

January 2024

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

Editor:

Ian Pullar

07 3281 4437 or e-mail:
info@ilt.org.au

**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**7pm
Tuesday
13 February 2024**

From the President	2
<i>Ageing Disgracefully</i>	2
Vale Helen Greenhill	2
Griffin Award	3
Garden Seats	3
Diary Dates	4
Auditions <i>Stepping Out</i>	4
Welcome Noah Riley Hoepner	4
Contacts	4

Annual General Meeting

The AGM for 2023 was held on Sunday 21 January 2024. Twenty five members were in attendance on a hot afternoon. Just as well we have air conditioning. The picture shows (most of) the participants bunched up for the photograph – while we are happy in each other's company, we don't need to be just as up close and personal!



The meeting heard reports on a successful year – we are such a multi-faceted organisation that there were 30 of them – before we moved on to elections, the results of which follow:

President Jim Orr **Immediate Past President** David Austin **Vice-President** Ann Collyer **Secretary** Helen Pullar **Treasurer** Chris Greenhill

Administrative Committee Martie Blanchett, Desley Cronon, Tony Erhardt, Aaron Evans, Robyn Flashman, Connie Foy, Robyn Harm, Sandie Henwood, Kate Hoepner, Sam Hoepner, Phil Holmes, Di Johnston, Deirdre Lowe, Shane Mallory, Melinda Park, Ian Pullar, Jane Sheppard, Tracey Spence, Julie-Anne Wright .

Building Committee Jim Orr, Jane Sheppard (elected to join continuing members) Helen Pullar, Melinda Park, Ian Pullar, Chris Greenhill.

Selection Committee Desley Cronon, Ann Collyer and Ian Pullar (elected to join continuing members Martie Blanchett, Julie-Anne Wright and Aaron Evans).

The meeting was followed by the presentation of the Griffin Award (see page 3) and general conviviality in the Courtyard.



If it wasn't for the eleventh hour, nothing would ever get done.

HELP WANTED!

Once again we need the help of volunteers'

The annual start of year Working Bee will be held on **Sunday 25 February** from 9 am and your assistance would be much appreciated.

AND we need volunteers for Front of House during *Ageing Disgracefully*.

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



From the President

Welcome to 2024. I look forward to a great year for ILT.

Congratulations to our Griffin Award Winner (in Memory of Judy Grant) – Helen Pullar. No one has worked harder to ensure that ILT is always on the right path and working, often through personal difficulties, in the last few months, to ensure that we can effectively operate in 2024.

I would like to thank all who have also worked to hard, over the last two months to restore the JP Building to operational condition. Special mention to Kay and the Wardrobe ladies, Chris Greenhill, Ian Pullar, Helen Pullar and especially to Kevin Harm, for his ability to source and assist in the restoration repair works.

Every one of us need to ensure that we respect each other. You can be sure that we are never fully aware of what is occurring in other's lives. Kindness and respect should be the main ethos of any group. We all have a desire to be a part of something wonderful – ILT

Jim

Ageing Disgracefully!

Bookings ilt.org.au or VIC 3281 0555

A season of short plays, opens on 28 February

Three plays ***Slow Dating*** by Adam Szudrich, directed by Jane Sheppard, ***Dotty's Inheritance*** by Debra Chalmers directed by Jim Orr and ***Ashes to Ashes*** by Jill Curran directed by Di Johnston will be performed in the Incinerator. Another three, ***Heading for Home*** by Ian Pullar directed by Helen Pullar, ***Say Something Happened*** by Alan Bennett directed by Robyn Flashman and ***Away from Home*** by Ian Pullar directed by Helen Pullar will be performed in the Jean Pratt Auditorium. Audiences will switch venues after interval..



Vicki Dwyer in *Slow Dating*



Glen Smith, Vicki Murray and Jane Sheppard in *Dotty's Inheritance*



Catherine Edwards, Jim Orr and Kerri Jones in *Ashes to Ashes*

Vale Helen Greenhill

With great sadness, we report that Helen Greenhill passed away on 22 January. Her health has been deteriorating for a number of years so that she could no longer be looked after by her devoted son, Chris. She was moved into a care home, but no sooner had Chris got her established than she suffered renal failure and was placed in palliative care, but only briefly.

Helen had been a member of Committee for a number of years, but her greatest contribution to ILT was the management of our amazingly popular raffles. Through her efforts (and those of her supporters) she was responsible for raising valuable funds and providing great entertainment for patrons during intervals.

In her final report to the AGM, delivered in her absence on the day before she died, she announced proudly, "As you know, I am a Scottish-Jew with short hands and long pockets, and I thrive on making money appear from nowhere. The outlay for 2023 was \$371.00 and the income was \$6,430.00."

Helen will be missed. We offer our condolences to Chris and David and their extended family.

