



Burning News

from the Ipswich Incinerator Theatre

www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

MARCH 2008

Ipswich Little Theatre Newsletter

→ DON'T FORGET!

Tickets for *Enter a Free Man* will be available at the usual place Ipswich Visitor Info Centre from 1 April. You'd be a fool to miss out wouldn't you!

The first public night for *This Way Up* offered audience members free light refreshments from 7.15pm and this initiative was very well received and will be repeated. The first public night for *Enter a Free Man* is Friday 9 May.

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BOOK NOW!
Don't miss the fun of first night of *Enter a Free Man* Friday 9 May 7.15pm

Auditions

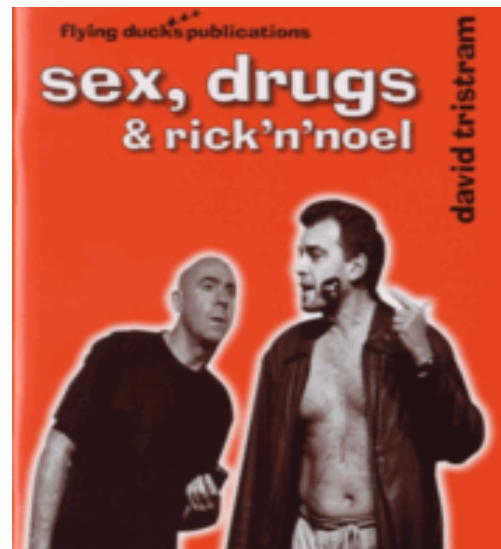
Auditions for David Tristram's *sex, drugs & rick'n'noel* will be held in the Jean Pratt building on **Monday 31 March, 2008 at 7.30pm**

The play is a funny poignant story of two mature age students studying history, and a whole lot else, at University.

Ages for cast members are from late teenager to the forties. The cast consists obviously of Rick and Noel, Maxine the History professor and the young student Helen who also plays her identical twin sister, Rachael.

The parts of Rick and Noel are very demanding roles, especially Rick, and either role would give the actor a great sense of achievement. While Maxine has less lines it is a very important role as is that of Helen/Rachael.

The play has been written in a way that it can be done as either a



straight play or a musical and consideration is being given to staging the play as a musical.

The play will be held in the Incinerator Theatre from 9 July to 26 July 2008.

All thespians and prospective thespians are welcome to contact Doug Moses on 3281 2846 or Jan Paterson on 3201 7974 for more information.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I can certainly choose the right time to go on holidays! When I left in early February there were so many Theatre projects that were still in the development stage.

When I visited the theatre precinct on 28 February, I was amazed at the transformation of the grounds, Jean Pratt Building and the Incinerator Theatre! Since our first major production

for 2008, *This Way Up*, had just opened, our stage area was also looking great! Thank you to all those who worked in the lead-up to our major working bee on 24 February and to our members who came along on the day to be part of our team. I hear that the enthusiasm of members attending was reminiscent of the 'old days' when we could not afford to 'pay' workers to make im-

provements to our theatre. It's great to know that this sense of community is alive in our Ipswich Little Theatre family.

I must make special mention of Helen, and her building committee members, and Alan, Colin and Phil who put in many hours in the lead-up to the working bee. We are also delighted that our 'landlords', the Ipswich City Council also 'came aboard' for our current project.

Continued page 2

and the
WINNER
is...

A new promotion introduced during the *This Way Up* season gave audience members the chance to win a free ticket to the next play Enter a Free Man.

The first lucky winner is G Bentley from Brassall!

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 a free ticket for the next production when they go to see one of our plays.



We either make ourselves happy or miserable. The amount of work is the same.

-Carlos Castenada
(1925-1998)

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

S-Troupe

S-Troupe will be in recess after this Saturday until Saturday 19th April. First term has been spent getting to know new students and welcoming back old ones.

Di was recently the guest speaker at an International Women's Day luncheon in her role as a Director of S-Troupe.

Hopefully when students and helpers return from holidays our new shirts will be ready! Thanks to a generous donation from Ipswich City Council.

Happy Easter to all students

Di Johnston

Daytime Theatre Troupe

See back page for all the details of the current show in rehearsal and page 3 for the report of the 25th Silver Anniversary.

Jan Paterson

Crossfyre Young Theatricals

The first class after Easter will see the stu-

dents auditioning for parts in the mid year production. This production will be 3 one act plays, two of them written by Crossfyre assistant directors, Tony Erhardt and Kyle Breese.

Watch this space for all the details of these plays and the performance dates at the end of June.

Suzanne Matulich

President's Message continues ...

Their workers, led by Danny Bates, continually liaised with Helen to ensure that our best interests were met.

The opening night of *This Way Up* was 27 February, and, from the very first night, feedback from audiences was excellent. Congratulations to Jane and her cast, crew and front of house on a great presentation. Our *Wine and Cheese* evening on the first public night also proved to be a success and members can look forward to this being a regular celebration. It was wonderful to see so many of our members attend this play season. It is most important to the cast and our administrative team that our members show their support through attending our productions.

