



WYONG DRAMA GROUP



Nonsense II[®]

The second coming...



BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY
DAN GOGGIN

Presented by arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical on behalf of
Tams-Witmark LLC, A Concord Theatricals Company

APRIL 2022



RED
TREE
THEATRE

160-162 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, TUGGERAH



Director's Note MARGARET HOLDOM

Growing up Catholic, I felt I had a privilege to be educated by nuns. I had great respect for many of these dedicated women who had a certain aura about them. I don't think I really thought of them as human, and knew little about the sheer hardship of their lives back then, and what they sacrificed to be a nun. I often took these women for granted, but they aimed to steer my life to achieve, be respectful and care for others. I can see many parallels to the women in Nunsense and some of my favourite nuns.

I first saw a production of Nunsense about 30 years ago, and immediately knew I wanted to someday be a part of it. Now this is my second round at the Convent! I have enjoyed every moment of steering this fabulous cast and crew in this funny, nunny musical.

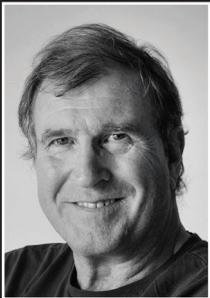
As we all know, so many people contribute to getting a show on stage, and huge thanks to everyone who has been part of this production. However, my heartfelt gratitude goes to Maryellen, Madeline, Geoffrey, Lindy, Shayne, Marion, Maddie and Wendy with whom I have mutually invested countless hours on this show.

I am so very proud of my cast and thank them for taking up this vocation with me. Ruth, Cathy, Amanda, Karen, Gabbie and Maddie - they are a director's delight and we have had such a wonderful time together. I would also like to thank Jillian and Bella for the time they invested in the show before commitments forced them to pull out. We have been planning this show since the first reading in November 2020, and we have had two date changes for performances due to the Covid lockdowns.

Thanks also to WDG for the trust you placed in me once again. Now, audience members, pull up a pew and prepare to be converted to Nunsense. We hope you enjoy our convent humour, we believe it's habit-forming.

For my Mum and Dad – their Catholic girl has grown up.

President's Note HOWARD OXLEY



They are back! The Little Sisters of Hoboken are back with humour, song and dance to provide a mesmerising evening of entertainment.

Thanks to Margaret Holdom and her team for bringing our favourite actresses back to the stage.

It's been a difficult couple of years for Amateur Drama on the Coast with Covid, but we're easing our way through the barriers and hope to finish the year with two real crowd pleasers.

As President, I'm really proud of our group celebrating 70 uninterrupted years of Community entertainment.

And it's thanks to you, our Shire population for your never-ending support. Keep coming to our new theatre.

Wyong Drama Group Inc.
Presents

“NUNSENSE II: THE SECOND COMING”

a musical comedy

Book, Music and Lyrics by

DAN GOGGIN

Presented by arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical on behalf of
Tams-Witmark LLC, A Concord Theatricals Company.

Performance and rehearsal music tracks
provided by Geoffrey Preece



STARRING

RUTH JORDON
AMANDA DANIEL
GABBIE MAGEE

CATHY DE VRIES
KAREN PENDLETON
MADDIE STEPHENSON

Director
MARGARET
HOLDOM

Musical Director
MARYELLEN
GILLARD

Choreographer
MADELINE
STEPHENSON



Sister Mary Regina
formerly **RUTH JORDON**

Ruth is a long-standing member of Wyong Drama Group and was last seen on stage in *Glorious!* in which she played a bad-tempered, foul-mouthed Mexican maid.

Some of her favourite productions include *Noises Off!*, *Ruthless the Musical*, *'All 'Allo*, *Two Weeks With the Queen*, *Stepping Out*, *Calendar Girls*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *Hotel Sorrento*, *The Memory of Water*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *The Odd Couple* and *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*. She is delighted to reprise the role of Sister Mary Regina, Reverend Mother of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, and hopes that you enjoy the antics of the Sisters as they kick up their heels and entertain you with their thank-you program.

