

Village Players' Information (VPI) November 2014

NEXT CLUB NIGHT

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13TH, AT 8.00PM (bar opens at 7.30pm), CPO.

A PLAYREADING - Double Bill

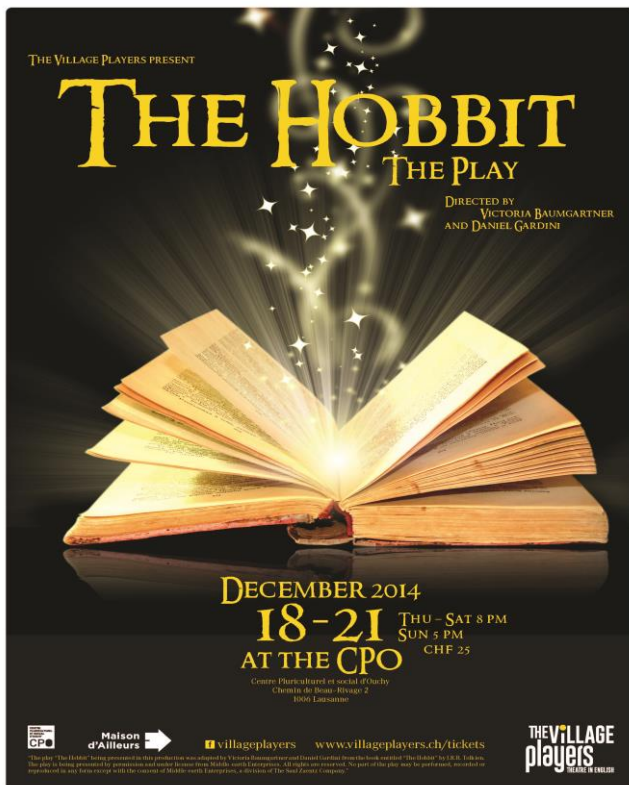
Trieste, Sunday 28 June 1914 written & directed by Christa Baan

A conversation - invented but based on facts - between James Joyce, Arthur Schnitzler and a former girl friend of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Am I who I am? written and performed by Trevor Johnson

I looked inside myself and here's who I found.

NEXT VP PRODUCTION – THE HOBBIT DECEMBER 18TH TO 21ST AT THE CPO



The Hobbit is a tale of high adventure, undertaken by a company of dwarves, in search of dragon-guarded gold. A reluctant partner in this perilous quest is Bilbo Baggins, a comfort-

loving, unambitious hobbit, who surprises even himself by his resourcefulness and his skill as a burglar.

Encounters with trolls, goblins, dwarves, elves and giant spiders, conversations with the dragon, Smaug the Magnificent, and a rather unwilling presence at the battle of the Five Armies are some of the adventures that befall Bilbo. But there are lighter moments as well: good fellowship, welcome meals, laughter and song.

Bilbo Baggins has taken his place among the ranks of the immortals of children's fiction. Written for Professor Tolkien's own children, *The Hobbit* met with instant acclaim when published. This adaptation will try to be as truthful to the text as possible, while modernising the story for today's audience. If you'd like to get involved in this production, we still need help with costumes, scenery and backstage.

For more information, please contact victoria.baumgartner@gmail.com or gardini.dan@gmail.com

CLUBNIGHTS

THOUGHTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Some More Feedback For The "As You Like It" Evening

From the students from BERN:

"I enjoyed the Village Players the most..."

"I really enjoyed the Village Players!"

GETTING THERE - by Mike Scott & Gill Briggishaw. October 16th

HOW DID I GET HERE/THERE?? - by car, and surprised to find a parking space - success, and an omen for the whole evening.

Is it already a month since our last VP events evening? Time flies, although last night we were invited rather to take a train, perhaps to the South, or a Greenline bus - of renown in the counties of Hertfordshire, Berkshire and many in between - or even take a hike! After an introduction by Mike, explaining what we were about to experience, and John McKillop's welcome, albeit rather hobbitish! Poor Gandalf, he's doing OK, if rather painfully, but please don't ask him how he's doing! He started the evening by presenting The Three Broads (Gill Briggishaw, Helen Thrupp and Carolyn Magnani) "from Norfolk" Ha! Ha! Ha!, and that set the tone for the evening - sometimes light, sometimes sad, but always entertaining. The subjects covered were:

Getting a Partner?; Getting Equality?;
Getting where - by bus or train?; Getting Greener?; Getting to the Top of the Ladder?;
Getting Away from it All?; Getting our ears full of Close Harmony?, and Getting to the Bar?