Griffin Award

Each year the President presents a Griffin Award in memory of former President Judy Grant to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Society during the year. The award is made following nominations by members of the Committee and are sponsored by Ross Grant, Judy's husband. This year the award was presented to Helen Pullar for her contribution across so many areas – Secretary, Executive, Building Committee, Tourific Troupers, Archives, Festival and general business. Helen's three children were invited to attend for the presentation.



L to R: Ross Grant, James Grant (Ross's grandson), Stuart Pullar, Jean Yates (nee Pullar), Helen with her award, Ian, Margaret Cook (nee Pullar) and Matthew Grant (Ross and Judy's son)

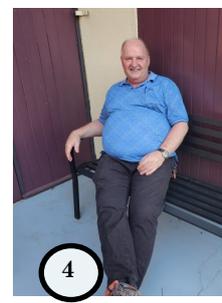
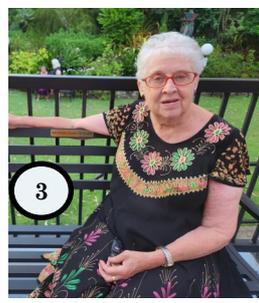
At the end of year function for the Young Theatricals, Jim had previously presented an incentive award for outstanding contribution to Atalaya Galvin. Atalaya had stepped into two different roles in two different festivals with only a few hours notice and went onstage each time without a script.

Garden Seats

Thanks to the generosity of members and supporters, the Incinerator grounds now boast new steel garden seats, replacing the elderly somewhat dilapidated wooden ones. The generous benefactors were: John & Yvonne Gardiner, Helen & Ian Pullar, the Austin-Greenhill Family, the Harm Family, Di Johnston & Jim Orr, Deirdre, Ann & Jacqui Juniors 2010 - 2023, Chris Lloyd, Melinda "Moo" Park, Robyn Flashman, Dianne Adams & Tara Routley, Joyce Murray, Desley Cronon Life Member (Anonymous Donor), The Foy's, The Malloory Family and Phil Holmes.

After having assembled the seats and applied the donor plaques, and wishing to avoid any suggestion of relative importance, Ian placed them randomly on the balcony and in the surrounding grounds. Purely by chance (honest injun), the seat gifted by the Austin-Greenhill family was placed in the position where Helen Greenhill sat to sell her raffle tickets!

Some of the Donors sitting on 'their' seats.



1. Deirdre Lowe and Ann Collyer
2. Connie Foy and Joyce Murray
3. Desley Cronon
4. Phil Holmes
5. Ian and Helen Pullar
6. Robyn and Kevin Harm

DIARY DATES

2024 Season in Brief

Season 1: 28 February — 17 March

Ageing Disgracefully

Producer Helen Pullar

Six short plays staged in the Incinerator Theatre and the Jean Pratt Auditorium

Rated: PG Some adult themes .

Season 2: 15 May — 1 June

Stepping Out by Richard Harris

Director: Tracey Spence

Assistant Director: Kim Frohloff

Rated: PG .

Annual Drama Festival

Director:: Di Johnston

9, 10, 11 August

Season 3: 18 September — 5 October

Clue: On Stage adapted from the Paramount Pictures film written by Jonathan Lynn and the board game from Hansbro, Inc written by Sandy Rustin, based upon the works by Jonathan Lynn, Hunter Foster, Eric Price

Director: Tony Erhardt:

Assistant Directors: Jo Robbins and Dave

Dunkerley.

Rated PG: Adult Themes.

Season 4: 20 November — 7 December

Bondi Legal by Tony Laumberg

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

Assistant Director: Liz Ball

Wednesday 24 January	Young Theatricals resume
Saturday 3 February	Junior Theatre resumes
Monday 5 February 7:30 pm	Auditions <i>Stepping Out</i>
Wednesday 7 February	Daytime Theatre Troupe resumes
Sunday 25 February from 9 am	WORKING BEE
28 February	Opening Night <i>Ageing Disgracefully</i>

Auditions for *Stepping Out* by Richard Harris

will be held on Monday 5 February under Director: Tracey Spence and Assistant Director Kim Froloff.

This is a rollicking comedy about the attempts of some working class amateurs to overcome their inhibitions and left feet in a low-rent dance studio in North London. Mavis, a former professional chorus girl tries her hardest to teach the bumbling amateurs some terpsichorean skills for an upcoming recital. But before the dancing begins Mavis must mediate the minor dramas that erupt among this motley but loveable crew on their way to triumph at their recital.

10 roles are on offer for this season – 9 females, 1 male.

For perusal scripts and more information please contact the director via email traceles1@gmail.com

Audition forms can also be completed on line

Kate and Sam Hoepner have welcomed their new-born son Noah Riley. Congratulations!

2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Ann Collyer	0400 997 365
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