform ever since I'd read it with my daughter in the early 90s. Nadia and Donna were interested. But I was then working in adult drama at the ABC and the interactive technology was crude. Thirteen years later, in 2006, the time felt auspicious. Clare Henderson at ABC Children's thought it a great idea and so Blake Ayshford, Jerusha Bhindie and I brainstormed some stories – Ben in 1858 who thinks his friend Leck Wong may have eaten his cat and Bertie in 1918 who buys a coming home present for his digger brother – a pair of shoes – only to find his brother has lost a leg.

The ABC commissioned development. Our writing team comprised Blake Ayshford, Alice Addison, Leah Purcell, Nick Parsons, Greg Waters, Gina Roncoli, Brendan Cowell and Tim Pye. Along the way we were also fortunate to have people like Jacqueline Perske, Beth Armstrong and Elizabeth Mars as part of our brainstorming teams.

Simon Hopkinson joined us as script editor and his experience working in children's programs proved a boon. At my first meeting with him he delicately placed the gauntlet "You're writing for your most demanding audience. They aren't interested in context or theme. They want, simply, story, story, story. If you fail to provide that at any step along the way, they're out of here". This affected the structure of our stories – the scripts are constantly on the move, the scenes are short and to the point. The plethora of locations and shorter scenes have been a challenge for our production team trying to schedule on the smell of an oily rag.

One of the first decisions we had to make was which direction to take the chronology. Some of us felt that a television audience would find it less confusing to go forward in time, in the opposite direction to the book. We started on the earlier episodes thinking we would go that way. The ACTF, who came on board later, convinced us that starting in a contemporary world would connect audiences better and also take any historical pall off the show. And it has made the show all the richer – coming into an episode featuring a character who was killed at war in the previous episode adds something intriguing, poignant. Watching Susie Porter age from 89 (in 1948) to 29 (in 1888) and seeing the emerging spring in her step is quite a treat.

Our writer's team met regularly to brainstorm stories. We'd usually get two episodes crudely drawn in a day. The book was our mainstay. Because it isn't a *story* book, it provided us with a rich array of people, places and personal events from which to derive storyline. Kids who have seen our rough cuts for 1908 and 1898 and then looked again at the book are gratified to find small elements in each year that have developed into full blown plots. Sometimes it might be a small line in the corner of a map ("that stupid girl with glasses tried to kiss me" in 1958) that has set off a character or a relationship that stretches generations.

Nadia Wheatley is also an historian and we were fortunate that she agreed to be our historical consultant. Early on, Nadia took the writing team on an excellent tour of the South Sydney

area in which she lives and which is the inspiration of the book. The plan was that each writer would spend some time with Nadia to get the historical context. That didn't last long. The writers' sense of historical responsibility started to overwhelm their story boldness. So we decided to approach it a new way. Nadia was writing terrific historical notes for each episode. She found us graphic resources and her partner, who is an artist, prepared more detailed, to scale maps of My Place. We used these things as the basis for brainstorming stories. The writing team was invited to go for broke story wise, albeit within the character, time and place boundaries of the book. Nadia would then read our synopses, treatments and scripts and give us feedback. There must have been times when she felt like ripping her hair out – there were some historical clangers in our early treatments and on some occasions we veered into territory that ran counter to the contextual intent of her story (it was important to her, for instance, that we did *not* indicate that Michaelis in 1968 was OK about going off to war in Vietnam).

We figured fairly early on that each story really only needed to contain one or two historical signifiers – eg in 1808 children were servants to other children and children died, quite often.

We added two new stories to bring the series up to date. Nadia devised the new characters – a Muslim boy called Mohammed in 1998 and a Vietnamese girl called Lily in 1988. We moved the 1988 Aboriginal girl from 1988 to 2008 to maintain the lovely cultural circle that is in the book.

We had ground rules. Each story must be strictly from the point of view of the child whose story it is. He or she would consequently be present at every point of the story. We also tried to avoid the clichés that attend stories of newcomers and outsiders – the story of Lily the Vietnamese girl in 1988 is the story of a battle royal between her and her newly arrived cousin who turns out to be a dragon lady. The story of newly arrived Mohammed is the story of a cricket tragic (written by true cricket tragic Brendan Cowell).

We also agreed that the big fig tree – the only thing that doesn't change in the book - would also be the mainstay of each child's world and that each story would start there.

It had also occurred to me that the common character for all these kids might be a tendency to get into trouble. This made the brainstorm sessions a lot of fun and helped give our characters potency.

