

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

January 2016

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING
7pm
Tuesday
9 February**

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Don't forget when you are making your booking for one of our wonderful plays to make one for a friend as well – or bring the whole family!

Welcome to 2016

Not only will 2016 be a Leap Year, it will be one of particular significance for Ipswich Little Theatre.

In August, it will be 70 years since a group of Ipswich citizens came together at a public meeting and formed the Ipswich Little Theatre Society. This group has continued to operate continuously since then, originally performing in the Town Hall and then, since late 1969, in the Incinerator Theatre complex.

Our beloved Incinerator also reaches a significant milestone: as it was opened in November 1936, it will be 80 years old. For only 25 of those years it operated as an incinerator whereas by the end of this year, it will have been a theatre for 47 years.

This will also be the year in which we achieve our long desired ambition of installing a glass roof over our courtyard. While this is a brave venture for us financially, the committee is confident that we can manage debt as we have done before. But naturally we rely on the support of our members and friends to assist in whatever way they can including encouraging their friends and relations to support us through our box office sales.

To mark all these milestones there will be a celebration later in the year. Plans are currently being formulated and will be publicised in due course.

We look forward to your continued involvement.

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Presents

Lipstick Dreams

Directed by Doug Moses and Chris Austin-Greenhill

by Helen O'Connor & Simon Hopkinson

Performance Season 2-19 March 2016
Public Nights - 5, 11, 12, 18, 19 March at 8.00pm
Public Matinee Sunday 13 March at 2.00pm

By special arrangement with Shanahan Management Pty Ltd on behalf of Simon Hopkinson and Creative Representation (Sydney) Pty. Ltd. on behalf of Helen O'Connor.

All performances at the Incinerator Theatre, Burying Ground, Ipswich. More info and tickets are available online at www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au or phone or book in person at the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre 3281 0655

*The ladies of
"Lipstick Dreams"
(L to R) Jo Robbins,
Tracey Spence, Kate
Mallory and Alizah
Pomery with direc-
tors Chris Greenhill
and Doug Moses*



Rehearsals for our first production are in full swing. Unfortunately, Relle Scott has had to withdraw because of family illness – we wish her and her father well. Tracey Spence has stepped into the role, for which we thank her.

Jo, the manageress of the Blue Heaven Ladies Hairdressing Salon, has been advised by the bank that the salon is no longer a viable concern since 'Brett and the boys' opened a salon across the road. So, with the help of her employees, Jo enters a talent quest at the local Chinese restaurant in the hope that, if they win, the publicity would start bringing customers back. Can this venture possibly save the Blue Heaven?

DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS FOR THIS HEART-WARMING PLAY
SEASON 2 March to 19 March

Our ever-popular wine and cheese night has been moved to the first Saturday of the season in the hope that it will also serve as a social occasion for our members.

Wine and Cheese Night: Saturday 5 March



From the President

Welcome everyone to 2016! Once again we usher in a New Year with excitement and brimming with energy from the Christmas and New Year break. We have a great line up this year, and we would love to see you all there enjoying our shows, the gardens and the great atmosphere that is Ipswich Little Theatre.

I have had a few enquiries from people not wanting to step on the stage, yet wanting to help in some way. It fills me with pride when I hear people asking what they can do for us, as I have always believed that Ipswich people have a strong sense of Community and are always willing to help out. Of

course there is always some way you can help. There are Working Bees, you can help at the Bar and Kitchen, help with making costumes, become a helper with one of our sub-groups. There are so many ways you can contribute, just ask. We will never say no.

Happy New Year everyone and see you at Ipswich Little Theatre.

Cheers

David

S-Troupe

Bill, Matthew, Damon, Toyah and helpers Gloria (and Di) attended the Showcase of Special Schools in Ipswich on Thursday 3 December.

It was a wonderful way to promote S-Troupe to school-leavers and potential students.

S-Troupe is now in recess until sign-on day 31 January.



Junior Theatre and Little Players

These groups celebrated the now traditional break-up breakfast with the presentation of "graduation" certificates to the Juniors and medals to the little players. Ainsleigh Hudswell was presented with a trophy to commemorate her five years in Juniors. She is the only remaining performer who joined the group in 2010 when Deirdre Lowe became director.

Juniors Sign On will be held on 30 January. Little Players will sign-on on Thursday 4 February. First class for the year will be on February 6.

The first production this year, again written by Deirdre, is called 'Make Hay While the Sun Shines'. It is based on the elements of weather and the seasons including Monsoon and Bush Fire seasons.

Little Players will have their own separate play this year, called 'A Rainbow Robbery'.

WORKING BEES

With the 2016 Season about to start, once again we need to get our premises into ship-shape condition.

This, then, is a call to arms.

PLEASE

do come along on **28 February at 9.00am** and help us carry out the necessary work. Only light tasks will be carried out on this occasion. It would be really nice if more than the usual suspects made themselves available.

