

Village Players' Information (VPI)

September 2014

GOODBYE CAROLE !

TRIBUTES FROM VPS

Many years ago I learned that one could count on Carole Hetzel's imagination and reliability.

It was when the VP's participated in Bern, in competition with other English-speaking theatre groups, with a play I directed called "YOU CAN'T FIGHT CITY HALL, BREN".

It was an unusual experience in many ways, the excellent Dora Sermin was in the lead and 3 McKillops: Laura, Zelda and John, made up the rest of this 'Sheffield' cast - not the easiest group to direct, but when you have a reliable, competent stage manager, such as I had in Carole, I could concentrate on the staging and cast-.

Since then, I have had the privilege of working for her on the VP Committee, with her in putting on short plays, and being directed by her on stage.

I have learned to appreciate her honesty, her self-control in dealing with "divas" of both sexes, her determination to work through to a solution to problems, and her willingness to devote hours of hard work going through messes/muddles such as files, budgets, costumes, notes... and coming up with order and clarity.

Recently she directed 11 VP's for a play-reading which received excellent reviews. Her steadfast patience during the rehearsals was the glue that kept us all together.

As a personal friend, all of the above assets apply, plus wit and trust.

After 26 years of vital VP activity. Carole is leaving us, and Switzerland later this year.

I shall miss her greatly. I take this opportunity of thanking her for all she has done for the VP's and for her friendship.

Vivienne.

And from John Middleton:

It is remarkable that of the dozen or so VP chair(wo)men guiding this society over the last 30 odd years, all but one have remained in this area - mostly as society members. This is now to number two, as Carole is also returning to England.

She made her debut in the unforgettable production of Ayckbourn's first part of The Norman Conquests - performed at such speed by a team of VP Greats that the possibility of virtuoso ad-libbing crossed more than one mind - impossible of-course?

This was at the Morges Casino - home to some of our greatest Music Halls.
However, it is as Chairman (her own job title) that Carole made her greatest contribution to the VP's .
It can be a hard post to take on in any voluntary organization, and Carole struck a particularly challenging period of change for the society, while successfully handling some quite simply disruptive elements.

FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 18TH

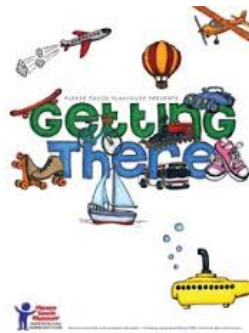
An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening

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

Please get here for "Getting There", yet another Expect the Unexpected entertainment devised by Mike Scott. Fifteen performers offering texts, poetry, sketches and songs, with "The Three Broads" lead by Gill Briggingshaw.



NOVEMBER 13, TH

A PLAYREADING

To be confirmed.

AUTUMN PRODUCTION

DECEMBER 18-21ST

We are proud to announce that rehearsals for this winter's production of the VP adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" have finally begun!

Book the dates in your Christmas calendar, and come enjoy with us this wonderful tale full of Hobbits, Dwarves, Elves and mystical creatures.

Discover the journey of Bilbo Baggins, a quiet lad who loves nothing more than a comfortable fire and a hot meal after a long, lazy day, and

who will be carried away by the wizard Gandalf into a mad adventure with a company of no less than thirteen dwarves. En route, Bilbo will discover the meaning of friendship, courage, wisdom, cheer, and a long rainy night out of doors.

Join the Village Players in this magical journey, and find out what happens to the dragon and the treasure of the Lonely Mountain!

PS. We are still looking for a member of Thorin's company, so if you have always fancied having a long, bushy, stylish beard and practicing axe-fighting, do not hesitate to email victoria.baumgartner@gmail.com or gardini.dan@gmail.com

Chris as "The Hobbit"



photo: [@Julien James Auzan](#), photographer.

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.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Hello everyone. Thank you so much for supporting The Village Players and the continuation of English-speaking theatre in Lausanne. Our society makes it possible for all of us to enjoy the theatrical world in front of the stage, on the stage, and behind the stage and that's something I think all of us find special in so many ways. Your continued support is so important and we look forward to both working with you and entertaining you in the upcoming season.

If you wish to receive a bulletin de versement in order to make your payment, please email Chris at chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk. Alternatively you can pay directly into our bank account using the details found at the top of this newsletter.

Membership remains at 85 Francs for those 26-and-over, and at 50 Francs for those 25-and-under. Thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you in the new season.

Chris

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN (& ELSEWHERE)

GEDS : www.geds.ch

10 & 11 Sept. Auditions for Much Ado About Nothing, with professional director Ben Crystal.

16 Sept. 19:30 Opening event playreading: Cahoot's Macbeth

20 Sept: Murder Mystery Dinner

30 Sept. 19:30 Playreading: The Judas Kiss by David Hare

GAOS : www.gaos.ch

2 and 4 September: Once Upon a Time, adult auditions, Institut Florimont

6 September: Once Upon a Time, children's auditions, Institut Florimont

ICL www.icl-club.ch

Sunday 21 September at 11h00 WELCOME BACK BRUNCH

Lucerne World Theatre Company <http://lucerneworldtheatrecompany.wordpress.com/>

September 16 at 8pm : *It's on You, John* which received the award for Best Stage Presentation at this year's FEATS

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

Broadcast live from London

4 September National Theatre : Medea

16 September National Theatre: A Streetcar Named Desire

The All England Comedy Club Montreux <https://www.facebook.com/LoftA46>

13 September, 7,30pm Stand-up comedy

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

CHRIS'S PUZZLE

Puzzle: What do the following words have in common?

DEFT

FIRST

CALMNESS

CANOPY

LAUGHING

STUPID

HIJACK

Answer below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

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& HELPERS

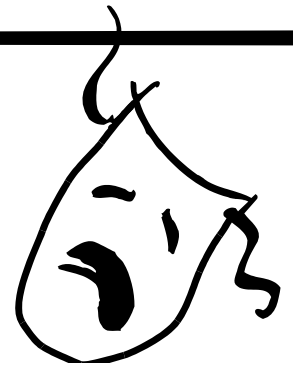
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* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW FOR EASY REFERENCE

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Answer to Chris' puzzles: They all contain a sequence of 3 letters that appear consecutively in the alphabet.



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* - An "AS YOU LIKE IT" evening
A selection of songs, prose and drama, chosen and performed by members.

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

CLUBNIGHT* - A PLAY-READING
More details soon
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
More details soon
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