

July 2023

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

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**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
7pm  
Tuesday  
8 August 2023**

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*"My doctor said 'Don't tell me you're still climbing ladders at your age', so I don't tell him."*

### Young Theatricals

The YTs have now completed a very successful season of their production "on the Big Stage" presenting *We're All Mad Here*, in six performances, comprising their two plays *Mmmbeth*, by Allison Williams, directed by Kate Hoepner, assisted by Sam Hoepner and *A Game* by Dennis E Noble directed by Aaron Evans assisted by Mack Groves.



The three witches: Evie Farrow, Shelby O'Malley & Jorja Sargent in *Mmmbeth*.



Ollie Gavranovic, Robin Vary & Ailish Quinn in *A Game*

The season also included the very memorable Gala celebration of 50 years since the YTs were formed, when many former and present members joined with current Theatre members to celebrate the activity organised by Tony Erhardt, whose brainchild it was. Pictures of the event can be found on page 4.



The Festival is almost upon us. Once again, on 11, 12 and 13 August, Ipswich Little Theatre will be hosting the longest running Drama Festival of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. We have attracted a large number of exciting plays for the enjoyment of our audiences, and the challenge for Adjudicator Allana Noyes

The programme for this joyful event is published on page 5. Please note the starting times for each event when making your bookings which are available at: [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au) or **VIC 3281 0555**

And don't forget the traditional Festival barbecue on Sunday 13.

### HELP WANTED

The Festival doesn't happen without the assistance of a large number of members, so once again we are appealing for your help, A working Bee to set up the site for the Festival will be held on Sunday 6 August from 9 a.m. And then we need loads of help with Front of House and kitchen service. Please sign up by accessing the appropriate website roster

<https://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>



## From the President

Congratulations to Deirdre and Ann for the Junior Production. It was great fun.

Also congratulations to the YTs. I greatly enjoyed both plays and watching the talent of the young performers blossom

Thank you to Tony Erhardt and to his helpers Jane and Melinda who brought together past and current members to celebrate 50 years of YTs. It was a fun night sponsored by ICC and ILT. So many memories were shared and relived by so many. 'You don't look a day older – pause - well maybe a bit'. The catering team excelled themselves; great food helps bring great fellowship. Well done Sandy and Connie especially.

We lost Tricia as our cleaner, to full time work, much closer to home. This is a great loss for us and I would like to express my gratitude to her and the Greenhill Work Ethic. She has done a wonderful job and I will miss her.

Bring on the Festival – I know how much work Di and Beth have been putting in so it will be great.

*Jim*

Our next amazing production will be presented by

## Daytime Theatre Troupe

Our Daytime Theatre Troupe are having fun re-hearsing their pantomime *Go To Sleep Mia*, written and directed by Jane Sheppard. Performance dates can be found on the back page. Performances are also available for group bookings on selected dates August 11-23 – phone 0409725315 or email: [daytimetheatretroupebookings@ilt.org.au](mailto:daytimetheatretroupebookings@ilt.org.au)

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

Plans are under way for a 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on Saturday 14 October. The organisers are keen to hear from any past members so they can be included on our contact list. Please email your contact information to [daytimetheatretroupeenquiries@ilt.org.au](mailto:daytimetheatretroupeenquiries@ilt.org.au) or phone Kay: 0439305658 or Bette: 0468365041



Margaret Martin (Tigger), Sarah Currie (Mia), Cleo Smith (Goldilocks), Robyn Harm (Gingerbread Man), June Lambourne (Captain Hook)

## Tourific Troupers

We have hosted two tours this month, with another one still to come. The organiser of the Toowoomba Range Probus Club (members pictured) said, "When I booked this tour, I thought it would be good. It wasn't. It was fantastic!" It's just as well the 51 members enjoyed it, because the organisers were pretty whacked by the end of the day!

There will be no more tours this year as the Theatre goes into

Theatre-in-the-Round and Theatre Restaurant mode after the Festival.



## Plays for 2024

Selection Committee is still keen to hear from prospective directors for the 2024 season. Contact Convener Shane Mallory 0403 175 702 [mail@shanemallory.com](mailto:mail@shanemallory.com).



