



BURNING NEWS

from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre
www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

APRIL 2008
Ipswich Little Theatre Newsletter

2nd Chance

Phil's Favourite
tee shirts:

"Mess with Me
Act in the Dark"

AND

"Gaffer tape is like
the Force,
It has a dark side,
a light side and
holds the universe
together"

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NEWS FLASH
1st Public Night for
Enter a Free Man is
SOLD OUT

Auditions

It is not often you get a second chance in theatre.

But, due to unforeseen circumstances, the scheduled third play of the 2008 ILT season is not going ahead.

So, here is your chance to audition for the replacement play. Or, in this case, plays.

Directors, Doug Moses and Jan Pater-son are currently choosing light, funny one act plays for performances 2—19 July and will be holding auditions on

**Tuesday 22 April at 7.30pm
in the Jean Pratt Building**

Because the plays have not yet been con-firmed, specific parts are not yet known but the directors are looking for ladies and gents of all ages who might be interested in being a part of this season.

If you would like more information please contact Doug 3281 2846 or Jan 3201 7974.

Otherwise, please just come along next Tuesday for auditions.

New Offer for Members and Subscribers EXTRA 4 Ticket discount voucher books

Our four ticket discount voucher books have been very popular this year. They are a great way to save money on your tickets.

A reminder about the prices.
4 tickets for only:

Members	\$50
Subscribers	\$60
Subscribers (concession)	\$44

Usually you are only able to buy these books at the beginning of the year but, with our special offer, you are now able to purchase extra books from the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre.

ILT Members must show their membership card and our subscriber members

names are on file at the V.I.C. **Do keep in mind that any vouchers not used this year can be rolled over to 2009.**

This initiative has been decided upon following the excellent Public Night audience numbers at our first production *This Way Up*.

This play proved to be a great audience pleaser with our fundraising Group Theatre Nights too, as they recorded higher than 90% attendances.

This is a great start for the year!



Family photo from Enter a Free Man
I to r Lisa Moore, Linda Shap-cott and Craig Taylor

and the
WINNER
is...

Who will be the lucky audience member who wins the chance of 2 free tickets to the next play?

The first lucky winner was G Bentley from Brassall who attended *This Way Up*.

This promotion will be offered to all audience members for each of our major plays this year.

Do tell your friends so that they can be in with a chance of 2 free tickets for the next production when they go to see one of our plays.

Will you be the winning audience member from *Enter a Free Man*?



News from the groups within Ipswich Little Theatre four groups all based in the Jean Pratt Building

S-Troupe

Hope all students had a great Easter (not too much fun with the bunny!) and a good break.

Sorry to hear Jaime Perrett has been sick over the holidays, we hope to see her back on track soon.

This term promises to be fun with our Mother's Day craft and entertaining items for a small afternoon tea.

Students will also receive their new shirts when class resumes.

Di Johnston

Daytime Theatre Troupe

Daytime Theatre Troupe members are well into rehearsals for *Trouble in Storybook Land*. The set has been started and Lee Fullarton has offered to come in and do some of the artwork which we appreciate very much. Kay will be finalizing costumes with the cast this Wednesday when we also hope the QT will be taking some photographs for publicity. Yvonne has yet to confirm a time.

Report continues on page 4 with a photo of

the cast in rehearsal for *Trouble in Storybook Land*.

Jan Paterson

Crossfyre Young Theatricals

Auditions were successfully held for *Its My Life and I'll Die If I Want To* written and directed by Tony Erhardt, *Heartfelt* to be directed by Kyle Breese and *Urbs Urbis* to be directed by Suzanne Matulich.

All students have a role in one of the plays and the two performances will be on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 June in the Jean Pratt Building.

Tickets will be available at the door each night.

Any students wishing to join Crossfyre should put their names on the reserve list for term 3 which begins on Tuesday 15 July. Suzanne can be contacted on 3281 4748.

Suzanne Matulich

Smart Arts

This lively group starts term 2 on Saturday 19 April and fun and theatrics are sure to follow. Smart Arts is led by Kerri Ann McDonald.

ENTER A FREE MAN

Enter a Free Man by well known English playwright Sir Tom Stoppard, is set in 1960s suburban London.

George Riley (Craig Taylor) is convinced that he is an undis-

covered but brilliant inventor, an individual touched by genius. His wife, Persephone (Linda Shapcott) and daughter (Lisa Moore), not to mention the regulars at the local pub (Tony Erhardt, Kyle Breese, Max Mackenzie), the barman (David Shapcott) and visitor Florence (Majella Gee) think that he is slowly losing his mind.

But while his long suffering wife has resigned herself to a lifetime of caring for her husband, their headstrong teenage daughter Linda refuses to indulge his fantasy any longer.

A confrontation between father and daughter sends both outside the safe confines of their home and into the real world.

This light hearted look at the

trials and tribulations of an endearing, slightly eccentric man and his effect on family and friends is an unusual combination of humour and pathos.

Director is Suzanne Matulich.

Sir Tom Stoppard is also the author of *The Real Inspector Hound* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.

The season of *Enter a Free Man* begins with group nights from 30 April and has four public nights 9, 10 and 16, 17 May. Book your tickets at the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre now as 9 May is already booked out.

Selection Committee News

Auditions for "Sex, Drugs ric'n'noel" were held on the 31st March 2008 but the play was unable to be cast. No current little theatre member was in attendance with three newcomers and an ex crossfire member making up the only people there. Possible suitable males were contacted that night but were all unavailable and the Selection Committee then made the decision that, as it seemed unlikely the play could be cast in the immediate future, the production would have to be cancelled. It was then decided to attempt to cast "Jakes Women" if a suitable male could be found but, in spite of many phone calls to a number of people, as yet no male has been found to play the only male part in that play.

