

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2022 **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

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**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
7pm  
Tuesday  
11 October 2022**

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**Helen Greenhill would  
very much appreciate  
Donations of Raffle  
Prizes**



This hilarious comedy, by Jesse Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten opens at the Incinerator Theatre on Thursday 22 September.

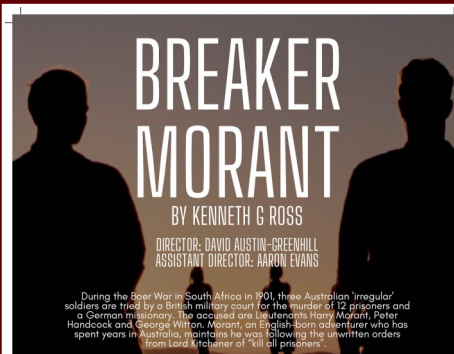
Director Chris Austin-Greenhill has the cast running wild across, it seems, the entire United States of America in a mad dash to get from California to Alabama in time for the birth of Mama's longed for grandchild.

If you love a laugh, make sure you book your tickets at  
**ilt.org.au or VIC 3381 0555**

There are limited seats available for some performances.



The cast: Jessica Pitman, Chris Smith, Peter Marshall, Joseph Savage, Mack Groves, Beth Martin, Liz Ball, Michael Civitano, Vicki Dwyer.



Rehearsals for our final major production of 2022 are well and truly under way with the large cast of men learning to behave like soldiers (term chosen advisedly).

Director David Austin-Greenhill and Assistant Director Aaron Evans have delivered glowing reports of progress and we are all looking forward to seeing the final product which will be thought-provoking (as well as entertaining) with the recent Afghanistan and Ukraine wars still resonating.

**Season 14 November – 7 December**

**Bookings open 10 October**

Volunteers are required to undertake front of house roles during the *Deliver Us From Mama* season.

To offer assistance, please sign up by accessing the appropriate website roster :  
<http://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>

Once again, we are extremely grateful to Amanda Waschevski of Ipswich Photography Studio for her continued support and her wonderful photography.

Appointments: [ipswichphotographystudio.com.au](http://ipswichphotographystudio.com.au). Phone: 0466 992 134



## From the President

Congratulations to all involved with presenting the Festival to competitors, supporters and audiences. It was a lot of hard work, but once again so many positive comments.

Congratulations to Daytimers for their highly entertaining and colourful presentation of *Henrietta's Not So Helpful Day*. Adults and children had a wonderful time.

Then of course – last weekend was YT's Showcase, demonstrating the great potential of the cast and the hard work of their conveners. Well Done.

Guess what now? *Mama's* on her way bringing fun, confusion and laughter to our audiences – so looking forward to this show.

We need more workers in front of house duties, so please check if you can spare even one night or Sunday afternoon to help the Theatre present its best face for the audiences.

*Jim*

## Young Theatricals

The Young Theatricals Showcase Production was presented in the Jean Pratt Building on 9, 10 and 11 September. After a few hiccups in the lead up to the weekend, the group enjoyed an incredibly successful three days. With a couple of last minute cut pieces, they still managed to pull off a pretty great show! They sold exactly 100 tickets over the weekend to audiences that were very supportive. It was great to see the students' family, friends and even their school teachers coming to watch



The YTs at the end of their marathon presentation

## Junior Theatre

Junior Theatre Group is now in recess for September School holidays. They reconvene on 8 October.

The December production *YoHoHo and Other Stuff* has been cast and play reading has begun.

When this play was first presented there were 15 students. This time around there are 22. As you can imagine some changes and additions have had to be made. There are now additional pirates, mermaids and two bilge rats and a ship's cat. 'Jolly' and 'Roger' spend most of their time stealing food and dodging 'Gotcha' the cat.

On 27 August Juniors held a Pirate Day to get in the mood for their upcoming production. It proved a most successful class. All the theatre games were based around a pirate theme and all students came dressed appropriately. In fact, two of them absolutely excelled and came in most superior costumes. Unfortunately, neither of them has been cast as a pirate! One is a parrot and the other is a skeleton.

*YoHoHo and Other Stuff*, written and directed by Deirdre Lowe, will be presented in the Jean Pratt Building on 2 & 3 December.

## Assistance urgently needed -

We claim that ILT is a community theatre and pride ourselves on what we do for the Arts. However, our ability to carry on the good work is diminishing and will continue to do so without more assistance.

Traditionally there has been a solid group of performers and administrators who gave back, accepting that ILT is not just about what happens on the stage. More and more, we are casting plays with talented people, but not seeing them at working bees or taking on positions essential to the maintenance of the group.

We have positions vacant for 2023 for which assistance is urgently required. The position of Bar Manager is urgent. We maybe need to "think smarter" as we have done with a Front of House Team and find ways to make this a more manageable undertaking too, but we need some interested volunteers to start that process.

Another area which is left to too few is the management of our props and furniture—a massive task. Our properties chaps need some more able bodies. And, perhaps there's an Assistant Treasurer out there?

