

April 2016

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**
7pm
Tuesday
10 May

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This Newsletter has been delayed to provide coverage of the YTs' Showcase and the latest roof developments

The Roof is Going Up!

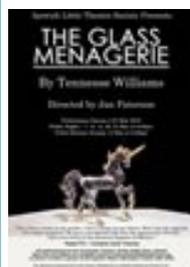
Immediately after the final night of *Lipstick Dreams*, the demolition team (aka Theatre members) moved in and stripped the courtyard, revealing a much larger space than we had appreciated we had. More photos inside.

The next step was for the concrete cutters to move in and prepare the way for the foundations which were augered and filled with concrete to the engineer's satisfaction. On the Tuesday after Easter our contractors brought in an enormous crane and the pre-fabricated steel sections were lifted into place. It was all beautifully designed and went together like a "big boy's meccano set". The men on the job were experts and it was all done more quickly than we could have hoped and it all looks wonderful.

Next stage is for the roof cladding which will be in place just in time for Opening Night of *The Glass Menagerie*.

The one fly in the ointment is that the concrete in the courtyard is in poor condition and will have to be totally replaced – at vastly more expense. We really do need those donations coming in! Our plan is for this replacement to be undertaken between the *Glass Menagerie* and *The Narcissist* seasons.

This project is the realisation of a long-held dream and will make our great home even greater.



Top L: Sam Hoepner and Margaret McGahan

Top R: Margaret and Sally Jenkins

Below L: Aaron Evans and Margaret

Below R: Sam and Aaron



The Glass Menagerie, directed by Jan Paterson opens on 4 May.

Bookings are quite heavy, so make sure you have yours – along with that of the friends you are going to bring.



Family and Friends Nights

For a number of years now, new productions have been “blooded” by inviting family and friends to provide a trial audience for a cast immediately prior to their opening night. While this practice has largely been of benefit, it has also created its own problems because it has tended to become a first performance instead of a final rehearsal. The director may need to interrupt the action to provide direction to the players. The date of the final rehearsal currently needs to be “locked in” well in advance, which may not prove to be the most suitable date. There have also been problems with providing adequate Front-of-House staff.

Accordingly, our Directors have decided to discontinue Family and Friends Nights.

Young Theatricals

The YTs presented a very enjoyable Showcase in the Jean Pratt Building on 16 April as can be seen in the photographs. These young people have once again proved that they have talent and are a credit to their Directors Liz Ball and Rebecca Noble. The students each presented a monologue of their own selection and entertained and impressed the audience with their obvious talent.



Back Row: Mackenzie Norris, Cooper Nunn, Joseph Leisemann, Cooper Wells, Ella Turner, Matthew Hamlin

Front Row: Davin Rowntree, Rebecca Noble, Liz Ball, Candice Statham, Lily Macdonald, Stephanie Elliot



“The Narcissist”

The cast of our third major production, *The Narcissist* are getting into the swing of rehearsals. Here is an early shot of Director Shane Mallory (right) explaining his intentions to Callum Campbell and Jo Robins

Also in the cast are Liz Ball, Josh Nixon and David Austin.



Working Bees

As reported on page 1, a successful Working Bee was held on 20 March when the courtyard was entirely cleared. The theatre and kitchen are now temporarily filled with tables, chairs, fridges etc. Thanks to all those who turned up to work – particularly the three fathers and one brother of Junior Theatre members. It is a shame that more of our members who are not on Admin don't make the effort to come and help for a few hours.

We will of course need to carry out a lot of work to make the courtyard fit for the season opening only hours after completion of this stage of the roof development. We will be calling on volunteers.

Celebrations

Planning is continuing for our major celebration on

22 October

marking 70 years as a Theatre company, 80 years of the Incinerator and the brand-new roof. Each of the many groups will present their own “thing” from afternoon into evening. All the conveners of the sub-groups are developing their individual presentations. More details later.

Mainhouse theatre is developing an entertainment based on incidents which have occurred during our 70 years of productions. Any members with stories to tell are asked to contact Helen or Ian Pullar very soon.

Junior Theatre and Little Players

Preparations are well in hand for these groups who will be presenting their wares on 3 & 4 June.

We have a volunteer for Little Players. Ainsleigh Hudswell (who was a member of Junior Theatre until last year) is working on a service certificate for school and is volunteering with us on Thursdays. It's wonderful to see members continuing on.

It is also hoped that Eunice Austin will come on board with the Juniors on Saturday mornings.

Deirdre Lowe

Junior Theatre Director

Daytime Theatre Troupe

Cheryl Klaassen has now completed the script of *Library Alive* which will be this year's presentation by the Day-timers. The group will commence preparation of the production on Wednesday 27 April at 10am.

