



March 2011

MATILDA AWARDS

The Matilda Awards were held in Brisbane on 8 March, attended by experts and those working in the sector.

Speaking at the event, new arts minister Rachel Nolan said:

"Brisbane's vibrant theatre scene is running hot and the Matilda Awards are where we name the year's most notable achievers as determined by industry peers."

Thespian Eugene Gilfedder was recognised for his work in a variety of shows last year, including Hamlet, The Chairs and Grimm Tales.

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Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter

Ipswich One Act Play Festival

The annual Ipswich One Act Play Festival will be held again this year over the second weekend in August.

You might think that this is a long time away and probably isn't actually front page news.

However, a festival of this size does not run itself and much planning has to happen to ensure that our reputation as one of the friendliest festivals in the circuit is maintained.

For this purpose we have a special sub-committee which works with the Festival Director to organize all the integral parts of the weekend.

This then is a reminder that we have a festival sub-committee meeting on **Monday 21st March at 7.30 pm.**

Who should attend? Anyone who is interested in taking



on an organising role for the festival such as group liaison (very important), front of house, raffles etc or anyone just wants to be involved in the planning.

If you want to be involved but can't make the meeting please email Suzanne Matulich, this year's Director, so that she can add your name

to the sub-committee list. The entry forms and guidelines need to be on our website by mid April so that entries can be received by the closing date at the end of June.

The picture above shows some of the members who worked on last year's Festival. Hope you can join the team in 2011.

Cast for London Suite

Auditions were held at the end of February for *London Suite* to be performed 11-28 May. This production is a set of three short plays by Neil Simon all set in London.

Cast list for London Suite
Going Home: Kahli Williams and Gillian Simpson

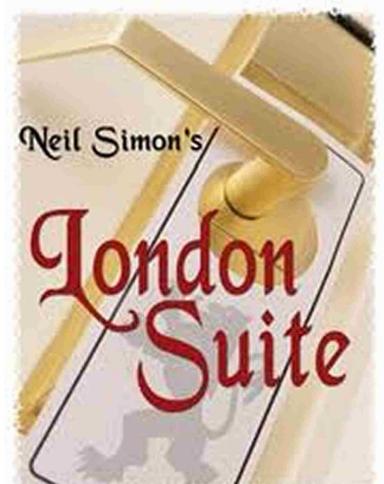
Diana and Sidney: Stephanie Groves, Karen Hayes and Chris Austin-Greenhill.

The Man on the Floor: Lauren Roche, Deirdre Lowe, Alan Brown and Shane Malory. (1 cast member to find)

Props for London Suite

The need for some special props has already been identified: Needed – shopping bags from any London stores eg Harrods, Gap etc. So, if you have been lucky enough to travel to London recently you might be able to help out.

Contact Robyn on 3281 0555



QUOTE of the MONTH

I have the terrible feeling that, because I am wearing a white beard and am sitting in the back of the theatre, you expect me to tell you the truth about something. These are the cheap seats, not Mount Sinai.
Orson Welles

Four to Groan Over

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

When fish are in schools they sometimes take debate.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles , U.C.L.A.

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

The Jean Pratt Building is used all year by four sub-groups in ILT. It is also the venue for main house production rehearsals; for Theatre Activity Nights; Admin meetings and many other activities. If you want to use this building you must contact Desley Cronon (see page 4) first to be sure that the building is available.

Junior Theatre

Junior Theatre is looking for a rocking chair and a very fancy standard (floor) lamp for our June production. Other than that we are going along well with

our rehearsals.

Deirdre Lowe

Young Theatricals

We have been getting great feedback from the YTs with regard to the workshops that have been conducted by Mark Lucas, Kate Beck, Les Chappell and Liz Ball. They are excited about the many and varied things they have learnt over the last four weeks.

We have 23 fully paid up members. We are handing out scripts for the June production, (two will go into the Ipswich One Act Play festival). The plays are the

third act from *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder to be directed by Craig Taylor, *Ritual for Dolls* to be directed by Jan Paterson and *Parking Violations* to be directed by Desley Cronon. This play is written by Ian Pullar and will also be part of the *Light Bites* presentation later in the year.

Jan Paterson

Daytime Theatre Troupe

See the President's Report, below, for reference to the Daytimers activities!

Anne England

Theatre Activity Nights

We initially started these evenings so that newcomers a chance to see what Ipswich Little Theatre is all about. Karen Hayes came to the "a blast from the past" evening and then to auditions and got a part in "London Suite! Fifteen of our theatre members come together for our Trivia Night, which was successfully received. Chic Currie was

Master of Ceremonies with some weird and wonderful questions and we were taken down memory lane with photos of past productions displayed on our big tv. Thanks to everyone – it was great to get together in a very social atmosphere.

4 April 7.30 pm - Theatre Games Evening. Watch teams battle it out for the

Champions Award. Teams have been selected and everyone else who comes along will be part of our audience to cheer on our competitors.

2 May 7.30 pm - Playreading. *The 39 Steps* by Patrick Barlow, director Shane Mallory.

6 June 7.30 pm AUDITION: *The 39 Steps*.

More info: www.ipswichlittletheatre.com.au
Jan Paterson

ILT President's Message

Ipswich Little Theatre is now back into full swing with rehearsals underway for shows in all groups.

