

December 2024

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

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NEXT ILT

COMMITTEE MEETING

7pm
Tuesday
11 February 2025

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Annual General Meeting for 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Incinerator
at 3 pm on Sunday 19 January

All are invited to attend and to hear reports on the numerous and very interesting activities of the Society over the past year and to elect the Office Bearers for 2025. Nominations have been called for the following positions:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Administrative Committee (up to 25). Nominations are also called for two vacancies on Building Committee and four vacancies on Selection Committee. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary and completed forms must be in her hands no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

The AGM will be followed by the presentation of the Griffin Awards in honour of Judy Grant at approximately 5.30 pm.



The cast for our first play of 2025 are actually taking rehearsals seriously when they are not clowning around for a photograph. Readers might be mistakenly thinking this will be a farce, whereas it will be a Black Comedy.



Left to right: Michael Civitano, Allie Harris, Corinne Biddulph, Jack Barrett, Brittany Bell, Vicki Dwyer, Jason Nash, Ollie Gavranovic, Dylan Clevens and Dimitri Tomazos.



"If Santa doesn't bring me an i-phone this Christmas, I'm going to stop believing in him."

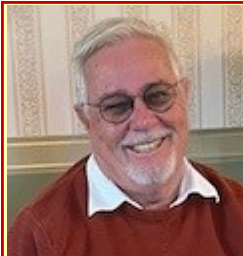
The Start of 2025

Remember that from next year evening performances will commence at 7:30 pm.

Matinees will still start at 2 pm.

Best wishes for
Christmas and 2025





From the President

Congratulations to all involved in the production of *Bondi Legal* – great fun for the audience and cast alike.

I attended the final day of Juniors and was amazed at the students' willingness to expand their performances. I said to them that the only reason they were all able to perform as they did, was that they felt safe and supported by every member of the group. It was fun for the audience interacting with the students and team – thank you to all involved for another year of learning and fun. It was also great to see the YTs team assisting with the show.

I also attended YTs Break Up and presented the Judy Grant Encouragement Award to Shelby O'Malley. I have known Shelby for years and watched how she has grown as an actor but also as a participant in every facet of theatre. Congratulations Shelby and all the YTs team for taking on challenging projects and stepping outside their comfort zones.

All things going to plan, this is my last President's report as I am stepping back after 6 years. It has been a challenge at times and there certainly have been some difficult times – but there have been many more wonderful times so I thank you all for your support and willingness to work together to help the theatre be what it is – an outlet for all who want to bring the joy of theatre to life, but most of all a place where you can have fun and know that you are supported at all times.

Thank you. Bring on 2025.

Jim

Young Theatricals

The Young Theatricals held their final class on 4 December. And it will be the final, final class for the seven students (Belle, Xan, Bones, Gilbee, Shelby, Robin and Ollie) who have “graduated” i.e. are now too old to remain with the group. But good news – two of the “graduates”, Robin Vary and Ollie Gavranovic, have moved on to Senior Theatre and will be appearing in *Popcorn*.



Final assembly for the YTs.

Shelby O'Malley, who was delighted to receive the Judy Grant Encouragement Award, is waiting to hear if she's been accepted in a fully paid youth writing scholarship with Queensland Theatre. Gilbee is also going to Queensland Theatre to pursue his passions.



Auditions

The Perfect Murder Adapted for the stage by Shaun McKenna from the novella by Peter James.

Victor Smiley and his wife Joan have been married for nearly twenty years. Victor secretly loathes Joan more and more each day. Joan is bored by Victor, and his snoring drives her mad. Their marriage has reached a crisis point. Victor decides there is only one way to get Joan out of his life for ever, but he's about to get a nasty surprise. As it turns out, Victor's not the only one with murder in mind ...

Auditions will be held in the Jean Pratt Building at 7:30 pm on Monday 3 February for this thriller, to be directed by Helen and Ian Pullar with Assistant Director Julie-Anne Wright.

There are five parts available:

Victor Smiley is a middle-aged man, for whom “murder is my hobby”. He is an obsessive compulsive.

Kamila Walczak is a “skinny Croatian prostitute in her 20s” (accent essential).

Joan Smiley is an incorrigible gossip who loves shopping – old enough to have been married for nearly twenty years but possibly young enough to have a baby.

Detective Constable Roy Grace is aged in his late 20s, dedicated but considerate.

Don Kirk is a middle-aged and fit taxi driver who loves using cockney rhyming slang.

Further information and scripts are available from the directors (hpullar@bigpond.net.au) or you can complete an audition form via <https://www.ilt.org.au/getinvolved/auditions/>

Season 14 – 31 May

Would any member who holds a Theatre key please ensure that it is sighted or returned to the Secretary by the AGM.

