

# 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 2009

## Picnic - November 12<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>!!!

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to pick up your tickets to the second show of the **Langham Court** 2009-2010 Season. *Picnic* by **William Inge**, directed by **Sylvia Rhodes** is an American classic that exposes the falsity of the American Dream. A Pulitzer Prize winning play and a great evening of theatre, it has enjoyed both critical and popular acclaim since it opened on Broadway in February 1953. The action takes place during the Labor Day weekend. A handsome drifter has come into town. Men and women are drawn to him, attracted by his energy, good looks and charm. But his presence is a threat to the *status quo*. Will life in this small, mid-western community ever be the same again?

## Picnics at Langham Court Theatre

Langham Court Theatre's first production of *Picnic* took place in March 1961. Directed by **Maggie Hall**, the cast included a very youthful **Tony Hubner** as Bomber, **Cliff Clarke** as Hal, and **Helen Smith** as Rosemary.



*Picnic* 1961

Twenty-two years later the **Victoria Theatre Guild** staged *Picnic* once again, this time directed by **Robert (Rube) Price**, Stage Manager of the previous production. In 1983, Mrs Potts was played by **Ginny Carter**, Rosemary by **Lynneve Stewart**, Madge by Rube's daughter **Sara Price**, and Millie by **Kathleen Barr** (who had previously starred as the obnoxious Mary in *The Children's Hour*).



*Pictures enhanced & digitized by Paul Bertorelli  
Picnic 1983*

Now that another 26 years has passed **William Inge's** classic portrayal of small town USA is once more ready to delight and enthrall a new generation of **Langham Court** audiences. With **Sylvia Rhodes** directing and **Vinnie Chadwick** producing, the 2009 *Picnic* cast includes: **Marina Lagaca** as Madge, **Kimara Brillling** as Millie, **Kathy Macovichuk** as Flo, **Liam McGuigan** as Hal, **Linda O'Connor** as Rosemary, **Randy Parker** as Howard, **Matthew Mathieson** as Alan, **Lesley Gibbs** as Mrs. Potts, **Alex Rand** as Bomber, **Caroline Mackenzie** as Irma and **Charlotte Anderson** as Christine.

## *Art Show*

### **Corinne Marley: artist in residence during the run of *Picnic*.**

Corinne is an up and coming artist who lives in Victoria. Her passion lies in the creative aspect of life. She specializes in nature photography and has recently explored abstract photography incorporating a fusion of light, water, oil and colour. Corinne also makes one of a kind dichroic glass pendants and clay pendants. Perfect for Christmas gifts! Corinne's works are refreshing and real and she's excited to be bringing her art to LCT.

## NOTES FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

First, thank you to all who contributed to this month's Newsletter, particularly to **Lisa Leighton** for her fascinating article on our spectacular pattern collection, to **Roger Carr** for his article on **The History Boys** and to Archivists **John Gilliland** and **Paul Bertorelli** for their usual help with facts, figures and photos. And a special thanks to Webmaster **Kai Hansen** and our G.M. **Craig Mracek** without whom you would have no Newsletter.

October has been a sad month for us and for the **Victoria Operatic Society**. The theatre community has lost two wonderful women: **Anne Crawford** (please see next item) and **Rosemary Pugh**. Although Rosemary was only briefly a member of **Langham Court theatre**, many of us recall her invaluable assistance backstage. There will be a gathering of friends and family at the VOS Hall, 10-798 Fairview Road on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> to celebrate Rosemary's life.

Also, **Thelma Midori**, one of **Langham Court's** favourite Producers has been seriously ill for the past few months. I know you will all join me in wishing Thelma a full and speedy recovery and in hoping that we will see her smiling face around the theatre very soon.

On a happier note, congratulations to **Danda Humphreys!** Her book of "**Tour Guide Tales**" put together for the Canadian Tour Guides Association (CTGA of BC) was "launched" at the CTGA of BC meeting in Vancouver on Oct. 29! "**Tour Guide Tales**" unfortunately, is not in your local bookstore but you can purchase your copy from Danda directly. Next item on this busy author's to-do list, another book about Victoria! Well done, Danda!

