

June 2022

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
12 July 2022**

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**Another bumper is-
sue. Aren't we
busy?**

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON *April/May*

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the Play *Whose Name Must Never Be Spoken* for soldiering on through all their trials and tribulations to entertain appreciative audiences. Special mention must be made of the stalwarts who stepped in for the players missing as a result of COVID – Jo Robbins who learnt off the part at short notice and came down from the lighting desk and Tony Erhardt who went on as **Mrs Green**. And who could forget Dave Dunkerley as Zeus.

Fortunately such traumatic events have only ever occurred for ILT once in a blue moon!

Directors Master Class

On 11 and 12 June, ILT held its first Directors Masterclass. With participants from Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast, Nanango and Toowoomba as well as our own ILT members, 13 eager minds soaked up the atmosphere and information on offer from our very knowledgeable and eternally supportive and helpful presenters.

The topics covered over the weekend were: Budgeting, Publicity, People Management, Auditions, Sound and Lighting, Costuming, Set Design, Blocking and movement, Characterisation & Script Interpretation, and Planning. All of the presentations were full of valuable information, history, advice, direction, and good humour. Each presentation demonstrated to anyone watching the amazing breadth and depth of talent and skill of ILT members.



Special mention must be made of Sandie Henwood and Connie Foy who braved the cold, changed their menu at the eleventh hour to accommodate a freezing Saturday and did an absolutely splendid job of keeping all of the participants and presenters very well fed and very well watered (one might even say, spoilt) over the weekend. From soups and warm salads to party pies, sausage rolls, toasted wraps and sandwiches,



Special mention must be made of Sandie Henwood and Connie Foy



cakes, muffins, biscuits and dip, tea, coffee and a fantastic barbecue on Sunday, we could not have wished for better catering.

Well done, everyone.

More photos on page 5.



From the President

Well done to Tony, David and the team with finishing the full run of 'the play that must not be mentioned'. So much was thrown at them and they continued to give the audiences a fun experience, each night.

Congratulations to Shane for the Directors Masterclass — lots of fun and a great experience for those who attended.

Now onto the festival.

Jim

Juniors & Little Players

A Game of Numbers was presented by the Little Players on 9 June. They played to an almost full house with one young fellow's family travelling all the way from Sydney to see his sister and him perform. They took up the whole back row and thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

The children were wonderful – as usual – and never missed a beat. The play was simple being based on numbers and songs containing numbers with a rousing 'I Love That Number Four' featured as the finale.

Our Littlest Player (who was Number Four) actually got out her sick bed to come as she just didn't want to miss out. Katerina, 5 years old, just smiled and smiled. No dialogue, just smiles! She captivated the audience.

The Juniors will present *Big Louis and the Can't Touchems* on 17 and 18 June with a cast of 24 plus two senior theatre members making cameo appearance – Aaron Evans and Jane Sheppard.



Daytime Theatre Troupe

Rehearsals are in full swing for *Henrietta's Not So Helpful Day* (written and directed by Jane Sheppard), although there are from time to time "minor" impediments as can be seen in the photograph.



As well as the wonderful cast, Jane will be assisted by Margaret Martin (Assistant Director) - Chic Currie (Mrs Music) Marie Mortimer & Kay McAllan (costumes) and Bette Rose.

**Season
16—26 August**

The Cast

Henrietta hen – Robyn Harm
Bumble bee – Di Johnston
Grumble bee – Cleo Smith
Hester hen – Andrea Bulloch
Hazel hen – Jane Brown
Harriet hen – Cynthia Graham
Hillary hen – Allison Johnston
Patricia pig – Tabatha Gryl
Penny pig (Super Piggy) – June Lambourne
Hamlet pig – Anna Morris
Sheena sheep – Sue Van Der Meer
Sharon sheep – Veronica Taylor
Meg border-collie dog – Deirdre Lowe
Heatherbell cow – Anne England

Bookings

Chic Currie 0409 725 315 or
daytimetheatretroupebookings@ilt.org.au

Programme for 2023.

Selection Committee are all set to deliberate over a programme for 2023. All prospective directors are reminded that the deadline for applications is 30 June.

Auditions Auditions Auditions

A reminder that auditions will be held for *Deliver Us from Mama* on Monday 20 June. There are parts available for at least five women and four men in this roller-coaster ride.

