

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2026 **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



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NEXT ILT COMMITTEE MEETING

7pm
Tuesday
13 October 2026

From the President	2
Festival Success	2
Youth Theatre	2
Ben Hur	2
Season 2027 Launch	3
Daytime Theatre Troupe	3
Galvanized	3
Diary Dates	4
Open House	4
Auditions	4
Contacts	4



*"The biggest lie I tell myself is
I don't need to write it down.
I'll remember it."*

Our New Logo

Adjacent is the wonderful, very ingenious new logo created for us by our Marketing Manager, Kim Frohloff. This is one of a very large number of designs Kim came up with, with input from the team of Shane Mallory, Kate and Sam Hoepner and several showings to the Administrative Committee.

Isn't it simply fabulously brilliant and evocative of the Incinerator?



Now playing at the Incinerator Theatre, in the bespoke workshop created for the play, is ILT's latest presentation to the public – our third major production for 2026.

The play has endured the usual winter trials with illnesses. Jo Robbins missed the final dress rehearsal but

fortunately there was an understudy, Tamara Harmony, on stand-by so the show was able to demonstrate how, in the best Theatre tradition, it must go on. Trooper Jo was on deck for opening night.



Director Jim Orr with Woody (Mal Farrow), Annabel (Jo Robbins), Siobhan (Jess Pitman), Helen (Vicki Murray) and Louise (April Anfruns)

Season 17 September — 3 October 2026

Public Nights 18, 19, 25, 26 September, 2, 3 October at 7:30 pm

Matinees Sundays 20, 27 September at 2 pm

Bookings at ilt.org.au or

VIC 3281 0555

To volunteer for front of house work during *The Pink Hammer*, click
<https://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>



From the President

My holiday is amazing. I loved Norway and being able to visit with family in the UK is extra special. I'll see you all before too long.

Ann

Festival Success

Daffodil completed the final two stops of its festival season at Toowoomba and Nanango.

At Toowoomba, it won Best Production, Best Director (Kate Hoepner), Best Actor in a Female Role (Danielle Robert) and Best Supporting Actor in a Female Role (Belinda Cornwell)

At Nanango, it won Runner Up Drama, Best Male in a Minor Role (Garth Remington), Adjudicator's Award (Danielle Robert), Best Actress nomination (Danielle Robert) and Best Supporting Actress nomination (Belinda Cornwell).

The Firebrands' production of *Two, Four, Six, Eight, Who Do We Resuscitate?* has also been very successful.

At Toowoomba, it won Best Production, Best Director (Jess Pitman and Ollie Gavranovic), Best Female Actor (Aria Frohloff), Best Supporting Male Actor (Liv Stephenson), Best Supporting Female Actor (Taylah White), and Kailen O'Dea received an Adjudicator's Award.

At Nanango PLAYfest, it won Best Youth Play, two Best Youth Actor awards for Taylor and Aria, and Best Supporting Youth Actor for Kailen. Jess and Ollie were also awarded Best Director of the Festival.



Garth, Belinda, Kate and Brittany Evans (Assistant Director) in Nanango



If you are looking for a night's entertainment, then come along to the Jean Pratt Building on 16 or 17 October for the presentation by the Firebrands of their Showcase from 7:30 pm. The students would appreciate your attendance.

What a busy day 17 October will be with the *Flames* showcase in the morning, the Season Launch in the afternoon and the *Firebrands* Showcase in the evening. But busy is the way we are!



Ben Hur

Rehearsals are proceeding at pace in the Jean Pratt Building, bringing Patrick Barlow's recreation of the towering classic to the stage with only four actors – and a great deal of suspension of disbelief on the part of the audience. Be prepared for the unexpected and lots of laughs.

There are still opportunities for group bookings for this wonderful show – a

great opportunity for groups to relax as the year comes to a close. Anyone interested should contact Martie Blanchett on 0405 186 767 or <mrsmbblanchett@gmail.com>

The *Ben Hur* season runs from 18 November to 5 December. Public matinees are on Sundays 22 and 29 November.

Bookings are available, as always, at ilt.org.au or

VIC 3281 0555



Sean Wilson (Actor 1), Allie Harris (Actor 3) and Jason Lawson (Actor 4) under the direction of Sam Hoepner and Melinda Park.



On Saturday 17 October all will be revealed
when ILT launches

Season 2027

From 2:00 pm, budding actors and potential group bookers are invited to come along to the Incinerator where next year's directors will tell them of the excitement in store next year.