Because each story introduces an entirely new generation of child, each is in effect a stand-alone short film. Some of the writers brought something of their childhood to these stories – Tim Pye remembered a dobbing incident in his childhood, which became the mainstay of his 1958 story. Nick Parsons brought a childhood fascination with muscle cars to his 1978 episode. In fact, all of the writers aimed for a muscularity in their characters that would drive the stories. Even when reacting to big incidents outside their control (eg the absence of fathers) the main characters are authors of their destiny.

There's great variety in the tone and spirit of the episodes. Some, like Alice Addison's beautiful 1888 are quite magical. Others like Blake Ayshford's 1908 are laugh-out-loud pratfall funny. Tim Pye's 1898 is a heartrending story of a boy who misses his father. Nick Parson's 1968 is a gorgeous story of a girl who will stop at nothing to keep her older brother away from girls. Greg Waters' 1938 is ostensibly a romp about two boys trying to outrun the dole inspector but is really a story about the impending loss of a friend. Leah Purcell's 2008 is a charming story about finding a way to say sorry. And Gina Roncoli's 1928 the extraordinary story of a common tragedy.

Because each new episode introduces a completely new protagonist, we were conscious of the need to keep audiences coming back. So the pressure to come up with enormously engaging stories and spirited, memorable characters was tremendous. But was this enough? When our set-up director Jess Hobbs came on board, she made two brilliant suggestions. The first was that we use our adult characters to better connect us across episodes and to also to give us a stronger sense of community. So the Greek landlord Michaelis, whose tinny Laura accidentally sinks in 2008 stays with us throughout, getting younger until we finally meet him as 10 year old Michaelis in 1958. Mrs Benson, the complaining neighbour in 2008 inspired Simon Hopkinson to suggest that she become a one-line complainer in each episode to 1958. The redoubtable Rebecca Massey plays her.

Jess' other idea was to create a trade route for each of these kids – one that is recognisable across episodes. So there's a common route of back lanes from the Big Tree to the house; and there's a route along the canal that Evelyn uses in 1908 which is also Laura's route in 2008.

The new ABC Children's team Tim Brooke Hunt and Carla de Jong, were tremendously supportive of the series and they commissioned it for production in 2008. At the time, the ABC budget meant that only 13 episodes could initially be commissioned. Hopefully we'll be able to take the series back to Beforetime.

Our friends at Blue Rocket in Hobart also produced for us a broadband interactive timescape in which to explore the minute details of each child's life in My Place (their toys, games, books, dwellings) and the events in the world beyond, which affect the lives they and their family led.

Our casting director Greg Apps held workshops for kids at the Redfern Town, the result of which became a magnificent young cast. And many outstanding adult actors have gravitated to this show – some to play very small parts. During pre-production, I had a call from a prominent actor's agent. She said "The word is out in the acting fraternity that the My Place scripts are amazing. I'm getting calls from my actors asking if there might be a role for them".

One can never ever underestimate the influence of a script on the effort of putting together a good production team. A good script is the best dowry there is.

# MY PLACE TECHNICAL DETAILS

Production Company	Little Leaf Pictures Pty Ltd for Matchbox Pictures Pty Ltd
Program Title	<b>My Place</b>
Audio Format	Dolby Stereo
Aspect Ratio	16:9 (1.78)
Title Safe	14:9
Website	<a href="http://www.abc.net.au/abc3/myplace">www.abc.net.au/abc3/myplace</a>

Programme Length – Programme Start to Black/Silence after End Credits:

Episode	Start Time Code	End Time Code	Duration
Episode 1 2008: Laura	00:02:30:00	00:25:11:00	00:22:41:00
Episode 2 1998: Mohammed	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 3 1988: Lily	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 4 1978: Mike	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 5 1968: Sofie	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 6 1958: Michaelis	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 7 1948: Jen	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 8 1938: Colum	00:02:30:00	00:26:15:00	00:23:45:00
Episode 9 1928: Bridie	00:02:30:00	00:26:05:00	00:23:35:00
Episode 10 1918: Bertie	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 11 1908: Evelyn	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 12 1898: Rowley	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00
Episode 13 1888: Victoria	00:02:30:00	00:26:30:00	00:24:00:00

Distribution	Australian Children's Television Foundation Level 3 145 Smith Street Fitzroy VIC 3065 Melbourne Australia T: + 61 3 9419 8800 F: + 61 3 9419 0660 <a href="mailto:info@actf.com.au">info@actf.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.actf.com.au">www.actf.com.au</a>
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# MY PLACE CAST LIST

