

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

April 2025

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946

**Editor:**

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info@ilt.org.au

**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**  
7pm  
Tuesday  
6 May 2025

From the President	2
Theatre Shirts	2
Amazement	2
Group Bookings	2
Memorial for Bev Ralph	2
Discover Ipswich	3
Junior Theatre	3
Young Theatricals	3
Festival Play	3
Plays for 2026	3
Diary Dates	4
Kitchen	4
Contacts	4



*"As you get older you realise  
how important it is to read the  
fine print."  
"But by then it's too small to  
read."*



*The Perfect Murder* opens on 14 May and is already well on the way to a sell-out season. To meet this demand, the cast have agreed to perform an additional matinee on Saturday 31 May.



Kamila Walcak supplies Victor Smiley's 'emotional' needs.

Photos by Kim Frohloff



Cast and Directors (L to R): Rhiannon Pettett, Julie-Anne Wright, Gene Banyard, Ian Pullar, Helen Pullar, Jo Robins, Shane Mallory, Sean Gibson.



Don Kirk is a welcome distraction for Joan Smiley.



Detective Constable Roy Grace is not happy with some of Joan Smiley's answers.

**Season 14 – 31 May**

**Public Performances 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 May @ 7:30 & 18, 25, 31 @ 2 pm**

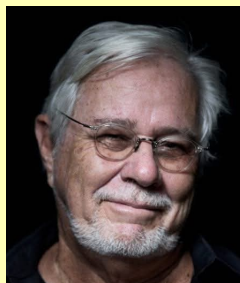
**Bookings at [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au) or**

**VIC 3281 0555**

As always, we need help with Front of House for *The Perfect Murder*.

To offer assistance, please sign up at

<https://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>



## From the President

Congratulations to Aaron, Mack, cast and production crew for *Popcorn*. It was a challenging script for both cast and audience. There were some amazing performances that gripped the audience and forced them into a place they didn't like but also asked questions they didn't want to answer. I enjoyed every minute.

Now for something completely different – with Ian and Helen and Julie-Anne taking us to *The Perfect Murder* which I know Di is eager to get some tips from.

Remember we need help – Front of House & Raffles – for this production. Each shift of one night helps and only takes a few hours.

Unfortunately Kerry has had a serious medical issue and has withdrawn from the cleaning duties. Luckily, Trish, who was our previous cleaner, has become available and has taken over this job for us.

Kerry has begun his recovery and is now home after two weeks in hospital.

*Jim*

## Theatre Shirts

We do like our volunteers to wear “the corporate uniform” if possible and it saves them the trouble of deciding what to wear! Once again, Connie Foy has been negotiating with Ipswich Embroidery and Workwear to arrange for purchase and printing of Theatre shirts. If any members would like to take advantage of the opportunity,



they can let Connie know their preferred size and she will arrange the printing. Alternatively, give her your own choice of shirt – any style you like – and it will be done too. The prices are:

Polo with ILT logo \$42.00

Polo with ILT logo and individual name \$50.00

ILT logo embroidered onto your own shirt/jumper \$15.00

To avail yourself of this offer, contact Connie at

<thefoys@optusnet.com.au> or phone 0403 575 044

## Amazement

We never cease to be amazed by the number of people who have lived in Ipswich all their lives and never knew there was an Incinerator in Queens Park. Almost equally amazing is the number of people who have never heard of Walter Burley Griffin or, if they have, do not know anything about his career and importance in Australia.

For all that, it is a rare occasion when members are working on site – set building, gardening, carrying out maintenance – that someone doesn't wander in to “have a look around”. And it's very easy for the member to find that time has passed answering questions and telling our story.

## Group Bookings

Sessions available for groups are fully booked for *The Perfect Murder* (with a waiting list). However for groups wishing to fundraise, there is still one half night available during *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* and three half nights available for *Waiting for God*. Any group interested should contact Martie Blanchett 0405 186 767.

## Memorial for Bev Ralph

Unfortunately, Cyclone Alfred's intervention meant that the installation of the memorial plaque for Bev Ralph couldn't be held on 29 March as planned. The ceremony has now been postponed to midday on Saturday 26 April.

