

≡ *Burning News* from the Incinerator Theatre

September 2024 **Ipswich Little Theatre Society Inc Newsletter**



Ipswich Little Theatre
— SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1946 —

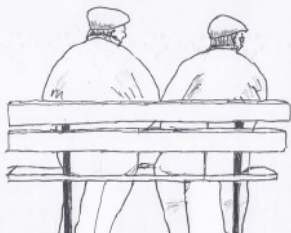
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info@ilt.org.au

**NEXT ILT
COMMITTEE
MEETING
7pm
Tuesday
8 October**

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"My daughter gave me a subscription to Netflix but there's no viewer guide so I don't know when I can watch any of the programmes."



Opens on 18 September.

There are high expectations that it will be a sold-out season. On 10 September there were only two tickets left on Public Nights. Director Tony Erhardt thinks that, in the unlikely event they are not sold too, he might purchase them just so he can post the metaphorical SOLD OUT sign!

Visitors to Boddy Manor will be greeted by the staff, particularly Wadsworth (Shane Mallory) and Yvette (Madz O'Hare) before being plunged into the mayhem of murder and intrigue.



They will also become acquainted with a motorist and a policeman, played by Peter van Werkhoven (whose photo was omitted from the August newsletter).

And above all, they will be entertained!



Change of Starting Time

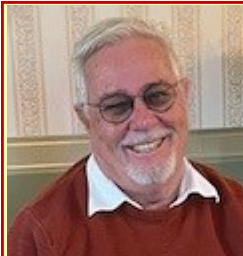
Following a survey of members, volunteers, patrons and groups, it has been decided that we will change the starting times of some of our productions.

From the first season of 2025, evening performances will commence at 7:30 (instead of 8 pm). This will mean an earlier night for all the Cinderellas who come to the Theatre. Matinees will still commence at 2 pm.

Thank You Volunteers

Wonderful news was tendered at the September Admin meeting – we have almost a full roster for the season of *Clue*.

Thank you to all the volunteers who provide this essential service.



From the President

The Launch of the Galvanized Festival was a success with ICC very happy with the venue and the welcoming volunteers who served at the bar and helped make everyone feel welcome.

Did I say volunteers? Yes they do make the theatre the welcoming place that it is. Without them the building is just a building, the courtyard is just a place to sit – but volunteers make it all welcoming and fun. Please help by joining this wonderful, vital group of theatre members. You never know, you might feel welcomed yourself and have fun.

Jim

Galvanized

This year Ipswich City Council held its Galvanized Festival again and chose the Incinerator for the launch of this event. With modern technology, they lit up the wall of the Theatre as a precursor to lighting up the city,



The event was organised and catered by the Council, but President Jim and his army of volunteers opened the bar and performed the welcoming rites. Jim reports (see his message above) that the event was successful with good sales at the bar! Plus a donation from Council.

Helen and Ian would like to thank all the members who have given their support and messages of sympathy following the death of their son Stuart.

Bondi Legal

There has been a change of cast for the final production of 2024. The part of Frank will now be played by Josh Nixon, who last appeared on our stage in *Breaker Morant*. Welcome back Josh.

Directors Chris Austin-Greenhill and Liz Ball report that rehearsals are going well and the cast are looking forward to moving into the Incinerator once *Clue* has finished its season.

Junior Theatre

The Junior Theatre actors have been honing their skills for their Theatre Sports Competition and are now in their teams and working with their mentors. This will be a closed event for parents and caregivers, and invited guests. If you have an interest in attending the competition on 7 December at 10:30 am or 12:30 pm, please let Chris Greenhill know.

Future Events

We will be celebrating the end of yet another Theatre Year with a get-together in the Courtyard on Sunday 15 December. All those intending to come along need to let

Aaron Evans know

ajlevans@hotmail.com 0431 041 068

And you can also make a diary entry for the AGM on Sunday 19 January 2025 at 3 pm.

Expressions of Interest

At the September Admin Committee meeting, the manifold positions that need to be filled next year were tabled. There were offers to fill virtually every position, mostly by the present incumbents, with no suggestion of arm-twisting.

What a vibrant company we are.

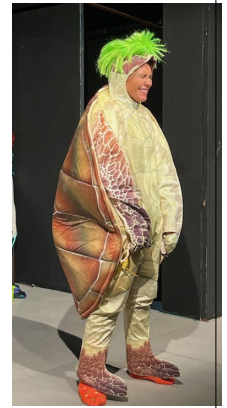
Daytime Theatre Troupe

The 2024 *Surf's Up Santa* team is on track for a fabulous season. They have bookings for all show dates and only a few seats on some of those would be available for small groups.