Current Committee members are taking on even greater responsibilities to fulfil all our commitments. An increased voluntary workforce would lighten their load.

For information contact the Secretary: Helen Pullar 0400 801 443.

## Festival Success

Since the last edition of Burning News, two ILT plays have performed in additional Festivals – KSP and Nanango

*Time Flies* won the following awards

Best Comedy – Nanango

Best Comedy Actor Female – Kate Hoepner – KSP

Best Comedy Actor Male – Sam Hoepner – KSP

Best Actor Male – Sam Hoepner – Nanango

Best Supporting Actor – Shane Mallory – KSP & Nanango

Best Costume Award – Kate Hoepner – KSP

Best Set Design – Nanango

(This means Sam Hoepner won a best actor award at every Festival he entered. We knew he was good! Overall, *Time Flies* picked up 30 awards at all the Festivals it entered. Congratulations to Director Jim Orr and his cast.)

*Blind Date* won “Runner Up Comedy” (and \$150) at Nanango where Julie-Anne Wright also won Best Actress. These awards were in addition to the ones won at Ipswich which have been previously recorded.

Well done to both casts and crews.

## YT's 50 Year Celebrations

2023 will mark 50 years since the Young Theatricals group was established by Colin Payne and others. To celebrate this milestone, ILT is currently formulating plans for a special event

Tony Erhardt is busy recruiting former members of YTs who want to be involved and intends to hold a planning meeting very soon.

Anyone wanting to be involved should contact Tony

tony.erhardt@gmail.com

## Launch of Programme for 2023.

2023 promises to be another exciting year for Ipswich Little Theatre with a programme of entertaining plays in the Incinerator Theatre. This is, of course still a State Secret until all is revealed at the Launch on a date to be announced. And that will be the first opportunity for Groups to book a whole night or a half night to provide them with the usual great entertainment and a fund-raising opportunity.



### Ipswich Little Theatre Society - Daytime Theatre Troupe

Presents A Pantomime

## A Grouchy Christmas

Written and Directed by Kay McAllan and assisted by Margaret Martin



It's just before Christmas and all is going to plan in Santa land. The elves are on top of the orders and Santa and Mary are enjoying a visit from Poppy the Christmas Fairy as they get ready for the Christmas festivities. But in a green cave not far away, the green cranky Grouches are hatching a plan. They don't like giving, and sharing and caring - that's not their style! With some forgetful dust they make Santa lose his memory. No Santa means no Christmas! Grouches don't like Christmas.

All your favourite Christmas characters join together to help Santa regain his memory with singing and dancing to your favourite Christmas tunes. Join Mary, Frosty, Rudolf, Chrissy Tree, Twinkle the Christmas Star, Poppy the Christmas Fairy and the Elves as they try to help Santa and save Christmas. The Grouches get caught out and learn about caring and sharing and being kind as they make new friends.

#### Performance dates

10:00am and 12 noon

Tuesday, 1 November

Wednesday, 2 November

Friday, 4 November

Tuesday, 8 November

Wednesday, 9 November

Friday, 11 November

#### Featuring

June Lambourne as Santa, Andrea Bulloch as Mary Claus, Sarah Currie as Poppy the Christmas Fairy, Kim Taylor as Twinkle Star, Annmaree Ling as Rudolf, Jane Brown as Frosty, Cynthia Graham as Chrissy Tree, Cleo Smith as Elvish Elf, Lesley Cuthbert as Pricilla Elf, Robyn Harm as Groucho Grouch, Margaret Martin as Gruzzelda Grouch. Allison Johnston, Bette Rose, Di Johnston in the chorus. Marie Mortimer assisting with costumes and lights, Margaret Martin is assistant director. And of course, Chic Currie is Mrs Music

There will be a special performance for Wednesday 26 October at 6 pm for family and members.

#### Bookings

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





## 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, Martie Blanchett & Tracey Spence

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

22 September	Opening night for <i>Deliver Us from Mama</i>
10 October	Bookings open for <i>Breaker Morant</i>
24 October—11 November	Daytime Theatre Troupe Pantomime
17 November	Opening Night <i>Breaker Morant</i>
2,3 December	Junior Theatre <i>YoHoHo and Other Stuff</i>
TBA	Launch of 2023 Programme
11 December	Annual General Meeting

## The Price of Success

The whole world is aware that prices everywhere are going up because of cost increases in almost every commodity. While Ipswich Little Theatre has always prided itself on keeping our ticket (and bar) prices down, there comes a point at which something has to give.

After all, we have not yet fully recovered from the negative income year of 2020 and have not adjusted our prices since 2016. We have asked a small group of our Committee members to come up with a recommended pricing policy.

Just as an indication of the effects of inflation on costs, I was recently doing some work on our Archives. The ticket price for our play *Black Chiffon* in 1957 was 4/- (40 cents) or 3/- for back stalls (with a programme included in the price). It's no wonder we only had \$1500 in the bank when we undertook the conversion of the Incinerator in 1969 and started on the project that has so far cost well in excess of \$3 million (in current money values)!

### 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/
Marketing	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 Mack 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