

SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP PRESENTS

in association with Origin Theatrical

'ALLO 'ALLO

a comedy by
David Croft and Jeremy Lloyd



Directed by
Anne Ross

Sept 19 to
Oct 4 2014

Setting the Scene

The popularity of *Allo Allo!* is a phenomenon that cannot be disputed. The classic television series, written by David Croft and Jeremy Lloyd, ran for 85 episodes over ten years from 1982 to 1992, regularly attracting many millions of viewers. The stage version by the same writers, follows the adventures of René Artois, the hapless café owner in Nouvien in war-torn occupied France.

From the Director

'*Allo, Allo*' is one of the most successful BBC comedies ever made achieving worldwide popularity. The stage show based on the TV series will whisk you back to a café in Nouvien in war torn Occupied France and into the adventures of Rene Artois and his wife Edith as they try to keep the priceless portrait of "The Fallen Madonna with the Big Boobies." from falling into the hands of Hitler and the Germans. As a result Rene in a bizarre twist finds himself getting involved in helping both the German Forces, the British and the French Resistance all at the same time. All this fun goes to make a first-class, hilarious, laugh-a-minute comedy in the best British tradition.

I would like to give a big vote of thanks to our hardworking team of dedicated people who work behind the scenes. A special vote of thanks to my Assistant Director / Set Designer and builder Franck Dance and our Stage Manager Gary Suthers. Also many thanks to Barry de Sylva, Chris O'Leary, David Gemmell, Joanne Sephton and Ashley Worsman in Lighting and Sound, our Musical Director Carleen Steele and to Lynette Wockner our Choreographer. To Doreen Omiros and Gary Suthers a heartfelt thanks for all the hours of research and work that has gone into Costumes. Also this year my special thanks to Gary Suthers and Chris Guyler who took over rehearsals whilst I was out of action after breaking my shoulder and left arm in July. Lastly many thanks to our Back stage and Lighting operators who have tirelessly given of their time and many talents to bring this show to life. I am sure my wonderful cast will join with me in saying, "Thanks heaps we couldn't have done it without you."

ANNE ROSS (Director)



Synopsis of the Scenes

The action takes place in occupied France in Rene's Café in the village of Nouvien during World War 2.

ACT 1

- Scene 1. Rene's Café in the morning
- Scene 2. Rene's Café later in the morning
- Scene 3. The Colonel's office
- Scene 4. Herr Flick's Quarters.
- Scene 5. Rene's Café later in the day
- Scene 6. A back room of the Café.
- Scene.7. Rene's Café that night.

ACT 2.

- Scene 1. Rene's Café the next day
- Scene 2. The General's office
- Scene 3. Herr Flick's Quarters
- Scene 4. The Colonel's office
- Scene 5. Edith & Rene's bedroom
- Scene 6. The Cinema
- Scene 7. Rene's Café.
- Scene 8. Café later that night
- Scene 9. Café the following night

Cast

The French

Rene Artois	Chris Guyler
Edith Artois	Joanne Oliver
Yvette Carte Blanche	Sara Forgione
Roger Leclerc	Troy Granzien
Michelle Dubois	Emma Quigley
Mimi Labonque	Onyx-Maree Noack
Peasants & Germans	Steve Norris
Marie-Louise Suthers	Franck Dance
	Stan Wisniowiecki



The Germans & Italians

Colonel Kurt Von Strohm	Paul Pritchard
Capt. Alberto Bertorelli	Garry McEwen
Herr Otto Flick	Jason Lawson
Helga Geerhart	Lisa Wheildon
Lieut. Hubert Gruber	Mark Scott
General Ludwig Von Schmelling	Patrick Tiernan

The British

Crabtree	Nathaniel Young
Carstairs (Airman)	Franck Dance
Fairfax (Airman)	Stan Wisniowiecki



Behind the Scenes

Director	Anne Ross
Assistant Director	Franck Dance
Stage Manager	Gary Suthers
Stage Crew	Anshu Podar Steve Norris
Sound & Lighting Design	Barry de Sylva Chris O'Leary David Gemmell
Sound & Lighting	Barry de Sylva Joanne Sephton Ashley Worsman Chris O'Leary
Follow Spot Operators	Peta Douglas Alan Hare Gerry Burges
Set Design	Franck Dance Anne & Robin Ross
Set Construction	Franck Dance Jordan Cera Robin Ross Anshu Podar Gary Suthers
Costume Design	Doreen Omiros Anne Ross Betty Peisley & Cast
Décor and Properties	Gary Suthers Franck Dance Anne & Robin Ross
Program and Media	Chris Guyler Mark Westby Chris O'Leary
Photography	Kayleen Gibson
Front of House	Margaret Oakhill and our merry band of volunteers

Director – Anne Ross

Since appearing on stage at age four, Anne has had many years of experience in live theatre initially as a ballet dancer with Ballet Victoria. She then went on to appear in over 35 musicals as well as TV dramas, films & cabaret shows in Melbourne. She has a keen interest in set design & costumes and has won many awards among them the prestigious 1st. prize for Set Design at Ballarat's South St. Eisteddfod.