If anyone would like to join members of her family and members of ILT at the ceremony, please let Chris Greenhill know 0427 977 007 or [christophergreenhill70@gmail.com](mailto:christophergreenhill70@gmail.com)

## Discover Ipswich

Our Marketing Supremo Robyn Harm attended the launch of *Discover Ipswich* magazine at the newly refurbished Commonwealth Hotel in the Nicholas Street Precinct. This was a great opportunity for her to talk to many other business owners about ILT and promote our group nights. ILT features in the magazine in a few places – entertainment and historic buildings. Being part of the magazine means that we can advertise with the Australian Tourism Warehouse Australia wide as well as being advertised by *Discover Ipswich* for any plays and events.

The magazine was launched by Michael Williams and Pye Augustine (pictured). Michael is Industry Development Officer for Tourism and Pye is Councillor for Division 1 and Economic and Cultural Development Committee Chair to name a few of her roles in Council.



Footnote: Robyn is always on the ball, seeking opportunities to market our product through every available avenue. Any assistance with publicity is always appreciated.

## Junior Theatre

The Juniors are continuing their journey with Shakespeare and are embarking on the challenging task of bringing *A Midsummer Night's Fun* to life. The script has been adapted by Dior Austin from the Bard's original work and is proving a delight for the youngsters.

The current plan is for the play to be presented in the Incinerator on 21 June with two performances: 8:30 am and 10:30 am. This times have yet to be confirmed in consultation with parents once classes resume after the school holiday break.



Watch your bottom!

## Young Theatricals

The YTs have been continuing their exploration into the different areas of acting. Unfortunately, one class had to be cancelled because of Alfred, but the students were able to adapt.

The last lesson before the break was on film and Brittany Bell, who played Scout in *Popcorn*, came in to discuss her success in the industry. The students loved talking to someone who has been in films they'd seen!

Once classes resume after the holidays, work will begin in earnest in preparation for the Showcase to be performed in the Incinerator on 20, 21, 27 and 28 June at 7:30 pm and a matinee on Saturday 21 June at midday.

## Festival Play

Selection Committee has received and approved an application to direct a play for the Festival circuit. The play is *Watch Your Head* by Lynda Rodriguez, directed by Jim Orr with Assistant Director Relle Scott. It will be entered in our own Festival and in several others.

There is just time left for any other budding director to submit a script for consideration by the Committee.

Don't forget that our own Festival will be held – as usual – on the second weekend in August.

## Plays for 2026

Although it is still early in 2025, we need to plan ahead and so it is time for budding directors to give serious thought to what plays they would like to submit to Selection Committee for possible production in 2026.

Applications can be submitted any time between now and the closing date of 30 June. <https://www.ilt.org.au/apply-to-direct-with-ilt/>.

For further information or guidance, Selection Committee Convener Ann Collyer is always available. <amcollyer58@gmail.com> or 0400 997 365

And librarian Aaron Evans is also available to assist with play selection.



## 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

14 May	Opening Night <i>The Perfect Murder</i>
Monday 9 June	Auditions <i>Secret Bridesmaids' Business</i>
20, 21, 27, 28 June @ 7:30 pm 21 June @ 12 noon	Young Theatricals <i>Showcase</i>
Saturday 21 June 8:30 am & 10:30 am (TBC)	Junior Theatre <i>A Midsummer Night's Fun</i>

## Kitchen

Hidden away in the Incinerator is a kitchen, the first version of which was installed in 1969 when we moved into the building. It was used to cater for Theatre Restaurants through the 1980s and into the '90s. This use was superseded by the construction of the amenities building in 1993. The inside kitchen was again refurbished in 1995 but, after 30 years of use and seeping water, was in a sad state of repair. But to the rescue came the redoubtable Gary Denman who, with help from Ian Pullar, installed a lovely new Ka-boodle Kitchen. Well, almost installed because Bunnings failed to supply one door. This has now been acquired and will be installed soon along with a vented kickboard.



### 2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
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	Martie Blanchett	0405 186 767
Marketing	Robyn Harm	0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	0439 305 658
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 0400 801 443 .J 0419 020 675
Theatre number		3812 2389