

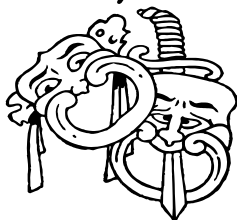


Burning News from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre

The JANUARY 2006 newsletter of Ipswich Little Theatre

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

Happy New
Year
Everyone!



President Wilson in Paris a comedy thriller



Playwright: Ron Blair and director: Suzanne Matulich

Performance season: 23-25 February, 1-4, 8-11 March 2006

Public nights: 3, 4, 10, 11 March 8.00 pm

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Renewal of Membership Forms

Did you receive a Membership Renewal Form with your December issue of Burning News? No? Then you will need to contact our secretary Helen 3281 4437 to obtain one or you can download one from our website.

Don't forget - ALL membership fees are due on 1 January each year - unless you are a Life Member.

Rehearsals with cast members Majella Gee, Callum Campbell and Lee Gerchow are well advanced and the directorial team consists of Suzanne Matulich, Lorraine Kitching as assistant to the director and Di Johnston as choreographer and business manager. The set is now also taking shape thanks to hard working Alan Brown.

Special Night at President Wilson in Paris for Ipswich Little Theatre members!

The ILT committee has organised a special social night for ILT members at *President Wilson in Paris* for Saturday 25 February. This is to be a Members' New Year Get Together and tickets are \$12 (\$16 non members) which includes the show and a supper. Tickets are available after 21 January from Judy Grant (our 2006 President) 3288 0717. Don't leave it too late to make your bookings though as only half the seats are available - the other half are reserved for View Club members and friends.

President Wilson in Paris, won an Awgie award for the best Australian stage play. It was first produced in 1973 and was penned by Australian playwright Ron Blair. A comedy-thriller, the action revolves around President Woodrow Wilson (Callum Campbell) and his second wife Edith (Majella Gee) in Paris in 1919 for the Peace Conference at which the eminent statesman introduces his idea for the League of Nations. Colonel House (Lee Gerchow) is an unwilling participant in the action. But are they all who they seem to be?

Public Night Bookings:

Ipswich Visitor Information Centre, phone 3281 0555

If you would like to help front of house and in the kitchen during one of the performances, thank you!

Please contact Business Manager for *President Wilson in Paris*, Di Johnston 3812 9141 or 0402 510 673.

Audition!

The first auditions for 2006 will take place on Monday 6 February, 7.30 pm in the Jean Pratt Building. This will be a great opportunity for actors to try out for a variety of roles as there are three one act plays to be cast:

1. *Wanda's Visit* by Christopher Durang, to be directed by Liz Boekholt 3282 3407

Jim and Marsha have been married for 13 years and are feeling a little bored and unhappy. Wanda, an old school friend of Jim's arrives for a visit and their lives are turned upside down. When the threesome decides to go out to dinner, all hell breaks loose as an unfortunate waiter tries to cope, not only with his first day on the job, but also with the weird Wanda.

2. *Sisters* by Mal Anderson to be directed by Alan Brown 3282 1269

On the death of their mother, two sisters, who have not been close for years, come together to make arrangements for the funeral. Their awkward meeting and the emotions that surface at a time like this stir up the old unresolved bitterness from their childhood and early adult lives.

3. *The Couples* by Alison Cooper who is also the director 3294 8258

Simon and Stella live next door to Lucinda and Jackie. Both Simon and Lucinda are keen to start a family, but their respective partners are having none of it, so Lucinda decides to take matters into her own hands. Through plotting and scheming she manages to get herself pregnant. Whose baby is she carrying? Will Stella finally stop trying to break through the glass ceiling at work and give Simon what he would really love, a child of his own? A funny play with some unexpected outcomes.



Theatre Activity Night Program 2006

There has been a change of focus for the programming of the Theatre Activity Nights for 2006. Rather than the nights being filled with a variety of activities, this year they will be used mainly for auditions (with the exception of February when the audition is the night before the Theatre Activity Night - see above) and play readings. Each night will be led by Selection Committee with assistance from the director involved in the play. Please contact the Convenor of Selection Committee, Relle Scott 3816 0969 or 0421 502 081 for more details of each night. Everyone is welcome to come along, members and their friends and the nights are free with supper provided.

