

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

June 2017

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

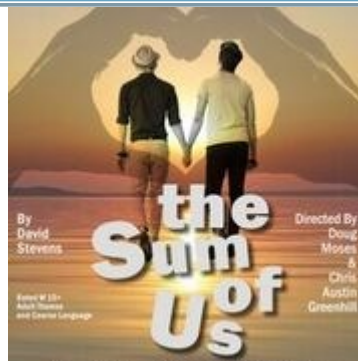
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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**
7pm
Tuesday
11 July

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Your help at the
Working Bee
on 30 July
would be much appreciated



Season 12 July – 29 July
Matinee Sunday 23 July
Don't forget to bring your friends!

Ipswich Little Theatre is expecting yet another 2017 sell out season for its next play, *The Sum of Us*. This iconic Australian play hits the Incinerator stage in July.

Co-directed by Doug Moses and Chris Austin Greenhill, the play features a very talented cast comprising David Austin, Simon Drew, Catherine Taylor and Mal Farrow. There is an amazing abundance of comedy in this play, as well as a deeper, sad side which will catch audiences unaware. The story is told in a very natural and entertaining style by writer, David Steven, the co-writer of the film "Breaker Morant".



David proposes to Catherine



David, Simon and Mal



*Tony and
cast with
their trophy
and in cos-
tume*

Hearty Congratulations

Three years ago, Tony Erhardt wrote *The Asylum*. After some months of rehearsals and two preview nights, Tony and his cast of Tahlia Grennan, Courtney Murrin, Lily MacDonald, Alizah Pomery and Radell Rojo competed in the Port Macquarie Festival, despite the ordeals of travel and accommodation.

They thought the performance had gone well and were feeling a little disappointed when the adjudicator made no mention of it until her final announcement. **BEST PLAY OVERALL!** What a thrill! And a nice cheque.

The play will now go on to compete in a number of other Festivals, including our own. We wish Tony and his cast the very best for more brilliant performances.





From the President

On Saturday 17 June I went to the Soup and Trivia Night hosted by the Directors and Helpers of our Junior Sub-group. Everyone who went had a wonderful time. There was a lot of laughter, some interesting answers to questions, very delicious soup and crusty bread. However, I feel that the highlight was watching Ian Pullar perform Greek dancing in the charade section of the night. Thank you Deirdre, Ann, Jacqui and the helpers for organising the night. All money raised goes towards paying off our wonderful courtyard roof.

I really enjoy attending nights like this, as it is a chance for our sub-groups to come together, and to enjoy each other's company as a true Community Theatre. We can get so involved in our sub-group that we do tend to forget that we are part of a greater whole, that is Ipswich Little Theatre. And it is nights like this that give us a chance to reconnect with our fellow members.

See you at the Theatre

David

Junior Theatre

With *Nina in Numberland* behind them, the Juniors have been involved in workshops including one on characterisation presented by Kyle Breese.

The eight Little Players presented their final showcase for the semester to parents and friends on 17 June with a production called 'My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes'. The Little Players are now in recess till 2018.

Juniors next production is in the planning stages. Be prepared to 'go where no man has gone before', and encounter strange aliens and even stranger friends.

Deirdre, Ann, Jacqui and their helpers also arranged and managed the very enjoyable Soup and Trivia Night on 17 June. Many thanks to them.



Happy participants at the Trivia night, all souped up or perplexed by the questions posed by Deirdre (and set by Ann)

R:(top) Kate, Courtney and Brittany (bottom) Aaron, Cody and Sam



Tourific Troupers

More Probus groups have discovered us and we have a very full programme of tours this year. This means that we will be debuting a number of new plays. We also intend to participate in the ten-minute section of our Festival.

Every visiting group is utterly amazed at what we have managed to achieve with very little support by way of grants. They also find it hard to believe that we manage to survive when it costs us \$1300 per week just to exist and before we start paying production expenses etc.

Almost invariably the visiting groups vote their excursion one of the best they have ever done.

While these tours are a lot of work for those members and supporters involved, they do provide an additional source of valuable funds, both directly on the day and, through public exposure, increased box office sales.



Auditions were held on Monday 5 June for "STAGE DIRECTIONS" by Aaron Evans, to be directed by Aaron Evans assisted by Jo Robbins.

There were 22 prospective actors vying for the roles which presented the directors and committee with difficult choices. It is certainly encouraging to have so many applicants.

The successful auditionees were:

Peter Von Werkhoven, Cody Muller, Courtney Murrin, Victoria Adair and William Sampson.

Much more news to come.

Daytime Theatre Troupe



The Cute Little Bear From Peru

presented 12 shows to a estimated total audience of 1135 all of whom responded very positively. The group received many congratulations from the teachers and supervisors who attended. And the ladies had a good time too.

It is difficult to imagine how many people – including present day adults – had their first theatrical experience at a Daytimers' presentation.

Congratulations to all those involved.

