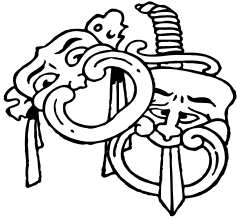




Burning News from the Ipswich Incinerator

The APRIL 2005 newsletter of Ipswich Little Theatre

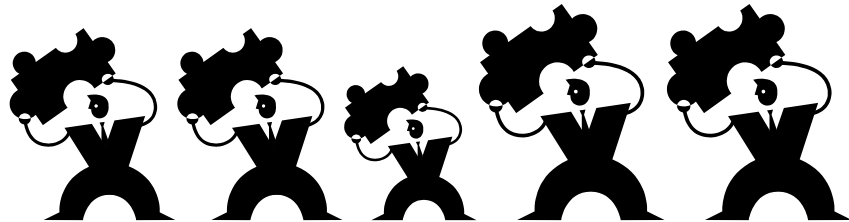


WANTED for WOLF LULLABY

Does anyone have a long 'maglite' torch, like the ones that taxi drivers use, that could be borrowed for the *Wolf Lullaby* production? Please let Suzanne Matulich know if you have, 3281 4748.

INSIDE BURNING NEWS THIS MONTH:

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Don't Miss Seeing Missing Pieces

Okay, so we've mentioned it before ... however it is not often that we get a cast of 15 and a crew of 6 for a production on our little stage here at Ipswich Little Theatre so we are keen that you don't miss out on seeing it.

It is also the premier of Kev Hallewell's new play *Background Music* so that is an added incentive.

And if both of those weren't good reasons to rush out and book your tickets then how about an original music score from a student at the Queensland Conservatorium? **And there is another reason - see below*

Public nights are limited to Friday and Saturdays 29, 30 April and 6, 7 May. Tickets as usual from the Visitor Info Centre in Queens Park 3281 0555.

QUESTION:

What is the oldest thing in the world?

(no, it isn't an actor, but it is Australian)

See page 3 for the answer.



** You will have to go along and see the play to find out just what Alan Brown has up his sleeve!*

S-Troupe - director Di Johnston

Many thanks to Jem Products for the loan of a ute to enable S-Troupe to participate in the recent Ipswich Festival Parade - also to Margaret, Bryan and Jim for their extra help. S-Troupers are still working hard on their Theatre Restaurant and hope that our senior members support this inaugural one. We also made our Mother's Day gift recently (another first!) in preparation for our Mother's Day afternoon tea. 2 students studying disability also popped in to "see what we do in class" and thoroughly enjoyed themselves for the afternoon, taking photos and interviewing members.



S-Troupe's entry in the Ipswich Festival Parade - 9 April.

**Crossfyre Young Theatricals - director Suzanne Matulich**

Don't forget to mark the two performance dates for Circus of Dreams in your diary - 15/16 July.

SmartArts - Junior Theatre - director Liz Boekholt, assistant Lana Gishgariany

So SmartArts is back to work for term 2 and they've hit the ground running.

The script for the end of year performance/showcase has been handed out and they're beginning readings of it this weekend. The term is a short one due to all the public holidays so they are working through on the 23rd in the theatre courtyard. Lana and Liz have done some planning over the last holidays and have come up with a few ideas that, if time permits, should be fun and inspiring for the kids.

Just a gentle reminder to parents that term 2 fees are due now.

Librarians - Relle Scott and Patti Pratt

Library was given a wonderful gift at the April Theatre Activity Night, a disk containing 12 One Act Play scripts written by Mal Anderson who ran the activities night for us. He has also given ILT hard copies of the scripts.

Lighting & Sound - Phil Holmes

The sound and lighting equipment has had a thorough overview done of it and discussions are now taking place as to how the essential (if not vital) upgrades can be made.

Theatre Activity Nights - MAY - Exploring Shakespeare

Relle Scott, known for her love of Shakespeare, takes us on a journey of discovery about the great man's work on Tuesday 3 May.

Relle has visited the Globe Theatre and undertaken a course about 'Shakespeare's Voice' since her interesting Shakespearean Theatre Activity Night last year and will have lot of exciting stories and information to give us all. A great opportunity to share in her passion for one of the world's greatest ever playwrights.

Don't forget that Theatre Activity Nights are free and a fun way to learn more about theatre, be involved in an activity and make new friends or catch up with old ones over supper. Everyone is welcome - why don't you bring along a friend who is not a member of ILT? Starting time is 7.30 pm and they usually finish between 9 and 9.30 pm.

Business Manager's Report - Di Johnston

Congratulations to Doug Jim Melinda Phil and cast on a successful production of Bedding Roses. Whilst audience numbers may have been down some nights, this play provided a good laugh with no bad language. Many thanks to the following people for working in the kitchen:

Anne England, Alison Cooper, Judy Grant, Robyn Flashman, Dave Dunkerley, Bruce Curran, Bronwen Cottman, Margaret Martin, Gail Tumes, Desley Cronon, Alan Brown, Rita Beasley, Suzanne Matulich, Relle Scott, Sara Cowley, Sue Saunders, Tony Beasley. Many of these people have never worked behind the scenes before so it was an interesting experience for them.



Thank You ILT Members!

A huge thank you to all of those members Robyn Flashman has rung, often late at night, who offered their help on the front of house roster for *Missing Pieces*.