Rehearsals for our next major production are currently being held in the Jean Pratt Building, but will relocate to the Incinerator once the Festival is over. The auditorium will be reconfigured to Theatre in the Round for this season, a novel experience for the audience.

**Season**  
**7-23 September**  
 Public Performances  
 Evenings 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 September  
 Matinees 10, 17 September  
 (Wine & Cheese night Saturday 9 September)



All twelve jurors surrounding Director Aaron Evans

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

### Junior Theatre & Little Players

On Saturday 22 July, a function was held in the Jean Pratt Building to mark the end of the semester. This was a particularly poignant occasion as it was the last such event to be hosted by Deirdre Lowe after thirteen years as Director. She presented certificates to two Juniors who joined as Little Players and organized a number of theatre games with the students.



Deirdre organising games.

President Jim Orr presented Deirdre, her utterly dependable assistant Ann Collyer and technician Jacqui de Villiers with tokens of appreciation for all their efforts over such a long period of time. There were also small presentations for the resolute husbands Billy Lowe and Keith Collyer. The event was also attended by the incoming directorial team of David Austin, Tracey Spence and Chris Greenhill (Vicki Murray was unable to be there) who will commence classes on Saturday, 29 August.



Jim's presentation

### My Fair Empire

Auditions for our ever popular Theatre Restaurant will be held on 31 July. And bookings for the season will open on Monday 25 September (season dates are on page 6). David Austin, Author/Director, will be looking for a large cast, so there will be lots of opportunities for budding over-actors.

### POSITION VACANT – CLEANER

Ipswich Little Theatre is in need of a reliable cleaner who, as well as providing a regular weekly service, is prepared to work irregular hours to fit in with our varying requirements of seasons and special events.

If any member knows someone who would like this opportunity of employment, application can be made by contacting

**President Jim Orr on 0402 377 258**

# Gala Celebration—15 July



Tara Routley (Adams) (former Director), Suzanne Matulich (former Director), Ashley Jones, Mary Lowe (Dwyer), Danny Keenan, Carmel Wallace (Bull), Dani Fernleigh (Rogers) (inaugural YT members), Desley Cronon (Life member), Craig Taylor (inaugural YT member),



Audrey Raine, Stephanie Elliot, Davin Rowntree.



Judy Payne (first Director of YTs with her husband Colin) and the originals cutting the cake.



Cody Muller & Desley Cronon



Sandra Harle, Craig Taylor, Tony Erhardt, Peter Lubke



Tony Erhardt & Suzanne Matulich



Jo Versace & (her daughter) Kate Ellovee



Jim Orr, Julie-Anne Wright, Andrew Wright, Georgia Wright, Aaron Evans



Dani Fernleigh & Judy Payne



Emily Sweet, Olivia Reed, Georgia Wright, Davin Rowntree, Brian Jentz.



Chris Austin-Greenhill, Dave Dunkerley & Tony Erhardt & Aaron Evans

Photos by Jane Sheppard and Robyn Harm

**FESTIVAL 2023 PROGRAMME**



**SESSION 1 Friday 11 August 6:30 pm 10 MINUTE PLAYS**

1. <i>Heading for Home</i>	Ipswich Little Theatre	Drama
2. <i>The Audience</i>	Mousetrap Theatre	Comedy
3. <i>Hands in the chocolate money</i>	The School at AIPA - Juniors	Drama
4. <i>Do it for the Boyz</i>	Bare Feet Drama – St Benedict’s College	Drama
5. <i>Positions Vacant</i>	Sandgate Theatre	Comedy
6. <i>5000 likes and counting</i>	The School at AIPA -Intermediates	Drama
7. <i>V.I.P.</i>	Strike TLC	Comedy
8. <i>The social side of food</i>	The School at AIPA -Year 7	Drama
9. <i>Wicked Twists</i>	Marsden State High School	Comedy
10. <i>Anonymous</i>	Strike TLC Theatre	Drama
11. <i>Ashes to Ashes</i>	GIST4U	Comedy
12. <i>Four Seasons with Sam</i>	The School at AIPA - Year 12	Drama

