

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

January 2021

## **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

**Editor:**

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**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**7pm**

**Tuesday**

**9 February 2021**

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Happy New Year to all our members and supporters!

We sincerely hope we can all enjoy a "new normal" and meet each other at the Theatre again!

Ipswich Little Theatre Society Presents

# Back on the Boards

Producer: Helen Pullar  
Directors: Jim Orr, Ian Pullar,  
Helen Pullar, Relle Scott  
and Jane Sheppard

## *A Season with a difference!*

To celebrate coming out of lockdown, we are getting Back on the Boards with a fabulous collection of short comedies with a fabulous cast of seasoned actors.

For your delectation, we will be presenting

*Time Flies* by David Ives directed by Jim Orr and featuring Kate Mallory, Sam Hoepner and Shane Mallory

*Post Its (Notes on a Marriage)* by Paul Dooley and Winnie Holzman directed by Helen Pullar and featuring Courtney Murrin and Cody Muller

*Blind Date* by Peter Quilter directed by Jane Sheppard with Julie-Ann Wright and Shane Mallory

*The Holiday* by Peter Quilter directed by Relle Scott with Tracey and Jamie Spence

*How Could We Ever Forget?* by Ian Pullar directed by Helen Pullar with Gillian Simpson, Ian Pullar and Robyn Harm

*An Indelicate Interruption* written and directed by Ian Pullar with Gillian Simpson, Tony Erhardt and Robyn Harm.

*This really is the time to support your local theatre and ensure our survival.*

There are FOUR performances for general patrons:

Saturdays 6 and 13 March at 6:30pm.

This time was chosen to avoid a late finishing time. It provides the opportunity for an optional BYO picnic tea in the grounds.

Sundays Matinees 7 and 14 March at 1:30

The bar service will be available though tea and coffee cannot be from the self-serve stations, but from the bar only. There will be a range of pre-packaged snack food.

Preference will be for cashless sales.

IT WILL BE A NEW EXPERIENCE, BUT A GOOD ONE.

*Laughter is the best medicine*



## From the President

We are coming back from a year none of us want to face again. But like the last thing left in the bottom of Pandora's box, we have hope and eagerly look forward to revitalising the theatre and giving our members and patrons a theatre full of excitement and fun.

I ask everyone of you to do at least one thing in theatre new this year: if you haven't been to a Juniors' or Young Theatricals' Performance then book and go; if you haven't been to a Daytimers Performance, then book and go; if you haven't been to a main house production for a while, book and go. And bring your friends.

Try volunteering front of house, painting a piece of set, helping with costumes. It all needs to be done every time there is a performance, so please help – you never know, you might enjoy it.

*Jim*

## The Savannah Sipping Society

Our second production for 2021 is the delightful comedy *The Savannah Sipping Society* by Jamie Wooten, Jessie Jones, and Nicholas Hope.

Heavily contested auditions were held on 18 January for the four female parts available, with a dozen ladies competing. Directors Chris Greenhill and Robyn Flashman (along with Selection Committee) had to wrestle with the embarrassment of riches to come up with a very strong cast with whom they are delighted.

The successful auditionees were:-

Randa	Jo Robbins
Marlafaye	Liz Ball
Dot	Martie Blanchett
Jinx	Beth Martin

The season is scheduled to open on 29 April and conclude on 15 May.

It is certainly hoped that by then the Covid restrictions will allow us to revert to our normal activities with all performances in the Incinerator on Thursday/Wednesday to Saturday nights and matinees on two Sunday afternoons.

Bookings will open on 15 March.

## The Passengers

We are currently in rehearsals not only for a Festival play (written and directed by Tony Erhardt), but we are working towards creating a short film. This is to be shown later this year.

Stay tuned for more details on this.

We are looking for someone for a role in both the film and the festival play.

Male or Female 18 to 30yrs

Rehearsals Monday nights

Festival season starts June and runs until the end of August.

For more information contact Tony on [tony.erhardt@gmail.com](mailto:tony.erhardt@gmail.com)

## Young Theatricals

YTs this year have three Co-Directors, Kyle Breese, Samantha Johnson and Aaron Evans. They have been active formulating new and exciting plans for the group which is a mix of new and old members.

Sign-on was held on Saturday 23 January in the Jean Pratt Building. Classes commenced the following week on Saturday 30 January.

The programme for the year will include workshops as well as two productions, one of which will be presented in the Incinerator during the Winter months.

## *How does Back on the Boards work?*

The season will be conducted in two venues – the Incinerator Theatre and the Jean Pratt Auditorium – each with an audience of up to 45 to comply with current Covid-safe regulations. The audiences will change venue at interval and the performances in each venue will be repeated. The audience members will sit in the same seat number in each venue.

