



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**
7pm
Tuesday
17 January 2023

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Best wishes for
Christmas and 2023



Annual General Meeting for 2022

The Ipswich Little Theatre Society Annual General Meeting was held in the Incinerator on Sunday 11 December and attended by 26 members.



Helen, Jim, Ian & Chris presiding!

After 30 reports on the various activities of a very busy Society had been delivered, elections were held which resulted as follows: President Jim Orr; Vice President Shane Mallory; Past President David Austin; Secretary Helen Pullar; Treasurer Chris Greenhill; Minutes Secretary Ian Pullar.

Committee: Martie Blanchett, Desley Cronon, Tony Erhardt, Aaron Evans, Robyn Flashman,

Connie Foy, Helen Greenhill, Robyn Harm, Sandie Henwood, Kate Hoepner, Di Johnston, Deirdre Lowe, Beth Martin, Kay McAllan, Melinda Park, Ian Pullar, Jane Sheppard, Tracey Spence, Julie-Anne Wright.

Building Committee: Helen Pullar, Melinda Park, Ian Pullar, Chris Greenhill, Jim Orr, Jane Sheppard

Selection Committee: Shane Mallory, Kate Hoepner, Tony Erhardt, Martie Blanchett, Aaron Evans, Julie-Anne Wright.

Following the formal meeting, the President announced the winner of this year's Griffin Award which was presented by Judy Grant's grandson Xavier Green (see page 3). This was followed by a ceremony where a plaque was installed in memory of Life Member Doug Moses who died this year (see page 4). A light meal was then enjoyed by all.

Bookings

for our first production for the year are now open at

ilt.org.au or VIC 3381 0555.

Don't miss this wonderful opening to a memorable Theatre year.



Directors Di, Jane and Dave are having fun with the cast rehearsing for our first production in 2023 - *The Ladies Foursome*, by Norm Foster. Working out some interesting and varied blocking for 18 rounds of golf is somewhat of a challenge but great progress is being made. The talented cast of Jo Robbins, June Lambourne, Kim Frohloff and Vicki Dwyer are very committed to developing their characters and we're sure our audiences will enjoy this very funny and heart-warming play.

Season 2 March – 18 March

Public Performances

Nights (at 8 pm) Saturday 4 March, Friday 10 March, Saturday 11 March, Friday 17 March, Saturday 18 March

Matinees (at 2 pm) Sunday 5 March, Sunday 12 March.



From the President

CONGRATULATIONS to Chris Austin-Greenhill who was awarded the Griffin Award in Memory of Judy Grant at the AGM. His commitment to every aspect of the theatre was amazing. He worked tirelessly helping others, when needs were identified, or just got in and did what needed to be done. His work as Treasurer is outstanding, but his work as a gardener had received praise from everyone who has seen them, either during the day or evening. He has done countless 'volunteer' hours in the garden and has so many plans to improve them even more. Also congratulations to Sean Gibson and Ollie Gravanovic who were both awarded Judy Grant Incentive awards for their work and commitment to YTs and the theatre this

year. Both are first year YTs

Congratulations to the cast and production crew of *Breaker Morant*. What a breathtaking show. How did the Directors find so many men, especially talented men to bring this show to life? This play again proved what can be done by ILT on its tiny stage and the effect that close proximity to the actors can have on an audience.

So many members of our committee have shown their commitment to keeping ILT alive and viable. I am humbled to have been a part of their work.

Helen, Chris, Shane, Melinda and Ann were all outstanding and spent hours working to find a way through the maze of constantly changing restrictions and attending to financial problems that arose. I again asked that a vote of thanks on behalf of all members be given to these members. They could not have done this without a belief in ILT and its future.

Thank you for entrusting me with the position as President for another year.

Jim

From Here to Eternity?

Auditions will be held on 30 January for our second season *From Here to Eternity?* comprising two short plays *Tracks* by Peter Tarsi, directed by Martie Blanchett with Assistant Director: Jim Orr

A group of strangers meet in a dirty Subway station. They have arrived with limited personal belongings and their watches have stopped. They all claim to be from different cities, and they soon realise there is no way out of the station. As they search for answers they reflect upon their lives – the good and the regretful. Why are they there? Where does this train take them? Who will board and who will be left behind?

Parts are available for 6 women: Homeless Girl - roughly 20 years old; The Lawyer - late 30s; The Nun - mature age; The Business Woman - mid 30s; High School girl - late teens; Waitress - late 30s.

And for 4 men: The old Man - early 80s; The Professor - early 50s; The Businessman - mid 40s; High School Boy - late teens.

More information can be found in the online audition forms or from Martie: mrsmbblanchett@gmail.com

God Goes to A Shrink by Hugh O'Brien, directed by Tracey Spence with Assistant Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

What ifGod was one of us? Just a regular Joe or Joanne?

Dr Peter Fox, Clinical Psychologist, is about to meet a patient he has never seen before. "Messiah Monday" has never been so real or is it?