All staff are encouraged to wear black clothing to distinguish them from our audience members. Don't forget, if you are on the front of house roster then you need to arrive around 7.00 to 7.15pm so that staff can be organized before the groups or general public arrive. Either Helen Pullar or Robyn will be on roster each night.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

for ALL users of the ILT Theatre Complex

There is some maintenance work being carried out at the ILT complex over the next little while. One of the jobs to be done is a major reconstruction of the driveway which will give safer and more appropriate access to everyone and especially for those with disabilities. Obviously this won't be done while we have a play in production at the Incinerator theatre but that, and other work, may require you to come in to the complex through a different gate, or to avoid certain areas in the buildings. All regular users of the theatre complex will be notified if work impacts on their use of the space but everyone needs to keep the maintenance work in mind for safety's sake. The finished product will make our beloved theatre complex a better place for us to work and play. Isn't that great? Any questions about the work being carried out should be directed to Helen Pullar who is the convener of the building committee, 3281 4437.

Ever made a Costume?

Kate Kassulke, Queensland Theatre Company Wardrobe Trainee, has developed her artistic skills preparing for *Vincent in Brixton*. Kate part of the team who have created the production's period costumes, has made all of the petticoats for the play's female characters. Each petticoat consists of 30m of fabric, five layers of frills and many hours of hand gathering; the first one took her five days to make, now they only take her two!

AND THE WINNERS WERE...

Brisbane's theatre critics handed out the annual **Matilda Awards** recently. Here are a few of the award winners:

QPAC Award for Excellence

Bille Brown

MEAA Award for an Emerging Artist

Emily Tomlins

Best Performance by a Male Actor in a lead role:

Hayden Spencer - *The Real Inspector Hound/Black Comedy*, and *Eating Ice Cream with Your Eyes Closed* (*)

Best Performance by a Female Actor in a lead role

Caroline Kennison - *Wit* (*)

To see all the winners and check some great pics go to:

www.matildaawards.com

Selection Committee News

Auditions were held on Monday 18 April for *Wicked Sisters* to be directed by Relle Scott and in production 13-30 July this year.

And the successful auditionees were:

Pam Floris as Meridee
Cheryl Klaassen as Lydia
Rose Lyons as Judith and
Di Johnston as Hester

This play should prove to be a very popular one and there was a great deal of interest from many of our members in securing a role.

Congratulations and best wishes to the cast and crew.

The Oldest Thing in the World



Discovered in Australia in 1984, this speck of zircon crystal is believed to be the oldest known piece of Earth.

The tiny speck of zircon crystal is believed to be the oldest known piece of Earth at about 4.4 billion years old.

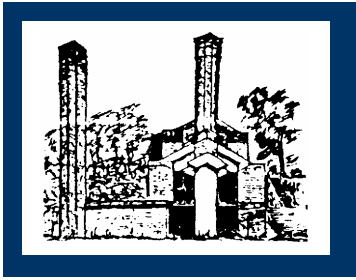
Before its discovery, the oldest evidence for liquid water on the planet was from a rock estimated to be much younger -- 3.8 billion years old.

* * * * *

OOPS!

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS



Ipswich Little Theatre
PO Box 154
IPSWICH Q 4305

Editor
Suzanne Matulich
suzanne@matulich.org

OUR WEBSITE IS READY!
Check out

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

Groan!!

Did you hear about the incontinent actor who had to mind his cues and pees?

UPCOMING DATES @ ILT

20 April/8 May *Missing Pieces*
3 May Theatre Activity Night
8/18 June *Wolf Lullaby*
7 June Theatre Activity Night
2 August Theatre Activity Night
12/14 Aug One Act Play Festival
6 September Theatre Activity Night
4 October Theatre Activity Night
28 September/22 October
Money and Friends
1 November Theatre Activity Night
18 November/10 December
Highland Fling

NB: Audition dates for *Money and Friends* and *Highland Fling* to be announced

*Next ILT meeting
for 2005
Tuesday 10 May
7.30 pm*

ATTENTION ALL THE ILT 'WORKERS'
People are to take their Membership cards if they are booking goods to the Theatre Account at ITTS hardware. They wanted a list of approved people but that's too hard so we are going to line this up as an alternative



Creche and Burn - a Member's Review

Five members of the theatre again went to the latest opening night at La Boite. This time it was *Creche & Burn* a farce about the foibles of parents and the stresses that are often placed on carers of children. There were some fine performances with all characters being immediately identified as, in some instances not too over-the-top personifications, of real parents. There were only 4 actors playing 11 characters, two actors constantly changing between their 4 and 5 roles each, so frequently it was difficult at times to comprehend how they had done the costume change and character change so quickly and effectively.

I was impressed by all actors' vitality and their commitment to each role was superb. The play was fast paced and the majority of the audience were with them all the way enjoying each new disaster and continuing disaster as they were thrust upon us. The pathos that was brought in, in the final scenes and the message of hope that was given to the main character certainly touched a cord.

I felt that the play's final scene was unnecessary and should have been cut. The audience were happy with the play ending in the previous scene with the main character finally going home after the worst day of her life, and they showed this by spontaneously breaking into applause, which was then suddenly cut off by the entrance on stage of another actor whose role was very minor and broke the feeling that we all had just experienced.

The staging as is usual for La Boite was excellent and certainly helped the actors in feeling that they were really in a crèche. Lighting and sound worked well except for a major complaint of mine that the phone didn't actually ring at the phone, which for a major company should have been quite easy to achieve.

An enjoyable evening of a new contemporary Australian play, written by Elise Grieg and directed by Ian Lawson, which displayed the talents of 4 very talented actors – Emily Tomlins, Bryan Probets, Karen Crone and Louise Brehmer. The season continues until 30 April.

Jim Orr

*Cr Charlie Pisasale proudly supports Ipswich Little Theatre
by printing the Burning News for ILT. Thanks Charlie!*