



# BURNING NEWS

from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre

[www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au](http://www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au)

JUNE 2009

Ipswich Little Theatre Newsletter

## 40 YEARS IN THE INCINERATOR—WE'RE HOT!

### IPSWICH LITTLE THEATRE POLO SHIRTS

Another print run of Ipswich Little Theatre Polo Shirts is about to be done. You can order yours now (phone Suzanne ah 3281 4748) to ensure you get the size you need. S,M,L,XL or XXL \$20 each

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### ANOTHER WINNER!

The winner of the audience competition from "Sex, Drugs and Rick'n'Noel" was Lyn Davey of Flinders View.

Lyn receives 2 tickets to our next play season "Milo's Wake". Congratulations, Lyn!

### What are we planning?

#### Ipswich Art Gallery

##### 30 July – 13 September

From 30 July to 13 September there will be a display of memorabilia in the Queensland Times Gallery. This is particularly significant as that space encompasses the old Town Hall stage on which we used to perform. It promises to be excellent and we encourage you to see it.

During the month of August all our groups will be performing at different times in the Gallery and there will be more information about that at a future date.

#### Official Function

##### 15 August

One of our plans is to install an Interpretative Panel on the courtyard wall of the Incinerator so that more people can be aware of its significance. This will be unveiled at a small 'invitation only' Cocktail Party on the evening of 15 August to which will be invited local politicians and people who have been especially significant in the life of that building.

#### Our Day of Celebration

##### 22 August

##### 1. Open Day

For some time the Committee has felt that an Open Day at which we could showcase what we do to the public of Ipswich was desirable and this year we are going to do it! This date has been chosen as our grounds always look their best at the time of the Festival with the additional marquees, bunting and decor and it seemed sensible to utilise these.

##### 2. Party Time

And at night – let's celebrate!!

A function is planned for everyone at which there will be some 'formal' acknowledgment of our achievements followed by an informal party. Everyone will be welcome BUT please note: RSVPs will be essential.

The organising committee is working frantically to make this a night to remember – DVDs, history updates, a wonderful record of all our productions, visual memorabilia and much more. A night to remember!

### How can all this happen?

As you will realise all of these events will need volunteers. We all enjoy this lovely venue so if we share the load then we should all be able to enjoy the celebrations.

We are asking you – the Members, Parents, Family & ILT Volunteers – to offer an hour or two of your time to work on the roster during this Open Day (or any of the other special festivities) to help share with Ipswich the many joys and achievements of ILT.

Times at this stage are indefinite as the extent of our activities on the day depends on YOU. There is a definite limit to how much the Committee and hard-core workers can undertake, but if we all take this opportunity as members of the ILT family, the sky could be the limit.

### How can YOU help?

If you are interested in getting involved and helping support Ipswich Little Theatre or need additional information please contact Helen Pullar on (07) 3281 4437 or email [hpullar@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hpullar@bigpond.net.au)

Don't forget to order your ILT polo shirt to wear to our special 40th celebrations to show your pride in being a member of Ipswich Little Theatre

## News from the groups within Ipswich Little Theatre

### ILT 55th One Act Play Festival

Do keep the weekend of 7, 8, 9 August free for our next exciting One Act Play Festival!

If you would like to help over that weekend, either welcoming guests, working in the bar and kitchen or selling raffle tickets, please don't hesitate to contact Suzanne 3281 4748.

#### Do you have a camera?

This year we would like to have a dedicated person to document the whole festival. If you have a camera and like taking photos and would like to offer assistance in this way it would be very much appreciated.



Also, during the Festival weekend, we run a raffle with a whole series of prizes, not only bottles of wine but a mixture of wonderful items that are donated to us.

If you have something that you would like to donate, let me know, and we can arrange collection prior to the Festival.

**Remember  
7, 8, 9 August  
ILT One Act  
Play Festival**

#### Crossfyre Young Theatricals

The next Crossfyre performance is called "Life, Death and Everything in Between".

The nights are 24, 25 July starting at 7:30pm at Ipswich Little Theatre, Jean Pratt Building. Tickets are \$10 Adults and \$7 Concession (e.g.: Students).

