



Burning News

from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

The SEPTEMBER 2007 Ipswich Little Theatre

FAREWELL

It was with great sadness that we learnt this month of the death of Jason Ingram Roth, actor and director from Front Row Theatre.

Jason was a friend of many of our members and was involved in our One Act Play Festival in August this year with the play that he developed and starred in, *Auf Wiedersehen*.

We send his partner, Kurt Lerps, (who was our Festival adjudicator last year), our sympathy.

Inside this issue:

SmartArts 2

Crossfyre 2

S-Troupe 2

Daytimers 2

AGM news 2

2008 ILT program previews 3

Presidents column 3

Maintenance Man photo 4

Next meeting date 4

THE MAINTENANCE MAN

Oh what a tangled web we weave, we first we practise to deceive....

ILT's latest production, *The Maintenance Man* by Richard Harris, takes a new look at the breakdown of a marriage and the development and decay of an affair.

Bob (Shane Mallory) and Chris's (Leanne Bamford) marriage has already sunk to the level of constant bickering and recriminations when Bob meets Diana (Deb Wilson), and it is not long before he has transferred his affections (and box of tools) to her house. For Bob is a do-it-yourself enthusiast, a compulsive handyman with a longing to be needed.

Even after he is divorced from Chris he constantly returns to his former home, until Diana begins to resent having to face competition for his time

from both his children and his Black & Decker and it seems that Bob's relationship with Diana is heading down the same path to domestic disaster... this witty and astute comedy with many too close for comfort lines, takes a new look at an actual triangle.

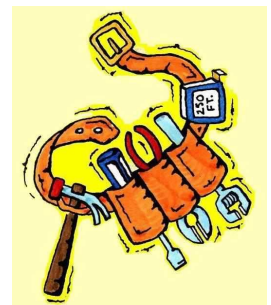
The cast & crew of *The Maintenance Man* are working away feverishly putting the finishing touches on this latest production. Since commencing rehearsals in July, things have been progressing really well and Richard Harris' script keeps revealing more and more each day about the characters and their lives as the play unfolds.

At this stage 14 performances have been confirmed with the season opening on

26 September. The season runs until 20 October 2007.

If you can, come along and witness the incorrigible Bob tangle himself up in knots reeling from a decaying marriage and a blossoming affair whilst trying to use his tools to patch up more than just shelves...

Tickets for this amusing play, are at the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre 3281 0555.



THIS WAY UP!

Our first production for 2008 will be *This Way Up* by Elizabeth Coleman, to be directed by Jane Sheppard and Moo Park.

The season runs February 27 to March 15 2008.

Melanie has had enough. Her journo boyfriend Nick prefers to trot around the globe visiting the world's hotspots rather than stay at home and help with the housework. There's only so much a girl can take! She's leaving!

Unfortunately Nick arrives home unexpectedly and catches her packing. And now old friend Damien is suddenly showing dangerous signs of infatuation with her. Kris, her sister, is more interested in psychoanalysing the situation than being of any practical help.

Just when things couldn't appear to get any more complicated a crisis arises next door and the foursome find themselves trapped in the house for the night. What unfolds is a very funny play

about love gone wrong. This is a modern, fast paced, humorous script with enough depth of character to make it interesting for cast, director and audience.

Cast required:

2 males & 2 females between late 20's and early 40's and a police officer, either gender.

AUDITION DATE - confirmed, Monday 19 November 2007.

If you would like to read a script, phone **director Jane Sheppard 54645363.**

\$\$\$ Treasurer Wanted

Ipswich Little Theatre is urgently in need of someone to take over the reigns (or is that the purse-strings) and act as Treasurer from 31 October until the ILT AGM on 9 December 2007.

Do you have what it takes to volunteer for this position?

Our current treasurer Patti will give you all the assistance needed and you will be loved by all.

How rewarding is that!

Please contact our secretary Helen if you are interested in discussing this opportunity.

Thanks!

More \$\$\$

A multi-million dollar plan to transform part of the Perth foreshore into a performing arts precinct has been officially endorsed by the Perth City Council.

