

March 2019

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

### Editor:

**Ian Pullar**

07 3281 4437 or e-mail:  
info@ilt.org.au

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

From the President	2
Daytime Theatre Troupe	2
<i>Quartet</i>	2
S-Troupe	3
Young Theatricals	3
Junior Theatre & LPs	3
A-door-ed by the Council	3
Program for 2020	
Diary Dates	4
Seize the Day	4
Contacts	4

*Thanks to all the volunteers who worked for Front of House during "Quartet".*

*Your efforts were much appreciated by ILT and our patrons.*

Bookings open for

### CHALLENGES

on 18 March

at [www.ilt.org.au](http://www.ilt.org.au)

or Visitor Information Centre 3282 0555

**A Season of Three  
One Act Plays**  
Directors: Jim Orr and  
Sam Hoepner

#### **Bubbles by Tara Routley (Adams)**

Pam has been living with her elderly mother when her daughter, Kate, realises that her Gran's dementia is becoming more difficult, but any suggestion of a move to an aged care facility is met with strong resistance until a near tragedy makes Pam reconsider.

#### **All By Myself by Robert Scott**

Seven years alone on an island after being shipwrecked have driven Larry to the edge of sanity, but that's nothing compared to the shock of discovering he's not – and has never been – alone.

#### **Farmer Will Swap Combine Harvester for Wife by Hugh O'Brien**

Cyril Evans, a 59 year old bachelor, is desperate to honour his promise to his father never to sell the family property. When he runs a personal ad in *Queensland Country Life* offering to swap his reconditioned John Deere 9750 STS combine harvester in return for a wife of 'breeding age' – all hell breaks loose!



Casts and workers taking a tea break from bump-out/bump-in for "Quartet" and "Challenges"

**Season 2 – 18 May.**

**Public Performances 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 at 8 pm; 5, 12 Matinees at 2 pm**

### Auditions for "The Cemetery Club"

will be held at 7:30 pm on 1 April

**Director: Chris Greenhill**

**Assistant Director: Robyn Flashman**

Three Jewish widows who have been lifelong friends meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husbands' graves. Ida is sweet tempered and ready to begin a new life. Lucille is a feisty embodiment of the girl who just wants to have fun, shop, and catch the eyes of admirers. Doris remains fiercely devoted to her late husband and takes her grave-tending responsibilities very seriously. Ida is not used to being alone after a long marriage, but doesn't think she's ready to get involved with a man – that is, until Sam enters the scene. Lucille and Doris see the budding romance between Ida and Sam as a threat to their monthly ritual and begin interfering with devastating results.

*A bittersweet comedy about love, marriage, death and the challenges of moving on.*

Parts are available for the three women aged 50-60, Sam also aged 50-60 and a small part for a fourth woman of a similar age. American Jewish accents are required.

**The season runs from 11 to 27 July**



## From the President

Congratulations to Ann and her cast and crew for “Quartet”. A totally enjoyable production, the audiences are leaving the theatre saying how much they enjoyed the evening.

It never seems to stop – there is always something happening at the theatre: alterations to a door by the Council; issues with the power and loss of food and perishables from the kitchen fridges and freezers; and the consequent clean up of both areas and equipment.

Please if you notice a power point or any item at ILT not working, report it immediately. The power issue was only identified when an outside power point didn't work, and we checked to see why.

I have now been to all groups and productions and welcomed all to the theatre and thanked them for their support.

*Jim*

## Daytime Theatre Troupe

Much laughter emanated from the Jean Pratt building as members of our Daytime Theatre Troupe were given a dance lesson by Di Johnston at rehearsals this week. The farmyard characters will be performing some rap dancing for their rendition of “Little Bo-Peep” as part of their performance of “Hurry Up Nate”.

Bookings are open to school and kindergarten classes and individual bookings for the performance season - **May 2019** – Mon 13, Tues 14, Wed 15, Tues 21, Wed 22, Fri 24, Sat 25. Shows are at 10am and 12 noon. Cost: \$8 per person.