Congratulations to **Joan Patrick, as well**, for organising the first presentation of the 2009-2010 season by **Langham Readers Theatre Company** at the same time as she was laid up with major knee surgery. And a big thank you

to **Hetty Clews** for taking on many of the Producer's duties while Joan was in hospital. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Company performed two one act plays: *Shadow of the Glen* by J. M. Synge, directed by **Peter McNab** and *The Craigdarroch Claret* written and directed by **Hetty Clews**. The evening was a great success as audience members crowded into the lounge to enjoy the play readings and to munch on nibblies provided by Company members and by **Langham Court**.

The other day, **Ned Lemley**, our brilliant Costume Co-ordinator, came up with an idea he thought would be of use if and when the government sees fit to provide funding for the arts once again - to have on hand a record of all **Victoria Theatre Guild** members who began their theatrical careers on or behind our stage before going on to achieve success in the profession. For example, actors **Sara Topham** (*Dames At Sea, Pygmalion*), **Gina Wilkinson** (*The Killing of Sister George, The Late Edwina Black*), **Sara-Jeanne Hosie** (*What I Did Last Summer, The Diviners*), and **Duncan Regehr** (*The Lady's Not For Burning*) are but a few of the well-known **Langham Court Theatre** alumni. Then there are those who have put their theatrical talents toward helping others such as **Laurel Lemley** (*The Dresser*) working as director and dramaturge for a group of young people with Downs Syndrome. Finally, there are those with potential, working toward a career in the profession: **Heather Jarvie** (*Waiting in the Wings, Isn't It Romantic*), back in town just long enough to earn a few dollars before returning to the **Stella Adler Studio of Acting** in New York, **Lindsay Alley** (*All My Sons, Our Town, Midsummer Night's Dream*), recently accepted as one of the few international students at the **London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA)**, and **Hannah Boutilier** (*Artichoke, Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*), back in Victoria and currently garnering raves every time she appears on stage. If you can think of any more names to add to the list of successful VTG alumni please send them to your friendly archivist, **John Gilliland** ([dogfael@shaw.ca](mailto:dogfael@shaw.ca)).

## Remembering Anne . . .



Courtesy of the Times-Colonist

It is with great sorrow we write that **Anne Crawford**, Actor, Director, Stage Manager, Producer, Playwright, Props Expert, Teacher, Writer, Sister, Friend and **Langham Court** Life Member since 1999, died after a long illness on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Annie loved the theatre. It was evident in every thing she did either on stage or behind the scenes. Every project she tackled was enhanced by her enthusiasm, her *joie de vivre*. Those lucky enough to work with her will remember her energy and delight in all aspects of staging a play.

During the 1960's and early 1970's the multi-talented Anne acted, stage-managed, or crewed in no less than ten productions with **Bastion Theatre** under the direction of **Peter Mannering** at the McPherson Playhouse. In March 1974 she joined the cast of **the Victoria Theatre Guild's** production of *The Threepenny Opera* and traveled with it to the Dominion Drama Festival in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Anne acted in eleven more shows for **Langham Court** including *Pride and Prejudice* and *Stepping Out*. At the 1992 South Island Zone Drama Festival she won the Best Actress Award for her portrayal of "Angela" in *Abigail's Party*. She stage-managed eight of our Season shows from 1975 to 1989, conducted a Stage Management Workshop for us at the **Guild's Greater Victoria**

**Summer Theatre School** in August 1979, and wrote our 1986 and 1989 Stage Management Manuals. She was on the **Victoria Theatre Guild's** Board in 1986-87 as Secretary and in 1987-88 as both Member-at-Large and Membership Chair. She directed three shows at **Langham Court**, including *Dead Ringer* in October 1993 and *Mixed Emotions* in January 1996, and produced two more - as well as helping to write our 1985 and 1987 Producers' Manuals. In 1984 she co-wrote, produced and directed *Winnie the Pooh and Piglet* with her friend **Christina Robinson**. That project's net income of \$2,100 was used, at Anne and Christina's request, to purchase a new intercom system for the theatre and to donate \$1,000 toward a new Guild Scholarship Fund for theatre students.

Anne is best remembered for her sense of fun and her love of **Langham Court Theatre**. She was one of the founders of The (Lang) Hammies, a satirical award show held at the start of each season to honour (?) those who had worked the season before. Unfortunately, The Hammies only lasted five seasons but Anne went on to coordinate a Theatre Sports display with **Antoinette Church** at the Guild's Open House in the summer of 1996.

Although severe and protracted illness has prevented Anne from being actively involved at **Langham Court Theatre** in recent years, she has managed to participate as a most welcome and treasured audience member on a number of occasions.

