

Village Players' Information (VPI) June 2014

THOUGHTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

"CONVERSATIONS" by John McKillop

As a non-connoisseur of poetry, I didn't know what to expect when I read the summary of John McKillop's play about two 20th century English poets, whose works, were seemingly very different yet somehow complementary. However, I was keen to find out more...

John Betjeman, played by Geoffrey Peek, and Philip Larkin, played by Colin Gamage certainly managed to convince me they were different in their outlook on life (and death) & their styles of poetry. Congratulations to Geoffrey & Colin on delivering a large quantity of lines faultlessly and with tremendous theatrical skills - for two dead men!

We also found out that these late poets had been assisted in their creations by two delightful and wisp-like spirits, played by Margot Jaggy, who influenced John Betjeman, and Saskia Faulk, who was the inspiration behind Philip Larkin. Their role was to convince these rather grumpy old adversaries that their poetry did indeed have much in common. This they accomplished most admirably with a great deal of balletic movement and charm.

I had naturally expected to hear some poetry recited and was very pleasantly surprised by the way this was handled, having 5 different reciters - Des George, Heather Gavin, Jacqueline Caunt, Kim van Ness and Jack Pogany (from left to right) reading out separate lines or verses. The idea of splitting the poems with different voices and accents appealed to me and brought them to life by avoiding the monotony of a single voice.





John McKillop wrote an interesting and highly original play on a subject that was obviously dear to his heart. He succeeded in not only igniting my desire to read more about the two poets and their verses, but also in conveying his interpretation of a possible relationship between the works of two supposedly conflicting mindsets.

Some Random Lines from the Great Poets

*It becomes still more difficult to find
Words at once true and kind*

At first, I didn't notice what a noise
The weddings made

A dozen marriages got under way.

What are days for?
Days are where we live

*Sexual intercourse began
In nineteen sixty-three*

The fastened doors recede. Poor soul,
They whisper at their own distress;

*Shovel-faces like pennies
Down the back of the mind,*

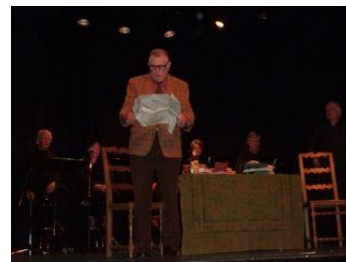
Hatless, I take off
My cycle-clips in awkward reverence



Well done to Jacqueline Caunt who directed this play and brought it to life, so to speak. I'm sure Betjeman & Larkin would be reaching out to each other in their respective graves!

However, given that the author, cast (several of whom were new to the Village Players) & backstage assistants spent a great deal of time, energy, hard work and enthusiasm on this Production, it was disappointing to see how few members came to support it.

Susan Morris



FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS & PRODUCTIONS

JUNE 26TH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

!!!! COME AND FILL THESE SEATS !!!!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday 26th June, 2014
At 20h00**

Doors open at 19h15
Bar opens at 19h30

CPO - Centre Pluriculturel d'Ouchy
Beau-Rivage 2, 1006 Lausanne

PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES – AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND FELLOW MEMBERS

This will be the first VPs AGM to be held at the CPO, so come and have your say in the running of the club and our activities, and cast your vote for the new Committee.

Of the present Committee, the following are willing to stand for (re)election:

Chairman	<i>John McKillop</i>
Administrative Director	<i>Susan Morris</i>
Events Coordinator	<i>Barbara Balbo</i>
Secretary	<i>Colin Gamage</i>
Treasurer	<i>Derek Betson</i>
Publicity Manager	<i>Christa Baan</i>
Membership Secretary	<i>Chris Hemmens</i>
Technical Manager	<i>Ian Griffiths</i>

At the moment we do not have candidates for the posts of Production Coordinator and Business Manager. So before, or latest at, the AGM we will be looking for volunteers to come forward to fill these positions. Brief descriptions of these posts are:

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR: Responsible for the coordination of all public stage productions. Soliciting from members their suggestions for plays, distribution of copies of suitable works to the Committee. Advising and giving counsel to the director on the formation of the necessary production team.

BUSINESS MANAGER: Responsible for forward planning, negotiation for hire of theatres, rooms for productions and events; liaison with appropriate authorities for services, purchase of tickets, front of house, payment of dues and performance rights.

THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING - WE NEED YOU ALL TO COME ALONG.

The Committee.

