



WYONG DRAMA GROUP

Coast Theatre Company  
PRESENTS

# The GOOD COUPLE

*(Female Version)*

**by Neil Simon**

**Directed by  
Jillian Logan**

An Amateur Production BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™  
THEATRICAL, ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.





## Director's Note

*It has been an absolute honour to have "The Odd Couple" as my directorial debut for Wyong Drama Group. My first show with the company was back in 1997 in the old Memorial Hall, and twenty years later I was fortunate*

*enough to be cast as Geraldine Granger in the smash hit, "The Vicar of Dibley". Directing this came about as a bit of a surprise – it was not a production I had planned, however the absolute allure of the show for me was (and still is) the writing. Neil Simon's regendering of his original script is funny, smart and sassy. His characters a gift for the very talented women we have on the Central Coast.*

*I am exceedingly proud of my cast – from seasoned veterans to those who are treading the boards for the first time. They have taken this great work, my, at times, strange suggestions and really made it their own. As always, putting on a show like this is never down to one person and I'd like to thank the whole cast and crew for their efforts especially Katie Kiernan and Ian Abbott (King Ian!). I would also like to thank Robyn Wiedlich for her initial encouragement as well as Pollyanna Forshaw and Ros Ellis for all their support during the rehearsal period. Also a huge amount of gratitude must go to Nikki DeVries for stepping in to the role of Mickey.*

*So, thank you Wyong Drama Group for this great opportunity and I hope you, the audience, enjoy Olive and Florence's hysterical journey.*



## President's Note

*Opening just a week after International Women's Week, this is a rollicking celebration (albeit with hiccups) of what it can mean to be a woman no matter what the era! It is exciting times for Wyong Drama Group inc. as we explore*

*what it means to be a Community Theatre Group in these times when new groups and new ways of 'doing theatre' are springing forth. One of the theatre truths is that more women are drawn to performing in community theatre than men and it is refreshing to mount a production which presents a nearly all female cast and (practically all) crew. Thank you Jillian! Our next Arthouse production also features many women, exchanging the power shoulder-pads of this production for other habits in 'Nunsense'. In between we know you will enjoy the prequel to 'Sepia Secrets' which we will perform in The Grove Theatre. So much theatre and so little time...!*





# Cast

Shayne Leslie  
Sally Bartley  
Nikki De Vries  
Jane Sackman  
Niccy Hallam  
Rebecca Holland  
Andrew Harvey  
Jamie Sturgess

OLIVE MADISON  
FLORENCE UNGER  
MICKEY  
RENEE  
SYLVIE  
VERA  
MANOLO  
JESUS



# Production Crew

Director  
Production Mngr  
Stage Manager  
Assistance Stage Mngr  
Backstage Assistants

Jillian Logan  
Katie Kiernan  
Katie Kiernan, Brendan Flynn  
Grace Sackman  
Jess Scappatura, Alex Coutts, Harry  
McWilliams, Alana Broadly, Luke George,  
Connor Logan, Angie Reid, Harrison  
Sturgess, Roimata Heil, Tara Soanes,  
Madeline Wells, Nilzen Lumsden,  
Raechelle Walter, Sarah Kiernan,  
Maureen Kiernan, Scott Russell  
Katie Kiernan, Pollyanna Forshaw,  
Ros Ellis

Props Manager

Lighting  
Sound  
Photography  
Graphic Design  
Publicity  
Wardrobe Manager  
Hairdresser  
Makeup Artist  
Set Design  
Set Builders

ASLE - Nick Lyons  
Brendan Flynn  
Sue Kielt  
Nikki De Vries  
Pollyanna Forshaw  
Cathy De Vries  
Peta Holland Kelly  
Peta Holland Kelly  
Jillian Logan, Ian Abbott  
Ian Abbott, Ron Baker, Bruce Gibbs,  
Hagan Heinrich  
Bruce Gibbs, Barbara Read  
Sue Kielt

Set Painters  
Rehearsal Prompt





*Shayne Leslie*

*Olive Madison*

*Shayne Leslie has been in several central coast musical theatre productions and is pleased to bring the character of Olive to life in her debut acting role for WDG. Past shows include Marguerite in "Scarlett Pimpernel" (GMS), Gianetta in "The Gondoliers" (GMS), Ruth in "The Pirates of Penzance" (WMTC) and Calamity Jane in "Calamity*

*Jane" (WMTC). Shayne has a Masters of Music from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music plus degrees in business, psychology and education and a Diploma in Leadership and Management. She has recently studied Executive Presentation Coaching under Jillian Logan's tutelage and is enjoying experiencing life from Olive's perspective.*



*Sally Bartley*

*Florence Unger*

*Sally joined Wyong Drama Group 10 years ago and has appeared on stage at least once each year since then. Her latest roles were as Ouisa in "Steel Magnolias" and as Martha in "The Children's Hour", which she also co-directed. She has also turned her hand to playwriting, having a number of her plays performed on the Central*

*Coast as well at the Short & Sweet Festival in Sydney, New Delhi and forthcoming in Canberra. Having performed Neil Simon once before, she jumped at the chance to play the neurotic Florence in "The Odd Couple", under the brilliant directorship of Jillian Logan, and looks forward to driving everyone just a little bit crazy.*