If any admin committee member knows of a possible suitable male please let myself or Jan know.

It would seem that an emergency Selection Committee may be on the cards to attempt to solve the situation that has developed regarding a theatre production in July.

Doug Moses

from the BUILDING COMMITTEE

It would seem that an emergency Selection Committee may be on the cards to attempt to solve the situation that has developed regarding a theatre production in July.

It was very gratifying to hear the positive comments from our audiences during the last production as they enjoyed the 'new look' auditorium with its new platforms and seats.

Once again we acknowledge the support from the Ipswich City Council, especially Councillor Charlie Pisasale, in relation to the acquisition of our new seating. The new configuration has resulted in eighty seats with a good view of the stage so that audience no longer have to avoid seats 13 – 16.

The external work carried out by both ICC officers and our own members has given the complex a very satisfactory facelift which did

not go undetected by our patrons.

Work on the upgrading of the Jean Pratt Building is now our focus and already much has been achieved with the installation of a new ceiling and ceiling lights complementing the work carried out by Alan Brown and Colin Paterson.

The Administrative Committee has approved the proposal submitted by the architect engaged to design the extension to the Jean Pratt and the Building Committee will be working closely with both the architect and builder over the coming months to ensure that the new plans fulfill our requirements well into the future.

How far we have come since those early days, just one year short of forty, when all we had was the Incinerator Building for

Bits & Pieces from Behind the Scenes at ILT

Being involved in theatre isn't all acting, directing and backstage work.

A hard working band of dedicated members is also actively involved in developing new promotional methods and endeavouring to increase our ticket sales.

As everyone knows, if you don't get the 'bums on seats' then the theatre can't continue to progress and thrive.

At least we know that we have a great product to promote, so that makes the job a lot easier.

Some of the new promotional ideas include:

- Offering one free ticket for any 10 booked (book 10 pay for 9)
- Running a competition at each play to win 2 free tickets to the next play
- The very popular free wine and cheese at the first public night of each play

- Putting display stands for our brochures in councillors' offices, doctors waiting rooms etc. (if you know of an office with lots of people visiting please let Melinda know on 32018861)
- Having an information display at the Ipswich Civic Hall

Of course one of the very best ways of promoting your theatre is word of mouth. All members can help us to succeed by talking up our plays and encouraging their family and friends to come along as audience members or as active participants.

Robyn is happy to report that more groups are coming on board and booking a night at one or more of the plays. Do remember to let anyone you know who is involved in any type of group, that this is an excellent way of fundraising or just having a social night out with workmates. All the groups who come along are full of praise for the entertainment, the courtyard and bar, and often, the

amazement that our wonderful building exists. We never cease to be surprised how many people say to us, things like: "I've lived in Ipswich all my life and I never knew this building was here till my wife dragged me along for her group night."

Desley, who is the one who organises most of the front of house rosters, would like people to check the dates that they have volunteered to work on so that they don't have the embarrassment of forgetting to turn up, thereby making other people's workload heavier.

If you haven't been asked to work front of house or in the bar lately, please don't be shy, ring Desley 3288 8754 or Jim (for the bar) 3812 9141 and offer your services. You will be welcomed!



CONTACT DETAILS

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The Ipswich Little Theatre complex, including the historic Incinerator Theatre designed by Walter Burley Griffin, is in Burley Griffin Drive, off Griffiths Road, Ipswich.

To ring the theatre when there is a class or rehearsal **PHONE 3812 2389**.

NOTE: this phone is not staffed all the time.

**NEXT ILT
 COMMITTEE MEETING:
 13 MAY
 7.00 PM**

2008 DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

22 April 7.30 pm	AUDITION: <i>a set of one act plays</i> Directors Doug Moses 3281 2846 Jan Paterson 3201 7974
30 April—17 May	Enter a Free Man directed by Suzanne Matulich. Tickets from 1 April at the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre 3281 0555
13-23 May	Trouble in Storybook Land — see below for dates and other details

MORE FROM THE DAYTIMERS

Chic has confirmed that bookings are really good and promises us lots of little bottoms on seats/or the floor as the case may be.

The Jean Pratt Building is looking really “shnick” and we can’t wait to share our new acting space with our audiences.

A big thank you to Alan and Col for all their hard work.

We look forward to a great season and would remind everyone of the dates once again:-

Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14, Friday 16, Tuesday 20, Wednesday 21, Friday 23 May with performances at 9.30am and 11.30am and two matinee performances on Saturday 17 May at 10am and 12noon.

Cost is \$5.00 per person and bookings can be made by telephoning Chic Currie on 3288-9783 [h] 0409725315 or at the Theatre 3812-2389 on Wednesdays between 12 and 2pm.



Contact details that you might need to know

President	Judy Grant	3288 0717
Vice President	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Immediate Past President	Pam Floris	3288 6159
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437
Treasurer	Jan Paterson	3201 7974

Smart Arts Director	Kerri-ann MacDonald	3812 7368
S-Troupe Director	Di Johnston	3812 9141
Crossfyre Director	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
Daytime Theatre Troupe Coordinator	Jan Paterson	3201 7974
ILT One Act Play Festival Director	Suzanne Matulich	3281 4748
Front of House Management Coordinator	Desley Cronon	3288 8754
Group Liaison Secretary	Robyn Flashman	3812 3450