

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

March 2015

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING
7pm
Tuesday
14 April 2015**

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**On Sunday 29 March from
5:30 pm**

**Channel 7 will screen
The Great South East
featuring the Incinerator**

**Bookings open on 23 March
for**



Tony Wendice, a former tennis pro has married his wife, Margo, for her money. When he discovers that she has had an affair, he now wants revenge as well as her money. Full of resentment, jealousy and greed he plans to blackmail a former student associate to murder her. But things go wrong.... dangerously wrong.

This classic of the stage was adapted for film and directed by Hitchcock, starring Grace Kelly in the 1950s. The play has endured the years and is a beautifully crafted, engrossing and entertaining murder mystery.

"A stylish, psychological thriller that will have you on the edge of your seat."

Rated PG. Some violence.

The season runs from 6 to 23 May at the Incinerator

Bookings, as usual, are available on line ipswichlittletheatre.com.au or Visitor Information Centre 3282 0555



An early rehearsal of Dial M:

(l to r) David Harrison, Ann Collyer, Josh Nixon, Shane Mallory, Les Chappell (Director), Desley Cronon (Assistant Director) and Rebecca Noble

Let's be Sociable

Our Social Lunches will continue again this year. These lunches are open to all members of the Theatre family and we would like to see as many people as possible attend. It is a great way to spend a Sunday lunchtime catching up with friends, or making new ones. Partners are always welcome too even if they are not members. Lunch normally starts at about 11.30 am and continues until about 2.30 pm. The dates for this year's lunches are : 22 March, 24 May, 19 July, 11 October and 6 December. We look forward to seeing you in the Courtyard.



Last drinks with Phil:

Di Johnston says a fond farewell to Phil Holmes who is about to return to England



From the President

I have just watched the matinee performance of "A Perfect Wedding", and what a great way to start the year! To Doug, Chris, Cast and crew, you all should be so proud of your show. It was absolutely delightful to watch. The lady that I sat next to said that it reminded her of watching "Fawlty Towers", which is high praise indeed. Fortunately for us, however unfortunate for those who haven't got a ticket, the public performances are sold out, which is another great start to the year.

Rehearsals are underway for our next production "Dial M for Murder" directed by Les Chappell. This has been three years in the making. When we wanted to do it three years ago, we couldn't as there was a profession touring company performing the show. The following year saw very few people turn up for auditions, and now we finally have a "dream" cast and performance rights. Tickets go on sale on 23 March so be sure to not be disappointed and get your tickets asap. If you are looking at auditioning or being involved in any of our future plays, please head to our site www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au which has all the detail of what's ahead.

See you at the theatre!

Cheers,

David

Garden Control

Excellent news! Di Johnston has agreed to take on the role of Gardener at our Theatre complex. Members may remember that Di has previously been our gardener and we are delighted to have her back on the job.



Di sizing up the task at the February Working Bee

Your Chance to Make your Mark

Calling for Expressions of Interest for Matchbox Theatre

The decision was made this year to undertake four major main house productions which now allows us to consider some alternative activities in what is normally the winter season.

While planning is in its very early stages, ideas are being considered for classes for prospective performers and perhaps a very short season of cutting-edge or experimental theatre.

The Committee is open to ideas and invites ANY member to submit proposals or suggestions.

Return these by email to the Secretary: hpullar@bigpond.net.au no later than Tuesday 14 April.

Developments at the Theatre

Last year ILT received a very generous donation of a photocopier through Tony Erhardt. This was installed in the original kitchen area in the Jean Pratt Building, but the existing bench was deemed too high by certain vertically challenged members who requested a lower bench. This inevitably led to a major refurbishment of the old kitchen area as a lighting/sound control area. New benches and cabinets have been constructed and installed by Ian Pullar and Billy Lowe, and Ron Sheppard has moved the entire patchboard down from the loft to this area for ease of operation. We also took the opportunity to dispose of an accumulation of junk!

In the next bit of time it is planned to replace the temporary staging in the "tunnel" with a more permanent, squeakless construction. This will, however, be capable of relatively easily dismantling for directors who require more headroom behind the normal back wall – particularly to cater for very tall actors who would otherwise have to duck!

We also plan to put a ceiling above the lighting control area in the loft – it has only taken us 45 years to get around to doing this.

A number of new flats will also be constructed to make set building easier.

Festival Entries

Our entries for the Festival circuit this year have now been settled:

Silver Wedding, by John Bowen, directed by Phil McCormack, will feature Julie-Ann Wright and Tony Erhardt.

The cast of *The Extraordinary Revelations of Orca the Goldfish*, by David Tristram, directed by Jan Paterson, will be Sandra Harman and Paul Careless.

Junior Theatre

All the new students who were on the 'Trial Month' seem to have settled in well.

Their June presentation, *What's the Point*, has been cast and we have had initial readings of the script.

The Little Players will resume in second semester.