Ruth is a Life Member of Wyong Drama Group, and amongst other roles held, previously co-ordinated the Central Coast Theatrefest.

Ruth is Secretary of Elderslee Foundation and Venue Manager for Red Tree Theatre.



Sister Mary Hubert
formerly **CATHY DEVRIES**

Cathy has been involved with community theatre for over 30 years. She is a Life Member of Wyong Drama Group and is well known at WDG for playing many lead roles. Just a few of her shows include *Steel Magnolias*, *Calendar Girls*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *The Fourth Wall*, *Little Women*, *Cosi* and all three *Fawlty Towers* productions which broke box office records for ticket sales.

In 2021 Cathy played the part of sassy Grandma Rosie in The Attic Theatrical's production of *The Wedding Singer*.

Cathy has also performed across the Coast with the fabulous Encore for WMTC for the last 10 years.

Cathy feels truly blessed to be able to play Sister Hubert for the 2nd time in this all-female cast and is thrilled to be able to combine

her love of singing, acting and dancing to bring Sister Hubert to light once again. Bless you and enjoy the show.



Sister Robert Anne
formerly **AMANDA DANIEL**

Amanda is a seasoned stage performer, theatre director and vocal coach whose passion for the arts has seen her singing and acting her way across the stage for 25 years. Trained in Voice and Performance, she fell in love with the world of theatre starring as Ruby in *Dames at Sea* with WMTC and has been fortunate to be involved in many shows since. Some of her highlights include Katie Brown in *Calamity Jane*, Sister Robert in *Nunsense*, musical directing and performing with Encore for 10 years and directing *Beauty and The Beast* and *Aladdin Jr* for WMTC.

Amanda has recently been enjoying a new role as the Artistic Director for The Attic Theatrical directing *The Wedding Singer* and *Avenue Q*. Having been in the Director's chair for the last few years, Amanda is thrilled to rejoin with

WDG's convent family and bring back her favourite Nun.





Sister Mary Amnesia
formerly **KAREN PENDLETON**



Sister Mary Leo
formerly **GABBIE MAGEE**



Sister Julia, Child of God
formerly **MADDIE STEPHENSON**

Karen is no stranger to theatre on the Central Coast, participating in numerous productions with Gosford Musical Society and Wyong Musical Theatre Company from 2000-2015. She spent 6 years in Sydney recently, but is very happy to be back living and performing on the Coast.

Highlights for Karen include *Les Miserables, Mame, My Fair Lady* and *Peter Pan*, and principal roles in *Victor Victoria, Cabaret, The Gondoliers* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Karen was also very proud to co-direct *Hair*, a long-held passion project, along with her husband Peter, the final production held in Wyong Memorial Hall.

Nonsense 2 is Karen's first production with WDG and she is so excited to be playing Sister Amnesia. Karen and Amnesia share a love of country music, with Karen performing at various country music

Gabbie is a 28 year old English, History and Drama teacher. Born in Penrith, she has lived much of her life in Western NSW. She studied archaeology at Macquarie University before moving into teaching.

Gabbie fell in love with the performing arts at school and has been in a number of productions including *Cosi, Grease* and *My Fair Lady*. She loves busking and performing jazz and swing music at festivals. Gabbie's favourite musical is *Phantom of the Opera*, which she had the pleasure of seeing on Broadway and multiple productions here in Australia. In her spare time she loves to sew, play sports (soccer and roller derby in particular) and spend time spoiling her two little dogs.

Her character in this production is a novice called Sister Leo. She is a passionate and talented ballet dancer

who has been denied the spotlight due to the restrictive nature of convent life. She is a young, spunky feminist.

This is Maddie's second show with WDG, and she is delighted to be back playing Sister Julia, Child of God – she who accidentally poisoned 52 Convent members in the last show!

Maddie has also enjoyed taking on the role of dance captain for this production.

Most of her stage experience has been in musical theatre, with her first performance being at age three in a cameo piece.

