LANGHAM COURT NEWS

Langham Court has been the home of the Victoria Theatre Guild since 1935. Its Mission Statement: "To be a welcoming theatre community with a passion for creating vibrant, engaging entertainment."

August 2014

Position Vacant

Newsletter Editor

The Editor of the Langham Court News has retired.

This issue is her swansong so a new editor is needed immediately.

It is a volunteer position which requires computer and design skills.

For more information, contact Corinna Gilliland at catfael@telus.net

Interested? Please email theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca right away.



Editor's Notes . . .

After five years and 56 editions, I am retiring as Editor of the Langham Court News. I will not be doing the Newsletter next month but will be happy to assist whoever takes over. It has been an interesting adventure, and over the years I have been given lots of support from contributors and members alike. I am most grateful to those who have contributed on a regular basis in a variety of ways. For example, my faithful Proofreaders: the first, until April 2010, John Gilliland would sit at the kitchen table picking away at my efforts as they came off the printer and I would get very cross, particularly as he was always right. When John died, Danda Humphreys stepped into the breach immediately and has been advisor, Proofreader and lunchtime companion ever since. Even though our newsletter partnership is over, I hope that our regular pub-lunches will continue.

Two contributors have been with me from the beginning: Lisa Leighton and Ned Lemley. Thanks to Lisa and Ned, readers have been able to keep up with the news and views from the Costume Department, an extremely lively and interesting part of the theatre. Thank you, Lisa and Ned, I have enjoyed reading your columns over the years. I am also grateful to those who took my finished Newsletter and posted it on the Web. When I started, the Web Master was Kai Hansen. When Kai resigned, the Newsletter went to **Denise Brown**, who then ensured that it was posted on the **Langham Court** website. In recent years, however, it has been up to **Dick Newson** to act as the conduit through which the Newsletter moves from ground to cyberspace. Thank you Kai. Dick and Denise.

There have been many other contributors over the years and I thank you all, and I thank those of you who have read the Newsletter and let me know when I made mistakes and when I got it right.

On a different note, at this year's Summer General Meeting we held elections for a Member-at-Large to replace Rosemary Henry, who resigned earlier in the spring, and for our 2015-2016 Production Chair. Congratulations to Rosemary Jeffery, our new Member-at-Large. Although Rosemary is a relatively new member who first came on the scene in *Calendar Girls*, she made her presence felt very quickly when she volunteered as Stage Manager for the 2013 production Heroes, as shadow Stage Manager for Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, and as Stage Manager for The Small Room at the Top of the Staiis. She also performed a variety of roles in The Penelopiad in which she demonstrated an ability to be quite fierce when called upon.



Rosemary Jeffery



The 2015-2016 Production Chair has been won by two individuals --- Wendy Merk and Lorene Cammiade – who, recognising the many demands of the job, decided to enter the race in tandem (a precedent set by Keith **Digby** and **Cynthia Pronick**). Both Wendy and Lorene have extensive experience both on stage and off.

Wendy Merk

Wendy was the solo Production Chair for the very successful 2012-2013 Season, and Lorene was an active member of her Production Committee. The two of them work well together and are currently involved in the Fringe production Lady Audley's Secret which Wendy is directing and Lorene producing. If you've a play you think would be a perfect vehicle for Langham Court Theatre, contact Wendy and Lorene as soon as possible at prodchair201516@gmail.com.



Lorene Cammiade

Also at the Summer Meeting Anne-Marie Arneson was voted in as the newest of the Life Members. A more detailed account of Anne Marie's many accomplishments are listed on Page 3.

On August 10th, the 2014 Giant Annual Costume Sale opens its doors at 10:00 a.m. Don't miss out, this is the best vintage clothing sale of the summer. If you are interested in being a part of the sale – a guaranteed fun day – contact Ned right away and let him know when you can pitch in and help him make this year's sale the best ever.

Our 2013-2014 Season many have ended with the closing of *Boeing-Boeing* but the theatre is as busy as ever with rehearsals for Pride and Prejudice, auditions for *The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs* and the Giant Annual Costume Sale and finally, the Fringe.

Good luck and goodbye.

Corinna Gilliland Editor August 2009-August 2014

The Latest Life Member--Anne-Marie Arneson



At the Summer General Meeting, **Langham Court Theatre** members unanimously approved the decision to make Costume Designer **Anne-Marie Arneson** a Life Member. Anne-Marie has been involved in creating costumes since 1989 when she assisted the late **Sheila Evans** a brilliant designer who was working on *No No Nanette*. Anne Marie happily admits that she learned much from Sheila and that she has a great respect for her mentor's talent and generosity.