Di Johnston putting Deirdre Lowe, Geraldene Fitzpatrick, Margaret Martin, Annette Kitching and Jane Sheppard through their paces.

SPREAD THE WORD if you have any contacts.

**Bookings are essential. Phone Chic Currie 32889783 or 0409725315**

The script caters for the 3-8 year age group and includes educational concepts such as counting, alphabet, rhyming, spatial perception and relationships. The characters interact with the children and there are lots of well known songs for the children to join in singing. Children are welcome to meet the cast and take photographs at the conclusion of the show.

Kailen the puppy has seen something white and fluffy but it keeps disappearing on the other side of the tree. Is it a cotton wool ball, a cloud, a yappy Pomeranian dog or perhaps a polar bear? It's Nate, a little sheep who was left behind when the rest of the sheep were moved to another paddock. Mia the puppy can zip zippers, tie up her own shoelaces, count backwards from 10 and is very good at finding things that are lost. She decides to help Nate find the place where he belongs. Russell the crow is too busy looking for food scraps to help. The cows think Nate's family might have gone to the mooovies. Hamonie the pig wonders if the sheep have followed Mary's little lamb to school. The hens were nearly knocked over by two dogs, a crow and a sheep when crossing the road and had to scramble out of the way. Dingle Dangle Scarecrow remembers that Little Bo Peep's sheep came back home wagging their tails behind them.

Meanwhile Nate's family are looking everywhere for him. He's not playing baaadminton, or baaasbasketball or swimming baaackstroke down at the dam. They do hope they can find Nate in time to sing karaoke at the baaabecue.

## Quartet

Our first play of 2019 has finished its highly successful run. With an extra public performance (the second matinee) and therefore an extra 80 seats available, we still achieved 98% of possible public sales. Group nights were also well subscribed and their organisers and patrons were happy.

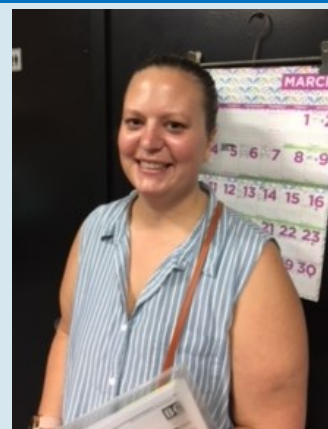
Audiences were obviously very receptive with lots of positive response. During the interval at the second matinee, one of our front of staff asked a patron if she was enjoying the play. “It's very wordy and there's not a lot of action, but it's certainly keeping us entertained.” You can't ask for much more than that.

## S-Troupe

S-Troupe is thrilled to have another new helper on board to join the continuing stalwarts. Welcome to Sarah Pavitt. Sarah has been to S-Troupe shows, acted on our Incinerator stage, even worked in the bar, but is new at being a helper. We are sure she will enjoy it.

Once again, Di Johnston has written a script for the group. Titled *The July Grinch*, it will be staged in July. Auditions have been held and rehearsals have already commenced for the 31 students enrolled.

There will be no special Easter show this year. But plans are being drawn up to visit some nursing homes after *The July Grinch* season. Another wonderful and heart-warming year lies ahead.



## Young Theatricals

What a month it has been for us at YTs. Classes are in full swing and with the conclusion of our focus on the Elements of Drama, we are preparing to audition and subsequently launching into rehearsals for our mid-year production in May.

In the past few weeks we have tackled the idea of Focus in drama, with the students looking at stage positions and dynamic opposition, we've delved into Time & Place, Language & Movement and the concept of Mood & Symbol. Exploration of these elements has brought about a few challenges for various students and each one has identified some area where they need to pay particular attention in role play going forward.

Two one act plays have been chosen for our mid-year production, *The Patient* and *The Friends of Valerie Lane*. Auditions will be held for these on 23 March and we will be launching straight into rehearsals from there. The students are very excited by the prospect of putting their new found skills to good use.