### A Celebration of Anne's Life

**Judy Treloar**, her daughter **Zoe**, **Peta MacKenzie** and **Rick Underwood** invite you to share in a **Celebration of the Life of Anne Crawford** on Sunday, November 15 from 2 to 4 P.M. at **Langham Court Theatre**. Please come and share your memories of our dear friend and **Langham Court** member, **Anne Crawford**.

# Costume Workshop 'New' Collections

By Lisa Leighton

Ever wonder where our costume designers and sewers turn when they are looking for styles from another era? Books and old catalogues are extremely helpful, but there's nothing like a genuine sewing pattern for graphic illustration of everything from a perfect hemline in 1938 to the correct depth of a gentleman's pant cuff in 1942.



So we have some great news from the Costume Workshop. Thanks to many generous donors over the years and some footwork, **Langham Court's** designers and sewers are about to have access to two extraordinary collections: our own (now organized) collection of vintage sewing patterns that date from the 1930s to the present, and the electronically archived collection (on CD) of patterns from 1868 to 1979 from the Commercial Pattern Archive ([www.uri.edu/library/special\\_collections/COPA](http://www.uri.edu/library/special_collections/COPA)) at the **University of Rhode Island (URI)**.

Our own pattern collection is gathered from various points around the theatre before and after the renovation, and from donations over the last few years. I am in the process of scanning the front and back of each

pattern envelope and preserving each in an acid-free plastic envelope with acid-free board backing, for storage. I'm printing each front and back and filing the pattern scans into binders organized by era. That way, designers will be able to look through all of our patterns without physically handling the envelopes, saving wear and tear on already fragile pieces.

These are wonderful patterns. We have beautiful 1930s gowns and frocks, 1940s suits, coats and dresses, loungewear and gloves and men's fashions, 1950s aprons, housecoats, ball gowns and dresses ... the list goes on. The original collection is about 360 patterns. I have also donated another 46 of my own, many of which are Vintage Vogue and 'costume' patterns, so we have more than 400 in our collection. Any of our designers will be able to make use of any of these patterns, all of which will be housed in the Costume Workshop, along with the pattern binders.

In future, as all of these will already be scanned, we may be able to extend their usefulness electronically ... but that is another discussion for another time.



When I originally went through the collection to begin organising it (with the kind help of

**Susan Ferguson**, who has an unerring ability to time-date a pattern), we set aside 81 patterns for infants, toddlers, children and youth, dating from the 1930s to about the 1970s. Since our designers rarely use that type of pattern, I catalogued them and approached the **Commercial Pattern Archive (CoPA)** at **URI** to ask if they would like to receive them. They leaped at the chance. In exchange, I asked if they would send us the four-CD set of their archive (priced at US \$360).



The curator, **Joy Emery**, has been wonderfully generous. Our 81 patterns are valued at less than half of the cost of the CDs, but she graciously offered to send us our choice of three of the four. I sent off our 81 patterns and requested the first three CDs (1868 through 1979), since we will make more use of those than of the 1979-to-1999 CD. (But someday, we will hopefully add that one to the set, as well.)

The **CoPA** holds nearly 60,000 paper patterns dating from 1868. By far, the largest part of the archive is the Williams Collection. **Betty Williams** was a theatrical costumer in New York who realized, many decades ago, that paper patterns were disappearing. So she began collecting and preserving patterns and doing pattern research in the early 1980s. When she died in 1997, she left her extensive collection to the **URI**.

The CoPA database, which is searchable by era, date, keyword, collection, pattern number or pattern manufacturer, is accessible three ways: online by paid subscription, in person at the **URI**, or on purchased CDs – three of which we are lucky enough to have now. Our designers will be able to search styles from among scans of thousands of actual patterns.

At our November 22 tea (see below), I look forward to introducing our sewers and designers to both the theatre's pattern collection and the **CoPA** electronic archive. These are both truly extraordinary resources, and we are very fortunate to have them.

If you have in the past donated patterns to the theatre, please accept our thanks. If you would like to donate any old sewing patterns, we would love to add them to our collection and preserve them for future use. Please contact me at 250-595-5523 or [leighton@islandnet.com](mailto:leighton@islandnet.com).

## Attention all Sewers and Costume Designers!

Time to get together and talk about plans for the Costume Construction Room and workshops, and about some of our recently acquired resources.

We are planning a potluck tea in the theatre Lounge on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2 pm to 4 pm. We'll start the information session at about 2:30.

