

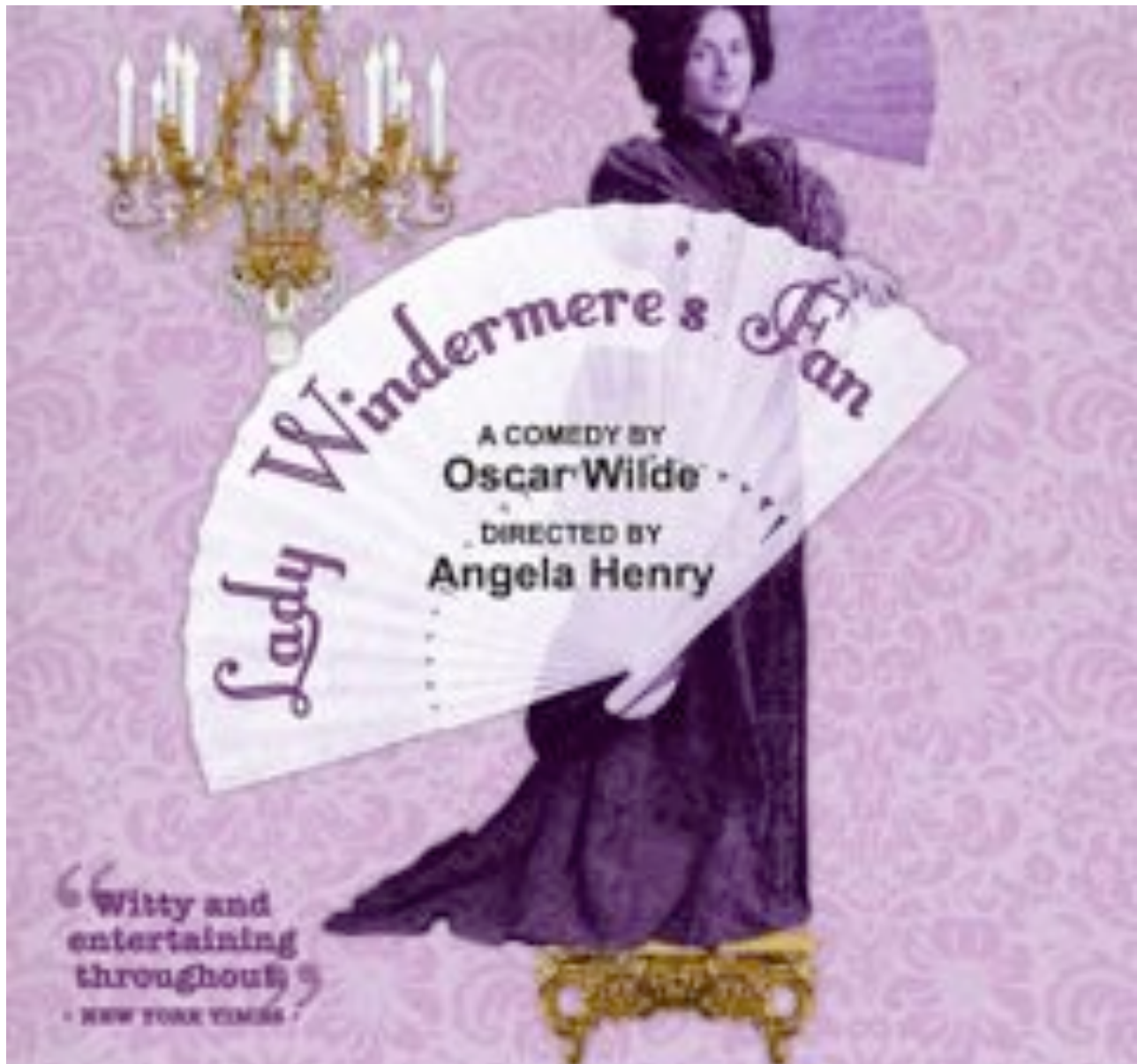
LANGHAM COURT

NEWS

Langham Court has been the home of the Victoria Theatre Guild since 1935. Its Mission Statement:
"To foster and celebrate the art and practice of sustainable community theatre."

November 2012

A Fan of Wilde? You'll Be Wild About



November 22nd to December 8th

The Windermers With Lord Darlington



**Michael Romano (Lord Darlington), Adam Holroyd (Lord Windermere)
and
Morgan Ambrose (Lady Windermere)
Photo by David Lowes**



Art Show



Dawn Joy Ritchie

From November 21st to December 8th, during the run of *Lady Windermere's Fan*, the featured artist will be **Dawn Joy Ritchie**. If you wish to meet the artist, Dawn Joy will be in the lounge on Sunday, November 25th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

She loves to create happy art to make you smile and laugh.

