

Village Players' Information (VPI) October 2014

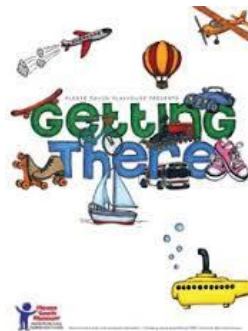
NEXT CLUB NIGHT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH AT 8.00PM (bar opens at 7.30pm)

Please get here for "Getting There!", yet another Expect the Unexpected entertainment devised by Mike Scott.

Getting There - just two words but what's behind them:

- = **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?**
- = **Getting to the Bar?**



To find out more, come along to the CPO on Thursday October 16th

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

Bilbo Baggins is a quiet, sensible fellow who has no use for adventures. Nasty business! They make you late for dinner. Until, one fine morning in May, the wizard Gandalf crosses his path, and is determined to send him away with a company of dwarves on a quest for a treasure guarded by the mighty dragon Smaug. Our Hobbit finds himself tossed into many bewildering adventures with Fili, Kili, Oin, Gloin, Dori, Nori, Ori, Bifur, Bofur, Bombur, Balin, Dwalin and Thorin Oakenshield, during which he will learn the value of friendship, bravery and mercy. After meeting the likes of trolls, elves, goblins, and all manner of strange creatures, the road will lead him on and on, to finally come to face the great dragon and his wrath. But that will not turn out to be Bilbo's toughest challenge...

*Far over the misty mountains cold
To dungeons deep and caverns old
We must away, ere break of day,
To claim our long-forgotten gold.
The pines were roaring on the height,
The winds were moaning in the night.
The fire was red, it flaming spread;
The trees like torches blazed with light.
The mountain smoked beneath the moon;
The dwarves, they heard the tramp of doom.
They fled their hall to dying fall
Beneath his feet, beneath the moon.*

Fun at rehearsals



Adapted by Victoria Baumgartner and Daniel Gardini, this production focuses on Tolkien's original text. Narrated by two young girls, the tale comes to life on stage with the help of costumes, stage-combat, special effects and... your imagination!

If you want 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 "AS YOU LIKE IT"

To launch the new season at the CPO, here was a mixed bowl of delightful offerings selected and performed by members.

Seated comfortably at the back (a reminder of school, though in those days it was more likely with pen in hand rather than Thursday's glass of red), those of us on the bar stools had the best view of proceedings (though we all missed a few of the quieter bits).

The advantage of a varied menu was that we could each find dishes to our own particular taste. The Audition sketch and the jokes (busily being translated amongst the student contingent from Berne) clearly hit the mark. The music was splendid: thanks, chaps, and all the broads - bring back the old-time music hall, please! - and Marilyn, wafting smoke into our eyes. (Or was that from the Chattanooga Choo Choo swinging by?) Pam's Swimsuit was Perfect, as was her Little Grandson. More would not have gone amiss.

But all good things come to an end. It was a lovely evening, with more than a nod to the day's momentous event in Scotland...

Janet, Ilze & the English Speaking & Anglo-Swiss Club of Lausanne (ES& ASC)

More Thoughts

Arriving a little early, I was confronted by a merry gang diligently setting up the CPO for this, the first event of the season. And they still found time to stop and say hallo, welcome, with big smiles from everyone.

The audience was just settling down, when an influx of about 25 young people had us rapidly ferrying in more chairs to accommodate a group of young students from a school in Bern. Their teachers had seen the announcement in the website – or was it Facebook? – and decided to combine

their trip to the Lac Lemman area with a visit to an English theatre evening.



The evening opened with a sketch arranged by Christa Baan called "The Unspoken O'Neill", a series of stage instructions taken from several of his plays. The readers were Roberta Linn for the lady's stage instructions, and Gordon Linn for the man's instructions. The Instructions were mimed by Christa and

Geoffrey Peek. It was amazing how many stage instructions E. O'Neill puts into his play scripts, and when taken out of context, how amusing they are.



Chris Hemmens and Daniel Giardini then gave us the song "Shame" ("What a shame we never listened"), with guitar accompaniment by Chris – a nice folkish-rock touch.



This was followed by "The Three Broads" – Helen Thrupp, Carolyn Magnani and Gill Briggins, from the Total Musical Theatre group – with a song from the '40s, "Don't Sit Under the Apple tree" as sung by the Andrews Sisters.



Adrienne Hahne then read us one of her own poems, "Today's World", together with "The Lesson", about Horror and Violence and "Chaos reigns in the classroom" ... as always Adrienne's poems, and her presentation, were perfect.

Pamela Jenkins then told us of the difficulties of finding "The Perfect Swimsuit" – which touched most of the ladies in the audience..

Jack Pogany offered us some advice given recently by a Rabbi on how to deal with difficult sons .. very enlightening! And then gave us the story of a soldier on a train, on his way home from World War II, looking for somewhere to sit, and in final desperation, throwing a little lapdog out of the window !

Marilyn gave us a delightful rendering of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" which was met with loud applause.



And the first half ended with a Harry Potter Song, created by Alice Caunt, Emma and Lucia, to the music from the Harry Potter films. Well done girls!



In the Second Half, Barbara gave us her thoughts on Botox – we should probably avoid it?