Since 1989 Anne has appeared in over 25 STG productions including *Stepping Out*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *The Reluctant Debutante* and *Something's Afoot* to name but a few.

For the last 18 years she has turned her many talents to directing our hugely popular musical comedies as well as Noel Coward's delightful *Blithe Spirit*, J.B. Priestley's hilarious *When We Are Married*, Daphne Du Maurier's classic *Rebecca*, the comedy thriller *Arsenic & Old Lace*, Agatha Christie's legendary *The Mousetrap* & last year the British comedy hit *No Sex Please We're British*.

Asst. Director – Franck Dance

Franck joined STG in May 2009 and has been actively involved in set construction, back stage, on stage, lighting renovation and maintenance. He is a qualified carpenter and has brought with him his extensive knowledge in construction to help build & design numerous sets for the theatre. Franck's interest in music started at the age of 14 where he learnt drums and subsequently played in many bands-playing Jazz through to contemporary rock.



This is where he learnt about the set up and operation of lighting desks, sound mixers and recordings. He's been Assistant Director for *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *The Mousetrap*, *No Sex Please We're British* and now *Allo Allo*, as well as the Set Design and Construction. And he's happy to return to the stage making his brief appearance as one of the 'Airmen' in this hilarious British comedy.

Rene Artois : Chris Guyler

Chris comes from a "theatre world". Having been born in the UK to parents who were both in the entertainment industry, it's hardly surprising that Chris shared a passion for theatre from an early age. Before retiring, his aviation career took him all over the world & with his passion for theatre it meant that he's been involved in over 70 productions both acting & directing wherever he was based. Since making Australia his home in '74, first in Melbourne then later in Brisbane, he has played many leading roles.



At S.T.G. we have seen him in both comedy & drama, including *Anyone for Breakfast*, *Beyond Reasonable Doubt*, Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* and *No Sex Please We're British*. He has also a long list of directorial credits to his name including *Desperate Hours*, *Out of Order*, *Trap for a Lonely Man* and last year *Wait until Dark*. Chris enjoys treading the boards once again and hopes you enjoy this well-known TV Classic with its hilarious characters and the utter nonsense that takes place.

Edith Artois : Joanne Oliver

Joanne is very excited to be returning to Sunnybank Theatre after her last appearance here as Mrs Clackett in *Noises Off*. She has many years of experience behind her – performing in a variety of different genres – *Creche and Burn*, *The Odd Couple*, *When the Cat's Away*, *Music Man*, *Dinkum Assorted* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* to name a few.



Joanne has also been able to gain experience in film work, *The Ghosts* and *Don't Show Mother*. Sunnybank Theatre holds fond memories as it was the first stage work that she did after moving from Sydney in 1994. This show has proven to be just as enjoyable with its wonderful director cast and crew.

Yvette Carte Blanche : Sara Forgione

"There's No Business Like Show Business." That's how Sara feels about the performing arts. Having spent much of her life in music and dance, Sara first stepped on to the S.T.G. stage in the 2007 productions of *House Guest & Joseph & His Technicolor Dreamcoat*. In 2013 she was delighted to return to S.T.G. as Frances in the comedy/farce *No Sex Please We're British*. Sara is now honoured to play the role of Yvette in the much loved *Allo, Allo* stage show & hopes you, our wonderful audience, has a darn good time. It has been a privilege to work with the cast & crew.



Roger Leclerc : Troy Granzien

Troy has been performing since he was 5 years old and from this early age, participated in variety concerts in his home town of Toogoolawah. Later he played such roles as Dracula in *Bats* and Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie*. Troy made his debut with STG in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* playing the role of Melvin P. Thorpe. Since then he's performed in a number of variety concerts and a Brisbane Broncos ad campaign! Most recently Troy played 'Dr. John H. Watson' in the STG's production of *Holmes and the Ripper*.



