

Village Players' Information (VPI) April 2014

THOUGHTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

DRAMA IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

Some fifty plus people were privileged to attend the recent Play Reading. 'In the Middle of Nowhere'. This was the debut performance of a play written by our own Chris Hemmens and what a terrific performance it was. The one-act play was set in the home of a middle-age couple Bill (John McKillop) and Penny (Heather Gavin). Their quiet existence is firstly disturbed by a weekend visit from their daughter Kate (Beibhinn Ni Cheallaigh). She announces that she has just landed a prestigious job in London but needs to make an important call. However, as her parents have chosen to live in the quiet countryside, their phones have no signal. But help is on the way in the form of Fish (Reef Al-Lahiq) - an interesting character who is not quite what he seems.

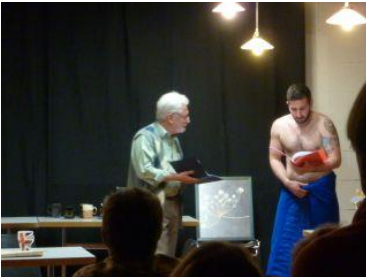
The dialogue of the play shifts from radical extreme views expressed by Bill to seemingly prosaic comments from Penny. The witty repartee from Kate to Bill was a delight to hear and the sometimes perceptive comments from Fish seemed perfectly natural.

The actors were absolutely spot on. John McKillop played a disillusioned xenophobic parent to perfection while Heather ably played a seemingly thoroughly middle class and easy going person but showing very strong principles. One could imagine that Bebhinn, who played the part of a young yuppie who admires all things rational and has no time for unexplained phenomena is like that always. Reef is a very interesting character who literally threw himself into the performance tearing a toenail near the beginning and after the end of the play having to be taken to the hospital. 'Chapeau' to him -the play must go on.

Some people in the audience were not even aware that anything untoward had happened . All in all it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening but the one-act could be extended to two or perhaps even more as we all were left guessing at the end. Over to you Chris!

Mary Couper





FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS & PRODUCTIONS

APRIL 10TH 2014

"A Woman of No Importance", by Oscar Wilde - A play-reading organised by Carole Hetzel

This play was first performed at the Theatre Royal, London in 1893. It has a serious theme and builds up to a tense climax, but the portrait Wilde paints of the high society of his day, with his customary perception and wit, is a constant source of amusement, as is the inclusion in the cast of an outspoken young American woman. She inevitably shakes to its foundations the hidebound, upper-class world of Wilde's unforgettable characters.

MAY 15TH 16TH 17TH 2014

SPRING PRODUCTION - "Conversations" -

Meet John Betjeman and Philip Larkin, two of England's leading poets of the 20th century

John Betjeman and Philip Larkin were arguably two of the greatest English poets of the 20th century. Their bi-polarized quintessential Englishness ranges from Betjeman's '*The scent of the conifers, the sound of the bath ...*' to Larkin's '*Their nippers have got bare feet, their unspeakable wives ...*'. But what is intriguing about these two poets is the way their works complement each other (as the poets compliment each other in our production). They are related to one another in such a way that if - hold tight for a minute whilst we bring some maths into the Conversation and combine the beauty of mathematics with the beauty of poetry and then either multiply the reciprocal of Betjeman with Larkin, or the reciprocal of Larkin with Betjeman - their product is ONE.

Come and watch some alchemy in action at the CPO in May as the VPs present Messrs Betjeman and Larkin in *Conversations*.

Cast:

John Betjeman - Geoffrey Peek

His spirit - Margot Jaggy

Philip Larkin - Colin Gamage

His spirit - Saskia Faulk

The poetry reciters:

Kim van Ess, Fiona McHugh, Jack Pogany, Victoria Baumgartner, Heather Gavin, Des George

JUNE 26TH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please put this date in your diaries so you can come and have your say in the running of the club and our activities, and cast your vote for the new Committee.



SEPTEMBER 18TH

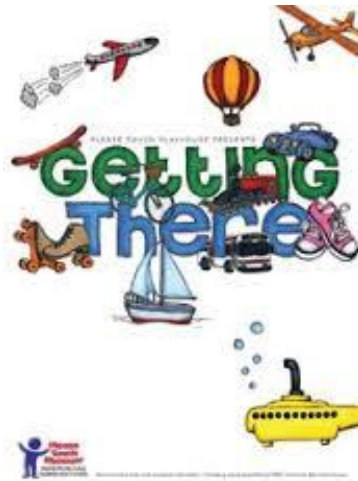
An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening

A selection of songs, prose and drama, chosen and performed by members.

OCTOBER 16TH

GETTING THERE

NEW in 2014! "Getting There" - a title and starting off point for a VP Clubnight. If you want to join in - writing, reading sketches, poems, texts or just giving ideas, your help would be really appreciated.



For those volunteers willing to take part, it would imply one meeting before Easter, one rehearsal before the summer school holidays and then one or two rehearsals before the Clubnight. Interested?

Please contact Mike Scott at 021 647 54 00.

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN (& ELSEWHERE)

GEDS : www.geds.ch

08 April. Playreadings: GEDS writes original scripts

15 March. AGM for members

GAOS : www.gaos.ch

16,18, 19 April – Auditions for Hairspray.