The Lord Mayor, Peter Natrass announced the plan at the weekend to develop an area of the foreshore in front of the Concert Hall to house Western Australia's Symphony Orchestra, Opera and Ballet.

The development will cost \$370 million and take 15 years to complete.

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

S-Troupe News

from Di Johnston

Rehearsals are underway for the Theatre Restaurant *Okla-homer*. Don't forget to book early, ring Di on 3812 9141 (leave a message with how many seats and what night 2,3,9,10 November + 2 matinees). Cost \$25 includes show and 3 course meal all presented by our wonderful S-Troupers.

Smart Arts News

from Liz Boekholt

Smart Arts is now in recess until early next year. Watch this space in the January issue for details of term dates etc.

Daytime Theatre Troupe News

from Jan Paterson

Watch out for *Ruby's Bush Christmas*, in performance from 13 November. Young Ruby leaves the city for a Christmas holiday in the bush. Meet exciting bush characters in this new Christmas play—phone Chic for bookings 3288 9783

Crossfyre Young Theatricals

from Suzanne Matulich

It's Coarse ... of Course! Crossfyre's end of year performance features three short plays—no prizes for guessing that Coarse Theatre is one of the styles to be presented.

Friday 26 and Saturday 27 October at 8pm in the Jean Pratt Building—tickets at the door.



Michaela, Chase, Matt, Ryan, Brodie and Evie keen to perform for you in *Its Coarse ... of Course!*

Theatre Restaurant Cast Details

And here is the latest on our end of year Theatre Restaurant *Mystery on the Orient Express*, directed by Di Johnston and currently in rehearsal.

The cast of this funny murder mystery is:

Jodie Madsen:	French Maid
Kerri-Ann Macdonald:	Watson
Tracey Kennedy:	Garter +
Deirdre Low:	Bowler
Gavin Turner:	Inspector
Melinda Park:	Bowler
Matt Shield:	Porter
Naomi Bevin:	Countess
David Austin:	Gendarme+
Jen McNickle:	Miss Cast-
Chris Greenhill:	Gendarme+
Kyle Breese:	Bowler
Max McKenzie:	Bowler
Tony Erhardt:	Holmes

Ipswich Little Theatre Annual General Meeting 2007

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held at

3pm Sunday 9 December

and, as usual, all positions will be declared vacant.

As well as the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, which will be decided at the AGM, the following positions will be considered by the 2006 Administrative Committee at the first meeting following the AGM.

Assistant secretary
Bar Manager
Business Manager
Crossfyre Young Theatricals Director
Smartarts Co-ordinator
Librarian
Lighting/Sound Co-ord

Newsletter Editor
Program Co-ordinator
Publicity Co-ordinator
Selection Committee - 5 members (In writing at AGM please)
S Troupe Co-ordinator
Subscriptions Secretary
Theatre Activities Co-ord
Wardrobe Co-ordinator & Wardrobe Assistant

NOTE: Written Expressions of Interest for all positions are to be received by the ILT secretary 48 hours prior to the AGM.

An Expression of Interest form will be inserted in the October newsletter (if posted) or downloadable from the ILT website: www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.

Sneak Previews of 2008 ILT Program

Preview 1

As you will have seen on page 1, the first play for 2008 will be an enchanting comedy **This Way Up** to be directed by Jane Sheppard and Melinda Park and auditions are being held on 19 November.

Preview 2

In the second half of the year we will see another comedy **Sex, Drugs & rick'n'noel** to be directed by Doug Moses in the performance season 2—19 July

This play can be performed as a comedy, or as a full-blown musical.

It is the story of Richard Branson (not Sir Richard) redundant factory worker, whose wife has just left him for another woman. In a desperate attempt to regain his self esteem, Richard applies to a history course at Birmingham University.

There he meets Noel, another forty-something, with a whole different outlook on life. Together, they learn more than either could have imagined possible – about life, about women, about themselves!

The action moves between monologues and the story being played out.

Fast paced, funny and enjoyable. this play is sure to have the audiences in stitches.