## EPISODE 1 - 2008 LAURA

Laura	MADDIE MADDEN
Soriya	PNINA HAGEGE DALTON
Michaelis	NICHOLAS PAPADEMETRIOU
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Aunt Bev	BRONWYN BISHOP
Teacher	OLIVIA STAMBOULIAH
Ellen	LEAH PURCELL
Tony	KANE STEWART
Terry	VINCE WEST
Lenny	BILLY McPHERSON
Diane	ANGELINE PENRITH
Lorraine	KIAH FERGUSON

## EPISODE 2 – 1998 MOHAMMED

Mohammed	NAREK ARMAGANIAN
Danielle	BRIDGET CROWLEY
Omar	WADIH DONA
Grandma	KRIS McQUADE
Emma	ANITA HEGH
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Michaelis	NICHOLAS PAPADEMETRIOU
Aunt Bev	BRONWYN PENRITH
Greg Hilliard	TIM RICHARDS
Brian Hilliard	JACK VIRGO
Sister #1	MARIA ANGELOPOULOS

## EPISODE 3 – 1988 LILY

Lily	SHEENA PHAM
Phuong	CAROLINE NGUYEN
Anisha	NITHYA BANGALORE
Fatima	LJUBICA PERESIC
Mr McGrath	ANDREW BIBBY
Thi Mai	MARIA TRAN
Tuan	CHRIS CAO
Binh	QUINN LE
Chinh	CORY VI
Nerine	EMMA LEONARD
Michaelis	NICHOLAS PAPADEMETRIOU
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Carmel	KRIS McQUADE
Phuong Double	ASHLEIGH WANT
Sean	NICHOLAS BEORSCH
Lara (Soldier)	LARA MYTHILLOS
Toby (Convict)	TOBY BOWRING

**EPISODE 4 – 1978 MIKE**

Mike	WILL COTTLE
Ben	JAMIN BENNETT
The Tippy	CHRISTOPHER BAKER
Michaelis (68/78)	BEN WINSPEAR
Janice (68/78)	AMANDA BISHOP
Mama (58/68/78)	VICTORIA HARALABIDOU
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Jeff	SAM PARSONSON
Sofia (78)	LOUISA MIGNONE
Nina	PATTI TSAROUHIS
Pat	HARRY GREENWOOD
Mark	MATTHEW CAHILL
Stuart	KANE JOHNSON
First Boy	FLYNN COLBY

**EPISODE 5 – 1968 SOFIA**

Sofia	ANASTASIA FENERI
Mareka	JAZ ALLEN
Michaelis (68/78)	BEN WINSPEAR
Janice (68/78)	AMANDA BISHOP
Baba (58/68)	ALIX BLIAS
Mama (58/68/78)	VICTORIA HARALABIDOU
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Yaya (58/68)	DEBORAH GALANOS
Second Yaya	MARIA KARAGIANNIS
Third Yaya	CATINA HASAPIS
Cousin Yannis	PANDA LIKOUDIS
Bowler	ARCHIE OXENBOULD
Fielder	JACOB McHUTCHISON
Maroula (68)	STAVROULA PAPHITIS
Gina	KAILY KOUTSOGIANNIS
Manoulis	JOHN DELLIOS
Teacher	JOANNA GRIFFIN

**EPISODE 6 – 1958 MICHAELIS**

Michaelis (58)	JONATHAN KOLLIAS
Janice	ANNIE MARTIN
Christos	DIMITRI SOLOMOU
Baba (58/68)	ALEX BLIAS
Mama (58/68/78)	VICTORIA HARALABIDOU
Kyrios Josephides	ARKY MICHAEL
Yaya (58/68)	DEBORAH GALANOS
Mrs Benson	REBECCA MASSEY
Mr McCormack	STEPHEN SHANAHAN
Mrs McCormack	ALEXA ASHTON
Gil McCormack	ANGUS RUSSO
Tom McCormack	KURT SCHLEDE
Maroula (58)	MARY DIMITROPOULOS

**EPISODE 7 – 1948 JEN**

Jen	MONIQUE HOLMES
Kath	KATE BOX
Wal	STEVE ROGERS
Miss Miller	SUSIE PORTER
Bridie	EMMA LUNG
Janey	LUCI HUGHES
Margie	NATHALIE FENWICK
Grandfather	KIERAN DARCY-SMITH
Mr O’Sullivan	CHRIS HAYWOOD
Mr McPhail	MATTHEW WHITTET
Foreman	SCOTT LOWE

