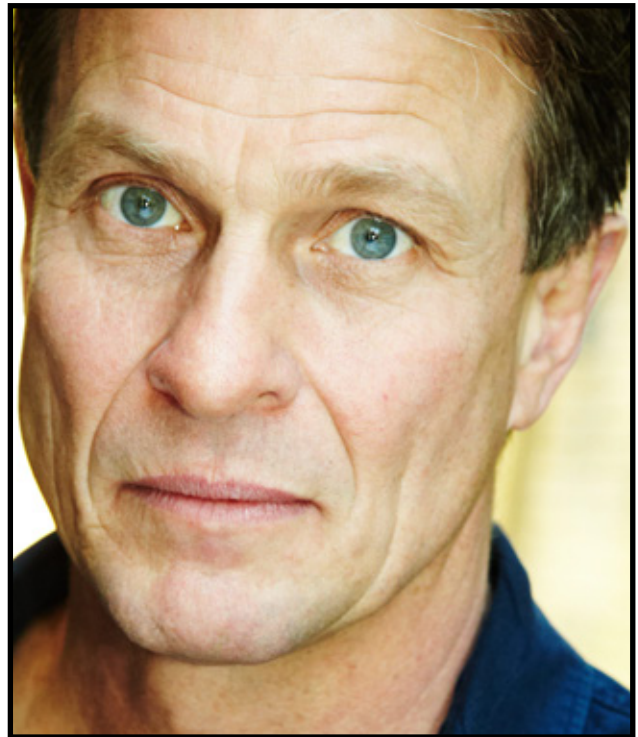


Film and TV scripts

AT THE EDGE OF THE BED

Starring
**TONY MARTIN, BELINDA GIBLIN and
PATRICK TRUMPER**
Directed by
MARK LEE
Produced by
PETER J SLEE and MARK LEE
Screenplay
FRANK GAUNTLETT



ABOVE: Mark Lee

AT THE EDGE OF THE BED is based on a story by Guy de Maupassant. A couple face the disintegration of their marriage after returning from a party one evening. The man, whose extramarital affairs are no secret to his wife, is peeved that she flirted openly with a mutual friend. The woman, surprised at her husband's nascent jealousy, is determined to discover the cause. What follows is an arrangement which creates an unusual opportunity for their marriage.

The Boy

A TRUE STORY

HARLEY Connor was born a heroin addict in Melbourne, 1980.

A year later his barman-dancer-gigolo Dad stole him away to Sydney's Kings Cross.

KINGS CROSS is known world-wide as the we-never-close crossroads of Sydney vice. Sex, drugs and rock n' roll draw a crowd and murder, mayhem and crime of every class run riot through all the headlines and history. Witchcraft, art and eccentricity thrive. And there's a whole bunch of people just doing the best they can ...

Wild-child Mum

followed.

Clinging to the rich and strange twilight fringes of Sydney's entertainment scene, these parents pitched into full-time Life at The Cross and not into Bringing Up Baby.

Harley was left to two new, but unusually true, friends:

EDDIE McKENNA was 40 when he fell for The Baby. Sewing machine virtuoso, singer and popular drag comic LANIE, Eddie was the man - Pop - who provided the loving home - and, when necessary, a backstage crib at *Les Girls*.

Four times widowed, eccentric mother-of-four, and knitting professional, PHYLLIS SHADDOCK was in her early 70s when she met young Harley.

Eddie called her The Battleaxe, Harley called her Ma and they all lived together - sometimes with Harley's Dad - in Bondi Junction.

Growing up is never easy - for Harley it was a surreal roller-coaster. But he made it. He grew . . . mainly up.

With the help of veteran actor KEVIN HEALY, Harley became an actor; with the help of less respected Good Guys Harley became a Jelly Wrestling referee and strippers' MC.

It's a grand life if you don't weaken.

And there's not so much a happy ending as, perhaps, a happy crossroads . . .



THE BOYS OF '74

IT COULD have been the strangest team of Australian sporting heroes ever – a milkman, a coal-miner, a window cleaner, teacher, private eye and more - a big, boofy bunch of working blokes whose passion for The Beautiful Game took them to the biggest sporting championships in the world.

Dismissed as minnows and misfits, The Boys of 74 is the often hilarious story of the first Aussie team to play in the World Cup finals.

The 1974 Socceroo team won the affection and admiration of the sporting world and there wasn't a step of the way that was easy.

In a rapidly changing world, at the height of a golden age of soccer style and skill, this rag-tag band of young football fans battled to hold "proper" jobs and train for the top.

At home, where the game was seen as the province of "sheilas, wogs and pooftahs", they fought the scorn of racism, ignorance, indifference and vested interests.

They struggled to dodge domestic disaster with neglected wives and girlfriends and they fought gruelling battles on the field to win the right to play the world's best at Munich.

From the pitched battle of South Vietnam's Cong Hoa stadium in 1972 we follow The Boys through the qualifying matches to the final gruelling campaign through the soul-searching deserts of Israel to the no-expense-spared soccer star sanctuary of Switzerland and into the blinding West German spotlight of two billion fans worldwide.

The triumph of The Boys of 74 is much more than the story of a gutsy grab for a big gold cup – it goes to the heart of the human spirit, it is about courage, tragedy, laughter, tenacity, humanity, beauty, strength and skill in the face of all adversity.

It is the story of ordinary people achieving extraordinary things. Real champions.

The story of Australia's 1974 World Cup finalists.

CAPTAIN HURLEY'S BOX

CAPTAIN Hurley's Box is a serious money epic, the stirring tale of Australia's fearless pioneer photographer, film-maker, adventurer and explorer Frank Hurley - Mawson, Shackleton and World War I is just the beginning!