Preview 3

For a complete change of pace ... from 1—18 October, Lee Gerchow will be producing **Three Days of Rain** by Richard Greenberg.

Three Days of Rain centres on Walker, his sister Nan and their childhood friend Pip, who all meet in New York to divide the legacy of their late fathers, who were partners in a renowned architecture firm. In an effort to bring some peace to their own lives, the three search for clues that might explain what had gone on between their fathers, and the women in their lives, decades before. The story then shifts to that earlier time, with the same three actors portraying the previous generation.

Both a family drama and a mystery, **Three Days of Rain** was first produced off Broadway in 1997.

Preview 4

The last play for 2008 will be **Rumors** (the USA version) to be directed by Robyn Flashman and in performance from 26 November—13 December.

Rumors has a convoluted plot involving four couples who gather to celebrate a tenth wedding anniversary of their best friends only to discover an attempted suicide - or is it?

A missing wife, missing cook, a damaged car, whip lash, a re-occurring back spasm, and rumors galore add to the comedic mayhem and the situation gets progressively more difficult to sustain when nobody can remember who has been told what about whom.

Other plays are still to be confirmed by the Selection Committee and only those which have the performance rights confirmed will be announced as being part of the program. Full details of other plays will be announced as they are confirmed.

Of course the One Act Play Festival will be held over the second weekend in August .

President's Report from Judy Grant

Congratulations to playwright Ian Pullar on two plays which were very well received by our audiences and presented over the weekend 24-26 August in some very social settings. Congratulations to directors Helen and Ian and their very enthusiastic casts and crew who worked extremely hard to produce polished performances in such a tight time frame.

Doug and his cast and crew are now in rehearsal for our final play season for the year. I wish them every success and hope that our audience attendance does justice to the effort put in and the quality of the production.

Our Smart Arts had their final presentation last Friday, and although I was not able to attend, I watched them in rehearsal and saw some wonderful work.

I wish our Crossfyre, STroupe and

Daytimers every success in their final productions for the year.

Judy

What's Next at The Roundhouse from La Boite?

Summer Wonderland by Matthew Ryan
This is a World Premiers - a La Boite Theatre Company Commission

Welcome to Dickens Court. Old-fashioned battler Bob Jones has lost his job. His neighbour Eugene just bought a mail-order bride but is now in debt to the Russian mafia, and the snobs across the road are desperate to buy a trendy new beachfront apartment.

When they discover the grand prize in the Christmas Lights Competition can solve their respective money problems, the neighbourhood goes to war.

From the critically acclaimed writer of THE DANCE OF JEREMIAH comes this won-

derful Christmas comedy about fake snow, fairy lights and the great Australian dream.

"It's Christmas, Foster. Now start gluing thongs on those wise men." - Bob Jones"

In performance from 11- 27 OCTOBER 2007





CONTACT DETAILS

Ipswich Little Theatre
 PO Box 154
 IPSWICH Q 4305

Newsletter editor
 Suzanne Matulich

Phone: 3281 4748
 E-mail: suzanne@matulich.org

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	
26 September -20 October	The Maintenance Man directed by Doug Moses Bookings at the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre 3281 0555
26, 27 October	It's Coarse ... of Course! Crossfyre Young Theatricals directed by Tony Erhardt and Suzanne Matulich
23 November—15 December	Mystery on the Orient Express End of year Theatre Restaurant fun Book a table of 14 with the Director Di Johnston 3812 9141



*Shane Mallory and his two women, Deb Wilson and Leanne Bamford and his trusty Black and Decker (or is it all Bosch).... don't miss them in **The Maintenance Man**.*

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	3281 4437
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 9 October
7.30 pm

Message from Melinda Park:
 "I would like to thank all the people who supported our Social Night on Friday 21 Sept for South Pacific. Numbers were over 50 which is great.
 If anyone has any other social ideas they would like us to support then please email me or let me know on 0419 650 441 and I would be happy to look into it."

MEMO TO:

Stage Management Staff

I can't support your union's ridiculous demand for shorter hours in production weeks – sixty minutes has always been standard.