If you are already involved with costuming, or, if you have never been involved but are interested, this get-together will be a great opportunity for you to 'meet and greet' other sewers and designers. We would love to have your input and ideas, so please plan to join us!

Please RSVP to **Lisa Leighton** at 250-595-5523 or [leighton@islandnet.com](mailto:leighton@islandnet.com).

# *The History Boys Company*

## **Crew**

Director: **Roger Carr**  
Producers: **Gil Henry, Ned Lemley**  
Production Assistant: **Heather Jarvie**  
Stage Manager: **Sylvia Lindstrom**  
Assistant Stage Manager: **Carol-Anne Moore**  
Set Designer: **Bill Adams**  
Lighting Designer: **Karrie Wolfe**  
Costume Designer: **Lisa Leighton**  
Costume Assistant: **Lynn Cadrain**  
Sound Designer: **Alan MacKenzie**  
Sound Designer: **Penelope Harwood**  
Props: **Garth Taylor**  
Prompter: **Lillian Trigg**

## **Cast**

Hector: **Robert Adam**  
Irwin: **Gregory Philips**  
Mrs. Lintott: **Angela Henry**  
Headmaster: **Phil Gibbs**  
Director: **Mark Riishede**  
Dakin: **Alex Rand**  
Rudge: **Jared Gowen**  
Posner: **Jacob Leggatt**  
Timms: **Miguel Trinczek**  
Ackthar: **Mathew Bryan**  
Scripps: **Harris Anderson**  
Crowther: **Tyler Millar**  
Lockwood: **Chad Laidlaw**

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## **Background to *The History Boys***

*By Roger Carr*

*The History Boys* by **Alan Bennett** opens on January 7<sup>th</sup> at **Langham Court Theatre**. I've been privileged to direct this play and I hope to encourage as many members as possible to check it out.

Many of you will know of Bennett from his days in *Beyond the Fringe*. He is a brilliant playwright and *The History Boys* is, in many ways, autobiographical. Bennett was born to a working class family in Yorkshire. Although he eventually studied at Oxford University, Bennett never lost touch with his roots and never lost his appreciation of the public education system that made his education possible. *The History Boys*, which won Tony and Olivier awards in 2005/6, is an exuberant, comic play that asks the question, "What is the purpose of education." Our setting is a 6<sup>th</sup> form classroom in Yorkshire. The comedy, drama and energy of *The History Boys* make it a delight to direct. It is also a wonderful opportunity to bring some edgy material to our stage – great for our actors and our audience. Find the answer to the question, "What is history?"

### **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 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month, i.e. the deadline for the December issue will be November 20<sup>th</sup> and so on. Please send your information by e-mail to **Corinna Gilliland** ([catfael@shaw.ca](mailto:catfael@shaw.ca)). **Langham Court News** welcomes news from other groups too. So let's support each other's endeavours in our theatre community

# The Ladies at the Front: Judy Treloar & Peta MacKenzie

By John and Corinna Gilliland

At different times, **Judy Treloar** and **Peta MacKenzie** were frequently the only direct contact the press and public had with **Langham Court Theatre**. Active members of the **Theatre Guild**, both Judy and Peta served as Administrators and in that capacity each gave a unique and invaluable interpretation to that role.

## Judy Treloar



Picture by David Lowes

Judy first appeared at **Langham Court Theatre** in 1973 when she was cast as Alison Porter in *Look Back in Anger*. Since then the versatile New Zealander has stood out as one of our most hard-working, talented members. Her next role was that of Lucy Brown in *The Threepenny Opera* the award winning production that was B.C.'s entry in the 1974 Dominion Drama Festival in Newfoundland.

Other on-stage appearances have included Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Blanche Dubois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Gilda in *Design For Living*. In May 1978, Judy directed *The Killing of Sister George*, her first directing assignment for **Langham Court Theatre**. Since then she has broken all records by directing a total of 24 plays for our theatre including: *The Children's Hour*, *The Club*, *Lion*

*in Winter*, *Breaking the Code*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, and *The Real Thing*, as well as directing for **VOS**, and for **Norfolk House**.

For most individuals the work Judy has done directing, acting, and teaching drama at **Norfolk House School** and for **Bastion Theatre** would be enough. Not for Judy, however. As well as being our most sought after director, she has worked on set-construction, set-painting, publicity and programme design. She has also served on the board as Production Chair, Vice-President, President and Past-President. In January 1986, when she stepped down as President Judy was finally made a Life-Member. However, this did not mean that her involvement with the Guild was lessened in any degree.