Maddie has been in several musicals with both GMS and WMTC, with her most recent appearance as a courtesan in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. She was also in *Hay Fever* at VVWL. Maddie works with her mum in the family real estate business Stephenson's Real Estate located in Umina Beach.

She loves living on the Peninsula and going for walks along the beach.



festivals in the past. Karen hopes you all have a good laugh at all of the Sister's antics and enjoy the show.





irector

MARGARET HOLDOM

Margaret has enjoyed over 40 years of involvement in Community Theatre. She has performed many lead roles in musicals in Sydney and on the Central Coast. Her WDG roles have been in *Calendar Girls*, *The Cemetery Club*, *Lend Me a Tenor*; and last year she played Dorothy in the hilarious and popular production of *Glorious*. Margaret has directed several musicals and took the helm for *Nunsense* for WDG in 2018. She is delighted to finally get *Nunsense 2* to stage after two postponements due to Covid.

Wardrobe and costume design are another of Margaret's interests, and the Coast has enjoyed her recent interpretations in *Aladdin Jr* and *Glorious*. She is currently dressing the characters in WMTC's production of *Little Women*.

Margaret loves singing and has entertained with the vocal performance group Encôre! for 10 years.

After the theatre closures caused by Covid during 2020, Margaret is excited to be back doing what she loves – providing entertainment to you, our audience.



usical Director

MARY ELLEN GILLARD

Mary Ellen Gillard is a local musician who has performed in most states of Australia, most notably as a featured soloist on ABC radio with members of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. As a local music educator she has worked with school groups for Department of Education ensembles performing throughout Australia, as well as Paris, Salzburg and Vienna.

Mary has a love of all things 'music' and has been Musical Director for productions at The Art House, The Laycock St Community Theatre and now at The Red Tree Theatre.

As a performer her first amateur show was in Newcastle (*Pajama Game*) and her first professional show was in Adelaide (*King & I*) but her favourite shows are any that her children are performing in.

Mary would like to acknowledge the fabulous work by Geoffrey Preece in producing the backing tracks and the support provided by Lindy Nankiville as rehearsal pianist.



horeographer

MADELINE STEPHENSON

Madeline comes from a musical, dance and theatrical family background. She has many years of experience in drama and musical theatre both on stage and as choreographer for GMS, WMTC and VVWLT.

She has been involved with Happy Tappers for many years, a dance troupe dedicated to children and young people with a disability.

Madeline has enjoyed many years of collaboration with Margaret Holdom on several shows at WMTC, most recently *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. She loved being part of the original *Nunsense* team, and was delighted to reprise her role as Convent Choreographer.

A high profile Central Coast businesswoman, Madeline is Sales and Commercial Manager at her family business Stephenson's Real Estate in Umina Beach.





Pianist

LINDY NANKVELL

Lindy has performed as an accompanist and orchestra member since high school.

She often states 'My number of shows exceeds my age, and I wasn't born yesterday.'

Lindy has enjoyed working with the Little Sisters of Hoboken and hopes you leave the theatre feeling very blessed after your visit with them today.



Stage Manager

MARION ELLA

Marion is an experienced Stage Manager and has been involved in shows with *GMS*, *Laycock Street Theatre*, *WMTC* and *The Attic Theatrical*.

Nonsense is one of the funniest shows she has worked on, and she finds *Nonsense 2* just as funny. She has been also involved in costumes and props for this production. Marion hopes you enjoy the show!





Author & Synopsis

DAN GOGGIN

Writer of the book, music and lyrics, Dan Goggin's early life experiences, including schooling by the Marywood Dominican Sisters and his days as a seminarian, influenced him to create *Nunsense*. For all its wackiness, *Nunsense* has the ring of personal experience. He says every nun in the show is based on someone he knew growing up Catholic.

A line of greeting cards featuring a nun offering tart quips caught on so quickly that Goggin decided to expand the concept into a cabaret show called *The Nunsense Story*. The cabaret opened for a four-day run at Manhattan's Duplex and remained for 38 weeks, encouraging its creator to expand it into a full-length theatre production.

