



Burning News

from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

The JULY 2007 Ipswich Little Theatre newsletter

HELP!

Help is also urgently required to serve lunch at a special performance of *One Day After Another* on Sunday 26 August. Would volunteers please phone Desley 3288 8754 .

If you do assist in the ILT kitchen— please note that there are new Health Procedures that need to be followed— see the signs in the kitchen for details

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53rd One Act Play Festival is coming!

Excitement is building as we get closer to our 53rd One Act Play Festival to be held 10-12 August at our historic Incinerator Theatre.

We have an amazing 20 plays in this year's program, sixteen senior entries and four intermediate entries. What a weekend of theatre it is going to be!

A large number of the plays are not only Australian but ones that have been specially written for the Festival circuit and, judging by the results that they have been getting at other festivals, they are top class.

Our adjudicator this year, with the difficult task of deciding the winners, is Caroline Heim, who is very excited about the challenges that we have put to her. Read all about Caroline on page 3.

Ipswich Little Theatre has three entries in the festival; two senior entries, *Dancers* which was part of the *Deckchairs* production at the end of last year and

an excerpt from *Doubt* which is still running in full production at the theatre until 28 July. There is also an intermediate entry from Crossfyre Young Theatricals of *Streuth*, an old favourite of coarse theatre. The teenagers are having a great time with that production.

Other plays to watch out for in the Festival are another original script from prize winner Mark Lucas and one from Pauline Davies.

Beenleigh Theatre Group have been particularly enthusiastic with two senior entries and two intermediate entries! Toowoomba Rep and other groups associated with them are also presenting plays.

It will be a weekend of interesting theatre, time to catch up with old friends and maybe make some new ones and to thoroughly enjoy yourself with our traditional Sunday Barbecue at lunch time

and a friendly welcoming atmosphere prevailing throughout the whole weekend.

Our President Judy Grant and Robyn Flashman and Di Johnston are going to be capably running Front of House and they would love it if you could give them a hand selling tickets or maybe helping out in the kitchen or bar areas. Phone Judy on 3288 0717 or Robyn on 3812 3450 if you can assist.

Congratulations to Robyn and her cast of Judy and Di Adams for their successes at other festivals. Di has justifiably won two Best Comedy Actress awards at last count.

Season tickets for our One Act Play Festival are only \$20 for all five sessions or \$5 per sessions with pre-booked tickets from the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre 3281 0555 or at the Festival if there are any left!

and that is not all the action at Ipswich Little Theatre

Doubt—that play that challenges you with its topics of religion, trust and tradition is still in production until Saturday 28 July. This play, directed by Jan Paterson certainly will have you discussing the outcome long after you leave the theatre. Bookings can be made at the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre at the top of Queens Park.

About to go into serious rehearsal is ***One Day After***

Another which comprises two short plays by ILT member, Ian Pullar and directed by Ian and Helen. It is set for a short season at the end of August. Full details are on page 3, however you might like to add Friday 24 August to your diary as that is the next special ILT members' night at the theatre. If you enjoyed the very successful members' night for *Doubt* on Saturday 14 July you won't want to miss

this one either - contact Robyn 3812 3450 to book your place - two light dramas and supper all for \$20.

And finally - your chance to be on stage with **auditions for the end of year Theatre Restaurant** to be directed by Di Johnston to be held on Tuesday 7 August, 7.30 pm at the Jean Pratt Building. Ring Di on ah 3812 9141 for details.

Arts/Heritage
Volunteers—
what percep-
tion do you
have of them?

ABS Data on Voluntary Work

Data about voluntary work in Australia, which was collected during March to July 2006, has produced some interesting statistics.

Survey findings include:

207,200 people volunteered for arts/heritage organisations, contributing 30.6 million hours for the year

The median age of arts/heritage volunteers was 49 years

63% of arts/heritage volunteers were female

84% of arts/heritage volunteers volunteered for private not-for-profit organisations

In 2006, 2.9% of Australians aged 18 years and over (339,300 people) had donated to an arts/heritage organisation in the previous 12 months

53% of arts/heritage donors were female.

And you thought that you knew all about volunteers, didn't

News from the groups within Ipswich Little Theatre four groups all based in the Jean Pratt Building

S-Troupe News

from Di Johnston

Di is now taking bookings for S-Troupe's Theatre Restaurant *Okla-homer* (no it's not a spelling mistake) \$25 per head, 3 course meal, tables of 6. More details will be in future newsletters. S-troupe students will also be performing a short excerpt from *Red White and Blue* at the ILT Festival while the adjudicator is making her final decisions on Sunday afternoon.

