



## **Wendy Holgate (nee Widgery)**

Born August 10, 1945, in Ballarat

### **A well-loved theatre personality**

Wendy was one of five children and has a twin brother. Wendy started at an early age singing in the school choir and at Sunday School. Wendy found her niche in callisthenics and as she had a strong voice was often the lead singer. Wendy attended Ballarat Girls Technical School and was a prefect, Sturt House Captain and performed in the school play.

Her first love of Theatre came, by default, with a review called 'Hit the Town' when Wendy's sister Joy Heys (an Opera singer) suggested to the Director that she had a sister who could probably help, so Wendy's theatre career started from there.

Wendy has appeared in many productions for several different companies in Ballarat and Melbourne over the past 44 years, too many to mention, as well as entertaining at Senior Citizens, dinners, weddings, funerals and birthdays.

Wendy has many memorable roles including Annie in 'Annie Get Your Gun', her first major role. Wendy received two Victorian Guild Awards for excellence in a major role as Nancy in 'Oliver' and Miss Adelaide in 'Guys and Dolls'. She also won the BJ Award for National Theatre for her role in 'I do, I do'. Her favourite role was Mrs Lovett for Catchment Players in Reservoir.

Wendy loves the theatre and was last seen in Roland Rocchiccioli's 'Who Cares' at the Regent Theatre basement in Melbourne and also at Her Majesty's Theatre Anzac show in 2009. Wendy has also directed several shows for Ballarat Lyric Theatre, the last one being 'The Producers'.

Wendy is married to Mark, has two sons and five beautiful grandchildren.

In her own words, *"I have given valuable hours on a voluntary basis to hopefully bring enjoyment to many people"*.