



















### **Directors Message**

I first came across Noises Off in the late 1980's when the Glen Innes Arts Council formed a small play reading committee to look at future shows. At the time, Noises Off hadn't been released for amateur societies for very long but it already had a buzz about it that we were finding difficult to ignore.

Being a lot younger, and no doubt naive in the ways of theatre, I was keen to really test myself. This play, packed with great one liners and magnificent physical comedy, was just too good to resist! Even if it was my first full length play as a director.

Ever since, I have managed to direct a play or musical every couple of years. Some may say I haven't strayed far with similar comedies including The 39 Steps in 2015, Spamalot the Monty Python Musical in 2017, and The Appleton Ladies Potato Race last year, among many others. I don't think it ever crossed my mind I would be doing this play again 35 years later.

But back to Noises Off. It was last performed in Armidale in 2000 at The Playhouse under the direction of Jean Freer, with a clever set design having the performance space on one level.

Over the last 10 years we have tried a few times to stage Noises Off, however the ability to build the enormous two-storey set was beyond us, let alone revolve it for the second act... until now! Richie Kiehne put up his hand to lead the construction. The Armidale Drama and Musical Society's committee showed such enthusiasm for the play it was not really hard to jump in again and bring this wonderful farce back to life.

I am indebted to Richie and all the cast and crew for spending the last 10 weeks not only rehearsing 3 times a week, but building the magnificent set you will see on stage. Their dedication, commitment, enthusiasm and skill in bringing this great play to life has been an inspiration, and I know you are going to have a great time watching this show.

I would also like to thank my incredibly committed production team of Nick Troon as Stage Manager, and Publicity and Costume Designers Amy Showell and Carmel Reilly. These dedicated individuals allowed me to concentrate my energies on bringing the play to life.



So please, sit back and let the mayhem begin!!!

Neil Horton Director

### **Production Team**

Director & Producer: Neil Horton

Stage Manager: Nick Troon

Set Design: Richie Kiehne and Wayne Grafton

**Lighting Design**: Stephen Sharpe

**Graphic Design**: Emma Horton

**Publicity**: Carmel Reilly and Amy Showell

**Lighting Operator**: Josh Bell

**Sound Operator**: Jay Samuelson

**Revolve Operator**: Nathan Mark

Stage Crew: Neil Horton, Rachel Horton, Ida Topić, Doug Rumble

**Props & Costume Team**: Jane Horton, Carmel Reilly, Doug Rumble, Amy Showell

**Bump In Crew**: Cast & Crew, Methuen Morgan, Murray Kennedy, Donna Wainohu, Greg Quast, Emily Waldron

**Photography:** Cary Bennett, Terry Cooke, Nathan Mark

Thank you to our lovely members who have volunteered their time for front of house.

## **Synopsis**

#### Act One:

Grand Theatre, Weston-super-Mare, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January

#### **INTERMISSION**



#### **Act Three:**

Municipal Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April



#### **Act Two:**

Theatre Royal,
Ashton-under-Lyne,
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February



Nothing On - The play within the play

The action for Nothing On takes place in the livingroom of the Brents' country home, on a Wednesday afternoon.



# by ROBERT HOUSEMONGER directed by LLOYD DALLAS

CAST in order of appearance

Mrs Clackett DOTTY OTLEY
Rodger Tramplemain GARRY LEJEUNE
Vicki BROOKE ASHTON
Philip Brent FREDERICK FELLOWS
Flavia Brent BELINDA BLAIR
Burglar SELSDON MOWBRAY
Sheikh FREDERICK FELLOWS

Company and Stage Manager
TIM ALLGOOD

Assistant Stage Manager **POPPY NORTON-TAYLOR** 

For:
OTSTAR PRODUCTIONS LTD



The action takes place in the living-room of the Brents' country home, on a Wednesday afternoon.

## THANK YOU

Coffins - G. Ashforth and Sons

Sardines - Old Salt Sardines

Straitjacket - Kumfy Restraints Ltd

Antique silverware and cardboard boxes - Mrs J.G.H Norton-Taylor

Stethoscope & hospital trolley - **Severn Surgical Supplies** 





#### Annie Keoghan as Dotty Ottley

Annie trained as an actor at the Ensemble Studios in North Sydney, and has been working in theatre, film, & television for over 30 years. She has been treading the boards in our ADMS productions since 2009, and her most recent performances were in 2024 in 'Crazy For You' (Mrs Lottie Child) and 'The Appleton Ladies Potato Race' (Barb Ling). She loves playing the role of Dotty in "Noises Off" who plays the role Mrs Clackett, the housekeeper in "Nothing On". A wonderful role to play.



#### William Billingsley as Gary Lejeune

Noises Off is one of Will's favourite plays, and he has been studying extensively for the parts of the silly Englishmen Garry & Roger for decades by growing up in England and being exceedingly silly. He does however faithfully promise that he has never previously locked a beautiful woman in an airing cupboard, chased a famous novelist with an axe, nor been an aspiring estate agent. He was last seen with comically murderous intent in ADMS's production of Clue and being romantically unsuccessful in Mamma Mia. He hopes you will laugh as much at the play as he did when he first saw it, and please forgive any dropped lines in Act 3 (that pole in Act 2 can be a little unforgiving).



#### Lauren Fenton as Brooke Ashton

Lauren is thrilled to return to the stage as Brooke/Vicki in "Noises Off"! She made her theatrical debut with ADMS in "Crazy for You" and has been hooked ever since. A true lover of all things theatre, Lauren enjoys the chaos, comedy, and creativity that comes with every production. When she's not on stage, you'll likely find her under the hood of a car, learning how it works - or indulging her serious sweet tooth. She's incredibly grateful to be part of such a talented and hilarious cast, and hopes you enjoy the show as much as they've enjoyed putting it together!



