

March 2022

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING
7pm
Tuesday
12 April 2022**

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Many thanks to those who carried out Front of House tasks—both regulars and wonderful new volunteers.

Now playing at the Incinerator Theatre

The Games People Play



In *Murder Play*,

L: Jack Barrett,
Martie Blanchett
& Kahli Williams

R: Martie & Alan
Brown



In *Golf, Marriage and
Other Murderous
Matters*

L: Chris Smith, Georgie
Page & Vicki Dwyer

R: Georgie & Joseph
Savage



The season has not been without its problems – COVID during rehearsals, the resignation of Ann Collyer, the floods, electrical problems and a cast member leaving the stage one night ill with Director Aaron Evans completing the play by reading the part from his phone.

If you want to see this very enjoyable show, you are almost certainly too late as there are only one or two scattered seats available

Vicki Dwyer has been keen to point out that she owes her very existence to Ipswich Little Theatre. Her parents Geoff and Shirlee Burns met when they performed in *The Admirable Crichton* in 1961.

We are extremely grateful to Amanda Waschevski of Ipswich Photography Studio for her continued support and her wonderful photography.

Appointments: ipswichphotographystudio.com.au. Phone: 0466 992 134



Lake Burley Griffin reappeared – complete with its own lake monster (an eel) – during the recent heavy rain events. Water ingress into the Building also meant that opening night for *The Games People Play* had to be cancelled. Fortunately, we were able to reschedule it so the two groups did not miss out.



From the President

Well, we thought that Covid was our main problem coming into our 1st performances for the year. Wrong, major challenges have risen, especially with the loss of Ann. She is a much loved member of ILT and now needs to focus on herself and her family. Please respect her decisions and offer any support you can. I know I will miss her calming advice and hugs.

Then of course the reflooding of Lake Burley Griffin and leakages into the theatre and backstage. Thank you Chris, Aaron, Robyn and Kev especially for your work to clean and dry out the Main Building and surrounds.

We lost one performance but I am proud of how everyone has come together to help each other and support the cast and crew of the plays.

I look forward to helping the current production and upcoming productions give their talents to our audiences.

Jim

Once in a Blue Moon

I think someone once said, "Life wasn't meant to be easy". And it isn't always easy in the world of Theatre. Circumstances have intervened with our next production, resulting in a number of cast changes. The cast now comprises Joseph Savage as Gregory, Jack Barrett as Lionel, Emily Sweet as Lyra, Brianna Byrnes as Veronica, Kate Lester as Selina, April Hanney as Hash Harriet, and Jeremy Melhop as Stage Manager and in the minor role of Young Man.

Directors Tony Erhardt and Dave Dunkerley report that the production is going well and they are looking forward to moving rehearsals into the Incinerator. For Dave there is a deal of nostalgia as he directed the same play in 1989.

Bookings open on 21 March for the season 12—28 May.



Juniors & Little Players

Junior Theatre will be reprising *Big Louis and the Cantouchems* which was first presented in 2016, albeit with a larger cast. Director and author Deirdre Lowe is looking forward to resurrecting *Big Louis* – not forgetting all the showgirls and Betty Boop! – with help from her usual assistants plus David Austin who has taken on the role of Assistant Director.

Numbers for Little Players are still growing and will probably end up with 11. Their production is based on Numbers this year heavily featuring *This Old Man* nursery rhyme. Andrea Bullock has joined the group as a helper

Young Theatricals

Since last month's meeting, the YTs have:

- Developed some very interesting ideas and plot lines in Scriptwriting
- Built on their skills and seen some interesting interpretations of *Time Flies* with How to Audition.
- Created some fascinating and perhaps a few weird characters using one or two wardrobe pieces in their Costuming lesson
- And had their brains fried when learning all about Breathing & Speaking Techniques.

Daytime Theatre Troupe

The Daytime Theatre Troupe recommenced with a pleasant morning tea. The ladies welcomed another young mum with her baby and toddler, pleasantly reminding them why the DTT was formed 39 years ago. They will be holding a series of theatre workshops with topics including voice, accents and stage movement during March. Auditions and rehearsals will commence after Easter.