Since working on *No No Nanette*, Anne-Marie has worked with many other designers over the years both at **Langham Court Theatre** and at the **McPherson Playhouse** where she worked on productions such as *Hello Dolly* and *Mame*.

After a few years assisting other designers, Anne Marie was asked to design the costumes for the **Victoria Theatre Guild's** production of *The Mousetrap*. In spite of feeling fearful at the prospect, Anne Marie accepted the challenge, with great success. Since then, Anne-Marie has designed and assisted others in many productions including *Shadowlands*, *The Winslow Boy*, *The Odd Couple*. *Lady Windermere's Fan*, and most recently *The Penelopiad*, a visually stunning production.

I had the privilege of working with Anne-Marie on several shows and always found her to be calm and cooperative and a great pleasure to work with.

Vinnie Chadwick Membership and Volunteer Coordinator

Heartfelt Thanks to Front of House Volunteers

After two fantastic seasons, I will be stepping down as **Langham Court Theatre's** Front of House Manager after *Boeing Boeing*. My heartfelt thanks to the wonderfully fun, hard-working and devoted ushers and bartenders who have made my tenure as House Manager such a pleasure: I have so enjoyed working and playing with you! I look forward to continuing my involvement with **Langham Court** in a volunteer capacity, and to seeing you all around the theatre next season.

Warmly, Emma Morgan-Thorp



Thank You to all our volunteers who helped with making our 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation a success. Good food, good music, a show of scenes from last seasons' productions, meeting a few of the Casts and Crews from the shows and a few Life Members all made for an enjoyable evening.

Recognition was given to a few of our volunteers who have worked and continue to work tirelessly and quietly behind the scenes over the past years: Erica Schweitzer for her work on the Data Base Program for the costume loft, Marilyn Kuss for editing *Playbills to Programmes*, Susanne Fosse for continuing to be our Bartender Extraordinaire, and last but by no means least, Jeani Reynolds who has done an amazing job curating our Art Gallery in the Lounge for the past ten years. Thanks to you all again.

Vinnie Chadwick.

Membership and Volunteer Coordinator



Ned Lemley and Jean Topham attending the Gala Volunteer Celebration

Pride and Prejudice

Written by Jane Austen, adapted for the stage by Janet Munsil and Directed by Judy Treloar

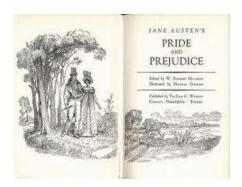
Cast and Crew

Behind the Scenes

Pride and Prejudice is co-produced by **Rick Underwood** and **Peta MacKenzie**, Stage Managed by **Nick Stull**, and Choreographed by Sylvia Hosie. The Set Designer is **Caroline Mitic**, the Lighting Designer is **Adam Wilkinson**, and the Sound Designer **is Jason King**. The Costumes are the work of Designers **Merry Hallsor**, **Erika Schweitzer** and **Monike Hawkes-Frost**.

On Stage

The cast includes Melissa Taylor as Elizabeth Bennet and Monty Björnson as Mr. Darcy, with Sarah Tradewell, Michael Bell, Melissa Berry, Katt Campbell, Ian Case, Rosalind Coleman, Danielle Florence, Chase Hiebert, Jennifer Hoener, Catherine Landry, Caroline Mackenzie de Korte, Keshia Palm, Michelle Rachel, Ian Sims, Paul Terry and Elizabeth Whitmarsh.



Invitation to Members For Further DiscussionsRe: Play Selection / Artistic Vision and Production Manager

At the Summer General Meeting, the Board advised that we would be holding subsequent discussion sessions regarding the three topics the Board has been working on that were introduced that day - **Play Selection Process**, **Artistic Vision** and **Production Manager**. The Board invites the membership to join those discussions and to voice your thoughts and ideas about these important subjects.

This is your invitation to attend those meetings, which have been scheduled as follows:

- Saturday, August 9th -- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to discuss the Play Selection Process / Artistic Vision
- Saturday, August 16th 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to discuss the Production Manager concept

Both meetings will be held **in the Rehearsal Room at Langham Court Theatre**. All voices, thoughts and opinions welcome. No RSVP necessary.

If you have questions, or have comments to pass along but cannot attend the sessions, please contact either the President, **Luke Krayenhoff** (250-886-9888, 1krayenhoff@gmail.com) or the Vice-President, **Karrie Ayotte** (250-217-2934, karrie.wolfe@gmail.com).

Notes from the Costume Workshop

Thank You!

We have received several generous donations in the last few months of fabric and assorted bits and pieces. **Thank you to all donors!** Special thanks to **Di Madill** for her donation of a hat sizer, and to **Louise Osselton** for donating some beautiful Patterns of Time headwear patterns.