Michelle Dubois : Emma Quigley

Emma began acting from the tender age of 5, and from then on she hasn't let go. She studied with The Australian Acting Academy and Helen O'Grady Drama School whilst performing in a number of school plays and Eisteddfods. In 2002 she was awarded the Best Junior Actorat the Redlands Eisteddfod. In 2001 she was involved in a QUT Graduate short film, *The Boat*. Emma has performed in many choir concerts and shows including *Sir Jasper's Revenge*, Nellie in *Sweet Fanny Adams*, Cherry in *Cosi*, Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet* and the King in *Cinderella* and Chorus in *Anything Goes* and *The Wizard of Oz*. *Allo Allo* is Emma's first show with STG and she couldn't be happier to be involved in a show with such talented and personable people.



Mimi Le Bonque : Onyx-Maree Noack

Onyx-Maree has always been enthusiastic about the Arts particularly the theatre. In 2007 she joined S.T.G. for *Pillow Talk* playing the French, swooning Yvette. 2009 saw her playing Durla, one of Miss Mona's "girls" in S.T.G.'s production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. On an equal par with performing live on stage, are the lifelong friendships that Onyx-Maree treasures as a member of Sunnybank Theatre Group.



Capt Alberto Bertorelli : Gary McEwan

It wasn't a difficult decision for Gary to audition for *Allo Allo* having enjoyed the great TV series in the '80's & '90's. Whether he was cast was a different matter, but he was delighted to land the role of the irrepressible Italian, Capt Alberto Bertorelli, who gets knocked down often, but keeps getting up! Who could forget his many roles over the years – most recently as the Mikado, in our first production this year.

And as an Italian of a different flavour, the mysterious 'Mr Paravinci', in *The Mousetrap*. Remember he was the handsome singing cowboy, Wild Bill Hickok, in *Calamity Jane* and his nutty 'Elvis' character 'Pharaoh', in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

Other performances around Brisbane theatres 'Mr Meyers' in *Witness for the Prosecution*, Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Chief Sitting Bull in *Annie Get Your Gun* and a personal favourite, in that delightful life play, *Post Its*. He assures us that despite being slapped, kicked and almost strangled... kissing many, yet losing in love, putting his fingers into mousetraps and of the necessity for ear plugs ... He is happy, hale and hearty!



Colonel Kurt Von Strohm : Paul Pritchard

Paul's first passion for acting was at high school studying drama and acting in the school play *Daniel Derius and De-Lion* in year 7, playing the part of the lion. Later he rekindled his love with an opportunity to perform in STG's production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Going on to perform multiple roles in STG's "Little Shop of Horrors" as well as assisting with set construction. He played 'Henry Angell' in Agatha Christie's *Unexpected Guest* at Front Row Theatre. Last year Paul played 'Peter' in STG's production of *No Sex Please We're British*.

He is delighted to be playing Colonel Von Strohm in *Allo Allo*.



Herr Otto Flick : Jason Lawson

Originally from Melbourne, Jason has been treading the boards for just over 25 years. Since moving here in 2001, Jason has appeared in many shows and concerts from Brisbane to Beenleigh. Although mostly known for his talent in musical theatre, Jason has always felt that acting was his first calling and yearned to return to performing in plays. His previous credits include Freddie in *Noises Off*, Herb Shuttle in *Happy Birthday Wanda June*, together with roles in *The Blood Donor* and *12 Angry Men*. With STG he's played Tommy Albright in *Brigadoon* and Charlie Davenport in *Annie Get Your Gun*. Many other notable musical credits in *Les Miserables* (Javert), *Spamalot* (Sir Bedivere), and recently bared all in *The Full Monty*. When not on stage, Jason works as a payroll officer in Brisbane and has a keen interest in horse racing, soccer and video games. He's thrilled to be a part of this iconic British comedy and he sincerely hopes you enjoy the show.



Helga Geerhart : Lisa Wheildon

Lisa made her debut at STG last year as the naughty-but-nice Susan in *No Sex Please, We're British*, and is delighted to return as 'Helga'!

She fell in love with performing at an early age at school & community productions and has a passion to use the performing arts as a conduit for changing people's lives for the better. A strong believer in lifelong learning, Lisa has studied with NIDA Open, Andrea Moor, Film & TV Studio International, Peter Rasmussen, Impro Mafia, The Warehouse Workshop and Zen Zen Zo and is currently studying towards a Bachelor of Fine Arts

(Drama) at QUT. Lisa has been invited to participate in Zen Zen Zo's exclusive STAGES program and was selected to participate this year in the first Brisbane intake of the Actors Studio course offered by NIDA Open. She loves working with such a great cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the performance and wishes to thank her family and friends for all their love and support.



