= Burning News from the Incinerator Theatre

March 2021 Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre _____ SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 ____

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NEXT ILT

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Many thanks to the members who volunteered to undertake FOH duties for *Back on the Boards* and to the cast members who also mucked in. We can't manage without this service.





Beth Martin, Martie Blanchett, Jo Robbins, and Liz Ball.

Bookings have opened for The Savannah Sipping Society

to be staged in the Incinerator Theatre from 29 April to 15 May www.ilt.org.au or VIC 3281 0555 Public performances 1, 7, 8, 14. 15 May at 8 pm and matinees Sundays 2 and 9 May at 2 pm

(Because of restrictions on the serving of food, there may be only complimentary wine and no cheese on 1 May)

> Now that *Back on the Boards* has completed its season, the *Savannah* cast has transferred rehearsals to the Incinerator stage, as can be seen from the photograph.

Don't miss this wonderful heart-warming comedy.

And the good news is that when you make bookings, you will no longer need to provide details for contact tracing. You can simply scan the QR code when you come.

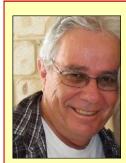
Raffles

Now that we are back on the boards, our patrons are enthusiastically seizing the opportunity to participate in the raffles so capably run by Helen Greenhill and Bev Ralph. These ladies would love to receive donations of prizes to keep our patrons happy and our finances afloat. Any help would be much appreciated.

Memorial for Lorraine Wilson

It is customary for us to install a small plaque in memory of valued members who have left the stage. Covid restrictions have so far made it impossible to recognise the passing of Life Member Lorraine Wilson. We have arranged to have an afternoon tea with Lorraine's family on **Sunday 18 April 2021** commencing at 2 pm in the theatre courtyard. It would be lovely if Lorraine's theatre friends could join us and all are invited to attend.

For catering purposes, could you let Jane Sheppard know if you are able to be there. (Phone 54645363, email: <u>jane@shepahoy.net.au</u>)



From the President

I'm biased but I think that the *Back on the Boards* season provided excellent entertainment for our patrons and a wonderful experience for our members. Congratulations to Helen and all the directors for a job well done. Bringing it all together was not easy but the proof is in the pudding or performances, which were excellent. The use of both venues, while slightly confusing for some patrons, worked well.

Back on the Boards ...

...finished its short season on Sunday 14 March.

It was wonderful to be back on the boards and the audiences, particularly those groups who had been starved of fund-raising opportunities, responded most enthusiastically. The season was sold out weeks before opening night and, despite restrictions on the provision and serving of food, audiences were happy.

Once again we are extremely grateful to Amanda Waschevski of Ipswich Photography Studio for the wonderful photographs she took of our rehearsals. A (very) few of these are printed below.



Shane Mallory, Kate Mallory and Sam Hoepner in *Time Flies*



Shane Mallory and Julie-Anne Wright in Blind Date



Cody Muller and Courtney Mullin from *Post Its (Notes on a Marriage)*

Daytime Theatre Troupe

The Daytime ladies will recommence on Wednesday 24 March and will work on possible dates and vehicles for performances later in the year, restrictions permitting.

Junior Theatre

Classes for Junior Theatre have recommenced on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am.

Following a period of workshopping, Deirdre and her team will start preparing to present *Things that go Bump in the Night*. Tentative dates for presentation are 10 and 11 September.

Young Theatricals

The YTs are back in business as can be seen in this photo of Director Kyle Breese explaining a point to the students.



The group will be working towards a showcase in June.

Working Bee

The working bee held on 21 February was reasonably well attended and certainly got our precinct into good order for the season opener *Back on the Boards*. Many thanks to those members who came and did their bit, some of whom are pictured here.



Ann and Keith throwing in the towel



Gillian and Julie-Anne cleaning up



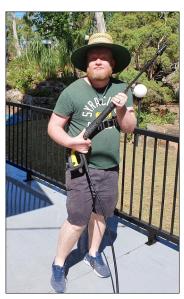
It's not a wipe out for Jane



The adoored Tracey



Chris seeking members for his fan club



Is that a gun you're holding, Aaron?



Robyn at her stage of life. She also took the photos



lan hitting the roof



Helen making a point about Covid disinfecting

DIARY DATES

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 13, 14, 15 August

Season 3: 23September — 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]

Dates for sub-groups will be advised as they are decided.

15 March	Bookings open for The Savannah Sipping Society	
Wednesday 24 March	Daytime Theatre Troupe resumes	
29 April	Opening Night for The Savannah Sipping Society	
21 June 7:30	Auditions for Ladies' Day	
9 August 7:30 pm	Auditions for The 39 Steps	
13, 14, 15, August	Festival 2021	

Just Keep Your Distance

Under the current Covid restrictions, we are permitted 100% audience occupancy of the Theatre, PROVIDED there is a 2 metre gap between the audience members and the actors on stage. (This distance has been set because actors, in the heat of their performance, may emit saliva which could travel that distance. Singers are apparently even more likely to emit.)

To ensure that not only will we obey the restriction, but we will be seen to do so during *The Savannah Sipping Society*. The action of the play takes place on a verandah, so the set has incorporated a hand rail for aesthetic reasons which will also provide a physical barrier at the required distance from the audience. It will be a great relief to the groups that they will not be limited in their ticket sales.

Our solution to the Covid restrictions during *Back on the Boards* was to limit the audience to 50% in each of the two performance venues. This also provided a novel experience for the audiences who rated the innovation highly.

2021EXECUTIVE 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 meet- ings	3812 2389	