

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

August 2023

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

**Editor:**

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### NEXT ILT COMMITTEE MEETING

7pm  
Tuesday  
12 September 2023

From the President	2
<i>12 Angry Jurors</i>	2
Junior Theatre	2
Programme for 2024	2
<i>My Fair Empire</i>	3
Young Theatricals	3
Sponsor a Garden Seat	3
<i>On the Boards Again</i>	3
Festival Photographs	4, 5
Festival Prize List	5
Diary Dates	6
What are the Chances?	6
Contacts	6



"By definition, 'unique' should have no synonyms in a Thesaurus."



Our 67th Festival has been and gone! And what a credit it was to Festival Director Di Johnston, Festival Secretary Beth Martin, Festival Stage Manager Tony Erhardt and all the members and volunteers (far too numerous to name) who made it happen. The woman who

brought a large contingent of participants from Sydney said, "It was the best organised Festival we've ever been to and believe me, we've been to lots."

Results of the Festival can be found on page 5 and photographs from the event on page 4.

## Daytime Theatre Troupe

Now playing at Ipswich Little Theatre's Jean Pratt Building

### Go To Sleep Mia

Written and directed by Jane Sheppard

*Mia is supposed to be getting ready for bed, but instead gets caught up in imaginary adventures with characters from her storybooks.*

Just a very small sample of the wonderful costumes.



Above: The entire cast and crew

Left: The Mia who inspired the script by her grandmother with Goldilocks (Cleo Smith)

Right: Tigger (Margaret Martin) with Mia (Sarah Currie)



A heart-warming show not to be missed by the young at heart.

You can book your tickets on-line for the matinee on Saturday 19 August at 10am at [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au)

Plans are under way for a 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on Saturday 14 October. Any past members wanting to be included, email your contact information to [daytimetheatretroupeenquiries@ilt.org.au](mailto:daytimetheatretroupeenquiries@ilt.org.au) or phone Kay: 0439305658 or Bette: 0468365041

## HELP WANTED

Volunteers are needed again to undertake front of house duties during *12 Angry Jurors*

To offer assistance, please sign up at <https://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>



## From the President

Well lots has happened, even in three weeks. We had a visit from the Men's Shed, ICC unexpectedly turned up with two international architects and one from interstate – lucky I was on site and could give them a quick tour.

The Men's Shed visit resulted in an expression of interest in the Cleaners Position – with Kerry Hodgson already helping keep the Incinerator and JP Building clean.

Thank you to those who helped out at the working bee for the upcoming Festival – certainly a lot was achieved by so many willing helpers.

Congratulations to all who were successful at the Festival and thank you to all the workers, the hours of hard work in preparation put in by Di and Beth paid off and special thanks to Tony, Sandie, Connie and our visiting Life Member Phil for their hard work in making the Festival a success.

*Jim*



### Season

**7-23 September**

Public Performances

Evenings 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 September

Matinees 10, 17 September

(Wine & Cheese night Saturday 9 September)

What a busy theatre we are. Even before the last Festival workers and participants had left the premises, the auditorium was being transformed to a theatre-in-the-round configuration. And by the next night rehearsals were in the swing in the new space for this exciting show which opens only three weeks later.

This will be a novel experience for our audiences. Bookings

are still available but it won't be long before there are no more seats so make sure you get in before they run out.



From left clockwise: Jason Karan-Cole, Shane Mallory, Vicki Dwyer, Anna Bentley and Adrian Carr.

Bookings at: [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au) or VIC 3281 0555

## Junior Theatre & Little Players

Under its new management, (Director David Austin with assistants Tracey Spence, Chris Austin-Greenhill and Vicky Murray) Junior Theatre has recommenced and will be conducting classes/rehearsals on Saturday mornings. Director David Austin reports that the youngsters are very excited by the announcement that they will be undertaking a production of *Marlin's Great Ocean Adventure* inspired by *Finding Nemo*. Auditions for this play will be held on 2 September.

The youngsters will be competing for a number of challenging roles and then going into rehearsals for performances in early December. Further news to come.

## Plays for 2024

Selection Committee is currently finalising the programme of plays for next year in time for the launch towards the end of October. Until then, it will remain a closely guarded secret.

## My Fair Empire

Auditions were held for our final production of 2023 – the fabulous *My Fair Empire* written and directed by David Austin-Greenhill – and the enthusiastic cast listed was enrolled.

People are already anxious to make bookings even though these have not yet opened. There will be four tables each of ten places and one long table of 18. Bookings will be available for single seats, couples and parties of any size. The night's entertainment will include appetisers and a delicious two course meal with refreshments available from the bar. Price \$55 per head. Season dates are on page 6.

