

Wyong Drama Group Inc

Theatrefest '06



A festival of one - act plays by various groups

June 23, 24 & 25

Hosted by Wyong Drama Group Inc.
Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Avenue Wyong

Presentation of Awards

All awards will be presented at the awards session on Sunday, June 25 at 10:30 am.

Awards will be made in the following categories:

- * Best Actor
- * Best Actor in a supporting role
- * Best Ensemble Performance
- * Best Drama
- * Best Comedy
- * Best Set
- * John Axford Memorial Award
- * Best Actress
- * Best Actress in a supporting role
- * Best Direction
- * Best Costumes
- * Best Unpublished play
- * Adjudicator's special award

The awards will be presented by Councillor Doug Eaton, Wyong Shire Council.

The John Axford Memorial Award will be presented by Mrs Juliet Axford.

If, in the adjudicator's opinion, a sufficiently high standard has not been achieved in any of the above categories, awards will not be made.

The Awards

The awards, affectionately known as the "Woscars" (Wyong Oscars), have been crafted from timber by Barry Sampson, a member of Wyong Drama Group. They are based on a design by Jamie Sargeant, and we consider them a work of art. Thank you, Barry!

The language of theatre 5*

The areas offstage, from which scenery can be brought on, are called "wings". In turn, the area above the stage is called the "fly" tower, where lights are rigged and from which flying scenic parts can descend to the stage at the pull of a rope or a push of a button.

* Ever wondered about the origins of theatre terminology? The descriptions of the language of the theatre are from Richard Wherret's autobiography, *The Floor of Heaven, My Life in Theatre*, Sceptre 2000

Theatrefest '06

Welcome to Wyong Theatrefest '06

It's a pleasure to welcome you to our third annual theatre festival. Once again, we are feeling encouraged and inspired by the interest shown in the festival, and the support provided by local businesses and community groups and Wyong Shire Council.

This year we have 9 entries from local Central Coast groups as well as groups from Newcastle, Sydney and Rylestone - Kandos. Although there are fewer entries than last year, there has been no shortage of enthusiasm from the entrants, and we're sure that our audience is in for a treat.

It's lovely to welcome back groups that have competed previously, and to extend a new welcome to groups we haven't seen before. It's also refreshing to see the number of unpublished/self-devised pieces, and the energy that has gone into creating them.

We hope that you find much to enjoy about this year's festival.

Bernie O'Brien
President

Ruth Jordon
Festival Coordinator

The language of theatre 1*

Since the days when stages were first gently sloped or "raked", running downhill from the back to the front to improve the audience's view of actors at the top of the slope, the back was called "Up Stage" and the front "Down Stage". Being "upstaged" is derived from the movement of one actor to Up Stage of another, thus gaining the stronger position of focus.

The Adjudicator

Judith Boyd

Judith attended Drama school in the UK more years ago than she cares to remember. She moved with her family to Australia in 1978 where she joined The Castle Hill Players. She worked with them both as a director and actor for over 25 years and ran the Youth Group at the Pavilion Theatre. At the same time she was the drama teacher at The Hills Grammar School in Sydney.

Judith has worked in film, television and radio, and has performed on stage in more than one hundred plays and has directed over fifty.

She attended the Writers Course at N.I.D.A in 1992, and subsequently had her plays performed at N.I.D.A and at the National Playwrights Conference in Canberra.

She has worked as an adjudicator and runs acting and directing workshops for theatre groups all over NSW. Judith is currently a director at The Lieder Theatre in Goulburn and teaches at the associated Youth Theatre Company.

Refreshments: A café style service will be available throughout the festival courtesy of Apex 40. Please support them so they can help support the community. Many thanks to Lea Dumpleton and her team for keeping us fed and watered.

IN ORDER TO MINIMISE DISTURBANCES, ADMITTANCE TO THE THEATRE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED DURING PERFORMANCES. PATRONS ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO TURN OFF MOBILE 'PHONES, ALARMS AND ANYTHING THAT BEEPS UPON ENTERING THE THEATRE.

Session 1 - Saturday 10.00 am

1 ~ Wyong Drama Group

Fawly Towers – Waldorf Salad by John Cleese and Connie Booth

Basil's penny-pinching catches up with him as a guest demands a better quality of service. The guest becomes enraged when a waldorf salad and a screwdriver are not available. Pandemonium, of course, is the result.

