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Would you like to join Wyong Drama Group ?

As you see in the program, there are many more people involved in presenting a play than those you see on stage tonight. As well as welcoming new actors and directors, WDG also welcomes carpenters, decorators, make-up artists, stagehands, wardrobe managers, computer and graphic artists, kitchen whizzes and front-of-house helpers to come and join our happy crew. No experience necessary! On-the-job training provided! Please introduce yourself after the show, or phone President Julie Bailey on 922.606 for more details.

Wyong Drama Group inc

by arrangement with Dominie Pty. Ltd.



presents

It Runs in the Family



by

Ray Cooney

Wyong Memorial Hall
November 1996

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Dr David Mortimore.....	Howard Oxley
Dr Mike Connolly.....	Peter Birch
Rosemary Mortimore.....	Kathy King
Dr Hubert Bonney.....	László Weidlich
Matron.....	Pam Campbell
Lady Winsome Drake.....	Janice Barber
Jane Tate.....	Pollyanna Murphy
Sister.....	Helen Schumann
Lesley.....	Lorinda Newman
Police Sergeant.....	John Czerniecki
Bill.....	Ron Baker
Mother.....	Gwen Clarke

The action of the play takes place in the Doctors' Common Room in St Andrews Hospital, London.

Time: the present

Act I ... 3 days before Christmas

Interval

Act II ... immediately following

Directed by Bonnie Bryant

Bonnie Bryant has entranced Wyong audiences for over 30 years. Starting as the back end of a cow and running the full gamut to a State award-winning role in *Beads of Amber*, she went on to direct. Bonnie delights in initiating new members to the stage and is tireless in getting the best out of her cast. When it's a BB play you know you're in for a great night whether it's atmosphere and suspense or a riotous laugh in what she calls "pot-boilers". So sit back and enjoy as she brings another pot to the boil ...



Assistant Director Ron Baker

Director's Note

Our final production last year was *There Goes The Bride* by Ray Cooney, and now we present Ray Cooney's latest comedy, *It Runs In The Family* which is still playing in London.

Among the cast of Wyong "favourite" comedy actors we are delighted to have five newcomers.

We have had great fun and hours of hard work at rehearsals.

There has been lots of wonderful support from members of the group who never appear on stage but are an essential part of any production.

In particular my co-director Ron Baker, who had to take over the role of Bill at very short notice; Ron has been a tower of strength in all aspects of the production.

Laughter is the best medicine, so sit back and be prepared for large doses from *It Runs In The Family*.

Have a safe journey home.

Bonnie Bryant

Assistant Director's Assistant Note

In the past four years I have been with WDG I have seen many wonderful productions and have been very fortunate to be part of all those productions, mainly in the backstage areas of lighting and sound.

Opportunities to be directly (so to speak) in the whole operation of a play such as directing or assistant directing are very rare, particularly with such experienced people as Bonnie Bryant.

To be in the passenger seat but so close to the driver is a great thrill. To witness the reading of the play, assist with auditions and finally watch the play come together under a skilful eye and direction, puts a whole new dimension on any play. As this is my first attempt as an assistant director I am proud to be able to look back and see the final result. For me it has been a pleasure to hear and learn the skills of directing from such an experienced director as Bonnie. I hope I will have the opportunity in the future to be a director and use all this learning in creating such art in the world of theatre.

Ron Baker



Lorinda Newman as Lesley

This is Lorinda's first full length play with WDG although she has been involved in drama since an early age. "I adore Lesley; she takes a lot of energy and is tons of fun to play."

Howard Oxley as Dr David Mortimore

"Well into my twilight years of custard pies and ladies' tights ... another comedy to do and I still enjoy performing them. Leads in many plays but this is my first as a doctor, what a challenge! ... but the diagnosis is comedy ... farce and I hope the prognosis for you all is a good laugh and a pleasant evening."



Helen Schumann as the Sister

For the past three and a half years Helen has been the Group's highly valued make-up artiste. Also an accomplished writer, Helen now adds a third string to her bow with her first acting role as the Sister.



