

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2023 **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

**Editor:**

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**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**7pm  
Tuesday  
10 October 2023**

From the President	2
Daytime Theatre Troupe	2
Christmas Party	
Junior Theatre	2
Young Theatricals	
Programme for 2024	2
Auditions <i>Ageing Disgracefully</i>	3
Positions Vacant	3
Diary Dates	4
Chimneys	4
Contacts	4



*Of course I talk to myself.  
Sometimes I just need expert advice.*



**SOLD OUT!**  
**Even before opening night!**



The jury deliberating

This jury may be out, still considering whether the case is beyond reasonable doubt, but audiences are in no doubt whatsoever. This play is a triumph. Congratulations to Director Aaron Evans, Assistant Director Dave Dunkerley and the cast and crew.



**Bookings open on 25 September**

for the much anticipated Theatre Restaurant season written and directed by David Austin-Greenhill.

Once again, the Incinerator auditorium will be transformed from its usual configuration to that of a restaurant.

Evening performances will be on 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25 November and 1, 2 December with matinees on 12 and 26 November.

Tickets @ \$55 per head for a two course meal plus entertainment can be booked at [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au) (for preference) or VIC 3281 0555

**Many thanks to all the  
volunteers who helped  
front of house for  
*12 Angry Jurors***

These included Veronica Taylor, Ann Collyer, Robyn Harm and Cynthia Graham (pictured).





## From the President

Again thank you to all who worked so hard to ensure that the Festival ran so well. Beth and Di's organisation was great and the friendly and helpful volunteers made the weekend a success. I was very proud of everyone who presented our visitors a One Act Play Festival that was well run, but more importantly fun.

If you haven't seen *12 Angry Jurors* make sure you buy, beg or steal tickets. The performances are amazing. Congratulations to Aaron and the wonderful cast, everyone gives powerful performances worthy of your time to see them in action.

Please ensure that if you are interested or even considering helping ILT by taking on one of our many jobs, that you lodge an Expression of Interest with our awesome Secretary, Helen. We need you and your ideas to help keep the Theatre running, but also to ensure that we keep having new ideas and processes in the future.

*Jim*

## Daytime Theatre Troupe

A successful season of *Go to Sleep Mia* has concluded. The DTT's second production will be *Santa's Aussie Bush Christmas Surprise*, written and directed by Kay McAllan. Auditions have been held and rehearsals commenced for a season 31 October to 10 November.



Early rehearsals with Ann Maree Ling, June Lambourne, Kay McAllan and Kerri Jones and Chic Currie in her permanent role of Mrs Music. Photos Robyn Harm



Our Daytime Theatre Troupe are celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday 14 October. If you have been a member and would like to attend, phone Jane 0419020675.

## Christmas Party

Following the decision to move the AGM to January (to allow more time for the audit), the Committee has decided instead to host a break-up function. This will be held in the Theatre Courtyard on Sunday 10 December late afternoon. This will give members and volunteers the chance to celebrate another successful year. Finger food will be served and the bar will be open.

For catering purposes, bookings will be required. More news to come.

## Junior Theatre

Auditions, similar to those held for Senior Theatre, were held for *Marlins Great Ocean Adventure*, on 2 September with Selection Committee members, Martie Blanchett and Julie-Anne Wright, in attendance. Parents reported that the actors really enjoyed the experience.

Rehearsals are now in progress for performances in the Incinerator on Thursday 30 November and Saturday 2 December.

## Young Theatricals

Young Theatricals entered *A Game* and *Mmmbeth* in the KSP Festival. The cast of *A Game* won an Adjudicator's Award for their ensemble work and Gilbee Gibson, Robin Vary and Lily Bale received Adjudicator's Awards.

In addition, the YTs are preparing to present a Showcase in the Jean Pratt Building on 6 and 7 October with the performance of a variety of improvisation games, monologues, duologues and a song. Audience support from senior members would be appreciated.

## Plays for 2024

Selection Committee is currently finalising the programme of plays for next year to follow Season 1 which is ready to go (see page 3) in time for the Launch towards the end of October. Until then, it will remain a closely guarded secret.

## Auditions Ageing Disgracefully!

The first season for 2024 now has a title! It will comprise a series of short plays for which the title has been chosen appropriately. Both buildings will be used and actors will perform each play twice per session.

**Auditions will be held on Monday 23 October in the Jean Pratt Building for 14 parts. Producer Helen Pullar.**

### Incinerator Plays

***Slow Dating*** by Adam Szudrich (Light Drama 10 mins)  
Director: Jane Sheppard

When an elderly lady tries speed dating it leads to a night with a charming stranger and a heartbreaking revelation about her husband. A one-woman show which explores the beauty of holding on and the vulnerability in letting go. **Cast: Ester** (late 60s or older).