What followed was *Nunsense* (1985), one of off-Broadway's biggest commercial successes. By the time it closed, it had become an international phenomenon. Goggin followed it with six sequels including an all-male production, *Nunsense A-Men!* The show played in New York City to rave reviews.

Goggin also wrote the book, music and lyrics for *A One Way Ticket To Broadway* and *Balancing Act*, neither of which was as successful as the *Nunsense* franchise.

SYNOPSIS

NUNSENSE II: THE SECOND COMING could easily be subtitled "the rest of the story."

The sequel to the international hit musical **NUNSENSE** takes place approximately six weeks after the first "benefit performance."

The same nuns are back on stage at Mt. Saint Helen's School for what is billed as a "Thank You Program" for their supporters. Since their first time out was such a success, they have decided that they should stick to their successful variety show formula. This time they are forced to work around the set dressing of "The Mikado" which is being presented the following week by the Hoboken Music Society on the Mt. Saint Helen's stage.

The show opens with upbeat songs and a high-speed recapitulation of what happened at the first show, narrated by Sister Mary Hubert. The program proceeds with Sister Mary Paul (previously known as Sister Amnesia) running a bingo game in which naturally, something goes wrong. The variety show continues with Sister Hubert once again warning Sister Leo of the pitfalls ahead, and with

Sister Robert Anne grabbing a couple of props from "The Mikado" production and appearing as Madame Butterfly.

These irritations aside, Reverend Mother feels confident that everything is going well as she presents Sister Mary Paul, the newest country-singing sensation, who performs her number with Sister Mary Annette (her Puppet).

Then the telephone rings. Sister Leo answers only to discover that the Franciscans are on their way to the convent to claim Sister Mary Paul as one of their own!

Reverend Mother dispatches Sister Robert Anne to the convent to try to reason with the Franciscans while the other Sisters try to calm Sister Mary Paul. Reverend Mother continues centre stage with stories from her days in the circus

Sister Robert Anne returns, telling the sisters that she has convinced the Franciscans to take only the prize money and leave Sister Mary Paul. Hearing this news, Reverend Mother faints. Reverend Mother is supported by Hubert while A Hat and Cane Song rounds out the action in Act I.

The second half of the program begins with Sister Robert Anne (by popular demand) performing some new impressions with her veil. Meanwhile, the Franciscans have arrived backstage to retrieve Sister Mary Paul. The sisters present a plan to make back the soon-to-be-lost money.

But, trouble mounts as word comes that Sister Julia, Child of God (the convent cook) is in jail! Robert Anne, Leo and Mary Paul head off to bail her out, while Sister Hubert says "If only it were 1962, I'd know exactly what to do."

Reverend Mother decides to try to hawk the convent's latest book, *The Catholic Guide to Gift Giving*. She is interrupted by news of the Franciscans' return. As Reverend Mother leaves the stage, Sister Robert Anne remains, at last getting her opportunity at stealing the spotlight

With Reverend Mother off dealing with the Franciscans, the other sisters come back on stage to lead the audience in a sing-along. A defeated Mother Superior returns. The Franciscans want everything including Sister Mary Paul.

Sister Mary Paul accepts her fate, then without warning, a birdhouse, which is part of "The Mikado" set, falls on Sister Mary Paul's head and jogs her memory. The "Franciscans" are none other than the Health Inspector and his assistant (the sisters' nemesis in the first show) trying to steal the prize money by masquerading as monks.

Realizing that Sister Mary Paul and the money are safe, the sisters give thanks with the rousing gospel finale - *There's Only One Way to End Your Prayers*, and that's to say, AMEN!





