

Village Players' Information (VPI)

February 2015

NEXT CLUBNIGHT
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19TH
KARAOKE EVENING
Organised by Daniel Gardini.



Come and discover the singing superstar sensation you are at the VP's first, and hopefully not the last, Karaoke evening!

Karaoke is a form of interactive entertainment in which amateur singers sing along with recorded music using a microphone and public address system. The music is typically a well-known popular song minus the lead vocal. Lyrics are usually displayed on a video screen, along with a moving symbol, changing colour, or music video images, to guide the singer.

So don't be shy, just give it a try. Belt it out, we won't judge you!

CLUBNIGHTS AND OTHER EVENTS

THOUGHTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

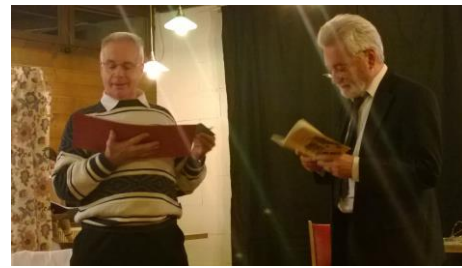
PLAYREADING - CAT'S CRADLE

I thoroughly enjoyed the Village Players play reading performance of Cat's Cradle. A 1950's whodunnit set in an English village pub written by Leslie Sands and directed by the Village Players own Adrienne Hahne.

It was I believe particularly poignant for all of the men in the cast as they had previously performed this piece together on stage around thirty years before.

It was the first play reading that I have been to so I was unsure as to what to expect. Pretty soon into the first act I soon forgot that the actors were reading from script and settled back to enjoy the experience.

John McKillop played a delightfully canny Detective Inspector Frost who was a most unwelcome visitor at an intimate village society wedding.



We were entertained by Jacqueline Caunt playing Pamela, the snobbish rude mother of the bride-to-be. The pub landlord Sam (Colin Gamage) and his friendly wife Peggy (Barbara Balbo) seemed flustered as they prepared the pub for the reception and the Lord of the Manor Sir Charles Cresswell (John Middleton) commanded the situation as one would expect of a gentleman of his rank. Bob, the kind jilted reporter boyfriend (Tom Spencer), helped the DI and wistfully watched the demure bride-to-be Sarah prepare for her wedding, ignorant to all the goings on around her (played by Sylvia McKillop who kindly stepped in at the last minute).



DI Frost is on a mission to tie up the loose ends of a puzzling case as he nears the end of his career. He revisits the scene of the crime and manages to upset everyone and drives poor elderly Miss Merton (Adrienne Hahne) to commit suicide. He ends up solving the twelve-year-old mystery of the kidnapping and murder of baby Matthew all on the day of the wedding.



Lively and entertaining performances from all, made all the more enjoyable with the odd turning over of two pages at once.
I will come back for more.
Laura Packer



FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS

THURSDAY MARCH 19TH

PLAYREADING - MOLLY SWEENEY

written by Brian Friel and directed by Pamela Jenkins

"Have you ever wondered what it might be like to be blind and then have your sight suddenly restored? Have you ever wondered how frightening this might be?"

"Molly Sweeney" is a beautifully written play about a young Irish woman who has been blind since infancy and undergoes an operation to restore her sight. Molly is in her early forties and is the daughter of a judge. She is somebody who is totally happy with her universe, she is confident, self assured and a vibrant part of her local community. Brought up by her father, she has no sense of being deprived by her blindness and often thinks that what she experiences through her heightened sense of touch and smell is far greater than what sight could ever bring her. She has no real want for the operation on her

eyes, but goes ahead with it anyway, mainly for Frank, her husband and Mr. Rice's sake.

The writing of this eloquent, sensual play, like all Brian Friel's work, is so rich in texture and imagery that I am sure will linger on in your mind for a long time. It is a rare gem that is in perfect tune with Brian Friel's own bittersweet, melancholic world.

When will medicine cure the disease of human miscommunication? Pamela Jenkins



THURSDAY APRIL 23RD

ST. GEORGE'S QUIZ NIGHT

Our traditional annual quiz organised by John Middleton.

CLUBNIGHT NEWS

Following the large audiences for Cat's Cradle and the November playreadings, we are pleased to announce that future playreadings will take place in the theatre part of the CPO (as for The Hobbit), where the seating and acoustics are more conducive to an enjoyable theatrical experience than in the bar area. So please encourage your friends and families to come along to the more spacious venue. The Karaoke and quiz nights will still be held in the cosier space around the bar.

FEATS 2015

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

We now have a full cast; however, additional crew members would be welcome.