Tourific Troupers

Despite continuing difficulties of hosting tours with the current COVID restrictions, a few tours are booked this year. These are principally by groups who were unable to come over the last few years and who are keen to pick up where they left off.

Working Bee

The traditional start-of-the-year Working Bee was held on 20 February with the following cast list of attendees: Jim, Di, Helen, Ian, Chris, Robyn, Robyn, Aaron, Martie, Shane, Kate, Sam, Jane, Beth, Sandie, Connie (a volunteer) and Tricia (our new cleaner). Using a serious high pressure washer and carpet cleaner lent by Kevin and Robin Harm plus lots of elbow grease, sweat and tears, the team made the whole place shiny and new for the New Year. Robyn H even found time to snap some photographs.



Martie



Ian



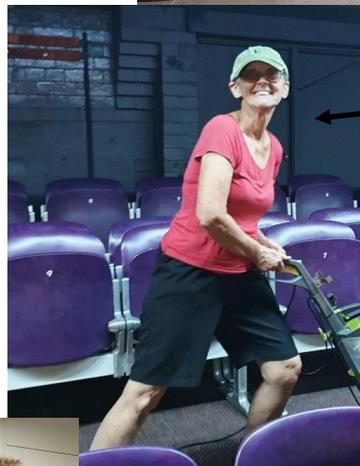
Kate



Sandie



Aaron



Robyn H

Robyn F



Kate & Sam

Di taking a bow after scrubbing the drive



That should see us through to July when we do it all again for the Festival!

2022 Season in Brief

Season 1: 3 March — 19 March

The Games People Play

Two short comedies:

"Golf, Marriage and Other Murderous

Matters" by Debra Chalmers

Director: Aaron Evans, Assistant Director:

David Austin

Rated: M Adult themes and some coarse language.

"Murder Play" by Brian J Burton

Director: Ann Collyer: Assistant Directors:

Desley Cronon and Gillian Simpson

Rated: PG Some adult themes.

Season 2: 12 May — 28 May

Once in a Blue Moon by John

Dole

Directors: Tony Erhardt & Dave Dunkerley

Rated: PG Some adult themes

Annual Drama Festival

12, 13, 14 August

Season 3: 22 September — 8 October

Deliver us from Mama by Jesse

Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill:

Assistant Directors: Robyn Flashman and

Martie Blanchett

Rated PG: Mild Adult Themes.

Season 4: 17 November — 3 December

Breaker Morant by Kenneth G Ross

Director: David Austin: Assistant Director:

Aaron Evans

Rated: PG Adult themes

DIARY DATES

21 March	Bookings open for <i>Once in a Blue Moon</i>
12 May	Opening night for <i>Once in a Blue Moon</i>
20 June	Auditions for <i>Deliver Us from Mama</i>

Long Service

We are told that all good things come to an end. After 28 years of producing our programmes, Rosemary Lyons has decided to retire and close Bursey Print. We have every reason to be grateful to her for her obliging and quality service and we wish her well.

Historical Contact

Info@ILT recently received a message from a Chapel Hill woman wanting to make contact with Ian Pullar about local history.

In 1979, the brand new Chapel Hill State School was opened close to where we were living. We moved our children there into Grades 6, 4 and 2 and we got involved with the P&C. One night in February Helen rang home from a meeting. "We're talking about fund raising and have decided to stage a Theatre Restaurant in the covered area using parents and teachers as cast. You are going to write and direct it. And it has to be on the first weekend in May." Not much time!

I borrowed a plot from Chaucer and we staged it. It was so successful, I suggested to ILT that we stage our own version of it. For the next three years I did a new one at Chapel Hill and recast it for ILT (using the Chapel Hill tables I had built!) By the next year, our children had moved to Ipswich schools. A Chapel Hill Dad produced one more and I went on doing them at Ipswich for 17 consecutive years.

That's how it all began.

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/
Publicity	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 Stephanie Groves Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0439 202 955 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	5464 3965/0439 305 658
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 .J 5464 5363
Theatre number	NB: Only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389