

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2025

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

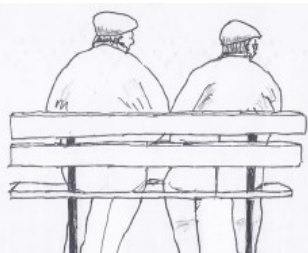
### Editor:

**Ian Pullar**

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

**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**  
7pm  
Tuesday  
14 October 2025

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*My grandson doesn't think I know the meaning of 'hip'. I do and I hope it gets replaced soon.*



**Opens on Wednesday 17**

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

There are still limited tickets available

**Season 17 September - 4 October 2025**  
**Bookings at [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au) or VIC 3281 0555**



James Sheehan, Liz Ball, Kate Hoepner, Natalie Pedler, Amanda Harrison, Stephanie Collins



Kate Hoepner, James Sheehan

Our fourth and final production for 2025 is now well and truly into rehearsals. The cast is our usual mixture of previous performers on our stage and some newbies who, according to Director Chris Austin-Greenhill and his assistants Alison Lees and Jess Pitman, are melding together extremely well.

*At Bayview Retirement Village, battle-axe extraordinaire Diana Trent conspires with new resident Tom Ballard to give the conniving manager his comeuppance through a hilarious conspiracy with unexpectedly heart-warming results.*

Bookings are available for the Public Performances at the usual places (see above).

There is also one half night available for a group booking. Contact Martie Blanchett <mrsmbblanchett@gmail.com>.



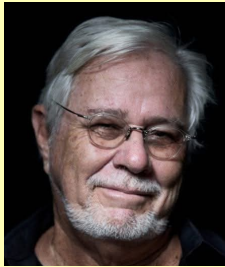
### **FOH for *Secret Bridesmaids' Business***

A final call for volunteers! Please roster yourself on for a shift 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 donated prizes and would welcome more donations.

**PLEASE!**



## From the President

Congratulations to the Juniors and their leadership team for their recent production, taking on their version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Wow! Lots of fun and great performances.

YTs are now in serious performance mode for their upcoming production. I'm certainly looking forward to seeing them showcase their talents again in the Jean Pratt Building.

*Secret Bridesmaids Business* is on the brink of performance. With an amazingly talented cast and directorial team, this will be a great show. If you haven't already done so, get your tickets now.

*Jim*

## Young Theatricals

The Jean Pratt Building now sports a new stage configuration in preparation for the end of year production of the YTs on 17, 18 October.

*Tales from the Edge*, will feature the following plays and directors:-

*In The Forest of the Night* " by Del Martin – Directed by Kate Hoepner, assisted by Mack Groves.

*A Collier's Tuesday Tea* by Michael Green – Directed by Aaron Evans, assisted by Ollie Gavranovic and Jessica Pitman.

*Odd Chemistry* by Aaron Evans – Directed by Sam Hoepner, assisted by Dylan Clevens.

Bookings are open so don't miss out on the opportunity to see these talented young people in action.



This year's Festival was our 69<sup>th</sup> so next year's, our 70<sup>th</sup>, should be a very significant one. Director. Di Johnston, and her able assistant Beth Martin who directed this year's very successful event, have announced that they are stepping down from the demanding roles.

Fortunately, we have already had a volunteer to fill Di's position.

As usual the vast majority of positions for 2026 have filled quickly. However, if you feel that you have experience and expertise to offer the organisation, contact Secretary Helen Pullar. [secretary@ilt.org.au]

We are dependent on volunteers to continue our smooth operations and there will always be an area where assistance is appreciated.

## Junior Theatre

The Juniors' presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Fun* on 30 August (adapted from the original Shakespeare by Dior Austin) directed by Chris Austin-Greenhill was a great success. The youngsters are now preparing for their Improv Smackdown in Term 4



Back row L to R: Kal, Brodie, Amelia, Thea, Jasmine, Chloe, Nyrie, Eva

Front row: Layla, Shrebadhra, Hamish, Danielle, Rowan, Frazer



Background L-R: Frazer, Braya, Layla, Kal, Eva, Shrebadhra, Jasmine

Foreground: Tyler, Thea, Amelia, Hamish





## Daytime Theatre Troupe

In November, the Daytimers will be presenting their Magical Christmas Pantomime (written and directed by Kay McAllan) with the following cast:

Anna Morris  
Ann Maree Ling  
Cynthia Graham  
Jane Brown  
Liz Weier  
Margaret Martin  
Robyn Harm  
Sue Van der Meer  
Sarah Currie

Chic Currie

Frosty  
Christmas Tree  
Rudolf  
Mary Claus  
Santa  
Roxy Rabbit  
Ellie Mae Elf  
Elmer Elf  
Hootie Owl

Mrs Music

**Bookings are essential.**  
**Phone Marie Mortimer**  
**on 0461 427 573 or**  
**email [daytimetheatretroupebookings@ilt.org.au](mailto:daytimetheatretroupebookings@ilt.org.au).**

Public Matinee  
Saturday, 22 November  
10 am

## Working Bee

On Sunday 14 September nine members, Ann, Chris, Di, Helen, Ian, Jim, Melinda, Phil and Tony undertook the long-promised theatre large props rationalisation. We pulled out every piece of furniture from the shed and both lofts in the Jean Pratt Building and sorted them into five piles: to be retained and stored in the east loft; the west loft; or the shed; to be donated to Lifeline; or to go in a skip.



Di wondering what on earth we'll do with it all!



Tony ready to take an aerial photo from his great height



And here's some we prepared earlier ...



The Lifeline Pile: we've skipped the piles for the skip



Each storage area was cleaned the items were returned to their designated homes. The donated items will be dealt with by Phil and the items for disposal will hopefully fit into the hired skip.



Three chairs for putting them back!



The joy of actually having a a-lofty corridor ...



And we won't have to shed tears over the lack of space ...



That completes Stage 1 of the work in the Jean Pratt Building. And it has only taken us three years to bring this about. Let's hope it last even longer. It was an enormous task.

The Properties Catalogue is in the process of being updated and will be available soon. A new system of returning items at bump out after all productions will be introduced to ensure all the good work is not in vain.

There is still more to come with repair to water damage in one of the wardrobe areas, another cupboard in the annexe, a revamp of the lighting and sound area, shelving in the handicap toilets and the promised work in the costumes Department sorting, throwing out and cataloguing.

The **Season 26 Launch** will be held at the Incinerator Theatre on Saturday 1 November at 2 pm. Groups with an interest in booking a fund-raising night are invited to attend.

More details will be forthcoming.

## 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

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>
19 November	Opening Night <i>Waiting for God</i>

## More Success

The ILT production of *Watch Your Head* enjoyed more success at the Nanango Festival, winning the Runner Up Award, Best Actress (Martie Blanchett) and Best Director (Jim Orr) to add to their previous awards from other Festivals.

That completes a highly successful year for cast and crew. Congratulations!



Di Johnston, Martie Blanchett, Jim Orr & Relle Scott



The Nanango awards

### 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
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 0400 801 443 .J 0419 020 675
Theatre number		3812 2389