

Little Women

Wyong Drama Group's April production is Peter Clapham's skilful adaptation of Louisa M. Alcott's much-loved, American classic, 1860s novel, *Little Women*.

Peter Clapham's dramatisation is faithful to the novel as the lives of the four March sisters and their young neighbour Laurie (Scott Russell) are intertwined. Into her story of a year in the life of a New England family during the American Civil War, Alcott has woven much of her own earlier life and that of her family. It has universal appeal as readers and audiences continue to identify with both the characters and situations.

All the characters in *Little Women* are well drawn. Marmee (Cathy De Vries), the girls' kind, warm mother, has a wisdom that helps her daughters negotiate life with all its complexities. Hannah (Julie Bailey), part of the family since Meg's birth, is considered more a friend than a servant. Jo, the second eldest (Sarah-Ann Ballard) and tomboy of the family, is companion to the formidable Aunt March (Pam Campbell) described by Jo as 'a tiresome old fuss-pot!' Mr Lawrence (Marc Calwell), the Marches' wealthy neighbour and Laurie's grandfather, initially reclusive becomes a benefactor to the Marches, developing a special friendship with the gentle, shy Beth (Renee Stein). Mr Brooke (Robert Cottam), Laurie's tutor, falls in love with the good-natured, well-mannered Meg (Erin Beecher), the eldest daughter. Mr March (Howard Oxley), the girls' beloved father, serves as a chaplain for the Union Army. Amy (Kalani Hirst), the youngest sister, at times appearing vain and spoiled, is a budding artist.

A strong, enthusiastic cast, led by Ron Baker, along with a highly acclaimed script, makes this a 'must-see'.

Performances – April 7/8/9 – 14/15/16 at 8pm

Matinees April – 9/16 – 2.00pm

Prices – Thursday, Saturday matinees 2pm - \$17; Friday, Saturday 8pm - \$20

Tables or raked seating, group discounts, Tea & Coffee incl.

BYO drinks/nibbles

Phone Bookings – **43534353** -- from 9am March 17

Credit Card facilities for phone bookings

Wyong Memorial Hall