Assuming the necessary approvals are obtained, it is planned to commence work on the new courtyard roof immediately after the "Lipstick Dreams" season. We plan to carry out the preliminary task of removing the existing coverings in the courtyard before the main contractor commences his work.

The planned date is

SUNDAY 20 March

(to be confirmed)

Group Bookings

Group bookings at the Theatre present a wonderful opportunity for community groups to make easy money. Simply book and on-sell 80 seats, bring along some supper (which will be prepared and served by Theatre staff) and make at least \$1000 for little effort. Half nights are also available.

If you know of any group that is interested in fundraising tell them to contact Robyn Flashman 3812 3450 and make a booking. There are still opportunities available for later seasons, although "Lipstick Dreams" is fully subscribed.

Play Readings

On the weekend of the 16 & 17 January we held our first Play Reading weekend. During Saturday and Sunday afternoons and Saturday evening we heard excerpts from each of the 5 main house plays for 2016 – enough to give the flavour and style of each piece. The weekend was attended by people from all areas of our Theatre, including regular audience members, Admin members, YT's, Daytimers, past performers and of course people who are interested in auditioning for the plays.

This was a new initiative for our company. There were certainly sufficient people in attendance – around 20 at each of the five sessions and 16 for dinner – for it to be considered worthwhile as a regular annual event.

We look forward to seeing some or all of you during the upcoming seasons either on stage or in the audience. And don't forget to bring your friends!



Reading ...



.. reading ...



.. and taking a break...



More Calls for Help

With the first season of the year coming up, Front of House Manager Anne England has the onerous task of enlisting the team of helpers who undertake Front of House duties. As always, it would make her life a lot easier for members to contact her and volunteer. Surely it's not too much to ask for a couple of hours of work. The bonus is that it provides an additional opportunity to socialise with fellow members.

Anne's phone numbers are 3281 7654 and 0413 676 049.

Once again this year, Jan Paterson will be organising raffles at our performances. She is always looking for prizes and would love to accept your donation. Her phone numbers are 3282 4250 and 0419 787 130. Or you can simply leave donations in the kitchen with a note.

Donations

Having made the decision to go into debt in order to finance the new roof, we will need to appeal to as many potential benefactors as possible. To encourage donations, Jan Paterson started the ball rolling through one of her neighbours manufacturing a magnificent donations box as pictured. We are extremely grateful to the manufacturer Brian Bather and in awe of his craftsmanship.

Please feel free to make your contribution to the contents!



2016 Major Productions

Season 1: 2 — 19 March

Public Performances: 5, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 March

Lipstick Dreams

by Helen O'Connor & Simon Hopkinson

Directors: Doug Moses & Chris Austin-Greenhill

Rated PG – Contains some sexual references

Season 2: 4 — 21 May

Public Performances: 7, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 May

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

Director: Jan Paterson

Assistant Director: Desley Cronon

Rated PG

Season 3: 29 June — 16 July

Public Performances: 2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 July

The Narcissist

by Stephen Carleton

Director: Shane Mallory

Assistant Director: Kate Mallory

Rated MA 15+ Frequent Coarse Language, Sexual References

Season 4: 21 September — 8 October

Public Performances: 24, 30 September, 1, 2, 7, 8 October

Deckchairs

by Jean McConnell

Directors: Chris Austin-Greenhill, Ann Collyer & Aaron Evans

Rated PG - Contains adult themes.

Season 5: 23 November — 10 December

Public Performances 26 November 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 December

The Final Test

by Chris Paling

Director: Jane Sheppard

Assistant Director: Anne England

Rated G - Suitable for all audiences

DIARY DATES

23 January 10—12	Sign-on for Young Theatricals
30 January 9 am	Sign-on for Junior Theatre
31 January 3 pm	Sign-on for S-Troupe
1 February 7:30 pm	Auditions for <i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
11 February 4 pm	Sign-on for Little Players
28 February from 9 am	Working Bee

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held on 1 February at 7:30 pm for

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

to be directed by Jan Paterson assisted by Desley Cronon

The cast required for this classic piece of theatre are
the mother, her daughter, her son and “the gentleman caller”

Scripts and other information are available from Jan 3282 4250
or 0419 787 130

Festival Plays

Selection Committee invites any member who is interested in directing
a one act play for competition on the 2016 Festival circuit to submit an
offer and script.

2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) 0422 620 851
Vice President	Doug Moses	3281 2846
Past President	Jim Orr	0447 191 954
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Jan Paterson	3282 4250 0419 787 130

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Anne England	3281 7654 0413 676 049
Subscription Secretary	Doug Moses	3281 2846
Group Liaison/ Publicity Co-Coordinators	Robyn Flashman/ Robyn Harm	3812 3450 / 3812 3516
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