Costume Guild Workshops

Our final workshop of the season in June, on zippers, didn't draw enough support, so was cancelled. We will be creating a new slate of workshops for the 2014/15 season in August/early September, so if there is a particular topic that you would like us to include, please let me know. Thank you to all of those who shared, instructed and participated in the 2013/14 workshops!

Recent Acquisitions

In the late spring, we acquired a number of **Regency-era patterns** for the Costume Workshop's collection, anticipating *Pride and Prejudice* next season. From **Rocking Horse Farm**, **Sense and Sensibility**, **Kannik's Korner**, and **Timely Tresses**, our period-accurate patterns for that era now include both men's and women's wear, accessories, and women's hats. Many of the patterns are now in use for the show.

Giant Annual Sale

We will be prepping for the sale during the week of August 5th, culling, measuring, tagging and organizing fabric, trims and notions, as well as sorting books, magazines and equipment to be sold this year. We are **still looking for volunteers** between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day, Tuesday, August 5th through Saturday, August 9th, so if you have some time, please let me know. **We can also use extra hands on sale day**, Sunday, August



10th, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. We'll be setting up downstairs in the Rehearsal Room again this year.

Most of the fabric in the Costume Workshop will be sold off at this sale, since it is rarely used, and we need the shelf space for the pattern collection. So if **show designers** for the upcoming season think that they will need any of the stock, **please tag it clearly and set it aside before we begin culling on August 5th**. Otherwise, it will probably be sold (except for real and fake fur, linings, some upholstery fabrics, basics and some fancies).

Lisa Leighton for the Costume Workshop 250-595-5523 leighton@islandnet.com

Notes From Aloft

Is There a Ghost in the House?

Being in the Loft, I often find someone interested in our theatre. Often it is someone who has never seen one of our shows and is now curious. If the Loft isn't crammed, I take them down stairs and show them around. Usually I mention the ghost stories but in fact I've never had an encounter with ghostliness at **Langham Court Theatre**. Tourists, by that I mean students from nearby, like the idea of theatrical ghosts. I wish I had more to tell them. Got a ghost story about **Langham Court Theatre**? I'd like to hear it just in case I can hand it on to a group of tourists.

Ned Lemley Costume Loft Coordinator

Ed Note: Check out the August 2013 Newsletter for Carolyn Stephenson's fascinating encounter with the Victoria Theatre Guild ghost.

Auditions

(Langham Court Theatre auditions are posted on our web site at: www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/auditions/)

The Small Room At The Top Of the Stairs

By Carole Frechette, translated by John Murrell. Directed by Naomi Simpson with Julian Cervello

Audition Dates: **August 26**th and **27**th at 6:30 pm in the rehearsal room at **Langham Court Theatre**. Callbacks: **August 28**th.

The production runs from **November 19th to December 6th**. Rehearsals will 2 or 3 evenings and 1 weekend day per week and will commence September 2.

The Small Room At The Top Of The Stairs is a one-act (approximately 90 minutes) psychological thriller. Scripts are available on line at □http://www.langhamtheatre.ca/members-area/201415-scripts/

Required: 4 females -- Grace, Joyce, Anne, and Jenny - age range 20-30 1 male Henry - age range 35-65



People

By Alan Bennett, Directed by Tony Cain

Audition Dates: Saturday September 13th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Callbacks: Monday, September 15th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Please borrow the script from the theatre and come to auditions knowing which character you wish to read for.

Characters:

Dorothy Stacpoole: 70 Has had a past of privilege. Unpretentious. Retains the elegance and poise of one who was a familiar

of fashion salons in her youth. English accent required.

June Stacpoole: 60 +. Archdeacon. A sharp, shrewd example of The Christian Right. Dominating, manipulative. English

accent.

Iris: 70s. A down-to-earth, no nonsense loveable character. Always knitting. English with a hint of Yorkshire.

Bevin: 30+. A pompous, devious auctioneer. Capitalist/Machiavellian ideology. Pretentious English accent.

Ralph Lumsden: 50s. Overbearingly enthusiastic evaluator. Tends to gush and prattle. English accent.

The Bishop: 60s. Religious zealot. Sees the world through a blur of maladjusted bifocals.

Mr Theodore. 60. Imposing, dignified, suave, gentleman. Charming. Ruthless, demanding film director. English accent.

Film Crew:

Bruce: 30+. Grip. Gay. Likes architecture and haute couture.

Louise: 30s. Proficient wardrobe girl. Genuine and sincere. English accent.

Nigel: 30s. Assistant director. English accent.

