

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2018 **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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

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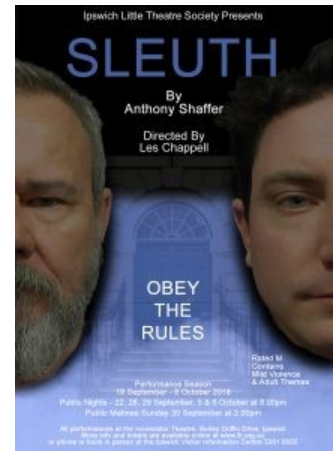
Surveys indicate that one of the greatest fears of people is having to speak in public. Apparently, at a funeral, they would rather be in the coffin than delivering the eulogy!

Now playing at the Incinerator Theatre

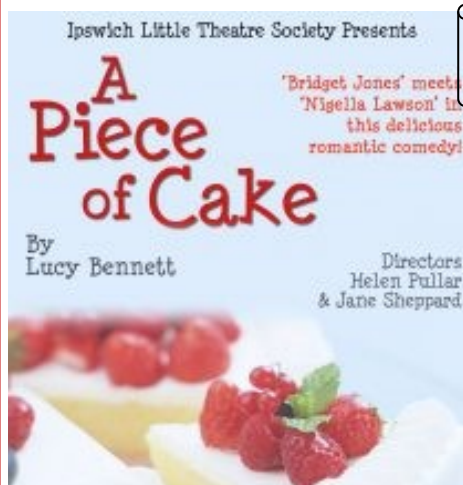
Seats are still available for our thrilling fourth major production for 2018 on line from
www.ilt.org.au or

Visitor Information Centre 3282 0555.

DON'T MISS IT!



Callum Campbell and Aaron Watson star in *Sleuth*



Bookings open 8 October

Our final production for 2018 is the delightful *A Piece of Cake*.

When Penelope Hart is suddenly made redundant she seizes the chance to follow her life-long dream – opening a cake shop.

She sets about renovating a ramshackle commercial property and making her dream come true, helped by bumbling estate agent David, not-so-bright assistant Lizzie and a handsome carpenter named Peter.

But Penelope soon discovers that running a business is anything but a piece of cake!

For the inside story on how we came to come by this delightful, highly entertaining script, see inside!



From the President

Ipswich Little Theatre must be about the most complex community theatre in the country, with so many sub-groups and activities. It takes a lot of effort on the part of a large number of people to make it all happen.

At our next Administrative Committee meeting, in October, we will make appointments to 40 positions (which do not include the ones specified in the Constitution). These cover such diverse activities as the directors of our sub-groups, those responsible for front-of-house, lighting, maintenance, costumes, sets etc etc. In addition to these positions which have titles, we are always in need of volunteers for front-of-house (each play requiring a minimum of 40 staff), back-stage helpers and so on. Fortunately, we have always managed to fill the positions, a fact of which, as President, I am very proud. So do keep up the good work.

See you at the theatre!

David

From the Administrative Committee

September already and, with our Main House programme selected, our thoughts have turned to 2019. This is a far cry from the early days of the Society when, at a meeting following one Town Hall performance an agenda item was suggestions for the next production.

This is the month for Expressions of Interest for the many positions we need to fill to keep our company viable as the President has pointed out. The necessary form can be found on line or requested from the Secretary.

It is also an appropriate time for any members or subscribers interested in helping front of house, an area in which assistance is critically needed; with our Tourific Trouper Tour Days (April to August) or our many sub-groups to advise us of this as it helps with our forward planning.

ILT is about a lot more than treading the boards and we actually require far more 'behind the scenes' support than performers.

Please contact the Secretary (see details on Page 4) for further information or to volunteer.

Neil Simon

The press recently recorded the death at the age of 91, of the prolific American playwright, Neil Simon.

His plays have long been popular with amateur companies, ILT being no exception. Over the years we have presented full length plays written by him in 9 seasons. These were *Barefoot in the Park* (twice), *Chapter Two*, *The Odd Couple (female version)* (twice), *Jake's Women*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *Rumors* and, most recently, *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers*.

We have also presented 11 of his one act plays, mostly taken from his collections *Hotel Suite* and *Plaza Suite*. In fact, we have presented more plays by Neil Simon than by any other published writer. And there are still more available for future productions.

Launch of 2019 Seasons

Something to look forward to!

Selection Committee has drawn up an exciting programme for 2019, covering a number of genres.

You may be waiting with bated breath for the announcement. All will be revealed at the official

Season Launch on Friday 2 November

in the Jean Pratt Building. Wine and cheese will be served from 7 pm with the presentation from 7:30 pm.

Each of the directors will be there to describe each play and whet the appetites of potential players and audiences. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Junior Theatre & Little Players

Rehearsals for the Junior presentation of 'A Cats Trophy' are progressing well.