Judy Grant

Arts and Culture in Australian Life - A Statistical Snapshot

This publication provides a snapshot of the latest key cultural statistics, including Australians working, participating and volunteering in the arts and cultural sector, Indigenous arts and culture, Australian spending on arts and culture, Government funding and the impact of the sector on our economy.

Figures provided by the National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics, Australian Bureau of Statistics include data from the recent releases of the *ABS, Work in Selected Culture and Leisure Activities, April 2007* and *Employment in Culture, 2006*.

Some key highlights show

that as many as 3.5 million Australians work in our culture and leisure sector and that Australians of all ages actively support arts and culture, with 85 per cent of Australians attending at least one cultural venue or event in a year.

Other highlights from the publication include:

- Australia exported over \$534 million worth of cultural goods in the last financial year;
- 27 per cent of Indigenous adults participate in creative arts;
- Australian households spend \$14.7 billion on culture per annum; and

- Australian Governments spend \$5.5 billion on cultural funding per annum.

This information came from Cultural Data Online.

Cultural Data Online is the website of the Cultural Ministers Councils Statistics Working Group. It provides statistics on arts and culture in Australia and has a number of cultural research reports. Copies of publications and pamphlets are available for download free-of-charge at www.culturaldata.gov.au.

Selection Committee News

The auditions for *Domain* written by Mark Lucas which Jim Orr is directing as Festival play were very successful. Many people turned up keen to secure a part but the following were the successful ones:

- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| Edith | Di Johnston |
| Annalise | Kerri-Anne McDonald |
| Bernadette | Michelle Williams |
| Carlotta | Relle Scott |
| Dominie | Jodie Madsen |
| Esmerelda | Kahli Williams |
| Him | David Nicols |

It is great to see the interest in Festivals being so strong, not only at Ipswich but across South East Queensland.

Don't miss the next auditions to be held on Monday 31 March for *sex, drugs and rick'n'noel*.

from the BUILDING COMMITTEE

Many thanks to those who responded to the request for help at the recent working bee. Twenty-six adults and several willing children turned up and worked extremely hard. As a result there was a great deal achieved and our Theatre looks fantastic, inside and out. It has been very rewarding to listen to the appreciative comments of our recent audiences who have obviously been aware of all the improvements.

Attention has again turned to the Jean Pratt Building where a ceiling will be installed in the next school holiday break. Once that has happened and the total re-paint finished the interior of that

building will look very smart indeed. Consultation with an architect is progressing and plans for the major improvements to the 'backstage' areas of that building are proceeding. They will not happen overnight but will be worth the wait.

We plan to apply for grants to expedite the completion of the extensions and may again approach members for short-term loans. At this stage, however, we are going through the various stages of planning and seeking approval from various bodies. This is a space to watch!

Helen Pullar
Building Committee Convener

What a Time They Had!

If the laughter, chatting and applause coming from the Ipswich Golf Club on Saturday evening were any indication, an absolutely wonderful time was had by all who attended the Daytime Theatre Troupe's 25th Birthday Celebration.

71 people celebrated, including the director and 6 members of the very first production, with 'Daytimers' travelling from Canberra, Sydney, Tamborine Mountain and the Gold Coast for the reunion.

The venue was awash with glitter and wisecracks as MC, Craig Taylor, kept the festivities rolling along in a most entertaining manner and Cr Charlie Pisasale presented congratulatory certificates. In true Daytimer's tradition, a magnificently decorated and most delicious birthday cake was devoured. On display were a wonderful photo album and DVD's of photographs, newspaper clippings and performances, which had been prepared by Col and Jan Paterson.

Mrs Music, Chic Currie, offered a sing-along, but was drowned out by the chatter!

It was truly a night to be enjoyed and remembered. We don't know though if the Golf Club members will ever recover from the impromptu line dancing performance by crazily attired

Kelly Badgett and Lee Fullarton!

25 year Commemorative Booklets are still available for sale at \$5. Add \$2.50 and one can be posted to you. Contact Jan on 3201 7974.

More photos are available at www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au





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:
8 APRIL
7.00 PM**

2008 DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

31 March 7.30 pm	AUDITION: <i>sex drugs and rick 'n' noel</i> Director Doug Moses 3281 2846
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 details

WHAT ARE THE DAYTIMERS

DOING NOW?

Trouble in Storybook Land is now into rehearsals and we welcome newcomers Ulanda Gardner, David Shapcott (after an absence of some years. Yippee – another male), Sandra Robson, Jenny Pearce and Celestene Stokes. The oldtimers include Patti Pratt as the wonderful Tinkerbell (can you imagine!), Jane Sheppard, Sue Van Der Meer, Robyn Harm, Kathy Wilson, Anne England, Alan Brown, Jane Brown, Julie-Anne Wright, Ann Wall, Lesley Cuthbert, Chic Currie, Carol Culey, Carmel Holahan, Geraldine Fitzpatrick, Kay McAllan, Jan and Col Paterson. 23 on board for this production which is fabulous.

Production dates are from 13 - 23 May with performances at 9.30 and 11.30am and Saturday 17 May at 10am and 12pm. Bookings are essential, \$5 per person. Phone Chic 3288 9783.

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