Daytime Theatre Troupe

Our Daytime Theatre Troupe finished a successful season of *Surf's Up Santa* with a Christmas lunch at the PA Hotel. The ladies were delighted when Santa



Jimmy arrived to distribute some 'Secret Santa' gifts.

L: Di Johnston & Lonny Rutland with Santa Jimmy.

R: Santa Jimmy and his Grandma Chic Currie.



Paths that Cross

When Corinne Biddulph and Dimitri Tomazos learned that they had been cast in *Popcorn*, they got another surprise (hopefully a pleasant one) to learn that also in the cast was Jason Nash who had been their Drama teacher at school – the start of a different relationship.

Junior Theatre

The end-of-the-year showcase showed our students' improvisational skills in a Theatre Sports competition. As several Senior thespians observed, "I'm glad it was the youngsters doing that and not me!"



David Austin giving the "rules of engagement" to the competitors.



Winners of the Theatre Sports: Caitlin, Hattie, Tracey, Jade and Thea.

Hattie stood in that morning for Jed, who was unwell and who is also moving to Adelaide.

Thanks to Kate Hoepner and Aaron Evans (Directors of YTs) who were the judges of the competition.

The sports were followed by a farewell to three graduating students, Angus, Ivy, and Jade. These three students have mentored the younger team members and helped make the Juniors a safe place for them to explore their skills as actors.

Another year of Junior theatre is complete, and the team takes a well-earned rest until 2025, although Tracey Spence is moving on.

Vale Bev Ralph 29-7-1946 —10-11-2024

Bev Ralph passed away on 10 November 2024 after a brief illness. Bev's involvement with Ipswich Little Theatre spans the past three decades, in between stints in Western Australia and the Northern Territory for her work with First Nations youth. Bev has graced the ILT stage in Theatre Restaurants, *Jerry's Girls*, as an S-Troupe helper and as one of our formidable Raffle Ladies. Bev is remembered for her infectious laugh and her stories about her many adventures. She is sorely missed by all who knew her and will be remembered fondly as a contributing member of Ipswich Little Theatre Society.

This tribute by Chris Greenhill



ILT End of Year Big Bash

On Sunday 15 December members assembled in the Courtyard to celebrate the end of another successful year. Tony Dwyer, who was there with his wife Vicki, had also brought his camera and provided us with memories.





We can only hope that all those who enjoyed our facilities on this occasion appreciate the effort that is required to maintain them and will be equally willing to come along to the WORKING BEE scheduled for Sunday 16 February. We really do need all the help we can get.

2025 Season in Brief

Season 1: 26 February — 15 March

Popcorn by Ben Elton

Director: Aaron Evans

Assistant Director: Mack Groves

Rated: MA 15+ Adult themes, sexual references and coarse language..

Season 2: 14 — 31 May

The Perfect Murder adapted by Shaun McKenna from a novella by Peter James.

Directors: Helen and Ian Pullar

Assistant Director: Julie-Anne Wright

Rated: PG. Some adult themes

Annual Drama Festival

Director:: Di Johnston

8, 9, 10 August

Season 3: 17September — 4 October

Secret Bridesmaids' Business

by Elizabeth Coleman

Director: Martie Blanchett

Assistant Director: Shane Mallory

Rated PG: Some coarse language and adult themes.

Season 4: 19 November — 6 December

Waiting for God by Michael Aitkens

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

Assistant Directors: Jessica Pitman and Alison Lees

Rated: PG Some coarse language and adult themes.

DIARY DATES

Sunday 19 January 2025 3 pm	Annual General Meeting
Monday 3 February 2025 7:30 pm	Auditions <i>The Perfect Murder</i>
Sunday 16 February from 9 am	Working Bee
26 February	Opening Night <i>Popcorn</i>

Another Special Event

Members who recently attended the excellent talk by Jim Happ on Incinerators will be delighted to know that on 22 February we will be hosting a talk on Walter and Marion Burley Griffin in the Incinerator Theatre.

The presenter will be Michael Thomson, a retired Fine Arts teacher from Sydney, who is a member of the Burley Griffin Society and has written extensively about the Griffins. I had the pleasure of meeting up with Michael at our Incinerator in May and I am really looking forward to his presentation.



Walter Burley & Marion Mahoney Griffin

Details will be provided in the next Newsletter, but pencil in this FREE event at 7:30 pm following a wine and cheese introduction.

2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President & Selection Committee Convener	Ann Collyer	0400 997 365
Past President	David Austin	0413 636 249
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437/0400 801 443
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

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	David Austin	0422 620 851
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Jane Sheppard	5464 5363 / 0419020675
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 .J 5464 5363
Theatre number		3812 2389