The stage is being transformed into the tropical paradise of Shelly Beach and the ladies are being transformed into the wonderful characters. If Juniors or YTs or any members and their families are wanting to attend can you please contact Chic (0409 725 315) asap?



Kerri Jones testing her butterfly wings



Sarah Currie as Tina Turtle

Launch of Season 2025

The Administrative Committee has now approved the proposed 2025 programme formulated by Selection Committee. On Saturday 2 November at 3:30 pm the programme will be launched. Until then, it remains a perfect secret for which we will keep you waiting to see what pops up. Prospective actors and groups wanting to make bookings will be invited to hear our exciting plans.

There will be four major productions in very similar time slots to the 2024 season (see back page for this year's timetable). Note new starting time: See Page 1

A Special Event

At 7.30pm, Saturday 9 November, ILT will be hosting a very special presentation on the origins of the Burley Griffin Incinerator in Ipswich at the Incinerator Theatre. Jim Happ will give an illustrated presentation on the history of the Ipswich incinerator, with a detailed explanation of the key design features which made this model of incinerator the preferred choice of Councils in the 1930s. The incinerator not only had superior hygiene conditions and lower operating costs than conventional incinerators, but the RIECo buildings were works of art designed by the studios of Walter and Marion Burley Griffin. Here is a summary of his talk:

Incineration of Municipal Garbage at Ipswich – the origins of ILT

Commitment to building an incinerator for municipal garbage in Ipswich was a long-drawn-out process. Although the City Medical Officer recommended a unit in early 1924, endless squabbling in Council and protests by ratepayers would prevent a decision for another decade plus.

Early inquiries into the cost of an incinerator by the Engineer frightened off any decision to switch away from dumping garbage into the obnoxious tip. However, during a holiday in Newcastle in late 1930, City Health Inspector Rogers heard about the Warratah Council's contracting the Reverberatory Incinerator and Engineering Coy Ltd (RIECo) to build them an incinerator. Promptly travelling down to Bexley in Sydney, Rogers inspected the unit installed by the predecessor company to RIECo (using an identical furnace design) and was most impressed. This became the preferred option for Ipswich.

Objections by a ratepayer pressure group, adverse legal advice and ultimately a Ministerial decree overcame the many obstacles to firing up the incinerator in August 1936, at the edge of Queen's Park. In short time, the capacity of the single-furnace installation was overloaded, with the operators flogging the furnace at excessive temperatures to cope with the load. A second furnace was installed by early 1940, with its own stack. The incinerator operated until the 1960s.

Jim Happ is a retired Metallurgical Engineer, with extensive experience in the technology and science of smelting and refining metals such as lead, copper, zinc and precious metals. He has worked at Mount Isa, as well as other non-ferrous smelters in Australia and overseas. He has given presentations on four of the RIECo incinerators to other groups in NSW and Victoria.



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

13, 14 September 7:30 pm	Young Theatricals Showcase
18 September	Opening Night <i>Clue: On Stage</i>
7 October	General Bookings for <i>Bondi Legal</i>
2 November 3.30 pm	Season 2025 Launch
5, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15 November	Daytime Theatre Troupe <i>Santa's Aussie Beach Christmas</i>
7 December 6 pm	Junior Theatre Showcase
8 December 10 am	
Sunday 15 December from 4.00pm	Christmas Party

What is a Theatre?

For us Thespians, a THEATRE is a place where plays are performed by actors and viewed by an audience. But this may not be the case for others.

Back in the 1970s, Playlab Press was publishing plays by Queensland authors and in 1978 were scheduled to publish *Firebug* by Helen Haenke and, as ILT had recently produced both *The Bottom of a Birdcage* and *The Passage* by Helen, we were asked to perform *Firebug* at the launch. I directed Eleanor Beale and Geoff Burns and we presented it at QUT in a lecture THEATRE. The President of Playlab was Dr Rod Lumer, so for him a THEATRE was a place for performing surgical procedures.

And then there is a THEATRE of war. But we won't go there!

2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Jim Orr	0402 377 258
Vice President & Selection Committee Convener	Ann Collyer	0400 997 365
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	NB: Only during rehearsals or meetings	3812 2389