She never thought she could draw until the year 2001, when for some inexplicable reason she closed her eyes to attempt to draw a cat. When she opened her eyes, she erased and connected the lines and a simple cat face was staring back at her. She then painted the drawing with watercolour. From that moment on, animals starting popping out of her subconscious and within 6 months she had 40 animal images. They seemed to have the will to be born and she was just the channel.

Her passion is to create new and innovative characters. Working from imagination gives her incredible freedom. She relies on intuition and it continues to amaze her the abundance of images that come very quickly. Never in her wildest dreams did she think she could become an artist. It feels like a miracle. She believes if she can become an artist, anyone can. "We all have creativity within us just waiting to manifest. It's just a matter of giving yourself permission, removing all judgement, and allowing the creativity to flow unimpeded."

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Dawn Joy is a self-taught artist who creates unique, whimsical, and colourful images with a childlike simplicity. She enjoys working in acrylic on canvas, paper collage, and digital media. Dawn Joy is a juried member who shows with the Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA) and the Island Illustrators Society (IIS). Her artwork has been licensed for advertising and conferences. Original paintings are in collections in Canada, USA, England, Scotland, Germany, and New Zealand. She has a retail and wholesale line of greeting cards, fridge magnets, buttons, and prints. Commissions and whimsical family portraits are welcomed. Joy's website can be found at www.purpleartdog.com and she can be reached at artstudio@islandnet.com or 250-654-0254.

Are you receiving us??

If you do not have an e-mail address, could you please arrange to pick up your copy of the Newsletter from the theatre during Box Office Hours. If there are any concerns about this please, contact Denise at theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca.

We will have Newsletters available in the theatre lobby on the first of the month in a limited amount. Because we are trying to be 'green,' please ask someone in the Box Office if you need a hard copy. We thank you for your understanding.

Editor's Notes . . .

First, a reminder that your Editor's email address is catfael@telus.net. If your article did not get into this month's newsletter, it may have gone astray. For this, I apologise.

Once again, this newsletter is full to the brim with interesting articles, thanks to a number of individuals who have made it happen. First on the list is **Danda Humphreys**; as usual her red pen has been busily adding commas in some places and taking them away in others. **Denise Brown** deserves a big vote of thanks for ensuring that you get this newsletter on time and for sending out the link to you each month. If you don't receive the email with the link, let Denise know so she can add your name and email address to the membership list. As usual we have a wonderful column from **Lisa Leighton**, and a small but valuable contribution from **Ned Lemley**. My thanks to **Jeani Reynolds** for sending in the Artist's Bio and picture, and to **Mike Kuss**, **Toshik Bukowiecki** and **Wendy Merk** for their contributions arising out of Board decisions. Thanks also to **Angela Henry** for allowing us a sneak peak at some of the detail in the *Lady Windermere's Fan* costumes. Also, thank you Angela for giving us a heads-up on the forthcoming workshops to be held in February. Thank you too to **Bill Adams** for taking us behind the scenes of *84, Charing Cross Road*. Also, I want to thank those who let us know what's on around town: **Sue Wilkey** gave us the latest news from Target Theatre, **Sarah Miron** introduced us to *Ghosts in the Plaza*, **Mia Walker** informed us about **Roger Carr's** upcoming production, *1.9.8.4.*, and **Tony Cain** gave us the latest from **St. Luke's Players**. Last, but by no means least, thank you **Michael King** for letting us know about the most important event of the season – the **Langham Court** Christmas Party.

The first show of our 84th season, *84, Charing Cross Road* is finished. It played to more than 90 percent houses of which 84 percent were paying customers, a statistic that had our new Box Office Manager, **Chad Laidlaw**, feeling as though he'd entered the Seventh Dimension. Of course, he and all the cast, crew, and **VTG** Board were delighted with the news, and their cheers could be heard halfway down Rockland Avenue. Well done, Chad, for handling the Box Office rush with aplomb. Congratulations too, to our new Front of House Manager, **Alex Carroll**, who delighted audiences with his introductory spiel each and every night of the run. We now have a truly formidable Front of House trio with Alex, Chad and Denise!

There is another Front of House individual who deserves our applause. You may not know **Pauline Quinlan** as she is not often around when a production or rehearsal is on, but she's there before each show or after many rehearsals, cleaning the lounge and vacuuming the auditorium. It's thanks to Pauline that our garbage cans are emptied and our Front of House is shiny clean. If you happen to be at the theatre when Pauline is on duty, you'll admire how hard she works and enjoy her welcoming smile and warm laugh. Pauline enjoys horses, rides motorbikes, and is great fun to have around.