Smart Arts News

from Liz Boekholt

Smart Arts are back and keenly rehearsing for their annual performance. This year's performance will be in the Jean Pratt Building at the end of September. More details to follow about this production starring all the primary aged actors in this group.

Daytime Theatre Troupe News

from Jan Paterson

Watch out for Ruby's Bush Christmas, in performance from mid November. Details closer to time.

Crossfyre Young Theatricals

from Suzanne Matulich

Two plays to amuse you are in production with Crossfyre students for performance 26/27 October in the Jean Pratt Building. Assistant Director, Tony Erhardt, has chosen *Whodunnit* and *Streuth* - two classic murder mystery comedies.

Crossfyre Young Theatricals students will also be a part of our upcoming festival as they have entered *Streuth* into the intermediate section.



Brodie, Michaela, Julia and Georgina in rehearsal for Streuth

from your President—Judy Grant

We have just completed a very busy and successful half year in our theatre calendar – congratulations to anyone who has contributed to our success.

Our final two productions were our Daytimers production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, directed by Alan Brown and *Red White and Blue*, presented by our STroupers, and directed by Di Johnson. Both these productions played to very

enthusiastic and appreciative audiences and it is wonderful to listen to the positive feed-back that our audiences give. Congratulations and thank-you to the cast and crew of both these productions for putting your heart and soul into your work.

Please encourage your friends to come along to our next production, *Doubt*, which opens on Friday. We

always struggle to get audiences along on the public nights of our winter production. Our cast and crew should be rewarded with good audience attendance, as they have struggled through these cold evenings of rehearsals, when many of them have not been well, to ensure that they will bring, to audiences, a most polished production.

Three More Scripts for you to Consider

Out of Sight ... Out of Murder by Fred Carmichael. This is a murder mystery from the USA with a cast of 4 males and 5 females. Picks up halfway through long first act. Our audiences would enjoy this. It is a good take of old, familiar characters.

The Dining Room by A R Gurney from the USA has a cast of 3 males and 3 females. Not much information on this script, in fact, there's none. We've heard it's a great play and we have ten copies. Please read it!

After January by Philip Dean an adaptation from the book by Nick Earls. This is a comedy with 4 males and 3 females. Set on the Sunshine Coast and has some nudity. An end of high school love story that is hilarious and heartwarming.

Meet our 2007 One Act Play Festival Adjudicator - Caroline Heim

We are delighted to welcome a new adjudicator to our Festival this year.

Caroline Heim (BA Eng Lit. Hons, ASDOP Drama) graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York with a Drama League Award.

She worked for six years in lead roles on the New York stage and won critical acclaim from the *New York Times* and *Post* for her role in the New York premiere of *Women Beware Women*.

On returning to Australia Caroline worked in film and television in productions such as *All Saints* and *Young Lions*. Her theatre company Crossbow Productions has produced plays in New York and Sydney. Two years ago Crossbow relocated to the wonderful city of Brisbane. Crossbow's most recent production was *Anne of the Thousand Days* at the Brisbane Powerhouse.

Caroline has directed productions in New York and Sydney.

Currently she is completing a PhD in Drama at the University of Queensland. Her publications include journal articles on audience reception theory.

Her talents also extend to writing and directing children's literature with such plays as *Bushfire*, *The Smelly Gang*, *Captain Chook and the Duckever*. And at the other end of the dramatic scale she has written and taught *An Introduction to Shakespeare* in New York public schools.

With that amazing background and diverse wealth of knowledge, Caroline will have some interesting comments and advice to give to our Festival participants.

Meet her at Ipswich Little Theatre 10 - 12 August.



Caroline Heim, adjudicator for our 2007 Ipswich Little Theatre One Act Play Festival

And more about our One Act Play Festival

A meeting was held on Sunday 15 July and the following people indicated that they were happy to support the Festival in the following ways:

Stage Manager: Michael Athan and Penelope Athan with others
Front of House: Robyn Flashman, Judy Grant and Di Johnston and their team of helpers—*call if you want to assist!*

Group Liaison: Patti Pratt and Rebecca Noble—*call if you want to assist!*

Sound and Lighting: Phil Holmes and Liz Boekholt with helpers
Secretary, tickets and program design: Shane Mallory

Catering: Helen and Ian Pullar for the Sunday BBQ and lots more people needed to assist in the bar and kitchen during the festival ...