The script has been highly praised - potentially one of the all-time great film biographies said one major director/producer.

It could be huge.

Jackman huge!

*Co-starring Everyone
Else huge!*

RIGHT: Frank Hurley.

BELOW: A Hurley shot with Shackleton in Antarctica.



THE HOT MONKEY

JADED journo Henry James reluctantly reports on a series of murders: lawyer and arts luminary Barry Sponge, society hostess Brenda Meat and drunken artist Les Shaw.

Many are suspected: gallery owner Wynford Bond, lighting designer Terry Shingle, spin-bitch Christine Pike, even Redfern Hiscock, arts scribe for the Weekend World.

Suspicion falls briefly on Henry - that's how he meets detective Ron Ibsen.

The next murder - charity patroness Primrose Wangler - binds Henry and Ron on the roller coaster with such as Mason Leigh, minister for main roads, contact sports, state statistics and the arts; Lachlan Seed, fringe novelist and playwright; agent Roger Pile and appalling deputy police commissioner Cecil Osbert Newton.

Henry's office is going crazy. Frantic cops are going nowhere. Society's cream is turning. Unwelcome publicity abounds.

Sensation-seeking American TV anchor Anastasia Ruth scents blood but, barely arrived, she and her crew are cruelly slain in a Car-Death-Plunge fate intended for Henry.

This does nothing to calm the situation. Nor does Christine Pike's grisly slaying.

Deputy commissioner Newton has taken a particular dislike to Henry.

Concerned citizens fornicate, fantasise, over-dose, drink, organise, bicker and rally - with all the more urgency when broad farceur Bradford Batt uncovers the dead body of journalist David Cooper, live on stage at The Palace Theatre.

Another attempt on Henry's life keeps the stress building. Police and politicians plot and counter-plot. This blood-soaked reign of terror must cease! But it doesn't.

Could otherwise unemployable, type-cast, bitter advertising superhero Ray Snitterton (aka Lemon Lightning) have something to do with these awful killings?

Newton fancies Henry for Society Slasher. Henry has his own theory. Few listen.

Wynford Bond and his circle plan a public meeting at The Hard Place nightclub to thrash out community security issues

Everyone who wants to be someone turns up and everything goes wrong. Roger Pile's public electrocution brings chaos. Disguised as Zippo kitchen cleaner superhero Lemon Lightning, crazed Ray Snitterton takes charge.

Henry's theory is correct - the arts and society set, inflamed by jealousies, slights real and imagined, and ambition are independently and opportunistically slaughtering foes and competitors using the fictitious Society Stalker as cover.

The dreaded Inner City Siege Bloodbath Situation goes completely out of control when the police storm the building with dreadful consequences. Henry and Ron are obliged to escape the aftermath disguised as members of the dead and wounded.

The Hot Monkey beckons but that venue cannot be enjoyed before a final showdown with Redfern Hiscock and even Deputy Commissioner Newton.

In a short, sharp burst of prudent and effective violence John The Barman saves the day.

*A high-flying mate in TV was very encouraging with **The Hot Monkey** and saw it as a two-hour TV pilot.*

Consequently there are three well developed outlines for further eps in the drawer.

Well, you never know.

THURSDAY

IN THIS mildly hallucinagenic Ealing-style comedy the town of Bligh is home to a gang of elderly *Robin Hood* art thieves, lead by queenly Leo Loxton, who also produces Saturday's annual social highlight, the local am-dram Breadfruit Players' production - this year it's *Dickie Cheese On Toast*, a silly farce.

Failing con-man Barry Windsor, henchman Vic "Puny" Mortal and girlfriend Melody Snote are scamming their way across country and wind up trapped in Bligh.

Unfortunately their car is stolen by one of Leo's merry women and the police set up a road block to catch the scammers from their previous job.

Stakes increase when Barry's car rolls down a hill and, with amazing precision, traps tiresome copper Don de Londeelon, much to the entertainment of locals.

Romance blossoms, the show must go on, a rescue squad races to the scene, Barry tries to con Leo and area commander Ian Slapper gets bizarrely imprisoned in a car crash. It turns out that Barry's gang were unknowingly responsible for launching the seniors on a career of crime.

Bad guys must be punished and the slightly less bad (but charming) prevail.

THE WORM

BASED on the Northumbrian legend *The Lambton Worm*, this off-beat, unsettling tale of cruelty, fate, revenge and the supernatural is set in Central West NSW.

Dr. John Flynn returns to his father, sister and quaint home town of Lambton for rest and recuperation.

Local thugs still blot the landscape but life is largely unchanged - until Ray Glaze arrives.

Business identity Glaze crashes off Thor Bridge and John is physically and mentally shattered - the perfect opportunity for thugs Vic, Podney and Shooter to torment their old enemy.

A hideous cocktail of drugs forced on the doctor, he staggers into the night and is lost, presumed drowned.

Glaze, wife Steph and unstable son Billy move to the top of the Lambton tree.

There's money about but Lambton is a far less happy place.

Out of the blue, after years of damaged wandering, Flynn reunites with sister Sam and they head back to Lambton



where Glaze plans a big night and John and Sam plan revenge.

They watch the shambolic Glaze group at The Dragon Hotel where Vic's mindless aggression is swiftly regretted.

Advised by local wiccan Alison - and warned of debt to supernatural forces - John dispatches Glaze and his thugs in Lambton's shadowy streets.

Locals mill, police flood in, Ray captures Flynn and forces him to the river and a final confrontation at Thor Bridge.

John triumphs but as Glaze's full depravity is revealed so is the price Flynn

must pay for victory - a terrible vision of the grim fate that awaits the principal players, friend and foe, in his story . . . and, most shocking of all, his own awful end.