



The mission of Wyong Musical Theatre Company is to provide quality theatre experiences to engage, inspire, challenge and entertain the community. The Company will also foster a positive and inclusive environment to educate and enhance the creative skills of artists and production crews. There is a clear focus on: Energy, Expertise, Excellence, Enthusiasm. WMTC is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers.

AUDITION INFO PACK

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR/MUSICAL DIRECTOR - ALLYSON TURNER

Allyson Turner is an experienced educator and musical theatre practitioner with over 25 years in primary teaching and extensive experience in music and choral direction. She has led choirs for children and adults, inspiring a love of singing across all ages.

Allyson has performed in numerous productions with Eastwood Uniting Church Musical Society and Wyong Musical Theatre Company, where she has also served as Vocal Coach (Forever Treasure Island, 2024) and Choral Director for Company Jr. Most recently, she directed and musically directed Wonderland the Musical at The Art House, Wyong (September 2025).

CHOREOGRAPHER - MIA BRODY

Mia has over 30 years experience in teaching dance with her own dance company. She has also performed professionally in many shows as well as being cast in Cats. In 2024 she was choreographer for Forever Treasure Island (WMTC) as well as The Marvelous Wondrettes (WMTC). In September 2025, she was the Choreographer for Wonderland the Musical produced by Wyong Musical Theatre Company at The Art House Wyong. She is currently also the choreographer for Company Jr and Company Nova (WMTC).

DRAMA COACH - JULIE YOUNG

Julie Young has over 45 years of experience in theatre, working with companies including Woy Woy Little Theatre, Wyong Drama Group, and Wyong Musical Theatre Company. She taught drama for 10 years with Xtract Drama Academy and has also completed a number of workshops with NIDA. With a background in early childhood and special education, and many years as a gymnastics coach, Julie brings a wealth of experience in nurturing confidence, creativity, and expression in young performers. Julie was the Drama Coach for Wonderland the Musical (WMTC, 2025) and currently works with Company Jr and Company Nova as their Drama Coach.





SHOW SYNOPSIS

Paws & Claws is a heartwarming, family-friendly musical inspired loosely by Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story – with cats and dogs taking the place of Shakespeare’s Montagues and Capulets, and Bernstein’s rival gangs, the Jets and the Sharks. In this world, cats and dogs have always been enemies, fighting out of habit rather than reason – until an unexpected friendship begins to change everything.

Jack, a loyal sheepdog, and Melody, a graceful Burmese cat, meet by chance behind a bakery and discover they have more in common than they ever imagined. As their friendship grows, tensions between the packs rise, fuelled by fiery personalities like Fury the Maine Coon and Dachshund troublemakers Frankie and Chipolata. When the dreaded Animal Catcher strikes, Jack and several others find themselves trapped in The Pound, forced to face their fears – and each other.

With courage, cleverness, and a little charm, Jack leads a daring escape, determined to reunite with Melody. Together, they inspire both species to see past old rivalries and embrace peace. Filled with humour, heart, catchy songs, and colourful characters, Paws & Claws celebrates friendship, acceptance, and the idea that we’re all a little more alike than we think.

A joyful, inclusive show where every role matters and every performer shines.

**THERE WILL BE 2 SEPARATE CASTS
AGE RANGE 7-17 YRS**

One cast will be known as the Whiskers Cast and the other will be the Patches Cast. There will be 4 performances for each cast. They will each have an evening performance and one cast will perform at the opening and the other cast will perform the closing show.

AUDITIONS

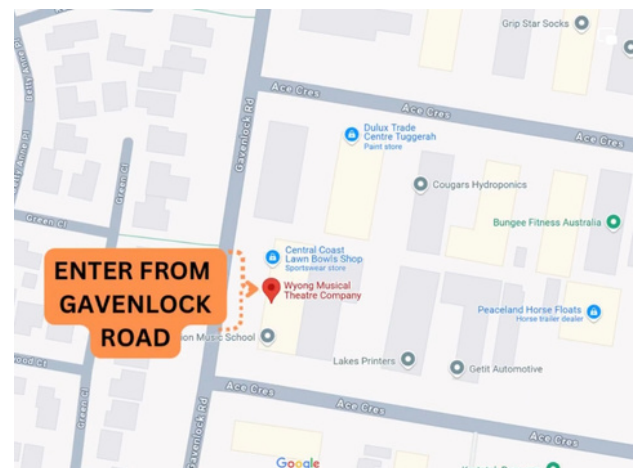
AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held at WMTC Studio 3/32 Ace Crescent - our entrance is off Gavenlock rd.

Thursday 30th October 5:30pm-6:30pm
Saturday 1st Nov : 9:00am-3:30pm

Book your spot! Click the link below

<https://form.jotform.com/252797680781069>



REHEARSALS 2025

Saturday 8th Nov *Whiskers* Cast 9:30am-12:30pm *Patches* Cast 1:30pm-4:30pm

Parents are required to stay for the first 20mins of this rehearsal to meet the production team and hear about communication methods throughout the rehearsal process as well as general expectation for cast.