The ladies sang "Love that man" and C'est Magnifique" and wowed the audience, and the evening was off to a roaring start.



We went from meeting Laurie Lee's second wife, to a warm memory of the Greenline Bus service - which was so warm, welcoming and safe, and took so many of us to and from home and school, and the shops and the local market - and passing by the life of a servant at the beginning of the 20th century, a young girl who was "in service"; "wasn't it nice not to have to prepare a meal" from "Equality in the Kitchen" by Jerry Farinotti; "Harold Fry's Unlikely Pilgrimage" - going on foot to post a letter to a dying friend, from Kingsbridge to Berwick-on-Trent; a very sad, true story of a man found, half-buried in the snow on Dartmoor - very moving and thought-provoking - he'd used thousands of pound notes as insulation under his clothes! He died later of hyperthermia, they couldn't raise his body temperature high enough for him to live. He had no identity, and no-one came forward to claim his body. Who was he? Where did he come from, and how did he "get there"? We'll never know.

The evening became lighter in tone with "Thoughts while driving home" by John Updike, and "North Country Bus" by Mike Scott himself. In between the texts and poems we had another three songs from Norfolk - sorry, The Three Broads! - "Can't Believe I'm Not a Millionaire" (and I live in Switzerland!), "Skyfall", based on the song by Adele from the latest Bond Film, and beautifully arranged in harmony by Gill, and that old favourite "Java"!

After much applause, we were offered a 15-minute break to Get to the Bar! And of course chat and catch up on friends' well-being, and latest projects....

We were rapidly brought back to order after almost 20 minutes, and were off again, being regaled by Colin's interpretation of Boris Johnson's plans for new London buses.... Fie on you Boris, for doing away with the Routemasters! So some of us preferred the old trains, all black and smokey ... a text from John Banville. This was followed by several pieces about train travel, the station at Paris; Student Travel - London to Greece via the earthquake in Skopje; deviating through the Tube trains, "Mind the Gap", an observation of people on the Tube; "Overheard on the subway", by Kenneth Fearing - some strange man strap-hanging next to the reader, admitting to murder to his friend on the other side! And no-one made a move! Followed by a couple of texts from John Betjeman, a great fan of train transport, including "A Mind's Journey to Diss"; the story of the "Man in the Bowler Hat" by Peter Black; "A Train" by Anthony Payne - was it a ghost train, or a dream/nightmare? And finally two poems from Philip Larkin about trains - he too was a great fan of trains - "Like the Train's Beat" and "Autobiography at an Air Station" (did he mean airport, or aeroport as it used to be called,?)

If I've missed out some of the poems and texts, I apologise, there were so many, and they were all so good, it is difficult to remember them each separately, and not get them mixed up!!



The second half of the evening was accompanied by The Three Broads, and very well done too! We were invited to "Hit The Road Jack", take a train to "Chatanooga", while always "Stand(ing) by Me", on a "Sentimental Journey", "Side by Side" - that last one was so good, it almost got an encore from the only VPs Singing Waiters present, Colin, with their version of the same But it was not to be, and after some more chatter, and catching up, we had to take up our various forms of transport and Get Off Home

A truly terrific evening - at least for me, I loved the stories, and thoroughly enjoyed (almost) singing along with the songs, which were so well known to me.

Looking forward to another great event by the Village Players soon, I've now "Got there", and will close this epiphany, in the brilliant sunshine, watching the fluffy white clouds eagerly getting there, from one side of the hill to the other....

P.S. I expect, if one or other of the texts struck a chord with you, and you'd like to know more about them, and their authors, you could contact their author, Mike Scott, via our website, www.villageplayers.ch and ask.

Heather "Smaug" Gavin



Photos by Tim Briggins

FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS

JANUARY 15TH

A PLAYREADING

"Cat's Cradle" written by Leslie Sands directed by Adrienne Hahne.

THE FULTON KIDNAPPING - CASE REOPENS AS NEW EVIDENCE COMES TO LIGHT!

