

Director's Note

It's not surprising that *Fawlty Towers* has become such a household name from only twelve episodes broadcast for television in the 1970's. We've grown to love the quirky characters and satirical comedy as we reminisce about our favourite scenes. The three episodes you will see tonight are from the second series. I have tried to create the interior of *Fawlty Towers* so that the audience feels like part of the surroundings. Of course, we have added our own touches to adapt the series to the stage. We have had to give the suggestion of walls, or dispense with them altogether, to allow for sight lines. We ask you to suspend disbelief as our characters knock on doors that are knee high, and seemingly walk through walls. The cast and crew have worked very hard to remain true to the series. Your enjoyment will be the fruit of their efforts as we proudly present *Fawlty Towers*.



Pam Campbell
director

As a member of Wyong Drama Group for fifteen years, Pam has performed in many plays, including *Daylight Saving*, *Hotel Sorrento* and *Life Goes On*. She has also performed in *Shoehorn Sonata* and *Caravan* for Central Coast Theatre Company and *Steel Magnolias* for Ad Hoc Theatre. Pam also dabbles in script writing, lighting, directing and stage managing. Since directing *Run For Your Wife*, Pam has been keen to direct another comedy and *Fawlty Towers* loomed out of the mist.

The Cast

Howard Oxley
Kelly Humphries
Paul Ractliffe
Cathy DeVries
Laszlo Weidlich
Marc Calwell
Darlene Cole
Karen Ractliffe
Steve Cummings
Karen Edwards
Cheryl Wells
John Czerniecki
Jeanette McCurry
Jeanne Gerlach
Robert Donohoe
Millie Sampson
Mark Gerlach

Basil Fawty
Sybil Fawty
Manuel
Polly
Dr Abbott, Mr Hamilton, Arthur
Mr Johnson, Mr Johnstone, Roger
Raylene Miles, Mrs Arrad, Alice
Mrs Johnstone, Virginia
Major Gowen, Mr Arrad, Reg
The Girlfriend, Mrs Hamilton, Kitty
Mrs Abbott, Mrs Libson, Audrey
Terry
Miss Gatsby
Miss Tibbs
Major Gowen
Mrs Johnson
Hotel Guest

Order of Performance

The Psychiatrist ~ Waldorf Salad ~ The Anniversary

There will be a 20 minute interval after each episode.
Tea and coffee will be served in the second interval only.

Behind The Scenes

Production Managers	Bernie O'Brien & Robyn Weidlich
Stage Manager	Sharon Deane
Props	Millie Sampson
Set Design	Pam Campbell and Barry Sampson
Set Construction	Barry Sampson, Laci Weidlich, Hagen Heinrich, Mark Gerlach, Marc Calwell and WDG members
Costumes and Set Decoration	Wendy Potter
Makeup	Helen Schumann and Susan Reynolds
Hair	Kellie Mortimer
Suppers	Barry Sampson, Mark Gerlach and WDG members
Lighting and Sound	Ron Baker, Craig Lawton and Simone Woodman
Photography	Mathew Richards
Programs and Fliers	Bernie O'Brien, Robyn Weidlich and Graham Vale
Front of House	Ros Ellis, Nikki De Vries and WDG members
Publicity	Robyn Weidlich and Bernie O'Brien
Bookings	Robyn Weidlich

Special thanks to the Soroptimists who always support our opening nights.
Program Cartoon illustrated by Robyn Weidlich.
Wigs by Adam & Eve Hair Design, West Gosford.
Many thanks to all the WDG members who have generously given their time and effort to produce this performance.

Special Thanks

Rose Cooper – What? E-news	James Tydd - CC Express Advocate
Radio 50 Plus	Starship Cruises
ABC Radio	Radio 2CCC
Margaret Hardy – Multi-Arts Confederation	Ozzie's Kebabs, Wyong
Central Coast Uniforms	

Come and join us ...

As you see, as well as acting and directing, there are many other roles to fill. If you are interested in joining our friendly group, call 4353 4353.

Theatrefest is back again!

Don't forget our exciting Theatrefest. A festival of one act plays. Groups compete from NSW and the ACT. It's always a good mixture of comedy and drama. The festival is on the weekend of June 23 – 25. For enquiries/bookings, call 4353 4353.

