

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

June 2023

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

7pm

Tuesday

18 July 2023

**Note this is the third
Tuesday in the month**

From the President	2
<i>12 Angry Jurors</i>	2
Daytime Theatre Troupe	2
Festival 2023	3
Young Theatricals & 50th Celebration	3
<i>On The Boards Again</i>	3
<i>My Fair Empire</i>	3
Diary Dates	4
The End of an Era	4
Contacts	4



*"When all is said and done,
there's usually more of the
former."*

Junior Theatre & Little Players

On 16 and 17 June the Juniors and Little Players combined to present *A Pocketful* written and directed by Deirdre Lowe. And what a colourful and spectacular presentation it was (as have been the numerous Deirdre shows). Unfortunately for us, this will be her last as she has announced her retirement. (See page 4) (Photos taken at dress rehearsal),



Stop Press

From next term, Junior Theatre will be directed by David Austin Greenhill with assistants Tracey Spence and Chris Austin Greenhill with assistance from Vicki Murray. The team also hopes to draw on the skills of other members. More information will be available in the July Newsletter.

From Here to Eternity?

27 May saw the final night of a very successful season with 98% of the available seats being sold. Congratulations to casts and crews. But if you missed the season, you will still have the chance to see *God Goes to a Shrink* in our Festival.

Plays for 2024

Selection Committee is still open to receive offers from prospective directors of major seasons next year. The closing date for offers is 30 June.

Contact Shane Mallory, Convener of Selection Committee
mail@shanemallory.com phone 0403 175 702



From the President

A President's life can be filled with the joy of theatre and sadness when the unexpected happens. The decision by Deirdre and Ann to resign from being Junior Director and Assistant is one of the latter. I certainly understand the level of commitment required to run any of the sub groups – running Juniors has to be up there in the difficulty stakes.

I would like to express my and, on behalf of the Theatre, our gratitude for the years of dedication and commitment given to the children who have passed through Juniors.

As one of the production team for *From Here to Eternity?*, I thoroughly enjoyed working with such a talented team and both casts. I believe that we gave our audiences fun and something to think about.

We enjoyed attending the Juniors' performances. Next is the YTs in the Main House and the 50th Celebration. I am looking forward to seeing their productions. Please make the effort to come and see the performances of our younger members.

Jim



12 Angry Jurors

Auditions for our 3rd main house season, *12 Angry Jurors* based on the Emmy Award Winning television movie by Reginald Rose, adapted for the stage by Sherman L Sergel, to be directed by Aaron Evans with assistant director Dave Dunkerley, were held on Monday 5 June. There was considerable interest in the auditions with 17 auditionees – **11 men and 6 women!!** – present to vie for the **12 roles**. The casting process was challenging and the options provided to Selection Committee and the directors were considerable. With experienced performers and some highly talented newcomers, hard decisions had to be made. The following cast was selected:

Juror One (Foreman) Shannon Griffiths

Juror Two	Brooke Marshall
Juror Three	Adrian Carr
Juror Four	Jason Karan-Cole
Juror Five	Emily Sweet
Juror Six	Darren Grubb
Juror Seven	Matthew Nisbet
Juror Eight	Jason Nash
Juror Nine	Di Johnston
Juror Ten	Shane Mallory
Juror Eleven	Vicki Dwyer
Juror Twelve	Anna Bentley

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

Bookings at:
ilt.org.au
 or
VIC 3281 0555

Daytime Theatre Troupe

Daytimers are now in production mode for their next wonderful presentation *Go to Sleep, Mia* written and directed by Jane Sheppard. To coincide with Book Week, it will be presented in August (see page 4 for dates)

In 1983 our Daytime Theatre Troupe was formed and has functioned happily and successfully ever since, introducing thousands of wide-eyed children to the magic and excitement of live theatre. Plans are under way for a 40th 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 or phone Kay: 0439305658 or Bette: 0468365041



Festival 2023



Allana Noyes, an Australian actress and Voice and Speech teacher, who lives in Toowoomba, is the Adjudicator for our 2023 one-act play drama Festival on 11,12,13 August.

Allana graduated with an honours degree in Drama from the University of Queensland. She works as a Speech and Drama Examiner for the Australian Music Examination Board, conducts her own private drama studio and teaches private speech and drama at Fairholme College.

As an actor, Allana has toured with the Queensland Arts Council, performed in a number of Shakespearean productions with Trocadero Productions and since moving to Toowoomba, has performed in a number of Empire Theatre productions. She was also a guest in episode 21 of “Am I old yet?” podcast.

Previously Allana has also adjudicated at the Roma, Cairns, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich and Silkstone Junior Eisteddfods.

Entries have started to come in and we can expect that this year’s Festival will be every bit as exciting as the previous 62 have been! Don’t forget to book.

Young Theatricals

The Young Theatricals are in serious rehearsal mode for their major season *We’re All Mad Here* in July where they will be presenting their two plays. *Mmmbeth*, by Allison Williams, is being directed by Kate Hoepner, assisted by Sam Hoepner and *A Game* by Dennis E Noble is being directed by Aaron Evans assisted by Mack Groves.

The students are thrilled to be rehearsing on “the big stage” in the Incinerator Theatre.

Performances 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23 July.

Bookings are now open.

Adult tickets - \$18 Children/ concession - \$12

Gala Celebration—15 July— All welcome



The season will include a celebration of 50 years since Young Theatricals was founded. This will be a great opportunity for former members of YTs and present and former members of ILT to get together and reminisce. To assist with the nostalgia, organiser Tony Erhardt is collecting as much memorabilia as he can. This will be on display and will be augmented by tales of former glories. Tony would be delighted to accept any contributions. As well as entertainment, the evening will provide guests with sustenance. It is not too late to book. If you would like to join the celebrations just log on to yt50years@ilt.org.au or phone Tony on 0408 058 706



It will be our pleasure to welcome guests on this special occasion for whom attendance will be completely **FREE OF CHARGE** (for this night only). Immediate booking is essential.

On the Boards Again

The first season for 2024 will be along the same lines as our ground-breaking (and Covid-breaking) *Back on the Boards* season of 2021. We will be performing a number of short plays in both the Incinerator and the Jean Pratt Building. The audience will watch the first half in one building and switch to the other building after interval for the other half. The actors will perform each play twice, but to the alternate audience.

It was great fun last time and will be great fun again.

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 4). David Austin, Author/Director, will be looking for a large cast, so there will be lots of opportunities for budding over-actors..

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

14, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23 July.	Young Theatricals presentations including Gala Night
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)
31 July	Auditions <i>My Fair Empire</i>
7 September	Opening night for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i>

The End of an Era

For the past thirteen years and more Deirdre Lowe has been Director of our Junior Theatre. During that time she has exercised her considerable creative and directorial skills with a generation of budding actors. Who could forget the wonderful scenes she has created with her original scripts and productions? Ipswich Little Theatre and all her young charges owe her a huge debt of gratitude as she has decided (with probably a little nudging from husband Billy) that travel calls for a change.

Equally devoted and also standing down are her assistant Ann Collyer, lighting and sound expert Jacqui de Villiers, Deirdre's husband Billy and Keith Collyer to whom we and all her students are very grateful.



The indefatigable team: Jacqui, Billy, Deirdre, Ann and Keith.

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