Lots more news to come once the group gets up and going.

Festival 2016

Entry forms for Festival 2016 are now available on our web site along with detailed biographical information about our exciting adjudicator, Dani Rogers-Fearnley.

Festival Director Craig Taylor is heading off overseas until mid-June but his plans are well and truly in place.

Ipswich Heritage Festival Parade

Ipswich Little Theatre participated in the Parade organised by the QT, playing the parts of Superheroes and Villains. Many thanks to Shane, Liz, Joshua, David, Deirdre, Ann C, Marie M, Robyn H and Juniors. In particular, many, many thanks to Robyn Harm for organising this event, in return for which we now have sponsorship of almost \$2000 worth of advertising our events and plays for the next 6 months.



S-Troupe

S-Troupe is back in the swing preparing for their show later in the year is called *Colour My World* so classes at the moment are working on colour of course.

Selection Committee

The Committee is anxious to receive offers from members who are interested in directing a Festival play. And the committee would love advance notice from anyone who is contemplating undertaking a major production in 2017. While nominations do not close until the end of July, the committee would appreciate the opportunity of reading proposed scripts in a more leisurely time frame.

ILT has submitted two ten minute plays for the ACT 1 Drama Festival. These plays are "WEDDING BELLES" and "GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE", both written by Ian Pullar.

Group Fundraising Nights

There are still nights available for *The Narcissist* and *The Final Test*.
Contact Robyn Flashman: 38123450

Season 2: 4 — 21 May

Public Performances: 7, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 May

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

Director: Jan Paterson

Assistant Director: Desley Cronon

Rated PG

Season 3: 29 June — 16 July

Public Performances: 2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 July

The Narcissist

by Stephen Carleton

Director: Shane Mallory

Assistant Director: Kate Mallory

Rated MA 15+ Frequent Coarse Language, Sexual References

Season 4: 21 September — 8 October

Public Performances: 24, 30 September, 1, 2, 7, 8 October

Deckchairs

by Jean McConnell

Directors: Chris Austin-Greenhill, Ann Collyer & Aaron Evans

Rated PG - Contains adult themes.

Season 5: 23 November — 10 December

Public Performances 26 November 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 December

The Final Test

by Chris Paling

Director: Jane Sheppard

Assistant Director: Anne England

Rated G - Suitable for all audiences

DIARY DATES

4 May	Opening Night <i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
23 May	Bookings open for <i>The Narcissist</i>
3 June 6:30 pm	Juniors & Little Players
4 June 10 am	Juniors & Little Players
6 June 7:30pm Jean Pratt Building	Auditions for <i>Deckchairs</i>

Donations

Ipswich Little Theatre is extremely grateful to members and supporters who have generously donated to our Building Fund:

Mayor Paul Pisasale and Councillors Andrew Antonioli, Cheryl Bro-mage, David Morrison, Paul Tully, David Pahlke, Charlie Pisasale and Sheila Ireland

Marlene & Vicki Milsom

Betty Freckleton

The Springs Residents

Karen Peart

Almond Family

Keith & Jane Roberts

Jacqui de Villiers

Colin & Jan Paterson

Yvonne Hawkins

The works are also being fi-nanced from loans generously provided by our own members. Ipswich Little Theatre now has a massive debt. Please support us through donations, attending and encouraging others to do likewise.

2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	David Austin	3812 9431 (ah) 0422 620 851
Vice President	Doug Moses	3281 2846
Past President	Jim Orr	0447 191 954
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Jan Paterson	3282 4250 0419 787 130

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Anne England	3281 7654 0413 676 049
Subscription Secretary	Doug Moses	3281 2846
Group Liaison/ Publicity Co-Coordinators	Robyn Flashman/ Robyn Harm	3812 3450 / 3812 3516
Jean Pratt Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Junior Theatre/Little Players	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Young Theatricals	Liz Ball	0439 642 259
	Rebecca Noble	0422 449 291
STroupe	Di Johnston	0447 191 954
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Sandie Henwood	0439 744 641
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 J 5464 5363
Theatre number	NB: only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389

Sincere thanks to Cr Charlie Pisasale for the monthly printing of *Burning News*,
For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

THE COURTYARD ROOF coming down



Colin and Keith



Steve was outside the Jean Pratt Building painting! Others avoiding the camera!



Ron, Marcus, Chris and Tony



Joshua and David



Chic, Robyn and Joshua

... and going up



Above: Not a lot of supporting soil in this corner, but now a lot of concrete

Left: Getting down to it

Right: In the swing



Above: Concrete progress



Below: The entrances to the courtyard with the new structure – roofing still to come