Once again we are entering a busy month. *Lady Windermere's Fan* opens on the 22nd. Don't miss this production; it's your chance to see the most opulently dressed men and women to appear on our stage. For those interested in costumes but lacking in sewing expertise, come to the **Costume Guild** Workshop on November 17th. The first **Readers' Theatre** Production of the season – *The Prairie Experience* – is on Saturday, November 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the lounge. The Friends of the Library are having their biggest book sale ever on Saturday, November 3rd and Sunday, November 4th at the **Pearkes Recreation Centre**, 3100 Tillicum Road, and two new plays are opening this month: *Ghosts of the Plaza* opens Friday, November 16th at the **Oddfellows Hall**, and *1.9.8.4.* begins its run at the Intrepid Theatre Club on Wednesday, November 21st.

Meanwhile, as you dodge the falling leaves and raindrops, don't forget that Father Christmas's Chief Elf, **Michael King**, is in need of a host of Assistant Elves to help make our Christmas Party happen. If you have the time to spare, please contact Michael as soon as possible; he'll be delighted to hear from you.

I hope you enjoy all the indoor events available as the days shrink and the nights lengthen.



Position: Head Scenic Carpenter

Application Deadline: November 30th, 2012

Organisation: Langham Court Theatre, Victoria, B.C.

Website: www.langhamtheatre.bc.ca

The Board and Langham Court regret to announce the retirement of **Bill Adams** as our Head Scenic Carpenter. We wish to thank him for his excellent work over the past 15 seasons and hope he enjoys his new-found freedom. However, we now need to find a replacement to be our new Head Carpenter. Bill has generously offered to remain in place until the end of *The 39 Steps* (March 6th, 2013) and is willing to mentor the successful volunteer.

We need someone with the following traits and qualifications.

Personality Traits

- Equanimity - keeping a positive outlook.
- Gentle assertiveness - building and maintaining respect from and for others.
- Ability to assess the skills and qualities of volunteers and maximizing their potential.

Job Qualifications

- Design, drafting and graphics skills.
- Carpentry skills: general and theatre set construction, finish carpentry and some practical furniture building experience.
- Familiarity with the tools and techniques of the set building trade.
- Supervisory skills specifically working with production teams and overseeing the effective, timely, and safe completion of the set for each production. This includes ordering materials, preparation of working drawings, scheduling, teaching set building techniques to volunteers and members, acting as head stage carpenter, assisting and supervising others in stage carpentry.
- Shop management: including shop maintenance; tool maintenance and acquisition; inventory management; materials management: estimation and ordering.
- Ability to work with theatre directors and set designers (Attend production meetings for each production and advise on set design and construction and related costs).
- Attend each production strike to ensure that the set is properly dismantled, and nothing of value leaves the theatre, and return the stage area to the same condition it was in prior to the production.
- General painting skills: materials, tools, and methods (including an understanding of colour mixing).
- A real bonus in any candidate would be the ability to do faux painting, backgrounds and murals.
- Effective networking experience within the theatre community (to facilitate support, tool and material loans, acquisitions etc.).
- Problem-solving ability: creative solutions to set-building/design challenges.

While this is a part-time volunteer position, it can require considerable time commitments before and during set construction. Bill estimates typical time requirement for productions can be between 100 and 126 hours, and has traditionally been done from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday:

- Planning and materials acquisitions: 8 to 10 hours per show.
- Set building and volunteer supervision: 80 to 90 hours per show.
- Set painting: 8 to 12 hours per show.
- Call outs during show runs: 6 to 8 hours per production.
- Set strike and supervision: 5 to 6 hours per show.

The position comes with honorarium of \$1000 per show. Anyone interested can send their resume, by email, to **Denise Brown** theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca, or by letter to **Denise Brown, Victoria Theatre Guild**, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, B.C., V8V 4J3. Please put '**Head Scenic Carpenter**' in subject line.



Christmas Party!!!



The Festive season is quickly approaching and Santa is looking for some helpers! The annual **Langham Court Theatre** Christmas Party is on Saturday, December 15th this year, and it takes a lot of elves to put it all together. Santa's first assistant this year is **Michael King** and he is looking for elves who would be willing to help decorate the theatre, cook a turkey or ham or provide entertainment. He is also looking for someone who could create a backdrop for the stage. Santa has mentioned to Michael that there were a lot of repeat names on the list from previous years. He would like to see some new elves step up to the mistletoe as well. If you can help, email Michael at errege@me.com or call him at 250-885-2002.