More details on the parts available can be found in the May Newsletter or by contacting Director Chris Austin-Greenhill 0427 977 007



Young Theatricals

YTs have been hard at work putting together their showcase pieces that include scenes from: *The Good Place*, *Butterflies are Free*, *The Mask*, *Time and Time Again*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *A Few Good Men*, as well as a handful of monologues written specifically for teens or taken from movies. Under guidance, four of the students have also taken on directing pieces. During the last class of the term, the students will be presenting their pieces to the group for peer review and feedback.

GET YOUR HEADSHOTS DONE RIGHT!

As part of Ipswich Photography Studio's partnership with ILT, Amanda Waschevski from Ipswich Photography Studio is offering ILT actors a significant discount should they wish to get their headshots professionally produced. If you've been to any mainstage show of late, you would've noticed the quality of Amanda's work. If you're an ILT actor and are wanting professionally produced shots for your resume or online presence, just go to <https://ipswichphotographystudio.com.au/ACTING-HEADSHOTS> and when placing your order, use the **discount code ILT**. It's as simple as that. Amanda from Ipswich Photography Studio will be in touch to make some magic!

ILT GIFT VOUCHERS

Not sure what to get that special someone who has everything or that friend who is just so hard to buy for? Why not consider an ILT Gift Voucher! You can purchase gift vouchers for tickets to ILT shows in groups of two tickets or four tickets for both adult and concession pricing. Alternatively you can purchase a gift voucher for any dollar amount you want. For more information or to purchase gift vouchers go to

<https://iplt.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesvoucher/18044/0>

Well Lit Grounds



Ground lighting to both buildings has been completed. Isn't it wonderful! The lights will come on and off automatically.



Thanks to Ron Sheppard for the installation and to the Blair Office of Shayne Neumann for funding.

YTs and 50 Years

Next year, 2023, Young Theatricals will turn 50 and celebrations are planned. ILT is keen to have the involvement of as many former YTs as possible and are hoping previous players will participate. Contact Tony Erhardt

0408 058 706 or to-ny.erhardt@gmail.com

if you would like more information or to become involved.

Better Late Than Never?

At the June Admin meeting, in his capacity as Fire Safety Officer, Jim Orr reported that he had carried out his fire briefing to the cast of the Play *Whose Name Must Never Be Spoken* on the **Final** night.

He quickly back tracked to **First** night, but one can't help but wonder!

Paid Off

Wonderful news! Despite our financial struggle through the COVID pandemic, Treasurer Chris has paid out the last loan for our courtyard roof.

We still have a newer debt to pay our share of the cost of the LED lighting in the Incinerator but it is certainly a great relief to have our heads above the mire again.



Festival 2022



Things are well and truly underway for Festival 2022 with entries coming in for all three sections: ten minute plays, youth plays and entries in the open section. This, as usual, is a major event on ILT's calendar and as usual we are calling upon our members to provide the necessary support,

How can you help at this year's Drama Festival?

Every year when we host the One Act Play Festival it is our opportunity to showcase our theatre and surrounds. As a member of our theatre, you can help in a number of ways.

Festival Working Bee

On Sunday 7 August from 10am we will be at the theatre sprucing the place up for the Festival weekend. Any time you can give will be appreciated.

Festival Weekend

- During the Festival weekend we need volunteers to work in the Courtyard Bar and Kitchen or Front of House (call Sandie 0439 744 641), and as helpers backstage (call Tony 0408 058 706).
- You can also help by donating any sum of money (large or small – preferably large!) to help pay for some of the costs associated with hosting this event.
- You can also help by just coming along and being an audience member. We need about 432 booked tickets to have a genuine sellout.
- You can simply come along on Sunday afternoon to our Festival Bar-B-Q and meet up with other theatre members that you may not have seen for quite some time.

So you see there are lots of different ways that you can make a difference at this year's Drama Festival.

If you have any questions call Craig Taylor on 0422 611 812.

Vernon Cornish

ILT, as you all know, hosts the longest running Drama Festival in Australia. The first Festival, held in 1955, was the brain child of Vernon Cornish who was a member at that time. Vernon joined the clergy and left Ipswich, serving in a number of parishes and in a number of roles including Dean of St George's Cathedral in Perth. He was appointed Bishop of Hobart, but on the day of his scheduled inauguration, suffered a fatal heart attack.

