

Would YOU like to join WDG?

For the princely sum of \$2 you can join Wyong Drama Group. It doesn't matter if you're not interested in acting – there are literally dozens of interesting activities to become involved in. There's Set Construction, Lighting, Sound, Props, Wardrobe, Catering, Set Design, Direction and many other equally challenging fields.

The group produces three major productions during the year, in late April/May, mid-August and early November. We hold an annual Theatre Festival in mid-June.

We meet in the Green Room at the rear of Wyong Memorial Hall on the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm. Come along and say hello, or to find out more about us just ring:

4392-3441

Coming Attractions...

18 & 24-26 June *Wyong's Theatre Festival 2005*

Following on from the success of last year's theatre festival, which attracted nine plays, we are going to make it an annual event. This year we expect even more entries and a high standard of competitive drama. We also preview Wyong Drama Group's entries on the weekend before the festival (on 18 June)

18-27 August *Heaven Can Wait*

This presentation tells the story of the moments between the crash of the plane carrying The Big Bopper, Richie Valens and Buddy Holly, and their arrival in heaven. The show will be WDG's first real foray into a musical presentation, with a dozen or more songs included in the play. It will be directed by Ron Baker.

Wyong Drama Group Incorporated Proudly Presents



By Ray Lawler
April/May 2005

Director's Message

This is the third time I've constructed the Leech household on the stage at Wyong Memorial Hall. I did it for *Kid Stakes* (set in 1937) in 1989, for *Other Times* (set in 1945) in 1996 and now in 2005 for *The Doll* (set in 1953-4).

I was lucky, because I've progressed through the plays in the correct order. Ray Lawler started at the end, and worked backwards. He wrote *The Doll* in 1953, and it first opened in 1955. It wasn't until the mid 70s when he was able to write the two prequels to his hit play of 1953.

The strength, of course, of Lawler's plays is the characterisation. We come to know and love the residents of Emma's boarding house in Carlton. We care about them, and are truly concerned when things don't go the way they always used to...

It would be remiss of me not to thank many people for this show. Firstly my wife, then also my cast. They all have put in many long hours in the last fourteen weeks, and from all of them it's been top-class work. I hope I didn't drive you too hard. Also many thanks to Ron Baker and Barry Sampson, you were a big help, guys!

Peter Deane



Peter Deane

Peter joined WDG in its celebration of Wyong's 150th Anniversary, *This Fractured Century* in 1987. He has acted in and directed about a dozen productions since. Peter was Central Coast Theatre Company's inaugural director, having presented *Caravan* in 1996-7 at the Hangar at Ourimbah. You may have seen him last November as Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Behind the Scenes

Director	Peter Deane
Stage Manager	Sharon Deane
ASM/Prompt	Michael Strappazzon
Sound/Lighting	Ron Baker Craig Lawton Robert Donohoe
Wardrobe	Nan Hawtin
Makeup/Foyer Decoration...	Helen Schumann
Set Design & Construction ...	Peter Deane
Set Construction/Decoration ...	Ron Baker Barry & Millie Sampson Robert Donohoe Allan Claremont Julie Bailey Ros Ellis
Photography	Mathew Richards
Poster/Programme	Peter Deane
Doll Graphic	Elysha Hickey
Bookings	Julie Bailey
Front of House	Jenny Newman
Kitchen	Barry & Millie Sampson

Many thanks to all the other WDG members who have lent a hand: ushers, ticket sellers, supper hosts, set builders, painters, and so on. You know who you are, and so do we. You are indispensable and very much appreciated, despite your anonymity.



Michael Strappazzon

Michael is a newcomer to Wyong Drama Group. He comes to the Central Coast from the Hills District, having worked on productions and musicals such as *Kids in Space* and playing Fagan in *Oliver!*. Michael returns to the stage after having a spell at busking around the world. The role of Johnnie Dowd is his first foray into straight theatre, and he is immensely enjoying the challenge. Like three other members of the cast, Michael is also of the teaching profession!

The Doll Trivia Quiz

Wyong Drama Group has never performed *The Doll* before. True or False?

