



JUNE 2011

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter

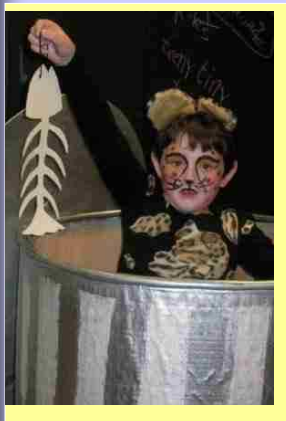
Light Bites Season



Newsletter Editor 2012

This position will be vacant from January 2012.

Please contact current editor, Suzanne, for details and discussion. 0412 79 22 64



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For several years, the Tourific Troupers have been entertaining visiting touring groups from a repertoire of ten minute plays, all written for Ipswich Little Theatre Society by Ian Pullar.

These have been very popular, but because most of the touring groups come from outside Ipswich, our home audiences have not had the chance to see them.

Accordingly, ILT has decided to stage a season of these plays, *Light Bites*, as one of this year's major productions, to be produced by Helen and Ian Pullar. It will be staged between 21 August and 4 September.

Altogether, 16 plays will be presented during the season; a selection of eight at each session. The plays

cover a range of subjects – from domestic comedies to crimes – but all could be termed 'light' and very entertaining. Because of the shortness of the plays and the season, we have been able to persuade some of our veteran actors for whom a full length play and season are too daunting, to 'tread the boards' once again.

We are also delighted that our Daytimers, S-trouper and young people will join with senior members to represent our entire theatre family. About thirty players will be participating.

A further different feature



of this season is that it will be held in the Jean Pratt Building. The groups who have already booked sessions will enjoy brunch, morning or afternoon tea or supper, depending on what suits them.

There will also be public performances on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 August and Saturday 3 September at 8 pm and a matinee performance on Sunday 4 September at 2 pm.

Bookings open at the Visitor Information Centre on Monday 18 July.

The Force and I

Sing-along/Read Through Monday 4 July 7.30pm

Are you a fan of STAR WARS? Do you love to sing? Do you love to dress up in STAR WARS costumes?

Then you have to come to the sing-along and read through for this year's Theatre Restaurant: **The Force and I**, a musical farce based on *Star Wars*, directed by David Austin. Lovingly ripped off from *Episode 4: A New Hope*, this musical comedy tells the story of Lube

Skystalker, and how he enlists the help of some familiar characters in the galaxy far far away, to save Princess Laidup from the vile clutches of Dark Vapour and the evil galactic Empire.

Cast Required (minimum) the show needs a cast of 17, ideally 7 to 9 men and 8 to 10 women. Any age, any look, I'm not ageist or lookist.

Songs to be familiar with *Cabaret*, *I will survive*, *I'm a Barbie Girl*, *Do. Ray. Me. America*, *Mama Mia* & *Copacabana*

Hope to see you all there, and "May the Farce be with you!"



Groan Time

Local Area Network in Australia : The LAN down under.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

When you've seen one shopping centre you've seen a mall.

Police were called to a day care centre where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

AND THE LUCKY WINNER IS

Gary Hollier is the winner of two free tickets to *Light Bites* in the competition run during our last play season.

Congratulations Gary, we know that you will really enjoy your night out.

Jean Pratt Building Activities (see page 4 for groups' contact details)

The Jean Pratt Building is used all year by four subgroups in ILT. It is also used for many other theatre activities. If you want to book it you must contact Desley Cronon (page 4).

Junior Theatre

Saturdays 9 - 11am during school terms.

No new enrolments until third term 2011.

Deirdre Lowe

Young Theatricals

Currently on well deserved holidays.

Jan Paterson

Daytime Theatre Troupe

After a successful first season run, the Day-timers are in recess until rehearsals start in

July for the end of year production.

Anne England

S-Troupe:

Next production: **Annie with a Twist**. Performance dates:

Fridays 22, 29 July 6pm

Saturdays 23, 30 July 4pm and 6pm. Sundays 24 at 4pm.

All tickets \$10 from the Visitor Info Centre 3281 0555.