I have been lucky enough to attend all groups, even just say hello.

I was amazed when arriving at Daytimers to find an actual rehearsal in progress - how times have changed - although there

was a table of food available to provide sustenance for any weakening souls.

I was impressed by the enthusiasm of everyone I met and look forward to seeing every group's performance.

See you onstage or at the bar.

Jim Orr

Editor's note:

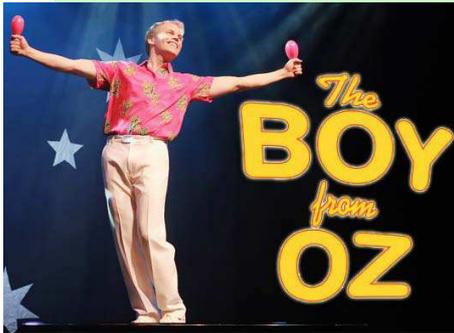
Don't forget to watch out for Jim in Skin Deep which has started its performance season. He is more than a bar manager and President, he can also act!



The Boy from Oz is from Ipswich!

Rehearsals for the Empire Theatres' April production of *The Boy From Oz* begin this week and we are pleased to announce that Brisbane-based Tye Shepherd will lead the cast as Peter Allen.

Director, Lewis Jones said, "We welcome Tye to his first



performance in an Empire Theatres production. Performing the lead role of Peter Allen in *The Boy From Oz* is a demanding one and I know that Tye will dazzle audiences with his amazing singing, dancing and acting talent."

Tye said, "I'm really looking forward to following in the footsteps of Hugh Jackman and Todd McKenney in performing Peter Allen in *The Boy From Oz*." Tye holds a Bachelor of Music (Voice) from Queensland University of Technology. Recently Tye appeared as Emcee in *Cabaret* at the Twin Towns showroom and at Twelfth Night Theatre, and as Prince Herbert in *Spamalot* at the Schonell Theatre – both to critical acclaim.

He has also performed for Draculas

on the Gold Coast, appearing in *Black Blood* and their *Drax4Kids* productions.

There are two Ipswich links to this story:

Number one is that Tye is Desley Cronon's nephew and she is justly proud of him.

The other is that Lewis Jones went to Silkstone State School and Robyn Flashman was one of his teachers. He has also been an adjudicator at our Festival.

Book your tickets to *The Boy From Oz* now by calling 1300 655 299 or visiting www.empiretheatre.com.au

Master Classes in Ipswich

Ipswich City Council conducts free Master Classes in August each year to encourage and advance the development of excellence in young performing artists in a range of cultural disciplines including: Dance, Drama, Instrument and Voice. Professional enhancement opportunities for a limited number of outstanding students is provided by appropriate

Masters (qualified and recognised individuals within each discipline). The successful students are provided with a Cultural Bursary to enable them to attend the Master Classes for free.

Entries for this year's Masterclasses to be held 5/6 August, close on 15 April.

The Drama Master this year is Hayden Spencer. He is an actor, writer, teacher, and fight choreographer and most recently...clown, having just returned from Mex-

ico, where he performed the role of 'Clown Vicente' in *Cirque du Soleil's "Dralion"*. Prior to running away to the circus, Hayden and his wife, Carita Farrer, set up the highly successful **Mango House of Arts**. An Independent Production house and Education facility that fosters the arts in their local community. He is well known to Brisbane audiences for his many roles for QTC and La Boite.

Hayden Spencer



Warm wishes for a speedy recovery

Life member, Theatre Secretary, Building Committee convenor and Terrific Troupers tours organizer Helen Pullar has been suffering very complicated damage to her right foot after a fall at the Incinerator last October. She is working hard with doctors, physios, massage experts etc to be in good shape to leave on an overseas trip

on 17 April.

You might remember an 'unhappy snap' of Helen's sore foot taken at the AGM in December in a recent newsletter.

Another Life member and valued member of our Publicity team Yvonne Gardiner was taken to QE2 hospital in Brisbane recently suffering severe back pain which resulted in immediate intensive pain management. X-rays, MRI and scans

showed no damage but physio and exercises will be needed to strengthen her back muscles. She will not be back at work until March 28.





Ipswich Little Theatre
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 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.

Theatre Activity Night—7 March 2011



Jim, Alan, Di and Chris deep in concentration.



Chic Currie as Master of Ceremonies

DATE CLAIMERS *Contact details below*

16 March - 2 April	SEASON: <i>Skin Deep</i> by Jon Lonoff. Director Jan Paterson. Public Nights 25, 26 March, 1, 2 April. Bookings Ipswich Visitor Information Centre 3281 0555
21 March 7.30 pm	MEETING: Ipswich One Act Play Festival sub-committee - first meeting. Suzanne Matulich Director
4 April 7.30 pm	THEATRE ACTIVITY NIGHT: Theatre Games Evening. Details: Jan Paterson
2 May 7.30 pm	PLAYREADING: <i>The 39 Steps</i> by Patrick Barlow, director Shane Mallory. Phone 0403 175 702

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