Daytime Theatre Troupe – presents

“Henrietta’s Not So Helpful Day” featuring



Bumble Bee

Margaret Martin and Grumble Bee

Robyn Harm



Henrietta Hen Sue Van Der Meer

Hester Hen Anne England

Hazel Hen Annette Sephton

Harriet Hen Allison Johnston



Heather-Belle Cow

Deirdre Lowe



Patricia Piggy

Hamlet Piggy

Penny Super-Piggy

Di Cook

Ann Collyer

Jenny Pearce



Scruffy Dog Jane Brown



Sheena Sheep

Shaun Sheep

Cheryl Klaassen

Ian Pullar



Mrs Music - Chic Currie



Director - Jane Sheppard

Season 18 – 28 August

Festival 2015

Last year we did such a good job remembering, celebrating and supporting the 60th anniversary of our iconic One Act Play Festival. But the show must go on and so we have to recognise another, not so acknowledged anniversary this year.

That's right! 2015 marks the 61st anniversary and while there will be no official celebrations we need to keep the festival alive and vital. This year there are some changes – not big changes, but changes just the same.

This year the Festival will be known as Festival 2015. We have a brand new Adjudicator to the festival circuit – Lesly Stevenson, owner and artistic director of DAPA Theatre in Newcastle.

But some things stay the same. This year we are, once again, asking you, our members, to contribute to the festival. You can either donate some funds, some goods that can be used as raffle prizes or your time before, during and after the festival weekend as a volunteer.

We need your help and however you can assist will be appreciated. Festival Secretary, Jan Paterson has sent all of our members letters asking for help in some way. Please respond and let's all keep the festival – OUR FESTIVAL – the best that it can be.

Craig Taylor Festival Director

Young Theatricals

To date, the concentration for the nine members has been on theory, with several workshops being held.

Students attended the Family and Friends night for *Perfect Wedding* and thoroughly enjoyed it. This was followed by some basic discussion about the acting/sets etc. The students are all looking forward to seeing more plays and getting the chance to see some rehearsals for comparison purposes.



The Young Theatricals getting into the swing at a dance and movement workshop run by Di Johnston

S-Troupe

S-Troupe has a new helper Jamie-Lea Morters McDermott joining their other new helper Caitlin Van Gestel (both these girls are 17) plus a new student Ryan Dunstan.

Class over the last few weeks has been concentrating on mime (which will be part of their show later in the year). They had a small try at performing outdoors which is planned for the Festival and for a roving performance.

They are also putting together some small items for an Easter performance for parents and carers.



Ryan doing his best front mount for the Can-Can

2015 Major Productions

Season 1

4 – 21 March (Public Performances: 13, 14 20, 21 & Matinee 15 March)

Perfect Wedding by Robin Hawden

Director: Doug Moses; **Assistant Director:** Chris Greenhill
Comedy. Rated PG. Mild sexual references.

Season 2

6 – 23 May (Public Performances: 15, 16, 22, 23 & Matinee 17 May)

Dial M for Murder by Frederick Knott

Director: Les Chappell; **Assistant Director:** Desley Cronon
Thriller. Rated PG. Some violence.

Season 3

23 September - 10 October (Public Performances: 2, 3, 9, 10 & Matinee 4 October)

Love's Dilemmas by Hugh O'Brien

Love and Other Flushes &

Love or Nearest Offer

Director: Jim Orr; **Assistant Director:** Ann Collyer
Comedies. Rated PG. Mild sexual references.

Season 4

18 November – 5 December (Public performances: 27, 28 Nov 4, 5 Dec & Matinee 29 Nov)

Putting it Together by Stephen Sondheim

Director: David Austin

Comedy. Rated PG. Some sexual references.

Bookings for ALL of above: Ipswich Visitor Information Centre (3281 0555) or on line from the Mondays following each previous final night

DIARY DATES

22 March from 11:30	Members Social Lunch
23 March	Bookings open for <i>Dial M for Murder</i>
6 May	Opening Night for <i>Dial M for Murder</i>
24 May	Members Social Lunch
5, 6 June	Junior Theatre presents What's the Point
13, 14 June	Presentation of Festival plays

Programme for 2016

In order to give Selection Committee more time to arrange the programme for the following year, it has been agreed that the date for submission of offers to direct will be brought forward from the end of August to the end of July.

Any member who is interested in undertaking a production for 2016 is asked to submit an application to Selection Committee together with the proposed script and, preferably, an alternative. Application forms are available on line.

There is no need to wait to July: Selection Committee would be very happy to receive applications any time between now and then as this will give them more time to read and assess the suggested scripts. Please note, however, that an early application does not provide the applicant with any preferential advantage.

We have noted that some of the other theatre groups are already planning their season for 2016.

2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) 0422 620 851
Vice President	Robyn Flashman	3812 3450
Past President	Suzanne Matulich	0412 792 264
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Jan Paterson	3282 4250 0419 787 130

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Joy Scully	3294 8402 (ah) 0424 288 050
Subscription Secretary	Doug Moses	3281 2846
Group Liaison Secretary	Robyn Flashman	3812 3450
Jean Pratt Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Junior Theatre/Little Players	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Young Theatricals	Liz Ball	0439 642 259
	Rebecca Noble	0422 449 291
STroupe	Di Johnston	0447 191 954
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Sandie Henwood	0439 744 641
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 J 5464 5363
Theatre number	NB: only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389

Sincere thanks to Cr Charlie Pisasale for the monthly printing of *Burning News*,
For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au