

# ≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

November 2024

## Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter



Ipswich Little Theatre  
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

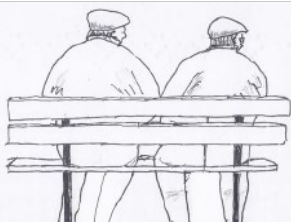
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**Ian Pullar**

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info@ilt.org.au

**NEXT ILT  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**  
7pm  
Tuesday  
10 December

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*"Your secrets are safe with your old friends. They can't remember them either."*



**Opens Wednesday 20 November**

and it's very funny and entertaining.

There are still tickets available for some sessions

**ilt.org.au or VIC 3281 0555**



Court out: Josh Nixon



Photos by Chris Austin-Greenhill

Court in the Act: Alison Lees. Sam Hoepner & Ethan Vandersee



Caught in the Act: Sam Hoepner & Kim Frohloff

## 2025 Seasons Launch

On Saturday, 2 November Ipswich Little Theatre launched its programme for 2025 to an audience of members of groups looking for bookings and for budding thespians keen to learn what acting opportunities will be available. As can be seen from the photos, attendance was very good and resulted in a large number of group bookings. Of the 24 houses (or 48 half houses) available, over half were booked on that day to 18 different groups.



Ann Collyer opening proceedings.

The year's programme can be found on page 2.

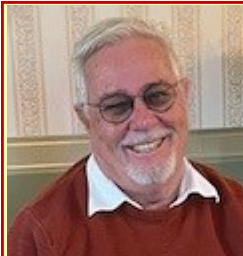


Mack Groves & Aaron Evans introducing *Popcorn*



Jess Pitman, Chris Greenhill & Alison Lees introducing *Waiting for God*

To offer assistance with Front of House for *Bondi Legal*, please sign up at <https://www.admin.ilt.org.au/foh-roster/>



## From the President

November – wow where has the year gone?

*Bondi Legal* is upon us. I am so looking forward to seeing this show.

Daytimers' Xmas show was a hoot and I think I commented that I had never seen so much colour on one stage at the same time.

As we all wind down towards Christmas, remember to continue to care for each other. It is amazing how personal contact can make a difference in people's lives.

The 2025 Launch was a great success with a number of group nights already booked for each production. Thank you to Ann, Connie, Shane and their teams and, of course, next year's directors. A big year ahead.

*Jim*

## Programme for 2025

There will be four major productions in the Incinerator Theatre in 2025:

**Season 1: *Popcorn*** by **Ben Elton** Director: Aaron Evans.  
Assistant Director: Mack Groves

**26 February – 15 March** *Ben Elton's satirical take on Quentin Tarantino's movies and violence in the entertainment industry is a dark comedy smacking the audience in the face with dialogue and scenes which are funny yet disturbing at the same time.*

**Season 2: *The Perfect Murder*** adapted by **Shaun McKenna** from a novella by **Peter James**. Directors: Helen and Ian Pullar. Assistant Director: Julie-Anne Wright.

**14 – 31 May**

*The 20 year marriage of Victor and Joan has reached a crisis point. Victor decides there is only one way to get Joan out of his life forever, but he's about to get a nasty surprise...*

**Season 3: *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*** by **Elizabeth Coleman** Director: Martie Blanchett. Assistant Director: Shane Mallory

**17 September – 4 October**

*It's the night before Meg's wedding. She and her bridesmaids are planning on kicking up their heels as the final hours before the big day tick down. Marriage may be a wonderful thing, but after a night like this, well, could it really be worth it?*

**Season 4: *Waiting for God*** by **Michael Aitkins** Director: Chris Austin - Greenhill. Assistant Directors: Jessica Pitman and Alison Lees

**19 November – 6 December**

*An hilarious stage adaption of the BBC comedy series of the same name which will resonate with all who have faced the prospect of themselves or a family member making the lifestyle change to living in a retirement facility.*

Tickets for all of our 2025 shows will go on sale on Monday 9 December 2024 @ 9.00 am. [ilt.org.au](http://ilt.org.au)

Tickets for the opening public night and the final Friday night of each show will also be available at a discounted price.

Bookings for Group Nights can be made by contacting Robyn Flashman 0477 771 016.

## Cast of *Popcorn*

Auditions for our first season of 2025 were held on Monday 11 November, with more than 20 auditionees competing for the roles. The cast is as follows:

Bruce	Michael Civitano
Farrah	Vicki Dwyer
Wayne	Jack Barrett
Scout	Brittany Bell
Velvet	Robin Vary
Carl	Jason Nash
Brooke	Allie Harris
Freddie	Corinne Biddulph
Bill	Dimitri Tomazos
Kirsten	Ollie Gavranovic
Oscar	Dylan Clevens

## Halloween & Young Theatricals

At the invitation of the Ipswich Show Society, ILT was on display at the Halloween activities at the Showground. Robyns Harm and Flashman again manned the Market Stall



At the same time, in the Haunted House, the Young Theatricals scared as many people as they could, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Over the past few weeks the YTs have been looking back at the basics to refresh their memories and have some fun to wind down the year. They are looking forward to next year, although some of the group have to "graduate".