Melinda Park

Convictions + Connections: Australian Theatre Forum 2011

14 - 16 September to be held at the Brisbane Powerhouse. Coinciding with Brisbane Festival, this forum will see cul-

tural leaders and contemporary thinkers teasing out some of the big issues around theatre practice, infrastructure and sustainability.

It's an opportunity to collectively recognise the innovations that are taking place in the sector and sketch out the changes yet to be made. What needs to be held on to? What can be left behind? With vision and conviction, we will dream, assume responsibility and take action. For more information about the speakers and the program go to:

www.australiantheatreforum.com.au

Theatre Activity Nights & One Act Play Fest

Next Theatre Activity Nights:



4 July 7.30 pm - PLAYREADING

THE FORCE AND I - see page 1 for details



15 August 7.30 pm AUDITION:

THE FORCE AND I.

Check out the July edition of Burning News for the Theatre Activity Nights planned for the rest of 2011.

Jan Paterson

Volunteers are very welcome for many of the jobs at our upcoming One Act Play Festival 12- 14 August.

In particular we would love you to assist in welcoming our visiting theatre groups to our beautiful venue (we call that a Group Liaison person) and also need people to assist working Front of House (selling tickets, programs, raffle tickets etc)

If you can assist in preparing our venue in the week leading up to the Festival and also putting everything away afterwards, please let us know! Contact Festival Director, Suzanne 0412 79 22 64 to volunteer.

ILT President's Message

Welcome to winter.

We have had major electrical work done to the box outside the Jean Pratt Building and also some reconstruction work on the main column at the rear of the stage.

This is only possible due to the fact that we do not have a main house production scheduled.

We are also hoping to have replacement of the curtain supports/ropes over this time as well.

Thank you to all who have worked to coordinate all of this work over such a short period of time.

Congratulations to YT's and Junior Theatre who

both had their performances recently.

I enjoyed both performances and am sure that the audiences did as well.

Well done to all concerned.

Cheers

Jim Orr



Selection Committee News

39 Steps: audition results

The 39 Steps was successfully cast on 6 June 2011.

The audition process unearthed new talent for the theatre. From a number of enquiries from people both within Ipswich and Brisbane, the directorial team of Shane Mallory and Rebecca Noble, together with the ILT Selection Committee, determined the following cast:

Daniel Wheeler: Richard Hannay
Brooke Stitt: Annabella/Margaret/
Pamela

Ben Cumpstay: Clown 1

Kyle Breese: Clown 2.

A young cast with an average age of 23 augers well for the mentally and physically demanding piece.

The 39 Steps team, now replete with a cast, have since had a reading of the play which went extremely well and have now commenced rehearsals. The excitement amongst cast and crew is palpable as we launch head long into controlled lunacy!

2012 ILT Programme

Whilst we are only halfway through 2011 it is now time to start consideration for next year's programme. This year the Expression of Interest

for Directors for 2012 will enable prospective directors to submit their expressions on line via the ILT website. Should the directors have electronic versions of their scripts they will also be able to upload these scripts for our Selection Committee to consider.

A downloadable hard copy Expression of Interest form will still also be available.

The Expression of Interest page will go live on the ILT website on 1 July 2011 and the **closing date for these expressions will be 31 August 2011** so that the programme can be finalised by the end of September 2011.

Shane Mallory
for ILT Selection Committee

Junior Theatre production - NOT a Catastrophe!



Saturday 18 June, the Junior group of the Ipswich Little Theatre presented 'A Cats-Trophy'.

All 18 children played the parts of either an Alley Cat or an Aristocat with great aplomb and wonderful dedication. They produced dialogue, jokes and an enthusiastic 'skiffle' band like seasoned troopers and even when we had a slight hic-cup with the sound system they held their characters and just waited till we could get going again. If the audience was any judge then it was a resounding success. Of course mums and dads, grans and granddads are biased but in this case they had every right to be. These kids, aged 8 to 12 years, are just fantastic. It was a bit of a challenge for some of them to crawl through a narrow tunnel and emerge out through a

'garbage can' to the tune of the 'William Tell Overture' but they did it. Playing in a skiffle band when they had no idea what it was or who Lonnie Donnigan was (do their parents even know?) also posed a challenge but they were in it up to their pointy little cat ears. 'My Old Man's a Dustman' was a great favourite and when they came to the shout 'four foot from his tail' it almost brought the set down. My thanks to my helpers, my set painters and designers, the wonderful parents of the students, and the support of the theatre 'family'. My creative juices are flowing again and I am well into the script and plans for our December production - 'A Fridge Too Far'. See you all then.