Saturday 15th and 22nd November - selected lead cast will be required for the first hour, then all cast will be required for next two hours.

Featured dancers will also be required on **Wednesday afternoons 12th, 19th & 26th Nov 5:00pm-6:30pm.**

REHEARSALS 2026

Saturday 17th January *Whiskers* Cast 9:30am-12:30pm *Patches* Cast 1:30pm-4:30pm - selected lead cast will be required for the first hour, then all cast will be required for next two hours at all rehearsals up to March

Sat 31st Jan, Sat 7th Feb, Sat 14th Feb, Sat 21st Feb, Sat 28th Feb.

Featured dancers will also be required on **Wednesday afternoons 4th Feb, 11th Feb, 18th Feb, 25th Feb, 4th Mar, 11th Mar, 18th Mar, 25th Mar 1st Apr 5:00pm-6:30pm.**

From the beginning of March, all cast will be required for the whole 3 hrs.

Sat 7th Mar, Sat 14th Mar, Sat 21st Mar, Sat 28th Mar.

*No rehearsal over Easter Long weekend.

Prod week

Dress Rehearsal for *Whiskers* cast on Wednesday 8th April from 10am-3pm.

dress Rehearsal for *Patches* Cast on Thursday 9th April from 10am-3pm.

Shows

Friday 10th 7pm *Whiskers*

Saturday 12pm *Patches*, 4pm *Whiskers*

Sunday 1pm *Whiskers*, 5pm *Patches*

Monday 3pm *Patches*

Tuesday 14th 11am *Whiskers*, 3pm *Patches*

WMTC Membership Fees**Show Fees**

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP	\$20
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$85
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	\$10

**SHOW FEE WHICH INCLUDES
SHOW SHIRT, CAST PHOTO & COPY
OF SHOW ON USB
\$175 (SIBLINGS \$150)**

Junior Membership for under 18yr olds is \$20. Associate membership is for adults who are working on the production eg costumes, hair and makeup, and backstage. This is for insurance purposes. Family membership is \$85 and covers 2 adults and their children. All associate and adult members also required to have a current Working With Children Check (WWCC) which needs to be included on their application form.

Audition Information

There are approximately 16 speaking roles including both cat and dogs in this production and we have listed a few of them below. There are also 2 Humans who play the dreaded Animal catchers.

Character Descriptions

DOGS

Jack - A loyal, intelligent sheepdog with a brave heart and calm strength. Jack questions old rivalries and leads with kindness, courage, and fairness. Curious and compassionate, he forms an unlikely friendship with Melody the cat, inspiring others to see that friendship and understanding are stronger than fear or pride.

Chipotle - A lively, mischievous sausage dog with plenty of spice and personality. Always in on the joke, Chipotle loves stirring up harmless trouble and making others laugh. Loyal to the pack but easily distracted by snacks, they are playful, curious, and full of cheeky Aussie charm.

Frankie - A fun-loving, slightly clumsy sausage dog with a big heart and endless enthusiasm. They are always up for an adventure, often following Chipotle's lead into mischief. Warm, friendly, and a little dramatic, Chorizo brings laughter and energy wherever they go, embodying the spirit of loyal, goofy Aussie mateship.

Fiesta - The strong, confident Wolves pack leader, full of energy and mischief. They love being in charge and stirring up fun (and chaos) wherever they go. Bold, playful, and unstoppable, Fiesta commands respect while remaining fiercely loyal to their friends and guiding the pack through every adventure.

Sherlock - A clever, observant Basset Hound with a keen mind and a knack for solving problems. They are loyal, dependable, and thoughtful, often guiding others through tricky situations. Calm and wise, Sherlock's intelligence and level-headed nature make them a trusted friend and a quiet hero of the Wolves pack.

Salsa - A tiny but spirited Chihuahua bursting with energy and personality. Despite her small size, she is bold, curious, and full of mischief, always ready to join in adventures. Playful and affectionate, Salsa's feisty nature brings laughter and charm, proving that even the smallest dog can make a big impact.



CATS

Melody – A graceful, intelligent Burmese cat who radiates warmth and quiet confidence. Curious and open-minded, she dares to look beyond the feud between cats and dogs. Her friendship with Jack challenges old divisions, showing courage, empathy, and wisdom as she learns that true strength lies in understanding and compassion.

Cappuccino – A stylish, confident Bobtail with plenty of flair and personality. They love to be noticed and often take charge without meaning to. Beneath the flair, they're loyal, brave, and protective of their friends. Cappuccino's sharp wit and big heart make them a standout in any pack or scene.

Fury – The proud and commanding leader of the cats, a true Lion in spirit. They are fiery, independent, and fiercely protective of their friends and territory. Plagued by hairballs and driven by a deep-seated hatred of dogs, Fury's bold, determined presence demands respect and inspires both admiration and fear.

Zahara – A sweet, gentle, and caring cat with a warm heart and a calm presence. They are thoughtful and loyal, often acting as a voice of reason among the cats. Quiet but clever, Zahara offers support to friends and helps keep harmony in the midst of chaos.