In 1989, Judy went to the Board with a proposal that she serve as Administrator. Although in previous times, members had been paid an honorarium to perform administrative tasks for the theatre, Judy's proposal, which was accepted with alacrity, set the standard for the role of Administrator-cum-General-Manager, a standard that has been adopted to this day. While working in the front Office, Judy was an active member on all Guild committees as well as doing all the publicity, and working with the Renovation Committee in supervising the 1991-93 rebuilding of the Lobby, the Stage, the Lighting Booth and Green Room. Judy also worked with **Rick Underwood** organizing the seat renovations in 1993.

It was later that year Judy resigned as Administrator to return to **Norfolk House** as full time Drama Teacher. However, she still continued to work on **Langham Court's**



behalf as Production Chair in the 2003-2004 season, as Board Secretary from 2006 to 2007 and as Vice-President until 2008. At the same time, Judy was the Guild Publicist and Promotions manager from 2005 until 2008.

Fierce and uncompromising, Judy has been an indispensable member of our organisation since she first arrived. In whatever capacity she has served, Judy has always demanded the best from those who worked with her and in return has given the best of herself.

## Peta MacKenzie



Picture by David Lowes

Although Peta was involved in the local theatre scene as far back as 1965, her first recorded appearance at **Langham Court** was in August 1967 after her marriage to current Technical Director, **Alan MacKenzie**. In the programme for the October production *Charley's Aunt*, "**Mr and Mrs Alan MacKenzie**" are down as part of the Construction and Set Painting crew. In the next show, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf*, the MacKenzie team were once again in evidence behind the scenes, Peta helping in the box Office while Alan designed and ran the lights.

The MacKenzie duo continued working as a team at **Langham Court** for several years. In 1970, Director **Edna Kowalchuk** maintained that they were "a great husband and wife team – Alan on lights and sound, Peta in charge of props. These two are so efficient backstage that [I] wouldn't do a show without them".

Peta spent the next fifteen years working on behalf of the **Victoria Operatic Society**, however, she did not relinquish her ties to the **Victoria Theatre Guild** entirely. In February 1973, she and Alan were an integral part of the crew that mounted a production of *Hadrian the Seventh* at Christ Church Cathedral and in 1982, Peta, again with Alan, was part of **Langham Court's** backstage team working with **Hetty Clews** and **Robin Riddihough** to organise the "special effects" for a show at Government House celebrating **Theatre B.C.'s** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. During the 1984-85 Season, Peta organised the Guild's Victoria Day Parade float advertising *Harvey*, the final production of the season in which she also did the costumes.

During the late eighties and early nineties, Peta divided her time between **Langham Court** and **VOS**. In 1989 she served on the Committee designing the Guild's 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party that took place on September 14<sup>th</sup> following the opening night of *A Month of Sundays*. More than 400 people took part in that celebration. As well as the 180 in the house, the 25 or more on stage, there were no fewer than 200 watching on close-circuit television set up in the lounge. As part of the accompanying display, Peta and Alan had loaned their collection of Guild Programmes and newspaper clippings.

Since the early nineties, Peta has become increasingly involved with Langham Court Theatre. In 1996, she was one of the principal hosts of the Open House organised by President **Tim Crofton** and in 1999 she joined the Box Office staff taking over as Box Office Manager in January 2000. The following September Peta became our first Theatre and Box Office Manager – a position that replaced the role of Administrator. From then until her resignation in 2007, Peta was the first contact public and the members alike had with Langham Court and in that position she constantly worked to improve the image of the **Victoria Theatre Guild**.

During her time at **Langham Court**, Peta has been closely involved, both on stage and behind the scenes, in 44 productions. She has worked on numerous committees including the 2009-2010 play selection committee and whenever a call has gone out for volunteers to give a hand, if Peta was in town, she'd be right there front and centre. She and Alan were also the first husband and wife team to receive Life Memberships from both the **Victoria Theatre Guild** and the **Victoria Operatic Society**.

## Life-Members Welcome!!!

The President and Board extend an invitation to all **Victoria Theatre Guild** Life Members to attend the Meet and Greet that precedes each Production. The Meet and Greet for *The History Boys* is on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 at 6:00 p.m. Life Members, please join the cast, crew, Board members and new members in an evening of eats, drinks, and interesting conversation.