DATE	ACTIVITY	LEADER/DIRECTOR
7 February	<u>Play reading</u> - <i>Shakespeare Unleashed</i>	Relle Scott
7 March	<u>Audition</u> - <i>Shakespeare Unleashed</i>	Relle Scott
4 April	<u>Audition</u> – <i>Honour</i>	Lee Gerchow
2 May	<u>Play reading</u> – <i>Deckchairs</i>	Robyn Flashman
6 June	<u>Play reading</u> – <i>Lipstick Dreams</i>	Jan Paterson
4 July	<u>Audition</u> – <i>Lipstick Dreams</i>	Jan Paterson
1 August	<i>Possibly no Theatre Activity Night due to ILT One Act Play Festival 10 days later</i>	
5 September	<u>Audition</u> – <i>Deckchairs</i>	Robyn Flashman
3 October	<i>To be announced – offers for activities welcome!</i>	contact Suzanne 3281 4748
7 November	<i>To be announced – offers for activities welcome!</i>	contact Suzanne 3281 4748

Jean Pratt Building BOOKINGS - Desley Cronon

If you want to use the Jean Pratt Building at any time at all, for rehearsals or any other reason, you must contact Desley 3288 8754 to make a booking. During the year it is regularly used as a class and performance space for S Troupe, Smart Arts, Crossfyre and Daytimers and as a rehearsal space for plays not yet using the Incinerator theatre. Any other uses must be discussed with Desley.

S-Troupe - director Di Johnston

S-Troupe is currently in recess. It is hoped to have a parent meeting on Saturday 21st January at 3 pm to discuss proposed guidelines for S-Troupe for 2006. Judy Grant has offered to chair this meeting. Enrolment date is scheduled for Saturday 28th January 4-6pm

Crossfyre Young Theatricals - director Suzanne Matulich

Term 1 starts Tuesday 31 January, 5.30-7.30 pm. All students 13-18 are welcome to come along. Maximum number to be accepted is 20 but this can be stretched a little if necessary due to usual 'wastage' as the term progresses. Alan Brown is once again assisting with Crossfyre classes, thank you Alan. CYTI is probably going to be a part of Shakespeare Unleashed in May, but no discussion has taken place with other theatre members re this event to celebrate 60 years of ILT yet.

Smart Arts - Junior Theatre - director Liz Boekholt

SmartArts sign on day is 28 January - 7-9 year olds at 9:00 and the 10-12 year olds at 10:15 to 10.30am.

Daytime Theatre Troupe - convenor Kay McAllan

DAYTIMERS resume on Wednesday 1st February at 11.30am - 2.30pm in the Jean Pratt Building.

AUDITIONS for our first production *Cinderella* for 2006 will be held on Wednesday 8th February at 12pm in the Jean Pratt Building and we are looking for lots of new and enthusiastic actors [or not] to join our ranks. DAYTIME THEATRE TROUPE is a diverse group of people [ladies and the "odd" man] who perform plays and pantos for kindy, pre-school and school age children and have fun and a fabulous time in the process. So do come along on Wednesday 1st February to find out more about the group. (We will be lunching from 11.30am onwards) For enquiries, please telephone Jan Paterson 3201-7974 or Kay McAllan 54643965.

Librarians

Patti Pratt 32812427 and Jan Paterson 3201 7974 are looking after the library for 2006. If you want to borrow a script or have any questions, please contact them.

Other News of Interest to All**Group Theatre Nights - putting the Fun back into Fundraising**

If you belong to an organisation that needs to fundraise in 2006, a Group Theatre Night may be the answer. You can choose to book the whole night - 80 seats - or share a night with another group - 40 seats. Organisations can make up to \$1000 on the night!

There are still a couple of nights available for the *President Wilson in Paris* season and also for some of the other productions this year. For all the details phone Robyn Flashman on 3812 3450 or Desley Cronon 3288 8754.

Want to be more involved?