**SESSION 2 Saturday 12 August 9 am 4 YOUTH PLAYS**

1, <i>Murder at Rosemere</i>	Artistic Christian Theatre Students	Drama
2, <i>Hoods</i>	Strike TLC	Gothic
3. <i>A Game</i>	Ipswich Little Theatre – YT’s	Drama
4. <i>Bubblewrapped</i>	Bare Feet Drama – St Benedict’s College	Comedy

**SESSION 3 Saturday 12 August 1.30 pm 4 YOUTH PLAYS**

5. <i>Shakespeare’s got talent</i>	Acting in Motion – Juniors	Comedy
6. <i>MmmBeth</i>	Ipswich Little Theatre – YT’s	Comedy
7. <i>Phantasmal</i>	Focus On-Stage	Comedy
8, <i>The Audition</i>	Acting in Motion - Intermediates	Com/Drama

**SESSION 4 Saturday 12 August 7.30 pm 3 OPEN PLAYS**

1. <i>Appropriate Audience Behaviour</i>	Acting in Motion – Seniors	Comedy
2. <i>RUE</i>	Mousetrap Theatre	Drama
3, <i>The Donahue Sisters</i>	Toowoomba Rep	Drama

**SESSION 5 Sunday 13 August 9.30 am 3 OPEN PLAYS**

1. <i>Love me (not)</i>	Blackout Collective	Drama
2. <i>Roof House</i>	Starlet Creative Industries	Comedy
3. <i>In the Blood</i>	Madhouse	Drama

**FESTIVAL BARBEQUE – approx 12 midday**

**SESSION 6 Sunday 13 August 1.30 pm 3 OPEN PLAYS**

1. <i>A Kind of Connection</i>	<i>Kind of Connection</i>	Drama
2. <i>The Actor’s nightmare</i>	Toowoomba Theatre	Comedy
3. <i>Impromptu</i>	Crossfyre Players	Absurd

**OPEN PLAY AWARDS CEREMONY** Approx 5:15

**FAREWELL SUPPER** Approx 6.00pm



Please Note: Programme is subject to change

**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

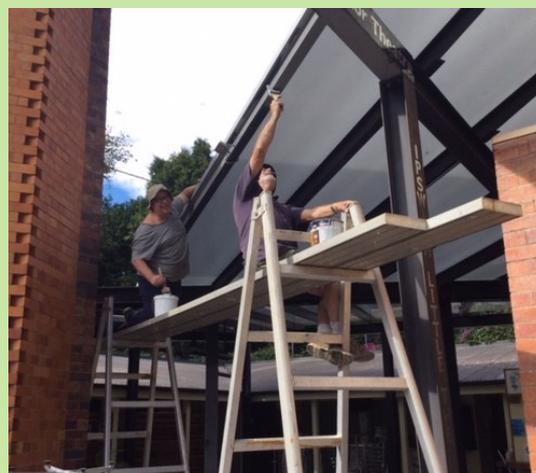
Rated: PG Mild adult themes

**DIARY DATES**

31 July	Auditions <i>My Fair Empire</i>
11, 12, 13 August	Festival 2023
Booked dates between 11 and 25 August	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Go to Sleep, Mia</i>
19 August	Morning matinee (public)
7 September	Opening night for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i>
5, 6, 7 October at 7:30 pm	YTs Showcase
8 October at 2 pm	YTs Showcase

**Courtyard Roof**

Our prize-winning Courtyard roof was installed in 2016 (it's hard to believe that that was seven years ago) and had started to show signs of rust. It was therefore desirable that protective action be taken. In order to reduce the cost of a professional paint job, Chris Greenhill and Ian Pullar (pictured) spent most of the mid-year school holidays on scaffolding and ladders, scrubbing down the steel work, applying a primer and then a coat of epoxy paint. The result is very pleasing. They plan to return during the next school break to apply a second coat of paint (provided their bruised "butts" have recovered by then!)

**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 meet-ings	3812 2389