***Dotty's Inheritance*** by Debra Chalmers (Comedy: One Act) Director: Jim Orr.

Upon receiving the news that her dear brother Victor has passed, Dotty, a woman of advancing years, now finds herself the owner of the family business: a business that her daughters want to offload before they all end up in the headlines of the local paper.

**Cast: The Mother (Rachel)(40-50); The Son (Robbie) (19); The Grandmother (Dotty) (70s); The Solicitor (Richard)(40s); The Auntie (Joan)(30-40); The Policeman (Trevor)(30-40); The Prostitute (Candy)(20s)**

***Ashes to Ashes*** by Jill Curran (Comedy: 10 mins)  
Director: Di Johnston

While mourning their father's recent death, two sisters are in a quandary as to what is best to do with his ashes.

**Cast: Fiona (50s); Bronwyn(50s); Barry Pre-cast: Jim Orr**

### Jean Pratt Plays

***Heading for Home*** by Ian Pullar (Light Drama: 10 mins) Director: Helen Pullar

After a short beach holiday with his daughter, an elderly man is reluctant to head for home.

**Cast: Steve: (80s) Pre-cast: Ian Pullar: Amanda: (50s). Pre-cast: Julie-Anne Wright**

***Say Something Happened*** by Alan Bennett (Comedy One Act) Director: Robyn Flashman  
Mrs Rhodes is busy staring out of the window while Mr Rhodes is just about to look up Helsinki when they have a caller. It's a social worker come to pester them about being on a Register for the Elderly. Alert and able-bodied, the Rhodes have no intentions of being on such a list.

**Cast: Mam (late 60s); Dad (60s); June Potter: (early 20s)**

***Away from Home*** by Ian Pullar (Comedy 10 mins) Director: Helen Pullar

Confined to their Old People's home, Steve and Roland dream of a life in the outside world.

**Cast: Steve: (80s) Pre-cast: Ian Pullar Roland:(70s - 80s) No beard**

For further information contact Producer Helen Pullar (contacts on back page)

## Important Positions Vacant – Can you help?

Some Ipswich Little Theatre members undertake a huge amount of work, other than directing and performing. Believe it or not, there are more than 50 jobs with titles which are all filled annually through Expressions of Interest. The vast majority are undertaken by members of the Admin Committee who are currently running on overload. This year, the Committee is seeking additional volunteers to undertake a number of important roles.

**Box Office Manager.** This position was created by Shane Mallory as part of his ICT role and he has been its only incumbent. It is now time for someone else to take over – someone with technical skills. As 80% of our bookings now come via computer, the filling of this position is essential for our operation.

**Raffles Co-Ordinator.** Not only do raffles provide us with essential funds, they are very popular with our audiences. For many years now, Helen Greenhill has co-ordinated raffles by acquiring, sorting and wrapping prizes. There must be someone out there with time, energy and creativity who could take on this task or oversee a team. We have ticket sellers and plenty of ticket purchasers, but we NEED the goods to raffle.

**Assistant Group Liaison Officer.** Robyn Flashman has handled our group bookings for a long time and is now looking to the future. She would like to take on an assistant who would learn the ropes and, in due course, take over the role.

**Anyone interested in any of these positions should contact Secretary Helen Pullar to apply or seek more information.**

**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**

25 September	Bookings open for <i>My Fair Empire</i>
6, 7 October at 7:30 pm	YTs <i>Showcase</i> .
Saturday 14 October	Daytime Theatre Troupe 40 <sup>th</sup> Celebration
Monday 23 October 7:30 pm	Auditions <i>Ageing Disgracefully</i>
31 October to 10 November	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Santa's Aussie Bush Christmas Surprise</i>
10 November	Opening Night <i>My Fair Empire</i>
30 November, 2 December	Junior Theatre <i>Marlins Great Ocean Adventure</i>
10 December	Christmas Party

**Chimneys**

Members of Building Committee have become increasingly aware of the growth of vegetation in both chimneys and particularly of what appears to be a gum tree in the Eric Nicholls chimney and have finally prevailed upon Ipswich City Council to do something about it before a brick is dislodged.

Previous inspections via a drone had at last convinced the Council that action might be necessary. On Thursday 7 September a very tall crane, hired by the Council, launched contractors up for close inspection. Temporary strapping has now been placed around the chimney. We await further advice on future action.

**2023 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