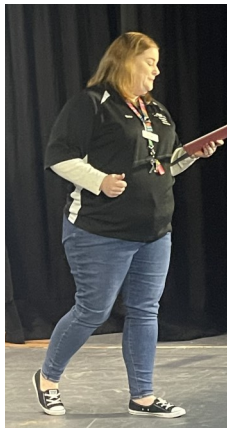
We were contacted recently by Christine Ledger who is the author of a biography of Vernon, *Who Is This Vernon Cornish?*. She and her husband were in Ipswich visiting her sister and brother in law and asked to meet with someone from ILT and view the Incinerator. Ian Pullar met with this foursome and after a tour of the premises, Christine presented him with a copy of the book and a book of Vernon's selected sermons and other writings. His involvement in ILT is only a minor part of the biography which deals mostly with his ministry. I will place both books in the library.

If anyone would like a copy, please feel free to contact Christine at <chrisledger@icloud.com> if they would like the book launch price. Otherwise, they can order it from <https://au.blurb.com/b/10315689-who-is-this-vernon-cornish-paperback>.

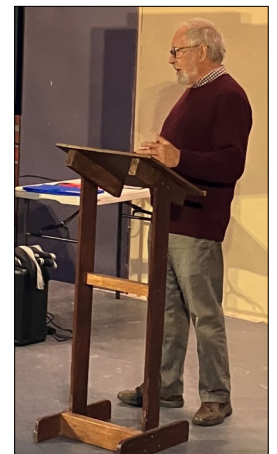
Festival Entries

ILT will have several entries in our own Festival. *Time Flies* has also been entered in several other Festivals. It is hoped that *Blind Date* will also travel but Julie-Anne Wright had undergone surgery to her feet which so far has limited her movements (she is not even allowed to drive) so if, when and how frequently she is able to trip the light fantastic with 'champion dancer' Shane Mallory has yet to be determined. Best wishes for a good recovery J-A! And best wishes to all our entries in all Festivals.

More photos from Directors Master Class



Photos by Robyn Flashman, Jane Sheppard and Chris Greenhill



2022 Season in Brief

Season 1: 3 March — 19 March

The Games People Play

Two short comedies:

"Golf, Marriage and Other Murderous Matters" by Debra Chalmers

Director: Aaron Evans, Assistant Director: David Austin

Rated: M Adult themes and some coarse language.

"Murder Play" by Brian J Burton

Director: Ann Collyer: Assistant Directors: Desley Cronon and Gillian Simpson

Rated: PG Some adult themes .

Season 2: 12 May — 28 May

Once in a Blue Moon by John Dole

Directors: Tony Erhardt & Dave Dunkerley
Rated: PG Some adult themes

Annual Drama Festival

12, 13, 14 August

Season 3: 22 September — 8 October

Deliver us from Mama by Jesse Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill:

Assistant Directors: Robyn Flashman and Martie Blanchett

Rated PG: Mild Adult Themes.

Season 4: 17 November — 3 December

Breaker Morant by Kenneth G Ross

Director: David Austin: Assistant Director: Aaron Evans

Rated: PG Adult themes

DIARY DATES

Friday 17 June 7 pm	Junior Theatre presents <i>Big Louis and the Can-touchems</i>
Saturday 18 June 10 am & 12:30 pm	
20 June 7:30 pm	Auditions for <i>Deliver Us from Mama</i>
Monday 27 June	Bookings open for <i>Deliver Us from Mama</i>
Monday 11 July	Bookings open for Festival
Sunday 7 August from 10 am	Festival Working Bee
12, 13, 14 August	Festival 2022
16 – 26 August	DTT's <i>Henrietta's Not So Helpful Day</i>

Another Blast from the Past

On 24 May we hosted a tour by the Millennium Probus Club of Kenmore. I was approached by one of the visitors who asked, "Did you know John Cuffe?" I readily admitted that I did indeed know John Cuffe, "Well, I'm his brother Bob," he said. "That would explain why you look like him," said I.

John Cuffe appeared in a couple of plays for us in the Town Hall and then in the Incinerator. He played a King of France in one of my Birthday Parties (1972). His most notable performance was in *The Rape of the Belt*. (1973). He played Zeus and Liz Robinson played Hera. They sat on opposite sides of the proscenium delivering commentary on the action of the play. At least they did except on the night when John fell asleep. Liz furtively tried to arouse him from across the void but coughs and whispers proved to be to no avail. So she rendered the silence with, "John, wake up!", much to the amusement of the audience. Zeus was roused...

2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Shane Mallory	0403 175 702
Past President	David Austin	3812 9431 / 0413 636 249
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437/0400 801 443
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Subscription Secretary	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Group Liaison	Robyn Flashman	0477 771 016/
Publicity	Robyn Harm	0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre/Little Players	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Stephanie Groves Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0439 202 955 0431 041 068
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

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