

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

August 2025

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

**Editor:**

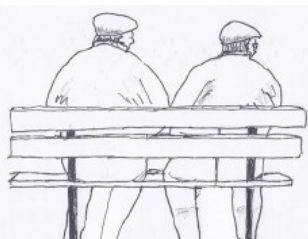
**Ian Pullar**

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### NEXT ILT COMMITTEE MEETING

7pm  
Tuesday 9 September

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*My daughter persuaded me to watch "West Side Story" with her. Once you got past all the singing and dancing, it wasn't too bad.*



Our 69th Festival in 71 years is now a matter of history and can be recorded as another success with a feast of plays, entertainment and FOOD! The kitchen was frantically busy from dawn to dusk and beyond.

Audiences also enjoyed the chance to enjoy the weather and companionship in the courtyard.

Adjudicator Timothy Wynn was faced with the challenge of having to judge the large number of entries from a wide range of competitors. The prize list can be found on page 3. Photos taken by "official photographer" Robyn Harm will be appended when this Newsletter is distributed.



...written by Elizabeth Coleman and directed by Martie Blanchett, assisted by Shane Mallory, this play is full of laughs.

Following the Festival, *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* has bumped in to the Incinerator ...



Clockwise: Lucy (Liz Ball), Meg (Kate Hoepner) and Angela (Amanda Harrison)



Lucy (Liz Ball), and Angela (Amanda Harrison)

This is a funny play about serious issues like truth, loyalty, denial, sex, love, the meaning of marriage, female friendship and the plight of Modern Woman with a biological clock that just won't keep up with the times!

**Season 17 September -  
4 October 2025**

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

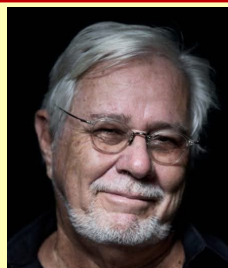
### FOH for *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*

Another call for volunteers! Please roster yourself on for a shift (or two) during the season.

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

Raffles make a significant contribution towards our running expenses. They are so popular that we are running out of prizes and would welcome more donations.

PLEASE!



## From the President

Big sigh of relief – Festival done and dusted. Thank you to Di and Beth for their organising skills AND patience, thank you to Ann and Connie for their culinary talents and help in ensuring everyone was made feel welcome and catered for. Thanks to Ian and Helen and their team from Daytimers for the Sunday BBQ. Thank you to Phil, Tony and Jo for ensuring that the audience could see the actors and any special effects worked ?? (depending on what was supplied).

Then thank you to all who helped prepare the food, serve the food and drinks, welcome visitors, sell raffle tickets and help back stage. All who attended were once again full of praise for ILT and its members and the Festival as a whole. It was great to see Shayne Neumann and Wendy Bourne attend the awards presentation and for their offers of support for the Theatre.

I'm sure I will have missed some one but as you all can see, it takes a huge team to present the Festival to the standard that everyone who attended wants to come back next year. You should all be very proud.

*Jim*

## Cast of *Waiting for God*

Our final season of the year, *Waiting for God* by Michael Aitkins, directed by Chris Austin-Greenhill, assisted by Jess Pitman and Alison Lees has been cast as follows:

Diana Trent	Leeanne Bamford
Tom Ballard	Keith Scrivens
Jane Edwards	Narelle McGhee
Harvey Baines	Lewis Chatten
Sarah Chase	Emily Hingst
Geoffrey Ballard	Matt Thomas

The directorial team will play a number of minor roles.

This play was in an advanced stage of rehearsal under the direction of Doug Moses when Covid caused the closure of the theatre for the rest of 2020 and beyond. So it is a relief and a delight to announce that this very funny play will at last be staged– and be a tribute to the late Life Member Doug Moses.

## Daytime Theatre Troupe

The members of the Daytime Theatre Troupe are in preparation for their latest show for presentation in November.