Lieut. Hubert Gruber : Mark Scott

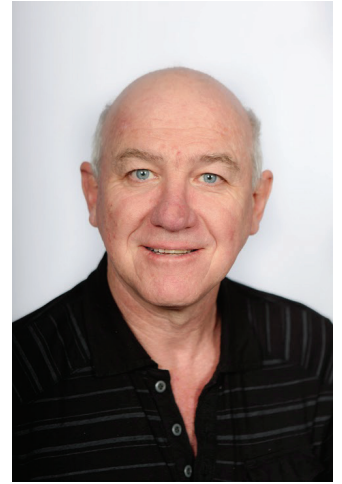
Mark majored in drama at UQ, where he performed in *Spring Awakening*, *The Days of the Commune*, *Lysistrata* and Woody Allen's *GOD*. Mark went on with many notable performances in numerous and varied productions including *Hay Fever*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Rope* and *Our Town* to name just a few. Here at STG you will have seen Mark in many roles including *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Noises Off*, *A Few Good Men* and the lead in Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*. Mark has performed in many other theatres, both Professional and

Community around Brisbane in a variety of Musical and straight plays including, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Boyfriend*, *Bell Book and Candle*, *A Man for all Seasons*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Boys Next Door* and the wonderful farce, *Funny Money*. Being extremely adaptable he also played 3 roles in *Comedy of Errors* and 7 roles in *Bullshot Crummond*". A definite highlight was playing the Verger in the Australian and NZ tours of *Dad's Army*. He is enjoying his role as Lieut. Gruber and hopes you enjoy the show.



General Ludwig Von Schmelling : Patrick Tiernan

Patrick has played quite a number of roles here at Sunnybank and having a liking for comedy it's not surprising that we've seen him mostly in comedic roles such as the murderous Jonathon Brewster in *Arsenic & Old Lace* and the Evil Wizard Ebbacanezar in the pantomime *Aladdin*. Last year he was on the right side of the law as Inspector Paul in *No Sex Please were British* and Magistrate Colonel Julian in *Rebecca*. And now he finds himself in Wartime Europe as General Ludwig Von Schmelling in the hilarious *Allo Allo* with such a great bunch of talented funny actors. When you can't stop laughing at rehearsals you know it's going to be good.



Crabtree : Nathaniel Young

Brisbane born, Nathaniel has always enjoyed performing for his friends & family with Drama, Film & Television. In 2010 he commenced studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts at the University of Southern Queensland honing his skills as an actor & writer. He has been involved in shows such as "*Captain Pathos & his Army of Imaginary Friends, Away, All Sortz and Richard III*". *Allo Allo* is Nathaniel's second show with us here at Sunnybank Theatre, following his debut as 'Netly' earlier in the year in our March production of *Homes & the Ripper*. He is especially looking forward to adding French to his repertoire of outrageous accents and hopes you enjoy the show.



Fairfax (Airman) – Stan Wisniowiecki

Stan has only recently moved up to Brisbane from Melbourne and almost immediately was approached to step in at the last moment to play the role of Airman Fairfax. Stan comes from a background of theatre in Melbourne as well as his home town of London, UK. Stan has shared a lifetime personal friendship with Chris Guyler and has always enjoyed many happy times discussing different plays. Stan is an avid reader and until recently had his own business of a Book Exchange shop. Stan has performed in numerous productions in Melbourne and many years ago was in a production of *Wait Until Dark* directed by his lifelong friend Chris. He's enjoying his introduction to STG and hopes that you enjoy this madcap classic British comedy.



What do we have in store for you next year?

**sunnybank
theatre
group**

**2015
SEASON
LAUNCH**

**7 pm friday
november 7th**

RSVP by Nov 4th

**3345 3964
secretary@stg.org.au**

Our Artistic Committee have been working hard to bring you another fabulous year of entertainment.

Free supper and meet the Directors of our productions for 2015

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

**sunnybank
theatre group**

in association with
Hal Leonard Aust. Pty Ltd

music & lyrics by
Frank Loesser
book by Joe Swerling
and Abe Burrows

directed by
**John Mordacz
& Chris O'Leary**

musical direction
Sarah Landis
choreography
Lynette Wockner

November 14 to 29
tickets on sale from
October 18

G & D Guys Dolls



LIBERTÉ
ÉGALITÉ
FRATERNITÉ



*Vive la
résistance!*

CAMILLE