Tony Erhardt

#### S-Troupe

See report below

Di Johnston

#### Daytime Theatre Troupe

Daytimers are in lunch mode at present and will resume rehearsals for the final production of the year after the school holidays. Jane Shepard is the director for our final show of the year.

Jan Paterson

#### Smart Arts

Smartarts is having a three week break for the end of term 2. We resume back on the 18 July and head straight into our end of year performances at the art gallery and Incinerator theatre.

Kyle Breese

#### Tourific Troupers

Despite heavy rain 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> May the Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May tour went ahead. The day went well in spite of all of the changes to our usual procedures. My thanks to: Sybil, Marie, Desley, Jane, Joan (who also had to contend with her car breaking down), and performers Di and Jim.

Robyn Flashman acting convenor

*Ipswich Little Theatre is doing well compared with Los Angeles' largest theatre (who have a few more paid staff than we do). See below for a recent news report ...*

#### LA's Largest Theatre Lays Off Staff

*"Center Theatre Group, the West Coast's largest nonprofit stage company, has laid off 12 employees -- a tenth of its full-time staff of 120. Those who remain will absorb one or two weeks' unpaid furlough in the coming year, with the highest-earning third losing two weeks." Los Angeles Times*

## Special news from S Troupe

Many thanks to the theatre members and members of the public who helped out on our recent show *Mary Pops-In*

- by working in the bar – Gav, Bev, Deb, Judy, Desley, Sandy, Kimberley, Cathy (and those who did two stints – thanks Robyn & Chris)
- by assisting with cleaning of backstage when we had huge rainfall and costumes and carpet got wet (thanks Jane and Robyn)

and of course our front of house and lighting people, Brendan, Nadine, Melinda, Jim who all went way beyond the call of duty

Without the assistance of all these behind-the-scenes people the show cannot go on.

I have received very positive response and feedback about the show, spoken on Phoenix Radio about it, even received an SMS in letters to the editor. Over 300 people attended and with just doing drink service this time, the show ran smoothly.

We recently were presented with \$1000 donation from Council and I am booking for everyone to see "Beauty and the Beast" at the Civic Hall in September.

We have also been invited to perform at the launch of Queensland Disability Action week which will be held in Ipswich this year.

Di Johnston

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS for ILT MEMBERS

At the June meeting of the Admin Committee, concern was again expressed regarding security.

All members were reminded to check doors are locked before leaving the premises. Even if you are not a key holder, do keep our security in mind.

\* \* \*

Don't forget all the exciting events planned for our 40th celebrations itemized on page 1. If you would like to assist in this planning process please note that the 40th Birthday Committee has weekly meetings held on Wednesdays at 7pm in Jean Pratt Building

\* \* \*

Thanks to all our hard working members who acted so promptly to fix the damage to both our buildings during the heavy downpour experienced in May. If they hadn't taken such timely action the damage sustained would have been much worse.

\* \* \*

Do take care when 'bumping out' after a play is completed. Recently a young theatre member suffered pain after stepping on a staple left behind.

### Workplace Health and Safety 'Brain Storm' Wednesday 22 July 7.15pm

Workplace Health and Safety is a key element for the successful operation of any large organisation and let's face it we are a large organisation.

Ken Mundt may be known to most of you as a local theatre identity but in his "other" life he is a Workplace Health and Safety Consultant.

He has been working with members of the theatre to draft a policy document to provide direction and guidelines for theatre members, volunteers and contractors in WHS matters.

To help Ken and the WHS sub-committee in their task we would like to invite theatre members to

attend a "Brain-storming Session" on Wednesday July 22 at 7:15pm in the Jean Pratt Building.

Some (but by no means all) of the issues we need to discuss relate to: duties, responsibilities, obligations and roles for - Directors - Performers - Stage Managers & Crew - Technicians - Front of House Staff - Maintenance Volunteers/Contractors/ Employees. Also considered will be any special requirements for the groups within ILT.

So bring your thoughts and ideas along at **7:15pm on Wednesday 22 July** and help us to make our theatre a safer place for all to enjoy.   
Craig Taylor

### AUCTION RESULTS

A casting was held on Tuesday 17 June for *Milo's Wake*, to be directed by Melinda Park, assisted by Robyn Flashman. The principal part of Milo O'Connor will be played by Craig Taylor and that of his long-suffering spouse by Gillian Simpson. Although Gillian is a newcomer to our stage, she has previously performed elsewhere in an enormous number of plays and musicals. We welcome her on board. The play also requires bar staff and an Irish band and these recruits will include Max McKenzie and Relle Scott.