*Christmas Day is not far away and the North Pole is buzzing with everyone preparing for most important day of the year. Roxy Arctic Snow Rabbit has a time schedule for everything Christmas to keep it running smoothly.*



*Where's Santa? Has anyone seen him?*

**SANTA, SANTA WHERE ARE YOU?**

## Junior Theatre

Getting ready for their presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Fun* on 30 August...



Back left to right: Amelia, Brodie, Kal, Eva, Nyrie  
Second row left to right: Layla, Frazer, Chloe, Jasmine  
Kneeling: Danielle, Shebardhra, Hamish  
Not in Photo: Thea, Rowan



Left to right: Artie, Jasmine, Kal, Eva, Nyrie and Danielle.

## Performances

**30 August at 9 am and 11 am**



## FESTIVAL 2025 RESULTS

### 10 Minute Play Section

Best Play *Not Another Bloody Final Girl* (Strike TLC)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Play *Stuck* (Strike TLC)  
 Best Director/s Clara Aleckson & Opal Francis (Strike TLC)  
*Not another...*  
 Best Actor Brian Jentz (Thalia Arts *Mango Tree*)  
 Best Actress Tasha Duthie (Strike TLC *Not another...*)  
 Best Supporting Actor Zaid Seker Strike TLC  
 Best Supporting Actress Jasmine Brough (Strike TLC *Stuck*)  
 Best New Australian Script *Mango Tree* Davin Rowntree  
 (Thalia Arts)  
 Costume design *Stuck* (Strike TLC)

#### Adjudicator's Certificates

*Laundry*- Davin Rowntree for resilience. Clara Aleckson & Opal Francis (Strike TLC) for Funny & relatable Script

### Youth Section

Best Play *When Bad Things Happen to Good Actors*  
 (Brisbane Arts)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Play *Pick Me Girls* (Shailer Park State High School)  
 Best Director/s Clara Aleckson & Opal Francis (Strike TLC)  
*Fractured*  
 Best Actor Levi Kikkert (Strike TLC *Fractured*)  
 Best Actress Rosie Hammond (Brisbane Arts *When Bad Things ...*)  
 Best Supporting Actor Dylan Komoff (Brisbane Arts *When Bad Things ...*)  
 Best Supporting Actress Kate Whitman (Shailer Park State High School *Pick Me Girls*)  
 Best Actor in a minor role Declan Maloney (Brisbane Arts *When Bad Things ...*)  
 Best Actress in a minor role Taylah White (Shailer Park)  
 New Australian Script *Pick Me Girls*/ Lorelei Ryan & Isabella Nuske (Shailer Park)  
 Costume design *Pick Me Girls* (Shailer Park)

#### Adjudicator's Certificates

Isaac Coates (Shailer Park) Mature & natural performance.  
 Reilly Dougherty (ILT) Consistent comic performance  
 Ave Beauclerc (Shailer Park) Writing a beautiful play  
*Recalibrate* (IGGS) Great ensemble work

### Open Section

Best Play – Drama *Refuge* Nanango Theatre Co  
 Best Play - Comedy *Fountain of Destiny* (Thundering Productions)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Play – Drama *Mrs Thally* Toowoomba Rep  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Play – Comedy *Edmund & June* The Harry & Pearl Ensemble  
 Best Director – Drama Beth Geoghegan  
 (Toowoomba *Mrs Thally*)  
 Best Director - Comedy Jim Orr (ILT *Watch Your Head*)  
 Best Actor – Dramatic role Jack Cummings  
 (Introspect *Abhor*)  
 Best Actress – Dramatic role Beth Geoghegan  
 (Nanango Theatre Co *Refuge*)  
 Best Actor – Comedic role Jack Lovett )Thundering Productions *Fountain of Destiny*  
 Best Actress – Comedic role Martie Blanchett (ILT *Watch Your Head*)  
 Best supporting actor Daniel Lewis (Introspect *Abhor*)  
 Best supporting actress Mikayla Maree Melo Thundering Prod *Fountain of Destiny*)  
 Best actor – minor role Gaike Dracoulis Thundering Prod *Hell*)  
 Best actress – minor role Catherine Radbourne  
 (Upstage Theatre *The Myall Creek Crop Circle Caper*)  
 Best New Australian Script *Blank Cheque* Brett Lane  
 (Mousetrap Theatre)  
 Costume design *Fountain of Destiny* (Thundering Productions)