International Club of Lausanne : www.icl-club.ch

09 April, 8pm Thai dinner at "Charme Thai" in Denens

24 April, 7pm – Lecture Medecins Sans Frontières, La Longeraie, Morges

contact Paquita. 021 801 89 35 or Hannelore 021 801 78 08 to reserve

Luxembourg European Annual Theatre Summer School 2014 : www.leadss.lu

July 26 – August 3 "A good school, well worth the price & quite intensive"

Comédie Nestlé, Vevey – heather.gavin@bluewin.ch

Films of Famous Plays: entry & apéro free. 1st floor, rue de l'Hôtel de Ville 1, 1800 Vevey

06 May Gaslight

20 May Blithe Spirit

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

A mystery-lover takes his place in the theatre for opening night, but his seat is right at the back, far from the stage. The man calls an usher over and whispers, "I just love a good mystery, and I have been anxiously anticipating the opening of this play. However, in order to carefully follow the clues and fully enjoy the play, I have to watch a mystery close up. Look how far away I am! If you can get me a better seat, I'll give you a handsome tip." The usher nods and says he will be back shortly. Looking forward to a large tip, the usher speaks with his co-workers in the box

office, hoping to find some closer tickets. With just three minutes left until curtain, he finds an unused ticket. Returning to the man in the back of the theatre, he whispers, "Follow me." The usher leads the man down to the second row, and proudly points out the empty seat right in the middle. "Thanks so much," says the theatregoer, "This seat is perfect." He then hands the usher a fifty pence piece. The usher looks down at the coin, leans over and whispers, "The butler did it in the parlour with the candlestick."

CHRIS'S RIDDLE

What English word has three consecutive sets of double letters?

Answer below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

Chairman	John McKillop	024 441 15 71	jmmckillop@yahoo.fr
Membership	Chris Hemmens	079 658 42 95	chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk
Administrative Director	Susan Morris	021 964 52 05	susanmorris22@hotmail.com
Production Coordinator	James Spencer	079 344 27 63	spencejam1@me.com
Events Coordinator	Barbara Balbo	021 711 13 79	barbara.balbo@yahoo.com
Publicity Coordinator	Christa Baan	021 807 26 19	baan@bluewin.ch
Treasurer	Derek Betson	021 635 30 84	derekhbetson@msn.com
Secretary	Colin Gamage	021 701 31 58	gamage@bluewin.ch
Business Manager	Position to be filled		
Technical Director	Ian Griffiths	078 713 94 43	ian.m.griffiths@gmail.com

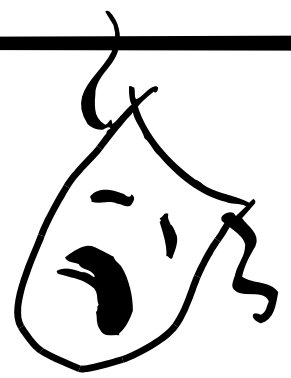
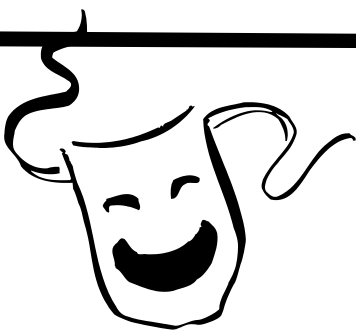
& HELPERS

Newsletter Editor *	Susan Morris		susanmorris22@hotmail.com
Fliers & programmes	Dorothy Brooks		dot.brooks@hotmail.com
General Committee help	Catherine Fitzsimons		swissfitz@yahoo.com

* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

Solution to Chris' riddle above:
BOOKKEEPER

**VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW
FOR EASY REFERENCE**



THE VILLAGE ENGLISH-SPEAKING **PLAYERS**
THEATRE · LAUSANNE

EVENTS CALENDAR

Preview of our next VP events to be held at the
Centre Pluriculturel d'Ouchy, Beau-Rivage 2, 1006 Lausanne

CLUBNIGHT *- A REHEARSED PLAY-READING*

"A Woman of No Importance" – by Oscar Wilde, arranged by Carole Hetzel

This play was first performed at the Theatre Royal, London in 1893. It has a serious theme and builds up to a tense climax, but the portrait Wilde paints of the high society of his day, with his customary perception and wit, is a constant source of amusement, as is the inclusion in the cast of an outspoken young American woman. She inevitably shakes to its foundations the hidebound, upper-class world of Wilde's unforgettable characters

Thursday April 10th 2014 – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

SPRING PRODUCTION**

"Conversations" written by Jacqueline Caunt & John McKillop

John Betjeman and Philip Larkin were arguably two of the greatest English poets of the 20th century. Their bipolarized quintessential Englishness ranges from Betjeman's '*The scent of the conifers, the sound of the bath ...*' to Larkin's '*Their nippers have got bare feet, their unspeakable wives ...*'. But what is intriguing about these two poets is the way their works complement each other (as the poets compliment each other in our production). They are related to one another in such a way that if – hold tight for a minute whilst we bring some maths into the Conversation and combine the beauty of mathematics with the beauty of poetry and then either multiply the reciprocal of Betjeman with Larkin, or the reciprocal of Larkin with Betjeman – their product is ONE. Come and watch some alchemy in action at the CPO

May 15, 16, 17th 2014 at 20.00 - bar opens 19.30 – Tickets 25Fr

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday June 26th – at 20.00 – bar opens 19.30

CLUBNIGHT* - An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening

If you would like to contribute to this evening's entertainment
please contact Barbara Balbo at Barbara.balbo@yahoo.com

Thursday September 18th - bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

CLUBNIGHT* – GETTING THERE

Mike Scott presents a collection of sketches, readings, poems, songs and.... around the theme
"Getting There". If you would like to contribute to this evening's entertainment
please contact Mike on 021 647 54 00

Thursday October 16th – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

For more information on the **Production: contact James Spencer 079 344 27 63

*For more information on any of the **Clubnights or Workshops**: contact
Barbara Balbo 021 711 13 79 or 079 321 15 25

Or visit the Club Website: www.villageplayers.ch