Message From the President

Bill Adams Announces His Retirement As Head Scenic Carpenter

I am sorry to announce that **Bill Adams** will be retiring from his position of Head Scenic Carpenter. Bill feels that it is time to move on to other interests, so he will be stepping down in March with the closing of *The 39 Steps*. Bill has been the mainstay of the scene shop for many years and he leaves some VERY large boots to fill. Fortunately, Bill will not be leaving **Langham Court Theatre** altogether - he will, hopefully, remain involved with his amazing set designs and his on-stage work. On behalf of the Board and the membership, I want to thank Bill for his enormous contributions to the Guild and to our theatre. Bill, your presence and contributions will be missed, so please don't go too far away.

With sincerest gratitude and appreciation,

Toshik Bukowiecki
President

2012-2013 Production Chair Report

Proposals sought for summer production

The **Victoria Theatre Guild** Board is considering doing a production in the summer of 2013. This would be a light comedy that would appeal to tourists and locals alike.

We invite experienced directors to submit their proposals for suitable plays that they would undertake to direct. Please note this idea is in the planning stage and is subject to change or postponement.

Production dates: July 17th to July 27th.

One play submission per person please. You must provide a printed or electronic copy of the script. We are seeking light comedies that would be relatively easy and inexpensive to produce. Please email your submissions **no later than December 1st 2012** to **Wendy Merk**, Active Production Chair, email: coventrycarollers@gmail.com.

Wendy Merk
2012-2013 Production Chair

Do you have something to say?

This is your newsletter, and we welcome your news, comments, letters and ideas. The deadline for each monthly issue is the 20th of the preceding month, i.e. the deadline for the December issue will be November 20th, and so on. Please send your information by e-mail to Corinna Gilliland catfael@telus.net. *Langham Court News* welcomes news from other groups too. Let's support each others endeavours in our theatre community.

Do You Want A Say in the Direction of our Theatre?



Look for 4 workshops to be held in February designed to get input from the membership on the artistic direction of the **Victoria Theatre Guild**.

We all agree that the determination of the season is the most important factor in the organisational and financial health of the **Langham Court Theatre** community

This is a complex question and best treated in a facilitated, focused, small group discussion where participants are guided to produce outcomes in writing.

Participants will be challenged to answer three key questions:

Who is “**Langham Court Theatre**?”

Where do we see ourselves in five years?

What do we need to do to get there?

These questions address key areas of values, financial sustainability, volunteer management and communication

These workshops will be facilitated by **Angela Henry** and **Wendy Magahay**, who have extensive experience in working with organisations on visioning and strategic planning. Angela and Wendy are waiving their usual fee as a commitment to **Langham Court**.

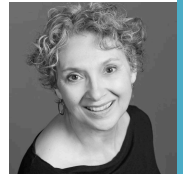
Come out and be heard. The workshops will be distributed across a three week period in February at differing times of the day in the hopes of allowing all who wish to take part an opportunity to do so. The workshops will be limited to 20 people each. The results of the workshops will be summarised and presented to the board.

And of course there will be food!

What else do you get? You become an integral part of the decision-making process.

Interested? Look for information in the January newsletter about how to sign up for a workshop.

Angela Henry & Wendy Magahay
Facilitators



The Latest From Target Theatre

Target Theatre welcomes our new Artistic Director, **Tony Cain**. Many **Langham Court Theatre** members will know Tony as an amazing actor as well as a Director for several theatre companies. We are looking forward to working with Tony and his terrific energy! It does, however, mean that we are saying goodbye to retiring Artistic Director **Judith MacDowell**. Judith has been AD with the **Target Theatre Society** since 2007, and has directed the players in at least eight productions. The players will miss Judith's excellent direction, her delightful introductions to our performances, and her incredible knack for successfully writing grant applications. Judith also has the ability to don a costume and, with only a few days' rehearsal, step in for a player that could not make the performance - and off book!

The **Target Theatre Company** is also thrilled to have been chosen from 21 applicants to be mentored by the **Belfry Theatre** in the **Incubator Project**. This is a two-year project directed and supported by Belfry's Artistic Director **Michael Shamata** and Associate Director **Joel Bernbaum**. Rehearsals have started with the **Target Theatre Players** once monthly to help devise a brand new, collectively created piece of theatre. Target will perform the production, in part, at the **SPARK Festival** at the **Belfry Theatre** in March 2013.

