

Village Players' Information (VPI)

November 2015

October clubnight - Double Bill

Comments from the audience

VPs' Club Night – a good night out!

Over the last 33 years (yes.....33) I have enjoyed many VP Play Readings – in fact, our very first 'production' was a reading of *Lovers* by Brian Friel in February 1982. Well, given that modest start, who would have thought that well into the 21st century we would find something new at the VPs?? Yes, there it was – *Line Break* – a drama then *The Last Bread Pudding* – a light-hearted look at *amdram*, performed at the CPO on October 15th 2015?

Let's start with ***Line Break***. This is not funny – where is the line between folks who command and those who care? Paola Garcia comes on to the stage in an unmistakable pose of prone surrender. Vito Pellizzani strides on to the stage, sub-machine gun at the ready, all cocked and dying to fire. The dialogue ensues – who is the more powerful – the heavily-armed, camouflage-clad gunman, or the beautiful, young mother? In the end no one wins and no one loses. The sub-machine gun retires leaving the young mother with a 'wall' of contemplation. "He has let me go – but who is waiting around the corner – me or my descendants?"

This was not a 'reading' but acted without books – written and arranged by Paola. Good costumes, good acting, good props and welcome Paola and Vito!



The Last Bread Pudding is funny and it is something that the VPs know well. In 1990 we performed (wait for it) *The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's' Guild Dramatic Society's Production of MacBeth* – a play within a play. So, here we were again, a small company meeting to discuss the merits of a new play submitted, this time, by one of its members. Of course the play is criticised/accepted/compared/greeted/rejected by the committee members (the "of course" is due to personal experience) but the playwright's comic slant makes this piece a real laugh – at one's self of course..... No real decision is taken at the end of the committee's deliberations but we are all left with the conviction that the production will take place.

Written by Nick Warburton and arranged by Dorothy Brooks, this slice of bread pudding was easily digestible – thank you Daniel G., Barbara B., Pam J., Saskia F., John H., Gwen C. and Colin G. The choice of this play as a reading was extremely apt and not without forethought because most of the 'business' on stage entailed reading the *Bread Pudding* play – so it worked beautifully – much to the comfort of the audience.

Well done Paola and Dot!
John McKillop



Léman International Fair, Beaulieu, Lausanne

Thanks to everyone who took the time to help plan, organize, set up and man the VPs stand on Sunday. On the positive side I can say that we were very pleased with the size and position of our stand, which allowed us freedom to move around without interfering with other participants. However, firstly the oversize awnings of the Emil Frey stand totally obscured our position from people coming up the aisle, and secondly, the fact that the red carpet laid down in the aisle turned off to pass in front of the Emil Frey stand meant that visitors inadvertently followed the red carpet and did not come past us. Several visitors told us that they had been specifically looking for the Village Players but could not find us.

The saving grace for us was the position of the Prize Giving area, which meant that we could waylay visitors to this part of the proceedings. But when the prize giving finished, so did the major influx to our stand.

Having said all this, I must say that in the end we all had a great social day, spreading the word and catching up with old and new acquaintances. Derek Betson



FUTURE CLUBNIGHTS & EVENTS:

NOVEMBER 26TH AT THE CPO, LAUSANNE

A DOUBLE BILL organised by Mike Scott

The Dakin Enigma a playreading of Mike Scott's play, directed by Heather Gavin

"The Dakin Enigma" is a short serious playreading about the mysterious death of an English composer. Written in November last year, this is my first play. The cast: Gwen Czajkowska, Saskia Faulk and David Nunez.



Followed by

Differences a light-hearted celebration with prose and poetry

Gwen and Colin will join the players for readings about "Differences". Writers include Christopher Bond, Craig Brown, Angela Carter, Raymond Devos, Groucho Marx, Spike Milligan, Carl Sandburg, Osbert Sitwell, Stever Turner and yours truly.



Do come along and support us. It will be a stimulating evening.

Mike Scott

DECEMBER 17TH AT THE CPO, LAUSANNE

VP Christmas party

If you would like to help organize this event, please contact Mary Couper on coupermar@gmail.com.

SPRING PRODUCTION- MAY 12TH TO 15TH 2016

The good news is our production of BLACKADDER II was merely postponed to May. So I am writing to you all to tell you that a **new set of auditions will take place at the Ecole Medica, Lausanne, on the 1st and 3rd December**. The rehearsals will start in January after the Christmas holidays.

