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Entertainment

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Ghostly goings on at the Rose Centre

One night in the 1920's Arnold Ridley who played Private Godfrey in the wartime sitcom *Dad's Army*, was sitting on the platform at Mangotsfield station near Bristol in the UK.

He sat for four hours waiting to change trains from the Avon Valley Line to the Midland mainline, when strange acoustics made the trains on one platform sound as if they were passing along the other platform. This set his mind off and during his wait he wrote the classic comic mystery *The Ghost Train*.

A dark and stormy night, winter 1925. In the dingy waiting room of Fal-Vale station in Cornwall, six passengers have missed their connection. Now they are stranded until the following morning, on tonight of all nights.

Into this one room the characters have been brought by the foolish actions of Teddie Deakin who pulled the emergency cord, bringing their train to a sudden halt. The station master tells them a tale of 20 years earlier when a railway accident resulted in death, madness and haunting — "it be said that to look on the ghost train means death".

"Bah humbug" is the reply of the worldly



Ghostly business: Come and see this chilling comedy at the Rose Centre.

metropolitan travellers ... but then weird things begin to happen. As the plot thickens the blood thins.

Company Theatre presents *The Ghost Train* as the final production in their 25th anniversary season.

Graham Wagstaff directs the large cast of

12 experienced actors in this vintage play. Terry Smith has produced eerily spooky sound effects, Scott Thomas who recently designed the lighting for *Seussical the Musical* at the Pumphouse, transforms the theatre into a dingy waiting room, and Cathie Sandy, Molly

Clarke and Gail Curran show painstaking detail in the costuming of the play.

The *Ghost Train* is very funny, a little bit scary, and absolutely spiffing entertainment. For a relaxing well-performed evening of comedy with a few chills, this is just the

ticket.

The play runs nightly except Sundays and Mondays from November 12-26 at the Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont. There are two matinees at 2pm on Sunday November 13 and 20. Bookings are essential, phone Kathy Gent on 445 6447.