And this was followed by a sublime rendering of the song "Gethsemane" from the show "Jesus Christ Superstar" by Daniel Giardini – the roof lifted I am sure with the applause he received, and rightly merited, he has such an amazing voice and range, and we were very moved by his interpretation.



Then Pamela Jenkins told us about her grandson – who is the apple of her eye and "looks just like me"!

We were then regaled with "The Transatlantic News", read by Geoffrey and Cathy Fitzsimons. And on the very hot

subject of secession/elections, since the USA was unable to elect a President, and were generally in need of a firm hand at the wheel, the British Government had decided to revoke the USA's independence. We were given a list of most interesting new laws which the Americans would be expected to follow – they should drink real ale, at room temperature, and would no longer be allowed to have a holiday on July 4th - and the British Government promised to get things better and shipshape before too long. A fascinating idea! Amongst many other news items, most amusing, and some giving us food for thought. “Drink is your enemy – love your enemy – let's drink to that!”

Then still in the American vein, The Three Broads gave us “Chatanooga Choo Choo”, another song from the '40s, which had our feet tapping.

A very confusing sketch followed – “The Audition”, with David and Daniel interviewing Chris for a role in a well-known new play I'm still not sure how Chris managed to get the role!



This was followed by another song from Alice, Emma and Lucia, this time from the films “Lord of the Rings”, also using the backing track music of the films by Peter Jackson. So much blossoming talent in the group! It was a joy to see.



Here we had a contribution from Mary Couper – very topical since September 18th

is the voting night for Scottish Independence! – who read us the last verse from Robbie Burns' poem “For a' that” ... as some might say “Think on't”!

The evening was brought to a close by a singalong from Gwen Czajkowska and Chris Hemmens (playing the guitar) “Woman from Wexford”, with audience participation with “wack me diddle derry-o, wack me diddle dee” !! Followed by a rendering of the Beatles' song “When I'm 64”, updated to “When I'm 94” ... life expectancy has increased, after all!



Barbara closed the evening with many thanks to all the contributors, reminded us of the next event, which will be “Getting There” on October 16th, which will be arranged by Mike Scott and will include contributions from The Three Broads. She wished a safe return to our homes, and special thanks to the school group from Bern for joining us.

Heather Gavin

FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS

NOVEMBER 13, TH

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.

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?'

FEATS 2015

From **Friday 22nd May - Monday 25th May 2015**, Hamburg will be hosting the Festival of European Anglophone Theatre Societies (FEATS) and we'd love to be able to participate this year. At the moment, we're planning to take "In The Middle Of Nowhere", which had its first reading at the CPO in March of this year and had some great feedback. In order to take this to Hamburg, we'll need 4 actors: 2 men and 2 women; and at least 4 backstage crew, including lighting, sound, and a stage manager.

I've been to two FEATS festivals now - once as an actor and once as backstage - and I enjoyed it massively both times. We can't cover travel or accommodation costs but I guarantee you it'll be worth it.

If you'd like more information, the website is here: <http://feats-hamburg.de/>, although the only useful thing on there at the moment is the link to The Hamburg Players website. Otherwise, you can either email us at villageplayers@gmail.com or our FEATS contact, Heather Gavin, at heather.gavin@bluewin.ch.

Chris Hemmens.

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GEDS www.geds.ch

14 Oct: Playreading: The Last of Mrs Cheyney by Frederick Lonsdale

28 Oct Playreading: Relative Values by Noel Coward

GAOS www.gaos.ch

26 Oct Musical Evening for family & friends only

ICL www.icl-club.ch

7 Oct Visit to Swiss Federal Tribunal, Lausanne

30 Oct Wine tasting - Domaine du Daley

Cinema Pathé Flon, Lausanne - <http://www.pathe.ch/fr/evenements>

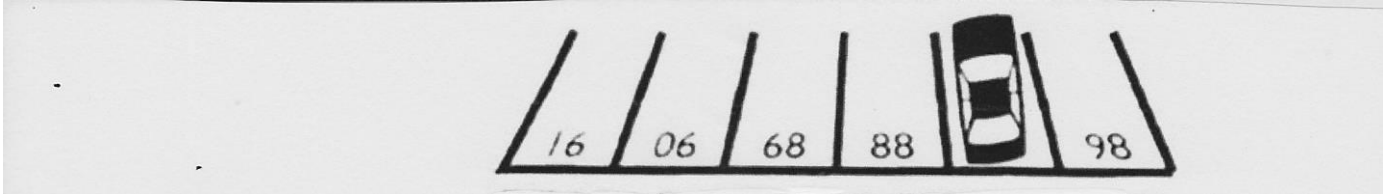
23 October National Theatre, broadcast live from London: Skylight by David Hare

**SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT
THIS MONTH'S JOKE!**

What do you call a dog with no legs?
It doesn't matter - it's not going to come.

CHRIS'S PUZZLE

What parking spot number is the car parked in?



Answer below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

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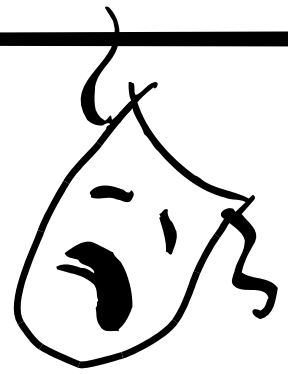
* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

**VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW
FOR EASY REFERENCE**

Answer to Chris' puzzle:

87





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* – 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

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

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