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## SCENE AND HEARD

. . . Guild members **Geli Bartlett** and **Hannah Boutilier** behind bars, rehearsing for the **William Head On Stage** production *Frankenstein in Oblivion*. Beautifully costumed by **Susan Ferguson**, it opened on October 23 and runs intermittently until November 21.

. . . in another part of town Guild members **Wendy Cornock** and **Kate Boutilier** appearing in the **St. Luke's Players** production of *The Chalk Garden*.

. . . at the **Target Theatre** Fundraiser held at **Langham Court** on October 15<sup>th</sup>, in the audience: **Jean Topham**, **Paul Bertorelli**, **Jeff Shultis**, **Roger** and **Betty Walker** and **John Gilliland**; in the lobby handing out raffle tickets: artist **Mowry Baden**; in the lounge, serving drinks: **Judy Bogod**, On stage: Target's Artistic Director, **Judith McDowell**, M.C. for the evening, **Alan Venn**, and performing in a most moving and thought provoking production of *I'm Still Here*, **Jane Krieger** and **Madeleine Mills**.

. . . At the *Picnic* Meet and Greet on October 13<sup>th</sup>, Life Member **Hetty Clews** surrounded

by a large group of new young members who, as part of the cast of *Picnic* form an enthusiastic and talented addition to the **Langham Court** community.



New members join the cast of *Picnic*

. . . At the tail end of the **Royal Victoria Marathon** course, former Newsletter Co-Editor, **Danda Humphreys** enthusiastically cheering on your limping Editor as she crawls up the final hill to complete the half-marathon.

## United Way Campaign

The 2009 **Greater Victoria United Way** campaign officially kicked off on September 29, 2009. The need is greater than ever and this year's campaign goal is \$6.35 million.

Individual pledges – through the workplace or as private individuals – are the backbone of the campaign and are critical for meeting the goal. Pledge forms provide giving-guidelines and allow you to support the campaign via convenient, bi-monthly payroll deductions or by cash, cheque, credit card or regular debit donations. You can choose to designate part or all of your gift to any charitable organisation, including the **Victoria Theatre Guild** itself.

Why consider the **United Way** as your charity of choice?

- **United Way** has a proud 72 year history as a community-based fund raiser and distributor. To date, we have raised more than \$113 million to assist those in need in our community.
- More than 1,000 Victorians volunteer for **United Way** every year - it's truly a local organisation.
- Over 500 businesses and organisations support the **United Way**. In 2008, we raised \$6.33 million – money that stays in **Greater Victoria**.
- **United Way** is very efficient in making sure the maximum amount possible goes to programs that directly help people in our community.

There's a way to change the future for thousands of people in Greater Victoria and make our community a better place for all of us to live. Call 250.385.6708 or visit [www.uwgv.ca](http://www.uwgv.ca) to donate and learn more.

*Wendy Magahay  
Langham Court member and past-president  
Loaned Representative to the 2009 Campaign*

## General Manager's Report

### THANKS FOR THE HAND!

Our 81st season is off to a great start thanks to the cast/crew of **Jacques Brel**. As usual the following was reported to the Board of Directors at their last meeting: September saw the successful launch of our 81<sup>st</sup> season with attendance for **Jacques Brel** at approximately 87%. Thanks to **Simon Skey** and the publicity committee for their diligent assessment and development of our theatre's publicity. Many thanks also go to **Wendy Magahay, Gary McLaughlin, Roger Carr** and **Karrie Wolfe** for helping our liquor primary license make it past city council. And thank you to all new box office volunteers who are welcoming our patrons with open arms!

### SEAT RENOVATIONS

Your neighbour has one, your best friend has one, even your lighting designer has one... so why don't you? Get your name on a seat during our 2009-2010 seat sponsorship drive. For any donation of \$400 you will have your name engraved on a plaque to be affixed to one of our beautifully renovated auditorium seats as well as a charitable tax receipt. Want to go 50/50 with a friend? No problem! Both of your names will be included on the plaque.

### EXISTING SEAT SPONSORS

Do you have suggestions on how existing seat sponsors should be recognized? Board Member **Mike Miller** wants your help with creative ideas on where and how to create a display commemorating these sponsors. You can contact him at [miller.mj@shaw.ca](mailto:miller.mj@shaw.ca)

### STOCKING STUFFERS

Just in time for Christmas, **Langham Court** is also offering our re-designed gift cards. Perfect for that friend who would love a night off but just can't make it to the theatre. Makes a great stocking stuffer.