Our Next Production in August ...

..... is *The Odd Couple* (Female Version). Make sure you join our mailing list in the foyer to find out about upcoming productions. For enquiries/bookings, call 4353 4353.

 Starship Cruises Pty. Ltd.

WANTED:
ACTORS, SINGERS, DANCERS,
MUSICIANS, THEATRE GOERS, MOVIE LOVERS,
ENTERTAINMENT JUNKIES OF ALL AGES!

Get the latest audition information!
Get free publicity! Advertise for talent or
advertise your talents, **all for FREE!**
Subscribe to WHAT? E-News.
E-mail to entertainment_reporter@hotmail.com
or visit our website: <http://ccenews.tripod.com/>

Produced by  **ENTRANCE PRINTING**
Dedicated to your sharper image. 4332 4651

The Grand Hotel

Mustangs Bar & Grill
Wyong ~ Ph: 4352 1508



WYONG
DRAMA
GROUP INC

presents
by arrangement with Dominic

FAWLTY TOWERS



by John Cleese & Connie Booth

April 2006
directed by Pam Campbell

The Players



HOWARD OXLEY - Basil Fawley

Howard has been with Wyong Drama Group for over twenty years. He thinks he has done about thirty shows in that time. They carry special memories for him as do the friendships he's made. Basil Fawley is a real challenge for him. He promises to do his best to pass on the classical BRITISH sense of humour. We last saw him in *Blithe Spirit* and last year's Theatrefest. "...I only do it to keep my patients happy..."



KELLY HUMPHRIES - Sybil Fawley

Kelly started in front of the cameras for a channel 9 children's show in the 60's and from that moment enjoyed performing in any capacity. Kelly joined Bay Theatre Players in Batemans Bay in 1987 and performed in a variety of shows including ...*The Norman Conquests*, *Female Transport*, *Night of January 16th*. *The Unexpected Guest* and a number of musicals. After moving to the coast in 1995, she reprised her role of "Annie" in Central Coast Theatre Company's *Round and Round the Garden*. In 2004 she played the Headmistress in *The Iceberg Factory* at Laycock Street Theatre. Kelly is very excited about playing Sybil. "...She is a wonderful, witty character and I hope I do her justice..."



PAUL RACTLIFFE - Manuel

Paul appeared in many plays with an English amateur group some years ago, but his best loved role was that of an ugly sister in a student pantomime. After moving to Australia, he joined WDG in 2004.

This is his third production with WDG. His others include *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley* (an entry in WDG's Theatrefest last year). As a long time fan of *Fawley Towers* and "all things Monty Python", Paul is literally throwing himself into the role of Manuel.



CATHY DEVRIES - Polly

Cathy makes a welcome return to the stage after a three-year break and takes the part of "Polly". Cathy is very excited about her role and has enjoyed being back in the green room for rehearsals, as this is a "sweet place" to rehearse. Cathy is looking forward to doing this play with some familiar faces and some new faces as well.

Other memorable plays Cathy has been involved with in her 8 years as a member WDG are *Run for your Wife*, *Fourth wall*, *Don't Dress for Dinner* and *Loves a Luxury* just to mention a few.



LASZLO WEIDLICH - Dr Abbot, Mr Hamilton, Arthur

Laszlo was last seen in 'Allo 'Allo as Herr Flick of the Gestapo, who plucked his G-string once too often and almost had a Knackwurst schnapped in his own mousetrap.

In the present production he reprises his first ever role (second Trooper in a third class presentation of *Waltzing Matilda*) but will here attempt to differentiate the three roles.

To quote Oscar Wilde, languishing moribund in a seedy, third class hotel in Paris. "...My wallpaper and I are fighting a duel to the death. One or other of us has to go..."
Auf Wiedersehen!



MARC CALWELL - Mr Johnson, Mr Johnstone, Roger

This year, Marc celebrates 20 years in amateur theatre. He started in musicals in Sydney in *Guys and Dolls*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret* and others before moving to the Central Coast. He has since become involved with Wyong Musical Theatre Company, Woy Woy Little Theatre and of course, Wyong Drama Group. He has also performed in Theatrefests and various television roles. His last role was Lt. Gruber in our production of 'Allo 'Allo. Marc is thoroughly enjoying the manic ramblings of the team at *Fawley Towers* and hopes you do too.