Sue Wilkey
For Target Theatre

News From Aloft

Donors since the last time: **Anne Wood**, **Paul** and **Stephanie Sutherland**, **Victor Aldrete**, **Solange**, **Brenda Bowcott**, **Belfry Theatre** via **Karen Levis**, **Claremont Secondary School** via **Chelsea Giordano**, **Gail** and **Olivia Krusel**, **June Powell** via **John Powell** and **Ann Kelly**, **Fiona Millard**, **Anne Tyler** via **Jean De Cartier** and **Vinnie Chadwick**, **Dorothy Robb** via her daughter **Dorothy**, **S. Ferguson**, **Elaine Albi**, **Glenda Robertson**, **Rhea** via **Lynn Cadrain**, **Penelope Harwood**, **Mrs. Jessen**, **Phyllis Orchard**, **Maisie Scott** via **Wendy Magahey**, and, as always, **Anonymous**.

Ned Lemley
Costume Loft Manager

Notes from the Costume Workshop

Thank you!

Thanks this issue go out to **Joan McLeod** via **Susan Ferguson** for the kind donation of patterns, vintage buttons, and notions and trims. Also to **Jennifer Hoener**, for her wonderful donation of a great retro sewing machine, and to **an anonymous donor** for the donation of some fabric pieces. If you find yourself with any fabric, notions, books, magazines, equipment and patterns that you don't need, please let us know.

Costume Guild Workshops

The schedule of Costume Guild workshops is now posted to the website. Please book early for any that you wish to take, as some are already filling up. The men-only beginner-sewing workshop scheduled for October was postponed due to low enrollment. We may try that again in the spring, or next season, depending on demand.

Here is the schedule for November to June:

:: Underpinnings

Saturday, November 17th

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Rehearsal Room

An overview of women's underpinnings: changes in silhouette over the centuries, with a focus on 1830 to about 1960, examining changes in corseting, bustles, hoops, girdles, etc.

Given by: **Lisa Leighton**

Please RSVP to Lisa about the workshop by no later than **Tuesday, November 13th**.



:: Threads fitting videos (4)

Sunday, December 2nd

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Given by: **Lisa Leighton**

:: Flat folding a 1920s dress (and sewing a cloth cloche hat)

Saturday, January 19th, 2013

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Rehearsal Room & Costume Workshop

Given by: **Louise Osselton**

:: Altering pants

Sunday, February 17th

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Costume Workshop

Given by: TBA

:: Repurposing

Sunday, March 17th

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Costume Workshop

Given by: **Chris Stusek**

:: Basic millinery

Sunday, April 21st

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Costume Workshop

Participants are to bring their own materials, except for millinery wire: we will order and supply the wire.

Given by: **Tierre Joline**



No May workshop

:: Zippers

Saturday, June 15th

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Costume Workshop

Types: which to choose, methods of application, with/without linings, etc. A refresher on the basics, sharing tips & tricks, etc.

Given by: TBA

Update on the Special Collection

Dick Newson and his crew will be making some changes in the Costume Loft beginning in mid-November to increase space and improve traffic flow. Included will be some 'new' space for the special costume collection. After the dust settles, we will organise photography of the main pieces in the collection. Thanks to **Madeleine Mills** and **Jane Krieger** for their ideas for the project, to **Ned Lemley** for always welcoming input, to **Toshik Bukowiecki** for his support, and to **Dick Newson** for making it happen.

Lisa Leighton

For the Costume Workshop

250-595-5523 leighton@islandnet.com

Here Comes "The Fan"



Angela Henry and her cast of 24 are hard at work preparing *Lady Windermere's Fan*, the next play of the season.

This **Oscar Wilde** play is set in London in the late 1890s where a lady's fan, left in a man's rooms, would signal a social death for a "good woman." Wilde loves to poke fun at the strident rules that govern London high society at the end of the 19th century. His acerbic commentary leaves nothing untouched. The play draws our attention to everything from marriage to dyed hair. The behaviour was bad and the dress was nothing less than spectacular. And, as Mrs. Erlynne says: "If a woman really repents, she has to go to a bad dressmaker ... and nothing in the world would induce me to do that."

So, of course, the dynamic duo of **Diane Madill** and **Susan Ferguson** took that line to heart. These talented costume designers are creating the most amazing suits and gowns with such lavish and sumptuous detail that Angela was prompted to say to her actors, "You better ramp up your performance because no one is looking at your face." Be prepared for a feast of the eyes. Some of the 12 ball gowns and 5 suits are so labour intensive that Di estimates easily 100 hours per dress. Each gown takes 7 metres of cloth. Di and Susan are assisted in this arduous task by designers **Trish Macdonald**, **Brighde Penn** and **Ann Marie Arneson**. The result of this labour of love from these women is a wonderful period addition to the costume holdings of the theatre. Here is a sneak preview of the detail of the gown. For the full reveal, come and see *Lady Windermere's Fan* opening November 22nd.