*Craig Mracek  
General Manager*

## NEWS FROM THE PROPS ROOM:

Again our grateful thanks for the following donations to the props room:

**Mr. Guttormsson** - two period radios and a Steer-horn wall decoration.

**Susan Ferguson** - a marble ashtray, a clock, two ornaments, a brass door knocker and a small period suitcase.

**Judy Treloar** - frames and pictures

**Martin and Tiia Kava** - an antique brush, comb and mirror set and two ornate candle sticks.

**Anonymous** - a brass spice-scale and a period suitcase.

We have compiled a list of sources for props and furniture, copies of which will be available in the props room very shortly.

*Jean Topham, Carol-Anne Moore and Sally Crickman*  
*Props Co-ordinators*

## NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

### ATTENTION ALL USHERS!!!!!!

We are missing three of our four badges for Ushers. If you have ushered in the past, please check around your home. If you find one of our magnetic badges, please return to the box office. No questions asked!

### HURRY! TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

If you haven't renewed your membership in the last six months, now is the time to do so and take advantage of this years' pricing! Stop by the box office and complete a new form or email: [prhumphreys@shaw.ca](mailto:prhumphreys@shaw.ca). You can also renew on-line through our website. Avoid the lines at the AGM in January!

*Rita Humphreys*  
*Membership Chair*

## BOX OFFICE MEMO:

Members can book their tickets two weeks before the general public. Tickets for *The History Boys* go on sale to members only starting December 7<sup>th</sup>!

## WELCOME!!!

A very warm welcome to the following new Victoria Theatre Guild members:

**Yvonne Miller, Chelsea Kutyn, Carolyn Saint-Denis, Carmen Pitcher, Ed Pitcher, Madeleine Mills, Sarah Carlé, David Thomas, Kathleen Walsh, Stephanie Geehan, Allan Sibley, Linda O'Conner, Katelyn Hart, Ross Johnson, Paula Gaube, Heather Carpenter, Tony Cain, Patrick Beausoleil, Corinne Leech, Maureen Whetstone, Kimara Brillling, Liam McGuigan, Alex Rand**

*Compiled by Rita Humphreys*  
*Membership Chair*

# Auditions

## *Sylvia*

Auditions for *Sylvia*, by **A. R. Gurney** and directed by **Rita Humphreys**, will be held at **Langham Court Theatre** on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday December 13, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

The cast includes:

- 1 male: late 40's to 50's
- 1 male: over 30
- 2 females: over 30
- 1 female: late 40's to 50's
- 1 female: 20's

## The Victoria G.& S. Society

needs more Basses & Tenors for the chorus of *The Sorcerer*

Show runs in March. Rehearsals start Nov 22  
Please email:

[producer@gilbertandsullivanvictoria.ca](mailto:producer@gilbertandsullivanvictoria.ca)

(*Langham Court Theatre* auditions are posted on our web site at:

[www.langhamcourtheatre.bc.ca/auditions.html](http://www.langhamcourtheatre.bc.ca/auditions.html))

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## What's On

### WHoS

#### (William Head On Stage)

will be presenting *Frankenstein in Oblivion*. With **Geli Bartlett** and **Hannah Boutilier** and the inmates of **William Head Prison** (45 minute drive from downtown). Performance dates are November 6-7, 12-14, 19-21.

Lovely ladies and generous gents, welcome to the show of shows, the most horrific story ever re-told! You are about to witness the greatest travesty that history has yet recorded – the tale of the Frankenstein family's tremendous fall from grace. Trapped here for all time, alive for only one night a year, forced to act out their fiendish perversities for **William Head on Stage's** 48th production: *Frankenstein in Oblivion!*

**WHoS** is located inside a Federal Prison. No

persons under 19 will be admitted. You may be electronically scanned. Personal belongings are forbidden (purses, wallets, cell phones, money etc.). No smoking materials permitted.

Gates open @ 6:15 p.m. / close @ 7:15 p.m.  
(Terror begins @ 7:30 p.m.) Tickets are \$18

Tickets available at: My Chosen Café, 4492 Happy Valley Road, 250-474-2333; Soap Exchange, 1393-A Hillside Avenue 250-475-0033; Moka House, 345 Cook Street 250-388-7377.

