

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

March 2016

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**7pm
Tuesday
12 April**

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**The roof is going up!
Hooray!**

Full Steam Ahead with Our Roof



Terry Brouwers of Portabuild signing the contract with Helen Pullar and architect Andrew Solomon

We have signed a contract with wonderful builder Terry Brouwers of Portabuild who will commence work on our fabulous new Glass Roof immediately after our massive working bee on 20 March demolishes the existing pergola. How exciting! PLEASE come and help as there is much to do. We have to strip the courtyard of everything to provide a clear building site.

This dream project has been made possible by the generosity of members who have made loans available to us. These, of course, will have to be repaid over the next few years so our fund-raising efforts need your continued support.

The wonderful news is that our very popular Mayor, Paul Pisasale, has pledged his support for the project, already made a donation and expects to enter into a partnership with us after the election. You can read more about this fantastic news on the Council's Facebook page. Please pass it on to your friends.



The Mayor giving his support with Melinda Park, Helen Pullar, Terry Brouwers, David Austin and Ian Pullar

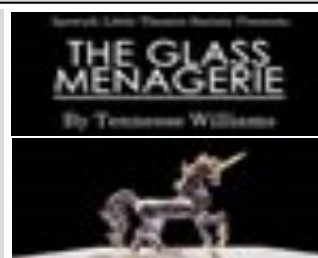
We were, however, bitterly disappointed by a lack of support elsewhere. Encouraged by the Blair Electoral Office, we applied for a grant from the Blair Stronger Communities Fund. Not only did we never receive an acknowledgement of our application or a request for more details in the advertised second phase, we received NO MONEY at all. What else are we supposed to do?

We have entertained Ipswich audiences for 70 years; we have trained hundreds of young people in theatre crafts; we have catered for people with disabilities; we have helped numerous community groups to raise valuable funds; we have entertained tour groups from other cities; and we have saved, maintained and developed the iconic Burley Griffin Incinerator of which the city is extremely proud, almost entirely from our own resources. We cannot understand why we missed out. We have been told we can apply to a second round of funding, but we will be ineligible as our project will be FINISHED!

Bookings Open 21 March

Don't forget to book for you and all your friends. And tell everyone else about this classic play directed by Jan Paterson.

The season runs from 4 to 21 May starting with the popular Wine and Cheese Night on 7 May. Other public performances are 13,14,15 (Matinee), 20 & 21 May



Although rehearsals are under way and progressing well, there has been a change of cast. *The Gentleman Caller* will now be played by Aaron Evans.



From the President

If you haven't been to the theatre for a while there is going to be a big change soon, and we are all very excited about it. ILT are raising the roof of the courtyard. Literally! This is the biggest construction in ILT history, since changing the incinerator into a theatre. Contracts have been signed, a deposit has been paid and construction will start after "Lipstick Dreams" is finished. So your support is crucial at this time.

This is your theatre and we need your help in a financial way. There is a donation box for any coinage that you would love to get rid of, if you could buy a few more tickets in our raffles, or bring an extra friend to one of our shows, all proceeds will go to paying off the roof that we will all enjoy.

If anyone is free on the Sunday 20th March from 9am onwards, we would love your help at our Working Bee to get the site ready for this construction.

There is so much happening in our theatre so why not be a part of it?

See you at the theatre,

David

Working Bee

A successful Working Bee was held on 28 February to get our complex ship-shape for opening night of *Lipstick Dreams*.

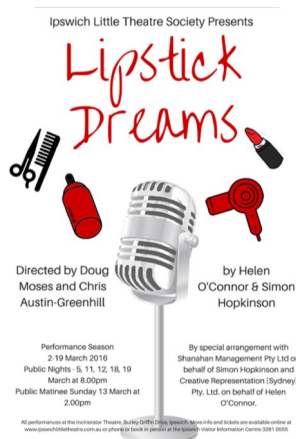
Photos appear on page 5. Many thanks to all those who turned up. Particular thanks go to Claudia whose S-Trouper daughter told her attendance was compulsory! Claudia certainly toiled away and made a major contribution.

It is a shame that more of our members who are not on Admin don't make the effort to come and help for a few hours.

There is another chance on 20 March.

The season of *Lipstick Dreams* is coming to an end of its successful run. Audiences have been enthusiastic with at least one member describing the production as "a cracker!" A letter to the Editor showered praise. It is always good to get positive public feedback.

Congratulations to cast and crew. And many thanks to the volunteer Front of House staff.



Celebrations

As foreshadowed earlier, ILT has much to celebrate in 2016 – 70 years as a Theatre company, 80 years of the Incinerator and the brand-new roof. And we intend to celebrate all our achievements in style.

22 October

is the day when each of the many groups will present their own "thing" from afternoon into evening. All the conveners of the sub-groups will be developing their individual presentations. More details later.

