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## Interviews > **Gina Morley**

Court Clerk Jan Phillips first appeared in 2007 during the trial of the then Susan Kinski, and again in 2008 for the trial of Angus Henderson. Actress Gina Morley discusses her career and time on the show with us here...

Can you tell us a little about your stage and screen career prior to your **Neighbours** appearance in 2007?

I've wanted to be an actor since I was a kid. My parents owned a movie theatre and I used to relish watching movies every day after school and dreaming about being up there on the screen myself. In my teenage years I did a lot of Shakespeare and musicals, forms of theatre that still fill me with joy. I then went on to train at the National Theatre Drama School, VCA, Impro Melbourne, The Rehearsal Room, and with stage director David Myles. My professional work before my **Neighbours** role includes: over fifteen films, both features and shorts, in seven of which I played leading roles; work on other Australian dramas such as **Blue Heelers**; and extensive theatre work, such as the world premiere of **Read My Lips** - a work that was written to illuminate the depression and fears around eating disorders.

Do you recall how your **Neighbours** role as Jan Phillips came about? Was it just a typical audition for you?

I actually went in to audition for another role, which they ended up casting someone much older for. I then got the feedback that Jan Russ (casting) and the directors were so impressed with my audition that they wanted to give me the role of Jan Phillips. I was thrilled. The original audition itself was great, Jan Russ is charming and energetic and working with her is always good fun.



laugh in between takes. But as soon as the cameras rolled it was all professional focus.

You appeared during the climax of one of **Neighbours'** biggest plots of recent years, as Susan went to court for running down Bridget Parker. What was it like to be a part of such a big story?

It was exciting to be a part of it. The high drama of the scenes and the strong work by all was fantastic. All the actors gave their best, from the main characters of the story to the



What was your experience like working with the close-knit **Neighbours** cast?

In a word, wonderful. Everyone in the cast was very welcoming and the crew were really sweet too. Together the cast and crew had a real family feel. Everyone was always smiling; in between shooting scenes of high drama there were always lots of laughs. I remember when Jackie (Jackie Woodburne who plays Susan Kennedy) had to pass out in court and Ryan (Ryan Moloney who plays Jarrod 'Toadfish' Rebecchi) kept trying to make her