DON'T BE SHY: VOLUNTEER NOW FOR THESE TWO VITAL JOBS! We need people to cut up

salad and generally help serve throughout the festival.

S-troupe performance Sunday afternoon: Di Johnston

Trophies and sponsorship: Suzanne Matulich

Adjudicator's scribe: Bette Turley

WORKING BEE: to set up tents, decorations, stage etc for the Festival Sunday 5 August from 10am.

CATERING MEETING: please consider coming to this if you are able to assist in any way in the kitchen as this is one area where we are famous for making our patrons feel comfortable and welcome. We need people to prepare salads and serve soup etc. Sunday 5 August about 1pm.

By the Way: We are offering a new trophy this year: the Stage Manager's Trophy for the Most Professional Ensemble Backstage. What a great idea to recognise this important skill.

One Day after Another - a session to suit everyone

Four performances with an amazing variety of options for you to choose between:

1. Member's night Supper Theatre **Friday 24 August 8.00pm**
\$20.00 Phone: Robyn Flashman 3812 3450

2. Brunch Theatre Saturday **25 August 10.00am** \$20.00
Phone: Helen Pullar 3281 4437

3. Matinee Theatre with Afternoon Tea **Saturday 25 August 2.00pm** \$20.00 Phone: Jane Sheppard 5464 5363

4. Luncheon Theatre **Sunday 26 August 12noon** \$25.00 to book or offer assistance on this day please contact Desley 3288 8754



CONTACT DETAILS

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The Ipswich Little Theatre complex including the historic Incinerator Theatre designed by Walter Burley Griffin is in Burley Griffin Drive, off Griffiths Road, Ipswich.

To ring the theatre when there is a class or rehearsal **PHONE 3812 2389**.

NOTE: this phone is not staffed all the time.



2007 DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

13 - 28 July	DOUBT directed by Jan Paterson
5 August 10 am	Working bee to set up for Festival
7 August 7.30 Jean Pratt Building	Auditions for the end of year Theatre Restaurant Mystery on the Orient Express . Plenty of roles for young, old, female and male singers and dancers
10-12 August	Ipswich One Act Play Festival
25/26 August and more	One Day After Another directed by Helen and Ian Pullar see page 3 for performance details

Selection Committee news

A selection committee meeting was held on the 9 July after auditions for *The Maintenance Man*.

The cast chosen for *The Maintenance Man* is;

Bob	Shane Mallory
Christine	Leanne Bamford
Diana	Deb Wilson.

Congratulations to those successful auditionees! The performance dates for this play are 3-20 October 2007.

Selection has almost completed reading the plays submitted and a suggested season for 2008 is expected to be drawn up within the next two weeks.

Watch this space for the first news of what delights await you in the 2008 Ipswich Little Theatre program.

Are you coming to our Famous Festival BBQ?

Once again we are offering you a budget priced but top quality BBQ lunch on the Festival Sunday 12 August. If you are considering joining us could you let us know in advance for catering purposes? Ring Helen on 3281 4437

Contact details that you might need to know

President	Judy Grant	3288 0717
Vice President	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Immediate Past President	Pam Floris	3288 6159
Secretary	Helen Pullar	
Smart Arts	Liz Boekholt	0413 235 028
S-Troupe	Di Johnston	3812 9141
Crossfyre	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	5464 3965
ILT One Act Play Festival	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748

NEXT ILT COMMITTEE-MEETING:

Tuesday 14 August
7.30 pm

NEW PROMOTIONAL SITE

One of our members, Ruth Farrell has been up to date enough to suggest that we begin promoting our excellent theatre group

via a myspace site which she has kindly set up for us — myspace.com/ipswichlittletheatre check out what is there, send it to your friends, add some comments— have some fun with the promotional opportunity that even our 'beloved' Prime Minister realises is a worthwhile medium for self promotion - where will it all end! Please contact Ruth at coffee.nazi@bigpond.com if you

have info for the site.

Talking of websites and things connected - iTel has been generous and offered to look after our web hosting to support our theatre. Web guru, member Shane Mallory, is keen to add some more features to our ILT website including a ticket sale component. More news later!