



BURNING NEWS

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

AUGUST 2008
Ipswich Little Theatre Newsletter

ALL THE 54th
FESTIVAL
RESULTS
INSIDE.

What a Weekend that Was! 54th ILT One Act Play Festival

*Educating
Rita*

1 - 11 October
2008

Shorter season
than normal
Don't miss out !

Bookings at the
Visitor Info Centre
3281 0555

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Superb weather, talented actors and directors, an encouraging and supportive adjudicator and an amazing variety of challenging and thought provoking plays. Add to that an energetic and hard working team of theatre members and you have the wonderful weekend that was our 54th One Act Play Festival.

15 senior plays, and 1 intermediate, made up the program with 14 different theatre companies taking part.

Only one of the plays was not written by an Australian playwright and many of them were also directed by the author.

This is an amazing change from a few years ago when the majority of plays entered in the Festival were from non Australian authors.

So much so that we instigated a special prize for the Best Production of an Australian Script.

Our adjudicator, Patrick Mitchell, who lectures in the History of Drama was delighted

to read so many new, topical and relevant plays. The majority of them explored very sensitive issues and didn't shy away from offering strong depictions of challenging situations. Having said that there were also some very funny comedies which gave the required light relief and balanced out the four sessions of excellent drama.

There were new awards this year, instead of Best Actor and Best Actress, we now offer Best Actor and Actress in a Dramatic Role and Best Actor and Actress in a Comedy Role. Our ILT Life Members were generous in their donations to allow the Comedy awards to be purchased.

The Stage Manager's Trophy, instigated last year was once again a valued trophy and is awarded to the group who show the most professional and co-operative behaviour backstage.

See page 3 for all the Awards.

AUDITIONS !

for the last play for 2008—*RUMORS*

Auditions for our final production in the Incinerator Theatre this year will be held on **Tuesday, 2 September at 7.30pm** in the Jean Pratt Building.

"Rumors" has a large cast of 5 male and 5 female actors and promises to be a lot of fun for performers and audiences alike.

Contact directors Robyn Flashman (38123450) or Melinda Park (0419 650 441) for any further information or if you would like

to read the script prior to the audition.

Synopsis:

Four wealthy couples gather for a dinner party to celebrate the wedding anniversary of their best friends. The first couple to arrive discovers there are no servants, the hostess is missing and the host, a local politician, has tried to commit suicide – or has he? The husband, a lawyer, decides to cover up the situation to protect his friend's political career.

As the other guests arrive, all have problems of their own – a smashed new BMW, recurring back spasm, marital problems. However, the questions begin and rumours galore add to the mayhem. The evening turns into total chaos as it becomes more and more difficult to remember *who* has been told *what* about *whom*. This mad farce, written by Neil Simon, America's most prolific and successful comedy playwright will provide an end of year night of laughs.

Don't Miss

Scene but Briefly

Last performances
next weekend!

For further information
or to book tickets
please contact Ian or
Helen Pullar Phone
3281 4437

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

David A is a Cat!

CAT?

ILT member David Austin is now not only the Director of this musical but is also in the dancing troupe because one of the dancers had to pull out. Now he goes to the gym and is working out instead of just looking.

See him in lycra and fur. Performances of CATS will be held at Ipswich Civic Hall 10,11,17,18 October 2008, 8pm. Matinee 11 Oct, 2pm.

FESTIVAL PHOTOS

A full range of photos taken at the ILT One Act Play Festival will be available shortly on our website. www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

S-Troupe

Great to see new audience members at our latest show Faster Higher Stronger even though it was winter.

Many thanks for Melinda Park for front of house, Jim for bar and kitchen, Brendan Dieckmann for sound and lighting.

You may have heard Di on Phoenix Radio broadcast through UQ Springfield on Friday 8 August 2008 talking about S-troupe and their upcoming plans.

Selected students performed *Once Upon A Time* while the adjudicating was making up his mind at the Drama Festival over the weekend. This is a great opportunity for other groups from all over south-east Queensland to see what S-Troupe do best-entertain! They will also be performing this play again in conjunction with the next season at the theatre, *Scene but Briefly*.

The rest of term will be spent preparing Christmas items and Father's Day afternoon.

Di Johnston

Daytime Theatre Troupe

Daytime Theatre Troupe members are now in rehearsal for their final production for 2008 "*Santa's Christmas Surprise!*" written by Kay McAllan.

BOOKINGS are essential and ADMISSION is \$5.00 per person. Telephone Chic Currie on 32889783 [home], 0409725315 [mobile] or each Wednesday at the Theatre [38122389] between 12 and 2pm.

Jan Paterson

Crossfyre Young Theatricals

Roles in the very challenging end of year production of *Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman have been decided and the actors have now begun the demanding process of being immersed in Greek theatre and creating the characters. Performance dates are 12, 13, 14 November.

Suzanne Matulich

Smart Arts

Smart Arts is nearly ready for their annual performance.

It is one night only, **Friday 12 September** and the theme is Time Travel.

Kerri-ann McDonald

Selection Committee Report

It is with pleasure that Selection Committee can report that our October production is now *Educating Rita* which will be directed by Lee Gerchow with Jim Orr and Majella Gee as cast members. The current plan is for a two week season but there are still some Group Nights available through Robyn Flashman (3812 3450).

2009 ILT Program

Selection Committee would like any directors wishing to submit expressions of interest to direct a production in 2009 to complete the required form and present the play script and a back-up play to members of the committee by 15 September 2008.

Forms are available on-line and from Desley Cronon (3288 8754).