The Stage Manager is looking for a man to join the stage crew who would be willing to drive a van to Hamburg and back with the props and furniture, while also helping with the on stage lifting and set up. The drive would be of 1200km and take about 12hrs. The van hire and transport costs would be covered by the club, but personal expense such as hotels and food etc., would be up to the individual.

Also, regarding hotel bookings: Hamburg is a tourist city and we will be going there to compete with other teams who are already filling the convenient accommodation with their bookings. So, anyone thinking of supporting the club in Hamburg should think about getting the hotel reservations confirmed now!

A more pressing need at the moment is to locate and hire a fully equipped theatre in the Leman Region where we can put on the play for one evening, as well as practicing setting up our lighting and sound for two evenings prior to the one-off performance, i.e.(3 nights rent).

Please contact derekhbetson@msn.com or chris.hemmens@hotmail.co.uk if you can help out.

SPRING PRODUCTION – MAY 18-24TH WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF?

Victoria Baumgartner will be directing **Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?** Watch this space for more information soon.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Happy birthday Vivienne!!

Yes! The 'Doyenne' of the VPs has just celebrated her 90th and we all wish her the best of the best in recognition of her 'services' to English-speaking theatre in Switzerland and to the VPs in particular!



Since the VPs' launching in 1981, our Viv - apart from play-readings, committee meetings, rehearsal room, costumes and directing etc., etc., etc. - has played (i.e. on the boards, under the lights) in the following VP full stage productions:

The Matchmaker; A Day in the Death of Joe Egg; The Ghost Writer; Sorry, Wrong Number; After Magritte; The Chalk Garden; Top Girls; The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of "Macbeth"; Keeping Down with the Joneses; The Importance of Being Earnest; Bedroom Farce; When We are Married; Monkey Business; A Christmas Carol; Mixed Doubles (Resting place).

Well, that's not bad is it? This girl from Marble Arch has been - not only a star on stage, but an inspiration to many VPs of all callings - both on stage and off stage in the 33 years that she has been a VP. Book your tickets **NOW** for the 100th knee-up for the one and only Vivienne Furtwängler!!

JMcK

ACTING LESSONS

James Spencer, a professional actor (and member of The Village Players) is offering Basic Acting lessons. More details can be found on his website and Village Players members get a discount.

<http://www.voicecoach-ch.squarespace.com>.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER : Artemis Faulk

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GEDS www.geds.ch

3-7 March: Dancing at Lughnasa, by Brian Friel

GAOS www.gaos.ch

15 Feb Musical evening

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

THIS MONTH'S JOKE!

I saw that show, 50 Things To Do Before You Die. I would have thought the obvious one was "Shout For Help". - Jimmy Carr

CHRIS' PUZZLE:

Karen is twice as old as Sharon was when Karen was as old as Sharon is now. Karen is 24. How old is Sharon?

Answer below

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

Chairman	John McKillop	024 441 15 71	jmmckillop@yahoo.fr
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& HELPERS

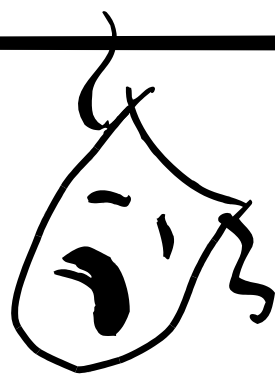
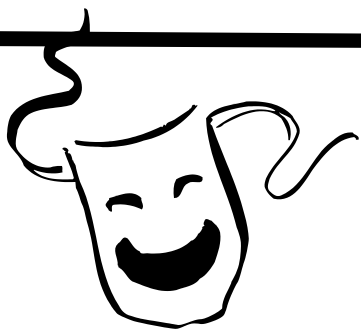
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* Deadline for articles to be submitted to VPI editor: 25th of each month

VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW FOR EASY REFERENCE

ANSWER TO CHRIS'S PUZZLE:

Sharon is 18



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
(**Playreadings** will take place in the theatre, not the bar area)
www.villageplayers.ch

CLUBNIGHT* - KARAOKE EVENING

Proposed by Daniel Gardini

Come and discover the singing superstar sensation you are
at the VP's first Karaoke evening!

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

CLUBNIGHT* - A PLAYREADING

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The writing of this eloquent, sensual play is rich in texture and imagery.

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CLUBNIGHT* - ST GEORGE'S QUIZ NIGHT

Organised by John Middleton

Thursday April 23rd – bar opens 19:30 – Entry is free of charge

SPRING PRODUCTION**

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF – Directed by Victoria Baumgartner

May 21st – 24th

FEATS in HAMBURG

Support your Village Players team performing Chris Hemmens's play:
In the Middle of Nowhere

May 22-25

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