Who is the man who fancies Nancy in *Other Times*? _____

What is the name of the man who marries Nancy? _____

What is Bubba Ryan's real name? _____

Other than Roo, who is a suitor for Olive in *Kid Stakes*? _____

What are Barney's sons' names _____ & _____

Where did Barney live at age eighteen? _____

In which Melbourne suburb is the play set? _____

What items of set have been used on all three WDG productions, *Kid Stakes*, *Other Times* and now *The Doll*? _____

(Answers will be placed in the foyer at the end of each show)

Wyong Drama Group Incorporated



by arrangement with the licensor, Ray Lawler,
C/- Curtis Brown (Aust) P/1, proudly presents

**Summer of the Seventeenth Doll
By Ray Lawler**

Cast

(in order of appearance)

- Pearl Cunningham Darlene Cole**
- Bubba Ryan Elysha Hickey**
- Olive Leech Angie Bain**
- Barney Ibbot Robert Hickey**
- Emma Leech Pam Campbell**
- Roo Webber Steve Cummings**
- Johnnie Dowd Michael Strappazzon**

Synopsis of Scenes

- Act I, Sc I** Five o'clock on a Sunday afternoon in December
- Act I, Scii** The following morning
- Act II, Sc I** New Year's Eve 1953, about half past eleven
- There will then be a twenty-minute interval**
- Act II, Sc ii** The following Friday evening, about six thirty
- Act III, Sc i** The following Saturday morning



Darlene Cole

Darlene comes to Wyong from Oberon's Wild OATS. In recent years she has built up a history of plays for WDG. She has been in the one-act plays *Holiday Eve*, *Darlings*, *You Were Wonderful*, and *Sandcastles on the Beach*. Last year she appeared on stage with Morisset Drama Group in *Flying Feathers* and for Woy Woy Little Theatre in *Habeas Corpus* and *Absent Friends*. Darlene hopes you enjoy this production as much as she has enjoyed being part of it.



Elysha Hickey

Elysha completed her HSC last year, and enjoyed studying Drama and Visual Arts. Her artwork was selected for *Artwork Express* at the Art Gallery of NSW. Elysha has participated in various Rock Eisteddfods for Terrigal High, and appeared in their production of *Macbeth*. She was also selected for the Central Coast Drama Ensemble. This is her first role with WDG, and she's really having fun working with her dad.



Angie Bain

Angie is known for her comic roles with Wyong Drama Group, appearing in such plays as *Daylight Saving*, *The Maltese Mouse*, and *Not Now Darling*. She has tapped her way through *Stepping Out* for WDG and cried her way through *Speaking Out* at Laycock Street. A drama teacher at Terrigal High School, Angie is looking forward to playing the multi-faceted Olive.

Robert Hickey

Robert is an experienced actor, singer and musician who has taken many lead roles in productions by Gosford Musical Society, Opera Hunter and Laycock Street Theatre Company among others. He works as a Drama/English/History teacher with Terrigal High. This is his first production with Wyong Drama Group and he is having a ball playing Barney in this quintessential Australian play. He will be best known to local audiences as Valjean in *Les Miserables*.



Pam Campbell

Pam has been a member of WDG since 1991, performing in more than twenty plays. She has also performed for the Ad Hoc and Central Coast Theatre Companies. Some of her favourite roles have been Hilary in *Hotel Sorrento*, Monica in *Caravan*, Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias* and Mrs Clackett in *Noises Off!* In 2003 she directed WDG's most attended play ever, *Run for your Wife*. When not doing drama for a hobby, Pam teaches drama at a local secondary college.



Steve Cummings

Steve lives on the Woy Woy Peninsula, and will be well known to the Little Theatre's audiences. He has been in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Rumors*, *There Goes the Bride*, *You Can't Take it With You*, *An Inspector Calls* and *On Golden Pond* in recent years with WWLT. Steve has also been active with Gosford Musical Society and has been seen in *Les Miserables*, *Into the Woods*, *Oliver*, *Evita*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Camelot*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Godspell*.