An intriguing mystery play which will keep you guessing until the very end - 'who done it?'

FEBRUARY 19TH

KARAOKE EVENING

Proposed by Daniel Gardini.

FEATS 2015

From **Friday 22nd May - Monday 25th May 2015**,

Thanks to everyone who replied concerning FEATS 2015. I'm very pleased to say we have a full minimum backstage compliment, however, there are still additional spaces if you're interested in joining us.

We almost have a full cast with the exception of Bill (male, 60s) for whom we have two maybes. If you have any questions regarding FEATS, please don't hesitate to ask either me (chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk) or Heather (heather.gavin@bluewin.ch).

Thanks again, Chris."

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GEDS www.geds.ch

11-15 Nov: Much Ado About Nothing

GAOS www.gaos.ch

29-30 Nov Once Upon A Time

National Theatre Live At Pathe Flon <http://www.pathe.ch/fr/pathelive/theater>

6 Nov Of Mice & Men

ICL www.icl-club.ch

6 Nov Exhibition Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne

23 Nov Talk & aperitif: Driving from China to Pakistan – The Silk Road

Lucerne World Theatre Co – www.ltwc.ch

22/23 Nov How The Grinch Stole Christmas

Christmas Market - Christ Church www.christchurch-lausanne.ch

29 Nov, 10h-16h - Ave de l'Eglise Anglaise 1 - 1006 Lausanne

Christmas goodies and Crackers, Cakes and Jams, Books and Brocante, Activities for Children

Refreshments all day with Hot lunch midday

Total Musical Theatre – totalmusicaltheatre.com

27 - 29 Nov – TMT Jukebox,

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

Q: How do you think the unthinkable?

A: With an itheberg.

CHRIS'S PUZZLE

The day before yesterday Edward was 17. Next year he will be 20. How?

Answer below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

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& HELPERS

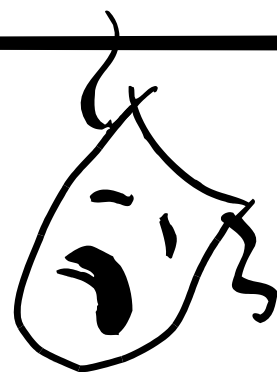
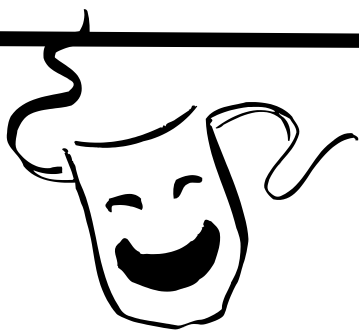
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* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW FOR EASY REFERENCE

Answer to Chris' puzzle:

Today is the 1st of January and Edward's birthday is the 31st December. He was 17 the day before yesterday, he turned 18 yesterday, he'll turn 19 this year and 20 next year.



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
www.villageplayers.ch

CLUBNIGHT* - A PLAY-READING (DOUBLE BILL)

Trieste, Sunday 28 June 1914 written & directed by Christa Baan
A conversation – invented but based on facts - between James Joyce, Arthur Schnitzler
and a former girl-friend of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Am I who I am? written and performed by Trevor Johnson
I looked inside myself and here's who I found
Thursday November 13th – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

AUTUMN PRODUCTION** – **December 18 – 21st**

Tolkien's epic tale –The Hobbit - brought to life, in the Village Players' own adaptation of the
magical story! Tell your friends, families, neighbours. Come & see what the VPs can do!



CLUBNIGHT* - A PLAYREADING

"Cat's Cradle" written by Leslie Sands directed by Adrienne Hahne.
THE FULTON KIDNAPPING - CASE REOPENS AS NEW EVIDENCE COMES TO LIGHT!
An intriguing mystery play which will keep you guessing until the very end - 'who done it?'
Thursday January 15th – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

CLUBNIGHT* - KARAOKE EVENING

Proposed by Daniel Gardini
Thursday February 19th – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

For more information on the **Production: contact Victoria Baumgartner 079 531 94 18

*For more information on the **Clubnights**: contact Barbara Balbo 021 711 13 79 or 079 321 15 25
or visit the Club Website: www.villageplayers.ch