*Samantha & Kyle*

## Junior Theatre and Little Players

Juniors are up and running with 24 students. Their script is called *The Great Grain Robbery*. (The President hopes it will not be too corny!)

There are eight Little Players, all keen to start formal rehearsals on the script of *Where's Jack*, another Deirdre Lowe composition.

Some really exciting news is that two of our Juniors auditioned for their school plays and both won the lead role. One was hopeful of a place in the chorus and he is now the Nutcracker. The other went for broke and prepared a monologue from Alice in Wonderland, gaining the part. We are so very proud of Brian and Ella.

## A-door-ed by the Council

Officers of the Ipswich City Council at a recent inspection noticed that the door on the central chimney was in very poor condition and have now arranged for it to be replaced. Many thanks.

The door was originally installed by us as a stable door when it was hoped to use the chimney as a ticket box. This never happened.



The old door



The new – to be painted

## Programme for 2020

It may seem a little early to be making this call, but Selection Committee would be happy to receive scripts any time now for consideration for next year's program. This would relieve the pressure on all members who need to read every script submitted.

Closing date for offers from prospective directors is 30 June.

## 2019 Season in Brief

Season 1: 28 February — 16 March

### Quartet

by Ronald Harwood

Director: Ann Collyer; Assistant Directors:  
Desley Cronon and Rebecca Noble

[Rated M: Some Coarse Language, Sexual References and Adult Themes.]

Season 2: 2 — 18 May

### Challenges — A One Act Play Season

by Tara Routley (Adams), Robert Scott & Hugh O'Brien

Directors: Jim Orr and Sam Hoepner

[Rated M: Sexual references and Adult Themes]

Season 3: 11 July — 27 July

### The Cemetery Club

by Ivan Menchel

Director: Chris Greenhill; Assistant Director:  
Steven Carmichael

[Rated PG: Mild Sexual References]

Season 4: 19 September — 5 October

### A Bunch of Amateurs

by Ivan Hislop and Nick Newman

Director: Shane Mallory; Assistant Director:  
Aaron Evans

[Rated M: Coarse Language, Sexual References and Adult Themes.]

Season 5: 14 — 30 November

### Boeing Boeing

by Marc Camoletti

(Translated by Beverley Cross and Francis Evans)

Directors: Helen Pullar and Robyn Flashman

[Rated PG : Mild Adult Themes]

## DIARY DATES

Monday 18 March	Bookings open for <i>Challenges</i>
Monday 1 April 7:30 pm	Auditions for <i>The Cemetery Club</i>
Thursday 2 May	Opening night <i>Challenges</i>
13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 24, 25 May	Daytime Theatre Troupe presents <i>Hurry Up Nate</i>
Monday 20 May	Bookings open for <i>The Cemetery Club</i>
24, 25 May	YTs Showcase
21, 22 June	Juniors & LPs Showcase
Wednesday 12 June	Auditions for <i>A Bunch of Amateurs</i>
Thursday 11 July	Opening night <i>The Cemetery Club</i>
20, 21, 27, 28 July	S-Troupe <i>The July Grinch</i>
9, 10, 11 August	<i>Festival 2019</i>

## Seize the Day

Recently, our daughter Margaret was driving a friend, Helen and me to a Book Launch at Bulimba. As we passed the Greenslopes Cemetery, I said out loud, "That's a great tombstone. That would be just right!"

Margaret was horrified at the thought of her dear Papa planning his own funeral as if he knew the date – her friend even more so. But as Helen explained, "He's designing the set for 'The Cemetery Club'."

Never let an opportunity pass by, I say.

*Jan*

### 2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Ann Collyer	3288 7053/ 0400 997 365
Past President	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) / 0422 620 851
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) / 0422 620 851
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 Samantha Johnson	3201 6758/ 0423 278 833 0415 453 952
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 Ipswich City Council Community Office for the monthly printing of *Burning News*,  
For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre: [www.ilt.org.au](http://www.ilt.org.au)