Cast





Scenes & Musical Numbers

ACT ONE

- Overture - The School Band
- Jubilate Deo - Cast
- Nunsense, The Magic Word - Cast
- Gloria - Srs Amnesia, Leo & Robert Anne
- Winning Is Just The Beginning - Cast
- The Stoning of Mary Magdalene
- The Prima Ballerina - Sr Mary Leo
- The Biggest Still Ain't the Best - Srs Hubert & Leo
- Un Bel Di - Sr Robert Anne
- I've Got Pizazz - Sr Robert Anne with Rev Mother
- The Country Nun - Sr Amnesia and Sr Mary Annette
- Look, Ma, I Made It - Rev Mother
- The Padre Polka - Srs Amnesia, Leo and Hubert
- Tokyo Rose
- The Classic Queens - Rev Mother and Sr Hubert
- A Hat and Cane Song - Cast

ACT TWO

- Habit Humour
- Angeline - Sr Robert Anne
- Recollection
- We're the Nuns to Come To
- When You Go - Srs Amnesia, Leo, Robert Anne & Hubert
- What Would Elvis Do? - Sr Hubert and Rev Mother
- Yes We Can - The Five Nuns
- I Am Here To Stay - Sr Robert Anne
- What a Catastrophe - The Five Nuns
- No One Cared Like You - Sr Amnesia
- Reprise - Recollection
- Reprise - Gloria - Cast
- There's Only One Way To End Your Prayers - Cast
- Reprise - Nunsense, The Magic Word - Cast



Production Crew

Director - Margaret Holdom
Musical Director - Maryellen Gillard
Choreographer - Madeline Stephenson
Répétiteur - Geoffrey Preece
Rehearsal Pianist - Lindy Nankivell
Production Manager - Margaret Holdom
Stage Manager - Marion Ella
Box Office - Robyn Weidlich
Wardrobe - Wendy Potter, Marion Ella,
Margaret Holdom
Wardrobe Assistants - WMTC Sewing Team
Costumes supplied by - Port Macquarie Players,
WMTC, WDG
Dressers - Wendy Potter, Joyce Abbott, Debbi Clark
Set Design & Decoration – Joshua Maxwell
Set Construction - Ron Baker, Ian Abbott
Large rock courtesy of James Chambers
Properties - Melissa Sims, Peter Pendleton
Dance Captain - Maddie Stephenson
Sound - Scott Daniel
Microphones courtesy of Red Tree Theatre
Lighting Design – Joshua Maxwell
Lighting courtesy of Red Tree Theatre
Photography - Shayne Leslie
Program/Flyer - Shayne Leslie
Publicity - Cathy De Vries, Margaret Holdom,
Kate Clark, Patrick Wells, Isabella O'Brien
FOH Gala Night Coordinators – Ros Ellis,
Maria Galea
Front of House – Pollyanna Forshaw, WDG
Members
Puppet Design & Construction - Marion Ella



**NO CAMERAS OR RECORDING
DEVICES OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED
IN THE THEATRE.**

It is against copyright laws to take photographs inside the theatre including selfies of yourself. Seriously, that's something Sr Robert Anne would do. Turn off and put away all electronic devices prior to entering the theatre including mobile phones, watch alarms, iPods, fitbitz, etc. Text messaging and game playing during the performance will not be tolerated. 20 Minute interval with altar wine in the foyer.



 Special Thanks to...

Red Tree Theatre
Elderslee Foundation
Leslie Photography – Australia
Origin Theatrical
Wyong Musical Theatre Company
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Simon William Hair & Beauty Wyong Plaza
Evolve Therapies & Rehabilitation Toukley
Stephenson's Real Estate Umina Beach

 Wyong Drama Group Inc.

President – Howard Oxley
Vice President – Cathy DeVries
Secretary – Pollyanna Forshaw
Treasurer – Susan Kieft
General Committee - Julie Bailey,
Ron Baker, Debbi Clarke, Andy
Kabanoff, Lynn McMullen

Join Wyong Drama Group

WDG holds meetings on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Green Room at The Red Tree Theatre. New members are welcome to join our dynamic team of actors, directors, technicians and willing workers.

Watch our website for exciting information about our coming shows.

www.wyongdramagroup.com.au



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the Darkinjung people who are Traditional Custodians of this land.
We would also like to pay respects to their Elders, past and present.