SEPTEMBER 18TH

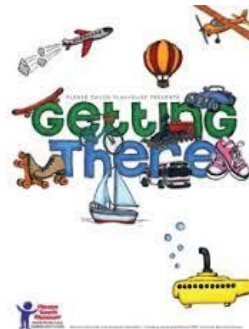
An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening

Our evening of sketches, poems, songs etc. chosen by you, our members, was a huge success last year. So, we are having another one! If you would like to participate in this fun, informal Clubnight by performing yourself, please let me know by email as soon as possible as our programme is filling up quickly! Please contact Barbara Balbo at: barbara.balbo@yahoo.com

OCTOBER 16TH

GETTING THERE

"C'est Magnifique", get on a "Trolley", go on a "Sentimental Journey" - get to "Getting There". A clubnight devised by Gill Briginshaw and Mike Scott featuring sketches, prose, poetry and songs. Please note the date now.



NOVEMBER 13, 14, 15TH

AUTUMN PRODUCTION

The Village Players are putting on their very own version of Tolkien's renowned tale: "The Hobbit", directed by Victoria Baumgartner & Daniel Gardini and to be performed in November at the CPO of Lausanne. Come and audition to join the cast of this unexpected journey on Tuesday 10th, Saturday 14th and Tuesday 17th of June at Ecole Médica in Lausanne! For more information about available roles and about the script, please write to: gardini.dan@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you there! Dan & Victoria

DECEMBER 18TH

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Put this date in your diaries! More soon.

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN (& ELSEWHERE)

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

15 June – Boat Ride across the lake and lunch at Yvoire in France.

GEDS : www.geds.ch

03 June Buried Child by Sam Sheperd

21 June A Midsummer Night's Dream by W. Shakespeare

GAOS : www.gaos.ch

13 June Midsummer Night's Fantasy Ball for members and friends only

15 June Musical Evening for members and friends only

Cinema Pathé Flon, Lausanne – <http://pathe.ch/fr/film/22009/nt-theatre-a-small-family-business>

Broadcast live from London

12 June A Small Family Business by Alan Aykbourn

Chateau de Chillon, Montreux, open air : www.adg-europe.com

16 June Romeo & Juliette.

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

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

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

From Spike Milligan: "Chopsticks are one of the reasons the Chinese never invented custard."

CHRIS'S PUZZLE

There is a rare disease that affects 1 person in 10,000. There is a diagnostic test for this disease that is 99% effective i.e. it will give a false reading 1% of the time. You take the test and it comes back positive. What's the probability you have the disease?

Answer 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	derekbetson@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

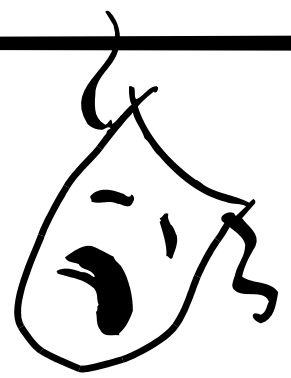
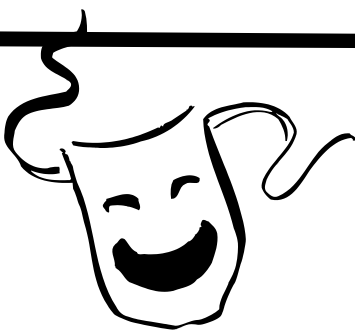
Newsletter Editor *	Susan Morris		susanmorris22@hotmail.com
Fliers & programmes	Dorothy Brooks		dot.brooks@hotmail.com
General Committee help	Catherine Fitzsimons		swissfitz@yahoo.com

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

Solution to Chris' riddle above: About 0.98%.

Imagine you have a population of 1,000,000. Then 100 people have the disease and 999,900 do not. When the test is administered, 99 people with the disease (99%) will test positive while 9,999 people without the disease (1%) will also test positive. So given you've tested positive, the probability you have the disease is $99/(99+9,999)$ or about 0.0098.

**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
www.villageplayers.ch

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Do not miss this important event and the chance to have your say!

Thursday June 26th – at 20.00 – bar opens 19.30

CLUBNIGHT* - An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening

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

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 around the theme
"Getting There".**

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

AUTUMN PRODUCTION – November 13 – 15th

**Tolkien's epic tale –The Hobbit - brought to life, in the Village Players' own adaptation of the
magical story! Auditions on June 10th, 14th, 17th in Lausanne, so please come and join the cast!**

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

More details soon

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

*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