Cast required: 1 male old enough to be grandfather to a newborn baby and 2 females, preferably in their twenties.

More information can be found in the online audition forms or from Tracey on traceles1@gmail.com

Junior Theatre

The Juniors presented ILT's final production for 2022 *YoHoHo and Other Stuff* in the Jean Pratt Building on 2 and 3 December to very appreciative audiences. Director/author Deirdre Lowe and her husband Billy have now taken off for a well-earned trip to Tasmania.

Juniors will resume on 28 January.



Each year at the AGM, the President presents a GRIFFIN AWARD in Memory of Judy Grant. These awards, generously sponsored by Ross Grant, are made to recognise outstanding contributions to ILT and are based on nominations from members of Admin. In presenting this year's award, Jim made the following remarks:

There were many nominations this year for people who have done outstanding things for the Theatre and its members, often in their area or group, and they are all deserving of their nominations.

But there were several nominations for this year's recipient Chris Austin-Greenhill, who has, like all previous recipients, personified all that Judy Grant was to the Theatre. Chris was involved in so many different sections of the Theatre attending working bees, helping out in the bar, working in the garden, helping with selling and presenting raffle prizes, being our outstanding Treasurer, directing his play and helping with others, attending Committee meetings, helping Committee members whenever he could and offering assistance to anyone he found working or asking for help. When he saw something that needed doing, he did it. NEARLY always with a smile – or was that a grimace?



Jim and Chris with Xavier Green who presented the award.

Congratulations Chris. So well deserved.



Young Theatricals Incentive Awards

Also congratulations to Sean Gibson and Ollie Gravanovic who were both awarded Judy Grant Incentive awards for their work and commitment to YTs and the Theatre this year. First year YTs, both have worked in the Bar on performance nights and attended Senior and Junior productions. These awards were presented at their final class on 7 December. Jim was impressed by both and how different each personality was.



Breaker Morant

Breaker Morant finished its season 3 December having played to excellent houses and with an extremely high standard of performance. Congratulations to all involved.

Taffy

On one of her recent trips away from home, Robyn Flashman caught up with Malcolm "Taffy" Campbell who now lives in the Blue Mountains. Taffy performed in many plays in the Incinerator during the '70s and '80s where his extreme height made entrances from "the tunnel" a real challenge!

Older members will remember some of his wonderful performances.



Left: Robyn with Taffy in 2022

Right: Taffy in *There's a Girl in My Soup* (1989)



Work in Progress

As soon as *Breaker Morant* finished, a team comprising Chris, Jim, Di, Robyn H and Ian moved in and stripped all the stage curtaining in preparation for the sanding of the multiple paint layers on the stage. The curtains were vacuumed and brushed ready to be rehung. All the seats from the auditorium have been relocated and the lights bagged to protect them from dust.

Work has also been carried out on the entrance to the Jean Pratt Building with the removal and replacement of the broken garden edges. On a day when the weather forecast was for a cloudy day with a temperature of 27°, Chris and Ian laid new garden edges under bright sun as the temperature soared to 37°.

Chris has subsequently been replanting along the edges to complement the gardens which are so widely admired by all visitors to the site.



2023 Season in Brief

Season 1: 2 March — 18 March

The Ladies Foursome

by Norm Foster

Directors: Di Johnston and Jane Sheppard

Assistant Director: Dave Dunkerley

Rated: PG Contains some mild language and adult themes.

Season 2: 11 May — 27 May

From Here to Eternity?

Two short comedies:

Tracks by Peter Tarsi

Director: Martie Blanchett

Assistant Director: Jim Orr

Rated: PG Adult themes and references.

God Goes to a Shrink by Hugh O'Brien

Director: Tracey Spence:

Assistant Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

Rated: PG Some adult themes.

Annual Drama Festival

Director : Di Johnston

11, 12, 13 August

Season 3: 7 September — 23 September

12 Angry Jurors by Reginald Rose
adapted by Sherman L Sergel

Director: Aaron Evans:

Assistant Director: Dave Dunkerley

Rated PG: Adult Themes.

Season 4: 10 November — 2 December

Theatre Restaurant

My Fair Empire written and directed by
David Austin-Greenhill:Assistant Directors: Courtney Murrin and
Tracey Spence

Rated: PG Mild adult themes

DIARY DATES

25 January	Young Theatricals resumes
28 January	Junior Theatre resumes
30 January	Auditions for <i>From Here to Eternity?</i>
22 February	Daytimers resume
2 March	Opening night <i>The Ladies Foursome</i>
20 March	Bookings open for <i>From Here to Eternity?</i>

Memorial to Doug Moses

In accordance with our custom, following the AGM, a small ceremony was held to commemorate the contribution of Life Member Doug Moses to the Society and a plaque was laid in the memorial area for valuable members who have "left the stage".



Jane Sheppard addressing the members with her account of Doug's theatre life.



Jane and President Jim Orr laying the plaque

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 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	NB: Only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389