*May the Farce be with you!*

Bookings open on Monday 25 September at:  
**ilt.org.au or VIC 3281 0555**

Dark Vapour	Josie Yarham
Princess Laid Up	Kim Frohloff
Lube Skystalker	Chris Smith
Ham Yoyo	Michael Civitano
Creepio	Dylan Crevens
Yodel	Dylan Crevens
The Emperor	Dylan Crevens
Minister for Aged Care	Dylan Crevens
Barstool	Ollie Gavranovic
Admiral Dontkillme	Liz Ball
Captain Idontwantotdie	TBA
Combie Van Ken Barbir	Chris Austin-Greenhill
Chew Schmako	Jess Pitman
Bonny Fett	Kerri-Anne MacDonald

### Young Theatricals

Following the season of *We're All Mad Here*, the Young Theatricals entered their plays *A Game* and *Mmmbeth* in our Festival as well as the Beenleigh Festival and will also be taking them to KSP Festival.

In addition, the YTs are preparing to present a Showcase in the Jean Pratt Building on 6 and 7 October. It would be good if members came along to encourage the YTs, particularly those who did not perform in the Festivals.

### On the Boards Again (title to be finalised)

As notified in the past few newsletters, the scouts have been out looking for suitable scripts for our first season of next year and have now put a proposal to Selection Committee.

If approved, the season will comprise a number of short plays (of ten or thirty minute duration) with half to be performed on the Incinerator stage and the other half in the Jean Pratt Building. After interval, audiences will swap venues and the actors will perform their parts again. This format is similar to the one used in early 2021 as we came out of Covid restrictions and proved very popular.

Auditions will be held on 23 October for parts in the plays. As they are all short plays, learning lines will be less onerous than for a full length play. More details will be given in the September Newsletter

### Sponsor a Garden Seat

A couple of decades ago, we purchased a set of wooden forms for use as seating at a Theatre Restaurant season. Over time, these were relocated to serve as outdoor seating in the courtyard, on the balcony and in the grounds. Despite an annual face lift of stain and at least two major refurbishments with complete sanding back, the seats are showing their age and could do with replacement.

We have sourced a supply of more robust seats and in a brain wave have come up with a cunning plan (Blackadder would be proud of us). We are offering a small dose of immortality by inviting members, friends and supporters to donate a seat with the name of the donor to be inscribed on a plaque attached to the seat. Sponsors could be individuals, families, businesses, the cast of a play or any other category. Your name could be there, showing your support for ILT.

The asking price will be \$150 per seat. Anyone wanting to assist can contact Helen Pullar (hpullar@bigpond.net.au). There could be a delay till we can order a job lot so payment will not be required yet.

And be assured your seat will be well looked after with an annual clean and re-stain.

Your plaque could be here.



Festival 2023

Photos by Ian, Julie-Anne, Aaron, Jim, and Robyn H.

My apologies to so many deserving people whose photos do not appear on this page, but if no one took them —



Martie & Beth in-tent-ly tying things down in preparation.



Try to get past these if you dare!  
Above: Julie-Anne & Andrew  
Right: Kate



Adjudicator Allana Noyes corralled by Beth and Di.



The bosses: Director Di & President Jim. They appear to know each other.



A collection of Blackout Collectives enjoying a break in the courtyard.



A cut above: Sue, Jane, Helen, Margaret & Veronica cutting up for salads in the JP kitchen



Tony at a loose end (but not for long).



You might hit a snag when you're barbecuing: Leah & Ian



Allana with three of the Boyz (second prize in the 10 minute section)



Jim & Allana with Alicia Brite, Director of *Rue* (Best Drama)



Suzanne Matulich (Director of *Impromptu*) with Brian Jentz (former YT), winner of Best Actor Award & Allana.

FESTIVAL 2023 RESULTS

**Ten-Minute Play Section:**

- Best Play - *Hands in the Chocolate Money* (School of AIPA)
- 2nd Place - *Do It for the Boyz* (Bare Feet Drama)
- Best Director - Margaret Haynes (*Chocolate Money*)
- Best Original Script - *Hands in the Chocolate Money*
- Best Actor - Thomas Rich (*Chocolate Money*)
- Best Actress - Olivia Stevens (*Chocolate Money*)
- Best Supporting Actor - Theo Hunt (*Do It for the Boyz*)
- Best Supporting Actor— Eli Ball (*Do It for the Boyz*)