Cast:	Basil Fawly	Howard Oxley
	Sybil Fawly	Kelly Humphries
	Manuel	Paul Ractliffe
	Polly	Cathy De Vries
	Mr Hamilton	Laszlo Weidlich
	Mrs Hamilton	Karen Edwards
	Mr Johnstone	Marc Calwell
	Mrs Johnstone	Karen Ractliffe
	Mr Arrad	Steve Cummings
	Mrs Arrand	Darlene Cole
	Terry	John Czerniecki
	Mrs Libson	Cheryl Wells
	Miss Gatsby	Jeanette McCurry
	Miss Tibbs	Jeanne Gerlach
	Major Gowen	Robert Donohoe
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Pam Campbell</i>

2 ~ Newcastle Repertory Theatre

The Mystery at Twicknam Vicarage by David Ives

Good heavens! Who could have put the three bullets into Jeremy Thumpington-Fffienes? Can the dextrous Inspector Dexter find the culprit? Surely it's not the Reverend Roger??? And what have the soft furnishings got to do with it?

Cast:	Rev. Roger Penworthy-Pilks	Peter King
	Sarah Penworthy-Pilks	Rosemary Buttsworth
	Inspector Dexter	Ian Lucas
	Jeremy Thumpington-Fffienes	Stewart McGowan
	Mona Thumpington-Fffienes	Anika Means
	<i>Director:</i>	<i>Stewart McGowan/Richard Murray</i>

3 ~ Genesian Theatre Company
Yuppy Girl by Genevieve Mortiss (unpublished)

A comic look at a day in the life of an urban professional woman.

Cast:	Yuppy Girl	Leah Piper
	Flatmate, Tina, Whatsherface	Jennifer Lewis
	Editor, Waitress, Director	Barbara Silveira
	Shelly, Waitress, Airline Attendant	Rebekah Jennings
	Life Coach, Lead Boy, Whatshisname	Pat Foley
	Bus Passenger, Ferrous Frank,	
	Smooth Guy	Emmanuel Said
	Bus Passenger, Captain Cobalt,	
	Box Office Guy	Tom Massey
	SFA POC, Whatsherface's Husband	Greg Walsh
	Homeless Woman	Golda Bauer
	Yuppy Girl (Voice Over)	Marnie Davidson
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Genevieve Mortiss</i>

The language of theatre 2*

The genre of high-farcial physical comedy we call 'slapstick' originates with the zanni (hence zany) characters of the Italian Commedia dell Arte troupes in the sixteenth century, who simulated an attack on an unsuspecting victim by using two pieces of wood hinged together at one end to make a loud slapping noise without inflicting actual injury.

Session 2 - Saturday 2:00 pm

4 ~ Twin Town Players
It's All Just Love by Pam Innes (unpublished)

A man, his wife and her sister meet over tea to discuss matters of "life and death".

Cast:	Bert	Roger Heap
	Carmen	Mary Boxsell
	Peg	Barbara Murray
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Pam Innes</i>

5 ~ Wyong Drama Group
Mother and Son – The Last Straw by Geoffrey Atherden

A typical week in the life of the Beare family. It's the last straw for Arthur as he finally decides to relinquish the responsibility of care of their mother Maggie to his self centred, scheming brother Robert.

Cast:	Maggie	Pam Campbell
	Arthur	Hagan Heinrich
	Robert	Laci Weidlich
	Agent (Eric)	Marc Calwell
	Nursing Home Resident	Julie Bailey
	Director	<i>Darlene Cole</i>

6 ~ Woy Woy Little Theatre
The Lucky Locket by Brenda Bryant (unpublished)

Prudence, the maid, watched over by her mother, Tabitha, is elated when her master, Sir Vincent, marries Maisie and thus halts his lechery towards her. Her delight is short-lived when Vincent is shot and her suitor, Kit, is blamed for the murder.

Cast:	Prudence Strong	Jane-Anne Collins
	Kit de Villiers	Graham Vale
	Tabitha	Vicki Jones
	Sir Vincent de Villiers	Alf Taylor
	Maisie	Karen Rowe
	Constable Worth	Alan Mitchell
	Director	<i>Fran Kendall</i>

The language of theatre 3*
Being "in the limelight" originates from the days when stage lighting was achieved by the use of a reflected burning bowl of lime focused and aimed where necessary, providing a radiant incandescence. Limelight could tire the eyes, and the best colour to rest the eyes was green, so the company room to which actors retired when off-stage was called the "green room".