Les: 40s. Camera Man. Can be impatient with actors. British accent.

Brit: 25+. Attractive figure. Basic understanding of the English language. Takes her acting skills very seriously.

Latvian/Russian accent. Comfortable with removal of some underclothing.

Colin: 25+. Good physical shape. Suffers from erectile disfunction. Comfortable with removing some

underclothing.

ASMs: 30+. Various roles. No text.



St. Luke's Players will be holding auditions for their Christmas Pantomime

Snow White and the Magnificent Seven Dwarfs

Written by Damian Trasler, David Lovesy and Steve Clark • Directed by Allan Haynes

Runs December 20th to January3rd, (excluding December 24th, 25th, and 31st)

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays commencing September 23rd

Based on the traditional story of "Snow White" but with a "western" theme, the show includes all the usual pantomime action – heroes, villains, music, dancing, audience participation and lots of humour. There will be a large cast with roles for young people (minimum age 9) as well as experienced actors and actresses. Some roles will involve singing and dancing. If you wish to audition for a singing role, please come to the audition prepared to sing a piece of your choice. If possible, bring musical accompaniment on CD, USB or phone with an adapter. Dancers will be taught a short sequence that they will then perform as a group.

Audition Details

Located at St. Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill Cross Road

Friday, September 5th (6:30 – 9:30 pm), Saturday, September 6th (12:30 – 3:30 pm), Friday, September 12th (6:30 – 9:30 pm)

Callbacks (if required) will be Tuesday, September 16th (7:30 – 10 pm)

Please contact the director at cvbm@telus.com for an audition slot. Electronic copies of the script are available from the director on request.

Characters

Snow White - female, the heroine. One-Eyed Slim – male, a bounty hunter.

Sheriff – male or female, the "principal boy." Seven Dwarfs – male and female, late teens.

Nanny – male, the "dame", older.

Tornado – male or female, the pantomime horse, non-

Silly Billy – male or female, Snow White's friend. speaking rol

Widow Blackheart – female, the wicked stepmother. Chorus of singers and dancers – male and female.

Website: www.stlukesplayers.org • Facebook: http://www.Facebook.com/stlukesplayers

What's On

LANGHAM COURT Theatre Presents

Pride and Prejudice

Written by Jane Austen, Adapted for the stage by Janet Munsil and Directed by Judy Treloar

It is a truth universally acknowledged that **Jane Austen's** best known and best loved novel has all the elements needed for a great evening's entertainment. You've read the book? You've seen the film? You've enjoyed the BBC TV series? Now enjoy the insights into Austen's work provided by Victoria's own dramatist, **Janet Munsil.**

Pride and Prejudice previews on Wednesday, October 1st and runs from Thursday, October 2nd to Saturday, October 18th. No shows on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday. Single tickets on sale now. For more information or to purchase your tickets, call our Box Office at 250-384-2142, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, or go to www.langhamtheatre.ca.





Steel Magnolias

Presents

A drama/comedy by Robert Harling. Directed by Michael King

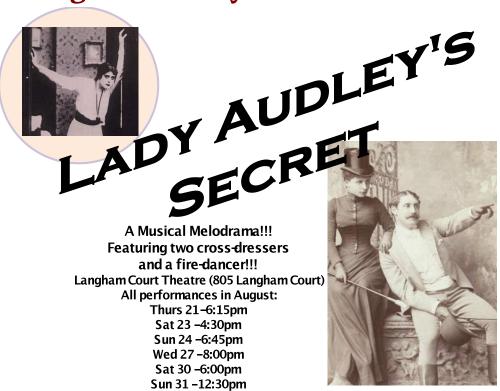
October 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 15^{tDh}, 16th, 17th and 18th at 7:30 p.m. Matinees: October 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th at 2:00 p.m.

St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill Cross Rd., Victoria, BC, Canada

Revolving around Truvy's Beauty Parlor in a small parish in modern-day Louisiana, *Steel Magnolias* is the story of a close-knit circle of friends whose lives come together there. Filled with humor and heartbreak, these "Steel Magnolias" make us laugh and cry as the realities of their lives in tiny Chinquapin Parish unfold.



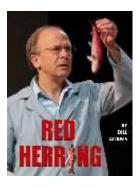
Dragon Monkey Theatre Presents



Directed by Wendy Merk and stage managed by Alex Carroll, the cast features Lorene Cammiade, Michael Creekmore, Jennifer Doyle, Tim Kyle, Graham Roebuck, Gloria Snider and Corin Wrigley. Tickets are \$11 regular, \$9 students/seniors. For more information, please contact Lorene Cammiade at fluevoggirl@gmail.com or (250) 881-1506.