Smokey – A curious and independent cat with a mischievous streak. They are clever, quick-witted, and always exploring, often getting into trouble but with a playful charm that makes them hard to stay mad at. Loyal to friends, Smokey balances cunning with warmth, adding both humour and heart to the group.

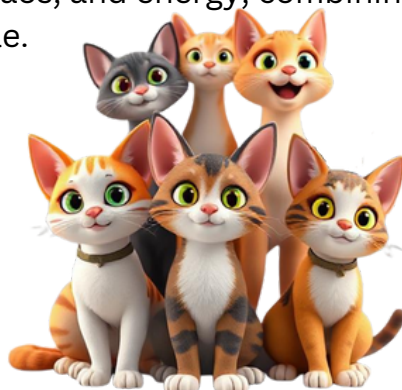
Snowflake – A glamorous Persian Longhair cat with a flair for gossip and love of makeovers. They are social, dramatic, and always in the know, delighting in sharing news and style tips with fellow cats.

Human Characters

Head Animal Catcher – A boisterous, commanding figure with a flair for drama and exaggeration. They know everything about the animals, especially the rival "lions" (cats) and "wolves" (dogs), and delight in sharing their knowledge – often at the apprentice's expense. Witty, slightly pompous, and endlessly entertaining, they drive much of the comedy.

Apprentice – Enthusiastic but hopelessly clumsy, eager to learn but constantly getting it wrong. They fumble, misinterpret, and mispronounce everything the Head Catcher says, creating a playful, slapstick dynamic. Endearing and well-meaning, the apprentice's mistakes and literal interpretations provide endless comedic contrast, making them the perfect comedic foil.

Together, this duo brings laughter, chaos, and energy, combining clever wordplay with physical comedy in true Laurel-and-Hardy style.



Ensemble Auditions

All auditionees are required to attend an ensemble audition. This will include learning a simple dance routine, moving like a cat and a dog, singing Happy Birthday and demonstrating the ability to show a range of emotions through facial expression and body language.

Featured Dancers Auditions

All auditionees who wish to be considered for featured dancing roles will need to attend a specific dance audition. This time will include being taught a more challenging dance routine and then performing it. Auditionees may be cast in both lead roles and as featured dancers. However, it is not required for every lead to dance, nor for every featured dancer to have a lead role.



Lead Role Singing Auditions

All auditionees will be asked to sing happy Birthday in their ensemble audition. Melody, Jack and some cats and dogs do have solos.

If you wish to be considered for these roles please prepare one of the below songs for your lead role audition.

General singing solo : <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/qrdf1uea3qds6jm7fubou/01-Cats and Dogs.mp3?rlkey=c3f1ghb6pz6f2k1rh67hz43il&st=zqfi0xc3&dl=0> (with vocals)
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/f8xu2nz9lpcscu3g0k6y/12-Cats and Dogs -Instr.mp3?rlkey=10t4gtaghx8kn19f19lj3xlw&st=wky2a6w2&dl=0> (backing track)

Melody and Jack : <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/j2fzc4l351r775j1ff87n/09-Somewhere.mp3?rlkey=ln8fboa75aggg55tazc2hwx3o&st=f0c15y6p&dl=0> (with vocals)
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/pd72w2s06ysjoq33u1bnl/19-Somewhere -Instr.mp3?rlkey=4qlk40zue6chlx83gj8g051wt&st=82vehbjk&dl=0> (backing track)



For lead role auditions, please learn and prepare the lines for one of the characters in one of the following scripts. In your audition you will be asked to say the lines with a variety of emotions showing appropriate tone, facial expressions and body language.

Script 1 Dogs

A : Where are you?
B : Shh...over here
A : Why are you hiding?
B : Who said I was hiding?
A : You're in a Garbage can?
B : I found a tasty morsel
A : Gonna share?
B : ...only if I regurgitate!
A : Ewww, that's rank!
B : I offered

Script 3 Dogs

A : It's the Animal Catcher!
B : Run, hide!
A : Get the kittens!
B : Round up the puppies!
A : Where's old Sherlock?
B : Inside the bakery.
A : What? how?
B : He made friends with the owner's dog
A : Sherlock to sniff out an opportunity
B : He has the nose that knows!

Script 2 Cats

A : You spend half the day grooming!
B : I don't like to have Matt's in my coat
A : I couldn't be bothered
B : Lucky I am the cat with the long coat
A : For me, definitely
B : i've seen you wash your face
A : I'd rather be catching mice
B : Showing off your athleticism!
A : If you;fe got it, flaunt it!
B : Did you read that on a t-shirt?

Script 4 Cats

A : (Yawns and stretches, blinks eyes sleepily)
B : Did you enjoy your cat nap?
A : It was very relaxing
B : Really? You were crying out and your paws were moving!
A : It was a wonderful dream
B : Where were you?
A : I was chasing rats in the alley
B : Did you catch any?
A : I would have if you hadn't woken me up!
B : That's what they all say!

*Further Enquiries*

Email : companyjr@wmtc.com.au