Information: Martie Blanchett 0405 186 767
mrsmblanchett@gmail.com>

For catering, please let Ann Collyer know you are coming
0400 997 365 or akcollyer@bigpond.com

Daytime Theatre Troupe

will be presenting

Nixy Elf's Adventure in Santaland

Performances: 10 am and 12 noon November Tues 17, Wed 18, Fri 20, Tues 24, Thurs 26 and Fri 27.
Saturday Matinee, November 21.

**Bookings Marie Mortimer
0461 427 573**

Youth Theatre

The **Sparks** are excited about a decision to stage *The Somewhat Accurate Adventures of Odysseus* written by Dior Austin in the Incinerator grounds. It will be an excellent opportunity for parents to come along and enjoy our gardens and have picnic rugs on **31 October from 9 am**.

Rehearsals by the **Flames** for *The Playhouse* continue to progress well, with blocking work remaining the primary focus throughout June and July. The show is scheduled to be performed in the Jean Pratt Building on 17 October.

Galvanized

On Saturday 12 September, Ipswich Little Theatre played its part in the Ipswich City Council's **Galvanized: A Festival of Heritage**. As part of the Festival, patrons were invited to join a tour of Queens Park in Central Ipswich where, during a stroll in the park, four former citizens of Ipswich told them of the history of the Park and of their involvement in it. The script was written by Ian Pullar.

There were two tours: at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm with around 60 tourists involved – almost exclusively from Ipswich. Following completion of the official tours, the participants were invited to proceed to the Incinerator to listen to a talk about how there came to be a Burley Griffin building in Queensland and its history.



Jim Orr as Frederick Turley, Curator of Queens Park from 1906 to 1935.



Di Johnston as Merle Finimore, Lady Mayoress from 1949 to 1971.



Glen Smith as Thomas Wall, Curator from 1935 to 1959.

Ian Pullar as George Brockwell Gill, architect of more than 300 buildings in Ipswich and the surrounding area.

The Council had also conducted bus tours of the heritage sites of Ipswich. One tour terminated at the Incinerator around 2:30 pm when, by arrangement, Ian Pullar again delivered the talk about the origins and history of the building.

2026 Season in Brief

Season 1: 25 February — 14 March

The Shawshank Redemption by

Owen O'Neal and Dave Johns

Director: Shane Mallory

Assistant Director: Amanda Harrison

Rated MA15+ Strong Adult Themes, Violence and Coarse Language

Season 2: 13 — 31 May

Ophelia Chooses by Buddy White.

A Theatre Supper Season

Director: Alison Lees

Assistant Director: Robyn Flashman

Rated: PG Adult themes

Annual Drama Festival

Director: Aaron Evans

7, 8, 9 August

Adjudicator Arthur Frame

Season 3: 16 September — 3 October

The Pink Hammer by Michele Amas

Director: Jim Orr

Assistant Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill

Rated M Adult themes, Coarse Language & Sexual References

Season 4: 18 November — 5 December

Ben Hur by Patrick Barlow

Director: Sam Hoepner

Assistant Director: Melinda Park

Rated PG Adult Themes and Religious References

DIARY DATES

16, 17 October 7:30 pm	Firebrands Showcase (Jean Pratt Building)
17 October 11 am	Flames <i>The Playhouse</i> (Jean Pratt Building)
17 October 2 pm	Launch of 2027 Seasons
31 October 9 am	Sparks ... <i>Odysseus</i> (Grounds)
17 – 27 November (see page 3)	Daytime Theatre Troupe (Jean Pratt Building)
9 November	Auditions for first play of 2027
18 November	Opening night <i>Ben Hur</i>

Open House

Remember our Open House on 6 December when we will be celebrating the wonderful milestones of 2026 – 150 years since the birth of Walter Burley Griffin, 90 years since the Incinerator was built, 80 years since ILT was formed and our 70th Festival.

We are inviting the general public to share this event, the highlight of which will be the installation of a commemorative sculpture and tree planting to honour Walter Burley Griffin.

There will also be displays of theatrical activities, opportunities to inspect the Incinerator and understand its former and present operation. Food and drink outlets will be available.

Auditions

Although the name of the first production of 2027 will not be released until the official launch on 17 October, budding thespians should pencil in the date for auditions – 9 November. It will be a comedy.

2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Ann Collyer	0400 997 365
Vice President	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Past President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Secretary	Helen Pullar	0400 801 443
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Membership Secretary	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Group Liaison	Martie Blanchett	0405 186 767
Marketing	Kim Frohloff	0428 725 379
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Youth Theatre – Sparks	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007
– Flames	Mack Groves	0439 202 955
– Firebrands	Kate Hoepner	0479 048 979
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	0439 305 658
Theatre number		3812 2389

For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre: www.ilt.org.au