Angela Henry

Director, Lady Windermere's Fan

A Special Thank-you From Bill

Marks and Co is closed. A million books have been taken from the shelves. The apartment, with the door that swings both ways, has been dismantled.

But I want to take this opportunity to let everyone know who put in the tremendous effort to get the set for *84, Charing Cross Road* ready and perfect for the actors to play on. The set builders and painters are a loyal and dedicated bunch who come in every day – unseen by actors, Director and Stage Manager– to create the high-quality sets that add so much to each **Langham Court** production. I try to make it a point to make sure these folks get acknowledged.

Julius Maslovat, Mike Kuss, Gordon Alexander, Charlie Encell and **Barry Grimshaw** make up my crew of stalwart builders. Their loyalty and dedication both to me and to **Langham Court** continue to be a real asset. **John Smith** dutifully arms himself with a paintbrush or roller and adds colour to the set (plus all the fake books). **Naomi Ashdown**, who last season did so much of our painting finds herself in need of paying work and was only able to put in one day. It was the same with **Gordon Hoyle** (husband to Diane who played Maxine) who put in some good days building while he had the chance.

Sally Crickman did an amazing job dressing the set and **Jean de Cartier** worked hard in sorting out all the hand props; and it was **Sally** along with **Sylvia Rhodes** and **Vinnie Chadwick** who cut, sanded and painted the endless books - on top of all the other good work they did.

I think it turned out to be a good set – one that I'm proud of as designer, head carpenter and head painter – and I want to thank all these folks for their invaluable help in getting it ready in time for tech weekend.

Bill Adams
Head Set Guy.

Market Place

Items Urgently Needed For the Set of *Lady Windermere's Fan*

Can anyone help **Pearl Arden** who is doing the set décor for *Lady Windermere's Fan*. The following items are needed ASAP:
Green shaded desk lamp (I'd like round but could go with rectangular)
Square liquor decanters

If you can help with loans or possible sources, please contact **Pearl Arden** at reader8@shaw.ca. Your help will be most appreciated.

Wanted: Stage Manager

The **Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society** is looking for a Stage Manager for their March 2013 production of *Ruddigore*. For details please phone Joy at producer@gilbertandsullivanvictoria.ca or 250-889-5962.

Costume Designer and Props Coordinator Needed

VOS needs a Costume Designer and a Props Coordinator for *The Sound of Music* in December 2012. We are also in need of sewers. If interested, please contact **Mary-Lynne Britt** at 250-472-0907 or marylynnebritt@gmail.com.

Experienced Stage Manager Wanted for Theatre Inconnu Production

Theatre Inconnu is presenting *A Child's Christmas in Wales* directed by **Tim Gosley**. The show runs November 30th to December 9th, with evening performances on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday matinees both weekends. We are currently looking for an actress to play the Mother of young **Dylan Thomas** (aged 30's-40's) and an experienced Stage Manager who may be able to mentor a student. If interested, please contact **Tim Gosley** at timgosley@telus.net

Auditions

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

The 39 Steps

Adapted by **Patrick Barlow** from the novel by **John Buchan** from the movie by **Alfred Hitchcock**

Directed by **Keith Digby** and **Cynthia Pronick**

The play is a comedic homage to a 1930s Britain of cold mists, steam engines, and a clearly demarcated social system where people know their place. At its centre, juxtaposed with the comedy, is the story of a man's personal quest to find self-fulfillment. The story is a classic portrayal of a wrongly accused man's flight from the authorities as he is pursued through a series of improbable adventures. Finally, he finds true love with the woman to whom he is handcuffed, the real villains are exposed, and our hero is vindicated.

Characters:

Richard Hannay (Male): Typical 1930s leading man: 35-45, Standard English accent.

Woman (Female): Plays 3 roles: German spy, femme fatale, Scottish Crofter's wife: 30-40, adept at accents.

Two 'Clowns' (Male): Each actor plays dozens of roles (male and female) and must be adept at accents and physical comedy. Creativity and physical stamina are more important than age.

Auditions: to be held in the Rehearsal Room on the following dates and times

Saturday, December 8th: 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 9th: 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11th: 7:00 p.m. Callbacks

Because of the format for auditions - a combination of traditional readings from script plus improvisation – please register at the stated audition time. If you would like to audition but cannot make the specified time, please email: digbyk@shaw.ca.



Auditions for *Casting for Murder*

A murder mystery directed by **Tony Cain**

Audition Dates: Saturday, December 1st from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, December 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Callbacks if required will be on Tuesday, December 4th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Place: St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Rd at Cedar Hill Rd:

Evening Performances: March 13th to 16th and 20th to 23rd at 8:00 p.m. Matinees: March 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th at 2:00 p.m.