Session 3 - Saturday 7:00 pm

7 ~ Ad Hoc Community Theatre Shakespeare in Glove by Paul Russell and Terry Collins

Three cleaners arrive at a theatre to mop up after the acting troupe's latest production. Some of the things they find lead to surprising developments as years of being around Shakespearean productions manifest themselves.

Cast:	Player One	Terry Collins
	Player Two	Brenda Logan
	Player Three	Paul Russell
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Self directed by the cast</i>

8 ~ Twin Town Players Clouds, Cups and Crystal Ball

The Weerd sisters, Flora, Dora and Nora live in genteel poverty trying to make ends meet through fortune telling. They have not been blessed with the Sight their mother had – until Lady M turns up for a reading.

Cast:	Flora	Cathy Heap
	Dora	Kianey Harland
	Nora	Kelly Curtis
	Jessie	Stephanie Steenbuck
	Lady M	Merilyn Mosher
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Owain James</i>

9 ~ Wyong Drama Group The Donahue Sisters by Geraldine Aron

United by their father's illness, three sisters speak of their unhappy lives long into the night until the time comes for a ritual re-enactment of a violent and disturbing incident from their childhood.

Cast:	Annie	Ruth Jordon
	Dunya	Christine Vale
	Rosie	Pollyanna Forshaw
	Children's Choir	Alana Calwell, Felicity Calwell & Vivienne Calwell
	<i>Director</i>	<i>Darlene Cole</i>

Acknowledgments

Wyong Drama Group wishes to thank the following for their support and assistance:

Production Team

Festival Coordinator	Ruth Jordon
Technical Coordinator	Ron Baker
Stage Manager	Barry Sampson
Stage Crew	Barry Sampson, Robert Donahue, John Ruane, Howard Oxley, Steve De Vries
Lighting and Sound	Ron Baker, Craig Lawton, Simone Woodman
Front of House	Jenny Newman, Robyn Weidlich
Master of Ceremonies	Bernie O'Brien
Publicity	Robyn Weidlich, Ros Ellis
Sponsor Liaison	Robyn Weidlich, Helen Schumann, Ruth Jordon
Foyer Design	Julie Bailey, Ros Ellis, Wendy Potter
Poster, Program Design & Festival Printing	Graham Vale
Catering	Pollyanna Forshaw, Julie Bailey
Awards	Barry Sampson, Pam Campbell
Raffle	Wendy Potter
Green Room Coordinators	Helen Schumann, Wendy Potter
Festival Committee	Ruth Jordon, Robyn Weidlich, Ron Baker, Pam Campbell, Ros Ellis, Pat Trott, Kath Izzard, Jenny Newman, Julie Bailey, Helen Schumann, Wendy Potter, Pollyanna Forshaw

And the hundreds of other jobs... Members of Wyong Drama Group

Friday night entertainment (a demonstratin of Theatre Sports)
provided by Mad Cow Theatre Company

THANK YOU

Rules & Conditions

Competitors

All actors, technicians and directors competing in Theatrefest '06 must be of amateur status. They must not derive their main source of income from acting or professional theatre.

The Plays

- * The competition is for one act plays, published or unpublished. Excerpts from plays will not be accepted.
- * The maximum time allocation for each production is 60 minutes. This time includes the setting, performing and striking of said production. Any production exceeding this time limit will be penalised.
- * The minimum time allocation for each production is 20 minutes. This time includes the setting, performing and striking of said production. Any production failing to fill this time will be penalised.
- * Each production must have at least two (2) individual characters, each with speaking parts.
- * Each production may not have more than three (3) minutes of music or singing.
- * There will be no curtain calls.

Decisions

- * The Technical/Lighting Director as well as the Stage Manager of Theatrefest '06 shall have sole authority of facilities under their control.
- * The decision of the adjudicator is final.

The language of theatre 4*

Actors gathering together in the tearoom or at a rehearsal will invariably fall to bemoaning the current lack of decent roles, the casting of Lady Macbeth, the current state of the industry in general – in theatre parlance “a whinge of actors”!
(Ed's note: Surely not!)

Supporters

Councillor Doug Eaton, Wyong Shire Council

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Charmhaven Lions Club

Wyongah Bottle Shop

Wyong RSL Bistro, Wyong RSL Club

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Wyong Theatrefest '07.

Next year the festival will be held on the weekend of June 22 - 24.

Wyong Drama Group wishes festival patrons safe travel.

We hope to see you next year!



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