Unfortunately, there were insufficient auditionees to cast the two young people (1F 1M), so it is planned to hold a supplementary casting on Tuesday 24 June.

### WANTED

Funny stories, Good memories, Critical Comment 1996 – 2009

We are planning an update of *Rising from the Ashes* to coincide with our 40<sup>th</sup> Celebrations.

One of the features of that book which members loved was the little stories and comments inserted in shaded boxes.

Now we need the latest tales, reminiscences and comments about specially memorable plays and players.

This really is a way you can help the Planning Committee.

PLEASE respond quickly.

email: [hpullar@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hpullar@bigpond.net.au)

### ILT 2010 Program

Selection Committee is commencing planning next year's programme and now invites anyone interested in directing a play in 2010 to apply to the committee by the **end of August**.

Any member wishing to direct a full-length or one act play in any of these seasons or a one-acter for the Festival circuit is asked to apply in writing, nominating a preferred season, and to provide a script of the proposed play. Wherever possible, please supply an alternative in case the first preference is unavailable or cannot be cast.

Please assume that the dates for next year will be much the same as for this year i.e. Play 1 February/ March; Play 2 April/May; Play 3 or Theatre Restaurant June/July; Festival August; Play 4 October; Play 5 or Theatre Restaurant late November/December.

For more details please contact Selection Committee Chair, Ian Pullar 3281 4437



**Ipswich Little Theatre  
CONTACT DETAILS**

**Ipswich Little Theatre  
PO Box 154  
IPSWICH Q 4305**

**Newsletter editor: Suzanne Matulich  
phone: 3281 4748**

**email  
info@ipswichlittletheatre.com.au**

The Ipswich Little Theatre complex, including the historic Incinerator Theatre designed by Walter Burley Griffin, is in Burley Griffin Drive (off Griffiths Road) Ipswich.

Please call one of our Committee (details below) for more information about any specific queries that you might have.

**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE MEETING:  
14 July '09  
7.00 pm**

**2009 DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY**

26 June - 18 July	<b>Robin the Hood</b> , Director Di Johnston. Theatre restaurant. Details page 1
7, 8, 9 August	<b>ILT One Act Play Festival</b> , Director Suzanne Matulich 3281 4748
22 August	Saturday - details in this newsletter. Keep it free for the 'Ipswich Little Theatre—40 years in the Incinerator' celebrations
30 September - 17 October	<b>Milo's Wake</b> , Director Melinda Park. Bookings Visitor Info Centre 3281 0555

**VALE ZILLAH NORRAK**

Tributes flowed at the funeral of Zillah Norrak who died at 91 years young on 16 April. Zillah, and her husband Lou, were regular members of the small audiences which attended our plays in the Town Hall in the 1960's in the dark days of live theatre following the advent of television. They continued to be loyal and enthusiastic followers for many years after our move to the Incinerator in 1969 and delighted in Ipswich Little Theatre's growth and success in our unique and historic home.

Zillah's home was a treasure trove and first call for some ILT directors. If a prop or piece of furniture was required she would generously loan it (sometimes for months) once she had found it under a pile of books and papers. She received an OAM for her Contribution to the Community in 1991.

"A woman so full of the joy of life, respected and loved by all who were fortunate enough to know her."

**'09 Contact details that you might need**

President	Judy Grant	3288 0717
Vice President	Jim Orr	0447 20 00 06
Past President	Craig Taylor	3201 4444
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Jan Paterson	3810 5884. 0417 787 130
Smart Arts Director	Kyle Breese	0411 29 88 58
S-Troupe Director	Di Johnston	3812 9141
Crossfyre Director	Tony Erhardt	5464 2662
Daytime Theatre Troupe Coordinator	Jan Paterson	3810 5884
ILT One Act Play Festival Director	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
Front of House Management Co-ordinator	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Group Liaison Secretary	Robyn Flashman	3812 3450
Theatre number	Note, there isn't always someone at this number	3812 2389