DARLENE COLE - Raylene Miles, Mrs Arrad, Alice

Darlene has been involved in Theatre for many years in a variety of plays, musicals and melodramas with her hometown Oberon's theatre group, Wild OATS. As a member of WDG for the last four years, her most recent performance was as Yvette in 'Allo 'Allo. Previous appearances include Pearl in *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* and in the one-act plays *Holiday Eve*, *Darlings you Were Wonderful* and *Sandcastles on the Beach*. She has also performed for Morisset Drama Group in *Flying Feathers* and for Woy Woy Little Theatre as Connie in *Habeas Corpus* and Marge in *Absent Friends*. With a love of all things theatrical, when she's not on stage, you'll find her behind the scenes in the thick of things including stage manager and part of the creative team for *Heaven Can Wait* in 2005.



KAREN RACTLIFFE - Mrs Johnstone, Virginia

Karen's early dramatic experience was with various drama groups in England, where she is best remembered for her role of a slightly homicidal nymphomaniac in the comedy thriller, *A Tomb with a View*. After a few years' break, in which she migrated to Australia, she joined the Wyong Drama Group in 2004. Her first performance with the group was as Aunt Abby in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She also took part in Theatrefest 2005. *Fawley Towers* is her third production with WDG.



STEVE CUMMINGS - Major Gowen, Mr Arrad, Reg

Steve is glad to make the trip to *Fawley Towers* in his three incarnations. He's very happy to be back on the Wyong Drama Group Stage with lots of old friends and a few new ones.



KAREN EDWARDS - The Girlfriend, Mrs Hamilton, Kitty

Karen joined Wyong Drama Group last year. In that time, Karen has been a great help behind the scenes of *Heaven Can Wait*, and 'Allo 'Allo. She enjoyed it so much, she has decided to step out on stage to see what the fuss is all about.



CHERYL WELLS - Mrs Abbott, Mrs Libson, Audrey

This is Cheryl's stage debut for Wyong Drama Group. Cheryl joined WDG six months ago, where she helped out with front of house. She has performed in many choirs and musical groups over the last few years, including Gosford Musical Society until family commitments forced her take a break. She is enjoying the return to live theatre and the friendly environment of WDG.



JOHN CZERNIECKI - Terry

John has appeared in many roles for WDG as well as other theatre companies including GMS, WWLT, Fringe Theatre and The Genesians. You will remember his most recent performances as Capitano Alberto Bertorelli in 'Allo 'Allo, Peter in *Hewers of Coal*, Johnathon in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and as an ugly step sister in *Cinderella*. Though his preferred medium is pantomime, he does love a good comedy, and *Fawley Towers* is one of his favourites.



JEANETTE MC CURRY - Miss Gatsby

Jeanette trained in her early days in Sydney at the Rathbone Academy of Dramatic Art. Her first role with Wyong Drama Group was Aunt Martha in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She then "supported the bar" in 'Allo 'Allo.



JEANNE GERLACH - Miss Tibbs

This is Jeanne's first foray onto the stage with WDG, but she comes to us with a wealth of experience from her work in Sydney. She has had roles in *All My Sons*, *The Importance of Being Ernest*, *Morning Sacrifice*, *Invisible Circus*, *When We Are Married*. She has appeared in a number of Agatha Christie productions and worked in Australian film and television, commercials and Sydney festivals.



ROBERT DONOHOE - Major Gowen

Robert is a long time worker behind the scenes for WDG and we are proud to have him "...step into the bright lights..." for the first time.



MILLIE SAMPSON - Mrs Johnson

Millie is as comfortable on stage as she is working behind the scenes. She has graced the stage in 'Allo 'Allo as well as directing such plays as *Hewers of Coal*, *The Farndale Murder Mystery* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She also brews a pretty good cup of tea.



MARK GERLACH - Hotel Guest

Mark was last seen in *Arsenic and Old Lace* as a house guest. This time he will be seen in *Fawley Towers* as a Hotel guest...Is there a danger of type casting here?