Be aware, seating will comply with the distancing requirement from stage to audience

### **Bookings are now open.**

Members AND SUBSCRIBERS are asked to book early, preferably starting in the Jean Pratt Auditorium where bookings are currently fewer.

You can book for either venue as a starting point, remembering that you will move to the other venue after interval.

**Bookings at [www.ilt.org.au](http://www.ilt.org.au) or VIC 3281 0555**

## Covid-Safe Requirements

Even though restrictions have been lifted to the extent that allows us to resume productions, we are still limited by the pertinent rules.

We are required to have a Stage Queensland's Covid Management Plan in place which includes:

- sanitising,
- cleaning,
- social distancing
- and, above all, the facility for contact tracing.

All visitors to the site, including those booking tickets, for performances are required to provide details of their **name, address, phone contact and time of departure**.

Please be aware that anyone making a booking is required to give these details for all the people in their party – an onerous, but essential task. It would be wise to ensure you have the necessary information at your fingertips before you start making an online booking or visiting the VIC..

Once patrons arrive on site, they will need to be checked in. ILT has introduced a system of QR codes which will speed up the process for all those patrons sufficiently techno-savvy to have a smart phone. But there is an easy alternative for those without smart phones.

There will be a single entry point through the main gateway.

Be assured that we are doing all we can to guard the safety of our customers and members.

We ask that you help us.

The penalties for non-compliance are considerable, both financially and from a health perspective.

We all need to do the right thing!

## Group Nights

Similar food rules apply to groups at our normal plays which may have an impact on their profitability. Nevertheless, all the available group nights for *Back on the Boards* were taken up very quickly. No doubt the groups, just like us, are very keen to see a resumption of the “new normal” with opportunities for social interaction and fund raising.

There are very limited opportunities for group bookings for *The 39 Steps*. Any interested groups should contact Robyn Flashman on 3812 3450 or 0447 771 016. It is certainly hoped that by the November season very few, if any, restriction will still be in place.

## DIARY DATES

30 January 1 pm	Young Theatricals Classes commence
Mid February (to be advised)	Sign-on for Junior Theatre
21 February from 8 am	Working Bee
4 March	Opening Night for <i>Back on the Boards</i>
15 March	Bookings open for <i>The Savannah Sipping Society</i>
29 April	Opening Night for <i>The Savannah Sipping Society</i>
21 June 7:30	Auditions for <i>Ladies' Day</i>
13, 14, 15, August	Festival 2021

Sub-groups are still formulating plans for the year ahead against the uncertainty of restrictions. Dates will be published as they become available.

**2021 Season in Brief  
A Year of Comedy**

**Season 1: 4 March — 14 March**  
***Back on the Boards***  
A miscellany of short comedies by a miscellany of Playwrights and Directors.  
*[Rated PG Mild Adult Themes.]*

**Season 2: 29 April — 15 May**  
***The Savannah Sipping Society***  
by Jamie Wooten, Jessie Jones, and Nicholas Hope  
Director: Chris Greenhill, Assistant Director Robyn Flashman  
*[Rated M: Sexual references and Adult Themes]*

***Annual Drama Festival***  
**14, 15, 16 August**

**Season 3: 23 September — 9 October**  
***Ladies' Day***  
by Amanda Whittington  
Directors: Jane Sheppard and Di Johnston  
*[Rated PG: Mild Adult Themes.]*

**Season 4: 18 November — 4 December**  
***The 39 Steps***  
by Patrick Barlow  
Director: Shane Mallory. Assistant Director: Jo Robins  
*[Rated M: Mild Adult Themes]*

### Working Bee

### We Need Your Help

all the help we can get  
at the annual start-of-the year Working Bee.

Because of the stringent Covid-safe requirements, there will even more tasks than usual. And remember, as we have been in lock-down, we have a lot of catching up to do.

So PLEASE make some time available to come and help on  
**Sunday 21 February** from 8 am.

You don't need particular skills – just a willingness to muck in.

Help us to get our theatre sparking for opening night!

### 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President	Ann Collyer	3288 7053/ 0400 997 365
Past President	David Austin	3812 9431 / 0413 636 249
Secretary	Helen Pullar	3281 4437/0400 801 443
Treasurer	Chris Greenhill	0427 977 007

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Front of House Management Coordinator	Courtney Murrin	0457 734 433
Subscription Secretary	Di Johnston	0447 191 954
Group Liaison/ Publicity Co-Coordinators	Robyn Flashman/ Robyn Harm	3812 3450/ 0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre/Little Players	Deirdre Lowe	0409 202 380
Young Theatricals	Kyle Breese Samantha Johnson Aaron Evans	0423 278 833 0415 453 952 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Kay McAllan	5464 3965/0439 305 658
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 .J 5464 5363
Theatre number	NB: Only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389

For more details about Ipswich Little Theatre: [www.ilt.org.au](http://www.ilt.org.au)