**Special Adjudicator Awards:**

- Sound Effects (*Heading for Home*)
- Cauldron Effects (*Wicked Twists*)
- Choreography (*The Audience*)
- Choreography (*Do It for the Boyz*)
- Set (*Ashes to Ashes*)

**Youth Section**

- Best Play - *Hoods* (Strike TLC Theatre)
- 2nd Place - *Bubblewrapped* (Bare Feet Drama)
- Best Director - Clara Aleckson (*Hoods*)
- Best New Script - Not awarded. Insufficient entries
- Best Actor - Kaspar Emmanoulials (*Shakespeare's Got Talent*)
- Best Actress - Grace Goodwin (*Hoods*)
- Best Supporting Actor - Anthony Princeton (*Murder at Rosemere*)
- Best Supporting Actress - Tamika McCoy (*Hoods*)
- Best Actor Minor Role - Jeremy Hales (*Bubblewrapped*)
- Best Actress Minor Role - Brigid Brennan (*The Audition*)

**Adjudicator's Certificates:**

- Fabulous physicality (*Bubblewrapped*)
- Ensemble (*Phantasmal*)
- Strong Ensemble (*A Game*)
- Thomas Rich (Birnam Wood to Dunsinane) - (*Shakespeare's Got Talent*)
- Sienna Randall (Fridge) - (*Bubblewrapped*)



Above: The cast of Best Play 10 minute - *Hands in the Chocolate Money*- AIPA

Right: Cast of 2nd Youth Prize - *Bubblewrapped*- Bare Feet Drama



**Open Section**

- Best Play Drama - *Rue* (Mousetrap Theatre)
- Best Play Comedy - *The Actor's Nightmare* (Toowoomba)
- 2nd Place Drama - *Love Me (not)* (Blackout Collective)
- 2nd Place Comedy - *Roof House* - (Starlet Creative Industries)
- Best Director Drama - Alicia Brite (*Rue*)
- Best Director Comedy - Elyse Armstrong (*Actor's Nightmare*)
- Best Actor Drama - Brian Jentz (*Impromptu*)
- Best Actress Drama - Lillyanna Neilson (*Love Me Not*)
- Best Actor Comedy - Tobias Paull (*Actor's Nightmare*)
- Best Actress Comedy - Beth Geoghegan (Starlet Creative Industries)
- Best Supporting Actor - Dani Cripps (*Actor's Nightmare*)
- Best Supporting Actor - Linda Shapcott (*Impromptu*)
- Best Actor Minor Role - Jack Fenwick (*Appropriate Audience Behaviour*)
- Best Actress Minor Role - Kate Carlisle (*Appropriate Audience Behaviour*)
- Best New Australian Script - *Rue*

Stage Manager's Award - Blackout Collective

**Adjudicator's Awards:**

- Liv Wood stepping in for *Rue*
- Ensemble - *In the Blood*
- Ensemble - *Donahue Sisters*
- Ensemble - *Appropriate Audience Behaviour*
- Charlie Donellan - *Appropriate Audience Behaviour*



Above: The cast of Best Open Comedy - *The Actor's Nightmare* - Toowoomba Rep

Left: The cast of 2nd Best Play 10 minute - *Do It for the Boyz*—Bare Feet Drama



Above: The cast of Best Youth Play - *Hoods* - Strike TLC

**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 plays:

***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**

Booked dates 11 to 25 August 19 August	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Go to Sleep, Mia</i> Morning matinee (public)
7 September	Opening night for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i>
25 September	Bookings open for <i>My Fair Empire</i>
5, 6, 7 October at 7:30 pm 8 October at 2 pm	YTs <i>A Haunted Haunting</i> . YTs <i>A Haunted Haunting</i> .
Saturday 14 October	Daytime Theatre Troupe 40 <sup>th</sup> Celebration
23 October	Auditions <i>To Be Finalised</i>

**What are the Chances?**

The *Orpheus Chorale* have just finished a season *Dad's Army* for which they required several military uniforms. Leah Bell (Vice President of *Orpheus* and regular volunteer and patron of ILT) knew that we had recently done *Breaker Morant*. On enquiry, she learned that these valuable uniforms had been vacuum sealed and stored by Melinda Park. She rang what she thought was Melinda's phone number and was surprised to find herself speaking to a man who readily admitted that his group had indeed borrowed army uniforms but he was sure they had been returned to Townsville Little Theatre. Wrong number, Leah! What are the chances of one wrong digit in a phone number finding another production (in North Queensland) using borrowed army uniforms?

Footnote: *Dad's Army* done and dusted, the invaluable uniforms are again cocooned in vacuum sealed splendour till they are called upon again.

**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**

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	David Austin	0422 620 851
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