**EPISODE 8 – 1938 COLUM**

Colum	ALFIE CARSLAKE
Thommo	JOEL BARKER
Kath	KATE BOX
Bridie	EMMA LUNG
Jack	LAURENCE BRUELS
Miss Miller	SUSIE PORTER
Mr O’Sullivan	CHRIS HAYWOOD
Pa	KIERAN DARCY-SMITH
Joe Blake	JUSTIN SMITH
PC Moroney	RYAN JOHNSON
Mr McPhail	MATTHEW WHITTET
Sid	LEON BURCHILL
Older Boy	BLAKE GILES
Mr Thomson	PAUL GLEESON
Housewife	RHONDA DOYLE
Old Man	LESTER MORRIS

**EPISODE 9 – 1928 BRIDIE**

Bridie	HOLLY FRASER
Kath	BRENNA HARDING
Lorna	AIMEE PATMORE
Miss Miller	SUSIE PORTER
Mumma	ALICE McCONNELL
Pa	KIERAN DARCY-SMITH
Mrs Thomson	FELICITY PRICE
Mr Thomson	PAUL GLEESON
Declan	EDMOND CINIS
Sid	LEON BURCHILL
Soldier	ZACHERY GARRED

**EPISODE 10 – 1918 BERTIE**

Bertie	SHARDYN FAHEY-LEIGH
Sid	LEON BURCHILL
Mr Watson	PAUL BLACKWELL
Mr Bracey	EWEN LESLIE
Miss Miller	SUSIE PORTER
Edna	FIONA BOOKER
Evelyn	MAEVE DERMODY
Rose	ELOISE OXER
Eddie	ANDREW HAZZARD
Laurie	SEBASTIAN ROBITSCHKO
Accordian Player	MARCELLO MAIO

**EPISODE 11 – 1908 EVELYN**

Evelyn	LUCY HOWROYD
Eddie	JACK VERSACE
Freddie Muller	BILLY SHAW
Miss Muller	SUSIE PORTER
Rose	ELOISE OXER
Vernon	LEON FORD
Mr Merry	RUSSELL DYKSTRA
Leck Wong	SKY TSE
Tom Muller	HARRY COOK
Urchin	COLE BURGESS

**EPISODE 12 – 1898 ROWLEY**

Rowley	BENSON ANTHONY
Tom Muller	SAM FRASER
Elsie	SACHA HORLER
Miss Muller	SUSIE PORTER
Mr Merry	RUSSELL DYKSTRA
Miss Singer	FIONA PRESS
Bill	WAYNE PYGRAM
Russell Gartner	PAUL CEASAR
Jono Bayliss	WILSON MOORE
Leck Wong	SKY TSE
Stan	PETER LAWLESS
Teacher	LUCAS PERRY

**EPISODE 13 – 1888 VICTORIA**

Victoria	ELIZA SAVILLE
Wesley	LOCHI NAZER-HENNINGS
May	ASHLEIGH ROSS
Miss Muller	SUSIE PORTER
Victoria's Father	DAN WYLLIE
Victoria's Mother	HAYLEY McELHINNEY
Irish Tradesman	DAN SPIELMAN
Alexandra Owen	ODESSA YOUNG
Emma Owen	ISABEL WILSON
Aboriginal Girl	SHAKIRA MAREKA
Dunny Can Man	OWEN BUICK
Henry Muller	GRAEME WARE

# MY PLACE CREW LIST

Directed by	SHAWN SEET MICHAEL JAMES ROWLAND CATRIONA MCKENZIE SAMANTHA LANG JESSICA HOBBS
Written by	LEAH PURCELL BRENDAN COWELL GREG WATERS NICHOLAS PARSONS TIM PYE ALICE ADDISON GINA RONCOLI BLAKE AYSHFORD
Produced by Co-Producer Executive Producers	PENNY CHAPMAN HELEN PANCKHURST BERNADETTE O'MAHONY CARLA DE JONG
Script Producer Casting Director	SIMON HOPKINSON GREG APPS
Director Of Photography Film Editors	JOE PICKERING HENRY DANGAR A.S.E. CHRISTOPHER SPURR SURESH AYYAR A.S.E.
Composer Production Designer Costume Designer Hair & Make-Up Designer History & Story Consultant	ROGER MASON FELICITY ABBOTT EMILY SERESIN LESLEY VANDERWALT NADIA WHEATLEY
Production Coordinator Production Secretary Runners	ANNA STEEL JOE PETTY ADAM SIGNORELLI SAM ZUBRYCKI
Casting/ Copyright Coordinator Extras Casting Dramaturg Production Accountant Assistant Accountant Location Manager Location Coordinator	JUSTINE LEONG JANE DAWKINS MELISSA BRUDER JOHN RUSSELL JANINE BARNES PETER LAWLESS TIM WHIDDON MARY BARLTROP
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Directors	MARGIE BEATTIE LIAM BRANAGAN JENNIDER LEACEY CHRIS WEBB
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Directors	KATE NORTH ASH SCOTT LOVELOCK
3 <sup>rd</sup> Assistant Directors	DANIELLE BLAKE JESSE ALLEN
Script Supervisor	JO WEEKS
Camera Operator/ Steadicam	JASON EWART ANDREW JOHNSON