For further information please contact the **WHoS** office at (250) 391-7030

#### Are you receiving us???

Do you receive your Langham Court News by snail-mail? If you have recently changed your mailing address, or would prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail, please contact **Rita Humphreys** at [prumphreys@](mailto:prumphreys@)

# Christmas Party

I know, I know, Hallowe'en is barely over and the Americans haven't even had Thanksgiving yet. So why talk about the Christmas Party? Well, it's barely a month away and Sylvia, our President and the rest of the Board want to make sure we all have the date marked in our calendars.

**When is the party?** Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

**What kind of party is it?** It is casual or dressy, your choice. It's a chance to dress up, or not, to eat, drink and be very merry with your friends and fellow courtiers. It is also a chance to enjoy some splendid entertainment.

**Where is the party?** At Langham Court (where else?)

**What do I bring?** a salad, dessert, munchies or something to go with the turkey.

**How can I help make it happen?** Contact Lillian Trigg, our Entertainment Chair at 250 385-8366 or e-mail her at [Toodaloo222@live.com](mailto:Toodaloo222@live.com) and she'll put you to work turning the lounge and stage into a Christmas wonderland.

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## Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, November 11	Preview of <i>Picnic</i>
Thursday, November 12 - Saturday, November 28	<i>Picnic</i>
Sunday, November 15	A Celebration of the life of Annie Crawford
Friday, November 20	Deadline for submissions to the December Newsletter
Sunday, November 22	2 p.m. – 4 p.m., Costume Designers and Sewers Potluck and Planning Session 6 p.m. Meet and Greet for <i>The History Boys</i>
Tuesday, December 1	
Saturday, December 5	Christmas Party
Monday, December 7	Members can start booking tickets for <i>The History Boys</i>
Saturday, December 12	1p.m. – 4 p.m., auditions for <i>Sylvia</i>
Sunday, December 13	1p.m. – 4 p.m., auditions for <i>Sylvia</i>
Wednesday, January 6	Preview of <i>The History Boys</i>
Thursday, January 7-Saturday January 23	<i>The History Boys</i>

## 2009/2010 Board of Directors

President:	Sylvia Rhodes
Vice-President:	Diana Keating
Secretary:	Sarah Innes
Treasurer:	Evan Roberts
2009-10 Production Chair:	Phil Gibbs
2010-11 Production Chair:	Roger Carr
Past President:	Wendy Magahay
Members-at-Large:	Mike Miller, Fran Patterson, Karrie Wolfe

Membership Chair & Volunteer Co-ordinator:  
Front-of-House Co-ordinators:

Rita Humphreys, [prumphreys@shaw.ca](mailto:prumphreys@shaw.ca)  
Pearl Arden, [reader8@shaw.ca](mailto:reader8@shaw.ca)  
Marilyn Samis, [irisheyesmts@shaw.ca](mailto:irisheyesmts@shaw.ca)  
Wendy Magahay, [Magahay@shaw.ca](mailto:Magahay@shaw.ca)  
Gary McLaughlin

Bar Managers:

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Kai Hansen, [info@relocatecanada.com](mailto:info@relocatecanada.com)

Archivist:  
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Paul Bertorelli, [berto8@telus.net](mailto:berto8@telus.net)

Costume Co-ordinator:  
Small Props Co-ordinators:

Ned Lemley, 250 384-2025, [cloft@telus.net](mailto:cloft@telus.net)  
Jean Topham, 250 592-7270, [jtopham@telus.net](mailto:jtopham@telus.net)  
Carol Anne Moore, 250 592-2497, [tothe4winds@gmail.com](mailto:tothe4winds@gmail.com)  
Sally Crickman, 250 598-1706, [sjcrickman@shaw.ca](mailto:sjcrickman@shaw.ca)

Large Props Co-ordinator:

General Manager:  
Box Office Manager:

Craig Mracek, 250 384-2025, [gm.langhamcourt@shaw.ca](mailto:gm.langhamcourt@shaw.ca)  
Denise Brown, 250 384-2142,  
[boxoffice.langhamcourt@shaw.ca](mailto:boxoffice.langhamcourt@shaw.ca)

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*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 1 issue is November 20. Please send submissions by e-mail to Corinna Gilliland ([catfael@shaw.ca](mailto:catfael@shaw.ca)) or by mail to the Victoria Theatre Guild.*

Newsletter address changes or deletions: please contact Rita Humphries at [prumphreys@shaw.ca](mailto:prumphreys@shaw.ca)

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