Part of the Victoria Fringe Festival

ACTivate Winner *Red Herring* Returns to Langham Court Theatre



Bill Adams' hilarious one-act comedy, *Red Herring* is coming back to Langham Court Theatre in this year's Victoria Fringe Festival. The winner of Langham Court Theatre's ACTiVATE festival, *Red Herring* returns for six more performances of this delightful forensic cop show spoof.

Directed by **Chris Moss**, four actors playing eleven roles unravel the mysterious death of the lovely Svetlana Pavlyuchenkova. Along the way they encounter Russian Mafia, an illegal breast implant surgeon, lesbian model helicopter pilots, and exploding body parts.

It all makes for rollicking good entertainment. Come to **Langham Court Theatre** to catch *Red Herring* at the Fringe; there are six great performance times at the end of August to choose from: Thursday, August 21st at 8:15p.m., Friday, August 22nd at 6:15p.m., Saturday, August 23rd at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, August 24th at 5:00p.m., Wednesday, August 27th at 6:15p.m. and Saturday, August 30th at 8:00p.m.

Watch for more ticket information in the upcoming Victoria Fringe festival promotional material.



August $21^{st} - 31^{st}$, 2014

Join us for 11 days of uncensored, untamed and uncut live comedy, drama, dance, magic, music, spoken word, and physical theatre this summer. Stay tuned for the lineup of over 300 performances of 50 shows at 11 venues, free events and much more.

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, August 9

Sunday, August 10

Saturday, August 16

Thursday, August 21 – Sunday, August 31

Thursday, August 21

Thursday, August 21

Tuesday, August 26

Wednesday, August 27

Thursday, September 4

Friday, September 5

Saturday, September 6

Friday, September 12

Saturday, September 13

Sunday, September 14

Wednesday, October 1

Thursday October 2 – Saturday, October 18

Wednesday, October 8

Wednesday, November 19

Thursday, November 20 – Saturday, December 6

2:00 – 4:00 p. Member discussion re play selection process and artistic vision

The Giant Annual Costume Sale

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Member discussion re Production Manager concept

2014 Victoria Fringe Festival

Opening of Dragon Monkey's Fringe Production Lady Audley's Secret

Opening of ACTivate Winning Production *Red Herring*

6:30 p.m. Auditions for The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs

6:30 p.m. Auditions for The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs

6:00 p.m. Meet and Greet for Pride and Prejudice

6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Auditions for St. Luke's Pantomime

12:30 – 3:30 p.m. Auditions for St. Luke's Pantomime

6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Auditions for St. Luke's Pantomime

1:00—4:00 p.m. Auditions for People

11:00 a.m.--3:00 p.m. Auditions for People

Preview of Pride and Prejudice

Pride and Prejudice

St. Luke's Steel Magnolias opens

Preview of The Small Room At The Top Of The Stairs

The Small Room At The Top Of The Stairs



2013/2014 Board of Directors

President: Vice-President: Secretary: Treasurer:

2014-15 Production Chair: 2015-2016 Production Chairs:

Past President:

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Art Co-ordinator:

Programme Co-ordinator:

Costume Co-ordinator: Small Props Co-ordinators

Large Props Co-ordinator:

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Lorene Cammiade and Wendy Merk

Toshik Bukowiecki

Rosemary Jeffery, Vinnie Chadwick Michael Miller, Monty Bjornson

> Vinnie Chadwick, Vinniechad@hotmail.com Marilynn Kuss, marilynjk@gmail.com Jeani Reynolds, jeani-renoir@shaw.ca Linda Billings, lindabillings@shaw.ca

Ned Lemley, 250-384-2025, <u>l.n.lemley@gmail.com</u> Jean de Cartier, 250-384-8944 <u>jadc@telus.net</u>

Sheila McKenzie, 250-595-1788, s.g.mckenzie@telus.net Sally Crickman, 250-598-1706, sjcrickman@telus.net

Theatre Manager: Denise Brown, 250-384-2142, <u>theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca</u>

House Manager: TB/

Box Office Supervisor: Dick Newson, <u>boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca</u>

Technical Director: Alan MacKenzie, <u>petabob@shaw.ca</u>
Facilities Maintenance: Dick Newson, <u>dicknewson@telus.net</u>

Head Scenic Carpenter: TBA
Custodian: TBA

Langham Court News is published 11 times a year

Editor: TBA Proof-reader and Editorial Consultant: TBA

Deadline for submissions is no later than the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication, e.g. the deadline for the September 1st issue is August 20th. Please send submissions by or by mail to the Victoria Theatre Guild.

Newsletter address changes or deletions: please contact Denise Brown, theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

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