Plot: Angela Benson inherits a fortune when her aunt is murdered, but the killer is never found. Her acting career flourishes but suspicion continues to cloud her life even after her marriage to mystery writer John Rutherford. A young journalist uncovers some startling new evidence about the three-year-old murder and John and Angela find themselves embroiled in a sinister plot.

Characters:

Angela Benson: 35-45 years. Blonde. Attractive. Very much the actress. Breezy. Self-centred.

Bertram Beary: 65+ years. Gruff. Pompous. Patronizing. Outspoken to the point of being rude and loud but honest and upright.

John Rutherford: 40 to 55 years. Good-looking. Easy-going. Nice fellow image. Successful author/playwright.

Susan Delaney/Adrian Wright: As Susan; 35-45 years. Must have short dark hair and an English accent. Attractive. Very polite. As Adrian (Susan in disguise): very contrary female in looks and behavior. Must have a Canadian accent.

Steven Sanders: mid to late 30s - 40s. Handsome. Impeccable manners. Very controlled with little or no expression. Surface charm. Manipulative. Smug. A deadly and violent side to his nature.

Charlotte Thornton: 35-45 years. Actress. Glamorous. Hard-edged. Party girl. Has a reputation for being a bit of a seductress.

Derek Spencer: 30 to 50. Theatrical Director. Playboy image. Drinks too much.

What's On

Langham Court Theatre Presents

Lady Windermere's Fan



Written by **Oscar Wilde**. Directed by **Angela Henry**

"I can resist anything but temptation," proclaims one of the glittering social butterflies portrayed so vividly in **Oscar Wilde's** incomparably witty comedy classic. Comic misunderstandings, hidden identities, fluttering fans, whispered gossip and a touching reconciliation are sure to please audiences of all ages.

Lady Windermere's Fan previews Wednesday, November 21st and runs from Thursday, November 22nd to Saturday, December 8th. To purchase your tickets, call our Box Office at 250-384-2142, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, or go to

www.langhamtheatre.ca.

Readers' Theatre Presents

The Prairie Experience: Prose and Poetry

Directed by **Peter McNab**

Readers' Theatre is pleased to announce its first production of the season. *The Prairie Experience: Prose and Poetry* will be performed on **Saturday, November 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** in the Lounge. The show will run approximately one hour, with a fifteen-minute intermission. The performance is a compilation of prose and poetry written by those lucky enough to have grown up with the big sky, the smell of harvest-ready wheat, and the prairie that went on forever. Okay, there were also blizzards, mosquitoes and dust, but never mind. If you grew up with those experiences, this is an opportunity to take your senses back to a rich and heady place. If you did not, well, this is your opportunity to experience what you have missed. Price is by donation. There will be goodies, and the bar will be open.

The Victoria Gilbert & Sullivan Society

Presents

Ruddigore or *The Witches' Curse*

Music Director: **George Corwin**, Stage Director: **Chris Moss**, Choreographer: **Heather Elayne Day**

Charlie White Theatre, Sidney, Friday, March 22nd at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, March 23rd and Sunday, March 24th at 2:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$34 adults, \$32 Seniors, \$30 Students.

McPherson Playhouse, Victoria, Saturday, April 6th at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 7th at 2:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$40 adults, \$38 Seniors, \$36 Students.

The Friends of the Library Now-for-Something-Completely-Different Book Sale

Our next Book Sale will be **too big** to house in our usual location, so we are heading with boxes and boxes of books over to **Pearkes Recreation Centre**, 3100 Tillicum Road, where you will find a huge stock of gently used books to choose from.

When: **Early Bird sale** is from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, November 3rd. Admission \$5:00.

The Regular sale is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday, November 3rd and

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 4th. No admission fee.

The closing All-you-can-carry-for \$10 Sale runs from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Sunday, November 4th.

“Books let us into their souls and lay open to us the secrets of our own.”

William Hazlitt

Interactive Play Brings Ghosts of Plaza Hotel To Life

This November, windy autumn nights give way to haunting tales of an historic hotel and its checkered past. *Ghosts of the Plaza*, funded in part by the **Greater Victoria Spirit Committee**, is a series of one-act vignettes taken from the history of the controversial Victoria Plaza Hotel. The play tells the story of the hotel through the eyes of the women who lived and worked there, and the ghosts who have inevitably collected there. Produced by **Rosie Bitts' Best Bitts Productions**, the project is the brain child of artists **Sarah Smith** and **Sadie Forbes**, who believe there is more than meets the eye with the dishevelled hotel. Lead artist Smith, once an employee of the hotel, says: “For years I ventured deep into the building’s bowels which I can only liken to the Titanic, lying undiscovered beneath the sea. Just as with the Titanic, there was evidence buried there that time had preserved a long-forgotten space, but once we dug under the surface, the lore of the Plaza’s true and remarkable history emerged.”