## Daytime Theatre Troupe

Yet another colourful and vibrant Daytime Theatre Troupe show is coming to an end with the final performances of *Surf's Up Santa*, once again written and directed by Kay McAllan.

And they're planning to be back again next year with another batch of shows.

Kay will be Convener in 2025 with Kerri Jones as her assistant.



## Standing Down

After nearly three decades on the job, Robyn Flashman is standing down from her role as Group Liaison Officer. She has expertly managed innumerable groups who have booked our plays, providing us with valuable audiences and the groups with wonderful fund-raising opportunities. At the Launch, President Jim thanked her on our behalf and presented her with flowers.

Martie Blanchett will take on the role next year. Her introduction was the Launch where she got to meet lots of our regular customers.



## Junior Theatre

The Junior Theatre actors have been honing their skills for their Theatre Sports Competition on 7 December at 10 am. This will be a closed event for parents and caregivers, and invited guests. If you have an interest in attending the competition, please let Chris Greenhill know.

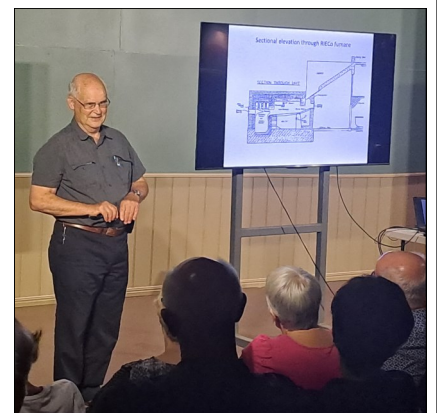
There have been lots of enquiries from the parents of potential Junior actors, so another busy year will be coming up for Director Chris Austin-Greenhill and his team.

## The Special Event

On Saturday 9 November, we hosted a special event when retired Metallurgical Engineer Jim Happ presented a talk on the Reverberatory Incinerator and Engineering Company (RIECO) and the installation of the Burley Griffin Incinerator in Ipswich. There was a very pleasing attendance of 55 members and supporters but, regrettably, no representation from Ipswich City Council.

President Jim presented presenter Jim with a token of our thanks.

By a strange coincidence, the next day the *Sunday Mail*, in its weekly column *Way We Were* by Jane Keogh, featured an article on rubbish disposal in which it was stated, "One famous incinerator not only survived, but was heritage-listed and repurposed as the Incinerator Theatre. In 1934, Ipswich Council commissioned world-famous architect Walter Burley Griffin to design an industrial incinerator to solve their problem instead of smelly landfill."



## 2024 Season in Brief

**Season 1: 28 February — 17 March**

### **Ageing Disgracefully**

Producer Helen Pullar  
Six short plays staged in the Incinerator Theatre and the Jean Pratt Auditorium

Rated: PG Some adult themes.

**Season 2: 15 May — 1 June**

### **Stepping Out** by Richard Harris

Director: Tracey Spence  
Assistant Director: Kim Frohloff

Rated: PG.

### **Annual Drama Festival**

Director:: Di Johnston  
**9, 10, 11 August**

**Season 3: 18 September — 5 October**

**Clue: On Stage** adapted from the Paramount Pictures film written by Jonathan Lynn and the board game from Hansbro, Inc written by Sandy Rustin, based upon the works by Jonathan Lynn, Hunter Foster, Eric Price

Director: Tony Erhardt  
Assistant Directors: Jo Robbins and Dave Dunkerley.

Rated PG: Adult Themes.

**Season 4: 20 November — 7 December**

### **Bondi Legal** by Tony Laumberg

Director: Chris Austin-Greenhill  
Assistant Director: Liz Ball

Rated: PG

## DIARY DATES

20 November	Opening Night <i>Bondi Legal</i>
7 December 10:30 am	Junior Theatre <i>Theatre Sports Competition</i> followed by break-up and graduation.
Sunday 15 December from 4.00pm	Christmas Party
Sunday 19 January 2025 3 pm	Annual General Meeting

## Peeling Paint

During Bump-In for *Bondi Legal*, the set builders took the opportunity to strip the flats that normally form the back wall of our sets and replace the well-worn plywood cladding with new material and build some new ones. At the same time, cast and crew dealt with the permanent higher part of the back wall which was installed in 2016 and had therefore been repainted at least 40 times. Not surprisingly, the paint came off in thick sheets like those being displayed by Liz Ball and Alison Lees.

Hopefully, it will be another ten years before further replacement will be necessary!



### 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

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

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Subscription Secretary	Julie-Anne Wright	0419 758 724
Group Liaison	Robyn Flashman	0477 771 016/
Marketing	Robyn Harm	0413 742 116
Building Bookings	Desley Cronon	3288 8754 / 0435 309 352
Junior Theatre	David Austin	0422 620 851
Young Theatricals	Kate Hoepner Aaron Evans	0479 048 979 0431 041 068
Daytime Theatre Troupe	Jane Sheppard	5464 5363 / 0419020675
Tourific Troupers	Helen Pullar or Jane Sheppard	H 3281 4437 .J 5464 5363
Theatre number		3812 2389