László Weidlich as Dr Hubert Bonney

Transylvanian expatriate and part time actor with a penchant for meaty parts. Directors pale as he picks parts apart but only partially appropriates them, partly plagiarising with pithy paraphraes purloined from parts unknown. Parting shot: "I'm partial to any part I can get my teeth into."



Production Team

- Production Manager.....Jenny Newman
- Stage Manager.....Elizabeth Sutton
- Lighting.....Ron Baker, Julie Bailey
- Sound.....Dawn Pearse
- Set design and construction Don Clark, Ron Baker, Peter Birch, Howard Oxley, László Weidlich
- Set painting.....Elizabeth Sutton, Ron Baker, John Czerniecki, Bonnie Bryant, Julie Bailey
- Set decor and Costumes.....Elizabeth Sutton
- Backdrop.....Peter Hak
- Publicity.....Cathy Paavola
- Program and Poster.....Robyn and László Weidlich
- Prompt.....Kath Izzard
- Front of house.....Robyn Weidlich, Julie Bailey and Members

Supper devised and presented by Don Whiting assisted by Members

Special Thanks

for ticket bookings at the music stores

**Clear Haze, Tuggerah
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- Terry Collins..... Central Coast Express
- Lorraine Williams.....Tuggerah Lakes News
- Morisset Drama Group for hire of special costumes

Ron Baker as Bill

Although with WDG for four years as lighting and sound technician and chief gopher, Ron's only previous stage experience was in the 1995 Bush Bash as half an inebriated duo of reprobates; this time he is on his own. His most challenging and memorable productions have been *Macbeth*, *Bloody Poetry* and *Other Times*.



Pollyanna Murphy as Jane Tate

Her first play was directed, 22 years ago, by Bonnie Bryant *Halfway Up The Tree*. She has enjoyed being in many plays with WDG including *Move over Mrs Markham*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe* and *Death Trap*. Polly has turned her hand to most aspects of theatre production including prompting, lighting and directing. Her latest appearance was as the mayor's wife in GMS's *The Music Man*.



Janice Barber as Lady Winsome Drake

Janice is well-known up and down the Coast for her all-singing, all-acting performances for GMS including Katisha in *The Mikado* and Ruth in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She appeared with WDG in *Boing Boing* and *No Sex Please, We're British* and now returns to the Wyong stage in her element playing Drake and ducks when there's any water about



Kathy King as Rosemary Mortimore

A newcomer to the stage, Kathy joined WDG at the beginning of this year. A keen follower of theatre coupled with a love of amateur dramatics, Kathy has finally found an opportunity to perform on the stage.



Peter Birch as Dr Mike Connolly

Since joining WDG early this year Peter has appeared in Peter Kocan's *Who Do You Think You Are*. "I've enjoyed the challenge, opportunity and scope my character offers. The chance to work with some truly great talent at WDG has been an enhancing and rewarding learning experience."



John Czerniecki as the Sergeant

An indispensable denizen of many theatre groups up and down the coast including the Genesians in Kent St, (where he has played *Something To Hide* and in *The Dresser*), John is working hard both on his total adaptability for any role and his already awesome ubiquity. Credits range from Jesus in *The Odd Couple* to an outback Packer in *There Goes The Bride*.



Pam Campbell as Matron

Pam has dabbled in play writing, directing, producing and acting. She has studied drama at the Independent Theatre and at Newcastle University. As a member of WDG since 1991 she has performed in *Not Now Darling*, *House Guest*, *Macbeth*, *The Odd Couple*, *Daylight Saving* and *There Goes The Bride*. She won an award in *The Plot Sickness* in the Newcastle Drama Festival and teaches drama at secondary school. Relishes the very physical role of the Matron.



Gwen Clarke as Mother

From the first play *Yes, My Darling Daughter* in 1960 through *I Remember Mama*, *Move Over Mrs Markham* and some 25 other plays Gwen has been with WDG as actor, director and office bearer – from ingenue to grandmother!