The Little Players have commenced 'Adventure in Far, Far Away Land'. As ever we have those who have some good concentration skills and others who do not. So far the students are responding well but find it difficult to remember where they are supposed to stand, not having their own stage to rehearse on. We will work with what we have. The students are learning how to behave on set and be part of a team. We have some bright little cookies in the group. They go home energised and Ann and I go home exhausted!

Deirdre Lowe

S-Troupe

Once again, the large audiences who attended S-Troupe's presentation of *One—It's All About Me* couldn't help but be impressed by the work of the students, the dedication of the helpers and the sheer inventiveness of script writer/ director Di Johnston.

Hearty congratulations to all involved in yet another wonderful show!



Above: Kane and Jon. Right: Finale



Daytime Theatre Troupe



Apart from rehearsing enthusiastically for their production of *Santa's Christmas Story*, the Daytimers are organising a celebration of their 35 years of operation to be held at CSI Club, North Ipswich on Saturday 17 November from 5.30 pm

All those who have had any involvement with the Daytime Theatre Troupe, and any other interested parties, are invited to join in the celebration. For further information and bookings, please contact Kay McAllan

tk.mcallan@gmail.com 5464 3965/0439 305 658

A Piece of Cake – the inside story

Some years ago, a relative of Geoff and Shirlee Burns told us that at Sonning-on-Thames, UK, there is a converted water mill, part of which is a restaurant and part a 150 seat theatre where professional theatre troupes perform. Helen and I have been there on two very enjoyable theatre restaurant experiences. At our second visit, we saw the world premiere of a delightful play titled *A Piece of Cake* by a new playwright, Lucy Bennett, and decided it would be just the thing for the Incinerator Theatre. Fortunately, the rights were available.



Apart from having a very engaging story, the play features a number of novel twists to its presentation which involve the transformation of a run-down taxidermist's shop to a bustling cake-and-coffee establishment – a challenge for the set designer, the directors and the 'extras'.

2018 Major Productions

Season 1: 7 March – 24 March

Wait Until Dark by Frederick Knott
Director Aaron Evans. Assistant Director Timothy Wynn
Rated M: Mild Violence, Adult Themes

Season 2: 9 May – 26 May

Dirty Dusting by Ed Waugh & Trevor Wood
Director Chris Austin-Greenhill Assistant Director Robyn Flashman
Rated M: Sexual references, Mild Coarse Language, Adult Themes.

Season 3: 12 July – 28 July

The Lion in Winter by James Goldman
Director David Austin Assistant Director Sam Hoepner
Rated M: Mild Violence, Adult Themes.

Season 4: 19 September – 6 October

Sleuth by Anthony Schaffer
Director Les Chappell. Assistant Desley Cronon
Rated M: Mild Violence, Adult Themes.

Season 5: 21 November – 8 December

A Piece of Cake by Lucy Bennett
Directors Helen Pullar & Jane Sheppard
Rated PG: Mild Adult Themes.

DIARY DATES

19 September	Opening Night <i>Sleuth</i>
8 October	Bookings open for <i>A Piece of Cake</i>
23, 24, 26, 27 (Matinee), 30 October, 1, 2 November	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Santa's Christmas Story</i>
2 November	Launch of 2019 Seasons
3 November	YTs Showcase
17 November	Daytimers' 35 year reunion
21 November	Opening Night for <i>A Piece of Cake</i>
9 December 3 pm	AGM

Tourific Troupers

Our tour season has come to an end for the year. (We only hold tours in the cooler months between April and August). This year we hosted 12 tours attended by around 400 people from various centres in south-east Queensland. We provided them with a delicious home-cooked meal, an interpretative talk on the incinerator, a ten minute play and a walking tour of the premises, to their well-expressed enjoyment.

Like all our ventures, these tours require major contributions from many volunteers. Here is an opportunity to thank publically those involved:

Performers – Helen Pullar, Ian Pullar, Robyn Harm, Chic Currie, Anne England, Jane Sheppard, Jane Brown.

Helpers – Delwyn Palmer, Leah Bell, Ann Collyer, Robyn Flashman, Glenda Lane, Joan McCann, Robyn Harm, Deirdre Lowe, Jim Orr, Sybil McCrae, Marie Barns, Gloria Cox, Sue van der Meer, Anne England, Jane Brown, Eunice Austin

Cooks – Helen & Ian Pullar, Robyn Flashman.

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	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

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-Coordinators	Robyn Flashman/ Robyn Harm	3812 3450/ 3812 3516
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
S-Troupe	Di Johnston	0447 191 954
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	5464 3965/0439 305 658
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 the Division 8 Office for the monthly printing of *Burning News*,

For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre: www.ilt.org.au