#### Adjudicator's Certificates

Tea Paige (Downstage) *The Mind's Eye* Powerful acting performance  
 Audrey Raine (Downstage Theatre) Directing and writing a great play  
 Elizabeth Womack (Act 1 Theatre) Stepping into a role at the last minute  
 Dylan Clevens (Downstage Theatre) Captivating acting performance

## Young Theatricals

The YT's presentation of *Whispers from the Wardrobe* in the Festival was a delight. Now the youngsters are concentrating on the end of year production of *Tales from the Edge*, featuring the following plays:-  
*In The Forest of the Night* by Del Martin – Directed by Kate Hoepner, assisted by Mack Groves.  
*A Collier's Tuesday Tea* by Richard Guant – Directed by Aaron Evans, assisted by Ollie Gavranovic and Jessica Pitman.  
*Odd Chemistry* by Aaron Evans – Directed by Sam Hoepner, assisted by Dylan Clevens.

## Success

*Watch Your Head* has now competed at three Festivals – Toowoomba, Beenleigh and Ipswich and picked up two Best Play awards. Martie Blanchett has won three Best Actress awards and one Best Actress Overall. Jim Orr picked up three Best Director prizes.  
 Congratulations!

## 2025 Season in Brief

### Season 1: 26 February — 15 March

**Popcorn** by Ben Elton

Director: Aaron Evans

Assistant Director: Mack Groves

*Rated: MA 15+ Adult themes, sexual references and coarse language..*

### Season 2: 14 — 31 May

**The Perfect Murder** adapted by Shaun McKenna from a novella by Peter James.

Directors: Helen and Ian Pullar

Assistant Director: Julie-Anne Wright

*Rated: PG .Some adult themes*

## Annual Drama Festival

Director:: Di Johnston

8, 9, 10 August

### Season 3: 17September — 4 October

**Secret Bridesmaids' Business**

by Elizabeth Coleman

Director: Martie Blanchett

Assistant Director: Shane Mallory

*Rated PG: Some coarse language and adult themes.*

### Season 4: 19 November — 6 December

**Waiting for God** by Michael Aitkens

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

Assistant Directors: Jessica Pitman and Alison Lees

*Rated: PG Some coarse language and adult themes.*

## DIARY DATES

Saturday 30 August 9 am & 11 am	Junior Theatre A <i>Midsummer Night's Fun</i>
17 September	Opening Night <i>Secret Bridesmaids' Business</i>
17. 18 October	<i>Young Theatricals Showcase</i>
Saturday 1 November 2 pm	Season 2026 Launch
17 – 28 November (dates depend on bookings)	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Santa, Santa, Where Are You?</i>

## On the Bottle

About a decade ago, Tony Erhardt generously donated a portable gas barbecue which has been used for successive Festivals and other events. But at the pre-Festival working bee, it was revealed that time and rust had caught up with it. I bought a new barbecue (from Jindalee), spent a few hours assembling it and checked that we had a full gas bottle. Timing the cooking to start so that patrons from the first session on the Sunday would be tantalised by the smell of onions cooking, I positioned the new barbecue and went to connect the gas bottle only to discover that the fittings were incompatible. Off to Bunnings to buy an adaptor. A discussion with the shop assistant failed to identify such a thing, but another shopper informed me that the government authorities had mandated new fittings for safety reasons. The new barbecue had to be connected to a black topped gas bottle, not a green one. With the need to start cooking, I had no choice but to purchase a black-topped bottle on the spot.

So we had a green topped gas bottle almost full of gas, surplus to requirements. It has been sold at a bargain price to a worthy member. And the onions did their trick!

### 2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Past Vice-President	Ann Collyer	0400 997 365
Secretary	Helen Pullar	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	Martie Blanchett	0405 186 767
Marketing	Robyn Harm	0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	0439 305 658
Theatre number		3812 2389