*Nikki De Vries*

*Mickey*

*Nikki has been with WDG since 2002. She has been involved in numerous plays over the years including, "Us" (50th Anniversary Revue), "The Odd Couple" 2006, "Caught in the Net", "The Accused", "The Long Weekend" & most recently as Emily Brent in Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None". Nikki has also directed 2 award*

*winning one act plays in WDG's Theatrefest and has last year taken over WDG's Graphic Design work for the website and advertising work. Nikki was delighted to be cast for the role of Mickey the Cop once again and is thoroughly enjoying working with this magnificent cast and crew and is learning a lot from her fabulous director Jillian Logan. Nikki dedicates this performance to her Mum who has always supported all of her creative outlets but most especially her acting.*





## *Jane Sackman*

**Renee**

Jane began her theatre journey a year ago playing Miss Belmont in Jopuka Productions' "Hating Alison Ashley", she then performed in the Ensemble of GMS's "Young Frankenstein". "The Odd Couple" will be her third time on stage. Jane has also taken on production roles, being production manager for WDG's "And Then There Were

None", Props for WMTC's "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" and helped out WMTC in show week for "Elf Jr." Currently Jane is production manager for UP Juppies' "Rat Race", assistant director for WMTC's "Winnie the Pooh Kids" and props for "Rock of Ages". Jane studies drama with Jillian Logan and vocals with Ashlea George who are both fantastic mentors and teachers. She'd like to thank you for supporting WDG and hopes you enjoy the show.



## *Niccy Hallam*

**Sylvie**

Niccy has only been with Wyong Drama Group for a few years, fitting in acting when she can while being a mum to 3 young children. This is Niccy's 4th Play with the group, playing Mrs Rogers in Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None" (2017) her most recent and previously as Jennifer Mitchell in Jeffrey Archer's "The Accused". She was

thrilled to be cast in "The Odd Couple" and has thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the production. She hopes you enjoy this gender bending version of such a beloved play.



## *Rebecca Holland*

**Vera**

Rebecca is an Early Childhood Educator by trade. She was enticed to the theatre by her eldest daughter who herself adores being on stage. She eagerly encouraged Rebecca to try being on the stage rather than behind the scenes and so she auditioned for this amazingly comical show. When the phone rang and Jillian offered her the role of Vera she was

excitedly nervous, yet completely unaware of the journey she was about to undertake. Rebecca has grown as a person, learned to trust her instincts and even more so learned how to support her daughter along her journey in theatre. "I cannot thank the production team and cast enough for all your support, and the laughs! I hope you all enjoy my debut performance, much love Vera xxx"





## *Andrew Harvey*

**Manolo**

*Andrew was born and raised in Japan and came to Australia via New Zealand at the age of 24. His first job was behind the camera as a project manager, then producer. This is Andrew's second time being on stage, his first time being Peeing boy #3 in the school production of "Oliver".*

*He makes up for his lack of experience with enthusiasm and gusto. He joined the Wyong drama group after going to see a few plays at The Arthouse which he enjoyed immensely. Since joining, he has come along in leaps and bounds and is looking forward to his first lead role in the next big budget movie production that he's adamant this opportunity will lead to.*



## *Jamie Sturgess*

**Jesus**

*Jamie is a university student currently studying a Bachelor of Music Theatre at the Australian Institute of Music. He has consistently acted in various roles onstage, such as Demetrius in Avondale School's 2014 production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream", Laozi the ancestor in WMTC's*

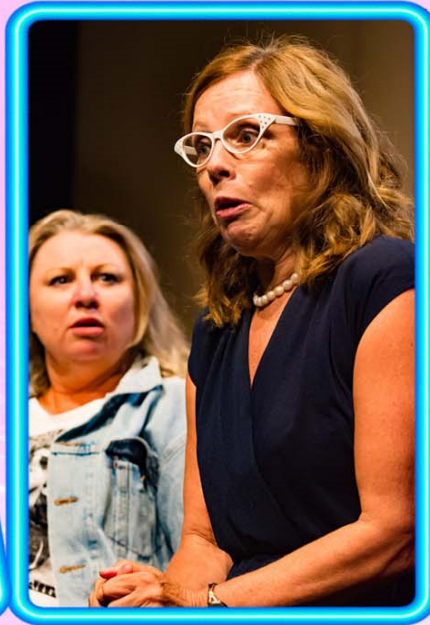
*"Mulan Jnr." (2015), the Artful Dodger in WMTC's "Oliver!" (2016), Cogsworth in WMTC's "Beauty and the Beast" (2016), Horton the Elephant in Avondale School's "Seussical" (2017) and, most recently, Boris the bumbling spy in WMTC's 2017 production of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang". Jamie is also currently in rehearsals as an ensemble member in WMTC's "Rock of Ages". "The Odd Couple" will mark Jamie's first non-musical play since 2014, which he is very excited to be involved in.*

# *Thank You's*

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# Rehearsals





# 2018



**WYONG DRAMA GROUP**

Coast Theatre Company

**Wyong Grove Theatre**

**25th May - 2nd June**  
**END OF THE LINE**

'A play based on family history by the author of 'Sepia Secrets'

**Written & Directed by Andy Kabanoff**

**Co Director Gabrielle Brooks**



**WYONG DRAMA GROUP**  
Coast Theatre Company

**20th - 28th  
July**

*A Musical Comedy*

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# Brassed Off



Presented by

**WYONG DRAMA GROUP**

Coast Theatre Company

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**16th – 24th November**

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