

Village Players' Information (VPI) March 2014

AUDITIONS FOR SPRING PRODUCTION: "CONVERSATIONS"

Jacqueline Caunt and John McKillop will be holding auditions for this play on **Thursday, March 6th at 19:30** at John's house, Chemin de l'Epignau 16, 1373 Chavornay.

The play traces the poetic careers of John Betjeman and Philip Larkin, how they saw each other's works and what inspired them to write and to publish. The play is amusing, sometimes a little naughty and quite revealing. It contains poetic passages from both its subjects. The roles are:

John Betjeman (M)

Philip Larkin (M)

John Betjeman's inner spirit (F)

Philip Larkin's inner spirit (F)

Two voices to recite the works of the two poets (can be M or F)

There you have six roles in all.

The two reciters are not expected learn lines as their parts are to be read -- not memorised.

We are also looking for production staff, namely:

Stage Manager + Assistant Stage Managers

Front of House Manager + Staff

Make-up team

Lights and sound experts

Ticket sales control

There are no particular costumes or properties and no set. However, the use of spotlights and sound amplification is very important.

Rehearsals: Once a week from mid March to the end of March; thence twice a week during April.

For May we shall decide (depends on progress and how well the cast is doing).

If you would like to audition but cannot attend on either of the dates above, please contact

Jacqueline jcaunt@gmail.com 021 543 00 47

or John jmmckillop@yahoo.fr 024 441 15 71/(078) 742 16 66

THOUGHTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

" Chapeau " or congratulations for this Poetry Evening shared with the excellent Susan, Adrienne, Catherine, Christa, Gwendoline, Jacqueline & Alice., Pamela, Sylvia, Barbara, Mike, Colin, John, Chris, James, John and Geoffrey....

After this pleasant, comic, sad and romantic poet appreciated one have a new desire : to share again such evening with Poetry as universal language..

Thanks for this moment and V.P mood and way of transmitting your passion.

R. Charrette



Poetry reading was the theme for the Village Players club night on Thursday, February 20, featuring 21 presentations from 18 different actors. Adrienne Hahne, was a special invited guest reading two pieces of her own work ("Mind Over Matter" which won first prize in the Geneva writers' 20th anniversary competition in 2013 and "The Workshop").

The selections ranged from serious (James Spencer reading "My Last Duchess") to humorous (Barbara Balbo worrying "Did I turn off my curling tongs") and from history (Geoffrey Peek's reflections on World War I) to youth (Alice Caunt recounting "I Want" from Charlie and the Chocolate factory).

Some personal experiences were shared by Pamela Jenkins remembering "Fern Hill" and John McKillop remembering a voyage to Haiti. Several visitors attended, interested to meet and experience the Village Players or just wanting an evening with a point of view through the poetry genre. Geoffrey Peek did a great job as host and the evening was enjoyed thoroughly by all.

Janet Shaner



FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS & EVENTS

MARCH 20TH 2014

"In the Middle of Nowhere" - written by Chris Hemmens

On 20th March, the Village Players will host the first ever public reading of a brand new, comic one-act play "In the Middle of Nowhere" from a first-time playwright. What starts out as a fairly ordinary family gathering in rural Lincolnshire takes a turn for the surreal when a man claiming that he can't spend too long outside or his heart will stop seeks refuge in their home.

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 14TH, 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*.

JUNE 26TH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AUTUMN

Getting There

In 2012, helped by some great readers and singers, I proposed an entertainment based on the subject "Intriguing Colours". This was a personalised and shared look at a selected number of artists' colours. Every colour was treated individually in an effort to illustrate colours' impact on our individual and collective lives. Strange themes were touched on - rats and racism - mutual questioning on quirky preferences, cheeky souvenirs, cross-generational conflict, the excessive beauty of nature and art works in this area.

NEW in 2014! "Getting There" - a title and starting off point for a VP Clubnight, probably next October. 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 in Prilly.

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GEDS : www.geds.ch

Tues. 04 March.

Playreading: Gordie Sinatra by Fiona Evans

11-15 March.

Production: Baby with the Bathwater by Christopher Durang

GAOS : www.gaos.ch

08-09 March – Costume sewing weekend for CATS.

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

09 March at 14h30 : Fondation Jan Michalski Montricher – Visit to the Bibliothèque

20 March at 19h00: Phenomenon of Crop Circles

Lucerne World Theatre Company: lucerneworldtheatrecompany.wordpress.com

07 March at 19h00: Bollywood Brides – Restaurant Gourmindia, Baselstrasse 31, 6003 Luzern

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

This is the transcript of a radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October, 1995.

Americans: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

Canadians: Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

Americans: This is the captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

Canadians: No. I say again, you divert your course.

Americans: This is the aircraft carrier USS Lincoln, the second largest ship in the United States' Atlantic fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers, and numerous support vessels. I demand that you change your

course 15 degrees North or countermeasures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

Canadians: This is a lighthouse. Your call.



CHRIS'S PUZZLE

My friends have two children, at least one of which is a boy. Assuming girls are as likely to be born as boys, what's the probability that my friends have two boys?

Solution below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

Chairman	John McKillop	024 441 15 71	jimmckillop@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' puzzle above:

Answer: One third.

There are four possible outcomes for a set of two children:

Two boys,

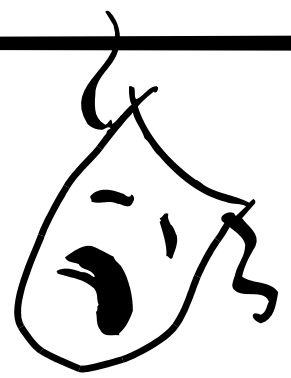
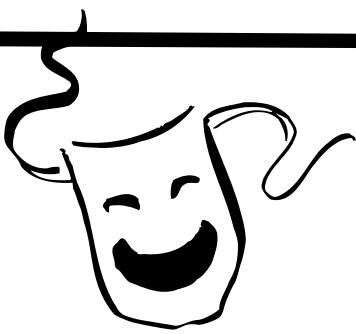
A girl then a boy,

A boy then a girl,

Two girls.

We know they have at least one boy so that rules out the last case and of the three remaining possibilities, there is only one case where they have two boys so the answer is one third.

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*

“In the Middle of Nowhere” – a new play by Chris Hemmens

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May 14, 15, 16, 17th 2014 at 20.00 - bar opens 19.30 – Tickets 25Fr

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 26th – at 20.00 – bar opens 19.30

**For more information on any of these productions, contact James Spencer 079 344 27 63

*For more information on any of these clubnights or workshops, contact
Barbara Balbo 021 711 13 79 or 079 321 15 25