Since 1910, the building standing at 1415 Government Street has elicited moments of both grandeur and the grotesque. True stories of suicide, suspense, and the supernatural come to life alongside the narrative of the eclectic hotel and its numerous reinventions. In celebrating Victoria’s 150th year, performances will take place at The **Oddfellows Hall** at 1315 Douglas Street, re-enacted as the haunted hotel. The interactive production will move between rooms where the audience can “step into” the various eras significant to the building’s timeline, such as its Prohibition Speakeasy, or its stint as an Arabian Nights themed hotel. Shows run twice nightly: 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, November 16th and 23rd and Saturday, November 17th and 24th, plus Saturday matinees on November 17th and 24th at 4:30 p.m. For further information go to:

www.GhostsofthePlaza.com or www.missrosiebitts.com/bestbittsproductions

Langham’s Court’s Carr Directs Orwell’s 1984

By Mia Walker

Roger Carr – fresh from entertaining packed houses as Frank Doel in **Langham Court’s 84, Charing Cross Road** – is taking on directorial duties for a brand new theatrical adaptation of George Orwell’s dystopian love story, *1984*. Carr is very excited about the project: “(It’s) a challenge to turn this enigma into something that works for an audience.”

With the year 1984 having long ago flowed from the future into the past, this new work has evolved into *1.9.8.4*. (One Nine Eight Four) thereby freeing it from being tied down to one particular time. And that’s not the only update, the

play now being set in Victory City – a reimagining of our very own Victoria. Yet the tortured soul and cold heart of Orwell’s tale still retains its strong and steady beat. The passing of years having done nothing to diminish its overarching theme: Power Corrupts... Big Brother will most certainly be watching.

Joining Roger in his latest adventure are a number of other highly regarded Langham Courtiers: Stage Manager, **Sylvia Lindstrom**; Actress, **Christine Karpiak**; Lighting & Sound Designer, **Chad Laidlaw**; Playwright, **David Elendune**. As the rehearsal process gets underway, Carr is

increasingly enthused by the venture: "... it's a super script and I think it works very nicely... (and) we have cast well." Roger sees this new interpretation as a completely collaborative process and is looking forward to co-creating a piece of theatre that will not only engage audiences and make them think but one which will attract less-frequent play-goers and further encourage them to make a habit of coming to see productions regularly.

Produced by **Giggling Iguana's Ian Case** (the multi award-winning impresario behind such events as the much loved gothic Halloween-themed entertainment at **Craigdarroch Castle**) **1.9.8.4** runs from November 21st to December 1st at the **Intrepid Theatre Club**, 2-1609 Blanshard. For more information telephone 250-590-6291 or go to www.intrepidtheatre.com/about/contact

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, November 3

1:00 - 8:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, November 3

7:00 p.m. Readers' Theatre Presents "The Prairie Experience"

Sunday, November 4

9:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, November 17

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Costume Workshop "Underpinnings"

Saturday, November 17

Ghosts of the Plaza opens at the Oddfellows Hall

Wednesday, November 21

Preview for Lady Windermere's Fan

Wednesday, November 21

1.9.8.4 opens at the Intrepid Theatre Club

Thursday, November 22 – Saturday, December 8

Lady Windermere's Fan

Friday, November 30

Deadline to apply for position of Head Scenic Carpenter

Saturday, December 1

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. auditions for St. Luke's Production Casting For Murder

Saturday, December 1

Deadline for suggestions re summer production

Sunday, December 2

7:00-9:00 p.m. auditions for St. Luke's Production Casting For Murder

Sunday, December 2

1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Costume Workshop "Threads Fitting Video"

Saturday, December 8

11:00 a.m. auditions for The 39 Steps

Sunday, December 9

1:00 p.m. auditions for The 39 Steps

Tuesday, December 11

6:00 p.m. Meet and Greet for That Face

Saturday, December 15

Christmas Party!!!





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Langham Court News is published 11 times a year

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Archival photos enhanced by Paul Bertorelli

Deadline for submissions is no later than the **20th day of the month** preceding the month of publication, e.g. the deadline for the **December 1st issue is November 20th**. Please send submissions by e-mail to Corinna Gilliland catfael@telus.net or by mail to the Victoria Theatre Guild.

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