Young Theatricals

All is on track for the YT's showcase to be presented on
23 and 24 June

This is despite the last minute withdrawal of one of the members to seek employment.

Tickets are now available from Director Kyle Breese 0423 278 833 or kyle.breese@gmail.com. Prices are \$10 for adults (including seniors) and \$7 for students. Children under five are free.

The showcase will feature monologues selected by the students and will be as entertaining as previous showcases. Do come and support our future. It is pleasing to note that there are potentially seven more students on a waiting list.

S-Troupe

Students are now working on our October production "A Man for all Seasons". The show will include some time lapse projections which students are acting out. It is also hoped there will be some live music in the show. Currently Director Di Johnston is sourcing costumes and making heaps of props etc .

Everyone attended Paddington and enjoyed the Daytimers' show as usual. This social interaction is wonderful for the students and also for some of the Daytimers who have never met the S-Troupers.

Festival 2017

Meet our Adjudicator - John McMahon

John started his theatre life in 1968 in Dalby, when he joined the Dalby Players. At the end of 1970 he re-located to the Sunshine Coast but by then he was hooked on theatre. Early in 1971 he joined Buderim Amateur Theatre Society and in a short time became an integral part of the BATS organisation. Memorable plays were *Harvey* (his first for BATS) and all three of *The Norman Conquests* (playing "Tom the Vet" every time). His favourite role of all time is "Reg" the used car salesman in Hugh O'Brien's *Love or Nearest Offer*.

John has also performed and/or directed with Glasshouse Theatre, Independent Theatre Eumundi and Nambour (NATS).

From 2008 to 2013 John acted and directed with his two daughters, Sarah and Anna in SAD (Sarah, Anna, Dad). John describes this as the most wonderful time in his theatre life.

John was honoured in 2017 by being inducted into the Sunshine Coast Theatre Alliance Hall of Fame.

About being an Adjudicator John says that he will do his best to be honest and constructive, but not cruel. As John has always said, "It's just one person's opinion, on the day."

Website Additions

I was recently asked if, space permitting, I could include information in the newsletters about all those Life Members who have contributed greatly to our Society. There is seldom room (we are just so busy) but we have now posted biographies of all our Life Members on our website.

We have also posted a complete listing of every major production undertaken by ILT during its 70+ years of existence.

Members who attended our "Raising the Roof" celebrations last October will remember Helen's powerpoint coverage of the history of the Incinerator and ILT. A version of this has also been posted.

So, anyone wanting information on our history now has ready access. Just visit the Home page.

2017 Major Productions

Season 1: 8 March – 25 March

An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley

Director Les Chappell. Assistant Desley Cronon

Rated PG: Mild adult themes

Season 2: 10 May – 27 May

Last of the Red-Hot Lovers by Neil Simon

Directors Robyn Flashman & Melinda Park

Rated M: Adult themes and occasional coarse language

Season 3: 12 July – 29 July

The Sum of Us by David Stevens

Directors Doug Moses & Chris Austin-Greenhill

Assistant Lucia Grant

Rated M 15+: Adult themes and coarse language

Season 4: 20 September – 7 October

Stage Directions by Aaron Evans

Director Aaron Evans. Assistant Jo Robins

Rated M: Occasional coarse language

Season 5: 22 November – 9 December

Fully Committed by Becky Mode

Director Shane Mallory. Assistant Kate Mallory

Rated M: Occasional coarse language

Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche by Evan

Linder & Andrew Hopgood

Director Kate Mallory. Assistant Shane Mallory

Rated M: Adult themes

DIARY DATES

23, 24 June	Young Theatricals Showcase
12 July	Opening night for <i>The Sum of Us</i>
17 July	Bookings open for Festival 2017
30 July	Winter Working Bee (Festival set-up)
31 July	Bookings open for <i>Stage Directions</i>
11, 12, 13 August	Festival 2017
14 August	Auditions for <i>Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche</i>

National Trust Awards

Readers will recall that last year our wonderful new roof structure received two Golds from the Ipswich City Council Heritage Awards. The construction was also entered for the state-wide National Trust Awards. A Gala Presentation Dinner was held in the Brisbane City Hall on 20 May where Jim Orr and Di Johnston represented ILT. What a thrill it was for them to receive the Gold Heritage Award for Conservation Works on our behalf. There were 15 entries in this category so what an achievement this was!

Architect Andrew Solomon and Portabuild also received awards.

Productions for 2018

Prospective directors are reminded that submissions for productions for next year are required by the end of July. A number of applications have already been received by Selection Committee who are keen to get on with reading scripts.

2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) / 0422 620 851
Vice President	Ann Collyer	3288 7053/ 0400 997 365
Past President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Josh Nixon	0448 067 170

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Anne England	3281 7654/ 0413 676 049
Subscription Secretary	Di Johnston	0447 191 954
Group Liaison/ Publicity Co-Coordination	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	Kyle Breese Courtney Murrin	3201 6758/ 0423 278 833 3424 6629/ 0457 734 433
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.ilt.org.au