Deirdre Lowe, Director

Online Ticketing - Getting Closer

Online Ticketing with ILT gets closer by the day!

The various 'back office' systems have recently been put in place to facilitate the implementation of this exciting new venture for ILT. Our website has been prepped ready for the system to go live on August 15 when tickets for *The 39 Steps* will go on sale as the inaugural production using online

ticketing as an option for ILT patrons both regular and new.

Training for ILT members involved in the management of our ticketing system as well as staff from the Ipswich Visitors Information Centre will take place soon in preparation for go live.

The training will be provided by Seat Advisor, the company ILT have partnered with to deliver this new service.

Stay tuned for more updates as we draw closer to GO LIVE!



Shane Mallory Boss of the Web

One Act Play Festival tickets - per session or for the whole Festival will be on sale at the Visitor Info Centre from 18 July!



Ipswich Little Theatre
PO Box 154
IPSWICH Q 4305

Newsletter editor
Suzanne Matulich
Phone: 07 3281 4748
E-mail:
info@ipswichlittletheatre.com.au

The Ipswich Little Theatre complex, including the historic Incinerator Theatre designed by Walter Burley Griffin, is located 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 at other times.

Letter to the Editor: A cats-tail of adventure.



Parents, grandparents, siblings, friends and ILT members had the pleasure of attending the Junior Theatre production of "A Cats-Trophy" in our Jean Pratt building on Saturday 18 June 2011. Eighteen of our junior members miaowed their way from Princess Purrfect's penthouse or sprang in never-ending numbers from a rubbish bin in the depth of a dark back alley, led by Sly One Eye for a rumble against the Top-Cats. The audience sang and tapped along to the catchy music and the skiffle band.

Congratulations to Junior Theatre Director, Deirdre Lowe, who wrote the amusing script "purrfectly" suited to the age group, and to assistants Anne Collyer, Shirlee Burns and Jacqui De Villiers.

A round of applause to the cast who performed their roles so well - Zoe, Zac, Tara, Jack, Gwen, Liam, Mackenzie, Thomas, Lincoln, Nicholas, Lavender, Sophie, Hannah, Ainsleigh, Mitchell, June, Ruby, Claudya and senior theatre member Doug Moses who played 'Grandpa Sebastian'.

Thank you Junior Theatre members for a wonderful morning's entertainment.

Jane Sheppard (ILT Life Member and Proud Grandmother).



| DATE CLAIMERS Contact details below | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 4 July 7.30 pm | PLAYREADING: <i>The Force and I</i> (see page 1 for details) |
| 12 - 14 August | ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL Program in July issue of Burning News |
| 15 August 7.30 pm | AUDITION: <i>The Force and I</i> contact David |

| 2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS | | |
|--|------------------|------------------------------|
| President | Jim Orr | 0447 20 00 06 |
| Vice President | Suzanne Matulich | 3281 4748 (ah) 0412 79 22 64 |
| Past President | Judy Grant | 3288 0717 |
| Secretary | Helen Pullar | 3281 4437 |
| Treasurer | Jan Paterson | 3810 5884 0417 787 130 |

| CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| Front of House Management Coordinator | Majella Gee | 3812 7821 0415 258 162 |
| Group Liaison Secretary | Robyn Flashman | 3812 3450 |
| Jean Pratt Building Bookings | Desley Cronon | 3288 8754 |
| Junior Theatre | Deirdre Lowe | 0409 202 380 |
| Young Theatricals | Jan Paterson | 3810 5884 0417 787 130 |
| STroupe | Melinda Park | 3201 8861 0419 650 441 |
| Daytime Theatre Troupe | Anne England | 3281 7654 0413 676 049 |
| Tourific Troupers | Helen Pullar or Robyn Flashman | H 3281 4437 R 3812 3450 |
| Theatre number | NB: only during rehearsals or meetings | 3812 2389 |

Sincere thanks to Cr Charlie Pisasale for the monthly printing of *Burning News*,
 For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au