#### Richie Kiehne as Frederick Fellows

Richie is looking forward to showing off this fantastic & high energy production alongside this wonderful cast. He has been involved in a number of ADMS productions, most recently appearing as Sam in Crazy For You (2024), Colonel Melkett in Black Comedy (2023) & The Wolf in Into the Woods (2023) as well as performing as a soloist for ADMS gala nights and concerts. Much more comfortable building the set than being in front of it, he is also the man being the incredible 2 story spinning set! Richie is extremely happy to show off what the cast and crew have been working on and hopes you thoroughly enjoy the experience.



#### Melanie Rumble as Belinda Blair

Melanie is thrilled to be reprising the dual role of Belinda/Flavia 16 years after experiencing the hilarious craziness of Noises Off with the Genesian Theatre Company. She has extensive acting experience in theatres across Sydney. For ADMS Melanie has directed Transparency (2023) and Things I Know to be True (2024) and most recently played Malvolia in Twelfth Night. Audiences who saw that production may be relieved to learn that in Noises Off (unlike some of the other cast members) Melanie remains fully clothed!



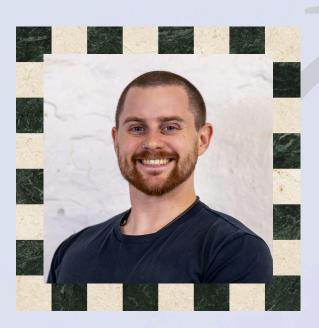
#### David Young as Selsdon Mowbray

Now having moved into character roles, David has been involved with ADMS on and off since 1996. He has been involved with several musicals, plays and pantomimes, the latest in the chorus of "Mamma Mia" and the play "1984". The smell of the theatre fills his nostrils.



#### Jono McAteer as Lloyd Dallas

Jono has directed many bunches of ridiculous actors, and acted ridiculously for a bunch of directors, but he is so excited to be able to act ridiculously as a director directing a bunch of ridiculous actors in Noises Off. A graduate of Theatre and Performance at the University of New England, and having performed for over 22 years, Jono has a great love for farce - most recently directing Black Comedy in 2023. He has thoroughly loved rehearsing this side-splitting show, and gives great thanks to ADMS for the opportunity, and to you fine audience members, who allow him and the rest of the society to continue being fools on stage and talking about themselves in the third person.



#### Dominick O'Shea as Tim Allgood

You may recognise Dominick from recent productions such as ADMS'S Transparency, Mamma Mia, Things I Know to be True and Twelfth Night, or UNEs Love & Information, and Blackrock. Part of the Graduating Class of 2020, Dominick has completed a Bachelor of Theatre & Performance. Throughout his younger years Dominick featured in school productions such as Our Town, Oklahoma, Woyzeck and more. Dominick has also tried his hand at Directing, leading A Midsummer Night's Dream as part of his degree.



#### Amy Showell as Poppy Norton-Taylor

Amy is thrilled to swap her headset for a script (sort of) as Assistant Stage Manager Poppy. Since starting her ADMS journey in Spamalot (2017) and has been popping up onstage and backstage ever since! Recent highlights include Viola in Twelfth Night (2025), Carol Melkett in Black Comedy (2023) and stage managing Crazy for You (2024) and Into the Woods (2023). They are beyond excited to bring the madness of this brilliantly bonkers show to life with such a talented cast and crew. Please laugh loudly and enjoy the show!

### **Our Supporters**

The Armidale Express











BRENDAN MOYLAN MP













St Kilda Hotel



### Thank You

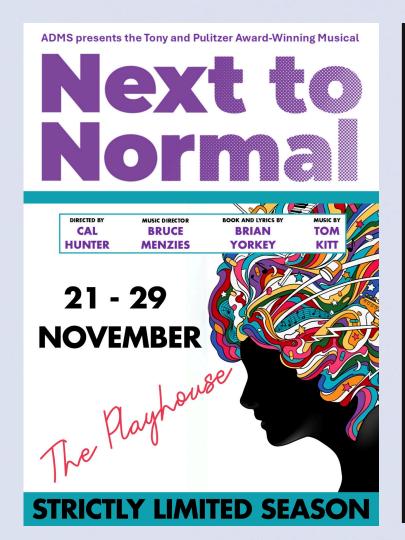
Ray Pearson, Clare O'Sullivan, Ray Nutt, FM 100.3, Gayle Burey at UNE Printroom, Michael Abbott, Oz Eye Veiw, Donna Wainohu, Kate Frazier, Sabine Kiehne, Rafael Kiehne

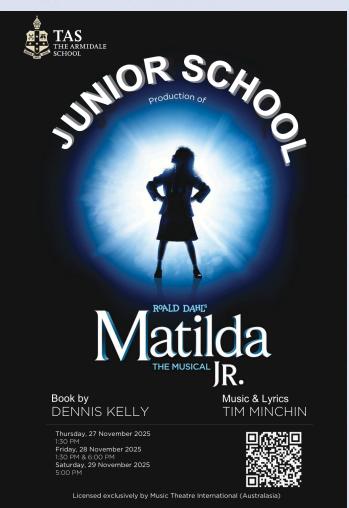
The Playhouse

All the proceeds from our Gala opening night event will be going towards the Armidale Playhouse.

If you wish to make a donation to support their continued activity in the Armidale area, scan the QR code.







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Armidale Drama and Muscial Society

