

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

May 2023

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

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**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**
7pm
Tuesday
13 June 2023

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"I get terrible vertigo in lifts,
so I take steps to avoid them"

NOW PLAYING AT THE INCINERATOR THEATRE



Our second season opened on Thursday 11 May, presenting two One Act plays. *Tracks* by Peter Tarsi is directed by Martie Blanchett with Jim Orr as her Assistant Director. *God Goes to a Shrink* by Hugh O'Brien is directed by Tracey Spence with Chris Austin-Greenhill as her Assistant Director.



Publicity photo of Emily Sweet and Joseph Savage in *Tracks*



Josie Yarham, Zoe Wilson and Sam Hoepner in *God Goes to a Shrink*

Season 11 May – 27 May
Public Performances
Nights (at 8 pm) Saturday 13 May, Friday 19 May, Saturday 20 May, Friday 26 May, Saturday 27 May
Matinees (at 2 pm) Sunday 14 May, Sunday 21 May.
Saturday 13 May is Wine and Cheese night.

Bookings at:

ilt.org.au

or

VIC 3281 0555

Limited bookings still available for some nights

Publicity photography by Amanda Waschevski of Ipswich Photography Studio

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

Festival 2023

This year's Festival is under new management. Director Di Johnston and Secretary Beth Martin are delighted to report that entries are starting to come in. Next month, *Burning News* will feature the adjudicator, plus news of developments. Just don't forget to put the second weekend in August into your diaries.





From the President

Is it May already? Five months into the year and Season 2 in progress ...

And that's the beginning of the next phase. Then we have the Juniors and Little Players (*A Pocketful*); the Young Theatricals (including the massive 50 year celebration); the Festival; the Daytime Theatre Troupe (*Go to Sleep, Mia*); Season 3 (*12 Angry Jurors*); the Daytime Theatre Troupe again; the YTs again; and (after an eleven year break) a Theatre Restaurant (*My Fair Empire*). What an incredibly busy and productive group we are. And what demands we make on our members and supporters. We are eternally grateful to all those wonderful volunteers who work Front of House. Where would we be without our volunteers and our tremendously supportive audiences?

To the casts of *From Here to Eternity?* – break a leg!

Jim

Break a Leg

The traditional good luck message for actors is “Break a Leg” but what is its origin? One source suggests that it stems from the superstition that malevolent forces are ever-present and apparently wishing evil will cause those forces to turn their attention elsewhere. The principle is that if you wish evil, good will come.

The expression may relate to the 1865 assassination of Abraham Lincoln in Ford's Theatre in Washington DC. Actor John Wilkes Booth, having shot the President, leaped onto the stage, breaking his leg in the process.

A third possible explanation dates from times where the audience sat on individual wooden chairs. It was hoped that the comedy actors would cause so much laughter that the chair legs would be broken.



12 Angry Jurors

Our third major production for 2023 will be *12 Angry Jurors* by Reginald Rose adapted by Sherman L Sergel, directed by Aaron Evans and Assistant Director Dave Dunkerley.

In a hot New York jury room, 12 jurors are deliberating in a capital murder case of an 18-year-old African American boy, charged with the stabbing death of his father. If a guilty verdict is reached, it will be an automatic death sentence. The case appears to be open-and-shut to eleven of the jurors. However, Juror No. 8 casts a 'not guilty' vote.

Auditions for this drama will be held on **Monday 5 June**. The April Newsletter (available on our web site) gave descriptions of the twelve jurors. More information can be obtained from Director Aaron Evans ajlevans@hotmail.com or 0431 041 068

This will be a season with a difference. Instead of the regular arrangements within the Theatre, the seating will be reconfigured for the play to be staged in the round. Thus, some of the audience members who may have acting aspirations, will actually be on stage!

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) with the following cast:

Allison Johnston, Anna Morris, Anne England, Cleo Smith, Cynthia Graham, Jane Brown, June Lambourne, Kim Taylor, Margaret Martin, Robyn Harm, Sarah Currie and Veronica Taylor.

Director: Jane Sheppard, Assistant Director: Margaret Martin, Mrs Music: Chic Currie, Costuming: Marie Mortimer and Kay McAllan

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

Young Theatricals



The YTs “being goofy” at rehearsals for their upcoming show.

The Young Theatricals are in serious rehearsal mode for their major season 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.

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

Bookings open 29 May

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

The students are particularly looking forward to performing on “the big stage” in the Incinerator Theatre.



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 member 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 would be great to have as many participants as possible. If you would like to join the celebrations just log on to [Young Theatricals turns 50! – ILT](https://www.ilt.org.au/young-theatricals-turns-50/) (<https://www.ilt.org.au/young-theatricals-turns-50/>)

or phone Tony on 0408 058 706

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



On the Boards Again

Remember 2021 when Queensland partially came out of Covid lockdown and we were allowed 50% capacity? That was when we staged *Back on the Boards* with performances in both the Incinerator and the Jean Pratt Building with audiences swapping venues after interval.

We are working on a similar concept for our first season in 2024, collecting a number of short plays (30 minute, 20 minute, 10 minute or short monologues). We have quite a collection, but if anyone has more suggestions Helen Pullar (contacts on page 4) would welcome them.

My Fair Empire

Bookings for our ever popular Theatre Restaurant will open on Monday 25 September (season dates are on page 4). David Austin, Author/Director, has advised that there will be four tables of ten and one of 18.

Even though the event is still some time off, it might be wise to start assembling your group to avoid disappointment. (A group can be of any size from one up.)

Junior Theatre & Little Players

The Junior Theatre group is currently in full rehearsal for *A Pocketful* our June production. According to Author/Director Deirdre Lowe “Pretty much everything is in hand.” Both Juniors and Little Players will be involved in what is certain to be as entertaining a presentation as ever.

Deirdre is very grateful to her assistant Ann Collyer, lighting and sound operator Jacqui DeVilliers and the Mums and a grandfather of a past student who offer her so much support—to say nothing of the efforts of Billy.

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**

29 May	Bookings open for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i> and the YTs season
5 June	Auditions for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i>
16 June at 6 pm 17 June at 10 am & 12 noon	Junior Theatre and Little Players presentations
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)
7 September	Opening night for <i>12 Angry Jurors</i>

The Thin Yellow Line

As foreshadowed in the April edition of *Burning News*, ICC Contractors have painted yellow lines on Griffith Road on both sides of the entrance to Burley Griffin Drive. This means that, as can be seen in the photograph, cars can no longer legally park where it makes our exit from the drive hazardous. It's good to have received a positive response to our concerns.

**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