Saturday 2 April

Senior/Mainhouse Theatre intends to develop a presentation based on the experiences of performing over 70 years. Any member who has a story to tell about an experience during performance (such as a door falling off in an actor's hand) that can be dramatised is asked to submit it. A workshop to generate such ideas for development and scripting will be held on Saturday 2 April from 10am in the Jean Pratt Building. Anyone with a story to tell would be more than welcome to come along. Advance notice of attendance and/or suggestions to Helen Pullar would be appreciated.

We want to make the celebration as colourful as we can.

Selection Committee

Following the resignation of David Austin from Selection Committee, four nominations were received for the vacancy. An election was held by the Administrative Committee and Jim Orr was elected. This is a very important committee which has responsibility for our core business.

The Committee is anxious to receive offers from members who are interested in directing a Festival play. And the committee would love advance notice from anyone who is contemplating undertaking a major production in 2017. While nominations do not close until the end of July, the committee would appreciate the opportunity of reading proposed scripts in a more leisurely time frame.

Young Theatricals

The students of Young Theatricals are currently working on preparation for their Showcase on

19 April

Those of us who were lucky enough to see the high quality of last year's Showcase are looking forward to a repeat experience. The presentation will be in the Jean Pratt Building as the Incinerator Courtyard will be a building site at this time.

Junior Theatre and Little Players

After a number of false starts the Juniors have settled into three groups totalling 42 children.

We are planning a fund raising Trivia and Supper Night for July 23rd and would like to submit that date and invite everyone to book that date in their diaries. It will be family oriented to ensure that the Juniors are involved.

I also plan to have a 'Money Roll' happening for the students. Loose change will be slotted into a special board and the children can watch it roll down a channel and drop into a collection box at the bottom. Some other fund raising ideas have also been discussed but no further plans made as yet.

The parents have been invited to join the working bee on 20 March and at least one father has volunteered.

Deirdre Lowe

Junior Theatre Director

Daytime Theatre Troupe

The Daytimers are planning to resume after Easter. Cheryl Klaassen is working hard to complete a script which, no doubt, will live up to the usual standards of entertainment

Tourific Troupers

Because the courtyard will be a building site, no tours can be held before May. It is hoped, however, that the new roof will make it possible to extend the season to later in the year so we are looking for more bookings.

S-Troupe

S-Troupe is back in the swing, even during the absence of Di Johnston who has been visiting Tasmania. Their show later in the year is called *Colour My World* so classes at the moment are working on colour of course.

There are several new members this year, while a few of the old faithfuls are not continuing.

An Old Friend

Jim Orr and Di Johnston recently visited Tasmania and stayed overnight with Dave Dunkerley who was a member of ILT for many years. Dave stills keeps up with everyone from Ipswich via Facebook and had a good time going through photos with Di.

Donations

Ipswich Little Theatre is extremely grateful to members and supporters who have generously donated our Building Fund:

Mayor Paul Pisasale
Marlene & Vicki Milsom
Betty Freckleton
The Springs Residents
Karen Peart
Almond Family
Keith & Jane Roberts
Jacqui de Villiers

In addition, we have installed a donations box near our bar and are encouraging patrons to donate their small change, which quite a few have done. Larger donations are also very welcome.

We have a very large debt to service and every contribution will help. We have not increased any of our bar prices because of our commitment as a Community Theatre, but we do need the support of the community.



Group Fundraising Nights

There are still nights available for
The Narcissist and *The Final Test*.
Contact Robyn Flashman: 38123450

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

20 March from 8:30 am	Demolition working bee
21 March 7:30 in Jean Pratt Building	Bookings open for <i>The Glass Menagerie</i> Auditions for <i>The Narcissist</i>
2 April 2 pm Jean Pratt Building	Workshop to develop ideas for Mainhouse presentation at 22 October Celebrations
19 April	Young Theatricals Showcase
4 May	Opening Night <i>The Glass Menagerie</i>

Auditions

Our next auditions will be held on Monday, 21 March in the Jean Pratt Building at 7.30pm for

“THE NARCISSIST”

by Stephen Carleton.

This play will be directed by Shane Mallory, assisted by Kate Mallory.

The cast requirements are:

2 Males 30-50; 1 Male 20-30; 1 Female 40s; 1 Female 20-30

Xavier is a narcissist. He is a jaded, single, urban professional living in New Farm and the prospects of finding a psychosexually well-adjusted partner are beginning to fade. Enter Bronwyn, an equally committed boozy malcontent and best friend who challenges Xavier to a duel – “Six weeks to bag a man! No ifs, no buts, no limits, no boundaries and no rules!”

Let's be honest - it's all about ME!

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 Rebecca Noble	0439 642 259 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



Above: Tony, Craig, Ian, Shane



Right: Chris, Keith



Above: Josh



Centre: Jan, Chic



Right: Sandie

Below: Claudia, Keith, Colin



Photos courtesy
of Col and Jan
Paterson



Left: Ann, Robyn F,
Desley



Right: Helen, Robyn H