Focus Pullers	KEITH BRYANT CLAIRE ATKINS
Clapper Loader	GARY PRESTON
Camera Dept Assistant	GUSTAVO FARACO
Gaffer	KENNY PETTIGREW
Best Boy Electrics	PAUL CUMMING
Electrics Assistant	STEPHEN GRAY
Key Grip	DAVID LITCHFIELD DAMIAN HECKENDORF
Best Boy Grip	CRAIG JACKSON
Sound Recordist	MARK BLACKWELL
Boom Operators	MANEL LOPEZ LUCAS BONE
Art Director	SOPHIE NASH
Art Dept. Co-ordinator	COLETTE BIRRELL
Property Master	PETER MALATESTA
Set Decorator	TANIA EINBERG
Assistant Buyer/Dressers	FRAZER MOORE KATE CAMPBELL MELISSA LOVRIC
Standby Props	ANTHONY McNEIL
Art Dept. Runner	JONATHAN WORN
Construction Manager	MIKE BERNAUER
Scenic Artist	MARTIN BRUVERIS
Set Painter	YANN VIGNES
Greensman	MATT DALEY
Vehicles/ Animal Wrangler	GRAEME WARE Jnr
Costume Buyer/ Coordinator	NATALIE DIVES
Key Standby	DAN OWEN
Costume Assistants	AMANDA ENDERS CHRISTINA VALIDAKIS ANNE KWOK TERRI KIBBLER KIRSTEN BULS
Hair & Make-up Artist	ANGELA CONTE
Hair & Make-up Assistant	BRYDIE STONE
Unit Manager	TIC CARROLL
Unit Assistant Manager	BRIAN CARPENTER
Unit Assistants	AYA GERAHTY K,J, ANDERSEN ANDREW PLAYFORD MICHAEL WILSON
Stills Photographers	JIMMY POZARIK MARK ROGERS
Safety Supervisors	RICHARD BOUE ANDY CLARKE
Safety Report	WAYNE PLEACE
Security & Traffic Control	WHO DARES
Unit Nurses	KATIE HARRIS KERRY SMITH
Caterer	REZA MOKHTAR
Catering Assistant	KIRSTY SNELL
EPK Director	BRIAN LYE
Casting Assistance	LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION
Post Supervisor	DAVID BIRRELL
Assistant Editor	MARGI HOY
Digitising Assistant	ELIOT KNAPMAN
Titles Design	ROCHELLE OSHLACK

My Place Timescape	CATHIE BROUGHTON
Edited at	BLUE ROCKET PRODUCTIONS
HD Post Production	SPECTRUM FILMS
FSM Producer	FSM
Conform Editor	PAULINE PIPER
Colourist	BEN BROAD
Online Editor	TRISTAN LA FONTAINE
Sound Facility	HEATHER GALVIN
Dialogue Editor	ABC
Sound Effects Editor	PETER HALL
ADR & Foley Recordist	OLIVIA MONTEITH
Foley Artist	IAN DONATO
Mixer	DAVID PERRY
	MICHOL MARSH

Music Orchestrated & Arranged by	ROGER MASON
Music Recorded & Mixed at	COLLYWOOD STUDIOS
Voices	JEN CROWTHER
	ATHENA PYTHAGORAS
Violins	MARCUS HOLDEN
	IAN COOPER
	PHILIP HARTL
Cello	ADRIAN WALLIS
Guitar	JIM PENNELL
Banjo	SCOTT BIRD
Flute	PAUL JARMES
Clarinet	GRAHAM JESSE
Trombone	ANTHONY CABLE
Trumpet	TODD HARDY
Music Copyist	ANDREW ROBERTSON
Recording Engineer	ANT SMITH