2009 is the 40th anniversary of Ipswich Little Theatre's move from the Ipswich Town Hall to the Incinerator Theatre and two plays for consideration for inclusion in the 2009 program are *Chase Me Comrade*, the last play in the Town Hall, and *Boeing, Boeing* the first full length play staged in the Incinerator Theatre.

Doug Moses
Convener
Selection Committee

Building Committee Report

A quote for the draft plans for the extension to the Jean Pratt Building has been completed and accepted by the ILT Administrative Committee.

As this is a major undertaking, we are going to apply for grant money – a very time-consuming task and one which will be slow and possibly frustrating.

It is, however, heartening to know that the building plans are this far along and the 'dream' a couple of major steps closer.

Helen Pullar
Convener
Building Committee



and the winners are

SENIOR SECTION	
First Prize - LA Thomas Memorial Shield (perpetual)	ICHOR Excalibur Theatre Company
Second Prize	FINAL PLACEMENT BATS Theatre Company
Third Prize	DOMAIN Ipswich Little Theatre
Best Director - Patti Jordan Memorial Trophy	Jim Orr <i>DOMAIN</i>
Best Actor in a Dramatic Role (inaugural award)	Stewart Kirkland <i>BOY SLAUGHTER</i> Brisbane Arts Theatre
Best Actress in a Dramatic Role (inaugural award)	Anna McMahon <i>FINAL PLACEMENT</i> BATS Theatre Co
Best Actor in a Comedy Role – ILT Life Members’ Trophy (inaugural award)	Peter Carmichael <i>SAY WHAT</i> Hills Players
Best Actress in a Comedy Role – ILT Life Members’ Trophy (inaugural award)	Joanne Prove <i>SAY WHAT</i> Hills Players
Best Supporting Actor	James Fitzgerald <i>BOY SLAUGHTER</i> Brisbane Arts Theatre
Best Supporting Actress	Sarah McMahon <i>FINAL PLACEMENT</i> BATS Theatre Co
Best Supporting Actor in a Minor Role	Toby Martin <i>BUMPY ANGELS</i> Kidz-N-Co Talent
Best Supporting Actress in a Minor Role	Jane Atwell <i>BUMPY ANGELS</i> Kidz-N-Co Talent
Best Production of an Australian Script Helen Haenke Memorial Prize (perpetual)	BOY SLAUGHTER Brisbane Arts Theatre
Adjudicator’s choice	Jane Sheppard – standing in for Dalby Drama
INTERMEDIATE SECTION	
Best Intermediate Actress	Stephanie Groves <i>IT’S MY LIFE AND I’LL DIE IF I WANT TO</i> Crossfyre Young Theatricals
Best Supporting Intermediate Actress -	Kate Speakman <i>IT’S MY LIFE AND I’LL DIE IF I WANT TO</i> Crossfyre Young Theatricals
STAGE MANAGER’S TROPHY	Kidz-N-Co Talent

Very Special Thanks to ILT Members

The Festival would not have been such an amazingly successful weekend without the hard work, time and commitment made by so many of our theatre members. Here is a list of those who took organizational roles but there were many others who made up the teams doing each of those jobs.

Ongoing thanks also go to our generous sponsors in particular the Ipswich City Council and Crs Paul Pisasale, Charlie Pisasale, Sheila Ireland, David Morrison and Andrew Antonioli. Without the support of our sponsors, the Festival would not exist.

*Suzanne Matulich
Craig Taylor
Tony Erhardt
Phil Holmes
Robbie Campbell
Brendan Dieckmann
Robyn Flashman
Yvonne Gardiner
Desley Cronon
Shane Mallory
Alan Brown
Helen Pullar
Jim Orr
Patti Pratt
Ian and Helen Pullar
Bette Rose
Melinda Park*

*Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Principal Lighting, Sound, Festival Infrastructure
Lighting, Sound, Festival Infrastructure
Lighting, Sound
Front of House, Publicity
Publicity
Front of House
Program, Website
Festival Infrastructure
Catering
Bar
Group Liaison
Sunday BBQ
Adjudicator’s Assistant
Raffle, Publicity*

Educating Rita
Our now famous
(or is that infamous)
Wine and Cheese Night
for each show is sched-
uled for
Friday 11 October for
Educating Rita.
BOOK NOW
avoid disappointment



CONTACT DETAILS

Ipswich Little Theatre
PO Box 154
IPSWICH Q 4305

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Suzanne Matulich

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E-mail: suzanne@matulich.org

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:
9 SEPTEMBER
7.00 PM**

2008 DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

16-24 August	Scene but Briefly —collection of 10 min plays by Ian Pullar 3281 4437
2 September	AUDITION Rumors Directors Robyn Flashman and Melinda Park, see page 1
12 September	Performance by Smart Arts Juniors —see page 2
1-11 October	Educating Rita - Director Lee Gerchow Bookings at the Ipswich Visitor Info Centre 3281 0555
14-24 October	Santa's Christmas Surprise - Kay McAllan See page 2 for booking details

Can you Help?

Director of **Educating Rita**, Lee Gerchow, has a wish list of items he would like for the set. Can you help?



Portable electric typewriter

Library stairs or wooden step ladder - three or four steps max.

Many old 'bound' books - dusty antiquarian style, old manila folders, cardboard binders etc - office clutter for a literature professor

An old-style desk in darker timber - not too huge or new looking - as befits a university academic's office
A framed print - nude - bare breasted - preferably with religious theme

Small framed classical etchings or prints ... portraits of poets, classical musicians etc

A bust of Shakespeare or other literary figure

Call Lee on 0417 713 086 if you can assist

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