Anyone interested in auditioning for a part, please write to me at gardini.dan@gmail.com or phone me on 0792869574 and I will tell you more about the play and send you a script for the audition. Anyone having already auditioned in September and who is still interested in keeping their part, please also confirm by email.

I hope that this time as we are giving more time and more notice, more people will audition and want to participate in this great project.

Daniel Gardini.

FEATS 2016

We have decided to give priority to putting together a successful Spring Production in May 2016 (see above) and as the dates for FEATS clash, we have decided not to enter the Village Players this time round.

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>.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you haven't yet paid your membership subscription, please don't forget to do so.

The bank details are as follows:

CCP 10-203 65-1

IBAN: CH71 0900 0000 1002 0365 1

EVENTS IN ENGLISH AROUND TOWN

GEDS www.geds.ch

17-21 Nov Play: Caught in the Net

GAOS www.gaos.ch

14-15 Nov Rumpelstiltskin in Nyon

ICL www.icl-club.ch

14 Nov Visit to Fromagerie Montrichet

Lucerne World Theatre Company www.lwtc.ch

28-29 November The Snow Queen

Total Musical Theatre <http://www.asln.ch/tmt/>

26-28 Nov Lullaby on Broadway – La Tour de Peilz

SOME EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

A COUPLE OF PUNS!

- How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it....
- Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

CHRIS'S PUZZLE:

On the first day of their course in logical reasoning, 10 students are given the following seating plan by the teacher:

1. Seat yourselves in 2 rows of 5.
2. Students should not sit next to, in front of, or behind a student of the same gender.
3. Harry should sit on the back row, Juliet on the front.
4. Cora should not sit next to or directly behind Ernie or Bernice.
5. Dominic should sit between Gabriela, who sits in front of Isaac, and Abigail.
6. Abigail should sit at the front on my right and Frederick the back on my left.

Who is supposed to sit where?

Solution below.

VILLAGE PLAYERS COMMITTEE

The positions of Chairman and Business Manager are still vacant. If you would like to fill one of them, please contact Susan Morris, Colin Gamage or Derek Betson.

Chairman	Position vacant		
Membership	Dorothy Brooks	078 624 66 35	dot.brooks@hotmail.com
Administrative Director	Susan Morris	021 964 52 05	susanmorris22@hotmail.com
Production Coordinator	Daniel Gardini	078 286 95 74	daniel.gardini@hispeed.ch
Events Coordinator	Mary Couper	079 703 75 04	coupermar@gmail.com
Publicity Coordinator	Christa Baan	021 807 26 19	baan@bluewin.ch
Treasurer	Derek Betson	021 635 30 84	derekhbetson@msn.com
Secretary	Colin Gamage	021 701 31 58	gamage@bluewin.ch
Business Manager	Position vacant		
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
Costume & Props tracking	Catherine FitzSimons		swissfitz@yahoo.com

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

VP EVENTS CALENDAR BELOW FOR EASY REFERENCE

SOLUTION TO CHRIS'S PUZZLE:

F B I C H
J E G D A



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 : A Double Bill

The Dakin Enigma, by Mike Scott

Differences: Prose, Poetry & Music, devised by Heather Gavin & Mike Scott

Thursday, November 26th at the CPO, Lausanne
at 8.00pm – doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Entrance free.

VILLAGE PLAYERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday, December 17th at the CPO, Lausanne
at 8.00pm – doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Entrance free.

CLUBNIGHT : AN EVENING OF STORY TELLING

Arranged by John Middleton

Thursday, January 21st at the CPO, Lausanne
at 8.00pm – doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Entrance free

CLUBNIGHT : KARAOKE FUN

Arranged by Daniel Gardini

Thursday, February 18th at the CPO, Lausanne
at 8.00pm – doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Entrance free.

CLUBNIGHT : A PLAYREADING (details to follow)

Arranged by Christa Baan

Thursday, March 17th at the CPO, Lausanne
at 8.00pm – doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Entrance free.

For more information on **Productions: contact Daniel Gardini - daniel.gardini@hispeed.ch

*For more information on the **Clubnights**: contact Mary Couper - coupermar@gmail.com
or visit the Club Website: www.villageplayers.ch