If you would like to be more involved with ILT do consider taking on the role of Business Manager for one of the plays this year. Your main responsibility is to resource and manage the volunteers who work front of house and in the kitchen. You also are the one who picks up the box plan from the Visitor Information Centre or liaises with the Social Night organisers. A detailed Position Description is available and Desley Cronon (3288 8754) who has volunteered to look after the Business Managers this year will give you heaps of advice and suggestions as she has been a Business Manager herself many times. The first time that you would be needed is for Fiascos - the season of One Act Plays, 19 April to 6 May.

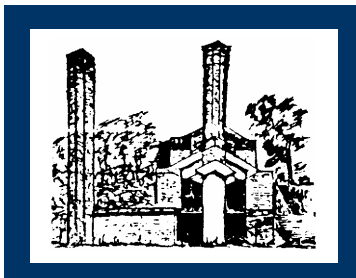
Expressions of interest in organizing 60th Birthday celebrations.

Yes, the ILT society is 60 years old this year - obviously another Baby Boomer who is refusing to grow old!

To celebrate this milestone we would like to organise some special events. If you have an idea or two do let any members of the committee know and we will listen eagerly to your suggestions. An organising sub-committee is to be appointed - you can be a part of that too!

STEEL MAGNOLIAS, directed by Ipswich Little Theatre member Jan Paterson, opens at Brisbane Arts Theatre on 28th January and runs until 25th February. ILT member Stacey Muller plays the part of Annelle. "Steel Magnolias" explores the lives of a close-knit group of southern women whose meeting place for companionship and to "gossip" is a small town beauty parlour.

BOOKINGS - Telephone Brisbane Arts Theatre on 3369-2344.



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PO Box 154
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DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 29 January in the
Jean Pratt Building

- ★ 3.00 pm – Ipswich One Act Play Festival committee – 1st meeting for the 2006 festival
- ★ 4.30 pm – ILT Building committee – 1st meeting for 2006



Two Quotes to Ponder

Comedy just pokes at problems, rarely confronts them squarely. Drama is like a plate of meat and potatoes, comedy is rather the dessert, a bit like meringue.

Woody Allen

My old drama coach used to say, 'Don't just do something, stand there.' Gary Cooper wasn't afraid to do nothing.

Clint Eastwood

Next ILT meeting
2006
Tuesday 14 February
7.30 pm

Ipswich Little Theatre Executive Committee 2006

Name	Position	Phone number
President	Judith Grant	3288 0717
Vice president	Pam Floris	3288 6159
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Pauline Brayford	3294 6730

Groups within ILT - directors 2006

Group	Director	Phone number
<i>Smart Arts Junior Theatre</i>	Liz Boekholt	3282 3407
<i>Crossfyre Young Theatricals</i>	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
<i>S-Troupe</i>	Di Johnston	3812 9141
<i>Daytime Theatre Troupe</i>	Kay McAllan	54643965

Ipswich One Act Play Festival 2006

Kurt Lerps, known to festival performers from Dalby to Buderim to Beenleigh to Norfolk Island is our adjudicator for 2006! He has been our adjudicator some years ago and is really looking forward to working with us again in August.

Don't forget that the first meeting for planning the 2006 festival is on Sunday 29 January at 3 pm in the Jean Pratt Building.

Everyone is welcome to come along - we would love to hear all and any ideas regarding the organisation of this event.

We need people to take on the positions of Front of House management, catering, group liaison etc. The festival weekend is always great fun and you get to meet people from a whole range of other theatres. See you on 29th January!

SmartArts Kids Get Knotted



Junior actors from Smart Arts having fun in class last year - term 1 2006 starts 28 February - see page 3 for details

Help!

There are a few props that are still to be sourced for *President Wilson in Paris*.

Can you help?

We need:

- ★ A kidney dish and syringe (don't ask!)
- ★ A tourniquet
- ★ A realistic gun (not a rifle)
- ★ A razor strop and cut throat razor
- ★ A desk set suitable for a US President - pen wiper, ink well, blotter etc
- ★ A timber swivel desk chair - turn of the century style
- ★ Victrola (or similar) floor model wind up gramophone

If you can assist with any of these please phone Suzanne 3281 4748.

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